

Catalina Island Conservancy's Second Annual Halloween in the Garden Attracts Larger Crowds and Offers More Spooky Fun



Volunteers dressed as ghosts and goblins kept the crowd entertained on the Spooky Trail at the Catalina Island Conservancy's Families in Nature program's Second Annual Halloween in the Garden. Photo by Steve Tabor.

The Catalina Island Conservancy's Families in Nature program hosted its Second Annual Halloween in the Garden, October 29, drawing larger crowds than last year and offering more spooky fun for trick-or-treaters of all ages.

More than 800 island residents participated in the fun at the Wrigley Memorial & Botanic Garden. Youngsters raced around the grounds to find the treasure hunt stations where they could win a candy bar and learn about plants in the garden. The children also decorated goodie bags to fill with prizes and then visited the Witch House nestled behind the Spooky Trail in a twisted Island scrub oak.

New additions to the festivities included the Boneyard, an interpretive walk through the natural history of Catalina Island, as well as the Wicked Walkway of Games.

Many community partners brought excitement to the event. The Catalina Falconry Experience and On the Wing had six birds of prey on display, while the International Center of Education and Sports (ICES) had a tie-dye station set up in an area, called Craft Alley.

The Master of Mayhem, Mr. Sean, put together another chilling rendition of the Haunted Trail that had the crowds screaming in terror. Lloyd's of Avalon generously donated gift baskets of candy that a lucky few costume contest winners were able to take home.

The Conservancy appreciates its community partners and sponsors, who made this year's event possible: The Lobster Trap, The Santa Catalina Island Company, The Works Consulting, The Catalina Art Association, Vons, the

City of Avalon, Catalina Broadband Solutions, Rotary Club of Avalon and Lloyd's of Avalon.

Halloween in the Garden is the October installment of the Families in Nature program. Families in Nature is dedicated to providing access to the wildlands of Catalina for Avalon residents.

The next trip hosted by Families in Nature will be November 11, to Haypress for a barbecue and an opportunity to hike the new Patrick's Reservoir Trail to overlook Silver Canyon with Conservancy Education staff. The trail is an easy to moderate hike. Please call 310-510-0954 ext. 226 to RSVP for this trip and learn about other upcoming trips, include trips to the Airport in the Sky, the Native Plant Nursery in Middle Ranch, Little Harbor, Two Harbors and Parson's Landing.

About the Conservancy: Formed in 1972, the Catalina Island Conservancy is one of California's oldest land trusts. Its mission is to be a responsible steward of its lands through a balance of conservation, education and recreation. Through its ongoing efforts, the Conservancy protects the magnificent natural and cultural heritage of Santa Catalina Island, stewarding approximately 42,000 acres of land and more than 60 miles of rugged shoreline. It provides an airport and 50 miles of biking and nearly 165 miles of hiking opportunities within its road and trail system. The Conservancy conducts educational outreach through two nature centers, its Wrigley Memorial & Botanic Garden and guided experiences in the Island's rugged interior. Twenty miles from the mainland, the Island

is a treasure trove of historical and archaeological sites. It also contains numerous rare and endangered animals and plants. The Island is home to 60 species – and counting – that are found only on Catalina. For additional information, please visit www.catalinaconservancy.org.

City Votes on Regulations for Two Cannabis Ordinances: Medical Delivery Service and Personal Cultivation

At last Tuesday's City Council meeting, the council voted on first reading of the Cannabis Ordinances for Medical Delivery Service and Personal Cultivation. They include:

Medical Cannabis Delivery Service

The council approved issuing a permit for one Medical Cannabis Delivery Service business in the City and this business would be restricted to the following regulations:

Hours of operation would be from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. seven days a week; the business would be located in a special commercial zone or a commercial zone, and could not be located on Crescent Avenue (aka "Front Street"); age of delivery drivers and employees is 21 years; security guards must have a training and be licensed by the State of California; the City would request a background check of the business owners and employees; a City permit must be displayed on the inside of the business for purposes of inspection, but there no requirement for the permit to be visible to the public; and the Avalon Sheriff's Station will be a recipient of reports and notifications.

Personal Cannabis Cultivation Regulations Ordinance

The City Council passed the following regulations: Outdoor personal cultivation of cannabis is only permitted in the rear or side yard that is entirely enclosed by a lockable, solid, opaque fence that is associated with a dwelling or secondary dwelling unit; the height of the cannabis plants shall not exceed the standard fence height applicable to the parcel, or six feet, which ever is lesser; the cannabis plants shall be placed at minimum setback of three feet from the edge of the canopy to the property line; no exterior evidence of cannabis cultivation occurring at the property shall be visible from the public right-of-way; for persons other than qualified patients or primary caregivers, all outdoor personal cultivation shall be conducted by persons twenty-one years of age or older, and cumulative total of cannabis plants on the property, indoor or outdoor, shall not exceed six cannabis plants, regardless of the number of persons residing on the property; for qualified patients and primary caregivers, the cumulative total of cannabis plants outside shall not exceed six cannabis plants, regardless of the number of qualified patients and primary caregivers residing on the property; any residen-

tial property used for outdoor cultivation of cannabis must take reasonable measures to prevent cannabis plant odors or particles from becoming a public nuisance to surrounding properties or the public. A public nuisance may be deemed to exist if the cultivation produces odors which are disturbing to people of normal sensitivity residing or present on adjacent or nearby property or areas open to the public; the outdoor cannabis cultivation area shall not adversely affect the health of safety of the nearby residents by crating dust, glare, heat, noise, smoke, traffic, vibration, or other impacts, and shall not be hazardous due to use or storage of materials, process products or waste; use, storage, or discharge into City wastewater facilities of any hazardous chemicals in the outdoor cultivation of cannabis is strictly prohibited. "Hazardous chemicals" shall include, but is not limited to, any chemical or substance that is prohibited by Federal Environmental Protection Agency or the California Department of Food and Agriculture; water usage for the outdoor cultivation of cannabis shall not exceed any limitations imposed by federal, state, or local water restrictions.

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Pirate Chuck Liddell entertained young and old with his costume and saber at the Halloween in the Garden event sponsored by Catalina Island Conservancy's Families in Nature program on Oct. 29. Photo by Steve Tabor.