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Scramble Begins for Summer Hiring

By RANDY KRAFT

The city is counting on the lure of summer in a beach city to fill 250 summer jobs by mid-June.

Competition is fierce. City jobs compete with area resorts, county beaches, arts festivals, and the continued explosion of retailers in Irvine. All offer summer employment in the general pay range of \$8 - \$12 per hour, depending on experience and skill-set.

"We need a lot of applications in the next two weeks to be full by the season," said city senior personnel specialist, Gabriele Friedman, who reports a good response thus far.

Nearly half of the city's job openings are for 100 junior lifeguards. In addition, police hire beach, parking and traffic control officers, while public works seeks bus drivers and trolley stewards, and community services needs summer recreation staff.

"For a lot of kids in town, their first job was trolley steward or lifeguard," Friedman says. "It's a rite of passage."

Resorts and other cities cast a broad net to recruit, holding job fairs and using internet sites like Facebook, Monster and Craigslist. Laguna Beach jobs are posted at the city website and in advertisements in local newspapers. In addition, brochures have been sent to local colleges to attract security officers on hiatus and to local school bus operators for summer drivers.

"We offer something unique," Friedman said. "People get to serve the public. This isn't just working retail."

But there are plenty of retailers trolling for hires, too. At the Festival of Arts, 350 people are hired for the months of July and August to provide service to arts lovers, including box office, gift shop and program sales, and ushers and security guards.

"Some come back year after year," said Monica Daebritz, the Festival of Arts' human resources director, citing a return rate as high as 85 percent.

Daebritz attends local school job fairs where she also seeks teachers who want summer

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South Coast Medical Center, Insurer Reach Agreement

After months of negotiations and a looming threat to cut Pacificare members from access to South Coast Medical Center, the hospital and insurance provider United HealthCare/PacificCare reached an agreement over paying for hospital services for policyholders last week.

"Thank goodness," said City Councilwoman Cheryl Kinsman, who urged subscribers to her email newsletter to inform Pacificare of their loyalty to South Coast Medical Center.

Their lobbying efforts are credited with playing a role in resolving negotiations, according to Bruce Christian, South Coast's president and chief executive. He said residents' emails and phone calls to Pacificare officials, along with similar efforts by other elected state officials, made a difference.

"Our loyal patients, area employers, and the Laguna Beach City Council, and others were incensed," said Christian.

Pacificare, which contracts for physician care through Monarch Health, in February sent letters to policyholders informing them



Staff photo by Faye Chapman

Photographer James Steins filed a lawsuit last week in Santa Ana against a Sawdust Festival official over his expulsion, which he claims is unjustified.

Ex-exhibitor Sues Sawdust Official

By SUZIE HARRISON

An 18-year Sawdust Festival exhibitor who was recently barred from the upcoming summer art show over alleged sexual harassment of a minor employee filed a lawsuit in Orange County Superior Court to contest his expulsion.

Photographer James Steins, acting as his own attorney, filed suit against James Stanaland, chairman of the festival's grievance committee, alleging breach of fiduciary duty, fraud, conspiracy and collusion. The lawsuit seeks \$750,000 in damages. Steins' aim, though, is reinstatement in the show.

Stanaland, also a festival exhibitor, declined to comment when contacted this week. His attorney, though, refuted the allegation, saying the lawsuit fails to support its claims.

The lawsuit stems from an incident during last summer's show when Steins took photos of a 16-year-old employee lying on a counter while she was supposed to be working. He claimed he took the photo as evidence of the minor's behavior "goofing around." The minor, whose name was not disclosed, demanded the images be deleted and later filed a written sexual harassment complaint with festival authorities on Aug. 22, 2006. Shortly after the show ended, Steins was expelled from the organization, one of the rare instances of expulsion for cause

in the show's 40-year history.

Steins served on the festival's board as treasurer from 1999-2002 without incident except for a disagreement about his exhibiting nude and semi-nude photos, which were ultimately censored from the show.

Steins contends the sexual harassment accusation is false. His lawsuit, though, is directed at the resulting festival hearing process, which he alleges was unfair, without due process and

See Sawdust, page B17...



Digital image courtesy of The Futures Channel

Laguna Beach resident Steven L. Contursi holds his \$6 million gold coin in a scene from "The First American Coins."

Historic Coin, a Video Star

The first gold coin struck in 1787 for the young United States, valued today at \$6 million and owned by a Laguna Beach resident, is now the subject of a mini-documentary, "The First American Coins," according to its producer.

The coin is the unique Brasher Doubloon owned by Steven L. Contursi, president of Rare Coin Wholesalers of Dana Point.

The video featuring Contursi and his coin was shot during last summer's coin convention in Denver and was created by The Futures Channel, a Burbank-based producer of educational materials.

Contursi and coin consultant Jeff Ambio, both featured in the video, "turn the subjects of numismatics and coin-collecting into detective work and treasure hunting, with fascinating history tied in as well," said Steve Heard,

A Son's Death Lights a New Path

By ANDREA ADELSON

Judy Bostwick Kelly in February walked away from the familiar, giving up a steady paycheck for 15 years once corporate owners acquired the retail chain her great aunt founded in Pasadena 80 years ago.

The year before, she suffered an even worse emotional tragedy: the accidental drug overdose of her 25-year-old middle son, Tyeson Jack Collester, a tattoo-covered self-taught chef whose confidence and charisma bubbled over when tapping into his own creativity. The same day a deal was signed for a television food show, "The Hungry Punker," was the day he died.

Out of these broken shards Bostwick Kelly is remaking herself. Along the way, she can take credit for devising a hybrid retail concept, starting far from the bustle of Laguna Beach's tourist foot traffic in the Festival Shopping Center in Laguna Canyon. Her store, Pure Light, is an eclectic amalgam, part sophisticated party venue and Far East renewal center seasoned with a candle making studio and gift shop.

Her son's creative joy is the store's inspiration. The husband-wife owners aim for "a space where people can find their own creativity. By spending time using their own natural gifts, maybe that will steer them away from these other choices," said Bostwick Kelly, 51, who acknowledges her son's responsibility for his own demise. Even so, the mother of



Staff photo by Faye Chapman

It took her son's death and the end of a family business to get Judy Bostwick Kelly to become an entrepreneur.

two other boys, Pace and Shane, wrestles with redirecting her sadness in a positive way.

"That is what my son taught me," she said.

Helped by her mother and father, Margie Hoffman and Jack Bostwalk, and husband Scot Kelly, Bostwick Kelly in a few months transformed what was auxiliary classroom space previously occupied by the Laguna College of Art & Design.

Improvements of more than \$100,000 devised a peaceful and inviting setting outfitted with a bamboo lanai, Chinese antiques, textured walls and floors and a heart-shaped, bubbling stone well.

A separate Gathering Room is entered through ancient Chinese doors and is used for celebrating and honoring milestones such as coming of age ceremonies, "blessing ways" for brides or goddess gatherings. It is adorned with a compass rose painted by Bostwick Kelly's mother. The room's inspiration was gratitude rituals that Bostwick Kelly adopted after a trip to Bali.

Her husband questioned blending retail with a spiritual aspect, she said. But the combination appears to works thanks to Bostwick Kelly's experience in buying and merchandizing in the 45-store, family-owned Draper's and Damon's women's clothing retailer. Relatives sold the chain last year to San Francisco-based Golden Gate Capital, private equity investors.

She hopes patrons see it as a peaceful haven where individuals can quietly make their own gifts, or spend uninterrupted time with children and friends. Patrons 7 and older can create their own, one-of-a-kind candle, customized with a choice of

fragrances, embedded shapes and colored wax. As an ongoing event, each evening at sunset Pure Light will hold a gratitude ritual of thanks open to anyone who wants to stop by.

Pure Light will hold its public opening from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, May 16,

See New Path, page A8...



Mother's Day Essay Contest Winner

Praying for Patience

By RACHEL COLEMAN

I remember sitting in third grade, filling out a worksheet that asked about our hopes and goals for the future. It asked, "How many children do you want to have?" I answered "nine." I grew up in a family with nine children and nine seemed reasonable, at least at age eight. However, one thing was for sure: I knew I wanted to be a mom.

By the time I met my husband Aaron, I had whittled the number nine down to about four. Aaron was from a family of four children and he felt good about having two children. I secretly held onto the idea of four, though I just didn't tell him.

When I imagined myself as a mom one day, honestly, I imagined that I would be a good parent to some well-behaved, perfect children. "Please send me the easy ones!" I prayed. When I was carrying my first child, I fell asleep many nights as I also

See Winner, page A3...

Trio Nabbed for Cocaine Sales

Laguna Beach police last Thursday arrested three people, including a 15-year-old, for cocaine sales after a routine traffic stop downtown.

Police said one of the occupants made "furtive movements" that the patrol officer considered suspicious after the driver pulled the 1997 Mitsubishi into the library parking lot, yielding to the officer. The stop was made at 6:05 p.m.

With the assistance of a K-9 unit from Irvine, officers searched the car and seized about a half-pound of cocaine, a charged stun gun and \$1300 in

cash. Police said the cocaine's street value was about \$10,000.

The driver of the car, Rachel Bagdon, 18, along with Jason Sievert, 19, and the 15-year-old, all from Rancho Santa Margarita, were arrested and charged with felony possession of cocaine for sales and conspiracy. Bagdon and Sievert were also charged with contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

The two adults were booked and taken to county jail with bail set at \$30,000 and the 15-year-old was taken to juvenile hall.

STU SAFFER



Photo courtesy LBPD

A half-pound of cocaine, \$1400 and a stun gun, shown above, were found inside the car of three Rancho Santa Margarita teenagers arrested in Laguna Beach on May 3.

Unleash the Power of Your Intuition
 Susan McNeal Velasquez
 Photo by Patricia Leigh

The first sound that every human hears is the sound of the mother's heartbeat in the dark lake water of the womb.
 John O'Donohue - Anam Cara

In The Service

Three e-mails, one after the other, each with attachments, arrived in my mailbox. As I downloaded the first, a black and white picture began to take shape. As my eyes adjusted, there in the swirling and contrasting black and white configurations, a perfect little profile emerged. This is the first sonogram image of my new grandchild whose coming out party is scheduled sometime around September 15th.

The second picture was less discernable to the untrained eye but yielded this message in the left hand bottom corner: GIRL. The third download showed outstretched arms and legs, as though she was out for her morning exercise before retreating back into the fetal position.

Jennica and Drew have two sons, Jake, who is nine and Dustin, who will turn eight on May 14th. They have been on "Mr. Toad's wild ride" since Dustin was about a year old and was diagnosed on the Autistic spectrum. Jennica has devoted her mind and heart to educating herself about how to meet the special needs of her son. As a result, she is just finishing up her training to become a legal advocate so that she can help other parents navigate the perilous labyrinth of choices that are crucial to getting appropriate help for autistic children.

Her body has been called into a new service. She has a new little life percolating to the pulse of her heartbeat. Motherhood is the institution that serves the continuation of our society.

It is diametrically opposed to the tragic outcomes that are too often the result of being in what we call "the service". Nevertheless, becoming a mother has some similarities to joining the Army, the Navy, the Air Force, or the Marines.

It used to be that most mothers became so by being drafted into it. Since you were within the right age and of sound body, the chances of conceiving were high. Since the advent of the pill, just like the cessation of the draft, there has been more choice to enlist by recruitment rather than participating due to the luck of the draw.

The first few months of pregnancy are like arriving at boot camp. You find yourself strangely out of control, often sick to your stomach, and struggling to come to terms with the mounting life changes that you are immediately facing.

After the initial shock, there is a deeper knowledge that you have signed up for a trip into the unknown. As you settle into a more restricted lifestyle, you comfort yourself with the notion that you are a part of a bigger reality. You are becoming a part of something that makes a difference and serves a bigger, more important purpose.

You put away your civilian clothes, turn away from life's little pleasures like a pristine, perfectly chilled glass of Chardonnay, and put on the uniform of the expectant mother. You start to move from your personalized identity to the more generic titles of mother and mom.

Your new identity begins to take shape along with your body changes. The first few months allow you some time to get somewhat used to the idea that this is really happening; you are going to have a baby. By the time you are showing, you get daily reminders that "you're in the army now". Some people like you better, some avoid you, many like to share their birthing stories that are horrid, graphic and unfathomably painful to hear, and some bless you with good wishes for an uneventful and safe tour of duty.

Somewhere towards the near ending of maternity boot camp, the realization dawns that you are one hundred percent committed to following through on this mission. There is no turning back. There is no way out. You are a foot soldier in the army of women who have preceded you on this journey. You are destined to take your place in this sacred society.

Motherhood is the most honorable profession there is. Our society cannot exist without us. Some of us are more naturally geared towards the realities of what it means to be a mother. Some of us sign up, put in our time, are glad for the experience and the learning and move on to life as a civilian after our major tour of duty is fulfilled. Some of us choose to make a lifetime career out of it. And some rise to the rank of a Five Star General by acknowledging and taking ownership of the high-level leadership qualities of loyalty, integrity, intuition, discernment, and authentic love that it takes to stay committed and involved for better or worse, richer or poorer, in sickness and in health, until death does part a mother and her child.

Happy Mother's Day and congratulations to all you members of the motherhood brigade.

Susan McNeal Velasquez presents on-going small group seminars in six week, three hour per week increments, on the topic of how to Unleash the Power of Your Intuition. She has been writing and teaching personal development seminars for 34 years. To request a brochure or to find out about individual phone coaching sessions, Susan can be reached at: (949) 494-7773. To receive a copy of these articles by e-mail, send your name and e-mail address to: SusanVelas@aol.com.



Staff photo by Faye Chapman

Candle making customers can choose from an array of fragrances at Pure Light, a candle studio and spiritual center in Laguna Canyon.

...New Path, from page A1

in the Laguna Canyon Festival Center. The event will include entertainment by local musicians Jasso and Garcia, refreshments from Laguna Culinary Arts, free gift drawings, and a blessing ceremony at 7 p.m.

It is no accident Pure Light's

opening falls on May 16, Tye's birthday, so that each year will be a double celebration.

Store hours are from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, with extended hours in the summer and for special evening events. It will be closed on major holidays. For more information, visit www.purelightcompany.com.

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...Jobs, from page A1

work, and says that most of the 75 ushers at the festival are from Laguna Beach and Dana Point high schools.

Irvine held its spring job-fair last week, as did JC Resorts of La Jolla, owners of Surf & Sand resort, and both reported a large turn-out.

"We had a wonderful response because of our reputation," says Cristina Schultz, assistant director of human resources for Surf and Sand Resort. "We had many college students at the fair, and many return each year."

Surf & Sand filled 27 of their 45 jobs at last week's fair.

Montage Resort reports 100 seasonal positions, more than 10 percent beyond their permanent staff of 900. Seasonal workers are primarily food and beverage service, according to spokeswoman Kacey Spies. The resort's outreach includes local colleges and culinary schools for potential applicants. "We're almost there; most of the positions have been hired," Spies said.

Montage will hold two more

job fairs this month, May 18 and May 30-31. Applicants must make an appointment through the resort's website.

At Irvine's job fair last week, a free service of the city's community services department, 27 employers met with 510 applicants, according to Irvine's youth employment program specialist, Karen Springer. More than half of applicants were high school students.

"We have a lot of new stores coming in, as well as summer employment in child care and recreation," Springer said.

Irvine's youth employment services also works with the Festival of Arts and some beach resorts to recruit; however, Springer reports that many applicants near Irvine shun traveling to Laguna Beach in summer.

Friedman and Daebritz report that retirees also make good candidates for summer jobs.

All prospective city employees must pass a police background check and provide fingerprints. For further information, go to www.lagunabeachcity.net.

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♈ ARIES (March 21-April 20): More power to you, Aries! Your strength & passion reach new levels of intensity as May 15th finds your ruling planet Mars starting a 5.5-week blast through your sign! Convert impatience to practical initiative. Channel passions constructively, and you will soon accomplish much in record time! To make your share of dollars, learn to turn on a dime!

♉ TAURUS (April 21-May 21): Talk about a bull run, Taurus! Ideas are moneymakers with intellectually astute Mercury in your financial sector for the next 2.5 weeks. Spiritual attunement is enhanced as May 11th & 12th find Neptune activating the Sun in your sign. Put inspired ideas to the practical test. New home & business options arise with May 16th's New Moon in your sign! Follow your plans, but be open to the Divine!

♊ GEMINI (May 22-June 21): Start talking, Gemini! One sentence is good, so you think that ten are better? You bet! Chat-a-holic Mercury enters your sign on May 11th and begins a 2.5-week spree! Intellectual & communication skills are at an all-time high. Temper the tempo on May 12th as the Moon, Mars, and Pluto align. Avoid snap judgments. Powerful partnership & career changes are here to stay!

♋ CANCER (June 22-July 23): Sideways skittering won't help you, Cancer! So, go direct! Finalize those legal, publishing, and travel matters with Mars favoring you through May 14th. Starting May 15th, career kicks into high gear as Mars starts a 5.5-week arc across the top of your chart! Make new friends and professional affiliations as May 16th's New Moon favors your sign. Be more active & assertive! Sideline the shyness!

♌ LEO (July 24-Aug. 23): Easy, Leo! A quiet & attuned approach works best on May 11th & 12th with dreamy and elusive Neptune on the scene. Travel is on the horizon as May 15th finds adventurous Mars beginning a favorable 5.5-week alignment with your sign. New social & professional opportunities arise with May 16th's New Moon at the top of your chart! Focus on yourself to offset a partner's confusion. Facts prevail over illusion.

♍ VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23): Patience, Virgo! Power & passion run hand-in-hand on May 12th as the Moon, Mars, and Pluto align! All's well that ends well as May 14th finds passionate & tempestuous Mars wrapping up its tour of your partnership sphere! Assert yourself with wisdom to protect the ground you've gained. May 16th's New Moon signals that new travel & educational opportunities are yours!

♎ LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23): Cool heads prevail, Libra, but it's a heat wave! Starting May 11th, Mercury lends logic and negotiating skill to your sign for the next 2.5-weeks. Partnerships sizzle as May 15th finds impassioned Mars starting a 5.5-week courtship through your relationship sphere! May 16th's New Moon invites new investment options. Saturn & Neptune suggest you clarify friendship, romance, and finance. Be specific. Don't leave it to chance!

♏ SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22): Play it as it lays, Scorpio! Hands off or a gentle touch is advisable as May 11th & 12th finds Neptune on the scene. Be sensitive but don't get sucked in. May 12th heightens personal charisma and ingenuity as Mars & Uranus favor your sign! May 16th's New Moon brings new developments in personal & professional partnerships. Those at a distance favor you. Expand your horizons!

♐ SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21): Follow your "horse sense." Sag! Quick-witted Mercury ponies up to the relationship gate on May 11th for a 2.5-week tour of the track! Personal & professional partners are now receptive to your ideas. May 12th can bring profound or intensive communications as the Moon, Mars, and Pluto join forces. Tact is essential. Hold your tongue! Hold your horses!

♑ CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 20): Someone sweet on you, Capricorn? Beneficial Venus on the scene through early June signals that personal & professional partners are now receptive to your charms. Passion is on the rise as May 15th finds powerful & productive Mars beginning a 5.5-week alignment with your sign. Take all necessary initiative. Bank your money! Spend your love!

♒ AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19): Inspiration & idealism are strong, Aquarius, so use your intellect and your mind! On May 11th, brainy Mercury begins a 2.5-week alignment with your sign. Negotiating skills & educational ventures are favored. Financial care is advised on the 11th & 12th with elusive Neptune on the scene. May 16th's New Moon offers a new start with family and can make a domestic dream come true!

♓ PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20): Make a splash, Pisces! Actions speak louder than words as Mercury & Mars both activate your sign. Starting May 11th, Mercury recommends you use sensitivity and care with family & partnership communications for the next 2.5-weeks. On May 12th, power & passion converge as Pluto gets a "wake-up" call from the Moon and Mars in your sign. Avoid extremes! Do something exciting or unique. Positive passions bring best results!

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