

B14 December 7, 2007

Some Court Info Now Available by Phone

Public access to Orange County court information is improving with the opening of a call center, open daily from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Staffed by eight, specially-trained court employees who can answer questions about court scheduling, the center will initially provide information for the Central Justice Center in Santa Ana and the North Justice Center in Fullerton. The local number is (714) 449-8100, and the toll free number is (866) 901-3011.

Expanded service to include the West Justice Center in Westminster and the Harbor Justice Center facilities in Newport Beach, Laguna Hills and Laguna Niguel is expected in 2008.

Presiding Judge Nancy Wieben Stock said the call center will be a convenient service for those without access to the Internet and the court's current web site, www.occourts.org. Currently, court calendars and limited case information is available online.



Michael Carter and Kelly Gallette

Engagement

**Kelly Gallette
Michael Carter**

Mr. and Mrs. Peter J. Gallette of Laguna Niguel would like to announce the engagement of their daughter Kelly Gallette to Michael Carter of Laguna Beach.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Aliso Niguel High School and U.C.L.A. She is currently employed as a marketing executive for Meredith Corporation in Los Angeles.

Carter is the son of Sandi Carter of Laguna Beach and Dave and MariEllen Carter, also of Laguna Beach. He graduated from Laguna Beach High School in 2000 and is a graduate of San Diego State University. Carter is now marketing director for Electric Visual Sunglasses in San Clemente.

The couple will marry next June at the Orange County Museum of Art in Newport Beach.

Publisher Offers 'Awareness' Workshops

Advanced Awareness, a Laguna Beach-based training and publishing company, produces seminar, workshops and books to help people cope by applying spiritual values.

The company's flagship seminar, "The Advanced Awareness of Spiritual Values Seminar," offers a blend of Eastern philosophy with the science of Western psychology.

Visit www.advancedawareness.com to learn more about these programs.

Letters to the Editor can be emailed to:
stu@LBIIndy.com

Flair for Holidays on Garden Club's Itinerary

Interior decorator Lynn Chichi will describe how to entertain with style, flair, and humor at the Laguna Beach Garden Club meeting Dec. 14.

The club meets at the Neighborhood Congregational

Park Celebrates Holidays and Local History

More than 1,000 luminaries will light the pathways of Heritage Hill Historical Park in Lake Forest and strolling carolers fill the air with holiday music during the 22nd annual candlelight tour Dec. 8 and 9, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Children can visit with Santa

in a turn-of-the-century school desk while storytellers spin tales in the El Toro grammar school.

Visitors will enjoy harp music on a tour of the 1930s Bennett Ranch house, and Spanish guitarists and Flamenco dancers in the 1863 Serrano adobe.

Refreshments will be available.

Admission is \$4, \$3 for children 3 to 12, and are available at the gate.

Heritage Hill Historical Park is located at 25151 Serrano Road, Lake Forest. For more information, phone the park at (949) 923-2230.

Don't Ditch Old Electronics; E-Waste Recycling in January

Surterre Properties intends to continue collecting electronic-waste for recycling and will hold its first collection day next month in Laguna Beach.

The collection will take place in the school district parking lot, 550 Blumont Street, on Jan. 19, April 12, July 12, and Oct. 11.

This year, Surterre collected over 50,000 pounds of e-waste from local residents. Through its collaboration with Earth Resource Foundation and

Mission Recycling, unused computers, printers, fax machines, cell phones, and televisions were delivered to a recycling center.

The foundation is the beneficiary of any proceeds derived from the scrap value of e-waste items. No objects are left intact for reuse. The components are crushed and melted and then sent to manufacturers to become raw ingredients in new machines.

Store Comes 'Home'

Stephen Frank Garden & Home, 477 Forest Avenue, opened over Thanksgiving weekend.

The shop specializes in gifts and furnishings.

Owners Stephen Jacobs and Frank Schaffer are local residents.

Featured product lines include Vietri and Pottery, Juliska dinnerware, Beatriz Ball handmade serverware, and Spiegelau glassware.

www.stephen-frank.com

Reception Saturday, Dec. 8

Jeweler Celebrates Award By Treating Patrons

Laguna's contemporary jewelry designer and goldsmith Adam Neeley earned second place in the North American division of a cultured pearl jewelry design competition sponsored by French Polynesia.

To celebrate this accomplishment, Neeley will hold a reception in his gallery, 353 N. Coast Highway, from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 8.

The event will feature Neeley's

award-winning designs. Guests sampling the eye candy can also sample caramel apple martinis, homemade apple cider and other holiday treats.

Hospital Finds Its Heartbeat

The physicians of Pacific Cardiovascular Associates will relocate from Costa Mesa next spring to South Coast Medical Center.

Dr. Joseph Ruggio, founder and president of the cardiology group, was recently named 2007 physician of the year by the California chapter of the American College of Cardiology.

PCA has provided cardiovascular care and to 2 million patients in 21 years.

In addition to opening new offices in Laguna Beach, Dr. Ruggio's group will also oversee management of a hospital lab.



Dr. Joseph Ruggio

Enjoy Flavors of France With 'Alliance'

The Alliance Francaise of Orange County invites French speakers and those who love French food and culture to a dinner at Picayo Restaurant, 610 N. Coast Highway, in Laguna Beach on Dec. 16 at 6 p.m.

The menu includes filet mignon and crème brulee.

Call the Alliance Francaise at (949) 251-1610 to RSVP.

Dinner will cost \$60, including tax and tip, drinks extra.

Democrats' Potluck Party Benefits Resource Center

The Laguna Beach Democratic Club invites the public to their potluck holiday celebration Dec. 13 at 7 p.m.

They are participating in the Laguna Resource Center's

"Adopt a Family" program and admission will be a donation of supermarket gift cards, cash or a check made out to the club to be used towards filling their adopted family's holiday wish list.

The event will be held at Unitarian Universalist Fellowship which is located at 429 Cypress Street in North Laguna.

For more information or to RSVP, please call (949) 235-8277.



Photo courtesy of R Star Foundation

Board members show their support by attending the first fundraiser of the R Star Foundation, held last month at the home of founder Rosalind Russell.

Strength of Nepali Tea Funds a Goat Lady's Journey

About 70 people stopped by for Nepali tea during "Goat Lady" Rosalind Russell's first fundraiser for her R Star Foundation on Nov. 11.

The event supports the foundation's mission of "Women Helping Women and Children...therefore the world," which involves giving goats to destitute women in rural Nepal and building a village school.

After perusing the silent auction items and sampling the feast catered in part by Natraj in Laguna Beach, many guests watched the documentary of Russell's work in Nepal, which included footage from her goat-giving trips.

R Star Foundation collected \$4,100 in donations and proceeds from the silent auction, enough to fund Russell's transportation

needs for a return trip in December to deliver goats in additional villages and check on the now completed school.

Russell is still accepting donations toward the school, in need of equipment, or for goats,

which cost \$150 each.

For more information about making donations or having Russell come and speak to your group or organization, call 497-2545.

Toy-Short Santas Plea for Help

The Orange County Toy Collaborative is in desperate need of toys to fill the orders of 250 children.

Just 96 of those orders have been completed, said Dee Azevedo, the toy warehouse manager. "Last year, we had a similar situation."

"We are asking the public while they are out holiday shopping to think about donating toys for those less fortunate children," she said.

The collaborative combines the

efforts of the O.C. Firefighters' Spark of Love toy drive, the U.S. Marine Corps' Toys for Tots program, O.C. Social Service Agency's Operation Santa Claus program, and the St. Vincent de Paul holiday charities program.

Collectively, these campaigns receive and distribute approximately 300,000 toys annually for needy children and families throughout Orange County.

Donations can be made at local fire stations.



Photo by Monica Jackson.

Garlands for Good

Auctioneer Mike Tauber, left, at Shanti's annual wreath auction on Monday, gets help displaying the artist-made décor that raised \$12,000. Proceeds support Shanti's programs and services for the HIV/AIDS community.