

Daily Pilot

FRIDAY, JUNE 4, 2021 /// Now including Coastline Pilot and Huntington Beach Independent /// dailypilot.com



Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

'It's been almost overwhelming': Edison High assistant principal grateful in search for kidney.

BY LILLY NGUYEN

Brandee Craig said she's known Edison High School Assistant Principal Kevin Fairman since the seventh grade when the two were classmates at Gisler Middle School.

The two went on to graduate from Edison High School together in 1987.

But she didn't know Fairman was looking for a kidney. She didn't even know that he was suffering from chronic kidney disease for the last five or six years until just this March when Fairman announced his condition and his search for a living donor.

"It's been eating at me since," said Craig. "I was just thinking of what I could possibly do to help. I've heard about those drives where they set it up so people can just come and be tested, but with COVID and everything I knew that wasn't an option. So, I reached out to Kevin and asked him if he would mind if I made a post."

But, she added, laughing, "It's totally like Kevin to not tell anyone."

Craig posted a call-out to her friends and family on Facebook, and the post's been since shared only about 15 times, but she

said that's all she's asking people to do: spread the word in hopes that someone out there will be tested, match and donate their kidney to Fairman.

The post, put online on May 28, reads, "Good morning FB family. I hope everyone is well and excited to head into the long weekend. Please read, this is NOT a repost! This is me, asking first hand for your help please!!"

"I have a favor and am in DESPERATE need of your help. A very very dear friend is in need of a kidney. I've been friends with Kevin Fairman since the 7th grade. He has NEVER missed a day of school. Even now as the Vice Principal of our Alma mater Edison Charger (EHS) he has yet to miss a day. He did his dialysis at home while he slept so he could take care of business during the day," wrote Craig.

"He is absolutely one of the most loyal, trustworthy, caring, loving, understanding, nonjudgmental people I know. He doesn't expect everyone to run to donate a kidney, in fact he hates asking for help so I'm going to," she added. "Whatever you can do; repost,

See *Kidney*, page A3

H.B. appoints new mayor pro tem

Former Mayor Barbara Delgleize takes over following the sudden resignation of Tito Ortiz on Tuesday night.

BY MATT SZABO

Huntington Beach has a new mayor pro tem, after Tito Ortiz suddenly resigned from the City Council on Tuesday night.

The council appointed Barbara Delgleize to the position by a unanimous 6-0 vote during a special meeting Wednesday night.

Councilman Erik Peterson made the motion, which was seconded by Councilman Dan Kalmick and quickly approved to conclude the 30-minute meeting.

The council set aside Resolution 6320, which states that the new mayor pro tem should not have served as mayor within the last four years. Delgleize, first elected to the City Council in 2014, served as Surf City's mayor in 2017.

Peterson said he believed that another year of experience would help Kalmick and Natalie Moser, who were elected last November along with Ortiz, before they stepped into the mayor pro tem role.

"Ms. Delgleize has had the experience, and we just get a little more experience in our meetings coming up," Peterson said. "I think she'd be a good fill-in and buffer between [Mayor Kim Carr] leaving and the newer ones coming, to get that extra year of mentorship."

Delgleize, 69, also served as a member and chair of the Huntington Beach Planning Commission from 2008-2012. She works

See *Appoints*, page A2



Courtesy of Kevin Fairman

TOP PHOTO: Edison High School Assistant Principal Kevin Fairman, 51, is in stage 5 of a kidney disease and looking for a donor. Other than feeling tired from time to time, he would not have known about his kidneys if he hadn't gotten a regular physical examination.

ABOVE: Kevin Fairman with his daughter Marley during a birthday party when she turned 6 in October 2020.

N.B. homeless advocate Jean Wegener dies at 74

BY SARA CARDINE

Jean Wegener — a Newport Beach resident whose three decades of service with the non-profit Serving People in Need helped house tens of thousands of homeless individuals and families in Orange County — died Saturday following an unexpected illness. She was 74.

Those who worked beside Wegener at the Costa Mesa-based SPIN, along with those who knew her from her many involvements in and collaborations with service organizations

JEAN WEGENER died Saturday following an unexpected illness.

and agencies countywide, were shocked to learn of the passing of a woman roundly regarded as a tireless worker and a champion for homeless families with children.

"I was devastated," said Costa Mesa Assistant City Manager Susan Price, who came to work Tuesday to find an email in her inbox announcing the news. "Her fire, it was big. The candle that burned out on Saturday, it's a big, big loss for many of us."

Price met Wegener in the mid-'90s, while working on her master's thesis on family homelessness, and quickly came to know the fiercely loving, bold, outspoken woman as an invaluable resource. The two would

work closely on several initiatives related to homelessness in the years that followed.

"Jean has always been there in my circles," Price continued. "She's always been at the table, so this is just a big, big loss for the providers, the system of care and the people who got to know and who loved Jean."

Wegener firmly believed in helping give a people a leg up so they could become self-sufficient and not just survive but thrive. Since arriving at SPIN in 1992, she helped grow the organization from a small local volunteer group to one of Orange County's most respected

See *Wegener*, page A4



Courtesy of Kim Frazier

LCAD adds recent graduate's 'Illusion' to its collection

BY ANDREW TURNER

The Laguna College of Art and Design has recognized one of its own in adding new artwork to its permanent collection.

Jody Gerber, who recently graduated with a master's degree of fine art in painting, received the LCAD Trustee Choice Award, for her painting, titled "Illusion."

The creation used a picture of an adolescent girl as a reference. The girl appears to be stepping out of the shadow of a natural background and into the light.

Leading up to producing the painting, Gerber said she was contemplating how challenging the past year had been because

of the coronavirus pandemic. She then applied that mindset to the challenges faced by young girls entering a world where they are unsure what others think of them.

Gerber described the image of the girl stepping into the light as being symbolic of vulnerability and of being noticed, perhaps for the first time.

"My work focuses on children and teenage girls, and my point is that their innocence is what is so important," Gerber said. "It's a gift, and it's something worth preserving. As adults, I feel the responsibility to help preserve that. They have such a gift to be able to love unconditionally, but



JODY GERBER'S painting "Illusion" was selected for the LCAD Trustee Choice Award.

Don Leach
Staff
Photographer

they're in such a vulnerable state, and they rely on us to protect them."

Peter Zokosky, the department chair of the master of fine art in drawing and painting programs

at LCAD, enjoyed his time working with Gerber.

"She came in with a particular kind of objective," Zokosky said.

See *LCAD*, page A4

C.M. police on lookout for armed robbery suspect

BY SARA CARDINE

Police are searching for a suspect who allegedly walked into a Costa Mesa gas station convenience store Tuesday night armed with a handgun and demanded money from the cashier on duty before fleeing the scene.

Costa Mesa Police Department spokeswoman Roxi Fyad said the incident took place at 10:40 p.m. at a business on the 1700 block of Newport Boulevard.

The suspect — described as a man possibly in his late 30s, around 5 feet 6 and about 220 pounds — entered the store brandishing a handgun and demanded money from the cashier. The amount of money taken was not specified in a police report of the incident, Fyad said.

The store employee handed over money from the register and called the police as soon as the suspect left the premises. At the time of the incident, the suspect was described as wearing a black, zipped up hooded sweatshirt and black face mask, black pants, black or dark green gloves and black shoes.

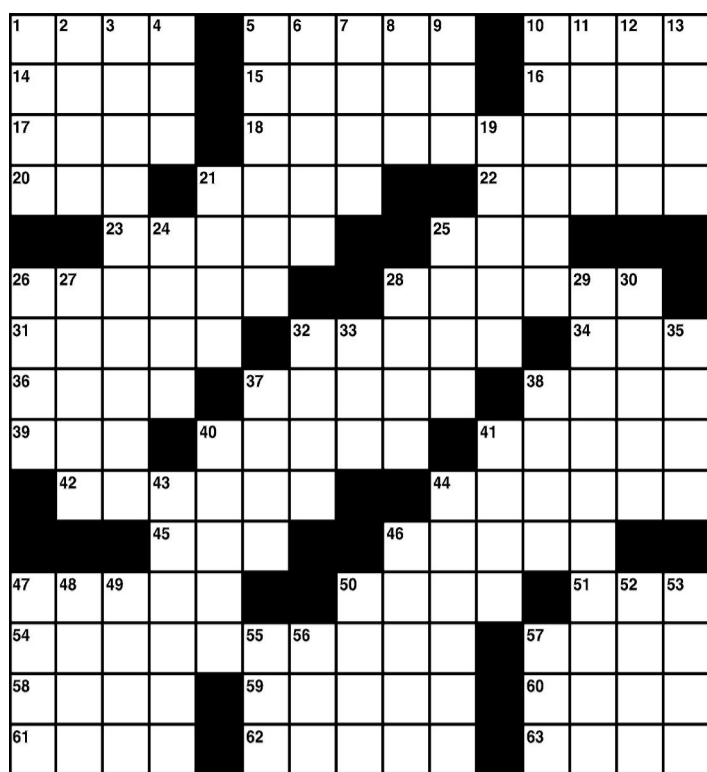
Fyad said Thursday the incident was under investigation. Anyone who may have information about Tuesday's incident or the suspect is asked to call CM-PD's Investigations Services Bureau at (714) 754-5205.

sara.cardine@latimes.com
Twitter: @SaraCardine

THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Jacqueline E. Matthews

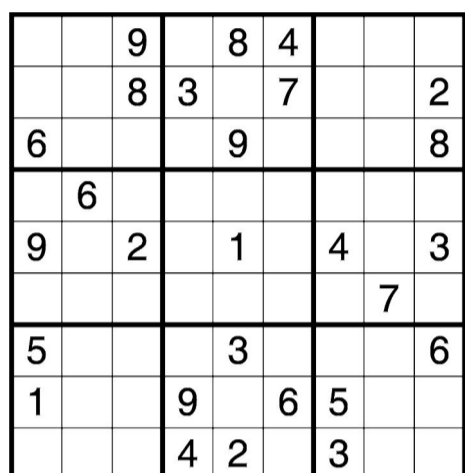
- ACROSS**
 1 _ up; energizes
 5 Long-eared animals
 10 West of Hollywood
 14 Refrain syllables
 15 "That's enough out of you!"
 16 Actor Nicolas
 17 Skating rink
 18 Harasses
 20 Actress Susan
 21 Liver secretion
 22 Pile up
 23 Spin
 25 "What's the _?"; cry of frustration
 26 Scold
 28 Plumber's tool
 31 Kicking's partner, in phrase
 32 Singer/actor Carmichael
 34 Mr. Holbrook
 36 Part of a theater
 37 Cursor mover
 38 Round flatbread
 39 Indy 500 stat
 40 Word in 2 U.S. state names
 41 Plunged in headfirst
 42 Engraver
 44 Illness
 45 Harrison Ford's "Star Wars" role
 46 Balanced; even
 47 Up and about
 50 Price to ride
 51 Letter from Greece
 54 Speaking very softly
 57 Dinner course
 58 Acting part
 59 Tango or twist
 60 Bylaw
 61 Holler
 62 Earn a traffic ticket
 63 As wise _ owl
- DOWN**
 1 Move like a Clydesdale
 2 Roof overhang
 3 Dramatist



SUDOKU

By The Mepham Group

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit sudoku.org.uk.



For answers to the crossword and Sudoku puzzles, see page A3.

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| 4 Mr. Mineo | 12 Grows gray |
| 5 Have big dreams | 13 _ kit; soldier's meal gear |
| 6 Beach souvenir | 19 Baseball's Stengel |
| 7 "Certainly!" | 21 _ to eat; quick snack |
| 8 Curvy letter | 24 "_ Yourself a Merry Little |
| 9 "Murder, _ Wrote" | |
| 10 Good judgment | |
| 11 Facts & figures | |

- Christmas"
 25 Plead with
 26 Soothing ointment
 27 Marry without fanfare
 28 Bathe
 29 Gallant
 30 Couldn't stand
 32 Period of time
 33 Not at home
 35 Woman
 37 Quality faucet
 38 _ up; accumulate
 40 Like a good knife
 41 The _ Clark Five; 1960s band
 43 Sculptor's tool
 44 Came together
 46 Steel-tipped spear
 47 Out of whack
 48 Clog or sneaker
 49 Cultivate the soil
 50 Monetary penalty
 52 Wahine's dance
 53 _ up; express one's feelings
 55 Koch & Sullivan
 56 Jay-Z's music
 57 Acapulco wife: abbr.

Tribune Media Services

KIDNEY

Continued from page A1

share, call, donate, call the number below and see if you a match, just please help!!!!"

It's how Caroline Winnik and her daughter, Alexandra Winnik, who currently attends Edison High School, found out too.

Winnik said her daughter was collaborating with Fairman as a student representative on the development of the ethnic studies curriculum mandated by the state of California and saw him every day, but had no idea of his need for a donated kidney. "She's been working almost daily with Kevin on this curriculum and nothing's ever been mentioned," said Winnik, who also went to high school with Fairman but graduated in 1988. "He's at school all the time. I don't know if he's missed any days. He does his dialysis at night ... he's got a young child and wife."

"He grew up in our community," said Winnik, who added that she and her family are doing what they can to help get the word out.

The National Kidney Foundation notes the average wait time for a kidney can be anywhere from three to five years, but can be longer depending on some geographical locations nationally.

The wait can be even longer for some, depending on an individual's blood type. Those with blood type O can donate universally to those with AB, A or B blood types, but they cannot receive a kidney donation from any blood type other than O.

Whether their blood's Rh factor is positive or negative does not matter for a transplant, according to the organization.

Fairman said his blood type is O-positive. "He is an absolute gentle giant, a teddy bear and always has been," Craig said of Fairman in an



Courtesy of Kevin Fairman

KEVIN FAIRMAN with his daughter, Marley, and wife, Brooke, in February 2020. Fairman says he wants a new kidney so he can watch his daughter grow up.

interview Thursday. "He played football, but he would give you the shirt off his back for anyone at any time and it's funny — I put it in the post that he has not missed a day of school since I've known him and that's true even now."

Fairman said he can't recall the exact date he was diagnosed, but that at the time he was at stage 3, meaning that his kidneys were still functioning at 45 to 59%.

"You can survive for most of your life at 45% [functioning] as long as it doesn't continue to go down," said Fairman, adding that he tried several treatments in the last few years. "But over the years, it went down to the 40s, then the 30s and within the last year, it dropped down. The lowest it's been were 14% or 12% functioning."

He's currently at stage 5, with his kidneys functioning less than 15%.

He started dialysis last year and does it six days a week at home and visits specialists anywhere from one to two times a month, but he's currently looking for a kidney from a living donor for increased survival of the organ.

"The main thing is I have a 6-year-old daughter named Marley," said Fairman. "I want to live many years to be watching her grow up and get married one day."

"You can live a long time with kidney disease, but it's better if you get a transplant," he said.

Fairman said he is currently on the wait list at Cedars-Sinai but is hoping to get approval in the near future to potentially seek donors outside of California. The response so far from the community, he said, has been touching.

"It's been almost overwhelming a little bit," he said, laughing.

"It's been really cool. Just the fact that people are looking out for me. I've been in education now for 22 years. I've had 22 years of students and they've been contacting me back," Fairman said. "The Edison community has been contacting me. I've had my college community reach out and contact me. I guess all the different places that you've touched over your life are coming back."

"I guess I must have been nice to people because they're willing to help me," he said. "It's been pretty awesome."

Potential donors with last names that start with letters A through K should call Jessica Iuga at (310) 423-8463 and those with last names that start with letters L through Z should call Miguel Can at (310) 423-4718 for an initial admission packet.

lilly.nguyen@latimes.com
 Twitter: @lillybirds

South Coast Repertory
 Orange County's Tony Award-winning Theatre

RED RIDING HOOD
 by ALLISON GREGORY
 directed by SHANNON FLYNN
 STREAMS THROUGH JUNE 13
 Ages 4+
 A Theatre for Young Audiences Family Show professionally filmed with a multi-camera setup

PACIFIC PLAYWRIGHTS FESTIVAL
 PART OF THE LAB@SCR
 Five readings professionally filmed with a multi-camera setup.
 Two readings remain. Recommended for high school and up.

CLEAN by Christine Quintana with translations by Paula Yeliza Cervantes directed by Lisa Portes Streaming Now-June 6	HAROLD & LILLIAN book & lyrics by Dan Collins music by Julianne Wick Davis based on the documentary film by Daniel Raim directed by Michael Greif Streaming June 21-June 27
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

TWO FAMILY-FRIENDLY PLAYS—LIVE UNDER THE STARS

Outside
 SCR
 AT MISSION SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO

AMERICAN MARIACHI You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown
 Jul 15, 17, 23, 25, 29, 31 Performances at 7:30 p.m.
 It's the 1970s and women can't be mariachis...or can they?
 Ages 12+

Jul 16, 18, 22, 24, 30, Aug 1 Performances at 7:30 p.m.
 A delightful Broadway musical filled with gleeful tunes!
 Ages 4+

(714)708-5555 • SCR.org

NEW STUDENTS WELCOME!

ACTING CLASSES
for Adults
 SUMMER SESSION: JUN 22-AUG 11 • One evening per week
ONLINE & IN-PERSON* OPTIONS

"This class has been both a source of immense joy and of incalculable educational value."—Gabrielle

LEARN FROM THE BEST PROFESSIONAL THEATRE ARTISTS

This nationally-acclaimed program of adult acting and playwriting classes is designed for both career-minded professionals and those interested in personal growth and development.

NEW TO ACTING? ACT I: Basic Skills Musical Theatre Improvisation	SOME ACTING EXPERIENCE? ACT II: Intermediate Acting ACT III: Advanced Scene Study	PLAYWRITING Discovering Your Voice: Introduction to Playwriting
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------

**Basic skills and Improvisation offered in-person. Proof of vaccination and masks required. All other classes, and one additional Basic Skills, offered online.*

NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED ENROLL NOW
 (714)708-5577 | SCR.org/classes

South Coast Repertory
 Orange County's Tony Award-winning Theatre

WEGENER

Continued from page A1

agencies, which so far this year has served 345 area families.

The group not only passes out food, socks and other necessities but pairs clients with caseworkers and career development workers who help them find housing, clothes, jobs and the skills and tools needed to advance in life.

Born on Aug. 13, 1946, and raised in West Chatham, N.J., Wegener eventually came to Southern California during her college years and graduated from University of Southern California with a bachelor's degree in political science.

She began her philanthropic service working with the Assistance League of Newport Mesa and, after taking the helm at Serving People in Need, began mentoring other executive directors through the Fieldstone Leadership Network.

Through her work, We-

gener intersected with various civic agencies, as SPIN became an important access point for Orange County's Central Service Planning Area, a geographic region of coordinated healthcare planning.

She worked with Newport Beach officials on a review committee for a permanent supportive housing project and served on a city council ad hoc committee for homelessness. Her community service reach included membership in the Family Solutions Collaborative, the National Alliance to End Homelessness, the Costa Mesa Homeless Solutions Network, the Orange County Continuum of Care, Homeless Providers Forum and the Association of California Cities.

"She was just a wonderful advocate for the homeless," said Kim Frazier, SPIN's director of marketing, events and volunteer services. "I was always impressed with her — she worked very hard. And she was always there."

Frazier worked closely

"I think that's the way she was with all the homeless families. She wanted to make sure they were self-sufficient. She was a tough task master — she knew they could do it if she could."

— Kim Frazier

SPIN's director of marketing, events and volunteer services

with Wegener as part of a tiny, six-member staff and, in that time, came to know a little more about the powerhouse leading the organization. A divorcee raising two boys in the '80s and '90s, Wegener did all she could to ensure her sons' needs were met.

"I think that's the way she was with all the homeless families," Frazier said Thursday. "She wanted to make sure they were self-sufficient. She was a tough task master — she knew they could do it if she could."

Charlie Granville, a SPIN board member for the past 12 years, said Wegener had been in and out of the hospital for the past few months but had recently been transferred to a rehabilitation facility and appeared to be on the mend when things took a sudden turn.

During that time, the organization's board of directors considered SPIN's leadership and, on May 24, announced controller and human resources director Stephanie Smolkin would

serve as interim executive director. Granville said the board has not determined whether and how it might replace Wegener.

"This has been Jean's baby practically from day one," he said. "She is such a hero to me. She's one of the reasons we're all here."

Wegener is survived by son Jeff Wegener, his wife, Nicole, and son Sean; son Brian Wegener, his wife, Emily, and children Kenzie and Keegan Wegener.

A celebration of life will take place Saturday at 1 p.m. at Our Lady Queen of Angels Catholic Church, 2046 Mar Vista Drive, Newport Beach. A reception will follow at Newport Beach's Pacific Club, 4110 MacArthur Blvd.

In lieu of flowers, Wegener's family has asked that donations be made directly to Serving People in Need in her memory at spinoc.org/give.

Daily Pilot society writer B.W. Cook contributed to this report.

sara.cardine@latimes.com
Twitter: @SaraCardine

LCAD

Continued from page A1

"Acknowledging what other people are feeling and the importance of what they feel was really critical. As an educator, it's important not to commandeer someone's aesthetic or their belief system but to help them achieve what they want to achieve."

The Trustee Choice Award program was started by Suzanne Chonette, an alumnus of the college, just last year. The first to receive the honor was Pegah Samaie, who was another to earn their master's degree of fine art at the school.

"We are very proud of the work produced by all LCAD students, and this is one of the ways we hope to honor their dedication and commitment to mastering the skills demanded by figurative art," LCAD Board of Trustees chair Terry Jones said in a statement. "This will be a tradition that will enrich LCAD's remarkable permanent collection and inspire each new generation of students."

Both award-winning works — Samaie's "To Love and Obey" and Gerber's "Illusion" — are on exhibit in the Laguna College of Art and Design Administration Building.

The Trustee Choice Award comes in the form

"I realize I can buy a lot of paint and a lot of paint brushes."

Jody Gerber

of a \$3,000 purchase of the artist's work by the LCAD Board of Trustees. This year's recipient was unsure exactly how the money will be spent, but she indicated that the funds would be funneled right back into her work.

"I realize I can buy a lot of paint and a lot of paint brushes," Gerber said. "It takes money to make art."

Eligibility for the LCAD Trustee Choice Award is for graduating seniors of the college's bachelor of fine art program, as well as the post-baccalaureate and master of fine art degree programs.

Zokosky said the monetary prize serves the school's students.

"They really wanted it to be a purchase award so that the trustees are supporting the students and the school, not just acquiring an impressive collection," Zokosky said.

Gerber, 48, an Aliso Viejo resident, has raised three children to adulthood. She earned her master's degree from Laguna College of Art and Design after thoughts had previously crept into her head that a college education would not be attainable while raising a family.

"I relocated here to California just for the master of fine arts program, and it means the world to me to be able to accomplish a goal that I thought was unreachable at one point," Gerber said of reaching graduation for her post-graduate degree. "It's been a fabulous experience here at LCAD to be amongst amazing artists and professors and students."

andrew.turner@latimes.com
Twitter: @AndrewTurnerTCN

Daily Pilot

A Times Community News publication incorporating the Huntington Beach Independent, Coastline Pilot, Orange Coast Daily Pilot and the Newport Harbor News Press combined with Daily Pilot

CONTACT US

Carol Cormaci
Managing Editor
carol.cormaci@latimes.com

TCN Legal Phone
888-881-6181

TCN Legal Email
LAlegal@latimes.com

COMPANY INFO

The Daily Pilot, established in 1907, is published Wednesday through Sunday by Times Community News, a division of the Los Angeles Times. Subscriptions are available only by subscribing to The Times, Orange County.

© 2021 Times Community News. All rights reserved.

Raymond Arroyo
Advertising Director
(714) 966-4608

Address
10540 Talbert Ave.,
Suite 300 West,
Fountain Valley, CA 92708

Business Office
(714) 966-4600
Newsroom
(714) 966-4699
Sports
(714) 966-4612
TCN Classifieds
800-234-4444

CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS

P	E	P	S		A	S	S	E	S		A	D	A	M		
L	A	L	A		S	H	U	S		C	A	G	E			
O	V	A	L		P	E	R	S	E	C	U	T	E	S		
D	E	Y		B	I	L	E			A	M	A	S	S		
				W	H	I	R	L		U	S	E				
B	E	R	A	T	E			W	R	E	N	C	H			
A	L	I	V	E		H	O	A	G	Y		H	A	L		
L	O	G	E		M	O	U	S	E		P	I	T	A		
M	P	H		S	O	U	T	H		D	I	V	E	D		
				E	T	C	H	E	R		M	A	L	A	D	Y
				H	A	N		L	E	V	E	L				
A	S	T	I	R		F	A	R	E		R	H	O			
W	H	I	S	P	E	R	I	N	G		S	O	U	P		
R	O	L	E		D	A	N	C	E		R	U	L	E		
Y	E	L	L		S	P	E	E	D		A	S	A	N		

2	7	9	6	8	4	1	3	5
4	1	8	3	5	7	6	9	2
6	3	5	1	9	2	7	4	8
7	6	1	2	4	3	8	5	9
9	5	2	7	1	8	4	6	3
3	8	4	5	6	9	2	7	1
5	4	7	8	3	1	9	2	6
1	2	3	9	7	6	5	8	4
8	9	6	4	2	5	3	1	7

SUMMER ACTING WORKSHOP

ONLINE CLASSES STILL AVAILABLE GRADES 4-12



parentingOC
EDITORS' CHOICE
2020

- Peer group classes
- All skill levels welcome
- Top-notch instruction from professional artists

2 WEEKS of fun-filled theatre camp

2 SESSIONS TO CHOOSE FROM:

JUL 12-23 • JUL 26-AUG 6

SIBLING DISCOUNT AVAILABLE

Masks, distancing and other safety protocols strictly enforced for in-person classes. Other conditions may apply. Learn more at scr.org.

ENROLL NOW!

(714) 708-5577 | SCR.org/summer



South Coast Repertory
Orange County's Tony Award-winning Theatre

NAME
Jose

TITLE
College Student

CASE NO. **59**

"Goodwill has helped me to seek more opportunities."

A hiking accident changed Jose's life, but he never stopped dreaming. His current aspiration: complete his undergrad degree and become a licensed marriage and family therapist.

Goodwill matched Jose with assistive technology software and devices to help him complete his schoolwork and get closer to his dream job.

Goodwill of Orange County helps people who are facing barriers find and keep jobs.

MORE THAN A THRIFT STORE

Jose was matched with the right software through Goodwill's Assistive Technology Exchange Center. Learn more about our programs and how you can get involved in changing a life at ocgoodwill.org.