

WOMIEN

In Business

PRESENTING SPONSOR:



LUM'S
AUTO CENTER

Misty Kawasoe

Escape Lodging



HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN IN YOUR LINE OF WORK AND WHAT GOT *you* STARTED?

"I've been in Hospitality for 13 years. I had just gotten a divorce and was starting my life over and I found a job at a Hotel in Seaside. I went in and was hired on the spot as a front desk person. I was there for three days and I thought, oh my god, I can't do this. This is the hardest thing I've ever done. But I stuck it out and I moved up at that hotel and worked there for three years. I was just looking for something else and my coworker at the time saw an ad for Escape Lodging and said, 'This sounds exactly like you'. So I applied for this job, and it took a while. We ended up doing three interviews before I got the job. And I've been here for 10 years and it flew by in a snap.

I think just working in the hotel industry for 3 years before I became a Project Manager for all of the Escape properties doing marketing and different things prepared me. I think learning from the inside out when I was at Rivertide in Seaside just made this fit perfectly. So yeah, 13 years. It's crazy."

WHAT IS A CHALLENGE *you* HAVE HAD TO OVERCOME?

"Gosh, this is a hard question. I think for me just being secure in myself and making decisions so that the people around me will feel secure with what we're doing. I definitely have to take some time and I've had to have some coaching at just being confident. That's a huge problem for me. Everybody that knows me will not be surprised by the answer.

It gets a little bit easier but I think there's always some doubt that I have to deal with on a regular basis."

AS WOMEN WE OFTEN DON'T BRAG ABOUT OURSELVES. TELL ME SOMETHING YOU'VE DONE THAT *you* ARE PROUD OF.

"On a professional note starting your life over at 35. I mean, no matter what your reasoning is, and being able to do that and find success and find happiness and find the place that you love to work in, and they love you. They believe in you and they respect you.

Being able to do that after coming off a very difficult and devastating time in my life makes me very proud. It was very hard!"

WHAT IS ONE THING YOU WISH YOU COULD TEACH ALL YOUNG women?

"Be confident. You're as smart as anybody at the table. Don't ever doubt yourself."

We all bring different things to the table but just know that what you're bringing is important and stand behind it and stand up for yourself."

WHO INSPIRES YOU AND WHAT DRIVES *you?*

"I would say my boss, Becki Filan, she motivates me because she works really hard. She has worked really hard to get where she's at, but she loves really hard and she helps me along the way. She teaches me everything that she knows. And she reminds me every day that I'm important and I'm smart and that I am doing a great job.

And for what drives me: People. I just want to do well for people. I want them to be happy and I want to help them. And I mean every day you just have to get up and want to do better and want to help people have a better life.

I just love really hard and I'm passionate about that. I think the more you love people and the more you do for them, the better the world would be and the more that we would be able to do in their lives as well. That's me."

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"Advice for women? Go for it. Do your thing. Don't hold back" - Lori Lum

"Be strong, yet willing to take chances" - Julie Lum