

# Down in the Southland

Friends Don't Count Chromosomes!

Volume 1, Issue 5

November 2011

## Ink from the Inc.

Information on the latest organizational happenings

Things are still in high gear behind the scenes of Down in the Southland! The Board is working on finalizing our sales tax exempt status, scheduling our winter activities, starting a new Ages & Stages group for '09-'11, setting up a monthly meeting and attracting new members!

The Walk Committee will be meeting for a final wrap up session, so if you have any suggestions on improvements for next year, please send an email to [info@downinthesouthland.org](mailto:info@downinthesouthland.org), with the subject of 'Walk'.

## KAUFMAN CARD TRAINING DAY

Four members of our group met with Lisa Olson, speech therapist. She gave a very informative talk on how to use the Kaufman Cards (cards many of us use to help teach our kids proper pronunciation of words). Lisa was great and provided us with a wealth of information, not only on the cards, but also with how to teach our stubborn little ones and make learning fun and interesting for them. She also had some good advice on how to work with our individual speech therapists. We all felt more empowered after our meeting and ready to put our new knowledge to work!

## Down on the Farm!

The group enjoyed a sunny day at the Children's Farm in Palos. Fifteen families attended the event, with a few new faces in the crowd. The children brushed the farm animals, took a hayride, tossed up some corn, and climbed the mounds of hay.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Down in the Southland, Inc. Outings
- 2 November Calendar
- 3 Literacy Corner; Around Town
- 4 Birthdays; Q&A; Look What I Did
- 5 Literacy Insert



# November 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 Cooking Classes Session A	14 Cooking Classes Session B	15 '98- '01 Monthly Play date	16 Welcome Meeting	17	18	19 '05- '08 Monthly Play date.  JAMFest Live!
20	21	22	23	24 Happy Thanksgiving!	25 '02-'04 Monthly Play date	26
27 Cooking Classes Session A 	28	29 Cooking Classes Session B	30			



## EVENTS AROUND TOWN

### CHEER COMMAND

*Eight members of Down in the Southland will perform with the rest of their Cheer Command Cadets cheerleading team at JamFest LIVE! on Saturday 11/19/2011 at the Renaissance Center in Schaumburg. This event is free to attend, so come out and show your support for these hardworking and talented girls!*

### COOKING CLASSES are Starting !!

This month, Down in the Southland is offering the children basic cooking classes. Each class will teach the participants easy, everyday kitchen know-hows needed for preparing meals. An easy and healthy recipe will be enjoyed as well. If you did not receive the flyer and would like to participate email [info@downinthesouthland.org](mailto:info@downinthesouthland.org)



### Down in the Southland Board of Directors:

President: Juliette De Nova 708-614-6118

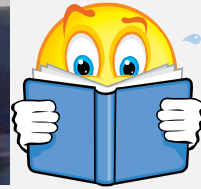
Vice President: Lisa Pringle 708-535-1438

Secretary: Rita Barnes 708-655-5208

Treasurer: Peggy Marchionda 708-258-6963

Member-at-Large: Rachel Thornberry 708-599-4212

For more information about Down in the Southland email [info@downinthesouthland.org](mailto:info@downinthesouthland.org) with DOWN IN THE SOUTHLAND as the subject



## LITERACY/TUTORING PROGRAM

### OUR MONTHLY UPDATE ON THE TUTORING PROGRAM

The literacy/tutoring program has a few volunteers ready to begin tutoring; however, we are still in need of more if we want to service all interested families. Inside this issue you will find a brochure that may be used to share with teachers and therapists. If you know of someone, please have them email Lisa or Peggy with their contact information to [downinthesouthland-owner@yahoo.com](mailto:downinthesouthland-owner@yahoo.com) with LITERACY in the subject field.

### TOUCHMATH TRAINING

We will be hosting a free Touch Math training. TouchMath is a multisensory program that uses its signature TouchPoints to engage students of all abilities and learning styles. Check out their program at [www.touchmath.com](http://www.touchmath.com). Watch your email for more details about the upcoming training.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING:

There will be a Board of Directors meeting on November 11, 2011. If you have anything that you would like to board to discuss, please contact any board member, or send an email to:

[BoardofDirectors@downinthesouthland.org](mailto:BoardofDirectors@downinthesouthland.org)

# Happy Birthday!!!

## November Birthdays

Joe DeNova 11/4

Nathan Ratliff 11/6

Jack Bucci 11/7

Ethan Gowaski 11/15

Tony Soto 11/18

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

IN THIS SECTION OF OUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER, WE WILL PROVIDE ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ABOUT OUR GROUP, OUR DIRECTION, OR ANYTHING ELSE THAT ANYONE WANTS TO ASK (RELATING TO DOWN SYNDROME OF COURSE!). PLEASE EMAIL QUESTIONS TO [OWNER-DOWNINTHESOUTHLAND@YAHOO.COM](mailto:OWNER-DOWNINTHESOUTHLAND@YAHOO.COM). IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR QUESTION TO BE ASKED ANONYMOUSLY, PLEASE INDICATE THAT IN YOUR EMAIL.

## LOOK WHAT I DID!!

*Each month, this space will be a place to share our children's recent accomplishments. Send your child's recent successes to [owner-downinthesouthland@yahoo.com](mailto:owner-downinthesouthland@yahoo.com)*

Lucas Kratz plays hockey for the Tomahawks!





## DOWN IN THE SOUTHLAND LITERACY PROGRAM

We are looking for volunteer tutors to teach children with Down syndrome how to read.

**Who can volunteer?** Teachers, therapists, parents, or students who enjoy working with children with Down syndrome.

**How does this work?** Members of our group have been using a program specially designed for children with Down syndrome and have had much success. Volunteers will be trained on how the program works. Volunteers will then tutor a child from the group at a convenient, public location such as a library.

This is a great opportunity to serve the community or gain experience with children with special needs.

For further information, please contact Lisa Pringle or Peggy Marchionda at [downinthesouthland-owner@yahoogroups.com](mailto:downinthesouthland-owner@yahoogroups.com)

