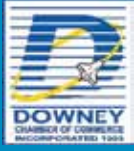


Downey Business



January 2018 • Volume 46, No. 1

www.downeychamber.org

email: info@downeychamber.com

Official Publication of the Downey Chamber of Commerce

Holiday Happenings Around the Chamber

The Holidays are a wonderful time to get together with Members, Directors, City staff, and even an Elf on the Shelf. Many members stopped by the office to wish us a wonderful Holiday, which we are always grateful. The Chamber also hosts an annual Holiday Open House which was very well attended and provided for many new memories, not to mention the laughs and holiday cheer. Thank you to all those members who attended: Rebecca Galvan of Downey Nissan, Jessica Trujano of Jimmie John's, Luz Perez of TLC, Isela Ramos of Embassy Suites Events, Jenna and Tyrone from Downey Federal Credit Union, Javier Lizardo, the unofficial Mayor of Downtown Downey, and Ryan Smith of US Computek. We were very grateful to have our current Mayor Sean Ashton, Council Members Alex Saab and Blanca Pacheco along with Community Development Director Aldo Schindler in attendance. However, the biggest "Hats Off" goes to our wonderful Board of Directors, President Joanna Peterson of Gallatin Dental, Treasurer Dave Gafin, President Elect, John Casillas of Farmers and Merchants Bank, Vice President Carrie Uva of 24 Hour Real Estate, Cindy Kovach of US Bank, Maria Fernandez of Sunrise Realty, Tatiana Paton of Embassy Suites Hotel, Karina Madariaga and Marianna Pacheco of Downey Adult School who, as a group, provided all the goodies for everyone to enjoy!!! All the BEST for an amazing 2018 from everyone here at the Downey Chamber of Commerce!!



Downey Business

--STAFF--

Michael Calvert, Executive Director
Sarah Sellers, Administrative Assistant
Leticia Arriaga, Events Coordinator

DOWNEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

11131 Brookshire Avenue
Downey, CA 90241
(562) 923-2191
email: info@downeychamber.com
www.downeychamber.com

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SUE ROBISON, Security Land Escrow

MARIANA PACHECO, Pacheco Realty and Associates
CINDY KOVACH, US Bank

The board of directors meets at the chamber office
on the third Monday of each month at 12:00 noon.

Message from the President



Happy New Year! Like all of you, I spent a lot of time in the last few weeks reflecting on the highlights of 2017, as well as looking forward to great things in 2018. As President of the Chamber, one of the things that appears on both lists never disappoints: Downey Business.

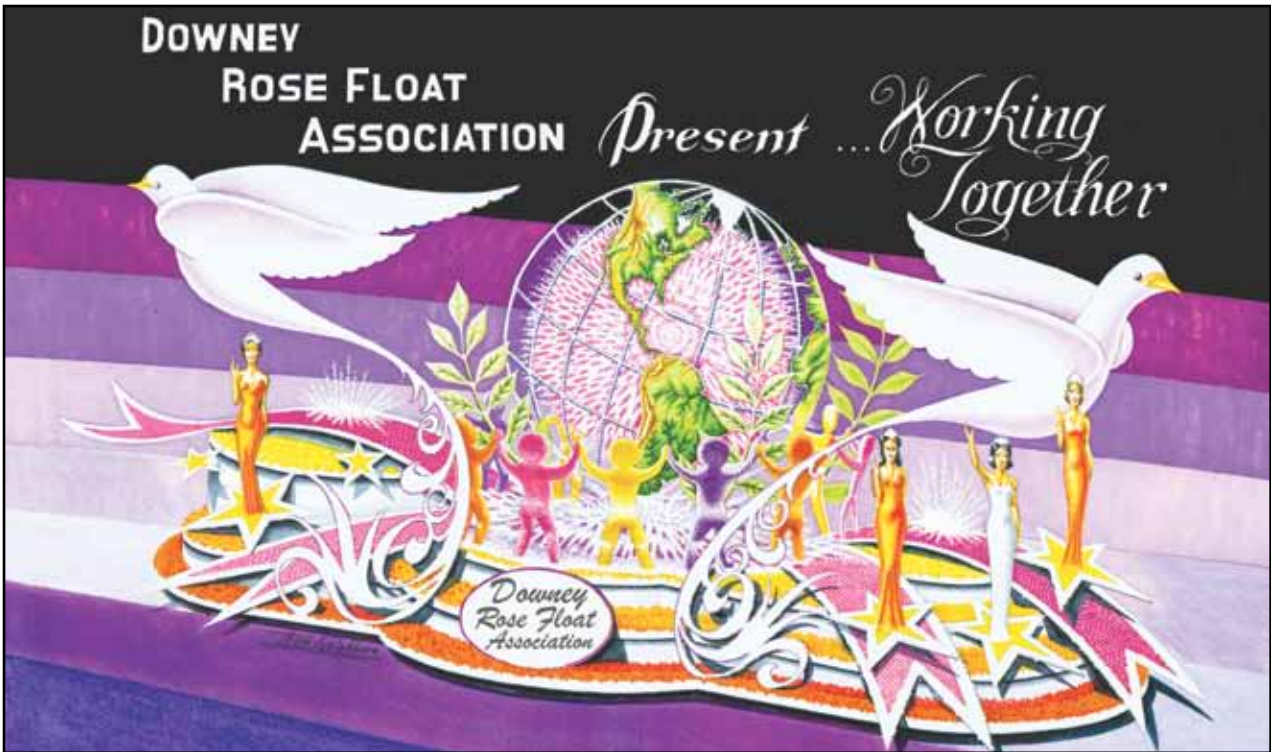
In this season of new resolutions, I hope you all choose to support our local businesses – from restaurants to spas to florists and doctors – in your 2018. If you're a business owner, make it a resolution to get involved in the Chamber. Visit our website (www.downeychamber.org) to learn more about how to grow with us!

In my 2018, I'm excited about all the events that bond the Chamber community and the city of Downey as a whole. One of my favorite events of the year is a few months away. Our Street Faire, which takes place on May 5th, is always a fun event for the Downey community. The faire will take place on Brookshire Avenue, and will be a fun and relaxing event for business owners and residents alike. And that's just one of the ways to get involved with the Downey Chamber of Commerce! Our Let's Do Lunch Networking Events give businesses a great opportunity to work together.

It's that spirit of working together that will drive the Chamber in 2018. Supporting one another and the community as a whole is good for all of us that live or work in Downey. This year, let's make a resolution to take Downey Business and the City of Downey to even greater heights. From attending the Street Faire to just buying local, we all can pitch in to make 2018 the best year yet for Downey and its businesses.

-- Joanna Peterson, President
Downey Chamber of Commerce

Downey Rose Float Association



The Downey Chamber of Commerce is very proud of our member businesses! These companies support what makes Downey such a special place. Many of us watched with pride this New Year's morning as the City of Downey was represented, once again, by another beautiful entry on Colorado Blvd.

As was detailed on the broadcast, the City of Downey's float is completely self-built and self-funded which makes our entry even more amazing. With this in mind, the Chamber would like to thank the following members whose contributions not only helped to build a wonderful float, but spread the word about the commitment and community of Downey!!

A big "Shout Out" to:

The City of Downey

Bastards

Downey Police Department

Rio Hondo Event Center

CalMet Services

Rock & Brews Restaurant

Chick-fil-A

Café n Stuff

Green Olive

Pina's Pizza

Financial Partners Credit Union

Calendar of Events

Tuesday, January 9 @ 6:30pm
City Council Meeting
City Hall Council Chamber

Wednesday, January 10
@ 11:30am - 1pm
Women in Business
Topic: Keeping More of Your Dollars,
Tax Tip
Location: Frantones Restaurant
10808 Alondra Blvd, Cerritos

Wednesday, January 17 @ Noon
Ambassador Committee Meeting
Location: Rock & Brews
467 Stonewood St., Downey

Monday, January 22 @ Noon
Board of Directors Meeting
11131 Brookshire Avenue, Downey

Tuesday, January 23 @ 6:30pm
City Council Meeting
City Hall Council Chamber

Wednesday, January 31 @ Noon
City Affairs
Speaker: Aldo Schindler, Director of
Community Development
Location: Farmers & Merchants Bank
9001 Firestone Blvd., Downey

Executive Director's Message



Happy New Year and wishing all of you the best for the next 12 months.

The Chamber turns 115 this year and all I can say for being around that long is, "We deserve a very big CAKE!" During our recent remodel of the office, we discovered minutes from Chamber meetings held all the way back to 1906!! Yes, apparently, we DO save everything. During the coming year I would like to feature some of the concerns that our Members of Yesteryear were dealing with. Some of the things will surprise you and other items will prove that "some things never change".

It's always great to start the New Year with some new ideas. I am a firm believer of "Out with the Old and In with the New." But I am always cautious about making sure that any changes are done with a true purpose in mind and not being done just for "change sake!" A couple of our events that will be changing dates are the annual Golf Tournament and the State of the City Luncheon. Due to multiple local golf events being held each Fall, the Chamber has elected to move our Tournament to mid- June so all our members and supporters can attend without concern for the other Golf conflicts and enjoy Downey's wonderful Spring weather. Additionally, we are moving our State of the City Luncheon to late March which will coincide with the Spring Break schedule of our new Mayor who is also an educator. Hopefully these changes will be met with everyone's approval. Please check our website and Facebook page for further details.

Again, best wishes for a very happy and prosperous New Year!!

-- Michael Calvert, Executive Director
Downey Chamber of Commerce



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* "Poor Nutrition Increases Sickness Absence 50%," Workplace Savings and Benefits, accessed October 22, 2012.

Mayoral Transition

December 12th was a very special day when the entire City got an opportunity to say, "Thank You" to our retiring Mayor, Fernando Vasquez and welcome our new Mayor, Sean Ashton!! So many citizens came together to wish these strong serving men best of luck in the coming year. The Chamber has a great opportunity to work with the Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem, and Council at so many of our events each year. It was our extreme pleasure to present a Certificate of Achievement to our retiring Mayor and to wish him, along with new Mayor Ashton, the very best for the coming year.



Enjoying the ceremonies is former Downey Mayor (and Chamber Treasurer) David Gafin along with his wife, Brenda.



Waiting to present a lovely floral tribute to our City's First Lady, Mrs. Donna Vasquez, is our current Miss Downey, Julie Ledesma. She is also a Chamber member along with the editor for The Downey Patriot.



Representing the Chamber at this event is the Chamber President, Joana Peterson, who also works with Gallatin Dental. Sitting along side Joanna is Downey's Favorite Veteran, Mr. Ken Thompson.

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SENIOR CITIZEN DISCOUNT

Congratulations and Thank You!

The following businesses have celebrated another year as members of the Downey Chamber of Commerce. Businesses listed are those that renewed last month and are marking another year with us. This is a monthly feature of *Downey Business*. All members will be recognized during the course of a year. The Downey Chamber thanks you for your support.

35 Years Pacific Western Bank	4 Years Pacheco Realty & Associates
8 Years Porto's Bakery	2 Years Bar Louie

Welcome New Members!

You have just joined the most prestigious business organization in the Mid-Cities area. We are happy with your decision to do so and welcome you! There are many benefits to being a member of the Downey Chamber of Commerce, chief among them networking, advertising opportunities, seminars, legislative advocacy, and community recognition. Attention, established members! Send a note or stop by and say hello to these new members. You both will be glad you did.

Bellflower Dental Group www.Bellflowerdentalgroup.com Marisela Vasquez, Marketing 10318 E. Rosecrans Ave. Bellflower, CA 90201 (562) 925-3765	USComputek www.uscomputek.com Humberto Correa, Manager Ryan Smith, Account Manager 10238 Lakewood Blvd. Suite A Downey CA 90241 (562) 294-6800
--	--

Lifetime Members

Steve Allen	Meredith Perkins
Diane Boggs	Jim Reynolds
Dominick DiMario	Mary Stauffer
Maria Larkin	David R. Gafin
Susan Nordin	

Ambassador Profile: Daniel Barillas



The Ambassador Spotlight for January is focused on Daniel Barillas, a very active member of our group. Daniel has been a member of the Chamber for a little over a year and immediately became involved with the Ambassador Group. He enjoys attending our monthly Let's Do Lunch events and has been a valued volunteer at the annual Street Faire, Golf Tournament, Christmas Parade and Elf Run events. While spending four years as a certified fitness and nutritional coach, Daniel recently opened (along with his partner) a new fitness and wellness center in the City of Paramount called Soul Precision. While the focus is on Nutrition and Fitness, the overall concept of Soul Precision is to create a balanced life between the physical, the mental and the spiritual. Daniel received his training from the International Sports and Science Association and he is also certified with Precision Nutrition. He carries professional affiliations with multiple Physical Therapist and Chiropractic Associations. Soul Precision is also affiliated with Stay Healthy Downey Initiative along with his work with fellow Chamber Nova Storage in developing Youth Programs. These programs are designed to improve student's health and to encourage them to make better life choices.

Daniel who was born in Huntington Park, has one brother, Carlos and two sisters, Rocio and Annette. His favorite hobby is boxing and is working on competing in professional matches. Barillas is avid reader and his favorite book is "The Power of Less." Is favorite movie is "Friday Night Lights" and you can always hear him saying "It's all under control!"

If given \$1,000,000, he would open multiple fitness locations to spread the word about improved wellness and nutrition. Daniel is most proud about opening his first location earlier this year. The location in Paramount not only holds health courses but instruction in dance, food, and painting.

When not working, Daniel wishes to be in Cancun thanking his Mom, Uncle Plino, and his brother Carlos for being his mentors and inspiration!! If he could spend the day with just one famous person, Daniel would like to meet Albert Einstein and get a few good ideas. Finally, in wrapping up his personal philosophy Daniel would quote Matt 7:12, "In everything, do to others as you would have them do unto you."

Daniel Barillas can be reached at:
Soul Precision Team
8101 Somerset Boulevard, Paramount CA
(310) 627-7207

Jazz Nights @ VAZZA CAFE

Every 1st and 3rd Friday
of the month at 5pm!



Proceeds benefiting the Downey High Jazz and Choir program. Free admission!


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Live In Concert

Blood, Sweat & Tears featuring Bo Brice will be at the Downey Theatre on Saturday, January 27, 2018 at 8 PM. With world class vocals, musicianship and a multitude of solid gold hits, Blood Sweat and Tears is at the top of their game. Vocal dynamo and pop phenomenon, Bo Brice, fronts the band with a self-assured voice and good looks. They are the band that fused rock, blues, pop music, horn arrangements and jazz improvisation into a hybrid that came to be known as "jazz-rock"! They have been awarded multiple Gold Records, Grammy Awards along with the respect of the best in the industry. Not to mention the love and respect of millions of fans. It's a future of endless possibilities for Blood Sweat and Tears. Tickets are on sale through the Downey Theatre Box office and online at www.DowneyTheatre.com. Box office hours are Tuesday through Friday form 11 am to 5 pm and one hour before show time. Children tickets are available for this show and available by calling the Box Office. The Downey Theatre Lobby and Patio will open one hour prior to each Season Show. Beer, wine and non-alcoholic beverages will be available for purchase at the concession bar which is operated by the Soroptimist International Club of Downey. For upcoming events and information, call the box Office at (562) 861-8211 or visit us online at www.DowneyTheatre.org





THE MISSION OF THE DOWNEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
is to advocate and support
a healthy and profitable business
environment which improves the quality of
life!

Women in Business

After a brief hiatus, this important group of working women has resumed meeting at the popular Frantone's Restaurant next door to Cerritos College. December, Women in Business held their annual Merry, Mix and Jingle event. Everyone had a great time networking and sharing holiday plans! We all enjoyed the traditional Italian Food provided by Frantone's and of course this long-standing eatery is known for their cuisine and wonderful service.

Women in Business will continue to meet on the second Wednesday of each month. The next meeting is on January 10th and the location will be Café n Stuff located in the Bank of America Plaza on the corner of Firestone Ave. and Woodruff. Upcoming topics for 2018 include organization plans, estate planning, advantages of social media, fiscally sound practices, and avoiding sexual harassment.



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Members in the News

Former Downey Chamber President and current Mayor Pro Tem, Richard Rodriguez, was honored by the Downey Lions Club this past week. Rick was presented with a "Lion Leaf" for the club's "Tree of Life."

Rick's motto of "Always Forward" was a key factor in why he is considered so special, not only by the Lion's Club, but also by so many in the City of Downey. In the testimonial given by the Club, it was mentioned that Mr. Rodriguez's company RMI has created over 1000 jobs in three countries. He is currently working to connect many community service organizations to create a larger impact in respective need area. His major focus is working with Homeless, Veteran Organizations and he has been pivotal in developing a Wildlife Management Plan for the City of Downey. Mr. Rodriguez has also served as President for Gangs Out of Downey (GOOD) along with service benefiting SEAACA, Columbia Memorial Space Center, and the Rancho Los Amigos Property.

To take a phrase that Rick is so fond of using, "He wasn't born in Downey, but he got here as quickly as he could" and we are so very glad that he did! Congratulations on a very well deserved award!



Downey Mayor Pro Tem and former Chamber President Rick Rodriguez is honored to see his named leaf on the Lions Tree of Life. Rodriguez was honored at a recent Lion's Event.

WOMEN IN BUSINESS

NETWORKING LUNCH PRESENTATION

LUNCH & LEARN

Keeping more of your tax dollars, tax tips.

Learn tax tips for direct selling businesses and entrepreneurs.

Come join us at our January Women in Business! We will have networking and a speaker who will talk about how to keep more of your tax dollars for new business', direct selling business', and brick and mortar.

Presented by.

Date: Wednesday, January 10th, 2018.

Networking: 11:30AM-12:00Noon.

Lunch and Presentation: 12:00-1:00PM.

Place: Frantones Cerritos 10808 Alondra Blvd.

Food ordered individually. Free Parking.

RSVP to Leli at (562)923-2191 or leli@downeychamber.com

RSVP to Caren at (562) 864-7785 or ceo@norwalkchamber.com

New Year Brings Major Changes To California Employers' Immigration Practices



Soon after ringing in the New Year, California employers will need to spend the beginning of 2018 coming to grips with a significant new law that will require an immediate adjustment to immigration-related business practices. California Assembly Bill 450, also known as the Immigrant Worker Protection Act, will go into effect on January 1, 2018, bringing about strict new requirements for all employers in the state regarding the handling of a government audit or investigation of premises or employee records. The new law includes mandatory notice requirements and additional prohibitions against access to public workspaces that goes above and beyond what is required under federal law. Here are the most frequently asked questions that will provide you with a good starting point on complying with the law.

Who does the law apply to?

Every public and private employer in California, or any person acting on the employer's behalf.

What is required or prohibited under AB450?

First and foremost, the law prohibits employers or their representatives from waiving their 4th Amendment protection from searches and seizures in certain immigration-related situations. Namely, you are not permitted to allow immigration enforcement agents to enter nonpublic workspaces without a judicial warrant, and you are similarly not permitted to provide employment records to immigration enforcement agents without a subpoena or judicial warrant.

Second, the law requires employers to give employees and their representatives within 72 hours of receipt of a notice of an audit by Immigrations and Customs Enforcement, commonly known as ICE. Additional notice requirements apply.

Third, the new law prohibits employers from re-verifying employment documentation of affected employees unless otherwise required to comply with the Immigration Reform and Control Act (IRCA) or E-Verify.

How do the requirements under AB450 differ from current law?

Current law permits you to allow an immigration enforcement agent (i.e., an ICE officer) to enter nonpublic workspaces and to provide them employment records upon request. Employers usually have a three-day notice period in which to provide employment records, but under current law they can waive this and submit documentation upon request. Moreover, current law does not require you to disclose to your workforce that an I-9 audit or investigation is underway, and also does not require you to disclose the result of any I-9 audit or investigation to any member of your workforce.

What does AB450 say about re-verification of I-9s?

The new law prohibits you from re-verifying the employment eligibility of any current employee at a time or in a manner not required under IRCA or per E-Verify obligations. Remember: California law prohibits you from terminating the employment of a worker because they present you with new documentation for I-9 and work authorization eligibility, and E-Verify can only be used with new hires – no exceptions.

What are the penalties for violations of AB450?

The penalties under AB450 are quite stiff. The first violation could bring a fine between \$2,000 and \$5,000, while the second violation and each subsequent violation thereafter could bring fines between \$5,000 and \$10,000.

Moreover, the Labor Commission may recover up to a \$10,000 penalty for each instance an employer re-verifies the employment eligibility of a current employee at a time or in a manner not required by federal law.

What are best practices employers can take to stay in compliance with both federal and state law?

- **Immigration Point Person:** You should start by immediately designating an "Immigration Point Person" in your organization. They will be responsible for communicating with any ICE officer who visits your workplace, and they should be the only person providing any information to ICE.
- **Prepare For Office Visits:** You should next train your managers for the correct way to handle a visit from an ICE officer. If an ICE officer appears onsite, train your staff to ensure that the officer is kept in a public workspace. Make sure your representatives know that they should not bring them to the back offices or other nonpublic worksites. Your point person should politely ask the officer if they have a NOI, subpoena, or a search warrant.
- **Handling Lawful Search Warrants:** If the officer provides such a document, make sure your point person reviews it very carefully and immediately provides a copy to designated individuals – human resources staff, legal personal, management representatives – for their review. If the document is a search warrant, make sure your staff knows not to resist the lawful search.
- **Handling Subpoenas Or Notices Of Inspection:** But if the document is a subpoena or NOI, train your point person to inform the officer that your company requests at least three business days' notice before any inspection of paperwork can take place. Moreover, make sure your point person knows that NOI's and subpoenas do not permit ICE officers to talk with employees, and that you should refuse any request by the officer to speak with specific employees.
- **Prepare For Audit:** Finally, select an appropriate location for the onsite audit, preferably a conference or meeting room where there will be no interruptions and limited access to employees. During the audit, have your point person take careful note of any alleged violations mentioned by the auditor. After the audit has been completed, your point person should ask the auditor for assistance in understanding any alleged problems.

Colin P. Calvert is a partner in the Irvine office of the labor and employment law firm Fisher & Phillips LLP. Please do not hesitate to contact him if you have any questions or seek additional information. Mr. Calvert may be reached at (949) 798-2160.

Let's Do Lunch

It was a very special “Let’s Do Lunch” this December! Not only was it a Holiday themed event, but the meal was prepared and served by the students at the ARC Culinary School. Executive Chef Christina Garcia worked with her staff and presented a wonderful three course meals for our Chamber members! The food was delicious and “seconds” were required. Thank you to the ARC for making this such a meaningful start to the Chamber’s Christmas season.



Thanking the ARC Staff for a meal “well done” are Chamber Executive Director Michael Calvert (2nd left), Chamber President Joanna Peterson of Gallatin Dental (center) and Chamber Ambassador Daniel Barillas (end right) of Soul Precision Fitness.



Christina Garcia, ARC’s Executive Chef points out “today’s specials” to Daniel and Joanna.



President Joanna Peterson of Gallatin Dental welcomes our members to the ARC Facility.



www.facebook.com/downeychamber/



STREET FAIRE
SATURDAY,
MAY 5TH, 2018

time to be determined.

The Downey Street Faire has been a staple of fun faire in the community for over 20 years. There will be live entertainment and booths galore! From business booths, food booths, craft booths, to informational booths and fun for the whole family. Please save the date and add it to your calendar today! On Brookshire between Firestone and 5th.

Downey Chamber of Commerce

Street Faire

—

Lots of fun and food booths. Bring your appetite.

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Or email leti@downeychamber.com

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For more information or to register, go online to downeychamber.org or call (562) 923-2191

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Fitness Corner

A fitness-focused New Year's resolution that's worth making.

Plus 10 real-world ways to actually keep that resolution.
By Daniel Barillas Certified Nutrition and Fitness Coach.

I've finally found a fitness-focused New Years resolution that's worth making. And here it is, along with 10 client-proven ways to reach your own health and fitness goals in 2018.

If your reading this, it means you survived the holidays. It's the most wonderful (crazy, stressful, awesome, magical) time of year.

You know the drill: Kids and toys everywhere. Niece and nephews invasions. And get this: My family and I found exciting games to play on Christmas Eve night again, ha!

1. Check in yourself every morning

2. Eat protein at breakfast

3. Bring a lunch you're excited to eat.

4. Pre-prepare dinners

5. Eat at the table.

6. Exercise whenever, wherever, and however possible.

7. Aim for "a little better" instead of "perfect".

8. Get all sorts of support.

9. Find accountability

10. Show up the next morning.

What could your "real life resolution" look like?

What to do next?


1. Consider your health and fitness goals for this coming year.

2. Celebrate your accomplishments from the past year.

3. Plan for things to go wrong

4. Start small!

5. Take inspiration from a certified nutrition coach.



My name is Daniel Barillas. I am Precision Nutrition ProCoach. I am offering a Free Consultation to local action-takers for admission to our program to review details.
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Marta Guillen	Jerilyn Fierro	Mazen Nabulsi	Ekber Djokovic	Ralph Aranda	Christos Meletis	Ricardo Carrera	Olga Demchesen	Timmy Nicolaou
								
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