

# Homestead scores 100% on NCLEX; everyone passes

Now accepting applications for the Glendale location opening January 2009!

**H**OMESTEAD Schools located in Torrance, Calif. sent first of its vocational nursing students who started the class in 2007 for NCLEX, a requisite to getting a license to practice. To no one's surprise, Homestead scored 100%—everyone who took the exam passed. This was great news for the school and the students who've spent more than a year to realize the dream of their lives.

Homestead started its vocational nursing program in January 2007 with 15 students aspiring to become productive members of the healthcare industry. Students came from varying backgrounds, some had worked as CNAs, while some others had no experience in the health industry. But what they all shared was enthusiasm and determination to take that big step forward and launch a new career.

It's no secret that there's a great shortage of nurses across the country and particularly in California. The shortage is expected to get worse over the next few years as the healthcare industry struggles to provide adequate care to a burgeoning population under strict financial constraints. Hospitals constantly advertise in newspapers and trade magazines to recruit nurses and hold job fairs to fill vacancies. In fact, it's not unusual for hospitals to offer sign-up bonuses worth several thousand dollars to nurses. A typical LVN in Los Angeles earns \$42,365 per annum and is never out of a job.

This is exactly what attracts most young people to the nursing field; they're not looking for a job, they're looking for a career. Any many of them are attracted to Homestead for Homestead offers a quicker and surer path to their dreams. The school offers flexible class schedules to accommodate the needs of students who in many cases are holding down a job while going to school; the school has morning classes, afternoon classes, and weekend classes.

The school has a policy of keeping classes small; most classes have fewer than 12 students and almost never more than 15. Instructors are able to provide individual attention to students. Further, in the classroom each student gets a desktop computer which is used to hone test-taking skills and do research on the

Internet. NCLEX is administered on a computer and if the student has not acquired test-taking skills on a computer during the year, the student isn't likely to perform well at the final exam.

For clinical training the school has affiliation agreements with several local-area convalescent and long-term care facilities, as well as clinics and hospitals that provided subacute and acute care. Students are accompanied to their facilities by instructors where they receive practical training in patient care. Again, there's generally one instructor per six students to provide close supervision and attention to detail.

In order to meet the demand of increasing student population for more clinical facilities, Homestead Schools recently lined up Centinela Hospital as one more acute care training site, making Homestead as the only school with an LVN program at this hospital. Everyone at the school is excited about the prospect of training at such a state-of-the-art clinic in great proximity to the school.

There's some more good news from Homestead. For a limited time, the school is giving away free laptop computers loaded with NCLEX-style questions to students who enroll in its vocational nursing program. Dozens of students in recent weeks have already taken advantage of this offer. This is one more way the school ensures that its students have all the tools they need to successfully ace the exam.

So when you look at all the things Homestead is doing to enhance the educational experience of students it's no wonder that the school enjoys 100% pass rate on NCLEX for its students. Everyone—instructors, director of nursing, student counselors, staff members—is very proud of these students and wishes them continued success in their chosen career.

Homestead Schools can be reached at 23844 Hawthorne Blvd., Suite 200, Torrance, CA 90505. They are now accepting applications for our Glendale Location opening January 2009! You can call them at (310) 791-9975 and ask to speak with George Dayrit, their student counselor, for more information.

(Advertising Supplement)

# Spiritual parting with AM Gamby Funeral Home



**A**S a sign of showing respect, funerals are an important custom practiced by most families across the globe. This is why AM Gamby Funeral Home is around.

AM Gamby is dedicated solely on helping families design a meaningful ceremony that pay tribute and celebrate the life that one lived in the manner that brings the most comfort to the bereaved. AM Gamby firmly stands on the belief that the purpose of a funeral service is to console the living. They also believe that if they provide a financial burden on the family, they have not helped them properly.

All of AM Gamby's listed locations are all full-service funeral homes that can provide every possible combination of requested products, services, and detailed information. AM Gamby has a vast experience in helping return deceased family members

to Southern California from any place in the world and also in returning area residents to their home of origin nationwide, and even worldwide.

All AM Gamby locations have complete reception room facilities. In addition, AM Gamby operates its own crematory so that your loved one never leaves their care to be entrusted to any outside providers. All of Gamby's funeral homes have preparation facilities so that loved ones have departed are brought directly into their care at the location chosen by the family. AM Gamby does not operate any "central embalming facility" so your loved one is driven around the region from one facility to another.

AM Gamby's well-trained staff takes pride in offering AM Gamby's caring service to every family faced with loss. For those families who prefer a director of their faith or ethnicity, AM Gamby's staff is available for Roman Catholic, Greek Orthodox, Buddhist, LDS, and many other faiths. In this regard, AM Gamby's staff who can speak Vietnamese, Filipino, African-American and even Spanish.

AM Gamby Funeral Home has a long heritage of service to the South Bay area since 1936. Its location in Douglas & Zook in Monrovia has been founded in 1890 and Cortner Chapel has been a funeral tradition in Redlands since 1902. All locations have proud history of service to their local community.

Over the years, AM Gamby Funeral home has received several awards for the services they have rendered to the South Bay com-



munity. Recently, AM Gamby Funeral Home was awarded by the Lomita Chamber of Commerce for its 70 years of service.

In addition, Terry Harmon, owner of the company was awarded 2008 California Funeral Director of the Year for the outstanding commitment he has to the families he had serviced. He has the honor of assisting the California Funeral Directors Association.

AM Gamby Funeral Home sticks to their belief that a good funeral service is a caring one. AM Gamby also handles every family with compassionate understanding of their emotions and does not take advantage of the family's grief. This is a promise of AM Gamby Funeral Home, a caring funeral service, "Family owned...Thoughtful Service."

For more information call Joyce Orpilla, your Filipino Family Service Coordinator at (310) 245-2577.

(Advertising Supplement)

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## Spotlight on Reflections'...

From PAGE B5

daughters Isabella Marietta and Madeleine Paulina.

Stephen, who comes from a large family of 11 children, has showbiz roots. I guess that's why he's so *guwapo*. At a young age of 20, he was able to direct and produce a play that toured in Florida.

Together, Angie and Stephen make a very handsome couple and their chemistry is flawless. They have an unmatched dynamic that is so unique.

Right now, they're still concentrating on the growth of their business. But also, they're active in charitable causes. Come February, they are going to be hosting a major charity event that will help our *kababayans*. Please stay tuned for that. To Angie and Stephen, more power!

Last but not least, the Reflections 20 committee is proud to present an award to a young lady who has exhibited and maintained excellent standings in school as well as extracurricular activities. Ms. Jona Capino, who was awarded the Reflections 2004 Young Achiever award, is receiving the Hall of Fame honor for this title for her consistency in achieving great things. She is the first young recipient of a Reflections Hall of Fame award. She is truly a role model to other children.

Jona finished First Honor of her 6th grade class at the St. Mark's School in Downey during the Fall of 2007 and Spring of 2008.

Last June, Jona was chosen as recipient of the St. Mark's School President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement.

In February, this young lady received a Gold Pin from the National Fraternity of Student Musicians for her outstanding achievements in music.

Jona also received during this past year the Cal State Poly

Pomona Certificate of Merit from the Music Teacher's Association of California as well as a Sonata Festival Certificate from the Concordia University in Irvine, CA.

In July of this year, Jona was cited the Commendable International Winner, Intermediate Level during the National Piano Playing Auditions.

Furthermore, she was named top first place—Star Systems during the Long Beach Performing Arts for Lyrical and Ballet solo performances.

Jona also landed top first place during the Kids Artistic Review at the Millikin High School Long Beach California for Lyrical and Ballet Solo performances.

Behind this genius child of many talents are proud parents Franz and Joe Capino of Downey, CA. The solid and encouraging home environment that these fine parents have given to Jona is ensuring that she realizes her full potential. Kudos to the parents for their dedication in making sure that Jona uses her gifts wisely.

Stay tuned for other spotlights of Reflections 20 honorees. For information about the show, please email reflection-sawards@eventsbymonet.com.

Have a great weekend!

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The author is a Marikina-born, award-winning celebrity beauty stylist with his own chain of salons across Southern California and Las Vegas, Nevada. Ultimately, Monet is known as an all-around artist who produces sold-out fashion and awards shows, as well as unforgettable marketing campaigns. Monet is also the founder of the revolutionary all-natural beauty products available at [www.skinbymonet.com](http://www.skinbymonet.com). He supports many humanitarian efforts to include projects in his native Marikina, The Bantay Bata Foundation, and many more. To contact Monet, please visit [www.monetsalon.com](http://www.monetsalon.com) for more information.