

COVER STORY



- Program Coordinator Kimberlee Vandenakker welcomes girls, parents and division hosts to "Take Your Daughter to Work" day at Gateway.

MTA 'Daughter's Day' Big Success

- Coming soon: Check your summer calendar for 'Son's Day.'



Girls packed the Board Room for a morning panel discussion and after lunch Guest Speaker presentation.

(May 1, 2002) "We gave out 1,200 goodie bags this year," MTA Work/Life Program Coordinator **Kimberlee Vandenakker** said. Even though the goodie bags are only one indicator, that translates to an increase in attendance of at least 200 for MTA's "Take Your Daughter to Work Day." Daughters hailed from all divisions and Gateway Building to attend a number of activities held at Gateway and to participate in programs sponsored by each division. (See Special Reports: [Police Horses Run Through Division 10 for Daughters' Day](#) by Christina Esparza and [West Valley Division 8 Employees Take Their Daughters to Work](#) by Amy Howell.) Gateway activities featured a panel of "Special Women of the MTA," each panelist representing a unique and diverse career path.

Girls packed the Board Room and fired hard-hitting questions to the front and center panelists: Chief of Staff **Maria Guerra**, Administration DEO **Carolyn Flowers**, Chief Labor Relations Officer **Brenda Diederichs**, Acting West Valley Division Transportation Manager **Maria Reynolds**, Controller **Josie Nicasio**, Senior Electrical Engineer **Ann John**, West Valley Division Service Attendant **Gwen Henry** and West Valley Division Bus Operator **Pat DeArmond**. Girls packed the Board Room again at 1 p.m. for MTA guest speaker and East Valley Bus Operator **Louvenia Harris**, who told a rapt audience about commitment to community service. ([See metro.net report Feb. 22](#)) --from Gayle Anderson



Panelist Gwen Henry, left, a service attendant at West Valley Division 8, enchanted the audience with tales of her extensive and celebrated doll collection. See ["Gwen's Story"](#) in West Valley Division Special Report.

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