



Metro Bus Operator Guillermo Rosales is Santa Claus in Christmas play staged by North Los Angeles Division at Wilson High School Dec. 14.

### North Los Angeles Division 3 Hosts Holiday Party for Community Families

By LISA HUYNH

PLUS! [Metro Bus stars in 58th Annual Northeast Los Angeles Parade](#)

(Dec. 18, 2002) There's nothing like kicking off the holidays with a party – especially when it's solely dedicated to less-fortunate children.

Division Advisory Committee members from North Los Angeles Division 3 and volunteers hosted a Christmas party at Wilson High School, Saturday, to give presents to needy families close to their communities.

Metro Bus Operator Socorro Alvarez-Mitchell, who is co-chair of DAC, used her own money to buy food, drinks, wrapping paper, ornaments and decorations for the party. Manny and Lisa Haro also pitched to buy the food.

Alvarez-Mitchell and other DAC members – Rosalia Medina, Manny Haro, and Gabriel Jimenez – spent hours wrapping presents and decorating for the party.

Other volunteers included: Angela Jones, Margaret Tucker, Edith Villa-Nueva, Art Alva, Louis Peralta, Tammy Beymer-Thomas, Pauline Sigala, Lindley Anparano, Rudy Lagunas, Darryl Babcock, Mary Chavez, Terrie Navarette, Albert Tenchavez, Christine Ramirez, Joey Hernandez

PHOTOS BY LISA HUYNH

Division Advisory Committee members from North Los Angeles Division 3 and volunteers hosted a Christmas party at Wilson High School, Saturday, to give presents to needy families close to their communities.



From left, Assistant Transportation Manager Don Karlson, Rosalia Medina, Manny Haro, Pauline Sigala, Gabriel Jimenez, Socorro Alvarez-Mitchell and General Manager Jack Gabig.

and Denise Garcia.

The DAC members collected more than \$2,700 since July by selling raffle tickets. They bought enough toys for 45 families who live in Highland Park, Cypress Park and Monte Vista.



The children wait patiently to open the presents while all the gifts are distributed to each family.

The needy families were chosen through the help of the Aragon, Mountain View, Griffin, Monte Vista and Huntington elementary schools.

“I’m excited because we’ll be getting presents and I get to enjoy the party,” says 11-year-old Gamaliel Ramirez.

Although only 38 families attended the event, Alvarez-Mitchell says that she’s proud of the group’s efforts to making the event successful.

“I love seeing the smiles on the children’s faces,” she says. “I would love to do it again next year.”

DAC members and volunteers were so busy preparing for the party, they had no idea that the San Gabriel Valley Sector would recognize them for their hard work and dedication.

General Manager Jack Gabig presented each DAC member a certificate of recognition.

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**Metro Bus stars in 58th Annual Northeast Los Angeles Parade**

PHOTOS BY HELEN ORTIZ

The DAC members also participated in the 58<sup>th</sup> annual Northeast Los Angeles Parade, Dec.1, at the invitation of Council Member Ed Reyes. To get into the holiday spirit, the DAC members decorated a Metro Bus. Local Brownie troop 783 also participated in the two-mile long parade.



From left, Liz Armijo-Holbrook, Daniel Armijo, Helen Ortiz, Rosalia Medina, Socorro Alvarez-Mitchell and Gabriel Jimenez. Below, Rosalia Medina, Oscar Rodriguez, Socorro Alvarez-Mitchell and Brownie troop 783 were among the many participants of the Northeast Los Angeles parade.



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