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SGV Staff, Bus Featured in Cinco de Mayo Parade

By LIZ ARMIJO-
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(May 7, 2004) The San Gabriel Valley Service Sector got a jump-start on Cinco de Mayo when they participated in the 11th Annual Cinco de Mayo Parade & Festival in Cypress Park on Saturday, May 1.

Parade guests included Los Angeles City Councilman Ed Reyes, Assemblymember Carol Liu and Senator Richard Alarcon.

As they have for many years, San Gabriel Valley DAC members from divisions 3 and 9 decorated a bus for the parade and hosted a booth at the festival. Decorations included balloons, streamers, and flags in the colors of both the United States and Mexico.

It was a family affair with the children of Metro Bus operators Socorro Alvarez, Cathy Hardway and Rosalia Medina, along with the daughters of Sr. Admin Analyst Emma Nogales assisting.

Dolls replicating children breaking a piñata were placed at the front of the bus. The design was the brainchild of Socorro Alvarez who spent many hours bringing her vision to reality. LASD Transit Services Explorers traveled alongside the bus on Segways with reserve officers following behind.

With temperatures in the 90s, parade observers lining the route clustered under trees or whatever shade they could find. Interestingly, the parade had been cancelled the year before because of heavy rains.



Dolls depicting children breaking a pinata adorn the front of a Metro Bus during the Cypress Park Cinco de Mayo parade. Pictured left to right are Christina and Olivia Nogales, Rosalia Medina, Socorro Alvarez, Liz Armijo, Emma Nogales and Juan Augspurger.



LASD Transit Services Explorers Karen Pena, Tracey Martinez, Edgar Che and Mirella Ortiz huddle under an umbrella with Kelly Hardway, Operator Juan Augspurger and Community Relations Intern Sebastian Hernandez.

Despite the heat, everyone enjoyed a day filled with music, food and community pride.

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