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KAREN R. LANDOW/BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF METRO DENVER
John Lynch and Santa huddle at Lynch's party for 35 children.

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Athletes, singer bring a lot of joy

This is the season when do-gooders do even more good deeds. Local notables Broncos bruiser John Lynch, chanteuse Lannie Garrett and Nuggets star Marcus Camby are making Christmas more merry for those less fortunate.

On Wednesday, Lynch, along with his wife, Linda, and their three children, hosted a hearty party for 35 kids from the Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Denver. Broncos Ring-of-Famer Billy Thompson and mascot Miles also joined in the merry making, and KOA's Steffan Tubbs emceed.

The Garner Galleria Theatre turned into Santa's workshop with the stage overflowing with wrapped gifts and a bicycle for each child.

"You've never seen 35 happier faces in your life," said Kalen Landow, Boys & Girls Clubs PR pro. "In one of the most magical moments of the night, Derriana from the Boettcher Club was tearing into her bag of gifts oblivious to everyone and everything around her. She shouted, 'All of my wishes have been answered!'"

After the presents pandemonium, the Lynchs and their kidd crew walked over to the Buell Theatre to see *White Christmas*.

Earlier that day, lovely Lannie Garrett entertained the senior citizen troupes at Senior Housing Options' Barth Hotel, 1514 17th St.

"The highlight of the day took place as she led a holiday conga line (to the song *Mambo Italiano*) through the lobby of the historic hotel," said Deborah Cameron, Senior Housing Options director of community relations. "They moved between tables, chairs and in front of the lobby reception desk. The residents had bright smiles on their faces and couldn't keep still the entire time. It truly was joy to

them during the holidays." And Camby put the icing on the Christmas cake by taking 16 Boys & Girls Clubs kids to Macy's in the Cherry Creek mall to shop for Christmas gifts for family members.

PRAYER POWER: Luke Vogel, the 16-year-old son of EchoStar president Carl Vogel and his wife, Carol, and his family are reaching out to the community to ask for prayers for the young man who broke his neck in a skiing accident on Dec. 11. The accident left him paralyzed, but he's making good progress, according to e-mail reports.

Luke is moving from Littleton Hospital to Craig Hospital for what doctors expect to be months of rehabilitation. In the meantime, the Vogels are devout believers in the power of prayer. They would be grateful for yours.



Penny Parker ON THE TOWN

WOLF BITING BACK: Old man, philanthropist and patron of the arts Marvin Wolf is fighting back after complications from emergency colon surgery. He was on life support at Rose Hospital, but a family friend spoke Wednesday to wife, Judi, who said her hubby is "out of the woods." Whew! Judi, tell Marvin I'm expecting him back on the dance floor in the Seawall Ballroom soon.

EAVESDROPPING on two women and a man at La Fogata: "You go through menopause OK?" one woman asked her friend, to which the husband responded, "I'm going through womanopause -- I'm married to you."

Penny Parker's column appears Tuesday through Saturday. Listen to her on the Caplis and Silverman radio show between 4 and 5 p.m. Fridays on KHOW-AM (630). Call her at 303-954-5224 or e-mail parkerp@RockyMountainNews.com.