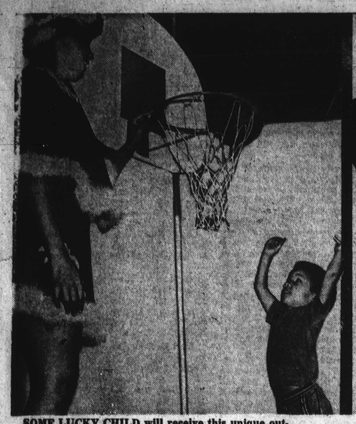
# 'Thank You So Much', AFRO's Mrs. Santa Says



SOME LUCKY CHILD will receive this unique outfit, which was given to Mrs. Santa by The Triangle Sporting Goods store. Pictured here is Aaron Johnson, Jr., as he shoots 2 points.

GIVING $25 — to Mrs. Santa are members of the Gay La Sell's Charity Club, located at 5109 Queensbury Ave. Pictured here are Mrs. Channie Lane, secretary; Mrs. Josephine Johnson, president; Mrs. Eleanor Prater, chaplain; and Mrs. Olgarita Kelly, business manager.

PRESENTING $100—To AFRO's Mrs. Santa are members of Masonic Temple No. 1, located at 1205 Eutaw Place. Pictured here are: Columbus McNeil, potentate; and Franklin Parker, co-chairman of the Charity Committee.

OLIVER CROMWELL SCHOOL — No. 74 presents a check to AFRO's Mrs. Santa for $65 from the faculty. Shown here is teacher Mrs. Geraldine Shepard.

GIVING CANDY TO BABY — are: Donald Wilkes, president of Baltimore Breakout; AFRO's Mrs. Santa and Norman (Mickey) Johnson, owner of Regent Theatre. This photo was taken at the Saturday Christmas Party, attended by over 1,600 children. Party was sponsored by Baltimore Breakout which also provided live entertainment.

WALTER F. DEAN, delegate-elect from Baltimore's 5th District lends AFRO's Mrs. Santa a hand with his $20 check.

TELLING MRS. SANTA what he wants for Christmas is Donald Mooney Jr., 19-month-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Mooney Sr. Mrs. Cheryl Mooney is a teacher at Harlem Park and Mr. Mooney is a guard at City Jail.

MORE HELP for AFRO's Mrs. Santa from Mr. and Mrs. William Pinderhughes, shown giving their $25 contribution. Mr. Pinderhughes is associate superintendent of Baltimore City public schools. Mrs. Pinderhughes is an elementary area supervisor in the schools.

PRESENTING $50 — Gino Giles, representing Churchill, Ltd, a wholesale liquor store in Baltimore. He was among the 25 persons and organizations that came into the office on Saturday to pose with AFRO's Mrs. Santa.

## —Mrs. Santa helps 900 families

(FROM PAGE ONE)

happy about the cooperation received from individuals, civic groups and everybody.

She is especially grateful to the members of Baltimore chapter, J.U.G.S. Inc., who shared $2,500 of their $5,000 Living Ads proceeds with her.

And, to the Baltimore Breakout Inc., headed by Wilkes, which gave a party for 1,600 children on Mrs. Santa's list last Saturday at the Regent Theatre.

Mrs. Santa appreciates each and every contribution, no matter how small. Again, I say, thank you, and may you have a merry Christmas too. It will be more enjoyable because you took time to help somebody less fortunate.

* * *

As of this moment I have received $9,893.05. Here are the contributions received since Tuesday: $100 Medina Temple No. 1; $50 The Fantastics Club; Dr. and Mrs. Jesse T. Holmes; $40 Charles W. Nelson; $25 Roland Handy, Second Shiloh Church of Christ Disciples, Inc. Dr. and Mrs. Emerson Walden; Mrs. Ruth E. Johnson, St. Mark's Institutional Baptist Church; D. Arnett Murphy;

Twenty dollars, S. Marshall; $10 C. Gregory, Mrs. Marion Banfield; Mrs. Lucille Morris, St. James Episcopal Church, Mrs. Ethel V. Hall, Mr. and Mrs. George L. Cryer;

Five dollars, Mrs. Florence Lyles, Virginia J. Ellson, Mrs. Novella Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore R. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Jorn P. Roscoe, Mrs. V. Jones, Judge B. Clark, Mr. and Mrs. J. Foxworth, B. J. Roy, Sess Restaurant.

* * *

My complete list of contributors follows:

J.U.G.S Inc.: 2,500

Dr. Russell H. Carrington 300

Pauline Brooks Benefit $217.04

Mrs. Stella Taylor, Morton and Dyett M. Goldseker, Allen Quille $200

Anonymous $120

Anonymous $100

$100

Diamond Jim Globetrotters, Le Gallant-21, Milton B. Allen, Imperial Gents Social Club, Major William Harris, Mondawmin Merchants Association, Inc., Joseph Spivey, J. Hiran Butler, Cherry Hill Liquors, Twelve Personality Girls, George G. Brown, Frazier Brice (Brice's Hilltop Inn), Dr. and Mrs. Samuel R. Owings Jr., Dr. and Mrs. Henry Welcome.

* * *

Medina Temple No. 1 $50

Lottier Nixon Interviewing Service

The Fantastic Club, Dr. and Mrs. Jesse T. Holmes, The School Marms, Magnificent Gents and Their Ladies Club, Dr. and Mrs. Percival Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon E. Prout, Retired Enlisted Association Auxiliary Chapter of Md., Chapter No. 9 Ways and Means Committee, Roger's Beauty Supply Inc., Continental Society of Baltimore, Inc., Clifton Park Neighborhood, The Wigletts, St. Luke Chapter No. 23 OES, M's Bertha B. Anderson, Tre Kronheim Company, Inc., Henry G. Parks Jr., Adams Realty Broker, Las Doces Civic Guild;

$40

Employees of State Dept. of Juvenile Services, The Astros Social Club, Charles W. Nelson

$30

Dr. and Mrs. Calvin Burnett, Mr. and Mrs. Joel W. Newton

$25

Dr. and Mrs. Roland C. McConnell

$25

The Pleasurette Social Club, Judge Solomon Liss, M's Betty Archer, Dr. Nick Aaron Ord. J. Johnson, The Moderettes Inc.

Frontiers International Inc., Mondawmin Photo Service Inc., Paul Chester, Isaiah "Ike" Dixon Jr., V. A. G.'s Douglass High School Classes of 1945 Inc., David T. Mason, Mrs. Madeline W. Murphy, the Rev. N. B. Carrington, Reuben F. Jones, Frederick A. Howard, Judge Anselm Sodaro, Dr. and Mrs. G. James Fleming, Councilman Robert C. Marshall, Judge Joseph C. Howard, Afro-American Labor Council, Big Sisters, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Carter, Mr. and Mrs. John H. Murphy Jr., Dr. and Mrs. Thomas P. Fraser, Myra Grand Chapter, Order Eastern Star, Roland Handy, Second Shiloh Churches of Christ Disciples, Inc., Dr. and Mrs. Emerson Walden, Mrs. Ruth E. Johnson, St. Mark's Institutional Baptist Church, D. Arnett Murphy

$24

Modern Nuptic Buddies Social Club

$20

Friendship Charity Club, S. Marshall

$19

G. Skinner $16

Morris Mecranie Theatre $15

Anonymous $15

Mrs. Ethel Johnson, Judge Solomon Baylor, Moses Newson, Mrs. Daisy L. Waddy, F. C. Social Social Club, Dr. Claude H. Hill

$30

Dr. and Mrs. Calvin Burnett, Mr. and Mrs. Joel W. Newton

$35

Dr. and Mrs. Roland C. McConnell

$75

Community Schools Division, Mr. and Mrs. Cliniie Mills, Waters AME Church, Social Charity Club, M's Mabel R. Dorsey, Dr. Maurice L. Adams.

$10

C. Gregory, Mrs. Marion Banfield, M's Lucille Morris, St. James Episcopal Church, M's Ethel V. Hall, Mr. and Mrs. George L. Cryer

$10

Mrs. Elinor C. Tildon, Mr. and Mrs. E. Gaines Lansey, Henry C. Johnson, Mrs. Malvena E. Amy, Dr. Martin D. Jenkins, H. L. Meyers:

Walter Dorsey Jr., M's Brenda Hall, Mr. and Mrs. Ned Gilliam, Mr. and Mrs. J. Bernard Wilkins, Mrs. May W. Fortune, Anonymous, Maryland League of Women's Club Inc., Anonymous Eldridge Hodge, Dr. and Mrs. Daniel T. Skinner, Mr. Bob Brooker and M's Jessye Winstead, Dr. Turgot Jeudy, Mrs. Hilddgardes Boswell, Mrs. P. Kelso, Faithful Workers Savings Club, The Los Amigos Civic and Social Club, Mr. and Mrs. Lucas E. Taylor, Harry Deitchman, Harold Jennifer.

* * *

$7.50

William Blackmon

$5

B. Logan, L. L. Williams, Mr. and Mrs. John Blake, Mrs. Irene Lee, M's Floyd Wycre, C. Conaway, M's Edna M. Burrows.

$5

Mrs. Florence Lyles, M's Virginia J. Ellison, M's N. Mrs. Beatrice Snowden

* * *

$3

Miss Betty Long

Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore R. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. John Roscoe, M's V. Jones, Judge B. Clark, Mr. and Mrs. Foxworth, B. J. Roy, Sess Restaurant.

$2

Mrs. Dandemonia Brooks, Mrs. Lucy Evans

## 'Las Doces' give $150 to Provident

The Las Doces' Civic Guild, after an arduous flurry of activities that enabled the organization to raise funds for a lifetime membership in the NAACP, a check of $150 to the Provident Hospital fund and a check of $50 to Mrs. Santa Claus.

The club celebrated by entertaining their mates at a Christmas dinner at Pimlico Hotel; lovely gifts were exchanged and the group played games.

Rev. Martin McKenney played Santa Claus. Mrs. Nampeo McKenney is the outgoing president; Mrs. Louise Jackson is the newly-elected president, and Mrs. Evelyn E. Byrd is the founder.

Those present were Mesdames Evelyn E. Byrd, Louise Jackson, Annie Mae Matthews, Lucrinia Swinson and Revs. and Mrs. Clinton Coleman, Sidney Daniels, Martin McKenney, Arthur Jones, James Johnson and Richard Dunston.

CONTINENTALS HELP — Mesdames LaFrance Muldrew, left, and Helen Mae Chamberlain, right, of the Baltimore Continentals, give $50.00 check to Mrs. Santa to help purchase Christmas cheer for needy families.

BIG SISTERS — Mrs. Iris Williams and Mrs. Ernestine [illegible], president, president AFRO's Mrs. Santa from Big Sisters Inc.

CAN'T MAKE UP — his mind as to what he wants Santa to bring him is little Johnny Christopher. His big brother David looks on. They were among 1,600 youngsters at Regent Theatre movie party and talent show sponsored by Baltimore Breakout Inc.

## THE BLACK BABY OF BETHLEHEM

(From the papers of Carl Murphy (1889-1967, AFRO publisher, 1925-1967).

### A CHRISTMAS DIALOGUE

Time: January 6, A.D. 1.
Place: Cave near Bethlehem
Characters: Three Wise Men — Balthasar, Caspar, Melchoir and their followers
(Balthasar is colored; Caspar and Melchoir are white)

CASPAR: We're near the end now. The star seems to point to a spot on top of the next hill. I wonder what the new king is like.

MELCHOIR: I wonder. (Aside) If we just didn't have this colored feller along. (He whispers to first wise man) Where did this shine come from? He's a black-a-moor.

(Balthasar notes whispering, smiles to himself and holds back his camel so that the other two might converse privately.)

CASPAR: Africans come no blacker than that. I can't bear it when his camel lopes ahead of mine.

MELCHIOR: Gosh, think of sleeping with that Sam for a week, drinking out of the same spring and eating at the same inn.

CASPAR: Where did he say his country was?

MELCHIOR: Saba.

CASPAR: You're kidding; Saba's a white man's country. Blacks are in the majority, but white folk run it. The mokes raise cotton and fetch and carry, but you know how it is — we always get the money.

MELCHIOR: Yes, 'tis funny how this blackbird had sense enought to know what this star is all about and rush ahead of everybody else getting down here.

CASPAR: Ahead! No dinkey ever thought ahead of me. I started before him, but his camel went faster. But we promised to go in together. Wish we could shake him.

MELCHIOR: Let's duck behind those olive trees up ahead and let him go on. He'll get confused and stop. We'll cut across and go on without him. (They duck.)

(Balthasar, his chin sunk in his cloak, urges his camel up the hill to Bethlehem, not noticing that the others had deserted him. His servants follow.)

(Some time later, Melchior and Caspar arrive at the cave to which the star seems to point. There is a scent of old stones and moist lime about the courtyard of the inn.)

The earth is damp after a rain and one can smell the grass and fodder, garlic and fish, smoke and cooking of the crowds which have come to Bethlehem for the census.)

(In the night, lighted only by the moon, men and beasts stamp up and down the road. There is a murmur of conversation, shouts of wayfarers, barks of dogs and the lowing of cattle.)

CASPAR (At the entrance of the cave): HELLO! (Louder) HELLO IN THERE!

Shepherd voice inside the entrance: Quiet.

MELCHIOR: The star points here. Shall we find the new king within?

SHEPHERD (disregards question): Enter.

(Caspar and Melchior enter the cave and pause to arrange their garments.)

(Melchior stands arrayed in a tight-fitting coat of gold, seagreen robe edged with two rows of pearls, an ermine-lined mantle falls to the ground and is properly arranged by attendants who hand him a red peaked bonnet lined with blue and covered with pearls. Melchior is long-haired and long bearded. In his right hand he takes a highly jewelled monstrance filled with precious frankincense.)

MELCHIOR (rushing forward to the Virgin Mary, who holds the babe in her lap, falls to his knees and bows his head): It is the king.

CASPAR (grey-haired, close-shaven face and a wart on his left cheek, follows. He wears a gold patterned damask robe, a red mantle edged with fur, a gold collar set with sapphires and rubies. He has a crimson cap adorned with jewels and links of gold, and carries a jeweled chalice filled with gold nuggets): We come, oh King.

SIMON (Caspar's servant in the background): Great geewhikers, we are outdone. Balthasar beat us to it.

BARABBAS (Melchior's servant): Yes, and they must both remain kneeling until old Balthasar has finished presenting his gift.

BALTHASAR (standing before the Virgin and Babe, holds out with both hands an elaborate reliquary of gold containing priceless myrrh. His red fur-lined mantle is fastened across his chest by a green ribbon and is edged with black pearls, sapphires and rubies. An orange-colored garment covers his legs. Now that his turban is off, his inky hair is covered with a peaked diadem of magnificent jewels):

My soul doth magnify the Lord.
And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
Because He hath regarded the humility of His servant Balthasar.
His mercy is from generation to generation.
And holdy shall be His name.

CASPAR (still kneeling, aside to Melchior): To think we should follow a black man.

MELCHIOR: By my beard, Caspar, look at the baby king.

CASPAR: By my wart, Melchior, the infant king is dark. Why, he's black — real black! Come, let us go, this is too much.

MELCHIOR: I cannot, the baby grips me. I am being lifted up. What magic force seems to my limbs and drives me to the feet of the young king?

CASPAR: I am lifted, too. It is a feeling of decision and ecstasy. I'm penitent, confessing, Hallelujah.

MELCHIOR: I'm in a trance. The world seems far away. I cannot keep my eyes off the magnificent face of the glorious baby.

CASPAR: I'm transfixed. What a face for an infant. It mills my heart out.

MELCHIOR: He's black, all right, looking at him you forget it. What a personality!

CASPAR: It's magnetism or magic. Gosh, I'm unworthy to be here. (He prostrates himself.) Holy! Holy! Holy!

MELCHIOR: Hallelujah!

BALTHASAR (his face transfigured, sings):

He hath showed might in His arm
He hath scattered the proud in the conceit of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat
He hath exalted the humble and received Balthasar, his servant.

* * *

The Babe extends His hands as if in benediction. Heavenly music fills the air. Angels' voices are heard singing:

"Peace on earth and mercy mild;
Glory to the newborn Child."

(Reprinted from the Chistmas AFRO, December 26, 1931)

ENTERTAINERS at the Regent Theater party for Mrs. Santa and her friends were the above performers who kept the youngsters rocking and rolling. Left to right, Stevie Brown of the Ultratones; Tom Smith and James Thomas of the Versatiles and Troy Brown of the Destinations.

## Soul Christmas

By CAROLYN K. ERWIN

"Man, the way you drivin' this crate we'll be lucky if we don't lose half the loot let one live to hock any of it."

BoBo planted his feet firmly against the floorboard of the old VW and gripped tightly the handbar that was mounted on the front panel as the car sped into the narrow curve at 90 m.p.h.

It had been several miles since BoBo had lost sight of the pursuing police car. He had told Willie this but he still continued to grind the accele rator to th eovOolS! the devil himself was hot on their trail.

* * *

Willie was visibly nervous as he drove because the robbery hadn't gone the way that he had planned it.

First off, he left it up to BoBo to get the getaway car and he turned up in an old '48 VW.

"Man, where was your mind at when you copped this thing?" Willie asked not really expecting an answer.

Then, someone had tipped the cops off to the jewelry store robbery so that BoBo and Willie just barely made it out the back door with the goods before the patrol car arrived.

* * *

Although the patrol car was faster, Willie managed to wheel the VW up and down the sidestreets and alleys until he brought it to rest along the blind side of a tractor trailer that was stopped for a traffic light.

With sirens wailing and lights flashing, the patrol car sped through the red light completely missing the VW that was ever-shadowed by the massive truck.

"That was the only piece of luck we've had since we started this operation." Willie signed with relief as he threw the VW into reverse and headed for the outskirts of town.

As the VW raced along the dark county road, it was continually by the thick blanket of night that seemed to cover everything. Willie could barely make out the countryside around him let alone see the road in front.

Just then, what appeared to be the trunk of a fallen tree loomed on the road ahead of them. Willie hit the brakes but it was too late.

The almost weightless vehicle skidded and came to rest in a shallow ditch.

* * *

Still a little dazed, the two men climbed out of the crippled VW. Willie leaned against the car's side until the chill night air revived him.

"You alright, Bo?" he called to his friend who by this time was seated on the ground.

BoBo threw up his hand in reply.

* * *

"Where the hell are we anyway," Willie wondered aloud.

"Beats me, I ain't never seen this turf beofe," BoBo volunteered.

"Well it's too chold to hang around out here so let's start hoofing it. Walt check the VW. Maybs we can take some of the loot that ain't too heavy."

* * *

At Willie's suggestion, BoBo went over to the VW lying on its side and pulled one of the doors open. Inside he found the stolen loot strewn over the floor and backseat of the car.

Several times had been smashed in the impact including the picture tube of the portable TV and the faces of the clock radios they took.

"Man, half the loot is totalled," BoBo called dejectedly. "All we got left is a couple of god watches, some diamond rights, and these siver cuff links."

* * *

"Bring 'em along anyway." Willie said as he started off down the road. "Least we-can do is pawn the stuff."

The two men had been walking for almost an hour when Willie spotted a bright light just over a small hill. Nudging his partner and pointing toward the light, he quickened his pace and headed in its direction. BoBo followed.

* * *

When they reached the crest of the hill, they looked down and saw the light coming from a small wooden stable that stood alone in a deserted field.Cautiously, they approached it.

Hearing voices from within, they moved in for a closer look. They could see the slender figure of a woman, her olive brown face partially hidden by the mantle she wore.

In her arms, a small brown baby nestled.

* * *

Around the mother and child were several men dressed in elegant waistcoats and tunics who stood about talking and admiring the child.

Just then, one of the men spotted Willie and BoBo standing outside the door. Approaching them he said:

"Peace, my brothers, for unto us a child is born. Unto us a King is given."

Taking them by the hand, he led them in.

And so when the angels came to take inventory of His many gifts, they found among them a gold watch, some diamond rights and a pair of silver cuff links.

CHRISTMAS GIVING — The ladies auxiliary of the John and Samuel Tyson VFW Post-8569 finish their gift-wrapping in time for their annual Christmas visit in the Veterans Hospital at Perry Point. Shown from left to right are: Mrs. Lougenia Stinson, Mrs. Mary Wiggs, Mrs. Margret Kenson, president, John Conwell, post commander, Mrs. Myrtle Parker, Mrs. Shirley Conwell, Mrs. Hazel Winston, Mrs. Elmeria Berry and Mrs. Willie Williams.

## Early Yule for Upton pupils

Christmas came a little early to the boys and girls of the Upton School No. 303. Employees of Social Security Administration, Claims Operations, Civic-Howard unit, visited the school last Friday with candy canes, fruit, stockings for the kids, AM-FM radios for each floor in the building.

Accompanying them, was ole Santa himself, dressed in his bright red suit with a long white flowing beard while some of the children talked with Santa, others sang Christmas carols and the faculty gave out gifts.

Participating in the program was: Ray Upton, who was Santa; Tee Cee Hamilton, principal; Mrs. Australia Jones; Miss Felinza Jackson; Mrs. Sylvia Gaynor; Miss Diann Stewart; Mrs. Judit Hoffmann; Miss Patricia Gumbine; Mrs. Marsha Hairston; Mrs. Darnell Street; and Gary Dye.

## Shining Star

Nothing less could make such a devine entrance
Than the Prince of peace/ the king of kings
It was written, and the prophesy would be fulfilled
That a star that would come on a winter day
Would illuminate the snowtrails to our cherished destination
And each year, there is a brilliant burst of light
As the star comes to lead us again
Over oceans, fields and mountains
To a place that shall always be so wonderful
We are gathered today at a barn — a sacred manger
Each year the star brings joy to our hearts.

PAUL D. McALLISTER

## Preview of 1971

A preview of the New Year which is dawning indicates that 1971 is The Year of Acquarius while the one we are leaving is "The Dawn of Acquarius."

New national legislation shows that 1971 will see the most extensive re-scheduling of holidays ever witnessed in the nation's history.

Five Monday holidays were created to make longer holiday weekends: Washington's birthday, 3rd Monday in February; Labor Day, 1st Monday in September; Columbus Day, 2nd Monday in October; Veterans Day, 4th Monday in October.

Thanksgiving day, 1971 will be on Thursday, Nov. 25. The one and only Friday 13th is in August.

* * *

Jan. 5 is The 12th Night, the evening before Epiphany which ends on Shrove Tuesday.

Lent begins Ash Wednesday, Feb. 24.

Spring comes March 21.

Good Friday is April 9.

Easter is Sunday April 11, considered "late."

Summer begins June 21.

July 4 is on Sunday and Christmas Dec. 25 is on Saturday.

1971 is NOT a Leap Year, therefore, February's days number only 28.

Community college m-4

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