Mrs. Santa Fund $19,077.00 Goal $30,000 Need $11,923

$1,549.75
Softball Marathon
$1,208.93
Estate of Miss Elinor Cornelia Dimmy
$1,000.00
Mr. & Mrs. William C. March & March Funeral Home
The A.M.E. Ministerial Alliance
$700
In Memory of Mrs. Peggy T. Howard, Maceo T. Howard
$435.00
C & P Telephone Co.
$300.00
Myra Grand Chapter O.E.S.
Baltimore Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity
$275.00
The Monumental City Friends
$250.00
Baltimore lunicipal Employees Local No 44, AFSCME, AFL-CIO
The Garrison Gents
McCormick & Company
$200.00
S.A.T. Foods
Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge
High Bidders Pinochle Club
Balto. Chapter National Assoc. of Fashion & Accessory Designers
Gentlemen of Distinction, Inc.
Utopia Charity Club
$150.00
Ms. Beatrice Howard Hall
Mr. & Mrs. Dullin E. Wicks
Lambda Kappa Mu Sorority-Iota Chapter
Montford Point Marine Assoc.
Medina Temple No. 1 & 2
The Committee to United to Save Sandtown, Inc.
Avalon Club, Inc.
$125.00
William & Minnie Shorter
$110.00
The Stork Club
$100.00
Samuel Survey & Co., Inc.
Mrs. Bernice Hawkins Shorter
Mr. & Mrs. John Myers
Herbert Alston Jr.
Dr. James L. Moore
The Lawyers Wives
The Charmettes
United Bowling Club
Ms. Gertie Hudson
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Alpha Beta Chapter
JNNRL Neighborhood Assoc.
Ms. Jeanette L. Johnson
Mr/ & Mrs. Ilton D. Bell
The New Jockey Club
Wo-Be-Co
Mrs. Enolia V. lcMillian
Mr. & Mrs. Marion J.W. Seabrooks
In Memory of Rev. N.B. Carrington
James & Isabelle Randall
The National Alliance of Postal & Federal Employees
1100 Blk. N. Carrollton Ave.
Mrs. Jannie G. Iason
The Coronas
The S.M.L.'s
The Chit-Chat's Balto. Chapter
The Weekenders
Mrs. Mary A. Harris
Royal Antique Automobile Club
Miss Ruth E. Saulesbury
Twelve Plus One Club
The Men
Clifton F. Vincent
Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Alpha Alpha Sigma Chapter
Hairmasters
Coppin State College Women's Symposium
The Clever Kiqueiqy's Club
The Special Aid Club
Zion Lodge No. 4, F. & A.M., PhA.
STAT Program of Northern Parkway Jr. High School
Pinochle Pals
The Beren Task Force
Match Set Tennis Club
Neighborhood Club of 1100 N. Carrollton Ave.
Annie A Calvin Thompson
R.A.R. Associates Development Corp.
United Nurses of Various Churches
Neighborhood Club 3600 Gwynns Falls Parkway Assoc., Inc.
$75.00
Mrs. Inez Cox
Mr. & Mrs. James Franklin
$60.00
The Pastor's Aid of Emmanuel C.C. Church
$50.00
William & Catherine Blackmon
In Memory of Mrs. Jennie Carrington
Mr. & Mrs. Julius Taylor
Ingleside Hercules, Inc.
Mr & Mrs. James T. Perry
Jerusalem Court No. 1-Daughters of Isis
We Moms
A Group of Friends
Dr. & Mrs. Benjamin Ouarles
John Scott Jr.
The Baltimore & Washington Club
Mr. & Mrs. Henry Hall
The Pierians, Inc.
Dr. & Mrs. Roger K. Williams
Charles & Beatrice Payne
Ms. Charlotte V. Lyles
Ms. Blanche Northern
Big Sisters of Balto.
The Good Will Circle
The Ten Friends Club
Emerson & Mildred Anderson
Edgar Alvin Williams Jr.
Roxie's Rack-Plus & Tall, Herbert & Roxanne Grohskope
Beta Sigma Tau Fraternity
Forest Park Neighborhood Club
Mrs. Percy R. Crowner
Primary Social & Charity Club
Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin Whitton
Mr. & Mrs. John H. Murphy, III
William C. Gross
Virgil Nichols
$40.00
Mr. & Mrs. Frances Dudley
Frank Johnson Jr.
Ms. Evelyn B. Dilon
$35.00
Bernard & Alma Rood
Flair Studio, Mrs. Willa Bland
Col. John L. Leo, Jr.
$30.00
Mrs. Frances L. Murphy, II
Mrs. Mary T. Freeman
$25.00
Mrs. Vivian S. Bennett
Rudolph Typewriter Co., Inc.
Allen H. Venzelle
Mrs. Llewellyn M. Walker
Ms. Elizabeth A. Edmonds
Mr. & Mrs. Elmer S. Patterson
Mr. & Mrs. Robert W. McDaniel
Mr. & Mrs. William R. Bowie Jr.
Ms. Sandra E. East
Law Offices of Rachlin & Settleman, P.A.
Prs. Gertrude Winston
Lake Ashburton Neighborhood Assoc.
Mr. & Mrs. Clifton A. Turner Sr.
Mrs. Marie E. Murphy
Mrs. Ruby Mills Taylor
Harry & Galatha Marshall
Mr. & Mrs. Paul W. Moore Sr.
Ms. Helen G. Scotland
Ms. R. Eleanor Scotland
James White
Irs. Inez Taylor
Mr. & Mrs. Marshall W. Stewart
Ms. Vivian W. Young
Ms. Dorothy Hicks
Ms. Marie C. Cassell
Mrs. Helen C. Thomas
Students Taking Action of Southwestern High School
Mrs. Perre S. Bell
Mr. & Mrs. James R. Dennis
Webster & Lois Powell
Mr & Mrs. Joseph Holmes
The Chums
Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Water
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Gamma Chapter
The Renaissance Ltd.
The Women's Auxiliary
Community Neighborhood Organization
Whitney Houston
Avon H. Richardson
Ms. Blanche B. Bell
The Sociable Six
Mrs. Arnetta Rosemond
Mrs. Mae E. Dyson
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Nu Gamma Chapter
Mr. & Mrs. Norman Nelson
Union Memorial Prayer Group
Md. Women's Comm. for the United Negro College Fund
Councilman Nathaniel McFadden
Ms. June C. St. Thomas
Women Emerging
Ms. Grafline D. Raynie
$20.00
Mrs. Louise Kerr Hines
Mohogany, Inc. (50/50 Raffle)
Mohogany, Inc.
Mr. & Mrs. Rodman D. Harris
The Pals
Ms. June B. Thorne
Ms. Edith L. Davis Smith
Ms. Marsha Baker Fuller
Ms. Nellie H. Williams
Mrs. Gladys E. Palmer
Mrs. Mary J. Baker
$15.00
Walter & Geraldine Dorsey
William G. Contee Jr.
Mrs. Sarah S. Rayne
Ms. Emma L. Davis
Mr. & Mrs. Viller T. Brown
Mr. & Mrs. Theodore R. Tate
Ms. Elizabeth Jefferson
Earley Kersey
Alvester Saunders
$12.00
Mr. & Mrs. William H. McNeal Jr.
$10.00
Ms. Thelma F. Johnson
Ms. Fannie B. Poulson
Arvel & Pauline Owens
Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Billups Jr.
Ms. Angie Lee McClain
Ms. Vivian M. Bailey
Ms. Marguerite E. East
Rudy's Grocery
Mrs. Shawan D. Gregory
Howard N. Contee
Charles Kelly
Mrs. Pearl Gordon
Ms. Eva P. Brooks
Ms. Claudine Harden
James E. Israel
Therman B. O'Daniel
Mrs. Thelma C. Rice
James Payne
Ms. Vyna M. Skinner
Mrs. Florence Lyles
Mr. & Mrs. Henry W. Dorner, Jr.
$5.00
Ms. Mary K. Pool
Mesdames Hazel & Mildred West
Myva & Elmira Harris
Ms. Beverly Ann Reid
Edward Woodford
Walter R. Dean Jr.
Ms. Tronita Whitehead
William Darden
$4.95
Ms. Martha Ann Norris
$2.00
Parade of Pennies for Jesus
$3.00
Mrs. Beatrice E. Snowden
$2.50
Mrs. April Gluckstern

Cases

Continued from page 12

ing or real cold because they don't have the proper clothes, coates, or even shoes. Please, if you can help us with food or anything else we would be very grateful.

— —

Case 188: My mother cares for her mother, 73 years old; and her brother, 45 years old; in addition to a husband who does not have any income and 2 children ages 13 and 9. Mom receives some aid from her mother and brother but it is never enough to make ends meet. We are counting on receiving a food basket for Christmas in order to make the holidays a little happier for us.

— —

Case 189: Please help my 3 children. They will not have much of a Christmas. My oldest child is 16, he goes to a special education school. My other children are 6 and 15 months old. It is very hard to provide for them. They need warm clothes and the youngest ones would like toys for Christmas. But what I think we need most of all is a food basket.

— —

Case 192: I am partially paralyzed and live alone. I have no children so I don't need toys or clothes. But, I really do have a need to receive a Christmas basket from you. Please help me if you can.

— —

Case 193: Please help my family this year with a food basket. We get a small amount of food stamps and with 10 people in your family, it is hard to make it through an entire month. Our bills always seem to exceed our income. It gets very discouraging, especially during the holiday season.

— —

Case 194: I have 6 children, ages 13, 12, 11, 6, 3, and 2 years old. I am 31 years old and I raise them alone. I don't always have food for them it is very painful to see your children hungry. Last Christmas, they did not receive anything in the way of a toy or a gift. I am hoping that this Christmas brings at least a nice holiday meal.

— —

Case 195: I am an elderly lady with 2 foster children, ages 6 and 5. Their mother left them with me with no clothes or shoes. They are hoping for a Merry Christmas. Christmas always brings hope to a child. I am hoping too, I hope that you will be able to help me make this one of the better holidays for them.

— —

Case 196: I am 21 years old, and I have 2 little girls ages 2 and 7 months. Anything you can offer them for Christmas will be really appreciated. I can only give them the roof over their heads. Christmas is not supposed to be this way for children. Please give us whatever you can.

— —

Case 197: I am hoping you can help me. I am unemployed and I have been told that I do not have enough time in my first quarter to receive any of my benefits as yet. They said that maybe in 4 to 6 weeks, I may be eligible. Until such time I do not have any income. I am hoping that you can supply a food basket for the holiday season. I have never had to depend on the kindness of strangers before because I have always been able to supply for myself. Now, unless you can help me in some way, I don't know what I will do for food for the Holidays.

— —

Case 198: I have 7 children; 3 girls and 4 boys ages 15-1. It is very hard supplying for them. There is always something that they need. Mostly, right now they need food. I am hoping that you can supply us with a food basket for the Christmas holiday. It would mean so much to them and to me.

— —

Case 199: I am writing to you in the hope that you can help my family for Christmas. You see, my husband works but his income barely pays the bills. My husband is also a sugar diabetes victim. He must take insulin every day. We have a 10 year old son and a 9 month old daughter. There is so much I would like to give them for Christmas but we are unable to afford anything. Please see that we get a basket so that we may have a nice dinner.

— —

Case 190: I am writing because we don't have much of anything. I keep thinking about Christmas being right around the corner and I don't have anything for my children. I have been sick and that has only made things worse for us. I have 7 children ages, 18,16,12, 11,7,5 and 1. Please help us with anything you can for Christmas.

— —

Case 191: I was laid off from work in November and I will not be able to get unemployment until the middle of January. I have 4 children and I would like to have a Christmas dinner. I am sure they would love to have a toy also but it would mean much more if we are able to sit down together to a very nice holiday meal.

— —

Case 192: I have 2 sons. They are 3 years and 8 months old. My 3 year old suffers from asthma and has to go to the hospital constantly for treatments, especially during the winter months. I sometimes have to borrow money from friends and relatives to pay for his medical expenses. This only puts me further into debt with all of our other bills because I have to pay back the money I borrowed as soon as I receive my check. It seems as if we will never make it through a whole month and still have one or two pennies left. I am hoping that you can give me a helping hand with at least a food basket so that my kids may have a nice dinner.

— —

Case 193: I have never written to you before. But now things are really bad for my husband and me. In the past we have always managed some kind of Christmas for the children. This is the first year that they will have absolutely nothing. We have 3 girls ages 10, 5, and 4. If you can please help us get them maybe a doll a piece and a nice food basket we would be grateful.

— —

Case 194: My family and I are in need of a Christmas basket. I have 1 daughter and 3 grandchildren. What little income we do have goes right back out in bills. The grandchildren are ages 13, 8, and 2. They are at the ages where it is very important to have a nice Christmas. To them a Christmas without a toy is not a good Christmas at all. We also need food. It would bring me joy to be able to prepare a nice Christmas dinner for them.

— —

Case 195: I am writing this letter hoping you will be able to make my children's Christmas special. I have 3 boys and 1 girl. They are in need of warm clothing and shoes. They would also live to have a toy but we need the clothes badly. Also a food basket would really help us to have a very nice holiday dinner, and it will also make it feel a lot happier around our home.

— —

Case 196: I am a single parent with 3 children, ages 13, 10, and 8. I am on a fixed income and my rent and utilities are more than my income. My children are wondering what type of Christmas they will have. They know that they won't be receiving the toys and games they would like to have but I would like to at least have a very special holiday meal for them. Please help.

— —

Case 197: I am very much in need for food and clothing. I am the mother of a 9 year old daughter and would love to be able to give her at least a doll. I am on Social Service but I could use much more help. We never seem to have enough food to last the entire month. I would appreciate any kind of help that you can offer us.

— —

Case 198: I have 10 children in my family and Christmas is one of the saddest times of the year for us. This is awful because a child is supposed to be very happy during the holiday season. fy family is in need of so many things. We need clothes, food, and toys for the children. I realize that things are bad for almost everybody, but if you could please help us we would most certainly appreciate it.

— —

Case 199: I am 23 years old and I have 2 children. Their father is in jail. I am out of work and have been for quite some time now. I don't seem to have the background it takes to get a job. I keep looking though. I am asking that you please help me by donating a food basket to our family. Having a good dinner on Christmas could make the difference between having a happy holiday and having a joy at all.

— —

Case 200: I don't know how to start except by saying please HELP. You think of all of the people who have less than you do and you thank God for what you do have, but it is not enough sometimes when you wake up knowing you don't even have breakfast or dinner for kids. We have 6 kids and it seems that they are always hungry. We are asking that you please help by trying to give us a food basket and maybe some toys for the younger children. Our kids' ages are 17, 11, 13, 10, 7, and 2 years old.

—Happenings—

All agencies of the Enoch Pratt Free Library will close at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 31, New Year's Eve, and remain closed on wednesday, Jan. 1, New Year's Day.

— —

All agencies of the Enoch Pratt Free Library will close at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 24, Christmas Eve, and remain closed on Wednesday Dec. 25, Christmas Day.

— —

Free Events for Children
Monday, Dec. 23
Edmondson Avenue Branch, 4330 Edmondson Ave., Film: "The Christmas Deer: A Legend Retold," 6 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 29
Patterson Park Branch, 158 N. Linwood Ave., Films: "Hardware Wars" and "The Amazing Cosmic Awareness of Duffy Moon," 3:15 p.m.

— —

New group for Prince
Rumors have been coming out of Minneapolis that there's another band from Prince's record label, Paisley Park, that's about to rock the socks off America. One Minneapolis paper called them 'the next supergroup out of the Twin Cities." And sleuths from national music television shows and fan magazines have been nosing around trying to get the details on this mystery unit.

Well, you read it here first. The group is Mazarati—seven guys who have already quietly played over 200 dates together, and have set house records in clubs throughout the five-state area around Minneapolis. Mazarati rehearsed and wrote its music on the sly in the basement of an old warehouse that was once Al Capone's hideout.

Now their debut album (called "Mazarati") is about to hit the streets. And rumor has it that Mazarati will show its stuff to the nation in a tour sometime early in 1986.

(Photo by Vanessa Johnson)

THE CHIT-CHAT SOCIAL CLUB, a group of 14 ladies who have been playing cards (pinochle) and chatting together for 27 years. They donated $100 to the Mrs. Santa Fund. Shown are: Mesdames Libby Sparrow, President; Elaine Taylor, Secretary; Mrs. Santa's Helpers, Mitchell Bolling, of the Composing Room; and Mary B. McCray, Treasurer.

Top Hits

Top R&B Singles
1. Don't Say No Tonight — Eugene Wilde
2. Count Me Out — New Edition
3. Say You Say Me — Lionel Richie
4. A Love Bizarre — Sheila E.
5. Caravan of Love — Isley-Jasper-Isley

Top R&B Albums
1. In Square Circle — Stevie Wonder
2. Rock Me Tonight — Freddie Jackson
3. Who's Zoomin' Who — Aretha Franklin
4. Whitney Houston
5. Emergency — Kool & the Gang

Top Jazz Albums
1. Magic Touch — Stanley Jordan
2. Harlequin — Dave Grusin & Lee Ritenour
3. Dancing in the Sun — George Howard
4. Vocalese — The Manhattan Transfer
5. Alternating Currents — Spryo Gyra

12 FREE MOVIE RENTALS
& FREE Lifetime Club Membership NO DEPOSIT REQUIRED
If you bought or received a new VCR since Dec. 1, 1985 no matter where it was purchased, bring in your original sales receipt & get 12 FREE movie rentals & FREE club membership at any Budget Video location. Limit one per family.

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"This cop picture deserves to be Chuck Norris' biggest hit yet."
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CATONSVILLE 6400 Frederick Rd 747-7000
FRANKFORD GARDENS SC 485-4000
GLEN BURNIE 706 N. Crain Highway 761-5500
LIBERTY ROAD at Milford Mill 655-0404
NEWLY EXPANDED WALBROOK SHOP. CTR. 566-6006

(Photo by Vanessa Johnson)

ALPHA ALPHA SIGMA CHAPTER, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. contributed $100 to the Mrs. Santa Fund, Basileus Mrs. Vivien Gardner, presented check to Mrs. Santa's Helper, Ms. Elyn Garrett.

(Photo by Vanessa Johnson)

COPPIN STATE COLLEGE—Women's Symposium, a group of Coppin women who meet monthly and raise funds for annual scholarships presented $100 to the Mrs. Santa Fund. Shown are: Mesdames Dr. Geraldine R. Waters, President; Shirley Stokes, Program Chairperson; and Charlotte Stafford, Secretary. Not shown is Treasurer, Mrs. Florine Robinson.

They stalked him until he was cornered. It was too late when they discovered it was his...
FOXTRAP
Starring FRED WILLIAMSON
Starts Today
LIBERTY Liberty Ct Shp Ctr 655-2600
BOULEVARD 33rd St/Greenmount Ave 235-4023
TOWN 539-2264 311 W. Fayette

Community Calendar

Kwanzaa Celebration
The New Era Education Center will celebrate Kwanzaa, and the public is invited to participate in the activities held at the school located at 4516 Manordene Rd. The following activities have been scheduled:
Umoja (Unity), Thursday, Dec. 26, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 - p.m., "African People-The Building of a United Front"
Ujimaa (Cooperative Economics), Sunday, Dec. 29, 3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. "African Marketplace"
Kuumba (Creativity), Tuesday, Dec. 31, 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. "The Genius of African Children"
For further information contact New Era at 233-5100.

Geriatric Aide Course
"Geriatric Aide Course: The Morgan State University's Department of Urban Gerontology will conduct a state certified course for Geriatric Aides beginning, January 20, 1986. Flexible hours for working people. Call Mrs. Disney, 444-3581 for further information."

Summer Jobs For '86
The Maryland State Highway Administration will hire over 100 college students for summer jobs in highway maintenance, construction inspection, traffic, and drafting in 1986.
To qualify, a student must be a Maryland resident who is returning to college in the fall. Also eligible are high school seniors who will be 18 years old by June 13 and expect to be starting college, and graduate students who will be continuing their studies next fall.
Students may apply for the jobs between Dec. 27 and Jan. 31 at Maryland State Employment Service offices throughout the state and at the Baltimore Urban League office in the Mondawmin Mall in Baltimore. All applications received before Jan. 31 will receive equal consideration.

Patterson Ice Rink Open
The Patterson Park Ice Rink is now open for the 1985-86 season. The Ice Rink is located in Patterson Park near the Linwood Avenue and Pratt Street entrance.
The Ice Rink is open from 7:30 - 10:30 p.m. weekdays, and from 3:00 - 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 - 10:00 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. This season's admission charge is $1.50 for 10 years of age and over and $1.00 for children under 10 years of age. Skates will be available for rental at $1.00 per pair.
Monday and Tuesday nights are Family Nights at the Ice Rink. Parents are admitted free when accompanied by a paying child. Wednesday nights are Ladies Night. Ladies get in to the Ice Rink for only $1.00.
The Ice Rink is also available for rent by private parties and for fund raising events. For additional information, please contact the Virginia S. Baker/Patterson Park Recreation Center at 396-8520.

Psychosexual Issues
The Health and Education Council will sponsor a one-day conference for all health and mental health professionals concerned with psychosexual issues in the provision of client care on Jan. 31.
The conference, "PSYCHOSEXUAL ISSUES IN THE PRACTICE SETTING: Strategies for Health Professionals" will be held at the Holiday Inn-Timonium Plaza and will feature Samual J. Westrick, M.D. speaking on "AIDS: Surviving the Medical and Social Epidemic."
Timely topics to be addressed include adolescent sexual behavior, sexual exploitation by health professionals; the relationship between alcoholism, drug abuse and sexuality; sexuality and the physically disabled, and sexuality in psychiatric hospitals.
For additional information, or to register, please contact Beth Dent, the Health and Education Council, Inc., 7201 Rossville Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21237, phone (301) 686-3610.

R.N. Refresher Course
A 140-hour R.N. Refresher course will be held at Essex Community College on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings from Jan. 27 through April 25.
This course will update participants in the current practice of medical, surgical, and gerontological nursing. Legal aspects and current trends in the nursing profession are also included. Clinical experience will be provided at Franklin Square Hospital.
Registrations will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis. For additional information, please contact Elizabeth Ketzner at The Health and Education Council at (301) 686-3610.

Living With Diabetes Series
The Saint Joseph Hospital Outreach Team will sponsor "Living with Diabetes," a series of four classes for diabetics and their families on Jan. 7, 14, 21, and 28 from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., in the hospital's School of Nursing.
The goal of the series, based on the guidelines of the American Diabetes Association, is to provide the individual or family with diabetes skills and knowledge that will enable them to become self-sufficient in the daily management of diabetes.
For more information and registration, call 337-1680 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

London Tour
The Travel and Tourism Department of Villa Julie College is sponsoring a tour of London and the theatre from Jan. 6 to Jan. 15.
A tour will be led by Cheryl Davis, head of the Travel and Tourism Division.
It will include sightseeing in London, Windsor Castle, Westminster Abbey, Changing of the Guard, No. 10 Downing Street, and other points of interest; three theatre performances, visits to Stratford-on-Avon, Oxford, Stonehenge and Canterbury Cathedral.
Cost for those over 21 is $947 and for those under 21, $939. Price includes air fare, hotels, two meals a day, sightseeing, and theatre tickets.
The tour is open to the public. To sign up for more information, call Villa Julie College 486-7000.

Metro Buses Decorated
To thank riders for their patronage that made this year the Mass Transit Administration's best in years, the MTA is again operating its decorated Christmas bus on major routes throughout the metropolitan area, and will also decorate a two-car Metro train for the holidays.
Passengers who board the special holiday bus will receive an MTA shopping bag and candy canes, and will ride free to the destination displayed on the bus.
Painted snow white on the outside and decorated with candy canes, garlands, tinsel and other holiday trimmings on the inside, the Christmas bus is running on different routes each weekday now through Christmas Eve.
The bus was prepared entirely by MTA employees in the body shop, paint shop, maintenance and customer services departments.
Wreaths and candy canes will adorn MTA's Christmas train. On December 24, Santa Claus will be on the train to greet passengers and hand out candy canes.
The Christmas train will be decorated by MTA personnel in rail car maintenance.

Easter Seals Needs Volunteers
Easter Seal needs your help! The Easter Seal Telethon is just around the corner and we need volunteers to help make it a success.
If you would like to join in the fun and, at the same time, experience the satisfaction of helping others by donating your time, please call Sandy or Audrey at 355-0100.

Free Events For Kids
The Baltimore County Public Library offers the following free activities for children. Please inquire about registration or tickets at the designated branches.
Thursday, Dec. 26, "The Snow Queen," a play by the Children's Theater Association for all ages (under age 6 with an adult), 2 p.m., Towson Area Branch; "Magic Show," an activity for all ages, 7 p.m., Woodlawn Branch.
Friday, Dec. 27, "Cabbage Patch Fashion Show," an activity with films for age 4 and up, 1:30 p.m., Cockeysville Area Branch; "Hansel and Gretel," marionettes by Black Cherry for all ages, 2 p.m., Towson Area Branch.

Metro running on Sundays during holidays

The Baltimore Metro will operate special holiday service this year on two Sundays before Christmas, according to Mass Transit Administration Administrator/General Manager Ronald J. Hartman.
Sunday Metro service will be operating on Dec. 15 and Dec. 22 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
"The additional Metro service will give our passengers the opportunity to shop along the Metro route on these Sundays," Hartman said. "And with regular Saturday ridership steadily increasing, merchants along the route should benefit from Metro service this holiday season."
Sunday Metro service costs will be supported by fares and MTA promotional funds. Metro Connection buses will not be operating.
The Baltimore Metro is open Monday through Friday from 5 a.m. to 8 p.m., and from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. every Saturday.
For more information, call the Metro recording number, 659-2700, or MTA information agents at 539-5000, TTY for the hearing-impaired only at 659-3497.

Post office advises wrapping it right

Baltimore Postmaster James A. McDougald has half a dozen "dos" and "don'ts" for customers who want to be sure their holiday parcels get delivered.
*** Don't box yourself in—use the right container.** Boxes must be adequate in size for the items being mailed and provide enough space for cushioning material. They must also be strong enough to hold the weight of their contents. If the box has adequate space for an address (cross out confusing information), it is not necessary to wrap it in paper. If you use paper, however, be sure it is equivalent to the kind used in grocery bags (60-pound weight). Fiberboard tubes and similar long packages are acceptable if their length does not exceed 10 times their girth.
*Give yourself some cushion. Cushioning absorbs and distributes shock and vibration. Examples of good cushioning materials are foamed plastics, corrugated cardboard and loose fill materials such as polystyrene, popcorn or shredded newspaper. Loose fill material should completely cover the items being mailed.
*Close parcels up right. Use tape, not string or rope, to close packages. Cellophane and masking tape should not be used. Pressure senitive, filament-reinforced tape is recommended and should be wrapped around the parcel at least twice.
***Addresses are important.** You can spend a fortune on wrapping, but your package will never reach its destination if it is not addressed right. Print or type the address clearly on one side of the parcel only. It is also a good idea to put the name and address inside the package in case the address label comes off.
***Don't mail your pet elephant.** Packages must not exceed 70 pounds. They must also be at least 3-½ inches wide and 5 inches long, and total length and girth cannot exceed 108 inches.
***Don't overinsure.** If your parcel is valuable, you might want to insure it only for its actual value. The Postal Service pays claims based on the actual value of lost or damaged items and not a higher insured amount.
"If you follow these six suggestions, it'll help us get your package where it's going on time, in good, shape," McDougald said.

Express mail offers hope for last minute shoppers

You've waited until the last few days before Christmas and you want to be sure your present will arrive in time. What can you do?
Use the last-minute shoppers' and mailers' solution. It's called Express Mail Next Day Services, and it's available at the local post office.
"With Express Mail service, customer can reach a large number of cities overnight," says Sectional Center Manager/Postmaster James A. McDougald. "You can mail a package one day and have it reach the address by 3 p.m. the following day." Customers also have the option of having their Express Mail package available for claim at the destination post office by 10 a.m. the next business day.
Express Mail offers weekend and Christmas Day delivery to the addressee at no extra charge.
From here, Postmaster McDougald says over 550 three digit ZIP Code areas can be reached via the Express Mail Next Day Service network.
Items weighing up to 70 pounds can be sent by Express Mail. The service includes merchandise insurance coverage up to $500 at no additional charge. Also, the sender can apply for a full refund of postage if a shipment is late.
A package weighing up to two pounds mailed from here costs $10.75 for delivery to the addressee and $8.60 for post office to post office service. A 10-pound package mailed to New York, New York would cost $16.20 for delivery to the addressee and $14.05 for post office to post office service.
The post office can provide information about cities that can be reached from here via Express Mail Services.
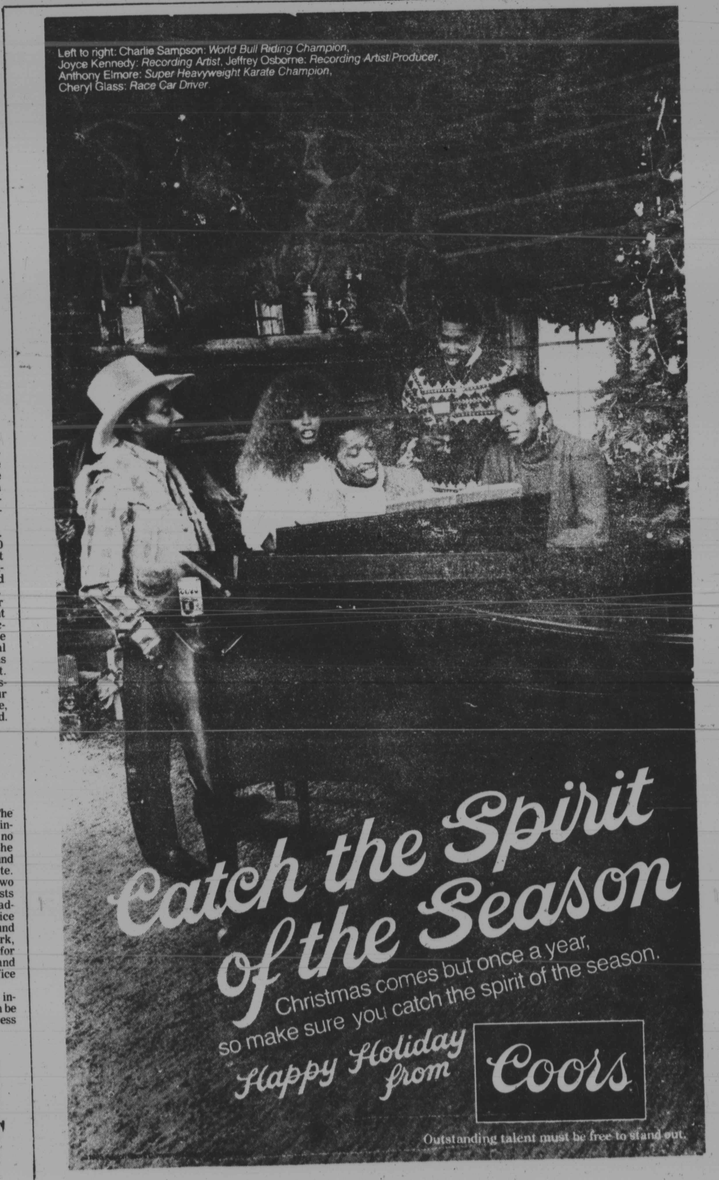
Table knives are a rather late innovation. Until about 1600, diners brought to the table their own knives, which served as daggers between meals.