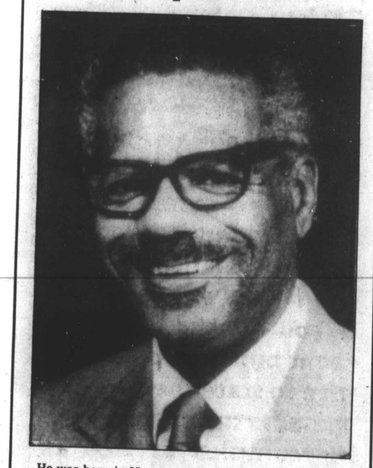
Kids Talk

Do you know this person?



He was born in Newport News, Va. and currently lives in Chicago, Ill.

He is a newspaper reporter and commentator. He is the former editor and publisher of a newspaper called "Black X-Press." He has worked for other publications including The Chicago Daily News, The Chicago American, and Chicago Metro News. He founded an organization designed to help young black students seeking careers in the newspaper industry. As a former teacher at Elmhurst College and Wilson Junior College, he has impressed many young minds.

He is Lurelle Palmer.

Article on Single Parenting wins 'Youth on Beat' first prize

Koqwinda C. Chambers, a 7th grade student at Francis Junior High School in Southeast DC, was the first place national winner of the Youth on the Beat Contest in her age group. She won a personal computer and a $100 savings bond for her article reflecting the effects of single parenting on children.

Her award-winning article follows as a part of a continuing series. Other winning essays from the AFRO Charities, Inc. sponsored contest will be featured each week.

Koqwinda C. Chambers

Essay

On Being The Oldest Child of a Single Parent

By Koqwinda Chambers

It's not easy when you have major responsibilities. One of the biggest ones is deciding between right and wrong.

Being the oldest, I have to look after the household in a mature fashion while my mother is at work. My sister and I argue over whose turn it is to do a particular chore; but in spite of it all, I still love her.

We try not to argue too much because it's very hard on my mother. She wants us to have the better things in life. Even though we have some rough times, we still have good times by sharing what we have and going places together.

My mother is there when we need her, and going to church as a family and praying gets us through it all.

Oops!

There once were two girls named Nicole,
Whose tales were about to unfold,
While we did our best and each passed the test,
The names on their honors were faux.

Now that we've realized our mistake,
The correction is ours to make,
Though both are Nicoles and each one a doll,
It's Thompson and Clarke, for Pete's sake!

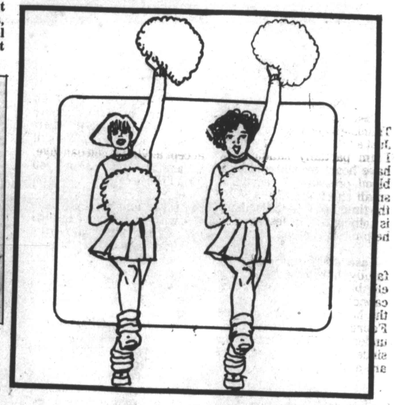
Nicole Thompson, a senior at H.D. Woodson High School, won 2nd place in the national Youth on the Beat competition.

Nicole Clarke, a senior at the DC School Without Walls, won 1st place in the national Youth on the Beat competition.

Nicole Thompson, Woodson Sr. High

Nicole Clarke, School Without Walls

Color me



Christmas Countdown

There are only five more weeks before Christmas!

For you boys and girls who have been good all year, it's time to get those "wish lists" headed toward the North Pole in time for Santa Claus and his elves to bring you the toys and treats you desire.

To make sure your letter makes the long journey to the North Pole, mail it to the AFRO and we will send it by our special express system directly to Santa. Furthermore, the best written letters will appear on the Kids Talk page. Since Santa always reads the AFRO, we are sure that he will give those featured letters special attention.

Write your letter right away, put it in a stamped envelope, and mail it to:

Santa Claus
The Washington Afro-American Newspaper
2002 11th Street NW
Washington, DC 20001

Reaching Out

By Olive Vassell

A special thank-you to the lovely children of Marie Reed School in NW DC.

They were a delight and an inspiration for me during a recent visit to their "Career Day."

The youngsters in grades two through six were inquisitive and genuinely interested in the business of journalism, although when initially asked what journalism was, few of them could tell.

However, once shown a copy of a newspaper, they quickly realized that journalists were people who wrote stories about "murder, death, and accidents."

And after some prompting conceded that journalists did write some "good stories," and had a nice job, because they "got to meet lots of people."

This page was written and edited by Sherri Milner

Washington AFRO 2002 11th St., NW 332-0080

Baltimore AFRO, 628 N. Eutaw St., 728-8200

Puzzling???

Thanksgiving Classic

H	L	L	G	G	P	D	y	B	Z	U	W	B
L	B	J	J	I	J	a	J	H	L	T	c	S
Z	f	J	E	Y	r	M	R	X	N	h	s	P
G	u	G	F	d	K	C	r	W	e	s	B	l
J	m	O	s	K	D	u	M	e	a	l	k	L
H	b	C	X	X	s	N	r	p	a	c	D	N
Y	l	B	U	h	F	l	D	o	a	L	M	w
B	e	I	W	I	e	M	g	t	T	W	o	S
e	Y	R	D	a	G	d	J	S	s	d	P	L
l	P	M	d	V	l	D	I	c	h	L	n	M
d	A	e	H	e	R	t	o	c	Y	u	C	E
d	r	P	i	H	n	r	u	L	r	B	R	L
u	C	f	J	u	e	o	U	T	K	E	T	U
h	V	Y	p	D	t	C	I	I	K	I	X	B

FIND THESE HIDDEN WORDS

cheerleader
pass
score
fieldgoal
punt
tackle
fumble
run
touchdown
huddle
rush
yards

HERE IS THE ANSWER KEY:

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.	.	.	.	.	.	a	.	.	.	.	c	.
.	f	.	.	.	r	.	.	.	h	s	.	e
.	u	.	.	d	.	.	r	.	e	s	.	l
.	m	.	s	.	.	u	.	e	a	l	k	.
.	b	.	.	.	s	.	r	p	a	c	.	n
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l	.	.	d	.	l	.	.	c	h	.	n	.
d	.	e	.	e	.	t	o	c	.	u	.	.
d	r	.	i	.	n	r	u	.	r	.	.	.
u	.	f	.	u	e	o	.	.	.	.	.	.
h	.	.	p	.	t	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

SCRAMBLED!!

Unscramble the following words. Here's a clue they are all related to school!

1. lohcso
2. scerhaet
3. lrippinca
4. trorep drca
5. drunopaylg
6. ookknteb
7. nedrlich
8. thma
9. indgear
10. skoob
11. ssreec
12. radegs
13. lipenc
14. tivecrea
15. ingtriw
16. cnhlu
17. ishEnlg

H
A
P
P
Y
T
H
A
N
K
S
G
I
V
I
N
G

ANSWERS: school, teachers, principal, report card, books, recess, grades, pencil, creative, writing, playground, notebook, children, math, reading, lunch, English.

1988 MRS. SANTA CAMPAIGN

Cases 1-27

'Plea for Help'

Case #1: Please help me for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Just a little something will do. I am partially handicaped, have heart trouble and high blood pressure. I receive a small check monthly and by the time I pay my bills, there is nothing left. In Jesus name, help me if you can.

* * *

Case #2: Please help my family and myself. I am not eligible for food stamps and cannot afford to buy food for the holidays. I got hurt last February and have been under a doctor's care ever since. I do need your help; we are a family of 9.

* * *

'Mother of 3'

Case #3: I never worked a day in my life, because I cannot afford to pay a babysitter for three children. I will do anything to make their Christmas just right. Their ages are 5, 4, and 2. We will accept anything you can give.

Case #4: I am asking you for a little help for Christmas. I am a mother of three and my sister and her baby also live with us. It is very hard to get a babysitter for five children. I am asking for both clothes and food. It would be greatly appreciated. There are two girls, 16 and 10, and three boys, 5, 11 months, and 9 months.

'Father Caring for his 2 Children'

Case #5: I am unemployed due to back trouble. I take care of my two boys, 7 and 6 years old, alone. Their mother was sent to a mental hospital. I need help from anyone that cares.

Case #6: I would like to ask you to help me with a Christmas dinner. I have six children, my husband is dead and my social security check runs out by the end of the month. I do not get food stamps.

***

Case #7: Would you please help with a Christmas basket for me and my six children. My husband has been laid off from Sparrows Point for two years and doesn't know when he will retrun to work.

***

Case #8: I am writing for a Christmas basket, please. I have ten children, seven are still home and a Christmas basket would help us all. If you can find it in your hearts to help us, please do.

'Please be a Friend and Neighbor'

Case #9: Please help large family. There are three girls, 10, 7, and 18 months. Five boys, 10, 8, 7, 4, and 2½. Also six adults and my friend is head of household. In need of beds, clothes, and food. A friend.

* * *

Case #10: Please help for the holidays a family of five. They could use help. A friend.

***

Case #11: Please help for two adults and five children. Four girls, 7, 6, 5, 4, and one boy, 5. They could use some help for the holidays. A neighbor.

***

Case #12: Woman lives alone, Needs help for the upcoming holidays. A concerned friend.

***

Case #13: Please help family of five. Mother and four children. Girls are 12, 7, and 3. One 10 year old boy. Friend of the family.

***

Case #14: There are two adults and two small boys, 3 and 5. Help is needed for the holidays. A friend.

***

Case #15: Senior citizen has three people in her home. Please help her with home. All are adults. Please help her with food if you can. A friend.

***

Case #16: Family has three adults. Could use help for the upcoming holidays. A neighbor.

***

Case #17: Family of two adults and one boy, 2½ years old. Please help for holidays. A concerned friend.

'Mother Surviving Alone'

Case #18: I was married, but my husband left me. I have three children and only receive money once a month. Please help me. God Bless You.

'Elderly Needs Help'

Case #19: I am asking you all to please help me for Thanksgiving or Christmas. I am 80 years old, live alone and suffers with arthritis and high blood pressure. I barely get around, but I thank God anyway. May God bless and keep you all.

'Needy Family of Four'

Case #20: My health condition is not at its very best. I have asthma, bronchial, high blood pressure, arthritis, and gout in my feet. My daughter and her 12 year old son also live with us. Her son suffers with an allergy and asthma. His health is very bad. He is not able to attend school. He has to be tutored at home. With all of the health problems, it is very hard for one to survive. We will thank you very much for a basket during these holidays. I could really use a winter coat for myself. I wear a size 22½. I thank you for listening, May God bless you all and open your hearts to our family.

***

Case #21: I live alone and am asking for a food certificate to have a nice Christmas. Due to high blood pressure, I can only eat certain foods and must eliminate sodium in my diet. I only receive a small disability check, which goes right out to the bills. With a food certificate, I may shop for goods to fit my diet.

***

Case #22: I lost my one of sons five weeks ago. My other son is handicaped and only a monthly check from welfare of $316.00 is received to help the two of us survive. I was just released from the hospital and will appreciate it if you can help me.

***

Case #23: I am in need of a basket for the holidays. I am a widow with three children. I really could use a coat and a pair of shoes for myself. Help me. Whatever you can do for me, I will thank god for.

'Concerned Mother of Five'

Case #24: My children are 12, 9, 7, 4, and 20 months old. I receive help from Social Services and by the time all of the bills are paid there is nothing left for extras. I love my children dearly and wish someone could find it in their hearts to help my children have a happy Christmas.

'Single Parent'

Case #25: I'm very much in need of help. I'm presently working a part-time job trying to support three children. Ages 12, 10, and 7. I can't get help from Social Service and after the rent is paid and the food is bought, there is not very much left for anything else. My son had a serious operation this year, now I am also paying the hospital bill. If you could please help in anyway, it would be very much appreciated.

Case #26: I am writing on behalf of the tenants at Murphy Home. We would like to receive help for the upcoming holidays. We have many low income tenants and would appreciate food baskets.

* * *

Case #27: My family is in need because I have very high bills. My rent is $275.00, water is $100.00 and gas and electric is $108.00. My income is only $526.00 monthly. That is why I know my child will be in need this year. Please find it in your hearts to help us this Christmas.

1988 MRS. SANTA CAMPAIGN

Mrs. Santa Needs You

For several years the Mrs. Santa program has assisted needy families of Baltimore by providing food, clothing and toys.

This notice is a request for each and everyone of our readers to reach into their hearts and contribute these wonderful blessings.

We Encourage You To

Contact Our – Office Today –

Mrs. Santa Campaign

301/728-8200

Mrs. Santa Request Form

Mrs. Santa wants to help you have a Merry Christmas by providing you with food and toys. If you'd like us to help, use the form below and give us your name, address, telephone number, zip code, number and ages of children, and tell us why the family needs help. If you live in an apartment building, please be sure to state the name of the apartment or housing complex as well as the number of the apartment.

Please do not call our office and ask to be placed on the list of recipients. You must fill out this form and send it to us.

Request Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Apartment _____ or

Housing Complex: _____

No. of Children: _____

Ages: _____

Mail To:

Mrs. Santa Campaign

c/o AFRO-AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS
628 N. Eutaw Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201