Dear Friend

The AFRO Mrs. Santa Campaign is a non-profit program sponsored by the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers with the express purpose of providing food for needy families at Christmas in the form of food coupons or food baskets.

Our needy families are referred to us by various city agencies, housing projects, AFRO Clean Block leaders who know about people hurting in their blocks.

Won't you be a AFRO Mrs. Santa helper this year? Take a minute and drop us a donation today. Every little bit helps. For contributions of $100 or more, a picture will be made with Mrs. Santa or her helpers. All contributions are tax deductible.

Sorry we can't handle clothes this year but we desperately need good clean used toys and books. Perhaps your club, job or business might wish to adopt a case. Please call us at 728-8200 and we'll give the name and address of the family. Please help us help someone have a happy Christmas.

IDA PETERS
Mrs. Santa

CORAL NICHOLAS
Assistant

Mrs. Santa Fund—$9,025.00
Goal $30,000—Need $20,975.00

Thank You to all the groups, businesses and organizations who are helping us provide coupons and Christmas baskets to needy families this year.

City of Baltimore	$1,000.00
March Funeral Home	1,000.00
Maryland Dental Society	800.00
Dr. Levi Watkins, Jr.	400.00
Myra Grand Chapter Order of Eastern Star	300.00
Meritocrats Inc.	300.00
John and Althea Griner, Sr.	210.00
Herbert Alston, Jr.	200.00
Mrs. Marion J. W. Seabrooks	200.00
High Bidders Social Club	200.00
Beatrice H. Hall	150.00
Western Community Improvement Assoc.	150.00
Mr. & Mrs. Dallin Wicks	150.00
Baltimore Chapter of Girl Friends	150.00
Monumental City Friends	122.00
William and Victorine Adams	100.00
United Nurses of Various Churches	100.00
Mrs. Ruby Mills Taylor	100.00
Bernice Shorter	100.00
Mrs. Jeanette L. Johnson	100.00
Cardigans Extended-Myra White Gray	100.00
Harold B. Carr	100.00
National Assoc. of Negro Business and Professional Women	100.00
Dunbar Class of 1965	100.00
Montford Point Marine Assoc. Md. Ch. 17	100.00
Hanlon Improvement Assoc. Inc.	100.00
Friends of Clarence W. Blount	100.00
Senator Troy Brailey	100.00
Neighborhood Club of 3000 blk. Gwynns Falls Pkwy	100.00
Chi Delta Mu Fraternity, Iota Chapter	100.00
Singer Travel Agency	100.00
WO-BE—CO- Women Behind Community	100.00
Henry G. Parks, Jr.	100.00
William Edward Roberts, Sr.	100.00
CHOICE	100.00
Ann Bernice S. Hunley	100.00
Fred Rogers	100.00
James and Isabella Randall	100.00
Evergreen Protective Assoc. Inc.	60.00
Jerusalem Court #1—Daughters of Isis	50.00
Mr. and Mrs. Prentis C. Nolan	50.00
Evelyn B. Diles	50.00
James White	50.00
Big Sisters of Baltimore	50.00
Provident Bank of Maryland	50.00
Dr. and Mrs. Benjamin Quarles	50.00
Ethel D. Hall	50.00
Bland Gatewood	50.00
Anthony Gatewood	50.00
Mrs. Lillian L. McLee	50.00
Flamingo Social Club	50.00
Knights of Peters Claver—St.Benedict de Moor	50.00
Mr. and Mrs. William Blackmon	35.00
Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Wake	35.00
Paul W. Moore, Sr.	25.00
Walter Sondheim, Jr.	25.00
Mrs. Louise K. Hines	25.00
Bernard and Alma Reed	25.00
Mrs. Juliamae B. McDanield	25.00
R. Eleanor Scotland	25.00
Helen G. Scotland	25.00
Mrs. Philathea C. Hall	25.00
Pearl E. Thompson	25.00
Rev. and Mrs. J. Lloyd Garrison	25.00
Rodman & Gladys Harris	25.00
Viller & Esther Brown	25.00
George E. Carter, Jr.	25.00
Ann A. Jerkins	25.00
Concord Baptist Church	25.00
Gertrude Winston	25.00
Mrs. Maria C. Cassell	25.00
Mrs. Gladys E. Palmer	20.00
Irma O. Dancy	20.00
Cassandra Lewis	20.00
Terry Doughtry	15.00
James H. Murphy	15.00
William Mack	15.00
Thelma F. Johnson	10.00
Mildred and Ivan West	10.00
Mrs. Pearl Gordon	10.00
Mrs. Roberta Jones	10.00
Charles Rogers	10.00
Walter Dorsey, Jr.	10.00
Mrs. Marie W. Lewis	10.00
Jesse Moody	10.00
Howard W. Contee	10.00
John H. Weston, Jr.	5.00
Mrs. Beatrice Snowden	3.00

Mrs. Santa's helpers

(Photo by Carol Nicholas)
Korean Business League presented AFRO's Mrs. Santa with 200 baskets for needy families. Above from (Lo Jin Ho, Kang, president; Pyong K. Pak, vice-president and Commissioner Ed Tilghman.

MARYLAND DENTAL SOCIETY raised $800 for the AFRO's Mrs. Santa last week at a Christmas benefit by the members of the Maryland Dental Society at the Encore Dinner Theatre. Above center, Dr. Donald M. Russell, President-elect of the Society founded in 1914; Dr. May Nicholas-Holmes, Treasurer and Dr. Linda S. Miles, vice-president. Front, Coral Nicholas, AFRO's Mrs. Santa's Helper. The current officers Dr. Joyce H. Parks is president.

The Korean Business League held a luncheon last week at EHWA Restaurant on Howard Street to donate 200 baskets of food to the AFRO's Mrs. Santa Program. They also donated two $300 scholarships to go to the AFRO Clean Block student leaders.

Ms. Coral Nicholas, AFRO Mrs. Santa helper accepted the baskets for the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers.

Jin Ho, Kang, president of the Korean Business League announced awards of 200 baskets to Trinity A.M.E. Church, Rev. Willie K. Woods; 200 to Bea Gaddy Homeless Program; 200 to Black Church Magazine; and 200 to George Buntin, NAACP.

Police Department representatives in conjunction with the Korean Business League were present and included Commissioner Ed Tilghman, Major Eugene Tanzymore, Sgt. Ben Lieu, Sgt. Marion Crawford, and Off. Namhyun C. Kim.

Officers of the Korean Business League are: Pyong Kuk, Park, vice-president; Chung Yong, Chung, K.A.B.C. president; Byomg Rak, LIM, Board Member; Mrs. Doo Hwan Killian, Chang, Board Member; and Peter Shin, Korean Times.

* * *

State Senator Larry Young holds a town meeting and pre-Christmas party Tuesday, Dec. 13 at 7 p.m. at the Palladium.

Proceeds will benefit the AFRO's Mrs. Santa. Admission is 39 cents and two canned goods for regular Town Hall Meeting members. For guests, admission is $2.39 and two canned goods.

Thanks to Mount Hebron Church of God and Christ, Elder Henry B. Hunt and Ms. Margaret Pinkney. They adopted seven of AFRO's Mrs. Santa families for Thanksgiving.

The New Mount Carmel Baptist Church, 1900 Poplar Grove St., adopted 10 of Mrs. Santa's families for Thanksgiving and will adopt 20 for Christmas.

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The members of Chrystal of Samuel Coleridge Taylor Elementary School with 75 members are helping the AFRO's Mrs. Santa this year.

Folks at Social Security in Woodlawn are having a toy drive. Watch the Central Office notices. Ben Prestbury says bring in new or usable good toys.

Edward Hunter, Baltimore AFRO Circulation Manager collected a box of canned foods for a family at Thanksgiving.

The 2-5-year-olds of the Columbia, Md. Chapter of Jack and Jill prepared a huge cosmetic box for senior citizens as their activity for Thanksgiving. Above, Joi and Vashti McKenzie, Brandon Barrett and Rustin Brown.

The Hanlon Improvement Association helped Mrs. Santa with a check for $100. Above, Mrs. Ruth Saulsbury and Mrs. Alice Robinson make presentation to Mrs. Santa's helper, Ms. Coral Nicholas. The group has decorated a Mitten Tree with ceremonies Dec. 21 at 2 p.m. at Lafayette Center.

FOR MRS. SANTA—Members of Baltimore Chapter of Chums, Inc., pose with some of the toys they contributed to AFRO's Mrs. Santa. Seated, Otyce Froe and Gerri Manuel. Standing, Bernice McDaniels, Shirley Swafford, president; Fonjola Priest, Blanche Beckham and Evelyn Haysbert.

The Montford Point Marine Assoc. Inc. helps Mrs. Santa with her needy families every year. Thanks to John A. Jones, president; and Richard Palmer, treasurer shown with Mrs. Robinson Watkins, AFRO Advertising representative. Other officers are Henry H. Brown, vice-president; Milton Hazzard, secretary; Vernon White, financial secretary and Vincent Day, chaplain.

Mrs. Santa's cases

Case 70 — I am a single parent with two children and don't have money to buy them anything for Christmas. It's harder for me this year because I now have my own place and the bills that go with it.

* * *

Case 71 — I have three children ages 10, 8 and 5. With all of the bills to pay, we simply forgot about the holidays. I am in need of food.

* * *

Case 72 — I am in need of help. After I pay rent and other bills, there is not much of anything left to buy food for my six children. I am married, but the bills still exceed our two incomes. My children's ages are 15, 8, 7, 6, 4 and 2.

* * *

Case 73 — I have one five-year-old son and recently started receiving SSI for him. His father passed away. I am in a lot of debt. Please provide us with food and clothing. I wear a 7½ shoe, medium blouse and a 30 waist in pants. My son wears a size 8 in clothing and a 12½ in shoes.

* * *

Case 74 — I am a 28-year-old single mother with two children. I am on Social Service until January. I am doing little odd jobs to help my kids get the things that they need for Christmas and some of the things that they want. I need help from you because the money I get from Social Service is barely enough to pay all my bills. Please help me and my kids.

* * *

Case 75 — Please could you help my family of four. I am on Social Services and by the time I pay my bills, I know I won't be able to give my family a Christmas. We would appreciate anything you can give.

* * *

Case 76—I would like to have a nice Christmas for my daughter. I am on welfare, $171.00, which is my only income. I have a health problem and could use the help for Christmas.

* * *

Case 77—I am the grandmother of four children who live with me and my two daughters. We would like to have a basket for Christmas. Please help.

* * *

Case 78—My sister is in desperate need of food for the holidays. She does domestic work, which is really just enough for rent and gas and electric. She has one daughter in Job. She is almost 200 pounds and cannot work.

* * *

'Mother In Jail'

Case 79—I am writing this letter to ask can you help me this year. I applied for AFDC and was denied because I am 17 years old. I'll be 18 on December 30. I have two children, ages 4 and 7 months. I also take care of my 4-year old brother because my mother is in jail. Please help, I just want my children and my brother to be happy and have a Merry, Merry Christmas.

* * *

Case 80—I am a grandmother of 5 and my family lives with me. It has been hard for us to keep food on the table. I would love any help you could give me and my family.

* * *

Case 81—I am a family of five and have a very low income. I would love to have help getting Christmas dinner for my family.

* * *

Case 82—My daughter and I are in need of food and toys for Christmas. I take care of my daughter alone. After I pay the babysitter and rent, I really don't have anything left to buy food and clothes. My little girl is eight-years-old and needs a coat for the winter.

"Lead Poisoning"

Case 83—My children just came home from the Kennedy Hospital after being there for three months with lead poisoning. I need help to buy them toys for Christmas. Their ages are 2, 3, and 7½ years old.

* * *

Case 84 — I am a single mother, 43 trying to make ends meet. I can use clothes and food for my children. Girl 18, size 32; boy 12, size 14; boy 5, size 6.

* * *

Case 85 — I have custody of my two grandchildren since 1984. I receive Social Services and food stamps but there never is enough food. I would appreciate anything. I am 53; Girl is a size 5 junior; boy 7, size 12 slim.

* * *

Case 86 — I am a 61-year-old great grandmother in care of 4 great grands and 1 grand. I am on welfare and at the present time am living here without gas and electricity. Please help my family have a nice Christmas as I am unable to do so.

Case 87 — I am the single parent of 3 girls and another one on the way. We need clothes, toys, food and a little of everything. I'm on welfare and am just barely existing.

* * *

Case 88 — My decision to ask for help was not an easy one. I am a woman of deep pride but I feel I owe it to my daughter to see that she gets a Christmas. I realize that you'll get plenty of requests and you will not be able to satisfy all of them. So, I will understand if my request is not chosen. I will pray that you do decide to help me because through prayer all things are possible. I am extremely grateful that this type of help is available for the less fortunate.

* * *

Case 89 — I can't afford to buy my kids much for Christmas. My husband left us and he is not trying to help us. I am on social services and my bills are so high, there isn't much money left. I am trying to find work and am attending school two days a week. I have two boys, 8 and 14 years old.

* * *

Case 90 — I am on a fixed income for three and live with my parents. It is very hard to pay bills, buy food and clothes for us with that little bit of money. But I thank God for that. I need some help to make my 12 and 7-year-old girls' Christmas bright. I would appreciate any help.

* * *

Case 91 — I am the mother of three boys and we don't have anything extra for Christmas. Although I work everyday and make more than minimum wage, it still isn't much. I am asking for your assistance in anyway you can give it to us.

* * *

"Foster Mother"

Case 92 — I have three adopted children and four of my own. I receive foster care for three and do part-time work to take care of my other four. For my seven children to have Christmas gifts, that just is not enough. I would appreciate any help I can get.

* * *

Case 93 — I am 62 years of age and under doctor's care. I get one check a month and after the bills are paid, I have nothing left. I appreciate what you have done for me in the past and am sincerely asking for your help. I have two children, 16 and 17 years old, still in school. I really need your help. Please help me.

* * *

Case 94 — The reason why I need help this year is because I am on a fixed income and it gets harder every year to make ends meet. To have help with food and toys for the six and nine-year-old, would just make things work out.

* * *

Case 95 — I am disabled. Christmas comes again and I have nothing for my children. I have four children ages 2, 6, 9, and 15. If you can find it in your heart to help my children, we would appreciate and accept anything you have to offer.

* * *

"Concerned Sister"

Case 96 — My sister is sick and can't get around. She has a lot of bills to pay and does not get much from S.S.I. She is raising her 5-year-old grandchild and has four children of her own. Please help her have a Merry Christmas.

* * *

Case 97 — Can you please help me this Christmas? I would love to have a little something for my children. I have nine children, ages 17, 14, 13, 11, 9, 6, 5, 4, and 3 years old. I really need some help to make this a good Christmas.

AFRO Mrs. Santa Campaign
c/o AFRO-AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS
628 N. Eutaw Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201
728-8200

Kids Talk

Do you know this person?

She is Rosa Parks.

One day in December 1955, she refused to give up her seat to let a white man sit down, as the law required blacks to do in those days. She was arrested and put in jail. Her brave refusal sparked protests led by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in Montgomery, Ala. They worked together to change the unfair rules black people had to live by. After 33 years and many changes, she is still proudly remembered as "the Mother of the Civil Rights Movement."

Christmas Countdown
SANTA's Coming

There are only two 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 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 an envelope with a stamp, and mail it to:

Kids Talk
The Washington Afro-American Newspaper
2002 11th Street NW
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Santa Claus,

How are you doing? I am doing fine. I would like a pair of skates for Christmas. I hope that they will be under my tree waiting for me. I wear a size 8 1/2. I would thank you very much if you can throw in watch for me too. My name is Tonya Cherry and I wish you and your wife a Merry Christmas. But if you can throw in a watch for me too. My name is Tonya Cherry see you next Christmas, I hope. I love you for all that you do.

Tonya Cherry

Dear Santa Claus,

How are you doing. I am doing fine. Are you? I celebrate Christmas and people like my mother and father celebrate Christmas too. For Christmas, I want a football and a pair of skates. I love to celebrate. I will be happy to see you. Have a jolly Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you.

Your friend,
Tione Blake

Dear Santa,

I have been a good girl all year. I help my mother work at home cooking, and cleaning the house. Sometimes I help babysit my little cousins. I get good grades in school. I also work in the cafeteria. This is my Christmas list: I want a Cricket baby doll, baby doll stroller, games and a radio. Thank you Santa for the toys.

Kenyetta Bryant

Dear Santa,

I have tried to be a good girl. But sometimes I am not. I help my mother do the grocery shopping and I wash the dishes, do laundry, wash floors and clean the house. I get good grades in school. My Christmas wish is for a radio with ear phones, the Supermarket Game, and clothes. Thank you for the toys and clothes.

Love always,
Shamika Bryant

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Eubanks, 11, wins second place in 'Youth on Beat' contest

Kiu Amani Eubanks, 11, is a student at the Garrison Forest School for Girls in Maryland. She won a $75 bond and a 35 mm camera in the "Youth on the Beat" contest for her second place article featured below:

Born in the USA...
By Kiu Amani Eubanks

Without being aware of it, many times black people become full partners with racists who hold us back and try to keep us down. Too many black students have a very strong attitude that affect everything they do. They won't let us do anything to get ahead" colors their whole emotional and mental environment. Negative complaining instead of positive goal-setting fosters this attitude.

Whenever I hear Bruce Springsteen's song "Born in the USA," the sensation overwhelms me to rush out and play it to all black students in the street, their homes and their schools. We too, indeed, are "born in the USA." Black adults and leaders should stress that fact to our children!

We need to be reminded that we too are entitled to the good life that being an American citizen implies. We can go by the book and make it. We don't have to sell drugs or take them or any of the rest of those bad choices. The slaves went through worse oppression but they struggled for the best. This is the attitude our children need to be taught. We would upset the racists by setting high goals for ourselves and going after them with gusto.

Black children need to be told over and over that they have an obligation, a charge to keep to all those persons, black and white, who have put their lives on the line so they could have choices. The only choice we don't have is the one of not trying to reach high goals.

It could work wonders for motivation if black students would be reminded of the debt we owe these people: Medgar Evers, Viola Luigi, the three civil rights' workers, Malcolm X, Martin Luther King, Jr., Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass, John F. Kennedy and so many others, unsung, who put themselves on the line so that we could have choices.

KIU AMANI EUBANKS

Read, learn, and grow

Long ago, several black people in the United States were held as slaves. Husbands were separated from their wives and children were taken away from their families. Men, women and children worked long hours in inclement weather for no pay. They were beaten and abused by cruel white people.

A group of slaves, free blacks and white sympathizers organized the Underground Railroad as a secret hiding place for slaves who wanted to go to the North where slavery was not practiced, for escaping was a dangerous venture that they could be killed for attempting.

Peg Leg Joe was a friendly white man who was good to the slaves. He taught them a folk song — "Follow the Drinking Gourd." The song seemed harmless, but hidden in the lyrics were directions for following the Underground Railroad. Joe went from plantation to plantation working as a handyman and teaching the song to as many slaves as he could.

Though hungry and frightened, slaves and their families would sing that song and follow the directions that led them to Joe. Joe would then take them to places where they could eat, rest and clean up in order to continue the journey to freedom.

Jeanette Winter has written a book entitled, like the song, Follow the Drinking Gourd. Winter tells the story of how slaves Molly and James, their son Isaiah, old Hattie and her grandson George escaped slavery with the help of Joe's song.

Read Follow the Drinking Gourd and learn more about an important part of American history.

Color me

Puzzling???

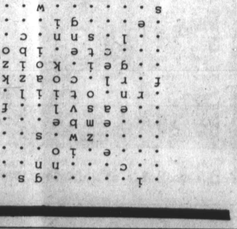
Winter

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

FIND THESE HIDDEN WORDS IN THE ABOVE PUZZLE:

blizzard
gloves
skiing
cold
icicles
snowman
boots
ice
snowflakes
freezing
scarf
winter

HERE IS THE ANSWER KEY:



Mickey's Coming!

By Nicole Clarke
AFRO Staff Intern

Guess who's coming to town for his Diamond Jubilee celebration! Here are a few hints: He starred as the Sorcerer's Apprentice in "Fantasia," he wears yellow shoes, red pants and white gloves, and has a girlfriend named Minnie Mouse.

You guessed it! Between Dec. 13 and Dec. 18, Mickey Mouse and Walt Disney's World on Ice will perform at the Washington Convention Center, in a celebration of Mickey's illustrious career.

The show is produced by Kenneth Feld. It incorporates 45 of the world's best ice skaters along with Donald Duck, Daisy, Goofy, Pluto and Minnie.

Mickey and the Walt Disney's World on Ice travel to 70 cities and five continents to entertain families with a dazzling show of music, skating and nostalgia, so don't miss out! Join the Diamond Jubilee Celebration in Mickey's honor.

Sound of the Holiday Season

Fill in the blanks for these holiday song excerpts. The letters in the circles will spell out a hidden word!

1. Hark the herald _ _ _ (_) _ _ sing,
Glory to the new born _ _ (_) _!

2. Merry _ _ (_) _ _ (_) _ _ _ and
Happy _ _ (_) Year!

3. _ (_) _ the season to be jolly!