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Free clothing for the needy

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# Winston-Salem Chronicle

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## Clara Yountz: Sharing, caring

By ROBIN BARKSDALE  
Chronicle Staff Writer

If anybody exemplifies the true meaning of Christmas, it's Clara Yountz.

Yountz prepared for the day of celebration by sharing what she had, and the extra things she received, with other people. Giving to others, she said, is what Christmas is really all about.

"I felt like I was able to get my own things," she said. "I felt like there were people who could use it more than I could so I have given them things. I felt better giving it to somebody else."

In November, Yountz received a \$100 gift certificate for shopping at Winn-Dixie food store. It was the prize she earned for her recognition as "Cook of the Year" in a recipe contest sponsored by Winn-Dixie and the Winston-Salem Chronicle. And while she could easily have kept the reward for herself, Yountz said she chose to give it to those whose holiday may not be as bright without it.

"I really appreciated getting that prize," said Yountz. "But I've got my good health and my children and my husband. I just felt that other people needed it more than me."

Yountz used the gift certificate to purchase food baskets for some of the city's elderly rest homes. She selected items which she thought would be useful for those who would be spending the holiday alone. She also bought fruit baskets to feed the young members of an area football team so that the players and their chaperones would have enough food during their trip to the competition.

Fortunately for the community, Yountz doesn't limit her spirit of goodwill to one occasion each year. She cares for eight children at her home on Victoria Avenue and provides the service at no charge. She said

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## TRADIN' PLACES



Santa Claus gets caught as he tries to trade roles with Emmanuel Johnson, 4, by asking him for Christmas presents at the Winston-Salem Urban League (photo by Mike Cunningham)

## S. African migrant workers allowed home for Christmas holiday

By The Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — In the summer swelter of a dimly lit station, South Africa's black migrant workers await the trains that will take them home, in many cases for the first time since last Christmas.

They are gold miners, maids, gardeners and construction workers, drawn to the industrial capital of southern Africa by the promise of jobs.

They come from Mozambique, Malawi, Lesotho, the black South African homelands and dozens of isolated rural villages where a life of poverty seemed inevitable. South Africa's economy has provided them with jobs, but for many the price has been steep.

"I haven't seen my wife or (two) kids in a year," said Tony Dlamini, 33, a gold miner from Mozambique. "Every time I see my children, they've grown so much I hardly recognize them." More than 95 percent of South Africa's 600,000 miners are migrants, living in all-male hostels on mining company property for 11 months each year. Many sleep in bunk-bed dormitories, keeping their belongings in a single trunk.

Dlamini said a three-week miners' strike in August cut into his savings, but he had enough left to buy new Christmas clothes for his family. He and the other passengers were waiting for trains that go to places few white South Africans ever visit. Komatipoort, the border

post with Mozambique; Maseru, the capital of Lesotho, and Umtata in the black homeland of Transkei are among the more popular Christmas destinations.

The passenger terminal is a long, narrow sandstone structure. Inside, it has drab brown and green tile walls. The only decorations are billboards advertising beer and candy bars. There is no ornamentation to suggest Christmas is near.

There are not enough benches. Many people lie sprawled out on floor on colorful blankets. Women in flowing African print dresses set out homemade lunches. Others breast-feed their children. Small boys play soccer with an empty soda can. Radios blare in a cacophony. Impromptu card games start up.

When one train departure is announced, a woman balancing three large bags on her head rushes for the designated platform. Gladys Mokobi, 29, was traveling to Lesotho for her annual two-week vacation. She has spent the last 50 weeks living in a storage shed on the rooftop of a Johannesburg apartment building where she works as a maid.

Ms. Mokobi says she prefers the cramped accommodations to the lengthy daily commute to and from the sprawling black township of Soweto.

"I wanted to buy my nieces some dolls and dresses, but I only have enough money to buy sweets (candy)," Ms. Mokobi said before

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## African-American art on display

By PAUL NOWELL  
Associated Press Writer

The show of Afro-American works at the Delta Arts Center is as much an exhibit of the wisdom of black art collectors as the talents of the artists themselves, said the collection's curator.

Collecting as such among blacks is problematic, said Francis Brown Jr., a Winston-Salem artist who is the curator for the show that ran through Dec. 19. "There are some very fine collections, but they are relatively sparse in regard to the total population of black artists."

"Collectors' Choices" includes paintings and other work from the collection of John and Vivian Hewitt of New York City along with work from the Evans-Tibbs collection of Washington. The exhibit includes

works by such well-known artists as Charlotte native Romare Bearden, Elizabeth Catlett, Ernest Criclow, Ellis Wilson and Hale Woodruff.

"Just about every big-name is represented here," said Brown.

The show was assembled by Norman E. Pendergraft, the director of the N.C. Central University Art Museum in Durham, to celebrate the museum's 10th anniversary and the inauguration of the university's chancellor. The exhibit was recently moved to Winston-Salem.

Brown said the exhibit highlights two black collectors to "show how people do it." "They do it because they love it, and they do it on a limited budget," he said. "You have to have some money but not

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QUOTABLE: "A season of rejoicing and spending time with your family."

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## Teen won't discuss attack

Grand jury called to investigate

By The Associated Press

POUGHKEEPSIE, N.Y. -- A special grand jury will be called to investigate the case involving a 15-year-old girl found last month wrapped in a plastic bag with racial slurs scrawled on her body, authorities said.

Dutchess County District Attorney William Grady requested the grand jury Fri day, said Fred Scoralick, the county sheriff. Police investigators have not been able to get details on the attack from the Wappinger Falls girl, and a grand

jury would have the power to subpoena her for testimony, the sheriff said.

"It's to move the case along," said Scoralick, who initially reported the discovery of the girl on Nov. 28. "We have to get information from (her). We haven't been able to talk to her." Scoralick said the jurors would be called in the beginning of January.

Joseph Gagliardi, administrative judge for the Ninth Judicial District, approved Grady's request, which comes about three weeks

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## Psychologist on suicide: Afro-American cases on the rise

By ANGIE MARTIN  
Chronicle Staff Writer

Suicide is not something many people want to talk about during the holiday season, but according to psychologist Deborea Winfrey, at anytime, if someone's talking about committing suicide...you'd better listen closely.

People choose to take their own lives when they develop a sense of despair, hopelessness and powerless, said Winfrey. "Some people feel totally overwhelmed by those feelings particularly during the holiday sea-

son," said Winfrey during a telephone interview with the Chronicle.

And, increasingly Afro-Americans are adopting suicide as an escape from problems. Winfrey warned that in the Afro-American society cases of suicide are escalating to almost "epidemic" proportions. Afro-American men 18 to 24 years of age are four times more likely to commit suicide than white men in the same group. Of Afro-American men who have committed suicide, 60 percent were chronically unemployed,

Winfrey said. Overall Afro-Americans are more likely to commit suicide than whites, she said.

Winfrey says she believes that after integration Afro-Americans adopted many of the social behaviors whites practiced and that through assimilation Afro-Americans adopted the suicidal alternative to solving problems.

Yet, those who commit suicide come from every walk of life, explained Winfrey. "Suicide doesn't know any econom-

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Dr. Deborea Winfrey delivers lecture on suicide at the East Winston branch library as part of the continuing series on "Black Male/Female Relationships" (photo by Santana).

## How to beat depression

By The Associated Press

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. -- A Penn State University psychology professor has advice for people who aren't thrilled when they return to work at the end of the holidays.

"The best thing to do is to put up a sign on your desk that says, 'Don't pay any attention to how I act today or tomorrow. I'll be back to normal Wednesday,'" said Frank J. Landy, director of Penn State's Applied Psychology Institute.

People tend to return to a large pile of work after the holidays,

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