



[Ken and Barbara Jo Davis papers](#)

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MUSIC THERAPY, THE  BASIS OF LEARNING

LOUISE WHITBECK
FRASER
SCHOOL

December 16, 1976

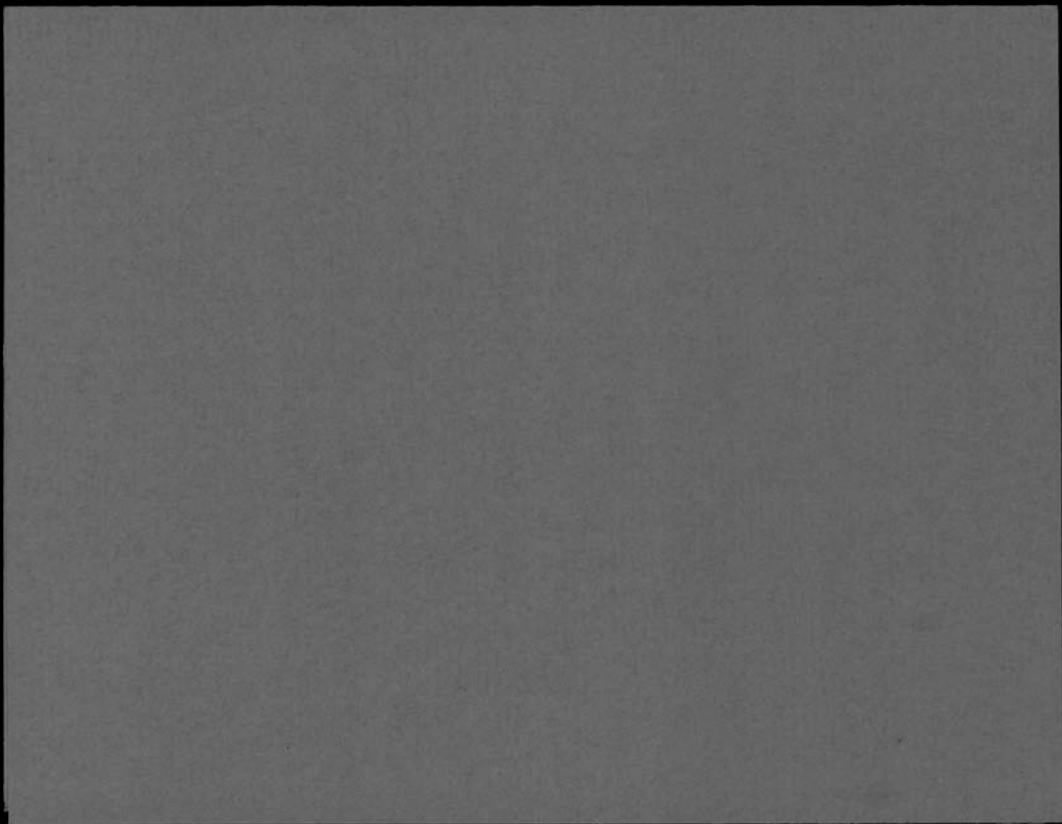
Dear Mr. Davis,

This note is sent to thank you for "being Santa" at our school today. The children always enjoy a visit from Santa.

We appreciate your interest in our school and our special children.

R.J.K./db.

Sincerely,
Robert J. Kowalewski
Executive Director





SHRINERS HOSPITALS FOR CRIPPLED CHILDREN

TWIN CITIES UNIT 2025 EAST RIVER ROAD, MINNEAPOLIS, MINN. 55414 • TELEPHONE 339-6711

December 21, 1976

Mr. Ken Davis
2801 Flag Ave. N.
New Hope, Minnesota 55428

Dear Mr. Davis:

On behalf of the boys and girls at Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children, Twin Cities Unit, I would like to thank you most sincerely for your much welcomed visit.

It is because of people like you that the Christmas spirit can be brought to the children who must stay in the hospital. Thank you for taking the time to visit during this most busy time of the year.

Your thoughtfulness is appreciated. May you have a happy and meaningful Christmas holiday.

Sincerely,

Inez H. Mitlyng R.N.
Inez H. Mitlyng R.N.
Assistant Administrator

IHM/rh



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
TWIN CITIES

University Hospitals
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455

January 4, 1977

Mr. Ken Davis
7353 Franklin Avenue W.
St. Louis Park, Minnesota 55426

Dear Mr. Davis,

It's always a pleasure to write to Santa, especially when it's a note of recognition, not requests. Thank you for your contribution of time and "Ho-Ho's" on Monday, December 20th; you were a most welcome visitor.

On behalf of University Hospitals patients and staff, I thank you for helping to make this Christmas season even merrier!

Happy New Year!

Lynn Abrahamsen
Volunteer Coordinator

LA:ew

Gillette

Children's Hospital

January 11, 1977

Mr. Ken Davis
2801 Flag Avenue No.
Minneapolis, Mn. 55427

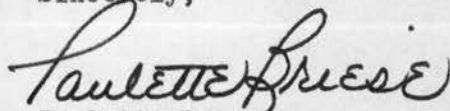
Dear Mr. Davis,

On behalf of the patients and staff at Gillette, I want to take this opportunity to thank you (and Santa) for coming to Gillette during the Christmas season.

What would Christmas be without goodies and Santa himself!!! You certainly helped to bring Christmas to Gillette and provide fun and enjoyment for the children.

Thank you again for taking the time during the busy Christmas holidays to give something of yourself to the children at Gillette. We are certainly fortunate to have people such as you as friends of Gillette!

Sincerely,



Paulette Briesse
Volunteer Services Director

An Equal Opportunity Employer

1003 East Ivy Avenue

Telephone 612-774-0301

Saint Paul, Minnesota 55106

* Copy of Dr. A. J. Gillette's signature

C1977P1

SANTA VISITS-

December 15th-Wednesday- 10:00A.M. First Covenant Day Care Center
810 S. 7th St. (Downtown on 7th St. & Chicago)

Go in the front entrance and up to the main office and have Bonnie buzzed.

30 kids.=Candy

12:00 noon Gillette Children's Hospital
1003 Ivy Av. E. (Take 94 east to 35E North, go to Maryland exit, get off and turn right. Go 2 miles to Forest St. stop light. Turn left. Go 3 blocks to Ivy.

Go in main entrance by the circle driveway. Ask for Gary Newman at switchboard. Will also visit private rooms.

30 kids= Balloons

1:00P.M. Jefferson elementary School
1200 W. 26th St. (On 26th St. One block east of Hennepin Av.) Parking is on 25th & Emerson

Go in 26th St. entrance to office on 1st floor. (On 26th St. side of bldg.) Check in with clerk and wait for a CRV representative to bring you to rooms.

300 kids=Candy

December 16th-Thursday- 10:00 A.M. Louise Whitbeck Fraser School
64th & Penn Av. S. (Just off crosstown. Behind Sambo's restaurant on the right side of the street. Go in the first set of doors and go to office. Ask for Lane Dexter.

63 kids=Candy

1:00 P.M. Laura Ingalls Wilder School
3320 Elliot Av. S. (On Chicago Av. between 33rd and 34th St.) Parking in 34th & Chicago lot or on 10th Av. between 34th & 35th St.

Go to office on Elliot Av. Side and near 33rd. Check in with clerk and wait for a CRV rep., or Joan Thomas.

300 kids=Candy

4:30 P.M. Harrison Recreation Center
1500 4th Av. N. (Cedar Lake Blvd. & Glenwood Av. In Harrison elementary school)
Go in entrance on Glenwood Av. side to office, ask for Betty Packard or Elsie

100 kids=Candy

33 374 -5500

SANTA VISITS CONT'D.-

December 17th-Friday-

1:00 P.M. Willard School
1615 Queen Av. N. (Take Olson Memorial Highway to Queen Av. and turn right to 16th) Parking-see slip.

Go in entrance on 16th Av. N. to office on 1st floor, south side of bldg. Ask clerk for CRV rep. or H. Hokanson or M. Altrowitz.

125 kids=Candy (Discuss the joy of giving)

5:00 P.M. Phyllis Wheatly
919 Fremont Av. N. (Take Emerson Av. north to Fremont. Park in Bethune school lot.

Go to Breedlove's office on west side of bldg.
700-800 kids=Candy

December 18th-Saturday-1:00 P.M. Capri Theater

2027 W. Broadway. (I'm assuming that you know the way!)

300-400 kids=Candy

5:00 P.M. Lucille Jones (For 4-year-old daughter)
6437 Marlin Dr., Brooklyn Center. (Take Hwy. 100 North to Brooklyn Blvd. Exit and go Northwest to 63rd Av. N. Turn left. Go to Indiana Av. and turn right to Marlin Dr.

1 kid=Candy

6:30 P.M. Zion Baptist Church
621 Elwood Av. N. (Take Lyndale Av. North to Olson Memorial Highway, turn left (for about 8 blocks) Go to Elwood and turn right.

Go in the main entrance to the basement and ask for Renae Williams

100 kids=Candy

December 20th-Monday-

10:00 A.M. Children's Health Center
26th & Chicago Av. S.

Go to the information desk and page Sheila Palm.

40 kids=Balloons

SANTA VISITS CONT'D.

December 20th-Monday- 3:00 P.M. University of Minn. Hospital

Continued

Go to the Mayo Bldg. 3rd floor (which is main floor) to room C302 and ask for Lynn

60 kids=Balloons

December 21st-Tuesday- 12:00 Noon General Mills
(I'm assuming you have all the info.)

750 people=NOCANDY

3:00 P.M. Shriner's Hospital
2025 E. River Rd. (Between Franklin and Lake St.
on the East side of the river.)

Go to the main office and ask for Lois Ogilvie.

20 kids=Balloons

4:30 P.M. General Hospital

Go in the South block of the bldg. by the
Emergency entrance (Betwn. 7th & 8th St.)
Take the elevator to level 4 and turn left.
Walk down the hall across the skyway to Pediatric
ward and go right around the corridor. Ask for
Linda Campbell or Barb Lano

50 kids (?)=Balloons

2173-8480
373-8851
374
2523

C19773

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[Handwritten scribbles]

Got a problem? Write to
Column 1, The Minneap-
olis Star, 425 Portland
Av., Minneapolis, Minn.
55488, or call 372-4444.

Column 1

We consider all questions
carefully and answer as
many as we can. Please
send copies of docu-
ments, not originals.



COLUMN 1 HO-HO-HO DEPT.: Our black Santa and Ms. Claus have completed their rounds at local hospitals, day-care centers and private homes, and we thought you'd like to have a peek at one of the visits. With the North Pole pair are Reuben Davis and Mark Mitchell of the First Covenant Day-Care Center. Santa Ken Davis told us the children are usually "shy at first,"

but after some candy canes and a bold child "to warm things up," everything goes fine. The most common question Santa got was, "Where's your beard?" Santa explained that his barber got mad at him, we were told by Ms. Claus, Nila Poole. "Everyone was interested in Rudolph and we told them that he was resting," Ms. Claus added.

[Dec. 1975]

Column 1

Got a problem? Then so has Column 1. Our staff members have the sole task of trying to help you. Write to Column 1. The Minneapolis Star, Minneapolis, Minn. 55415 or call 372-4444.

COLUMN 1 HO-HO-HO DEPARTMENT: Ken Davis not only doesn't look like an average, ordinary Santa Claus, he might even be described as an "unSanta." But he was the first person that came to mind when someone wrote us, asking for a black Santa. He was a little "tense" about it to begin with, he said. Now, he's almost sad it's over. We figure that if Ken Davis can learn to like children and have the Christmas spirit, that should be an inspiration to us all.

His first experience as a black Santa was to have two small black children tell him, "You're not Santa Claus. Santa Claus is white." Davis replied, "This one ain't." He didn't fool his grandson either. The 3-year-old looked up and said, "Grandpa, why are you dressed up in that funny suit?" Davis, who says he's no softie, started really feeling like Santa when he went to visit a very poor family with 10 children, nine of whom are foster children. "They really got to me. There was so much love there." But the family had so little else that Davis asked us and a church group to help out the family, and their holiday looks much brighter now.

Davis made numerous appearances in the Twin Cities, including a day at General Mills, and one at the Phyllis Wheatley Community Center Christmas party. The center sponsored Davis' appearances with Column 1. He met well over 1,000 children and already has decided that he wants to do it again next year.

Column 1



Minneapolis Star Photo by Roger Nystrom

BLACK SANTA CLAUS KEN DAVIS STARTED OUT TENSE

But he found it was an effort for a good claus

Got a problem? Write to Column 1, The Minneapolis Star, 425 Portland Av., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488, or call 372-4444.

Column 1

We consider all questions carefully and answer as many as we can. Please send copies of documents, not originals.

I would like to have a black Santa Claus come to my house to visit my daughter and about 20 friends for her birthday. Do you have any suggestions?

J.M., Minneapolis

We've got more than a suggestion. Column 1's cigar-chomping black Santa from last Christmas will be at your party—as will Ms. Claus. And, they'll be available for as many other parties on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday as they can handle.



Davis

Santa, also known as barbecue sauce entrepreneur Ken Davis, met more than 1,000 kids last year and is building up his Christmas spirit to be ready for next week. Ms. Claus, Nila Poole, works for the Star and Tribune Company and, even on the Fourth of July, seems to have the North Pole spirit. So, if you'd like to have Santa, Ms. Claus or both for your Christmas party, call 372-4444 and talk to Column 1's answering machine before noon on Monday (The line is open round-the-clock.). Tell us when and where the party is, and how many kids are involved. Also, give us a phone number at which you can be reached during the day, because we'll have to get back in touch with you to confirm the reservation.

Column 1

I bought a can of Spray 'n Wash soil and stain remover that was guaranteed to remove stains. It didn't do the job. The guarantee said to mail in the clothing with the bottle top and the firm would refund the cost of my garment. I was irked that the product didn't remove the stain, so

I sent the shirt, valued at about \$15, and the bottle cap to Texize Chemicals Co., a division of Morton-Norwich Products, Inc., Greenville, S.C. That was July 15 and I have never received anything from the firm.

R.L., Edina

Texize has the shirt and you've got that \$15. Shortly after we wrote the firm, you got a letter blaming the delay on a "clerical error." The letter asked you to send the shirt. After you explained that you'd already sent the shirt, you got a check for \$15.40 (the 40 cents was for your postage costs) and a note proclaiming that the firm was "happy to fulfill our incredible guarantee." You said you're finally satisfied, but added that it took the firm five months to respond.

Column 1

I was involved in an automobile accident July 24. A garage recommended by my insurance company, Allstate, estimated the damage and made repairs totaling \$259. Allstate paid me all but \$100, according to the terms of my \$100-deductible policy. But after the repairs were made, I discovered more problems that had been caused by the accident. Another garage said it would cost another \$30 to straighten the frame and \$114 to correct a steering problem. I called Allstate's Edina office to ask about getting paid for these repairs and, after a half-hour of being switched from person to person, I was told to call the regional office in Brookfield, Wis. Brookfield told me to call Edina. Meantime, I've had the frame fixed and I'm living with the faulty steering. Why should I have to call Allstate three times with no success to get the additional money?

D.L., Richfield

Allstate finally handed you \$144.92 for those repairs, after we wrote to Larry Bewley, public affairs manager at the firm's regional office in Brookfield. Bewley said that apparently your frame and steering problems were "hidden damages"—damages that often are discovered only after work is begun on other, more obvious damages. But Bewley said he was "puzzled" about your telephone run-around with Allstate. He said it was "very much the exception rather than the rule."

Dec. 24, 1977

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Column 1, The Minneap-
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Av., Minneapolis, Minn.
55488, or call 372-4444.

Column 1

We consider all questions
carefully and answer as
many as we can. Please
send copies of docu-
ments, not originals.



COLUMN 1 HO-HO-HO DEPARTMENT: Our Santa, Ken Davis, has completed his third year of visits to local schools, hospitals and day-care centers. Most of the about 3,000 faces he saw were new, but the questions were similar to those asked in earlier years—"Where's your beard?" "Your mittens?" "Your buckle?" "Rudolph?" Santa did have a red and white suit, though, and candy canes to match—as well as about 250 balloons donated by Andon Inc., 6926 Park Av. S. Stops on Santa's journey

Star Photo by Arthur Hager
included: First Covenant Day Care Center, Gillette Children's Hospital, Jefferson Elementary School, Louise Whitbeck Fraser School, Laura Ingalls Wilder Elementary School, Harrison Recreation Center, Willard Elementary School, Phyllis Wheatley Community Center, Capri Theatre, Zion Baptist Church, Children's Health Center, University of Minnesota Hospitals, General Mills, Shriner's Hospital and Hennepin County Medical Center.



THE MINNEAPOLIS STAR PHOTO

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THE MINNEAPOLIS STAR PHOTO





