Help Bring Joy to a Child This Holiday Season Through Astor's Adopt-A-Family Program

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Annual Program Spreads Holiday Cheer to Local Children and Families in Need. With the holiday season upon us, Astor Services for Children & Families, a nonprofit organization providing behavioral health and educational services to thousands of children and their families throughout the Hudson Valley and the Bronx, is seeking monetary donations and gift cards to select retailers for its annual Adopt-A-Family program this holiday season.

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Bobby Brown

Bobby Brown popularized new jack swing, a blend of soul, funk, and hip-hop sounds with raps and melodious verses. His new sound appealed to pop music lovers and was responsible for keeping alive the new jack swing pioneered by Ted Riley. Born into a poor family, his love for music and the determination to succeed led him to form a band called New Edition with his friends. The band's first album, 'Candy Girl', made them a teenage sensation. He exited the band eight years later to release his first solo album, 'King of Stage' which along with the album Bobby did not do well. However, his third release 'Don't Be Cruel' was a sensational hit. The album dominated the Billboard Hot 100, and was one of the best-selling albums of the decade. It also won for him a couple of American Music Awards. His other album, 'Forever' flopped badly. Despite his talent, the singer made headlines for all the wrong reasons. His alcoholism and cocaine addiction affected his life and career. His marriage to pop star Whitney Houston was tumultuous and ended in divorce.



George Floyd

George Floyd (born December 21, 1960 in Tampa, Florida) was a safety who played three seasons in the National Football League for the New York Jets. Floyd was an All-American at Eastern Kentucky University. In 1999, he was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame.



Rachel Maddow

Rachel Maddow is a political commentator and television host who is unabashedly vocal about her liberal political views. As the host of the hugely popular nightly television show, 'The Rachel Maddow show', she is a much sought after political commentator in the world of television as well as radio. Even as a child she was very curious, confident and active. The budding journalist began reading newspapers cover-to-cover as a seven year old and even analyzed what she read by asking questions. An athletic girl, she actively participated in sports like volleyball, basketball and swimming till a shoulder injury forced her to quit strenuous physical activity. She was socially aware from her teenage years and used to volunteer at an AIDS clinic and later became an activist for an AIDS organization. She was an academically brilliant student and won a scholarship to attend Oxford University. She won a contest held by the radio station WRNX and landed a job with them. After hosting and co-hosting several shows, her own show, 'The Rachel Maddow Show' was aired. The popularity of this show led to a television show of the same name that was broadcast on MSNBC. A bold and courageous woman, she openly accepted her sexuality and is the first openly gay anchor to host a major prime time news program in the U.S.



Bill Clinton

'If you live long enough, you'll make mistakes. But if you learn from them, you'll be a better person. It's how you handle adversity, not how it affects you. The main thing is never quit, never quit, never quit.' This quote by Bill Clinton aptly describes his life and his motive for

living. The 42nd President of the United States of America, Clinton is one of the most remarkable politicians who ventured to take the country through the depressive economic condition towards a progressive and prosperous future. A strong supporter of futuristic vision, he brought about progressive policies in the educational and health care sectors and aimed at providing the citizens with better living conditions. Before taking up the office of the President, Clinton served as the Governor of Arkansas for two terms and the Attorney General of Arkansas from 1977 to 1979. From a tender age, Clinton was blessed with leadership qualities and served as the student union leader in his school and college days. However, very few know that he was blessed with music abilities as well. In fact, Clinton during his high school days was the best saxophonist in the city and even considered taking up music as a career. However, his profound interest in public service had a somewhat overpowering effect as he made his way to the most important office of the country.



Joe Biden

Joseph Robinette "Joe" Biden, Jr. is an American politician who is the Democratic presidential candidate for the 2020 election. He served as the 47th vice president of the United States from 2009 to 2017. Before becoming the Vice President, he had represented Delaware as a United States Senator from 1973 to 2009. Born in a middle-class family in Pennsylvania, Joe Biden learned the value of hard word, determination and perseverance from his parents who always encouraged him to stand up for himself and bounce back after failures. As a child he used to stammer but he overcame this problem by memorizing and reciting long passages in front of the mirror. He went on to study law and also developed interest in politics. He joined the Democratic Party and became active in politics alongside managing his legal career. He won the 1972 U.S. Senate election in Delaware when he was just 29 and assumed office the next year. A devastating family tragedy threatened to end his career, but he persevered on bravely. He proved to be a popular senator and set his ambitions higher. He was selected as the running-mate for presidential nominee Barack Obama in 2008 and the Obama-Biden ticket went on to win the election. They won again in 2012. In 2019, Joe Biden announced his bid for the candidacy of the Democratic presidential nominee for 2020 election. In 2020, he was chosen as Democratic Party's

presumptive nominee for the presidential election. Joe Biden has picked Kamala Harris as his vice presidential candidate and he is his running against the incumbent, Donald Trump.



Donald Trump

Donald John Trump is the 45th President of the United States, in office since January 20, 2017. In addition to being a politician, he is a successful business magnate and television personality as well. The son of a wealthy real estate developer, Trump attended the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania before taking charge of his family's business. An astute businessman and charismatic leader, he built and renovated numerous hotels, casinos, and office towers during his business career, accumulating a net worth of billions. He also owned several beauty pageants and ventured into reality television as well. Expanding the horizons of his ambitions, he entered national politics in the early 2000s and set his eyes on the presidential office. As a politician, his career was marred by allegations of sexual misconduct and he also earned much criticism for his extravagant lifestyle and controversial comments on immigrants from Islamic nations. Despite the controversies surrounding him, Trump ran for the 2016 presidential election as a Republican and defeated Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton in a surprise victory. Donald Trump is the first person to assume presidency without prior military or government service and at 70, he is also the oldest one to assume the office.



Nancy Pelosi

Nancy Pelosi is an influential American politician and the first woman to serve as the Speaker of the US House of Representatives. She was born in the 1940s into a politically active Italian-American family. Born and brought up in the Little Italian region of Baltimore, she was naturally inclined towards politics early in her life, learning the ropes from her father Thomas D'Alesandro Jr. He was an important Democrat leader from the city. However, she did not directly participate in politics in Baltimore. It was when she moved to San Francisco with her husband and children that she became a volunteer organizer for the Democratic Party, very soon earning a reputation as an effective fundraiser. Over the time, she rose through the ranks to become the Chairperson of California Democratic Party, also serving on the Democratic National Committee, before she was elected to the House of Representatives at the age of 47. She continues to hold her seat until now. In course of her tenure, she first became the House Minority Whip, then the House Minority Leader and finally, the Speaker of the House - all the while voting for issues like gun control and abortion rights. As the Speaker, she worked with Obama to pass the Health Care bill. Currently, she is serving as the House Minority Leader.

Klay Thompson

Klay Alexander Thompson is an American professional basketball player, who plays for the 'Golden State Warriors' of the 'NBA' (National Basketball Association) league. The sport runs in Thompson's blood. Born to a basketball champion father, he was introduced to the sport at an early age. Being a sportsperson herself, his mother also supported Thompson in his sporting endeavors. Before beginning his professional career, Thompson played college basketball for three seasons at 'Washington State University,' where he was a two-time first-team all-conference player in the 'Pac-10 Conference.' He was selected by the 'Golden State Warriors' in the first round of the 2011 'NBA' draft as the 11th overall pick. Over the course of his career, Thompson has broken numerous records. He holds the 'NBA' regular season record for most points scored in a quarter and most three-pointers made in a single playoff. He also has the 'NBA' playoff record for most three-pointers made in a game. In 2015, he led the 'Warriors' to their first 'NBA' championship since 1975. With his fellow teammate Stephen Curry, he set a then-NBA record of 484 combined three-pointers in a season.

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