

ShopTalk

Editor
Lisa O'Donnell Connors
Extension 6803

Back To School

More than 100 Post employees recently headed back to school for fall semester classes, thanks to the newspaper's tuition reimbursement program. These "stu-

ment program, which is administered by the Organization Development & Training Department.

With the financial support from the tuition reimbursement program, **AURORA GONZALEZ**, Circulation, is on track to receive her bachelor's degree in business from Strayer University in 2005, the same year her son, Bryan, will graduate from DeMatha Catholic High School in the District.

"I graduated from high school in 1984 and after my son was born in 1987, I promised myself I would go back to school when he turned 10...I didn't want to take the time away from him when he was little. In 1997, I started taking classes at Strayer, across the street from The Post. I started taking classes just to get my feet wet and then decided on a business major," she said. "I've been able to put into place some of the things I've learned toward my job at The Post, especially in customer service."

Gonzalez now studies alongside her son. "It's hard and stressful to find the time, not just for me, but also for my son," explains Gonzales, who takes two classes each quarter. "I talk to him about how this is

a good thing and will help us both in the long run. I also think I'm setting a good example that will motivate him in school."

Working full-time while working toward a degree isn't new to **ARTHUR FULLER**, Information Technology. Fuller worked his way through the University of the District of Columbia to obtain his bachelor's degree. He is now utilizing the tuition program to obtain his masters degree in computer systems management at the University of Maryland. "If The Post is willing to reimburse me for the tuition, I might as well take advantage of it. It's an investment in myself," he said.

ANDY DENAULT, Circulation, credits the tuition reimbursement program for enabling him to fulfill a promise to his father when he was still paying for his own children's college bills.

"I got married in 1972, between my sophomore and junior years at Central Connecticut State University," explains Denaunt. "My father was worried about me finishing school. Then the kids starting coming and I had to quit school to take care of my family. I promised



PHOTO PROVIDED BY GONZALEZ

AURORA GONZALEZ
with her son, Bryan.

students" are working toward undergraduate and graduate degrees, or taking a class to learn a new job skill or to brush up on a foreign language. They are also juggling their jobs, family life and class work.

Full-time and part-time employees who meet eligibility requirements can receive up to \$2,500 in tuition reimbursement each calendar year, through the tuition reimburse-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Life Is Short – The End

ShopTalk's summer series of "Life Is Short" essays written by Post staff comes to end this week. The final four essays are below.

Feeling like a spy in the house of humanity, it is my job to give their words a face, and in doing so, as often is the case, we become friends for an hour or more... knowing

I shall never see them again. And some of their truths are hard to bear. The irony of the column I shoot, "Life Is Short", only recently dawned on me. As I deal with my best friend's breast cancer, August, coincidentally, became a month of cancer/suicide pieces. David, 40, with a deadly disease, asked a

pointed question about my personal life...and as I left he said 'Life IS Short.'

—**REBECCA D'ANGELO**
Photographer for "Life Is Short" in Sunday's Style section

It happened when I was 12. My neighbor was going on vacation and asked me to substitute on his newspaper route. I had no idea at the time that this favor would change my life forever. His manager gave me the details of a carrier pro-

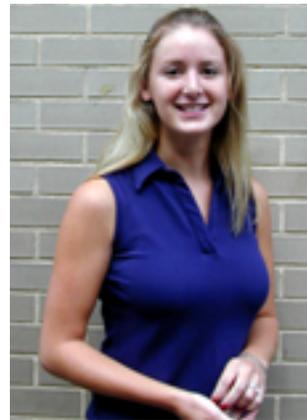


PHOTO PROVIDED BY SMITH
RUSTY SMITH

motion and showed me a catalog of prizes. In no time, I had a new basketball, a bicycle, and things that I can't remember now - 34 years later. I learned that this was a business that offered rewards for hard work. Make the most of your time here and you will live a fruitful life."

—**RUSTY SMITH**
*Circulation Dispatch
Transportation Department*

Another day, another dollar. Wake up at the crack of dawn. Diet coke breakfast on the way to the clean subway called Metro. Boxed like sardines...I pay \$2.50 to



JENI d'AGUSTE

people watch. Off the Metro, McPherson Square. I'm early...yet must hurry, must walk like I'm on a mission, this way I'll fit in with the "sidewalk crowd." Side entrance, show my badge to one of the security guards with a bright white smile. "Good Morning." My comfortable desk, my mail...voicemail... e-mail... CHECKED. Ten messages is better than one. I work at the Washington Post and wouldn't trade that for anything in the world!"

—**JENI d'AGUSTE**
Advertising



PHOTO PROVIDED BY YAQUB
AMER YAQUB and son, Zain

Iwas promoted to a sales management job the same year that I became a father. The differences between the two roles are many - like not being responsible for the sales staff's college tuition bills! There are similarities, too. At Borders, books beckon me with hollow promises of how I can be the best manager/father in the world if only I followed the authors' ten point plans. I spend a lot of time thinking of how I can help my reps realize the awesome potential they have - much like I do for my son. Both jobs are initially challenging but ultimately rewarding...."

—**AMER YAQUB**
Advertising



REBECCA D'ANGELO

my father that I would finish, but five years became 10 and the time just flew. My father passed away in 1995 and I realized I hadn't fulfilled my promise."

In 1996, the youngest of the four Denault children graduated from college. "The kids encouraged me to go back. I got my transcript from Connecticut and realized I only needed 15 credits to get my undergraduate degree." Denault was able to take the credits at the University of Maryland. Maryland transferred the credits to Central Connecticut State University and he graduated in 1996 with a bachelor's degree in business administration. And, he didn't stop there.



Denault finished his requirements for a master's degree in administration management this July.

"I wanted senior management to know that I was

ARTHUR FULLER, IT employee and University of Maryland student.

more than just a pretty face," he commented with a hearty laugh. "I couldn't have done it without the tuition reimbursement program."

STEPHANIE BEARD, an assistant editor for Style, begins her second class at the Corcoran College of Art & Design next week. Her goal is to obtain a certificate in print design, a program that requires five design classes.

"I started at The Post as a news aide in the art department and volunteered to work on graphics to learn more about design. I thought it was time for me to get more formal

training and to broaden my design skills," said Beard. "It will be tough...My shift ends at midnight and I have to be at class at 9 a.m. It's something I really want to do. The fact that The Post pays for it is a great incentive."

For information on the tuition reimbursement program, contact **VONDA COULBORN**, Organization Development & Training administrator, at x5435. In order to receive the tuition reimbursement, employees should fill out the program's application prior to taking a class or classes.

2001 20-Year Club Members

According to records in Personnel, the staff listed below will have reached their 20-year anniversary at The Post in 2001 and will become members of the 20-Year Club. If you or someone else you know is eligible for the 20-Year Club and is not listed, please contact **LISA MARTIN** at x6489.

William Alston	Douglas Collier	Norman Frazier	Donald Henderson	Theodore Lutz	George Pelletiere	Paulette Snowden
John Anderson	Donna Curtis	Bruce Froitzheim	Tryst Hensell, Jr.	Victor Lyon	Peter Perl	Joseph Sorbello
William Baur	Dennis Daniel	Chester Gage, Jr.	Fred Hiatt	John Lyons	Bruce Perry	John Spargo
James Beasley	David DeGrouchy	Frank Gaither	William Hill	Quinzenia Mack	Ngia Thi Phan	Gary Steward
Paul Beasley	Thomas Dimond	Lee Galvin	Joseph Howard	Alan Madison	Donald Phillips	Sandra Sugawara
Wayne Berbig	Jerry Donley	William Gard	Kenneth Ikenberry	Anthony Matthes	Eric Pianin	Rozinna Swain
Raymond Booker	Douglas Dozier	James Garrison	Reuben Izlar	Caroline Mayer	Daniel Pironto	Jacqueline Talley
Dewayne Brown	Diane DuBois	Phyllis Gaskins	Bridget Jackman	Ernest McClanahan	Donald Podesta	Claudia Townsend
Kenneth Brown	Douglas Dykstra	Luis Gavidia	Juanita Jackson	Ralph McDuffie	Carol Porter-	Hung V. Trinh
Russell Brown	Robert Eck	Margaret Glaser	Jeffrey Jaeger	Darlene McGiveron	Esmailpour	Dorothy Troy
Sheila Brown	Thomas Edsall	Anne Glick	Larry Jiggetts	Mary McGrogy	Thomas Presgrave	Terry Troy
Cheryl Butler	B. J. Engel	Arlyne Goines	Ronald Johnsey	Lacy Melvin	Patricia Priest	Stephen Vaughn
Carol Camero	Gregory Estep	Donald Goldsmith	Robert Johnson	Helen Mills	Richard Reed	Uldarico Villacrusis
James Carter	Thomas Foley	Lawrence Gorham	Edward Johnston	Tony Mineart	John Reikowsky	Joel Vlahos
Carmen Chapin	Kevin Forbes	Susan Graham	Richard Jones	Molly Moore	John Reynolds	Kathleen Vaughn
Dionne Cohee	Benjamin Forgey	Dale Green	Denise Jordan	Bernadin Mornot	Raymond Reynolds	Thuy Duc Vuong
		Jill Grisco	Michael Kelly	William Murphy	Roger Roadhouse	Sheldon Walker
		Sherry Gryder	Steven King	Vernon Nash	Edward Roberts	William Walkup
		Harry Hairfield	Timothy Koebler	Alan Neiss	Camille Ross	Patricia Webb
		Willie Hare	Howard Kurtz	Hong Nguyen	Steven Sarlouis	Diane Weeks
		John Harper	Doia Lawson	Hung Nguyen	George Seminara	Wesley Roye Weeks
		Patricia Harris	Khai Q. Le	Phuc-Tue Nguyen	Eric Sewell	Judith Weinraub
		Kenneth Harrison	Nhan H. Le	Joseph O'Brien, Jr.	Richard Short	Joseph Whalen
		Reginald Harrod	Nancy Lewis	Martin Oberman	Timothy Slane	Ernestine Williams
		Myra Hatala	Nancy Little	Omar Olson	Christopher Smith	James Wills, Jr.
		Lisa Heidemann	Paul Lord	Larry Parker	David Smith	Jonathan Yardley
		Nancy Martin-	Gerald Lowe	Derrick Patten	Dita Smith	Molli Yood
		Heislup	Raymond Lustig	James Peacock	Victor Smith	Cynthia Zeiss

POST SCRIPTS

BLOODMOBILE AT NORTHWEST BUILDING

The next bloodmobile will be held on Wednesday, September 19 at the Northwest Building in the 9th floor community room. The hours are 8:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Donors can make an appointment by calling the Health Center at x7192. Approximately 50 employees are needed to fulfill The Post's pledge of 40 units.



CHOLESTEROL QUIZ AT SPRINGFIELD PLANT

September is National Cholesterol Education Month. The Springfield Plant Health Center has a Cholesterol Knowledge Quiz, including questions

about what cholesterol numbers mean, and where cholesterol comes from. For more information on the quiz, or to get a copy, call x2240, or stop by the Springfield Plant Health Center.

SOCCER DAD BOB LEVEY

Columnist **BOB LEVEY** was a proud soccer dad in late July, when his son Allie's Potomac Cougars soccer team won the national championship of the under 14 boys division at the annual US Soccer Association Tournament in Indiana. The



LEVEY with son, Allie.

proud dad also notes that Allie is the only freshman at Sidwell Friends to make the boys varsity soccer team.

SHOPTALK STORY UPDATE

The January 18, 2001 issue of *ShopTalk* featured a story on how through the efforts of the Circulation Department unsold copies of The Post were being sent to the U.S. troops still stationed in Kosovo. The program began with a request from Arthur Thexton, a Post reader in South Carolina, who coordinated the delivery of the newspapers to Kosovo through the Kuwait Embassy. To date, The Post is the only U.S. newspaper providing newspapers to Kosovo. In a recent letter to *ShopTalk*, Thexton wrote, "It's hard to believe more than six months has passed since we started our project for the members of the armed

forces in Kosovo. I receive emails monthly stating how much they appreciate The Post. On a postcard sent to Thexton, the command sergeant major at Camp Bondsteel in Kosovo wrote, "About 0400 this morning I visited an outpost. A young soldier was droning with about two more hours of duty. I gave him a Washington Post for later. All of a sudden he lightened up and said, 'Hey, this is from my home town.' It made his day. Thanks."

FREE PASSES TO PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY FAIR

The Public Relations Department has a limited number of free one-day passes to the Prince George's County Fair, valid for September 6-9 at the Prince George's Equestrian Center in Upper Marlboro. There is a four-pass limit per employee. The passes are available in the Public Relations department on the 7th floor of the Northwest Building, or call x7969.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY LEVEY

MARKETPLACE

FOR SALE: Practically new Precor Precision electronic treadmill. Electronic displays for speed, distance, calories, time. Manual incline feature. Originally \$1,200/asking \$500. It's been moved to my garage (in Loudoun County) and ready for your to take away! Contact Ellen at x7762 or (703) 327-3685.

FOR SALE: 27" SONY TRINITRON with picture in picture and remote, excellent condition, \$200. Yamaha RX350 stereo receiver, Magnavox CD changer and pair of Bose bookshelf speakers, excellent condition, \$100 for all. Call Jonathan Yardley at (202) 544-7779.

FOR SALE: Pontiac Grand Am GT, moonroof, power windows/locks, 75K miles, V6, auto., original owner, black/black, CD player, cruise, stereo controls on steering wheel, electric traction system, \$5,979/OBO. Call Jeni at x5960 or (703) 938-3497

FOR RENT: Seeking female roommate for fall semester (4-5 mos.), share home in quiet neighborhood in Silver Spring, close to public transportation. Reasonable monthly fee. Call Carol at x4551 or (301) 565-2599.

ISO: (2) Redskins v.s. Arizona Cardinals tickets on Sun. Sept. 16th. Any section will do. Please call Marc at (703) 313-9748 or contact at masonw@washpost.com.

FOR SALE: Mauve 3 cushion sofa, approx. 7 ft., \$150/OBO; metal base, glass top coffee table and stacking tables (3) \$50 for set; Microwave w/under counter attachment, \$35; full set of hunter green dishes (bowls, small and large plates, coffee mugs and salad bowl), \$45; Wooden desk painted green, \$50. Call Whitney at x5792 or (202) 237-1578, or e-mail pattonwj@washpost.com.

FOR SALE: 2 Adult Freedom Pass (a yearly pass) for Colonial Williamsburg. Paid \$70 for both tickets. Asking for \$35 for both tickets. Call Sandra at x5393 or (301) 772-3626.

FOR RENT: Two-level condo in quiet Silver Spring community. 2 BR, 2 full BA; living room has cathedral ceiling, fireplace, walk-out to balcony; table-size kitchen. Lots of sunlight! Includes access to rec. facilities: swimming pool, tennis, basketball, volleyball, tot lot. \$1,050 per month plus electric and water. Perfect for roommates. Contact Sheila on x4502 or (301)333-1425.

FOR SALE: Slide-In Camper (for 8' bed pick-up), sleeps 4-5, AC/heat, BA with shower!, frig/freezer & sep. icebox, 4-burner stove & oven, queen bed over cab. Excellent working con., interior good con., exterior fair con.. \$2,500/OBO. Also: 1989 Ford F-150 4wd. Long bed. Good working truck. Just passed Virginia inspection, asking \$2,500. Please call JoAnn at x7715 or (540) 286-1080.

FOR RENT: Seeking female to share 2 BR, 1 BA apartment in Bethesda. Walk to NIH and Bethesda Metro station. \$440 per month, includes all utilities. Call (301) 365-8171 or e-mail (wollow@washpost.com).

WANTED: Your old metal gas or kerosene cans, red, yellow, blue, whatever. They must be metal! At least 2- or 5-gallon type or larger. Call Donna x6437 or (301)589-5381.

FREE! FREE! Ads in marketplace are free to employees of The Washington Post. Join thousands of satisfied customers who have bought and sold through Marketplace. The deadline is Friday at noon for the next Thursday's issue of *ShopTalk*. Send your ad with your extension and home phone number via e-mail to *ShopTalk*, or fax to x4963.

MARKETPLACE DEADLINE: Noon Fridays. Please include your name, extension and home phone number. **ADS ARE FOR POST EMPLOYEES ONLY.** Send ads to *Shop Talk*, 7th floor, or call x6803. To send ads via fax dial x5609; via e-mail send to *shoptalk*. Ads run two issues unless otherwise requested. One ad per employee, please.

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