

# ShopTalk



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Editor, Lisa O'Donnell Connors, x4-6803

## A Funny Thing Happened...

**A** funny thing happened last July to **CHRIS WHITE**, manager of editorial production for The Post's Writer's Group. He picked up the July 5 Weekend section featuring the comedy scene in the D.C. and open mike nights for aspiring comedians. Less than a year later, he is a vet-

ing it out, I actually got on stage for the first time at the end of August."

"It was pretty nerve wracking," he added. "I'm not a particularly good public speaker. There were probably 25 people in the audience and I had memorized everything the way I wanted it...I had no idea if any of it was going to work. My legs were really shaking and I was glad I was wearing baggy jeans. But I got the first joke out and the rest went fine."

White continued to do open mike nights for four months and worked on new material. He also met other comedians, many of

who do their own shows at local bars and restaurants and more opportunities opened up for him to perform.

Some of those opportunities include performing in front of 300 people in March at the D.C. Improv, just a few blocks away from the Northwest Building. That same month he traveled to participate in a contest at the Pittsburgh Improv and had a show



CHRIS WHITE on stage at the D.C. Improv

PHOTO - KATIE TICHACEK

at his alma mater, the University of Richmond.

May was another busy month for White. For one night he held the title of "funniest person in D.C." after winning a stand up contest at a club in Adams-Morgan. White also performed at the Baltimore Improv and landed two on-air "gigs" on the morning show for Baltimore radio station 98 Rock. These came about after he met one of the radio show's hosts, Kirk McKewen, at a comedy show.

"Everything in comedy is about connections," he said. "If you happen to be at the right show with the right person, something cool happens - you get to go to Baltimore and be on the radio."

As he was launching his

comedic career, White noticed that there were very few good resources for information on comedy in the area, both for comedians getting into the business and audiences in search of a good laugh. Using information he had compiled, in January he launched *dcstandup.com*, a web site that includes a calendar of shows, venues and a sprinkling of jokes. According to White, at first the content was provided by him and three friends, and now there are about 30 local comedians providing information and content.

"Performing stand up has given me a chance to get out and meet new friends," White commented, "and, a lot of strange people, too." ■



White with the home page of his *dcstandup.com* web site.

eran comedian who has performed at several area clubs and has also taken his talents up the road to Baltimore.

"I was always sort of interested in doing stand up, but I never tried it," he explains. "The Weekend section listed an open mike night in Northern Virginia at Wiseacres in Tysons Corner. After check-

# Promotions & Transitions

**JIM BREEN**, Advertising Systems, was promoted this month to the position of T5/systems support specialist from T4/programmer analyst. Breen was an advertising sales representative for the newspaper from June 1987 until he moved to the Advertising Systems Unit in March 2001. He was the recipient of the Publisher's Award for Outstanding Service in 1988. He earned a BA in film production from the University of Maryland.

**CHRIS BRANIN**, Human Resources, has been promoted to staffing and employee relations specialist. He was previously an administrative assistant. Branin was an intern for the Benefits Department during the summers of 2001 and 2002 and was hired full-time in January 2003. He has also been a teaching assistant for the University of Maryland's College Park Scholars in the Arts Program. Branin earned a BS in marketing at the University of Maryland.

**DAVE BURKE** has moved from the Marketing Department to the Web Solutions group in the Information Technology Department. He came to The Post in 1997 and has held the positions of copywriter, web content coordinator and most recently, online creative manager. Before coming to the newspaper, Burke was a copywriter at Metro Group International, a Charlotte, N.C. advertising agency. He

received the Marketing Silver Star for the launch of The Post's advertising website. Burke earned a BA in English/creative and professional writing from the University of North Carolina in Wilmington.

**MELINDA FORD**, Production, was named to the position of Springfield Plant pressroom superintendent in May. Ford came to The Post in January 1990 as a press operator trainee in the Northwest facility after serving 12 years with



PHOTO - MARTHA YEATER

**MELINDA FORD**

the U.S. Marine Corps. In September 1990 she transferred to the Springfield pressroom. In 1994, Ford was promoted to team leader in the Northwest Plant and in 1996 she moved to the new press project. Ford was promoted in 1998 to assistant superintendent of daily inserting in the Springfield Plant and for the past two years, she has been assistant superintendent in Sunday packaging.

**MONICA HARRISON**, News Administration, has been promoted to newsroom budget administrator. Since coming

to The Post in 1998, she had been the administrative assistant to

**SHIRLEY CARSWELL** assistant managing editor for administration and planning. Her previous work experience also includes positions at WUSA-TV (Ch. 9), WRC-TV (Ch. 4), the lobbying firm Thompson Group, and WAVA -FM. Harrison holds a BA in broadcast management from Howard University.

**JOHN RICHMOND**, Advertising, was promoted in March to outside sales representative covering planned communities. He came to The Post in 1997 and was a telephone sales representative for real estate. Before coming to the newspaper, he was a copywriter for an advertising agency in Ohio. During his tenure in telephone sales, he received several sales awards including a sales excellence award this year. Richmond attended Deloit College in Wisconsin and the University of Toledo in Ohio.

**KATHY TOLBERT**, News, has been named deputy foreign editor effective July 1. She is currently a copy editor on the foreign Desk and was previously an assistant foreign editor from 1994 - 1997 before becoming the deputy Asia editor for the *International Herald Tribune*. She has also worked for the Associated Press and the *Boston Globe*. A graduate of Vassar College in Poughkeepsie N.Y., she holds an MA in international



**JOHN RICHMOND**

relations from the Tufts University Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy in Medford, Mass. and was a John S. Knight fellow at Stanford University in California.

**LARRY WILLIAMS**, Advertising Systems, was promoted this month to T5/systems support specialist. Williams came to The Post in 1995. Previously he was the special sections supervisor and coordinator in the Advertising Department, and has also worked in the Accounting and Circulation departments. Williams is currently pursuing a degree in business management at the University of Maryland.

**SHERRELL WILLIAMS**, Advertising Systems, was promoted this month to T5/systems support specialist from T4/programmer analyst. Williams has held a number of positions in the Advertising Systems Unit since she joined The Post in 1989, including project trainer and remote entry coordinator. Williams received the Publisher's Award in 1990 and earned a BS in management studies from University of Maryland.

# Bylines

The Embassy of Spain hosted a reception on Tuesday, June 10 to honor this year's nine recipients of the International Teaching Fellowships sponsored by The Post in cooperation with the Spanish Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport and the Education Office of the Embassy of Spain. Created in 2001, the fellowship program enables Spanish teach-

are current and former Post staff. The award was created to be presented to a journalism student at Howard University who exemplified several qualities, including holding a number of jobs simultaneously. The 2003

award winner was Troy Donte Prestwood, a graduating senior who helped restart the Howard University Association of Black Journalists, revamped the campus radio station, WHBC, and was editorial editor of the independent campus newspaper, the *District Chronicles*. Prestwood plans to begin his graduate work at the University of Maryland in the fall. The annual Robert L. Asher-Washington Post Award, named

after editorial writer **BOB ASHER** was also presented at the awards ceremony.

The Post's Party Animals came out of hibernation on Friday, June 13 to take their places in front of the outside garage at the Northwest Buildings. Last fall the animals were placed in the building's basement and brought up to the third floor in late April to have their paint "touched up" for the summer in the District. A new ele-



Building Services Foreman **WALTER FLETCHER** moves one of *The Post's* two Party Animals out of hibernation to its summer residence in front of the Northwest Building.

Euros from the tourists!"

The mother of three followed up the marathon two weeks later by participating in the Chesapeake Bay Swim for the ninth time. "They give out awards for doing the

phant replaces last year's animal which was sold to another owner during the Party Animal auction last fall to benefit the D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities. The animals are planning on spending their summer reading *The Post* and being photographed by passing tourists.

After a health scare in February, Director of Revenue Systems **WENDY FRIEDLAND** decided to get going on a list of her life's "to dos." On May 25, she checked running the Vienna, Austria marathon off her list.

"I chose Vienna because it was on my list of 'must see cities,'" she explained. "The trip exceeded my expectations in every way. One of the highlights was a street vendor - an opera singer singing for

Foreign Desk copy editor **RICHARD PRINCE** with Richard "Scoop" Prince Award winner Troy Donte Prestwood at the Howard University Journalism Department awards ceremony.



PHOTO PROVIDED BY PRINCE



PHOTO - RUBEN RODRIGUEZ

The recipients of the 2003 International Teaching Fellowships include Beth Kershner, Brightwood Elementary School, Washington, D.C.; Dana Horning, Key School, Arlington, Va.; Kathryn Flinn, James Madison High School, Vienna, Va.; Patricia Kolshorn, Walt Whitman High School, Bethesda, Md.; Sharla Hellie, Rocky Hill Middle School, Clarksburg, Md.; Rachel Wood, Tyler Elementary School, Gainesville, Va.; Claire Tesh, John Eaton Elementary School, Washington, D.C.; Stephanie Chapman, Cesar Chavez Elementary School, Hyattsville, Md., and Praneetha Akula, Marie H. Reed Community Learning Center, Washington, D.C.

ers at area schools to study at one of three universities in Spain in July and become immersed in Spanish language and culture.

Howard University's Department of Journalism presented a scholarship award named after **RICHARD PRINCE**, a Foreign Desk copy editor, at its award ceremony on Wednesday, May 7. The Richard "Scoop" Prince award was created by a number of Prince's friends who

race ten times and I am getting close, so I had to go ahead with the swim this year. I didn't train much for the swim, so it wasn't a very good time for me, but I'll just blame it on the cold water," she said. ■



PHOTO PROVIDED BY FRIEDLAND

**WENDY FRIEDLAND**, director of revenue systems, at the beginning of the Vienna, Austria marathon in May.

Look for an announcement and details in next week's *ShopTalk* for a summer-themed contest to win two tickets to the August 19 Christina Aguilera and Justin Timberlake concert at the MCI Center, as well some other great prizes. The issue will be distributed on Thursday, June 26!



## Weekend's Weekends

The Weekend Section and Public Relations Department's popular series of free summer concerts kicks off tomorrow, Friday, June 20. Located at the Carter Barron Amphitheatre, the four concerts begin at

## Weekend's Weekends

7:30 p.m., with gates opening at 7 p.m. Up to four free tickets are available to employees for each performance. Tickets can be picked up **ON THE DAY OF THE PERFORMANCE ONLY** in the Public Relations Department on the 7th floor of the Northwest Building, or from Weekend Editor **JOYCE JONES** in the Newsroom. There are no rain dates. For more information, contact the Public Relations Department at x4-7969.

**Soul Spectacular, Fri., June 20**  
Eddie Jones and the Young Bucks  
Skip Mahoney and the Casuals  
The Mustangs

**Reggae Rhythms, Fri., June 27**  
The Image Band  
Meleket  
Willie Paul and Positive Vibration

**Rock 'N' Roots, Thurs., July 3**  
Last Train Home (with The Post's Eric Brace)  
'52 Pickup  
The Hula Monsters

**Salsa Sensations, Fri., July 11**  
Sin Miedo  
JCJ Band  
Orquesta La Sensual

## Employees Invited to Attend Brown Bag Lunch!

**STEVE HILLS**, president and general manager, is hosting a business update brown bag lunch for employees on Friday, June 27 at noon in the 9th floor community room. Hills will provide a 15-minute update on the business status of The Post followed by an informal question and answer session.

Space is limited to the first 100 employees who

RSVP. Employees interested in attending the brown bag lunch should RSVP to the Public Relations Department at x4-7969. Refreshments and desserts will be provided.

## What's Your Key Idea?

Do you have a key idea that could save The Post money, time or both? To submit your key idea, or to learn more about the program go online to [intranet/keyideas](http://intranet/keyideas), or contact **CLIFF KAYSER**, the Key Ideas Program coordinator at x4-6656, or e-mail [keyideas@washpost.com](mailto:keyideas@washpost.com).



## Bloodmobile

Mark your calendar for the upcoming Red Cross bloodmobile visit to the Northwest Building on Tuesday, July 1, from 8:30 a.m. - 1:45 p.m. in the ninth floor community room. According to **PHYLLIS WASLO**, Health Center supervisor, The Post has not been able to meet our

goal of 40 donors in recent bloodmobiles and summer-time accidents and injuries increase the need for blood. Please call the Northwest Health Center at x4-7192 if you can donate.

## Education Fair!

Have you considered going back to school or continuing your education to advance your career? The Human Resources Department is sponsoring an education fair for employees on Tuesday, June 24, from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. in the ninth floor community room. Representatives from several local Maryland and DC colleges and universities will present information on their programs and upcoming term schedules. For more information contact the Organization Development & Training Department at x4-5425.



## Marketplace

**FOR SALE:** 1991 red Isuzu trooper, auto transmission, 107K miles, recent Maryland inspection, \$2,500. Call Alice at (301) 564-1037 in Bethesda.

**CRAFTS FOR SALE:** Are you looking for the perfect gift? A special gift for any occasion? I specialize in all types of colorful arts and crafts that can be personalized upon request. If you enjoy beautiful things and would like to take a peak at some of my work or purchase a gift please feel free to contact Pershon at 202-334-5995 (work) or 202-365-0989 (cell).

**FOR RENT:** One BR apt. in The Cairo, 1615 Q. St., exposed brick, 24-hour desk, roof-top deck, available end of June, \$1,400 plus electric, sorry no pets. Contact Jill at x4-7516, or (301) 565-9115.

**FOR SALE:** Last chance!!! Vacation time at boardwalk resort in Virginia Beach, just opened in August 2002, oceanfront, indoor pool, 1BR, 2 sofa beds, kitchen. For the week of Sept. 6. Call Trinh at x4-4021 or (703) 658-2120 if interested. Price is very reasonable.

**MOVING SALE:** Antique pine bed with almost antique double mattress, \$350. Drexel cabinet with two doors, off-white with walnut top, \$125. Round end table with two doors white with beige marble top, \$75. Drexel Walnut Server (60's vintage) \$150. Drexel coffee table \$150. Whirlpool gas dryer (almond) used 4 years, \$75. Framed Thai temple rubings \$60 a pair, large Peruvian weaving \$35. E-mail for pictures or call x4-4320 or (301) 977-8458.

**FOR SALE:** 2001 Toyota ForeRunner SR5, 21,500 miles. Leather, wood finish, sunroof, CD, power windows, keyless entry and more. Excellent cond., only \$24,200. Call Nadeem at x4-6474 or (301) 949-1531.

**ROOM FOR RENT:** Room with private bath in Herndon, Va., non-smoker, professional male, no pets, near bus stop, security deposit/references, \$400/month including utilities. Call Margaret at (703) 742-9690.

**FOR RENT:** One BR apt. available June 1. Upper Georgetown on Wisconsin Ave, indoor parking, secure building, new appliances, new building, CAC/heat, available June 1, \$1,100 month. Contact Maria at x4-4466 or call (202) 337-8818.

**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 x4-4963.

**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 x4-6803. To send ads via fax dial x4-4963; via e-mail send to [shoptalk](mailto:shoptalk). Ads run two issues unless otherwise requested. One ad per employee, please.