

# ShopTalk

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## 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of *Times-Herald* Purchase

On Wednesday, March 17, 1954 at 12:44 p.m. The Post's Publisher Philip Graham completed what his son, Chairman **Don Graham**, calls the most important transaction in the history of The Post—the purchase of the *Times-Herald*. With the merger, The Post's circulation almost doubled. Daily circulation went from 204,000 to 395,000 and Sunday circulation jumped from 200,000 to 395,000. The Post went from being number three to the number one newspaper in Washington.

Fifty years later, The Post celebrated the anniversary of the *Times-Herald* purchase with a luncheon in the Northwest Building's

2nd floor auditorium on Wednesday, March 17. Guests at the lunch included The Post's E-Streeters, former and current staff who worked at The Post at its former location on E Street. Several of the attendees worked for the *Times-Herald* at the



PHOTO — HYOSUB SHIN

Chairman **Don Graham** with Chalmers Roberts, The Post's historian. Roberts began his career with The Post in October 1933, four months after it was purchased by Eugene Meyer. He worked for the *Times-Herald* in 1941-1942. After military service and working for other publications, he returned to The Post in 1949 until he retired in 1971.

time of the purchase.

"There's no question that the purchase of the *Times-Herald* is the reason that The Washington Post is here today," said Graham during his comments at the gathering. "Before that, since Eugene Meyer had bought the paper in 1933, he had lost money for 21 years. The real hero of this occasion was my dad, Phil Graham. It was his doggedness in sticking through

those difficult years of the late Forties and early Fifties and continuing to pursue the one thing that could make The Post successful—the purchase of the *Times-Herald*."

"Before 1954, The Post was still a heck of a newspaper, we had Shirley Povich and Herb Block," he added, "but this purchase set The Post on its course."

Post reporter Sy Fishbein was working on a series on crime in 1954 and his byline appeared on the



PHOTO — HYOSUB SHIN

The combined newspaper carried both logos on the masthead. Over the next 20 years, the *Times-Herald* logo would grow smaller in size and disappear in the early 1970s.

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# Production Award Winners

The Production Department held its annual employee recognition and performance awards ceremonies at the Springfield Plant on Tuesday, March 16 and the College Park Plant on Wednesday, March 17. The staff at the pressrooms were congratulated for their outstanding performance in 2003 by Publisher **Bo Jones** and Vice President of Production **Jim Coley**. Express Publisher **Chris Ma** also thanked both pressrooms for successfully undertaking the production of the *Express* last year.

The award winners at the College Park Plant included:

## Quality Awards

### **Advance Run - Team 8**

Carl Porter - team leader  
Lee Davis - asst. team leader  
Thurman Arrington  
Ronald Hamner  
Derrick Patten  
Dorothy Troy  
Arthur Watson

### **Night Run - Team 6**

Donald Goldsmith - team leader  
Thomas Huurman - asst. team leader  
Bruce Froitzheim  
Angela Gibson  
Eugene Johnson  
Joseph O'Brien  
George Seminara  
Joseph Shavatt

## Highest Productivity

### **Team 5**

Anthony Matthes - team leader

Anthony Spencer - asst. team leader  
Harold Aiken  
Ernest Fuller  
Rakesh Puri  
John Worthington  
Michael Kelly  
Renee Mobley

## Newsprint Conservation

### **Advance Run - Team 10**

Kjell Johns - team leader  
Christopher Hoffman - asst. team leader  
Theodore Harvey Sr.  
Douglas Hunter  
Alan Souder  
Ricardo Sykes  
Joseph Taylor



College Park's Assistant Pressroom Superintendent **Joel Barefoot**, and Pressroom Superintendent **Greg Estep** with Team 5 members (l-r) **Rakesh Puri**, **Anthony Matthes** and **Harold Aikin**.

### **Night Run - Team 1**

Beverly McLaughlin - team leader  
Douglas Perkins - asst. team leader  
Charles Clary  
Edward Hatch  
Tracy Hilton  
Andy Sendish  
Walter Talley  
Judy Williams

## Lowest Waste

### **Team 1**

Beverly McLaughlin - team leader

Douglas Perkins - asst. team leader  
Charles Clary  
Edward Hatch  
Tracy Hilton  
Andy Sendish  
Walter Talley  
Judy Williams

## Outstanding Performance

*Machinist*-Rene Cardona  
*Electrician*-Bernie Sullivan  
*Paperhandler*-Elgie Barksdale  
*General Worker*-James Boyd  
*Engraving*-Thomas Presgrave

## Attendance Award

Jerry Bell  
Charles Chung  
Ronald Deloatch  
George Francis  
Greg Gantt  
Thomas Huurman  
Phat Khuu  
Tim Koebler  
Doia Lawson  
Ben McMichael  
Joseph Shavatt  
Ray Stevenson  
Eric Suggs

The award winners at the Springfield Plant included:

## Quality Awards

### **Advance Run - Team 2**

Sam Dorick - team leader  
Donna Chretien - asst. team leader  
Annie Hayes  
Milton Pitt  
Ed Raynor  
Alan Souder  
Bac Tran  
The Tran

### **Night Run - Team 12**

Mike Dikeman - team leader  
Soliman Mendoza - asst. team leader  
Steve Allis  
Doug Baker  
Steve Eberly  
Ngoc Phan  
Drew Polley  
Richard Shover



The Springfield Plant's award-winning Team 12 members (l-r) **Doug Baker**, **Steve Allis** and **Mike Dikeman**, team leader.

## Highest Productivity

### **Team 12**

Mike Dikeman - team leader  
Soliman Mendoza - asst. team leader  
Steve Allis  
Doug Baker  
Steve Eberly  
Ngoc Phan  
Drew Polley  
Richard Shover



Team 1 Team Leader **Beverly McLaughlin** congratulates her team members at the College Park Plant, (l-r) **Doug Perkins**, **Charles Clary**, **Andy Sendish**, **Tracy Hilton**, **Ed Hayden** and **Walter Talley**.

PHOTO - LES MARTIN

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The Springfield Plant's outstanding performance award winners (l-r) George Pellettiere, Charles Ellis, Phuoc Huynh and Tony Payne.

## Newsprint Conservation

### Advance Run – Team 6

Jeff Lizama – team leader  
Richard Jones – asst. team leader  
Bill Adams  
Andy Carey  
Vickie Henderson  
Paul Knauf  
Viet Ly  
Lemuel Nesmith Jr.

### Night Run – Team 11

Steve Sarlouis – team leader  
Peter Mascarenhas – asst. team leader  
Greg Atkins  
Kevin Crowell  
Randy Dickerson  
Mike Jones  
Allison Karter  
Steve Neese

## Lowest Waste

### Team 1

Liz Alexander – team leader  
Jeff Allen – asst. team leader  
Ed Payton – asst. team leader  
David Harrison  
Chris High  
Mike Pham  
Robert Smalls  
Robert Smith

## Outstanding Performance

Platemaking–Charles Ellis  
Machinist Foreman–George Pellettiere

Electrician–Phuoc Huynh  
Paperhandler–Bernard Curley  
General Worker–Tony Payne

## Individual Achievement Award

Best Paster Percentage–Kevin Spaulding

## Attendance Award

Steve Allis  
Chanh Lac  
Soliman Mendoza  
Phuc Tue Nguyen  
Thao Phan  
Thuy Tran  
Daniel Wilson

Don Graham with Circulation staff who were at The Post or Times-Herald at the time of the purchase, including (l-r) Jack Patterson, Bill Benner, Frank Manzon, Andy Jacobson and John Homan.



PHOTO - HYOSUB SHIN

front page of the first issue of the combined newspaper. He recalls how the Post's staff felt on that day. "It was very exciting. We had always felt a little bit superior to the *Times-Herald*. We got the impression that the main interest in the purchase was getting the *Times-Herald's* comics," he chuckled. "But we did get some choice news talent and we got some people in Sports who were very popular and had a big audience."

The purchase of the *Times-Herald* began with a telegram on January 25, 1954 from a representative of the ailing *Times-Herald* owner Colonel Robert McCormick to Eugene Meyer. In his book *In the Shadow of Power, The History of The Washington Post*, Post historian Chalmers Roberts wrote that after the terms of the sale were agreed upon, McCormick requested that the final agreement be postponed until March. After what he described as an "agonizing" six weeks for Meyer and Graham, the purchase was completed. "The deal called for a down payment of \$1,500,000 and the other \$7 million by the end of the year,

plus \$1.8 million for severance pay for the *Times-Herald* employees not hired by The Post and other miscellaneous charges."



COURTESY OF KATHARINE GRAHAM ESTATE

Publisher Philip Graham was instrumental in The Post's successful purchase of the *Times-Herald*.

The transition was immediate and according to Roberts, the strain on the Production and Circulation departments was enormous. The *Times-Herald's* presses were essential to producing the combined circulation of the newspaper, but were located six blocks away from The Post's presses. For several days, many subscribers would receive two copies of the combined newspaper until the subscription lists could be merged.

Combining the news and editorial of these papers was also difficult, according to Katharine Graham in her biography *Personal History*. "We had two very opposite cultures to meld," she wrote. "The *Times-Herald* had more of a mass audience; ours was more of a class audience. The *Times-Herald* had been loaded with features. It was full of comics, columnists – especially conservative columnists–sports, gossip, sex and crime. The Post was more serious minded and didn't carry all the fun stuff."

In his comments at the luncheon, Chalmers Roberts said, "The purchase of the *Times-Herald* saved The Post and gave it the opportunity to be a great paper. Phil started it on its way to being a great paper and Katharine brought it to maturity." ■



## PostScripts

### Officer Foils Bike Theft

**Jeremiah Moodie**, a Guard-mark officer at the Northwest Building was talking to another officer in the front lobby at 2:45 p.m., just minutes before the end of his shift on Thursday, March 11. He observed two men at the bike rack in front of the building attempting to cut a bike lock off of a bike he knew belonged to a Post employee.

"I remembered that morning that **Melissa Maltby** told us her bike was out there," recalled Moodie. "A messenger told an engineer in the Akridge Building that he had lost his bike key. I approached the two and said that the bike belonged to a Post

employee." The messenger continued to give a story about the bike belonging to him, until Moodie said that he wanted to call Maltby and check with her. With that, the messenger ran off.



*Officer Moodie at the bike rack where he foiled a bike theft.*

"He's a great guy," said Maltby, who works on the Photo Desk. "He was right there and to be that attentive with all the people that come through that lobby was terrific."

### Cell Phone Discounts

The Washington Post Company has negotiated new employee discounts for cell phone and other wireless services and equipment from three vendors, AT&T Wireless, Sprint and Verizon Wireless. This is for both company and personal use. The discounts, ranging from eight to 15 percent on service plans, will apply to both new and existing cell phone customers. For more information on these discounts or to order personal phones go to [www.wponet.com](http://www.wponet.com). This is the

same internal web site used for open enrollment each year. The same user ID and password apply. If you have technical problems logging onto [www.wponet.com](http://www.wponet.com), call 877-WPNET4 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Eastern, Monday-Friday.

### Eat for Your Heart

Brock & Co. Executive Chef Daniel Dernetz is hosting a demonstration cooking "heart healthy" food in the Northwest Building cafeteria on Wednesday, March 31 from 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Employees are invited to stop by for food samples and door prizes.



## Marketplace

FOR SALE: Thinking of building an outdoor cascading water garden as spring arrives? I'm re-doing mine. Selling my molded plastic forms, either as a set of 4 (\$50) or separately. Call Rita at x4-6159 or (703) 204-2821.

FOR RENT: Cathedral Ave. apartment. Great location, walk to restaurants, walk to Georgetown, beautiful, spacious 1 BA apartment, new appliances, new BR. Only 2.5 miles to TWP, \$1,250/month. Call Enrique at (202) 288-9013 or x-4-6195.

FOR SALE: Microtek ScanMaker 5950. Brand new scanner, still in box. All-in-one photo and document scanner for the home or office. Easy to use. Retail \$180-\$200. Selling for \$125/OBO. Call Nekeidra at x4-4922.

FOR SALE: 2000 Honda Accord EX, automatic, 4 door, 4 cylinder, leather seats, sunroof, a/c, CD. Great condition. \$10,500. Call Ellen at (301) 986-4180 or Erin at x4-5839.

FOR SALE: Automag 68 classic paintball marker, left side load. 12 paintballs per sec. Automag barrel & dye boom stick 16" barrel, 12v laser feed loader, automag, autogroove trigger, two tanks: nitrous or compressed air, remote tank feed hose and belt, JT mask: upgraded double pain antifog lens, four (100) pod belt with pods. Other upgrades. Tournament grade everything. \$1,200 new, used less than 12 times. \$600/OBO. Call David at (540) 371-4193 or x6-2430 6:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

FOR SALE: Sevylor Bali inflatable 1-person kayak; great for paddling on lakes or slow-moving rivers. Heavy-duty, PVC-coated nylon, sturdy, tubular I-beam construction provides a rigid floor. Three separate main air chambers provide safety, with 3 Boston valves for fast inflation/deflation. Includes a Sevylor Skag, inflate/deflate pump and carrying case. Used once; trading up for more expensive model. \$110. Call Bill at x4-6900.

FOR SALE: One ticket to John Prine show at Warner Theatre on April 1. Call Martin at x6-2282 or (703) 866-5464

TUTOR AVAILABLE: Have BS in mathematics and Masters in information technology -can help with subjects including math, computer technology, as well as term papers. Call Ollennu at (301) 442-5233.

FOR SALE: Computer w/Windows 2000, MSOffice, 64 Meg of RAM, keyboard, mouse, IBM 15" monitor, 200mhz processor, USB, modem, sound card w/speakers. Good for word processing or spreadsheet work, for \$170. Also, 1993 Blue Toyota Corolla, four door, 5-speed stick, air AM/FM/CD, 93K miles, good condition. Asking \$2,500. Call Jim at (703) 256-7128, or after 4 p.m. at x4-4234.

FOR SALE: A pair of season tickets to the Redskins, section 432, row 12, seats 11 and 12, green parking pass. Total cost is \$1,590 (face value). Call Ellen at x4-6627 or (703) 823-3133.

FOR SALE: 1995 Nissan Quest XE as is. All offers will be considered. For details, contact Ron at (301) 350-5842.

### FREE ADS!

**Reach more than 2,000 Post employees with your free ad in Marketplace.**

The deadline for ads is Friday at noon and your ad will appear in the next Thursday's ShopTalk. Send your ad via email to [ShopTalk@washpost.com](mailto:ShopTalk@washpost.com) or fax to x4-4963. Ads are for Post employees only and must include your name, extension and home phone number. Ads run two issues unless otherwise requested. One ad per employee per issue, please.

Questions? Call Lisa Connors at x4-6803.