

ShopTalk



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Editor, Lisa O'Donnell Connors, x4-6803

Columnists Go National

Three Post columnists have joined The Washington Post Writers Group, making their columns available to appear in newspapers and publications across the country. **Sally Squires'** *Lean Plate Club* was launched nationally on Oct. 25. **Gene Weingarten's** "Below the Beltway" column began syndication on Jan. 3 and former Style assistant managing editor **Eugene Robinson's** opinion column will be available for syndication on March 14.

According to Editorial Director **Alan Shearer**, Squires and Weingarten had already developed loyal readers across the country thanks to the availability of their columns on *washingtonpost.com* and their live online chats. "They

have each created a national community of readers that support their columns and we can take that to editors at other newspapers," he said. Shearer added that although Robinson has only been writing his



twice-weekly column in The Post for a short time, the Writers Group has already received requests to reprint his columns from papers including the *Chicago Tribune*.

Squires's *Lean Plate Club* column appears every Tuesday in *Health* and provides helpful advice to readers on healthy eating and exercise habits, based on the latest medical and scientific information. In addition, she has a weekly online Web chat and an e-mail newsletter with more than 100,000 subscribers. According to Writers Group Sales Manager **Karisue Wyson**, Squires' column has been picked up by several large newspapers including the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Denver Post* and the

Dallas Morning News.

"What intrigues editors the most about Sally's column is the interaction she has with readers, explains Wyson. "She has almost an 'Oprah-esque' relationship with them."

Weingarten's weekly humor column appears in *The Washington Post Magazine*. In January he took over the space at the back of the Magazine that had been home to



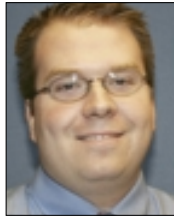
Dave Barry's column until he retired at the end of 2004. (He is also a friend of Barry's.) Weingarten's column now appears in the *Kansas City Star*, *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, *San Jose Mercury News*

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New Faces



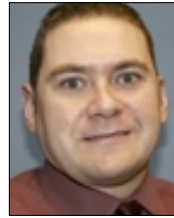
Lauren Best



Phil Bradley



Ivan Carter



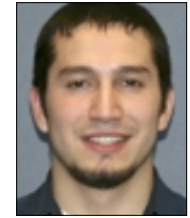
Paul Cox



Jackie Ellis



Dion Haynes



Manuel Hidalgo



Carl Jackson



Nikki Kahn



Stephanie McCrummen



Elizabeth Nixon



Matthew Pierce



Mark Ross



Carla Taylor

LAUREN BEST is a recent hire in the Advertising Department. She is an advertising service representative in the national accounts unit. Previously, she worked in outside sales for the shipping company DHL and interned for Bombardier Skyjet in the City of Fairfax. Best earned a BS in business administration from West Virginia University in Morgantown. In her spare time, she enjoys going on the eBay Web site.

DOUG BLECKI joined the automotive category in the Advertising Department in December as a telephone sales representative. His previous work experience includes positions at the Advisory Board Company, the Princeton Review and WJZ-TV in Baltimore. Blecki holds a BS in business management from Florida State University in Tallahassee. His interests include softball, football and basketball.

(Photo not available.)

PHIL BRADLEY came to The Post as a marketing analyst in January. Prior to joining the Marketing Department, he was a research manager for the MKF Group in St. Helenas, Calif. Bradley has also worked for the Cintas Corporation and Robert Sinskey Vineyards. He holds a BA in economics from Cornell University and is currently pursuing an MBA at Johns Hopkins University. He enjoys football, golf and skiing.

IVAN CARTER became a reporter for Sports in January. He is covering University of Maryland football and college basketball. He previously worked for the *Kansas City Star* where he covered the Chiefs football team for four years. He holds a BA in mass communications from St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minn. Carter likes to play pick-up basketball and flag football.

PAUL COX was named to the position of financial planning analyst in the Accounting Department in January. Before coming to the newspaper, he was a financial analyst for Friends Financial and was an economic and management consultant for six years. Cox earned an MBA in finance and accounting from the University of Chicago and a BS in economics and finance from Boston College. His favorite pastimes are hiking and watching the Boston Red Sox.

JACKIE ELLIS is a new advertising sales representative for the automotive category. Before coming to The Post, she was an intern for *The Chris Matthews Show* on NBC. Ellis has also held positions with Long & Foster, the Museum Company and Warshal's Sporting Goods. She is currently pursuing a degree in journalism from the University of the District of Columbia. Ellis' interests include writing and traveling.

DION HAYNES joined Metro in January as an education writer covering D.C. public schools. Previously, he was a reporter for the *Chicago Tribune* where he was a national correspondent based in Los Angeles and an education writer covering Chicago's public schools. He has also been a staff writer for the *Providence (R.I.) Journal*. Haynes has an MS in journalism from the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University and a BA in electronic journalism from Wayne State University. In his spare time, he enjoys writing fiction and reading.

MANUEL HIDALGO is the new sales assistant for the Writers Group. Prior to coming to The Post in January, he was an administrative assistant for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. He also reviewed and edited some of the Administration's publications and responded to congressional and public inquiries on pro-

grams. Hidalgo earned a BA in psychology from the University of Maryland. He likes to play guitar and is an avid movie fan.

CARL JACKSON became a digital ad processor in the Ad Ops Department in December. He had worked at Gannett/*USA Today* for 11 years, where he held several positions, most recently as a digital imaging technician. Jackson holds a BS in printing management from the University of the District of Columbia. His interests include basketball and candle making.

NIKKI KAHN is a new photographer in the Newsroom. Previously, she was a photo editor for the Knight Ridder/Tribune Photo Service. She has also been a photographer for the *Indianapolis Star*. Kahn earned an MS in photography and a BA with a double major in visual media and art history from Syracuse University. She enjoys hiking and horseback riding.

STEPHANIE McCRUMMEN joined Metro in December as a general assignment reporter based in Prince William County. She was previously a projects and general assignment reporter for *Newsday* in Long Island, N.Y. McCrummen holds a master's degree in journalism from Columbia University and received her bachelor's degree from the University of North Carolina.

ELIZABETH NIXON became an outside sales representative for the Advertising Department's real estate unit in January. She had been the business affairs manager for Atlantic Media and was also a marketing manager and account executive for the Strategis Group. Nixon has a BS in marketing management from Virginia Tech. Her interests include reading, running and skiing.

MATTHEW PIERCE was recently hired by the IT Department in the position of business analyst. Before coming to The Post, he was a senior consultant for BearingPoint, Inc. and also worked for PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP for five years. He earned his BA in political science from the University of Wisconsin. Pierce enjoys home improvement projects and cheering on the Green Bay Packers.

MARK ROSS was named director of financial accounting in January. Prior to joining the Accounting Department, he was a consultant for Resources Global Professionals. He has worked in the accounting field for more than 25 years including at KPMG, an audit, tax and advisory firm. Ross has a BBA in accounting from Emory University in Atlanta, Ga. His interests include photography and kayaking.

CARLA TAYLOR recently joined the Marketing Department as an analyst for the Advertising Department's

retail advertising unit. She was previously an associate director for business development for the Advisory Board Company, and was an associate director for brand management at PBS. Taylor earned an MBA from American University, an MA in journalism from Northwestern University and a BA from Yale University. Taylor is also a volunteer for the Humane Society.

ANNE TOURTILLOTT joined Advertising's automotive category in November as a sales representative based in Detroit. She previously held sales positions for *Monster.com* and Valassis. Tourtillott earned a BA in telecommunications from Michigan State University and enjoys theater and music.
(Photo not available.)

and *St. Petersburg Times*, among many others.

Like Squires, Weingarten's column had a loyal following prior to syndication. Information provided by the Writers Group notes that 60 percent of the audience for Weingarten's popular online chat (on *washingtonpost.com* every Tuesday at noon) comes from outside the Washington, D.C. area.

Shearer describes Robinson as "simply a great writer." "His range of interests is so broad, including music, culture, and politics and every one of his columns is different from the next." On March 14, Robinson will join the list of 16 other well-respected opinion columnists syndicated by the Writers Groups including **David Broder, William Raspberry** and George Will.

During his 25-year career at The Post, Robinson has been a Metro reporter, foreign correspondent and assistant managing editor for Style. On Jan. 1, he was named associate editor and became an opinion columnist. Robinson has received numerous journalism awards and is the author of two books. ■

Bloodmobile at Northwest Building

The Northwest Health Center is holding a blood drive on Tuesday, March 8 from 8 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. in the second floor multipurpose room. The American Red Cross is providing additional staff to help shorten the waiting times and is holding prize drawings. Call x4-7192 to make an appointment if you can make a donation.

Prince George's County Representatives Tour College Plant

Prince George's County Council members and executive staff met with editors and reporters at the College Park Plant and toured the production facility on Feb. 17. The meeting at the plant included an overview of The Post's community initiatives by **Eric Grant**, director of public relations and contributions. Editors and reporters that participated in the meeting included **Keith Harriston**,



PHOTO - PHIL KANE

Jim Shirlen, (center) a College Park tour guide and Advertising Department retiree leads Prince George's County Council members and executive staff through a tour of the plant.

deputy Metro editor; **R.B. Brenner**, Maryland editor; **Phyllis Jordan**, deputy Maryland editor; **Monica Norton**, assistant Maryland editor; **Tracey Reeves**, Prince George's Extra editor, and Prince George's county reporters **Hamil Harris**, **Sudarsan Raghavan** and **Nick Anderson**.

News from Human Resources

In an effort to better service employees, as well as handle the multitude of requests from outside The Post, the Human Resources Department has implemented a new auto-

mated phone system. Any calls placed to the main Human Resources number (x4-7174), or the main Benefits Department number (x4-7171) will be directly routed to this new phone system.

The goal of this change is to direct calls to the appropriate party on the first try, so that questions can be answered as expeditiously as possible. The new phone system will cover all areas of Human Resources including Employment, Benefits, Records and Organizational Development & Training.

A feature of this new phone system is the ability to directly connect with any of

The Post's current health and benefits providers. With the push of a button, you can speak directly with Aetna, Kaiser Permanente, Vanguard or any other Post provider. Contact **Chris Branin** at x4-7175 for more information.



PHOTO - DAVID JONES

An Eastern 500 Club member labors over the right wording for her resume. The Post sponsored a resume writing workshop at the District high school on Feb. 4 to help prepare 500 Club members for college interviews and summer job searches. On Feb. 15, The Post hosted a luncheon for Eastern 500 members and their mentors at the Northwest Building. The Honorable Eleanor Holmes Norton, Congresswoman for the District of Columbia, was the guest speaker at the event.

Marketplace

FOR RENT: Baltimore City, Large 3 BR townhouse (end unit), 1 BA, and unfinished basement. Sep. living and dining rooms, and den area. Huge Country kitchen w/a small cement fenced-in backyard. Walking distance to Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, downtown, shopping, and bus line. \$775 + utilities and alarm activation optional. Available for immediate occupancy. No pets. (\$40 non-refundable) application fee. Open house scheduled for Sat. March 5 (11 a.m. - 2 p.m.), call for address. Special reduction on first month's rent, if rented before March 5. Call **Cannie Johnson** at (301) 793-8282.

FOR SALE: Elegant diamond and ruby bridal set, .25 carat in 14K gold setting. Paid \$800, asking \$500. Call **Scarlet** at x4-7318.

FOR RENT: One BR apt. at The Cairo at 1615 Q. St. Sunny, updated kit, rftp deck, no pets, available week of March 7, \$1,400/mo+utl. Call **Jill** at x4-7516, or (301) 565-9115.

DETAIL WORK: Detail work done on cars, vans and SUVs. Excellent cleaning job, your vehicle will be spotless. Call **David** at (301) 505-6633, or x 6-2220.

FOR SALE: 1985 Cadillac Deville Sedan, 4-door, mileage is 137,430, CD/AM&FM radio, Dayton rim spokes, champagne color. Will include parts for a tune-up, motor mounts & air struts. Best offer. Call **Marsha** at (202) 583-6819 or cell (202) 550-5418.

FOR SALE: RCA Lyra MP3 player, 256 MB storage, holds approximately 70 songs. All software, headphones included. Requires 1 AAA battery (included). Great to use on the go! \$80. Call **Dan** at x4-5479 or (240) 426-5930.

FOR SALE: 1996 Jeep Grand Cherokee Limited V8 4WD, gold, black leather, moonroof, CD/Mp3, sound system, Runs great, 160k. \$4,995. Call **Andy** at x4-7005 or (301) 379-7772.

FOR SALE: Vacation time at the Villas of The Boardwalk Resort in Virginia Beach. Ocean Front, indoor pool, gym, kitchen, 1BR, 2 Sofa beds. \$650 for the week of Aug. 5 and \$550 for the week of Sept. 3. Call **Trinh** at x4-4021 or (703) 658-2120.

FREE: To a loving home, my 14-year-old tabby, Cluseau. The new husband's allergies have become untreatable. He is a very, spunky, loving and playful cat, adaptable to most environments and loves to romp in the outdoors when given the chance (not declawed). Please call **Traci** at x4-5383 or (202) 363-7785.

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. Ads run two issues unless otherwise requested. One ad per employee, please.