

# ShopTalk



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Editor, Lisa O'Donnell Connors, x4-6803

## Grace, the Graduate

**G**race Byrd, Administration, can be called many things – Centrex operator, mom, grandmother, and her newest title, college graduate.

Last month Byrd graduated cum laude and a member of the Alpha Sigma Lambda honor society with a BA in business administration from Catholic University. It took

thirteen years and the perseverance to overcome several obstacles to earn her degree.

Her goal was to get her college degree and she took courses at Fordham University and New York University. However, as a single mother raising two daughters, it became too difficult to continue her college education.

Thirteen years ago when her youngest daughter was in college, Byrd decided to come back to the D.C. area to be close to her large extended family. She also joined The Post as a Centrex operator in the Northwest Building, answering and directing phone calls that come in through the main Post number.

It was still in the back of her mind to earn her college degree when she saw an ad in The Post. “I was reading The Post’s education section and there was a big ad in there about Catholic University. The individual in the ad

was an older man and it talked about continuing your education, so I picked up the phone and called Catholic University and went back to school.”

Byrd’s original goal was to get her certificate in records informa-

tion and management. After completing the two-year program, she decided to study another two years to get her degree, a goal that ended up taking seven years total. Byrd was forced to take three leaves of absence from school because of health reasons and family obligations.

“For me the hardest thing was to maintain my focus. At my age, it is difficult because I have a home, I have personal issues, deaths of friends and family...all those things make it a lot harder for an older person,” she said.

“You’re also in a classroom with students who are younger and quicker,” she added with a laugh. “Professors don’t show leniency or teach differently because they have an old woman in the class.”

On Saturday, May 14, her three daughters, three grandchildren and numerous family members and friends attended the graduation ceremony at Catholic University to witness Byrd becoming a college graduate. It was, said Byrd, “a tremendous source of joy.” ■



PHOTO PROVIDED BY BYRD FAMILY

**Grace Byrd, Administration, immediately after receiving her diploma at the Catholic University graduation ceremony.**

her seven years and the perseverance to overcome several obstacles to earn her degree.

Byrd was raised by her oldest sister and graduated from Fairmont Heights High School in Capital Heights, Maryland. After gradua-

# The Post in the Community

Olympic and National Champion skater Michael Weiss was the keynote speaker at the 21st Annual All-Met Teams awards Luncheon on May 25 at the Grand Hyatt in the District. More than 900 people attended the event which honors outstanding local high school athletes and coaches that have been named to The Post's 29 All-Met teams and three outstanding coach cate-



High School Sports editor **Jon DeNunzio** (right) with **Michael Weiss**, at the All-Met Awards.

Mall on Saturday, June 4. As the community sponsor of the 5K race/walk, The Post ran a series of in-paper ads and hosted team captain events. According to a Metro article on June 5, nearly 50,000 people attended the event which raised \$2.8 million for breast cancer research.

at the Carter Barron Amphitheatre in Rock Creek Park from May 26 through June 5. The Post is a founding sponsor of the annual arts program which attracted a total audience of 30,000 for the free performances. The Post's family night was Saturday, June 4. In addition to its sponsorship, the newspaper distributes free tickets at the Northwest Building for the weeknight performances.



**Emilio Garcia-Ruiz**, (left) assistant managing editor for Sports and Weiss congratulate the award winners who were each presented with an All-Met medallion.

gories. The Post's High School Editor **Jon DeNunzio** hosted the event which was coordinated by the Public Relations and Sports departments.

A Post Team that numbered 99 staff, friends and family participated in the Komen National Race for the Cure® that was held on the National

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**A** Midsummer Night's Dream was the featured performance for the 2005 Shakespeare Free For All held

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**A**n estimated 10,500 people attended the 12th Annual Frederick Festival of the Arts, which was presented by The



A smiling **Ann Griffin**, Springfield Plant, sprints for the finish line.

Several members of The Post's National Race For the Cure Team pose for a group photo before walking to the start line at the National Mall.



**Genevieve Lynch**, (center) Production, walking in the National Race for the Cure with her daughters, Jennifer and Sharon.



PHOTO - RICHARD TAYLOR

**Nekeidra Mason**, Public Relations, on stage at Carter Barron preparing to do a raffle of Post items during *The Post's Family Night* on Saturday, June 4.

Post on June 4 and 5. The festival features juried fine arts and crafts, as well as children's activities and live entertainment. Public Relations Manager **Lisa Bolton** presented several awards to artists who participated in the festival in categories including Best of Show, Judges' Choice and Award of Excellence and Best Booth Design.



PHOTO - RICHARD TERMINE

A scene from this year's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

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**L**ast Saturday, June 11, The Post was a contributing sponsor of the South County Festival at the Herrington Harbour North Marina in Southern Anne Arundel, Md. This is the fifth year that The Post has participated in the event which attracts 3,000 - 4,000 people. **Gayle Giger**, Public Relations and **Milene Purdy**, Accounting, represented the newspaper at The Post's booth providing giveaways and answering questions. ■



PHOTO - LISA BOLTON

Public Relations staff **Gayle Giger** and **David Jones** at The Post's booth at the Frederick Festival of the Arts.

# Coming up in KidsPost

**K**idsPost has several special issues planned this summer to keep the "I'm bored"s to a minimum.

This past Tuesday, June 14, KidsPost launched its summer book club for kids ages 8 to 13-years-old. Washington Post kids can participate in the book club by sending an e-mail to [KidsPost@washpost.com](mailto:KidsPost@washpost.com). Your child should write Book Club in the subject line and include their name, age and address in the e-mail. Each child that signs up will receive a cool rubber bracelet with KidsPOST and ReadSTRONG on it.

There will be an expanded two-page issue of KidsPost on Tuesday, June 21. KidsPost readers will be able to turn the issue into a 16-page activity book that can help ease the pain of long summer car trips. The activities include chocolate math, license plate bingo, word search and a special postcard to send to KidsPost from your destination.

This summer's best toys will be featured in the Tuesday, June 28 KidsPost. KidsPost staff **Fern Shen** and **Scott Moore** took several toys to Janney Elementary School in the District last week to get the thumbs up or thumbs down from fifth graders who tested the toys. ■



PHOTO - SCOTT MOORE

KidsPost reporter **Fern Shen** gets input from the Janney Elementary toy testers.

## Weekend's Weekends Summer Concerts Return Tomorrow

Tomorrow night, Friday, June 17 is the debut of the 2005 Weekend's Weekends series of free concerts at the Carter Barron Amphitheatre in Rock Creek Park. The three Weekend's Weekends concerts begin at 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 through the Public Relations Department, located on the



seventh floor of the Northwest Building – ask for **Gayle Giger** or **Aurora Gonzalez**. Tickets will also be available from Weekend Editor Joyce Jones in Weekend's temporary quarters on the 11th floor in the Akridge Building. Tickets for the general public can be picked up on the day of the performance in front of the Northwest Building beginning

at 8:30 a.m. or beginning at noon at the Carter Barron box office at 16 Street & Colorado Avenue, N.W. There are no rain dates. For more information, contact the Public Relations Department at x4-7969, or call the information line at (202) 334-4748.

The three concerts nights are:

### Friday, June 17

**Nu-Soul Night**, featuring  
Oktbrwrl  
Zwei with Sol Elder  
Deborah Bond

### Friday, June 24

**Power-Pop/College Rock Night**, featuring  
Kenin  
Niki Barr  
Rotoglow

### Friday, July 8

**Big Band/Small Band Swing Night**, featuring  
Brooks Tegler Big Band  
J Street Jumpers

## Northwest Building Construction Notice

From **Mary Ann Werner**, Vice President and Counsel:

“As you know, the 8th and 9th floors of the main building downtown are under con-

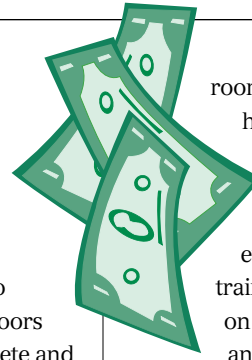
struction. As we near the end of this project, employees are understandably curious to see the new space, but we have to remind everyone not to enter the 8th and 9th floors until the work is complete and the contractor has turned the space over to us for use. This is still a construction zone where hard hats and safety equipment are required. Visitors to the space have been getting in the way of the workers and on a couple of occasions walking on fresh concrete or newly laid tile that has not yet set.

Thanks for your cooperation. We will let you know when the project is completed and it is appropriate to enter the space.”

## Earn \$500 for Job Referral

Would you like to earn \$500 dollars and a chance to help a friend at the same time?

The Post's Production Department is looking for motivated people to work as utility mailers at the Springfield and College Park mail-



rooms. The starting hourly rate is \$11.28 and a differential is paid for evening work. All training is provided on the job. If you are an employee of The Post (managers excluded), and you know someone looking for work, and they pass a screening, interview, and training process, you will receive \$500. (The first \$250 will be received when the new employee has completed training and the second \$250 will be received after the completion of a six-month probationary period of employment.)

If you know a candidate for this job, pick up a Utility Mailer Referral Program packet at the main Security Desks at the Springfield and College Park plants or at the L street entrance at the Northwest Building. Send all applications to: Mailroom Recruitment Office, Springfield Plant. Remember to add your name as the referral! Sorry, no relatives. For more information call **Tony Boney** at x6-2106.

# Marketplace

**ISO BASEBALL GLOVES, BALLS** - Baseball gloves and balls needed for upcoming trip this fall to Russian orphanage. Any size, condition, right or left hand. Thanks for your help. Call Steve Allis at (703) 528-7174.

**FOR SALE:** Lawn mower, Toro 5.5 HP, recycle mulching, self propelled, 3 speed, electronic start, Briggs and Stratton engine. Asking \$200. Call Rod at x6-1120 or (301) 335-0805.

**FOR SALE:** 1999 Honda Accord EX Sedan 4D, 86,000 miles, front wheel drive, original owner, asking \$8,810. Contact Opeah at x4-5830.

**FOR SALE:** 8"x10" framed artwork: \$20-\$40, 4"x6" framed mini-prints: \$10, 4"x6" magnets: \$5. Call Tiffany for details at x4-7025 or go online to [www.tiffanyyanceyart.com](http://www.tiffanyyanceyart.com).

**FOR SALE:** 10 gallon rectangular fish tank with fluorescent hood, \$25, brand new smokeless indoor electric grill (still in box) \$25, computer desk with file drawer, cabinet and shelves, \$75. Please call Niki at x4-4922 or (301) 526-2989.

**ISO SEAMSTRESS:** I am looking for someone to make a slip cover for an oversize stuffed chaise or to reupholster. If interested, please call Maria at x4-4487.

**FOR SALE:** Solid oak kitchen cart with stainless steel top, towel holder, knife rack, 43"W x 19"D x 36"H. Only 1 year old - perfect condition. Cost new \$400; priced to sell at \$175. Also, steel mesh dog guard for Subaru Forester \$50. Call Liz x4-7623 or (703) 931-3761.

**BEACH HOUSE FOR RENT:** Fenwick Island, bayfront and can see ocean from the front porch. Weekly rental. Four BR, 2.5 BA with outside shower. dog friendly. \$800 - \$2,150. View photos at [www.bethanyseacoast.com](http://www.bethanyseacoast.com) - Unit #2060020 (#20 Seatowne) or call Sean at x4-5260

**FOR SALE:** 1996 Volkswagen Golf GTI VR6 two-door hatch back, green, 133K miles, five-speed manual, sunroof, has current Va. inspection sticker, asking \$4,000. Call Andy at (703) 916-2240 (evenings) or home (703) 860-5847.

**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.