

# ShopTalk

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Editor, Mario I. Oña, x4-6803

## Reader's Day Springfield Opens its Doors to Post Readers

**I**t was the Springfield Plant's turn to swing their doors wide open and host the annual Reader's Day. With rainy weather behind, Sunday proved to be an impeccable day to treat nearly 1,100 Post readers and their families to tours of the plant, cookies, ice cream and photo opportunities with Post mascot Ned the Newshound.



Cub Scout Jameson Crouse, 6, a first-grader at Union Mill Elementary in Clifton, Va., is just shy of being as tall as the diameter of a newsprint paper roll—that won't last much longer!

"It's an opportunity for our readers—since we only advertise the event in The Post—to come out to one of our two



Post photojournalist of thirty-six years, **Gerald Martineau**, teaches Cub Scout Matthew Kern, 10, from Springfield, how to operate a high-power camera.

plants and get a tour. They see where the paper is made and meet various reporters and staff members," said **Carrie Morse**, Public Relations, who helped organize the event.

"We couldn't have pulled it off without all of our volunteers," she explained, "Since the event is open to everyone and there are no age restrictions, everyone with younger children came out."

Without a doubt, one of the most important volunteers was recent Post intern, **Emil Robinson**, who donned the Ned the Newshound outfit. Luckily for Robinson, the children were on their best

behavior—for the most part—and fall's cool breeze kept the temperature inside the outfit bearable.

Another highlight of the afternoon was the presence of Post photojournalist, **Gerald Martineau**—a staple at Reader's Day. Martineau strapped a MOAL (mother of all lenses) on his Nikon D200 and set it up on a tripod, where kids got the opportunity to photograph their friends standing a few hundred feet away.

Martineau also took questions and shared interesting stories with

the children, like recently attending a Daschund dog convention in Virginia on assignment (photographs of that event will appear in the Thursday, Oct. 12 Prince William Extra).

Several News writers also stopped by. Travel Editor **K.C. Summers** acknowledged that apart from the importance of trying to "connect with readers and an increasingly distracted readership," she felt the event is also a great place to get "reader feedback" and "great story ideas." She concluded, "It's a good reality check to hear what they think

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Post readers and their families tour the Springfield Plant.

# Black Men's Forum Panel

On Wednesday, Oct. 4, a panel comprised of Post editors and reporters and moderated by Dr. Ronald Walters from the University of Maryland and director of the African American Leadership Institute offered the community an opportunity to ask questions

Black Man" series.

The ongoing, well-received series that was first published this June, explores a myriad of issues that have shaped the identity of black men and chronicles the experiences of black men in the region. Post journalists (see photo) discussed their contributions to the series. The evening, which took place at the ARC in Southeast D.C., kicked off with a short video titled, "What does it mean to be a black man?" Produced by **Ben Delacruz**, WPNI, and **Hamil Harris**, Metro, the video provided a montage of black men and their views on life in the region.

"The series allows readers to see the complexity of the individual lives presented in the stories whether it's Haygood's



PHOTO - DAVID JONES

On hand to discuss *The Post* series, "Being a Black Man" (Left to right): **Dion Haynes** (Metro), Managing Editor **Phil Bennett**, **Wil Haygood** (Style), **Kevin Merida** (Associate Editor), **Darryl Fears** (National), **Keith Alexander** (Social Issues), **Robert Pierre** (Metro), **Ben Delacruz** (WPNI), **Hamil Harris** (Metro) and **Kwame Alexander**, the evening's emcee.

piece on a black man in the Bush administration or **Tamara Jones's** story of an innocent man's journey through the penal system," said Associate Editor **Kevin Merida**.

Over 150 attendees listened to the panel discussion

and participated in a lengthy question and answer session. "Judging by the amount of questions and opinions from the audience, we think it was a very successful event," observed **David Jones**, Public Relations. ■



PHOTO - DAVID JONES

After the panel discussion, *Style* writer **Wil Haygood**, takes a few one-on-one questions from the crowd.

and provide commentary regarding *The Post's* "Being a

# Employee Appreciation Day at the Plants

Gratitude does not get rained out or blacked out. Despite inclement weather, the Springfield and College Park Plants' leadership expressed gratitude to their employees by serving them lunch and raffling off a few goodies during the first "Employee Appreciation Day" at the plants.

At the larger Springfield Plant, they decided to have a daytime and nighttime event with an Oktoberfest theme to accommodate its large work force. At College Park, where **Allan Martin**, mailroom superintendent, came up with the idea of having an employee appreciation day, they had to move the lunch



College Park Plant Manager **Sherry Gryder** and Vice President **Jim Coley**, Production, sporting chef hats and distributing the grub to the employees.

explained, "We wanted to stop, take a breath and just say, 'Thanks,'—something we don't do enough," and then added, "The smiles of our employees was the biggest reward."

Vice President **Jim Coley**, Pro-

duction, who oversees both

plants, commented, "This is a terrific idea that we'd like to do from time to time." ■  
indoors due to rain.  
At Springfield, **Jenny Rymarczuk**, plant manager, told the employees, "You keep the train running! Thank you." While **Sherry Gryder**, College Park's plant manager,



PHOTO - MARTHA YEATER

Springfield Plant leadership shows its appreciation for the night crew by offering a second "Employee Appreciation" meal at midnight.



about the (travel) section and the paper as a whole."

While staff writer **Kim Hart** echoed Summers's sentiments, Hart added, "It was a good opportunity to see the printing plant for the first time and meet people in other departments."

**Jenny Rymarczuk**, Springfield plant manager, and several members of her staff were also available to answer questions, while **Keith Jones**, Information Technology, put the finishing touches on the 1,000 "Pressmen's Hats" made of Post newspaper and folded by Barrios Unidos (United Neighborhoods—an organization aimed at suppressing youth violence).

Finally, what's a good time without ice cream? Teenagers from the Latin American Youth Center served up plenty of Ben & Jerry's for everyone. ■

*Ned the Newshound played by former Post intern **Emil Robinson**, stops to give a young Cub Scout a quick hound hug.*

**Carrie Morse**, Public Relations, walks her group through the concept of offset printing and later shows them a sample press plate.



# More Photos from Reader's Day



*Tameka Crockett, Donesha Graham, Brian Reyes and Shayla Wilson from the Latin American Youth Center serve up the Ben & Jerry's.*



*Circulation's Mike Green, Mike Dewey and Kenya Johnson listen attentively to Post reader Audrey Murawski's questions and comments.*



*Jenny Rymarczuk, Springfield's plant manager, shares a few moments laughing and talking with Post readers, Larry and Jan Fulk.*



*Keith Jones, Information Technology, spent a good portion of his afternoon handing out hats made of Post newspaper to kids and adults.*



*A group listens closely to Public Relation's **David Jones's** (not pictured) explanation of how newsprint paper rolls are inspected and loaded onto the presses.*



*On the last leg of the tour, the groups stop in the mailroom where **Aurora Gonzalez**, Public Relations, explains how circulars and coupons are automatically inserted into the newspaper.*

## Open Enrollment Around the Corner

The Benefits Open Enrollment season for Post employees runs from Oct. 23 to Nov. 3. There are important changes to the health insurance offerings this year. Next week's ShopTalk will focus on these changes, but in the meantime information is available on *Intranet* and *wponet.com*. The Post's Benefits depart-



ment will also set up informational meetings and provide various other resources to help answer employees' questions and concerns. A schedule of meetings will also be available in next week's ShopTalk.

## Healthy Kids Fun Run

The annual Marine Corps Marathon Healthy Kids Fun Run presented by The Washington Post is a one-mile run that will take place on Saturday, Oct. 28 at a new location: the D.C. Armory. It's open to children ages 6 to 13. All participants will receive a T-shirt, participant medal, post-race snacks and will be treated to fun activities. Participants are

encouraged to bring an unwrapped toy for Toys for Tots. Packets with T-shirts and required bib can be picked up at the D.C. Armory on Friday, Oct. 27 between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. or on race day beginning at 6 a.m.

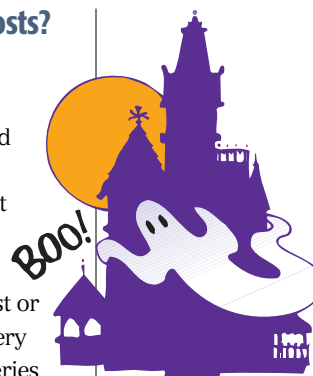
Pre-registration is required for the event and needs to be received by Oct. 18. The registration fee is \$7. Post employees are encouraged to help spread the word and increase participation. For more information visit: [www.marinemarathon.com](http://www.marinemarathon.com) or contact **Carrie Morse**, Public Relations, at 202-334-7972 or [morsecm@washpost.com](mailto:morsecm@washpost.com).

## Schedule Change to The Post Northwest Building Tours

Tours of The Post Northwest Building will now be available on Mondays at 10 a.m., 11 a.m. and noon. Visitors should be at least in the fifth grade and groups cannot have more than 30 people. Tour requests should be sent in writing to **Ruben Rodriguez**, Public Relations. Contact him at: [rodriguezr@washpost.com](mailto:rodriguezr@washpost.com) or 202-334-7218.

## Encounter with Ghosts? Brushes with the Supernatural?

With Halloween around the corner, ShopTalk would like to hear about your scariest true stories. Whether you thought you saw a ghost or witnessed something very unusual or perhaps a series of weird circumstances or coincidences that still rattle you to this day—write us and tell us about it. ShopTalk will pick the best entries and publish them on Oct. 26. Please send all entries to: [shoptalk@washpost.com](mailto:shoptalk@washpost.com) or [anam@washpost.com](mailto:anam@washpost.com).



## Marketplace

**APARTMENT FOR RENT:** One-bedroom apartment for rent in luxurious building in Bethesda. Monthly rent includes all utilities, basic cable, indoor parking, indoor and outdoor pool, fitness center, seven tennis courts, etc. On site: dry cleaner, restaurant with bar, grocery with deli, nail and hair salon, travel agency, etc. Visit Web site for photos of lobby and one-bedroom floor plan: <http://promenadetowers.com>. Available Nov. 1 for \$1,500 per month. Contact Vanena at [ralayv@washpost.com](mailto:ralayv@washpost.com).

**HOUSE FOR RENT:** Spacious three-bedroom, three-bathroom row house available for rent. Conveniently located in Burleith/Upper Georgetown. Large living room with working fireplace; recessed lighting; floor-to-ceiling, built-in bookshelves; hardwood floors. Separate dining room; playroom/sunroom; deck; Japanese garden with water feature; finished basement with carpeted den, fourth bedroom, full bath and two large closets. Upstairs: secluded master bedroom suite with walk-in closet, full bath and adjoining office/sitting room. Two additional bedrooms and full bath also on second floor. One off-street parking space. Walking distance to Wisconsin Avenue shopping, restaurants, bus lines, schools (including Washington International School), playgrounds and Volta Park swimming pool. Available Nov. 1 for \$3,300 per month. 3519 R Street NW. Contact Debbi Wilgoren at x4-4207 or 202-550-7233 or at [wilgorend@washpost.com](mailto:wilgorend@washpost.com).

**TWO ITEMS FOR SALE:** Sony 32-inch CRT TV and 1 GB RAM for Macintosh G5. TV purchased through crutchfield.com in 2001 and still works great. HD-ready, model KV-32XBR450. Weights 175 pounds. Moving out Oct. 15 and movers can load TV in your car, if needed. Only \$300. Memory kit is for the original Macintosh G5 tower (2 x 512MB). Purchased new in March from [www.ramjet.com](http://www.ramjet.com). Selling it because it works on older G5s, but not new Mac Pro. The kit is \$149 new. Asking only \$100. Contact Bill at x4-6112

**FOR SALE:** White trim line AT&T phone \$10 with 13-number memory, lighted key pad and can be wall-mounted. White AT&T answering machine also available for \$10 has remote access capability and announcement monitor. Recently purchased at Best Buy. Contact Pat Priest at 703-916-2240 or 703-323-0794.

**NEW MARKETPLACE DEADLINE:** **Noon THURSDAYS.** Please include your name, extension and phone number. Ads are for Post employees only. Send ads to ShopTalk, seventh floor, or call x4-6803. To send ads via fax dial x4-4963 or to email send to [shoptalk@washpost.com](mailto:shoptalk@washpost.com) or [anam@washpost.com](mailto:anam@washpost.com). Ads run for two issues unless otherwise requested. One ad per employee. ShopTalk reserves the right to publish and edit all ads.