

ShopTalk



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Editor, Mario I. Oña, x4-6803

Post Book Authors

For some Post authors, writing a book is an opportunity to expound on their field of expertise beyond their newspaper columns, stories or even series. For others, it's a departure

example, recently completed her first novel, "Destiny's Deadly Dialogue" (under the pseudonym: Imani M. Royale). Like many first-time book authors, she wrote at night, during her lunch break, and whenever she could sneak in a page or two. She imposed deadlines on herself, which she admitted missing a few times. Regardless of the content or quality of her suspense novel — largely based on her own life — Magruder makes authorship seem reachable. She reminds you that you don't have to work in the newsroom to write a book and that even **Bob Woodward** had to start somewhere.

On April 24, as part of its PostPoints promotion, The Post held a meet and greet with some of its more recognizable authors.



Vice President-at-Large **Ben Bradlee** autographs copies of his memoir, "A Good Life: Newspapering and Other Adventures" (Simon and Schuster) and takes questions from West Point cadets and other visitors.

During the event, which was open to the public, attendees had the opportunity to buy books and get them signed by over 20 Post authors who were promoting their latest works, including: **Marie Arana** ("Cellophane"); **Jabari Asim** ("The N Word"); **Ben Bradlee** ("A Good Life"); **Rajiv Chandrasekaran** ("Imperial Life in the Emerald City"); **Pam Constable** ("Fragments of Grace"); **Karen DeYoung** ("Soldier: The Life of Colin Powell"); **Juliet Eilperin** ("Fight Club Politics"); **Mike Fletcher** and **Kevin Merida** ("Supreme Discomfort"); **Wil Haygood** ("King of the Cats");



Post movie critic and novelist **Stephen Hunter** answers a few questions from C-SPAN during the PostPoints Meet and Greet Post Authors. His latest book, "The 47th Samurai: A Bob Lee Swagger Novel" (Simon and Schuster) is set to release on Sept. 11, 2007.

from their beat and a welcomed opportunity to reinvigorate their writing through creative imagination. And yet for others, it's simply the fulfillment of a lifelong dream.

Springfield plant security officer **Imani Magruder**, for



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Stephen Hunter (“American Gunfight”); **David Ignatius** (“Body of Lies”); **Alec Klein** (“Beast of Love”); **Jay Mathews** (“Supertest”); **Lonnae O’Neal Parker** (“I’m Every Woman...”); **Tom Ricks** (“Fiasco”); **Michelle Singletary** (“Your Money and Your Man”); **Jackie Spinner** (“Tell Them I Didn’t Cry”); **Sally Squires** (“Secrets of the Lean Plate Club”) and of course, Woodward (“State of Denial”). All books are available at bn.com (Barnes and Noble website).

Here is a list of more books written by Post authors. Each author provided a short description:

“**The Italian Letter: How the Bush Administration Used a Fake Letter to Build the Case for War in Iraq**” (Rodale Books) - **Peter Eisner**, News, and Knut Royce. Available now at bn.com.

Eisner:
An investigation into the fraudulent documents produced in Italy that led to President Bush’s “16 words” in his 2003 State of the Union Message, that Saddam Hussein had sought uranium supplies in Africa. The book traces the origins of the false material and shows that the CIA failed to identify obvious mistakes that would have been revealed with a simple Internet search.



Post military correspondent **Tom Ricks** autographs a copy of his book, “Fiasco: The American Military Adventure in Iraq” (Penguin Press), for Dionne Thorne (cousin of Post copy editor Eileen Rivers).

“**Something in the Air: Radio, Rock and the Revolution that Shaped a Generation**”

(Random House) – **Marc Fisher**, News. Available now in bookstores and at marcfisher.com, amazon.com and bn.com.

Publishers Weekly:
In this well-written and researched history of radio and its pivotal role in the emergence of American youth culture, Washington Post columnist Fisher traces the evolution of radio from the 1950s, when the spread and popularity of television made it almost extinct, to its rise to become “the sound track of American life” and “the mere act of listening made you feel like a part of a secret society.” Built around narratives compiled from nearly 100 interviews, Fisher knits together a compelling story detailing how radio helped penetrate race barriers, created a “shared pop culture” and was the “birthing room of the counterculture.”



“**Jezebel’s Tomb**” (WPNI; serialized by washingtonpost.com) – **David Hilzenrath**, News.

Available now at lulu.com and at washingtonpost.com/jezebelstomb.

Hilzenrath:
“Jezebel’s Tomb” is an archaeological thriller steeped in history and biblical mystery. When a bomb destroys a Jerusalem archaeological museum, the authorities blame Palestinian terrorists. Journalist Benjamin Jordan finds disturbing holes in the official explanation and quickly finds himself in the crosshairs. Driven by ambition, scarred by terrorism, torn by the cross-currents of an age-old conflict, Jordan must decide whom to trust and how far he’ll go to solve an ancient mystery.



"Sins of the Fathers"

(self-published) –

John Richmond, Advertising. Available now at lulu.com

Richmond:

The young son of powerful organized crime boss, Frank Mason, is possessed. Mason calls in a favor to a very special branch of the Vatican and a priest is sent. Father John Calvin must confront an ancient malice and in doing so face his own deep-seated evil. The battle between man and demon is only the beginning in this fast-paced supernatural thriller.



"Destiny's Deadly Dialogue"

(Vineyard Publishing) –

Imani M. Royale, Security Springfield plant. Available now for advance purchase at Royalei@yahoo.com.

Royale:

This suspense novel is about a young woman's destiny and a man named Peter's failure to find his. This book should appeal to anyone who has ever longed to learn their purpose for living. Many of us work nine-to-five jobs and wonder, "What is that nagging call in our hearts to accomplish something more meaningful?"



"The Pentagon: A History"

(Random House) –

Steve Vogel, News. Available now for advance purchase (will publish on June 5, 2007) at amazon.com and bn.com.

Vogel:

The Pentagon, the first narrative history of the building, is the authoritative story of the making, and remaking, of one of the world's most famous structures. The book describes the race to construct the Pentagon during World War II, and carries the story forward through key moments in the building's history, including the 9/11 attack and subsequent reconstruction.



Finally, here are some new and upcoming releases (by release dates):

"The Way to Win: Taking the White House in 2008"

(Random House) – Mark Halperin and **John F. Harris**, News. Available now at bn.com.

"Unhooked: How Young Women Pursue Sex, Delay Love, and Lose at Both"

(Riverhead Hard Cover) – **Laura Sessions Stepp**, News. Available now at bn.com.

"Everything Conceivable: How Assisted Reproduction is Changing Men, Women, and the

World" (Knopf Publishing) – **Liza Mundy**, News. Available now at bn.com.

"The Real All Americans: The Team That Changed a Game, a People, a Nation"

(Doubleday Publishing) – **Sally Jenkins**, News. Available now for advance purchase (will publish on May. 15, 2007) at bn.com.

"A Class Apart: Prodigies, Pressure and Passion Inside One of America's Best High Schools" (Simon and Schuster) – **Alec Klein**, News. Available now for advance purchase (will publish on Aug. 21, 2007) at bn.com.

"The 47th Samurai: A Bob Lee Swagger Novel" (Simon and Schuster) – **Stephen Hunter**, News. Available now for advance purchase (will publish on Sept. 11, 2007) at amazon.com.

ShopTalk will run another segment on Post authors in the fall. You submit your book title, publisher, publishing date, cover image (jpeg, bmp, pdf) and a short description from now until then: shoptalk@washpost.com or onom@washpost.com. ■



Book World's **Chris Schoppa** offered a few suggestions for book authors-in-the-making:

- Writer's Center in Bethesda (4508 Walsh St.) offers numerous writing workshops and classes, and would be a good first stop for people looking for guidance. They most likely can point out other resources, as well. Visit: www.writer.org or 301-654-8664.
- Washington Independent Writers (WIW) sponsors an annual spring writers conference and produces workshops and publications to help aspiring authors (for books as well as journalism). Visit: www.washwriter.org.
- A few books on the writing craft: "Bird by Bird: Some Instructions on Writing and Life" by Anne Lamott; "On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft" by Stephen King and "Writing Down the Bones" by Natalie Goldberg. For nonfiction, William Zinsser's "On Writing Well," is also worth a look. Book World editor **Marie Arana** added, "The best way to learn to write a book is to read a ton of them."

PHOTO - DAVID JONES



Paula Deen at The Post

Food editor **Joe Yonan** with cook, writer, TV personality and big-enough-to-be-on-Oprah celebrity Paula Deen during her visit to The Post on April 19, where "the one-woman empire... took off her Blackglama mink coat, grabbed a wooden spoon and proceeded to hold court," as Yonan wrote in his F1 story on April 25. She cooked up her specialty: butter with a dash of grits.

Post Employee Golf Tourne Registration

The annual Washington Post Employee Golf Tournament will take place at Augustine Golf Club in Stafford, Va. on June 11. The cost, which includes breakfast, greens fee, cart, use of practice facilities,

lunch and player's gift, is \$85 per person. The registration form is now available on *Intraned* and will also be available in next week's ShopTalk. Register and pay entrance fee by May 25. For more information, contact **Rich Martin** at x4-7531 (Northwest building), **Bill Rhodes** at x6-1943 (Springfield plant) or **Sherry Gryder** at x6-1115 (College Park plant).

Recognize Your Employees or Colleagues in ShopTalk

ShopTalk can be a tool for any Post manager or supervisor to highlight the achievements of an employee or a colleague. Please submit the name of anyone who has been promoted or achieved something important in their community. Send an email to shoptalk@washpost.com or onam@washpost.com. Include: person's name, department, job title and what they accomplished.

Volunteering Opportunity

Reading is Fundamental, Inc. (RIF) will be holding its annual D.C. initiative book distribution on May 9 - 11, as part of RIF Week. The distribution, designed to help motivate millions of children to discover the joy of reading, will take place at more than 30 schools. Volunteers will take two-hour segments in the morning or early afternoon, where they

will help children pick out books or read books to the children. Once you've determined what day you can participate, contact Rose Dean, director of donor relations for RIF, for more details at: 202-536-3431 or rdean@rif.org.

Correction

In last week's New Faces **Jennifer Agiesta** and **Shibani Shah's** photos were taken by **Julia Ewan**, News.



Fitness Center's First Anniversary

Post employees enjoy a healthy snack to celebrate the Northwest fitness center's first anniversary on April 30. Full and part-time employees and contractors can join for a salary-based monthly premium ranging from \$5 to \$15. Free introductory classes (Jazzercise, Yoga and Pilates, Body Conditioning and Tai Chi) are available through May 9. For more information or to register, contact: x4-7192.



PHOTO - TRACY ZORPETTE

Little Poets

The 12 winners of the KidsPost poetry contest read their work to over 100 poetry fans at the Politics and Prose bookstore in the District. Their work was chosen from almost 1,400 submissions, according to KidsPost editor **Tracy Grant**. Front row (left to right): Jake Cui, 8, Great Falls (Va.); Rachel Page, 9, D.C.; Courtney Crockett, 6, D.C.; Isaiah Silvers, 10, Takoma Park (Md.); Peter Berger, 10, Takoma Park (Md.). Back row (left to right): Teiona Sanders, 9, Mount Rainier (Md.); Katie Beam, 12, Reston (Va.); Chloe Lassman, 10, D.C.; Abigail Kilcullen, 12, Kensington (Md.); Nicholas Pashoian, 12, Ashburn (Va.); Lana Womack, 11, Free Union (Va.); Not pictured: Lizzy Knippler, 12, Fairfax.

Marketplace

FOR SALE: 2004 Mazda Miata convertible. With the weather warming up, you'll love driving this beautiful black convertible with tan leather interior and tan ragtop. It's like new with only 30,000 mi. Just has its Maryland emissions inspection. \$14,500. Contact Tracy at x4-7454.

FOR SALE: Moving sale: Sofa, single seat and coffee table only \$400. Two single seats with ottoman only \$150. Prices are negotiable. Contact Benny at tennisbear369@verizon.net or 301-262-6098.

FOR SALE: 70-gallon fish tank with canopy, closed-in stand, filter, pump and lighting. All you will need is the water, food, rocks and fish. Will help the buyer move and set up tank. Available now! \$500.00 Contact Daryl at x6-1963.

FOR HIRE: Special occasion makeover specialist. For weddings, graduation, bar mitzvah/bat mitzvah, black tie event or any occasion you want to have a special look. Call me to see how I can use my 14 years of make-up application experience to make your day even more special. Contact Christine at 571-243-1089.

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