

ShopTalk



May 9, 2008, Vol. 34 No. 14

Editor, Mario Iván Oña, x4-6803

Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher Award Celebrates Silver Anniversary *Twenty Area Teachers Honored*

When Patricia Casto isn't teaching algebra at Calvert High School in Huntingtown, Md., she's working as a business consultant and raising her five kids. Queen Anne

Jeff Florio, a Manassas Park High School math teacher and wrestling coach, can "turn a math problem to a day at the amusement park," wrote a former student, who now teaches and coaches wrestling himself.



Mrs. Meyer's husband, Eugene Meyer, 500 teachers have received the distinction and a total of \$1,350,000 has been awarded to them. This year each teacher received \$3,000 and an emblematic crystal apple.

After Post Co. Chairman **Don Graham** welcomed teachers, along with their families, principals, colleagues and even students, Publisher



From left, Publisher **Katharine Weymouth**; Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher Award recipient **Michelle Ohanian**, Fairfax County Public Schools; Post Co. Chairman **Don Graham** and Chairman **Bo Jones**.

School's Xu Duan "brings poetry to chemistry," wrote one parent about the Prince George's County private school teacher from Beijing.

District inspired a student to "love the saxophone with all [his] heart."

These are just five of the 20 area teachers that were hon-

While second graders at Thomas Jefferson Elementary School in Falls Church, Va. try to position themselves to land in Jed Frei's third-grade class on account that—as one student puts it—"he rocks, "music teacher Yusef Chisholm from Hardy Middle School in the

Agnes Meyer with her daughter, **Katharine Graham**. The Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher Awards are named after Mrs. Meyer, who dedicated much of her time to improving the public education system and arguing for desegregation.

ored on May 1 during the silver anniversary of the Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher Awards. The awards recognize exceptional teachers—19 from public schools and one from a private school—in all grade levels and varied subjects. In the 25 years since educator and former Post Vice President **Vincent E. Reed** came up with the awards to commemorate the 50th anniversary of The Post's purchase from bankruptcy by



Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher Award recipient **Yusef Chisholm**, a music teacher from the District of Columbia Public Schools, holding his baby son, is congratulated by Chairman **Bo Jones** during the reception following the awards ceremony.

Washington Post Employee Golf Tournament*

WHERE: Augustine Golf Club**
 Monument Drive, Stafford, Virginia
 (540) 720-7374
From I-95 South, take Exit 140 Stafford, 630 West – Courthouse Road. Go 3.5 miles and turn left at light onto Monument Drive. Augustine Golf Club on left.
 **Softspike, facility, Proper golf attire required

WHEN: Monday, Jun. 9, 2008
TIME: 7:30 a.m. Registration
 8:30 a.m. Shotgun start

COST: \$85 per person. Includes: Breakfast, greens fee, cart, practice facilities, lunch and player's gift.

FORMAT: Four Person Captain's Choice - Each player tees off and the captain chooses the best shot. From that position, each player then hits the second shot and continues until the hole is finished.

- PRIZES:**
- First Place Team
 - Second Place Team
 - Third Place Team
 - Men's Longest Drive and Closest to the Pin
 - Ladies' Longest Drive and Closest to the Pin
 - Door Prizes

Please sign-up as a foursome and return this form and your entrance fee to the contacts listed below by **May 23**. Checks should be made payable to The Washington Post. If you don't have a foursome, sign-up and you will be matched with other players.

NAME	DEPARTMENT	PHONE NO.
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Please fill out this form and return via interoffice mail or call:

Rich Martin, IT- ext. 4-7531

Bill Rhodes, Springfield: ext. x6-1943

Sherry Gryder, College Park: ext. x6-1115

**The tournament is open to employees, employee family members, retirees and TWP vendor employees.*

Springfield Plant Goes Hollywood

Actually, it's the other way around. Hollywood went Springfield, when the production crew of the upcoming film "State of Play," starring Russell Crowe and Ben Affleck, stopped by The Post's Virginia plant for

what they wanted to see."

Springfield Plate-making and Engraving Superintendent **Martin Quinn** won't become a Hollywood star anytime soon, but his hands might. They were taped while the crew captured some footage of the plate-making process. Mandish joked that Quinn might become a shoe-in (or a glove-in?) for Palmolive commercials.

Several folks including **Milagros Villagomez** from the mailroom,

Dennis Daniel from the pressroom and Circulation's **James Talbert** and **Ruppert Jones** were also instrumental in helping the taping run smoothly, while production and circulation continued.

While there are no guarantees that the Springfield



PHOTO - KEVIN CONNER

College Park Assistant Plant Manager **John Mandish** (in black, without ball cap) oversees the filming of the forthcoming movie "State of Play" starring Russell Crowe and Ben Affleck.

a two-day taping on March 26 and 27.

College Park Assistant Plant Manager **John Mandish** coordinated the effort and ensured that safety came first and that the plant's operations continued without a hitch during the taping of the movie that's had D.C. a-buzzin' for several weeks. (Yes, this is the one that taped some scenes of Crowe chilling at Ben's Chili Bowl, among other D.C. landmarks.)

"It was much more involved than I had anticipated," said Mandish. "It took a lot of coordination to get the movie's production team what they wanted, while we continued to carry on our business as usual. They were taping while we ran the presses because that's



PHOTO - JOHN MANDISH

Quality Assurance Manager **Kevin Conner** (in blue) with second unit director and crew. Conner took various photos to capture the moment.

Plant will make the final cut, Mandish is hopeful that the plant will be shown towards the end of the movie. "Perhaps while they're rolling the credits," Mandish said. ■

Katharine Weymouth congratulated the teachers and honored her great-grandmother and award namesake, Agnes Meyer—a writer, lecturer, lobbyist, philanthropist and product of public education herself, who dedicated much of her life to improving the public education system and arguing for desegregation.

Weymouth said that President Lyndon B. Johnson credited Meyer with persuading him on the need to help federally fund public education. Weymouth also quoted Meyer, who once wrote: “Education is a war—a war against poverty, ignorance and despair. It is the only constructive war any nation can wage.”

Graham then introduced each teacher by quoting from letters and testimonials sent



Loudoun County Public Schools in the house! Front, from left: Susan Kretzler, science teacher; Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher Award recipient Patricia Herr; Vice Principal Bridget Beichler and PTA President Donna Torracco. Back, from left: Vice President Brion Bell; Gina Chaszar, spectrum teacher; Principal Eric Stewart and school board member Tom Marshall. Herr is a physical science teacher at Smart's Mill Middle School.

by the teachers' students, parents of students, principals and colleagues.

Michelle Ohanian, the first English for speakers of other languages or ESOL teacher from Fairfax County Public Schools to receive the award, was selected to give a few remarks on behalf of the winning teachers.

“Teaching is not for awards or trophies,” Ohanian

said. “We teach for the reward of our students—to feel we have fed their soul and selfishly they feed my soul... What we are doing is a mandate—It’s a calling to serve humanity.”

The event organized by the Public Relations Department and

catered by Brock concluded with a reception following the ceremony, where Graham encouraged the teachers to not only celebrate with their families and supporters, but also use it to network with teachers from different regions.

Smart’s Mill Middle School physical science teacher Patricia Herr, who once had her students build a model roller

coaster to teach them physics, said, “A highly publicized award like the Agnes Meyer sheds a brighter, kinder light on educators and lets the community know that there are good teachers, who do good things, and who put students first.” She concluded, “Earning this distinction has not only been a pinnacle of my career, but a highlight of my life.”

The other winners were: Barbara A. Dennee (Fauquier County, Va.); Kelly Horan (Howard County, Md.); Nancy T. Kelley (Frederick County, Md.); Ann Kulakowski (Manassas, Va.); Beth Lepp (Stafford County, Va.); Ward John Merritt (Arlington, Va.); Ben Peterson (St. Mary’s County, Md.); Julia Rice (Anne Arundel County, Md.); Natalie Stephenson (Prince George’s County, Md.) and Vera Young (Charles County, Md.). ■

2008 Grants Reception

On Apr. 22, The Post hosted a reception for the 2008 Grants in the Arts (GIA) and Grants in Education (GIE) recipients. Publisher

Katharine Weymouth and Chairman **Bo Jones** stopped

by the event organized by the Public Relations Department and congratulated the winning local area teachers.

Both grants are designed to provide a source of funding for creative and innovative ideas that enrich the standard teaching curriculum.

Full-time teachers from the area are eligible to apply for grants up to \$500. On an average, The Post provides \$40,000 in grant money per year. In GIE’s 25 years, over a million dollars has been allo-

cated while close to half a million has been given out in GIA’s 11 years.

Six past grant recipients



*Assistant Grants Coordinator **Darrick Hansen** with D.C. Public Schools’ Patricia Vest, director of Math Programs, and Sally Schwartz (right), director of Global Initiatives, during the Grants Reception.*

shared what they were able to accomplish with the money. For example, Sara Josey, a music teacher at Montgomery Blair High School in Silver Spring, Md., used the money to get her students to score film or video footage using

the Apple program, GarageBand. During the ceremony, she showed two video clips before and after music and sound had been applied to them.

Like many of the educational programs at The Post, GIA/GIE was started by former D.C. Public Schools superintendent and former Post Vice Presi-

dent **Vincent E. Reed**. Grants Coordinator **Tito Tolentino** and Assistant Grants Coordinator **Darrick Hansen** oversee the program and can be contacted at x4-6835 and x4-6834 for more information. ■



*Volunteer **Ceyda Schofield**, Circulation, and **Sydney Glass**, Public Relations, greet guests during the the Grants in the Arts and Grants in Education reception.*

College Park Team Building



College Park Plant Manager **Sherry Gryder** (center, red) with her senior management team at the new Nationals Park for an offsite "evening of fun and team building." The Nats came from behind to win the game in the 12th inning. Front, from left: Assistant Plant Manager **John Mandish**, Gryder, Plant HR/Employee Relations Manager **Carol Miller** and Administrative Assistant **Patti Aluise**. Back, from left: Maintenance Manager **William Walkup**, Pressroom Assistant Superintendent **Beverly McLaughlin**, Production Management Intern/Night Production Manager **Jim Conley** and Pressroom Superintendent **James Perry**.

Do the Post Hunt

The Post Hunt is a huge mutant brainteaser—a kind of urban safari, where participants will be hunting for the answers to silly puzzles woven into the streetscape of Washington's eclectic neighborhood of Chinatown/Penn Quarter. Post columnist **Gene Weingarten**, Post Magazine Editor **Tom Shroder** and syndicated columnist Dave Barry,



came up with and refined the famous Miami Herald Tropic Hunt (now the Herald Hunt), where contestants solve puzzles that lead to more puzzles for the chance to score some sweet prizes. Now, they're bringing their shenanigans to D.C. on Sunday, May 18 from noon to 5 p.m. at the City Center Lot A

(Old Convention Center site) near Chinatown/Penn Quarter. Any Post employee interested in volunteering at this event and attending the volunteer after party can contact **Carla Taylor** at taylorcy@washpost.com or at x4-6494. This is also a Post-Points-earning event. Go to: washingtonpost.com/posthunt for details.

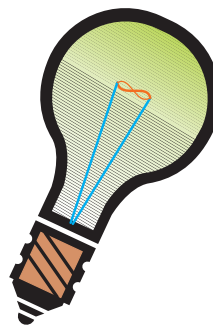
The Post Green Campaign

In the next few weeks, Public Relations, in conjunction with other departments will be putting together a going green informational campaign to let the community and employees know what The Post is doing to stay green and become more green. New initiatives will be announced. Anyone with any ideas, suggestions or interest in participating or volunteering in any green initiatives, can contact shoptalk@washpost.com.

Post Green Facts:

- The Post has reduced energy consumption at the Northwest Building during the first three months of 2008 by 132,309 kilowatt hours
- The Post only uses fluorescent bulbs for replacements, no incandescent ones

- The Post has installed automated light switches that turn off lights automatically in unused areas and will be expanding the use of these switches in 2008
- The Post has eliminated old exterior and interior lighting fixtures and replaced them with new more energy-efficient fixtures
- The Post has turned off all vending machine lighting to reduce electricity consumption
- The Post and its employees have an ongoing electricity reduction campaign. Among other things, they are asked to treat their workspace as they would their home by:
 - Turning off lights when leaving their office for extended periods
 - Turning off lights in unused conference, copy and storage rooms



- Turning off cube lights and lamps when not in use or at end of the day
- Turning off unused fans, heaters, radios, and any other electrical devices
- Turning off monitors and printers when not in use (IT asks that your computer remain on for overnight updates)
- Use recycling bins in building for plastic bottles, aluminum cans and white paper
- Turn off sink faucets and

report defective or leaking faucets to x4-7148.

If you or a colleague are doing something not listed here or have any suggestions, let us know. Write to shoptalk@washpost.com.

Join the Race for the Cure Post Team

The 2008 Komen National Race for the Cure is on Saturday, June 7. Once again, The Post will have a team.



Employees and their friends and family can join The Post team. All Post team participants receive a team shirt and are invited to a pre-race breakfast at The Post on race day. **Alexandra McNair**, Advertising, is the new team captain and can be contacted at x4-7045 or mcnaira@washpost.com for more information about joining team.

Marketplace

FOR RENT: Ocean City, 3-BR, 2-BA condo on 139 Street on the bayside. Full use of pool and tennis court. Sleeps eight. Only \$1,100 per week. Contact Joe at 410-451-0756 or x6-1932.

NEW MARKETPLACE DEADLINE: Close of business on Fridays. 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 or onam@washpost.com. Ads run for two issues unless otherwise requested. ShopTalk reserves the right to publish and edit all ads.