

FDIC News

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Employee Newsletter

AUGUST 2020

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FDIC Photographer Gives the Gift of Life Through Blood Donations

By CARLY BREWSTER
Senior Writer/Editor, Office of
Communications, Washington, DC

FDIC employees who watched the CBS Evening News on July 16 may have recognized a colleague in a story about blood donations.

CBS Correspondent Norah O'Donnell interviewed Tim Davin, a contractor who works in the FDIC's Graphic Design and Printing Unit as a photographer and videographer, as he made a blood donation at Dr. Charles Drew Blood Donation Center, run by the American Red Cross, near the FDIC Main Building in Washington, DC.

The focus of the segment, which can be viewed on YouTube, is the urgent need for blood donations across the country. Blood drives are the primary source of donations, but as O'Donnell reports, "37,000 blood drives have been canceled" since the start of the pandemic, and the American Red Cross says it needs 13,000 people to donate every day to maintain a sufficient supply.

A shortage can lead to rationing the

blood supply, which means non-elective surgeries are postponed or canceled in order to conserve blood and blood platelets for the most urgent cases: trauma victims, life-saving surgeries, and chemotherapy patients, for example. To incentivize donors, blood is now tested for COVID-19 antibodies at the time of donation.

Davin says his urge to donate stems from his own father's battle with cancer. He explains that blood platelets have a very short shelf life and, as such, are in high demand for advanced-stage illnesses.

"My father had a rare blood cancer and, when he was sick, he needed platelet transfusions multiple times," said Davin. "I want to make sure other people have access to platelets so that they can also get more time with their loved ones."

Davin has made 56 donations with the Red Cross, and about 12 of those were platelet donations. Once you have donated, the Red Cross will tell you which hospitals have received your donation. "A lot of the time, my donations go to the hospi-

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The *FDIC News* is published monthly by the Office of Communications of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, 550 17th Street N.W., Room 7102 Washington, DC 20429

Jelena McWilliams, Chairman, FDIC
David Barr, Deputy Director, Office of Communication
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Heather Woods and Aileen Wu, Graphic Design and Printing Unit,
FDIC Division of Administration

FDIC News Editorial Board:

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GIFT OF LIFE THROUGH BLOOD DONATIONS

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tal where my father was,” says Davin.

The Red Cross is generally very safety oriented, Davin says, with fairly established protocols. “Really, the only difference between pre-COVID and pandemic donations is the masks and extra hand sanitizing. They have additional distancing in place so I did not feel like I was risking infection by donating.”

“Illness, accidents, cancer, and chronic disease haven’t gone away during this extraordinary public health crisis,” says Davin. “If you feel helpless with the pandemic and want to do something to help, donate blood.”

In fact, if you are healthy, Davin encourages everyone to try to donate at least a few times a year. “Donating is a safe way to help others who need it, and if someday you are in a position to need blood products, you will have the generosity of others to thank in your moment of need.”

If you are interested in making a blood donation, visit the American Red Cross website to find a blood drive or donation center near you. 🏠



CBS News Correspondent Norah O'Donnell interviews FDIC Contractor Tim Davin as he makes a blood donation in Washington, DC.

MOVING ON

Name: Frank Reichert

Most recent position: Compliance Examiner

Division: Division of Depositor and Consumer Protection (DCP)

Location: San Francisco Field Office (SFFO)

When and where joined the FDIC: February 24, 1991 as a Senior Audit Specialist, Resolution Trust Corporation (RTC), Office of Inspector General (OIG) in Kansas City, Missouri.

Career highlights: I started my career in June 1977 as an Auditor making \$9,505 at the Federal Energy Administration in Wichita, KS. I worked on audits that recovered multi-millions in energy company overcharges to consumers.

When the agency was abolished I moved to the Veterans Administration (VA) as an Auditor from October 1981 to February 1984 conducting audits to make the VA more efficient and help veterans

obtain better services.

In February 1984, I transferred as an auditor to the Department of Interior, Minerals Management Service (MMS), in Lakewood, Colorado. At MMS, my career was highlighted when I worked with the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, Ignacio, CO, and helped them recover millions from Energy Companies who underpaid them for crude oil taken from their reservation. During the time I was there, they went from one of the poorest Indian Tribes to one of the richest.

In April 1987, I returned to Kansas City to serve as an Auditor with the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), OIG, and conducted audits of HUD programs. From April 1987 to February 1991, I identified a “slumlord” at a HUD subsidized apartment complex who stole tenant rents and permitted the complex to deteriorate to slum status. He went to jail and the OIG recovered mil-



lions in stolen tenant rents.

I finally made it to FDIC in 1991 with the OIG in Kansas City, MO. During my last 29 plus years with FDIC, I have

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worked with the OIG (February 1991 to April 1997), Division of Risk Management Supervision as a Risk Examiner in Springfield, Mo, and Kansas City, Mo (April 1997 to August 2007), and DCP in SFFO as a Senior Compliance Examiner and Compliance Examiner (August 2007 to retirement July 31, 2020). I also was commissioned as both a Risk Examiner and Compliance Examiner during my years with FDIC.

I helped recover millions in government fraud, waste and abuse, kept banks safe and sound, and recovered millions of dollars for consumers. For example, we identified bank fraud by a bank President who stole over \$1 million from the bank. I testified for three hours at his trial. He was convicted and sentenced to ten years in prison and required the repay over \$1 million to the bank.

Retirement Date: July 31, 2020

Plans for retirement: I plan to spend a lot of time with my 8 grandchildren,

ages 2 months to 9 years old. I'll continue watching my favorite sports teams including the Kansas City Royals, Kansas Jayhawks, Dallas Cowboys, and Los Angeles Lakers. I also want to become a professional stock trader sometime in the future.

Comments and thoughts: I have thoroughly enjoyed my 44-year career, but particularly my years with FDIC. I will always cherish all my colleagues I worked with during my career and hope to see some of you during my retirement years. 🏠

Name: Colleen J. Boles

Most recent position: Assistant General Counsel, General Litigation Section

Division: Legal Division

Location: Virginia Square

When and where joined the FDIC: Headquarters, October 1989

Career highlights: Working through two banking crises (the late 1980's and the most recent crisis; I missed the Depression!). In the first, I had the opportunity to brief, argue and supervise many important appellate cases and in the most recent crisis supervised a top-notch staff as we dealt with many different challenges.

Retirement Date: August 1, 2020

Plans for retirement: Have fun and be productive. After signing up for medicare, I plan to complete a modest home

renovation, continue biking, hiking, learning Spanish, renew my interest in piano and tennis, do some pro bono work, and travel once it's safe to do so. I'll continue as a volunteer financial educator in Arlington County and work on a couple social causes that are important to me. And, rollerblading (maybe, we'll see!).

Comments and thoughts: I've been incredibly fortunate to be able to call the FDIC home for the last 31 years and to work with such a talented and experienced group of lawyers, paralegals, executives and administrative professionals. They have contributed to my professional and personal growth and inspired me to do my best every day. I will miss everyone! I am staying put in Arlington, and hope to visit in the future. In the



meantime, I am only an email, text message or video call away. 🏠

Name: Gary S. Fissel

Most recent position: Senior Financial Economist

Division: DIR, Financial Modeling & Research Section

Location: Washington, DC

When and where joined the FDIC: July 1988 at Washington, DC

Career highlights: : I list three areas as highlights of my FDIC career, where most of my corporate and research work involved risk measurement of financial institutions. One highlight is my work with a group that created the original risk-based deposit insurance pricing system. A second highlight is my work on a proposal requested by the

Bretton Woods Committee from former Chairman of the FDIC, L. William Seidman, "An International Insurance Facility Proposal for LDC Debt". This proposal was designed to alleviate the debt problem in developing nations that many larger banks faced. Third, I created and analyzed quarterly bank failure projections for the FDIC's Financial Risk Committee, which required evaluating the risk that specific depository institutions pose to the FDIC.

Retirement Date: August 29, 2020

Plans for retirement: Stay active by participating in new learning opportunities and, hopefully, engage in some charity work.



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Comments and thoughts: My career at the FDIC is very important to me in

terms of the quality of my Corporate and Research work. One of the interesting things is that there were frequent

opportunities to explore new banking aspects of economics and finance in my work. 🏠

IN MEMORIAM

Sharon Stephens

Senior Financial Analyst

Division of Insurance & Research

Sharon Stephens, from Greenbelt, Maryland passed away on May 5. She was 67 years old.

Sharon retired from the FDIC in February 2020 with over 46 years of public service. She began her career with the United States Post Office in 1973 and later worked for the US Treasury, the Office of Management and Budget, the Bureau of the Public Debt, the Department of the Navy, the Department of Defense and the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, before joining the FDIC in 1990.

She recently shared with the FDIC News that her work put her at the forefront of changes with banks by providing critical data used to compile the FDIC Quarterly Banking Profile. Her work at the FDIC took her across divisions and many cities, working in Division of Finance (DOF) for ten years, to her position as an Assistant Examiner in Seattle, Washington. In that role she examined banks in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Ketchikan, Alaska, and O'ahu, Hawaii.

Sharon became a commissioned bank examiner in 2004, and, in 2006, she returned to headquarters where she began working in the Division of Insurance and Research's Data Collection and Analysis Section. She told the FDIC News how proud she was of her work in this area and how rewarding it was to provide the critical data regarding her assigned banks' performance and condition that was used in the FDIC Quarterly Banking Profile.

Sharon's colleagues and friends recalled the value she brought to her work. Sharon often served as a mentor to new staff and detailees, and she was always willing to take on extra responsibilities. She served multiple detail assignments to assist with bank examinations in Puerto Rico, and

she assisted on several bank closings. She also served as Chairman of the Chairman's Diversity Advisory Council and member of DIR's Workplace Excellence Council for multiple years. Sharon also served on the planning committee for the FDIC's Accounting and Auditing Conference for multiple years.

Ed Christovich, Section Chief, DIR, said "Sharon was such a thoughtful and caring person. At her recent retirement reception, I had the honor of sharing highlights of Sharon's more than 46 years of public service, and I am grateful that I was able to spend much of the last 15 years with her as a friend and colleague. Sharon was always willing to lend a helping hand, and she made valuable contributions as a mentor to others. I will miss her dearly."

Alan Deaton, Associate Director, DIR, described Sharon as a valued colleague and a good friend to many. "I will miss her smile and cheerful voice and will fondly remember the many conversations we had together over the years about topics both great and small," he said.

Mike McPherson, Lead Analyst, echoed what so many others said about Sharon. "She was a kind and considerate person who had a great sense of humor. She approached everything with a positive, can-do attitude. Sharon was a great friend and will be sorely missed."

Yolanda Thomas, Senior Financial Analyst, came into the FDIC family in September 2018, joining Sharon as a colleague and across-the-hall neighbor. Thomas shared her first impression of Sharon stating, "Her smile, her candor, and willingness to help came through each day. Her knowledge of the banking industry also resounded through every call, making her confidence of the information she knew evident to those around her. This was only her professional side!"



She continued, "Personally, she extended warm hospitality to me, ensuring I not only felt welcomed, but also knew I was included as a valued member of the section. When I received the news of the passing of my brother in January 2020, she immediately heard what I thought were quiet tears and embraced me with her strength and prayers. I was grateful for not having to speak a word, yet she reached out and spoke to my need for comfort. I will definitely miss her spirit, and have been honored to have come into her presence."

John Lease, Accountant, described Sharon as a wonderful friend, and a lifetime learner. "She came to FDIC Division of Finance when we were at Washington Harbor, and became an immediate friend. Sharon's mind was wonderfully quick, as she showed by later moving across division lines multiple times by accepting new challenges. Her son Carlton and daughter Wilhelmina were also big focal points of her life, as were her sisters and extended family."

Lease continued, "Sharon was always a positive person, who liked to look at how

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do we get things accomplished, and not waste time in complaining. I am just too sad that my friend is gone so soon.”

Mary Kelly, Senior Financial Analyst who worked with Sharon in the same DIR section from 2009-2013 and then again beginning in 2018 stated that Sharon was “my friend and co-worker - Sharon Stephens was one-of-a-kind! There was nev-

er a dull moment when she was around. I admired her love of life and her strong faith. She was a caring Mother and was thrilled when she became a Grandmother. I will miss her. Rest in peace, lovely lady.”

Angela Sneed, Financial Analyst, described Sharon as the sweetest person with a heart of gold. “She would help and support anyone whether it was work or personal. She will be truly missed!”

Adaiz Santiago-Pabón, Senior Finan-

cial Analyst said “Sharon was a fun, energetic, positive and loving person. She always tried to help and had something positive to contribute. She will be missed and remembered. May her soul rest in peace and her family/friends get the support/comfort needed during this time of sorrow.”

Sharon is survived by her daughter Wilhelmina, son Carlton, grandson Xavier, three sisters and extended family. 🕊

George Hanc

Deputy Director of Research

Resolution Trust Corporation and Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

George Hanc, born August 13, 1929 in Prague, in the former Czechoslovakia, died July 28, 2020 in Rockville, Maryland. A longtime resident of Bethesda, Maryland, George also resided in New York City; Cresskill, New Jersey; and Washington, DC, during his lifetime.

George attended Columbia University, where he earned a PhD in economics. He worked for various banking trade associations, the Resolution Trust Corporation (RTC), and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. He ended his career consulting internationally on banking systems risk management for the Treasury Department.

George is remembered by his colleagues for his brilliance and expertise in all things banking and his interpersonal skills.

According to Fred Carns, Principal Advisor, Research and International Affairs, DIR: “George was one of a kind. He was a skilled researcher and Renaissance man who provided analysis of unique value to the FDIC. He imparted a big-picture context to all issues that reflected the truth of his own life experience, as well as the findings of his own hard work, to understand the relevant history of financial systems internationally.”

“Perhaps the signature contribution of George’s career as an economist would be ‘The History of the Eighties - Lessons for the Future’, the FDIC’s

account of the banking and S&L crisis of the 1980s and early 1990s. This was a large group effort with many important contributors, but it was conducted under the intellectual leadership of George Hanc, and every page of it bears his imprint,” says Carns. “It was a landmark study that stands as the definitive work of value on the crisis of that era.”

Carns continues, “George was a kind man with a heart for public service. A colleague who will be missed. The FDIC and the larger bank regulatory community owe a debt of gratitude to George Hanc for a job well done.”

Arthur Murton, Deputy to the Chairman, remembers that George helped establish and lead the research group at the RTC. “The RTC faced many unique and difficult policy and analytical challenges. The high-quality work of the research group helped the RTC meet those challenges successfully. When the work of the RTC was complete and it was time to merge the staffs of the FDIC and RTC, there were some organizational and cultural challenges to overcome. George’s professional and collegial approach made him a positive guiding force throughout the transition.”

Martha Solt, FDIC retiree, says she joined the RTC three weeks after George had started as Deputy Director of Research, and she worked with him directly or indirectly for about the next dozen years.

“There was little that George did not know about thrifts and banks, and he knew how to communicate complicated



information to Congress and the public,” says Solt. “But what’s most memorable about George are his personality and demeanor. He was always calm, supportive, and diplomatic. At the same time, he was open with colleagues about the issues we were facing and how to approach them. He always ‘had our backs.’ George was a truly fine gentleman, liked and respected by everyone at the RTC and FDIC.”

Solt also remembers that, at his retirement party, “Unlike some, [George] did not give a lengthy speech. His entire speech was: ‘I know that you are all here to eat cake...so eat.’ He then went around the room thanking people individually. That was George.”

George Hanc is survived by his wife Rosina (née Principato); his daughter, Marie Aspell; his sons, Thomas (Maria Teresita) and Joseph (Elisa); and his grandchildren Katherine, Rebecca, and Alexander Aspell. 🕊