

POST GUILD

# Bulletin...



The Washington-Baltimore Newspaper Guild, Local 32035, TNG-CWA

October 6, 2008

## GUILD, POST REACH TENTATIVE AGREEMENT TO EXTEND CONTRACT UNTIL MAY 7 GUILD MEMBERS TO VOTE ON EXTENSION



After a month of off-the-record talks with Post management authorized by the Guild Bargaining Committee, the Post and the Guild have reached a tentative agreement to extend the Guild-Post Contract for six months. The current contract is set to expire on November 7. The Guild Bargaining Committee proposed the extension and believes it's the right thing to do for the following reasons:

- It's in every Guild-covered employee's interest that the Post improves its business in this difficult time for newspapers. The big project of print and internet operations integration is crucially important to the future of The Post, and the Guild wants to see it done right and done smoothly. If the integration is done in the wrong way, it will hurt the business, which is bad for all of us. Also, if integration is done in the wrong way, it will hurt the Guild, and that will limit our ability to protect the interests of all Guild-covered employees.
- It times our contract negotiations to a period more likely to be aligned with the rollout of significant changes. Also, the extension agreement gives us a process for advance notification of significant changes, meetings with management to discuss and act upon changes as they occur, and pre-bargaining meetings to attempt to resolve major issues, such as integration and Guild coverage for web workers.
- The extension preserves our current contract job security provisions. This fact, along with the current surplus in the Guild-Post Pension Plan, makes it more likely that the Post will offer another buyout to further reduce staff, as opposed to a layoff.

--The Guild Bargaining Committee

**WHAT:** Guild Members Vote on Extension Agreement  
**WHEN:** Wednesday, October 8, 12 Noon until 2 PM  
(Night Shift will vote 9 until 10 PM)  
**WHERE:** Guild Office, Next Door to The Post at  
1100 15<sup>th</sup> St, NW, Suite 350

For information, contact one of the The Guild Bargaining Committee members:

*Darlene Meyer, Commercial*      *Robert Pierre, News*      *Ann Marie Ditchey, Commercial*  
*Jerry Martineau, News*      *David Robie, Circulation*      *Renee Merle, News*  
*Eddy Palanzo, News*      *Steven Richardson, Commercial*