

November, 2011



# Our Voice

OF THE WORCESTER UNIT, PROVIDENCE NEWSPAPER GUILD  
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## UNIT BOARD ADDS 2

Sara Schweiger and Jim Collins have joined the unit council, filling vacant seats. They have quickly added insights to our wage negotiations by their familiarity with their own areas of the news department. We welcome them and encourage you to contact any member of the unit council, others being Rick Agajanian, Lee Hammel & Bob Datz.

### DUES REMINDER

For the minority of members who have not signed onto dues deduction yet, note you must be fully current to attend union meetings and help decide matters such as negotiating positions. Payments are accepted at the door at our meetings. Stay current, stay involved.

### SEND IN YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS

Get important communications that affect your work situation as quickly as possible, including periodic issues of Our Voice, please contact us at [png@riguild.org](mailto:png@riguild.org) to be sure we have your address.

## WAGE NEGOTIATIONS MEETING FOR MEMBERS

### Get update, give your feedback

Guild members, please help guide our wage negotiations on **Tuesday, Nov. 15 at 12:30 p.m.** in the Guild Office, Room 301 of the Baystate Bank Building, 32 Franklin St.

Yes, there will be some food at 12:30 but more important is to get your feedback on negotiations that have so far gone this way:

Your negotiating committee proposed 4.5 percent general wage increases along with parity of wage scales between full- and part-timers. We have cited many points including the fairness of the part-timers receiving equal pay, the flexibility all of use contribute and the savings to the company from cutbacks. We have also raised quality-of-life and of workplace issues that bear on people's ability to sustain themselves economically, as well as to continue to carry the extra work loads without recognition.

The company has stated it is not planning any general wage increases this year, not for lack of ability to afford them. Company representatives have stated their desire to keep down expenses in a hostile economic climate. The company has also stated there is no lack of potential applicants for work at the T&G.

We have also requested company financials under recent National Labor Relations Board rulings that provide for disclosing them when certain claims are made by employers in negotiations.

The negotiating committee will share more specific arguments on Tuesday. We have choices for how to respond to them, based on the will of the members. **We need to know how you feel**. It is an open process. Come.

## Volunteerism is great

Charities everywhere can use your time and skills. The last time we looked, the New York Times Co. is not a charity. Consider the difference between true professionalism and a regular expectation of donated time. One person's decision affects how others will be treated. The Guild can assist in your fair treatment under our contract and law.