NewsGuild News Clips

Bangor Daily News will voluntarily recognize newsroom employees' union

Bangor Daily News, May 6, 2022

The BDN Union cited a desire to improve working conditions, pay equity and work schedules as the main reasons for its effort.

"We can't wait to celebrate with our community once we have our binding voluntary recognition agreement signed," the union <u>tweeted</u> on Friday morning.

Owner of Maine newspaper to recognize employees' new union

Boston Globe, May 6, 2022 [via Associated Press]

The owner of a Maine newspaper has decided to recognize a union formed by its employees. The union will represent more than 30 newsroom workers at the Bangor Daily News, which covers Maine's third-largest city and many of its rural northern and eastern communities. The paper's parent company made the announcement on Friday.

<u>Joining wave of organized newsrooms, BDN journalists look to unionize - Maine Beacon</u>

Maine Beacon, May 5, 2022

BDN journalists' push to unionize is just the latest swell in a <u>wave of media professionals getting organized</u> that began in 2015. Since then, journalists or tech support staff at the New York Times, Politico, The Atlantic, Kansas City Star and Los Angeles Daily News, among other newspapers, digital outlets and broadcast stations, have all successfully certified their unions, some voluntarily recognized by management and others proceeding with elections overseen by the National Labor Relations Board. The ongoing wave of media unions has been a source of optimism for workers and advocates who are hopeful that the country is witnessing a renewal of the labor movement, as demonstrated most recently by Starbucks and Amazon workers unionizing previously unorganized sectors of the U.S. economy.

The Gilded Glamour Met Gala Was a Fantasia of Inequality

Inequality.org, May 6, 2022

Utilizing the irony of the gala's theme, members of the recently formed <u>released a spoof "Guilded Glamor" Vogue cover</u>, foregrounding the potential power of the union to rectify company-wide abuses on its "Workers' Longest Night." "The Met Gala's sparkle comes from our sweat," the union stated in a press release, noting the legions of freelancers, assistants, and producers who struggle to pay rent as the publisher made \$2 billion last year.

<u>The National Labor Relations Board intervenes in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette's 5-year labor fight</u> 90.5 WESA, May 4, 2022 [NPR Affiliate]

The National Labor Relations Board has stepped into the bitter labor dispute at the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette that has stretched on for more than five years.

Supreme Court's historic abortion rights reversal draws protests nationwide

People's World, May 4, 2022

"The Supreme Court's draft opinion" by right-wing Justice Samuel Alito "to overturn Roe v. Wade is an outrage and an affront to the opinion of the majority of Americans who support a woman's right to

reproductive freedom, including a woman's right to terminate a pregnancy," CLUW President Elise Bryant, a News Guild member, declared.

Scoop: Huge layoffs expected at Lee Enterprises

Axios, May 3, 2022

"The frustration for me as an employee is that they don't announce the cuts. They make management explain what's left behind," Katherine Knott, the unit chair for the Blue Ridge NewsGuild, told Axios. The Blue Ridge NewsGuild has been tracking positions lost among the 12 unionized Lee newsrooms since Lee's March 10th shareholders meeting. Thus far, roughly 61 roles have been eliminated across 10 newsrooms that have reported losses, mostly through layoffs and buyouts and some via attrition.

The MET Gala Isn't a Glamorous Night for Condé Nast Workers Trying to Unionize

Jezebel, May 2, 2022

Speaking of dichotomy! It's now been over a month since hundreds of employees at Condé Nast—which boasts world-renowned publications like Vogue, The New Yorker, Vanity Fair, Teen Vogue, GQ and many others—announced they were forming a union, collectively noting that "prestige doesn't pay the bills." Along with the announcement, 350 staffers sent a letter to Condé Nast asking leadership to recognize their union. Then, the company said it intended "to have productive and thoughtful conversations with [staff]" but those conversations have yet to take place.

News Guild shows Tribune newsrooms underpaid, overworked, 4/5 white.

Community Word, May 1, 2022

A 21-page report by The News Guild of conditions at the Chicago Tribune newspaper chain shows workers are underpaid, overworked, four-fifths white, and a big pay gap between whites and everyone else exists.

City Matters: As promises of city help dwindles, developer said he will be forced to boost rents

Union Leader, May 1, 2022

It was a family home for decades until the 1980s, a doctor bought the home and turned it into an office building. My union — the New Hampshire NewsGuild — still rents basement space in the building.

Sen. Markey Joins Resolution Recognizing the Importance of Local News

Framingham Source, April 29, 2022

The resolution recognizes local news as a public good that serves an essential function in the democracy of the United States.

The resolution is co-sponsored by Senators Cory Booker (D-N.J.), Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.), Tammy Baldwin (D-Wis.), Ron Wyden (D-Ore.), Alex Padilla (D-Calif.), Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.), Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio), and Bob Casey (D-Pa.). It has been endorsed by the Alliance for Community Media, California Black Media, Common Cause, Free Press Action, National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ), National Press Photographers Association (NPPA), Native American Journalists Association (NAJA), Online News Association, PEN America, Public Knowledge, Society of Professional Journalists, Theatre Communications Group, Writers Guild of America, East, AFL-CIO, National Association of Hispanic Journalists (NAHJ), United Church of Christ Media Justice Ministry, National Newspaper Association, Department for Professional Employees, AFL-CIO, The NewsGuild – Communications Workers of America (TNG-CWA), and National Writers Union.