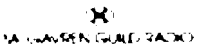


debuts January 9 from Hollywood. Keller's based in Portland, Oregon.

Minneapolis radio loses four more staffers – two each at WCCO (830) and KSTP (1500). At CBS Radio's news/talk WCCO, news reporters John Wanamaker and Cory Kampschroer are gone, says the Star Tribune. At Hubbard's news/talk KSTP, morning co-host Willie Clark and producer Jeremy Kienitz are missing, also because of the budget situation.

 **McGavren Guild, the independent national sales rep now led by Lisa Sonnenklar and Barry Fischer, signs two more clients – Scranton-based Shamrock Communications and the Milwaukee Radio Alliance.**

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1450 WNBP

In postcard-pretty Newburyport, Massachusetts, longtime New England broadcaster Pete Falconi, former record company exec Carl Strube and local businessman Robert Couture are buying WNBP (1450) from Todd Tanger's Westport Communications. Falconi's programmed some very big stations, and Strube's the guy whose Critique Records brought us Bob Rivers' "Twisted Christmas" album, among other projects. The Salem News reports the story, and the Boston board of Radio-Info.com was quick to flesh it out with background. That includes Strube's bio, the recent history of WNBP (1-kw fulltime), and its current linkage with WBOQ, Gloucester at 104.9. WBOQ's now doing oldies, but it was once the maverick one-man classical FM known as WVCA, run by Simon Geller. But this deal's all about the Newburyport AM, buyer Port Broadcasting, and local folks doing radio. Listen in on the Boston-board conversation about it. ↗

In Decatur, Illinois, buyer Geoff Neuhoff says something very important to the employees at WDZ, WDZQ, WCZQ and WSOY-AM/FM – "I can assure you this will be the last sale for a very long time." (That's per the Springfield State Journal-Register.) Amazingly, Neuhoff Communications is the fourth entity to buy this cluster in the last 2-1/2 years. It's traveled through the hands of NextMedia to Archway, then to North Carolina-based Tom Joyner, and now to second-generation owner Geoff Neuhoff. His dad Roger was a principal of Eastern Broadcasting, and Springfield, Illinois-based Geoff later sold some stations there to Capstar – and eventually bought them back from Clear Channel. But let's return to Decatur, where seller Tom Joyner (as usual) makes some money on the "sell side." He paid \$4.4 million for the five-station cluster exactly a year ago. Now Neuhoff is paying \$5,250,000 for these properties - "Decatur's Hot Talk 1340" WSOY (1-kw fulltime). CHR "Y103" WSOY-FM (a class B at 102.9). "Fox Sports Talk Radio 1050" Fan WDZ (1-kw days, 254 watts night). Country "95Q" WDZQ (a class B at 95.1). And a station whose call letters would make you think it's simulcasting WDZQ, but is actually urban "Hot 105.1" WCZQ, a Class A licensed to Monticello, IL. Broker – Michael Bergner. If my records are correct, this is the third time Bergner's sold this