

## P-T's Gary printing plant to close in '07

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Post-Tribune staff report

The Post-Tribune and its parent company announced Wednesday that they will phase out operations at the 50-year-old Gary production plant.

When the plant closes by the middle of 2007, the Post-Tribune will be printed using surplus press capacity at other facilities of the Sun-Times News Group.

The P-T will continue to have a Gary news bureau and circulation/distribution center and to publish a Gary edition.

Murdoch Davis, publisher and editor of the Post-Tribune, said Wednesday that a search for new premises for those operations has begun and "we anticipate that the Gary bureau will move to a more attractive and more visible and accessible location."

The decision to close the plant at 1065 Broadway

next year "has to do with the age of the production equipment, not its location," Davis said in a statement to employees.

"The P-T was born in Gary almost 100 years ago and is proud of its history and its roots," he said. "Our commitment to Gary, editorially and as a business, remains strong. More than one-fifth of our readers are in Gary and through the work of a strengthened news bureau and our overall editorial operations, we intend to attract more of them."

Davis said the old press is becoming increasingly unreliable and requires a lot of maintenance, parts and service are hard to obtain for out-of-date equipment and the press can't

continue to meet the quality standards expected by today's newspaper customers.

With the move to modern presses, the paper will serve its readers and advertisers better because reproduction quality and reliability will improve, he said.

The Post-Tribune moved its main newsroom, advertising, circulation and other business operations from the Gary facility to a new Merrillville office in 2000.