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Imagine. It's the day after Election Day, and you've unfolded your copy of the Daily Freeman to learn the election results. But instead you find this:

“CAT STUCK IN TREE ON MONDAY”

That could be a very real possibility under a proposed plan by The Journal Register Company, parent company of the Daily Freeman and The Record in Troy, to move production of the Daily Freeman some 70 miles north to Troy.

The move, if made as proposed by the Company, would put more than 50 Freeman employees out of work and, if copy deadlines are advanced to accommodate the potential move, it could mean an end to the prompt reporting of local news and sports.

“At other newspapers where production has been moved off site and deadlines have been made earlier, late-breaking news doesn't make it in the paper. Such a scenario here would be a slap in the face to the tens of thousands of loyal readers who turn to the print edition of our newspaper every day to find out what's happening in their community,” said Patricia Doxsey, president of Kingston Newspaper Guild 31180, which represents the mail room and drivers, the two employee groups who comprise the lion's share of those who will lose their jobs.

If the plan to move production is implemented, when readers want to know if you've struck it rich in the lottery you might be able to turn to the Daily Freeman newspaper for answers. The winning numbers may come too late to make what will likely be a much earlier deadline for the print addition. Local and national sports results could also fall victim to an earlier deadline. Ditto for the Oscars and other awards.

Doxsey points out: “This company boasts on its website to be ‘a modern multimedia news company focusing on local journalism.’

“ I can't for the life of me understand how this move fits in with the promise for more local news. The one thing this move is guaranteed to do is reduce the amount of local news in the newspaper each and every day,” she said.

Recently, a Sunday edition of The Record, in Troy, failed to hit subscriber paper

boxes when “technical problems” resulted in the paper missing the delivery company’s deadline, proof, Doxsey said, that there will be no guarantee our loyal subscribers will wake up to a Freeman in their paper boxes once the delivery of the paper is outsourced to another company.

“A daily paper not getting delivered is unimaginable,” said Doxsey. “Right now, our members make certain that, no matter what, the *Daily Freeman* is on the newsstands and in subscriber boxes every single day.”

Perhaps worse, at a time when the company is projecting a \$40 million profit, the move will put nearly 60 people –hardworking members of this community – out of work for what the company projects will be about \$600,000 in savings. Those are more full- and part-time jobs gone from a region that can ill afford to lose more work. What will those people, who are your friends, family, neighbors, do? And what will the loss of those jobs do to a region already desperate foreconomic development?

The Kingston Newspaper Guild is calling on everyone who values the prompt reporting of news and understands the importance to the local economy of these jobs to publicly fight against this planned outsourcing of local business, jobs and news.

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