NERVOUS ABOUT DRIVING AT NIGHT?

Horizon Building construction will likely not begin ‘before the snow flies’

They say all good things take time and it looks like it’s going to take a little more time before ground-breaking on the Horizon Building takes place.

Although Kevin Johnson, owner of Rhoads and Johnson Construction, had said they hope to break ground “before the snow flies this year,” it is unlikely that will happen.

Fenton Building and Zoning Administrator Mike Reilly said building permits have not yet been requested. See BUILDINGS on 10

The Holly High School marching band anchors the Holly Dickens Festival parade and the entertainment on Friday, Nov. 25. Here, Emily Sanders, 15, and Nick Weil, 14, wrap up the evening performing Christmas songs with the marching band. See story on page 8.

Fenton Twp. Board approves $2 million bond

Will cover costs to replace 57 old sewer lift stations

By Hannah Ball
hball@tctimes.com

Fenton Twp. — The Fenton Township Board of Trustees voted to authorize the sale of a bond of up to $2 million in order to replace or repair the lift stations in the sewer system.

Treasurer John Tucker said the 10-year bond should start early next year. They estimate they will start repairs in approximately nine months to a year.

“We’re not planning on spending that much. We’ve got some quotes for about $1.7-$1.8 (million),” Tucker said.

This money will go to replacing or repairing most or all of the 57 lift stations in the sewer system.

“When you look at how much we’re spending to fix and patch — it’s like See BOND on 10

Woman killed in Tuesday morning crash

Collision takes place at busy intersection of White Lake Road and Old U.S. 23

By Sharon Stone
sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

A Brighton woman was killed in a two-vehicle crash in Tyrone Township Tuesday, Nov. 29 at approximately 9:35 a.m.

Deputies with the Livingston County Sheriff’s Office were dispatched to the intersection of White Lake Road and N. Old U.S. 23 on the report of a two-vehicle. See CRASH on 10

The Holly High School marching band anchors the Holly Dickens Festival parade and the entertainment on Friday, Nov. 25. Here, Emily Sanders, 15, and Nick Weil, 14, wrap up the evening performing Christmas songs with the marching band. See story on page 8.

Staying one step ahead of Christmas package thieves

Keep your deliveries safe and secure this holiday season

By Sally Rummel
news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

“Tis the season for USPS, UPS, FedEx and other delivery companies that are hard at work delivering packages you ordered or sent.

Many people come home from work during this holiday season, expecting to See PACKAGE THIEVES on 9

Two new downtown buildings to break ground in early 2017

Though construction is unlikely to begin this year, plans for the new Horizon Building at Silver Lake Road and S. LeRoy Street are on track.
You're invited to a
Free Dinner
Exclusively for Neuropathy Pain Sufferers

Preceding your free dinner, Dr. Steczeck, DC will be speaking on
The latest FDA Cleared treatment program found to relieve pain where others have failed.

FREE ADMISSION & FREE MEAL
* NEW PATIENTS ONLY *

Presented by
Dr. Beth Steczeck, DC

You will discover how Dr. Steczeck’s unique treatment program is designed to decrease pain, improve function and relieve the following symptoms:

- Numbness
- Leg cramping
- Sharp electrical-like pain
- Difficulty sleeping from leg & foot discomfort
- Prickling or tingling of the feet or hands
- Burning pain
- Pain when you walk

“If you suffer from pain due to Peripheral Neuropathy — tingling, numbness, or loss of feeling in your feet — I invite you to call our office and reserve a spot for our FREE dinner seminar to learn more about the latest treatment available. More than 20 million Americans suffer from Peripheral Neuropathy, a condition caused by damage to the nerves. This pain affects everything you do, from work, play, and ultimately your quality of life. I am here to tell you that there is hope. You can reduce or get rid of your pain and get your life back. At our offices, we offer advanced customized treatment programs and our goal is to help you have a better quality of life.”

— Dr. Beth Steczeck, DC

Seminar Dinner will be held at:
Little Joe’s Tavern
11518 S Saginaw St, Grand Blanc, MI

Wednesday, December 7th • 7:00 PM

Reservation Required
Please RSVP to
810-412-0628

Feel free to bring a guest. Seating is limited to ONLY 15 spots. Adults only.
Nervous about driving at night? You should be!

Statistics show that three times as many fatalities take place at night

By Sally Rummel
news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

If you’re afraid to get behind the wheel at night, you have good reason. Night-time driving can be very dangerous, with fatalities on the road occurring at a rate three times greater at night than during the day, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Just about everyone experiences worse vision at night than in daylight, according to Dr. Scott McDowell of McDowell Eye Care in Fenton.

That just makes sense when you’re driving in the dark, in a low contrast, dim environment. Your depth perception, ability to distinguish color and peripheral vision are all worse in low-light conditions. Add to that, your advancing age and even physical exercise may slow the brain. Research suggests a healthy diet and exercise may slow these changes.

Many patients may need eyeglasses only in low light conditions, like night driving or reading a menu in a restaurant with dim lighting. “If you already wear eyeglasses, a lens treatment called anti-reflective coating improves night vision,” said McDowell.

Here are some things you can do to improve your ability to drive at night:

• Aim your headlights forward, not pointed lower than necessary. Make sure to clean the road grime from your headlights often.
• Dim your dashboard lights and don’t leave your map lights on.
• Don’t wear yellow-tint sunglasses at night. People advertise yellow lenses to increase the contrast, but common sense will tell you that any tint will decrease the light coming into your eyes,” said Alvarado. “In the black of night, a tinted lens is a prescription for dangerous driving.

“Even a low level of nearsightedness can hinder your driving, especially at night or in the rain.”

“In general, when you’re in a low contrast environment, you just aren’t going to perform as well,” he added.

“The visual cues you have during the day, like markers, aren’t there; all you see is road. It’s not just your eyesight, it’s also how well your brain can respond to cues.”

McDowell sees a decline in night vision, and vision in general, in patients who are getting older. “This is mostly due to the physiologic changes that occur in an aging eye, but to some extent from changes in our tears, eyelids and brain. Research suggests a healthy diet and even physical exercise may slow these changes.”

Many patients may need eyeglasses or a lens treatment called anti-reflective coating.

Think varicose veins are just a cosmetic issue?

Varicose veins are a sign of vein (venous) disease.

Symptoms may include pain, swelling, restlessness, burning, itching, fatigue of the legs as well as skin damage. Learn more about vein disease at www.flintveins.com

Varicose veins can be treated with minimally invasive procedures.

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Donald, watch the movie, ‘Dave’

Even the left wing-nuts in Hollywood get it right once in a while. Remember, they produced a movie called ‘Dave,’ a wonderful film that bears a striking resemblance to the situation that a divided America finds itself in today. The plot centers around a guy named Dave, an average citizen, who suddenly becomes the President of the United States.

When naive, mild-mannered Dave Kovac (Kevin Kline) arrives home from work one day to find Secret Service agents in his living room, their visit must have something to do with his tax return. Much to his surprise, he finds they are there because he is almost a physical twin of Bill Mitchell, the President of the United States (also played by Kline), and is being called on to masquerade as him while the presidential staff determines whether the real president will return or not.

Most don’t remember that in the mid-’90s, Republicans disbanded over 100 federal bureaus, agencies and commissions. No one ever complained and no one ever missed them. I suspect there are literally hundreds, if not thousands, more government agencies and bureaus that were, they to be eliminated, no one would ever miss.

My hope is that the election of Trump will provide the U.S. with the opportunity to clean up government. Get rid of what the feds should not be doing and focus on what it should be doing under our national Constitution.

Our government is a confused dysfunctional mess that does a poor job of serving its customers — us.

Submit at: tctimes.com, call 810-629-9221 or text to 810-771-8398

IN THE WEDNESDAY, Nov. 23 Midwest Times, the two-page sports section has 15 pictures with over 50 women and girls. No boys, no men.

ARE YOU CONFUSED at the definition of popular vote? Hillary Clinton won the popular vote and latest numbers show she has more than 2 million more votes than Donald Trump.

SOMETIMES IT IS not possible to separate moral values from religious teachings. Many religious people refuse to believe that what they were taught in church. History tells us religious teachings are occasionally very wrong and sometimes unbearably cruel.

I didn’t know if I was gay, I wouldn’t worry about Trump. I’d worry about God.

THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION made a turn to the hard right with his appointment of Betsy DeVos as his education secretary. Those of us who believe in public education and women’s rights now know we are in for a very bad time.

IT’S THE END of November, after Thanksgiving. Does anyone else notice that the Canada geese are flying north? I don’t get it.

HEARD U of M had open up a few more cry rooms after the game on Saturday. Good grief.

What was the best deal you got on Black Friday?

“I got two kayaks, $150 each, at Dunham’s.”

“I got two kayaks, $150 each, at Dunham’s.”

“I went doorbuster for $17.50.”

“With Lane Bryant there was 50 percent off of the whole store.”

“At American Eagle they had sweaters and flannels for $25 each.”

—Jessica Hebda

—Nancy Scott

—Erin Hossack

—Carrie Carrier

—Payton Kosak

“Jeans over at Glik’s.”

“BareMinerals, I got their doorbuster for $17.50.”

See HOT LINE throughout Times

What is the future of the United States?

“I can’t stand these new roundabouts. One person had the idea and now everybody jumps on the bandwagon.”

“Isn’t it about time we stopped doing the political Hot lines? I’ve listened to Obama whiners the past eight years and stupid political comments the past two years and now that the election is over there’s just as many as ever.”

Liberal’s are crying babies? What about the Republicans who decided they were going to stonewall Obama for the last four years? They stopped everything they tried to do. They wouldn’t consider his nomination for the Supreme Court even though they said it was somebody they said they could support.

I don’t get it. They have failed since the last election in the Johnson administration. Whether to laugh or be extremely worried when I heard someone call John Wilkes Booth a liberal in the Hot lines.

I may be wrong, but I believe that the United States became involved in Vietnam in the Eisenhower administration not in the Johnson administration.

Do you think you can tell me when to turn on the lights on my indoor tree? Well you can just kiss my Aspen.

It is amazing that the Hillary haters are able to completely ignore the shady deals and lies in which Trump is involved in.

Why would veterans hate Obama so much? He’s not the one who took us into two unfunded wars that have lasted nearly 15 years and put American lives in jeopardy. I think they’d be happier with H.W. Bush.

Liberal’s are crying babies? What about the Republicans who decided they were going to stonewall Obama for the last four years? They stopped everything they tried to do. They wouldn’t consider his nomination for the Supreme Court even though they said it was somebody they said they could support.

I can’t stand these new roundabouts. One person had the idea and now everybody jumps on the bandwagon.

Isn’t it about time we stopped doing the political Hot lines? I’ve listened to Obama whiners the past eight years and stupid political comments the past two years and now that the election is over there’s just as many as ever.

Liberal’s are at it again, in their words, by not accepting the choice of the people is horrifying and a threat to our democracy. I thought they were educated.
How to shop safely online

One in four holiday shoppers are victims of a hack
By Hannah Ball
hbali@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

According to the National Retail Federation, an estimated 122 million Americans shopped online on Cyber Monday, which is the Monday after Black Friday. Online shopping is easy, but it’s not always the safest.

One in four holiday shoppers have been a victim of a hack in the past 12 months, according to CNET, which tracks the latest consumer technology breakthroughs. Here are some tips from USA Today on how to shop safely online.

Don’t use public wireless networks
In short, don’t use them. When you use public Wi-Fi at a store or cafe, the passwords you use to log into online sites are at risk. Hackers can infect your phone with malware and siphon off passwords and account information, including credit card numbers.

The safest Wi-Fi to use is your own.

Check origin of online holiday card
Online holiday cards are an easy way to trick unsuspecting people. They’ll include links to a virtual card or an online blog, and some hackers use them as a way to put a virus on someone’s computer. Make sure you know who sent the card and verify with that family before clicking on any links.

Use different passwords
Using the same password for every online account may make it easier to remember, but it makes it easier for hackers to get into every account. Hackers keep lists of all the emails, IDs, and passwords they’ve stolen, and can rent those lists out. If you have trouble remembering your passwords, try using a password management program.

Don’t trust websites with typos
Fake online sites are also an issue. Web pages that look exactly like Target or Walmart fool online shoppers into “buying” items. These sites are easily spotted because they have typos, or don’t come up easily when you search for that certain store. The first few links that come up on Google when you search for a store should be safe.

Don’t share credit card number
Many sites, like Amazon, will offer to keep your credit card information on file so you don’t have to enter it every time you buy something. If online sites are hacked and that information is on file, those hackers now have your credit card number.

Do not favor convenience over privacy.

Keep track of statements
Frequently check your bank account online to see if there are any unwanted charges. If there are any unusual charges that you don’t remember making, call your credit card company and cancel your card.

Keep track of delivery notices
Have you ever gotten a package delivery notice for something you didn’t order? That email is probably a hoax, trying to get you to click on a link that could give your computer a virus in order to steal information.

Keep track of when your packages are supposed to be delivered, and only open emails and click on links from sites you’ve done business with.

Fenton’s favorite Irishman dies at 79

Patrick Carmody of Fenton Township made everyone smile
By Vera Hogan
vhogan@tctimes.com

Patrick Joseph Carmody, 79, of Fenton Township died on Sunday, Nov. 27.

The former Fenton Township trustee and treasurer will be remembered for his big smile and quick wit.

Carmody was born in Chicago at 11:53 p.m. on March 16, 1937, just eight minutes shy of St. Patrick’s Day. He was named for his paternal grandfather, who emigrated from Ireland to Chicago.

“Patrick Carmody was a man who loved and cared for all. He served as a Fenton Township trustee from 2003 to 2004 and treasurer from 2004 to 2008,” said Fenton Township Supervisor Bonnie Mathis.

“During his time on the Fenton Township Board, Patrick proved himself to be very knowledgeable and would always follow through with any task or project with which he was faced.”

“Patrick always treated his fellow township officials and township staff as family and I feel fortunate to have worked with him. I consider Patrick to be a very special friend. I will miss him greatly but will treasure his memory.”

Will Stiverson of Fenton served on the Fenton Township Board of Trustees with Carmody for about a year in the early 2000s. They both ran for treasurer, a seat that Carmody won.

“Despite our past political differences, I never lost respect for Pat,” said Stiverson. “He had a big heart for the township, a willingness to serve and a deep devotion to his wife, Virginia, and their family.”

In 2006, Carmody was named “Irish Father of the Year” by the Flint Chapter of the Ancient Order of the Hibernians. Carmody was a member of the Hibernians for about 25 years.

Carmody was in the U.S. Air Force Reserve from 1959-1962 and honorably discharged for severe arthritis when called back to serve during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

He worked 41 years, mostly in executive position and was a member of numerous professional organizations.

Carmody was a long-time member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church of Fenton, where he served as a Eucharistic minister, a reader, lector and was past president of the Pastoral Council. He had been active in the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) and many other parish functions. He also was a member of the Knights of Columbus.

Carmody once said, “Each day I wake up and say, ‘God, make my day, please make my day so that I might make someone else’s.' If we would think about other people and place our problems in God’s hands, I believe within a course of time all our problems would be solved.”

Carmody is survived by his wife, Virginia, two children and five grandchildren.

Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 1, at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church (see obituary in this edition for more information).
The State Bank raises $13,000 through ‘Change for Kids’ program

The State Bank is honored to announce another successful year for its “Change for Kids” program. The program supports the low- to moderate-income children and families in six local school districts, including Linden, Fenton, Holly, Grand Blanc, Lake Fenton and Brighton. For the 2016-2017 school year, The State Bank was honored to present Linden Community Schools, Fenton Area Public Schools, Lake Fenton Community Schools, and Holly Area Schools with $3,250 each. The schools are free to use these funds as they see fit for children in need. Change for Kids began in response to a need to assist low- and moderate-income families. “We especially want to provide the funding to meet the physical and educational needs of those children,” said The State Bank Senior Vice President, Stacey Webb. “We also want to provide the educational supplies needed to be a successful student, such as pencils, paper, markers, binders, backpacks and other necessities. These materials provide the foundation so that students can concentrate on their educational goals.” To date, the Change for Kids program has raised more than $79,000 for local schools.

Age gap does affect sibling relationships

Study: firstborn children often take charge, fill in for parents as caregivers

By Hannah Ball
hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Many parents have their second child right after having their first, and others have children more than a decade after their first born. Scientists have found that the age gap between siblings affects their relationship with their sibling and parents. Children who are closer in age usually have a closer relationship, according to education.com. For one Fenton woman and her sister, that’s true.

Stephanie Munro, 32, and her sister are 13 months apart. “As small children we were inseparable. My mom dressed us in the same clothes and we did everything together,” she said.

In middle school and high school, they did not get along that much. They shared everything, were on the same cheerleading squad, and Munro said they were often competitive.

Now, she said they’re best friends. “We have children around the same ages and we talk daily and see each other weekly,” she said.

Munro believes the small age gap between them affected their relationship. She also has a sibling who’s four years older.

“Our relationship is opposite as we were close through grade school but now aren’t as close,” she said. “Love her to death but I don’t talk to her nearly as much as my sister who is close in age to me.”

One the opposite side, Linden resident, Nicole Carter, has three kids with big age gaps—17-year-old Cameron Ruscoe, 7-year-old Reese Carter, and 2-year-old Cal Carter.

“Honestly, it’s actually really great. He’s (Cameron) great with his sister and brother. He loves them,” she said. “My 7-year old will get annoyed with my 2-year-old. They get in little tiffs but she adores him as well and he adores her.”

A University of Notre Dame study on birth spacing and sibling outcomes found that younger siblings were more likely to accept direction from a sibling that is four years older than one that is just two years older.

Carter added having a 2-year-old around the house is good “birth control” for Cameron. She said it can be challenging while on vacation to pick activities suitable for everyone, and their schedule can be hectic with activities.

“It’s challenging to take them to events. I think that’s normal,” she said.

Here’s how the age gap between siblings affects their lives.

Relationship between siblings

According to education.com, first-born children often become the sibling who takes charge and acts as surrogates for their parents as caregivers, teachers, and models, and they enjoy the greater status/power position.

This difference becomes more pronounced as the age gap between siblings increases for at least up to four years.

The University of Notre Dame found that with each year between siblings, the higher the test scores for the older sibling.

The study also found that parents spend significantly more time with first-born than second-born children, which translates into less time spent reading to the younger child and lower reading test scores.

Health

Increased birth spacing is healthier for the mom and child. The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) found that greater spacing increases the chance of women achieving healthy pregnancies and safe births, with the saying, “three to five saves lives.” According to the University of Notre Dame study, it’s estimated that second-born children conceived within 12 months of a previous birth are three times as likely to be diagnosed with autism than those conceived more than 36 months after a previous birth.

Conceiving less than half a year after delivery increases the risk of preterm birth, low birth weight, and fetal death, according to Today.com.

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Recounts in Michigan
Two days ago the Michigan Board of State Canvassers certified the results of the 2016 Presidential election, which resulted in Donald Trump winning by a margin of 10,704 votes over second place finisher Hillary Clinton. Although this isn’t a large difference, it is the closest percentage margin of victory in state history.
Other candidates received far fewer votes including Green Party Candidate Jill Stein.
All of the candidates on this year’s ballot have the right to file a petition with State Bureau of Elections within two days of the certification and it is reported that Jill Stein will be exercising her right to do so.
She has already filed a recount request in Wisconsin and has announced her intention to also seek one in Pennsylvania. Much has already been written about all of this, which I won’t repeat here except to say that every state’s recount procedures are different. In Michigan, we are guided by both specific statutes as to how to go about the process and accompanying Administrative Rules to ensure the recount itself is done correctly.

The statutes include requiring certain grounds for recounts, recount fees, deadlines and timelines, the allowance of objections by other candidates to a recount, and the possibilities of a manual tally of ballots or having it done by computer or a combination. The Administrative Rules govern how the tallying process is to be physically performed and monitored.

Recounts aren’t new to Michigan and an interesting historical example of this is seen in the 1950 race for governor between Republican and former Governor Harry Kelly and then Governor and Democrat G. Mennen “Soapy” Williams. The final election results were the closest in Michigan gubernatorial race history with Governor Williams winning by 1,154 votes. A recount was demanded, but when it was in progress and Governor Williams lead was growing, it was called off.

By all accounts, these two men had great respect for each other not only as political opponents, but also as veterans of two different wars. Some say this was a gentler time.

What is also interesting is the fact that later in their lives they both became Michigan Supreme Court Justices. As for today and the future, let us hope all goes well.

View all stories online at tctimes.com

HOT LINE CONTINUED
BILL CLINTON RAMRODDED NAFTA through. He did everything he could to get it through. He made special promises to different state senators. It bit big time.

I KNOW THAT these tights are in style, but let’s be honest. Only about 20 percent of the population can get away with it. Be your own person and wear what looks good on you, not just what is popular.

I THOUGHT JIM Harbaugh was an embarrassment to the university after the Thursday game.

I GUESS IT is a benefit of those big, blue recycling bins that they really aggravate your nosy neighbors who try to peek in your recycling bin and see what you’ve been doing all week. TRUMP SUPPORTERS GOTT duped by a narcissist. He has already broken his promises before being sworn in. Your misguided anger put all of us in danger.

MY NEIGHBOR BEHIND me is helping with my Consumers bill. His garage light is pointed right at my kitchen and lights it up like a prison yard all night long.

ELIMINATE THE U.S. Senate? For those who think we should eliminate the Electoral College, ask yourself why we have a U.S. Senate. Both the Electoral College and U.S. Senate are in place to provide representation to the states as required in the Constitution.

WHISPERWOOD CONDOS is an association. All association’s have by-laws. If you don’t like living by the by-laws, do not live in an association. Pretty simple. Want to change the by-laws? Discuss it with the board like an adult, not like a petulant child in the Hot lines.

FIND A SHELTER for your unwanted pet. They didn’t ask to become a part of your family only to be ditched into the cold to suffer. You’re cruel.

SAY A PRAYER for Gallatin, Tennessee.

Sweet Variations to host grand reopening, Christmas Open House this Saturday, Dec. 3
Life just got sweeter in Fenton. Sweet Variations, purveyors of fine handmade chocolates, voted Best Candy Store in 2015 and 2016, has settled into their new expanded store at 14280 N. Fenton Rd. and is gearing up with a combination grand reopening and Christmas Open House on Saturday, Dec. 3 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

There will be specials on candy and Christmas décor with treats, drawings, and a chance to play the Beanboozled game and discuss all things “Jelly Belly” with a company representative from the Jelly Belly candy company from 12 to 3 p.m. Call (810) 750-9799 with any questions or directions. Sweet Variations’ new location is in the same parking lot as Sagebrush Cantina restaurant.

Hologram ad

Fifth book on Fenton’s colorful history released
Bob Harris’s latest work covers 1956-1959
By Vera Hogan
vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823
When asked how long he would be writing books on Fenton history, Robert “Bob” Harris said, “Until I’m done or until I’m gone.”

Harris is 93 years old. A veteran U.S. Marine officer, former college professor, and former successful business owner, Harris said he has always been interested in writing.

Having the writing “bug” and no longer having to go to any office, Harris researched the library to see what had been written about Fenton. “Largely it was about the 1800s, so I decided to do a newspaper research book about my FHS years 1937-1941,” he said in a previous interview. “Then I had to do a follow-up on the War years 1942-1946, etc.”

Now he’s finished 1955 to 1959 and is already researching for his next book. “God willing, I will run out the century,” he said.

Harris’s book series is called “The Village Players.” The latest is “In The Late 1950s.” The cover of his latest book features a photo of Fenton Mayor Harry Lemen, who served as the city’s first mayor when it became a city in 1964.

Lemen’s, whose legacy lives on with Emen’s Market on downtown Fenton,” said Harris.

In his prologue, Harris writes, “The latter part of the ’50s decade found the people in Fenton, not unlike much of the nation, experiencing a period of peace and prosperity. The fighting in Korea had ended and the young men of military draft age were thinking more about girls, college, girls, a good job, sports and girls. To make more, Harris’s latest book and his four previous books can be purchased at the A.J. Phillips Museum in Fenton and Fenton’s Open Book, who carry all of his works. The books are also available as ebooks at amazon.com.
HOT LINE CONTINUED

PEOPLE SAY ‘MAKE American great again’ but everywhere I look, their cart is filled with Chinese crap. Another thing, enough with the political Hot lines please. Happy thoughts.

AMERICA IS NEITHER a white nation nor a Christian nation. We have religious freedom, which allows you to practice Christianity as well as Islam. All are welcome.

OUR NEW ELECTRIC ‘smart’ meters, after hearing from an electrician friend on just how bad they are for us, are radiation exposure five to six times an hour as they talk to your neighbors’ smart meter. I’m surprised there isn’t more of an uproar about them?

I’M GLAD TO see ‘Roots’ is on. Everyone should have their children watch it.

THREE MILLION ILLEGALS voted for Hillary. Her popular vote is only two million. She has a way to go before she is even with Trump. He crushed her in the electoral college.

OBAMA TERMINATED ‘OPERATION Phalanx,’ because it was too efficient. Operation Phalanx, provided aerial surveillance on the southern border of the United States to catch illegal border crossers.

ONLY HYSTERICAL LIBERALS expect a wall, repeal of Obamacare and Operation Phalanx. I’m surprised there isn’t more of an uproar about them?

YOU DON’T PAY $325 for a replacement car key. You paid $275 to program the key to the car. Since your son has a working key, you can program another yourself for free. Invest a few minutes on Google to save big bucks.

Tri-county fundraisers

Olds Newsboys of Flint fundraiser at Fenton Moose Lodge

On Saturday, Dec. 3, the Fenton Moose Lodge at 2245 Sonora Drive in Fenton Township is hosting an event to benefit the Old Newsboys of Flint. The party kicks off at 6 p.m. with music by the band, “Rodeo Drive.” There will be a silent auction, a 50/50 raffle, and there will be pasta and salad. Suggested entry donation of $20 will sponsor a child for Christmas. “This event gives people a chance to have fun, while contributing to a worthy cause,” said Old Newsboys Executive Director Christopher Hamilton. Proceeds from this event will provide Christmas boxes to needy children in Genesee County. The Old Newsboys of Flint also will be selling their annual newspaper in December. The Old Newsboys have put presents under the tree for over 800,000 children across Genesee County. Last year alone, 6,436 children received gifts from the Old Newsboys.

Dickens Fest 2016 kicks off in the rain

Wet weather doesn’t dampen spirits at lighted parade, marching band performance

By Tim Jagielo

tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

Holly — Multi-colored lights gave shape to the drizzling rain, and fogged breath of 300 visitors who came out for the annual Holly Dickens Festival Friday evening.

Despite the damp weather, the 2016 Holly Dickens Festival kicked off with solid attendance to the annual parade, and marching band performance. Highlights also featured family, individual and business of the year announcements.

Festival board member and evening emcee Richard Kinnamon was nervous about attendance before the event. “I was impressed with the number of people who came out with the rain.”

Police Chief Michael Story estimated between 300 and 500 were there for the event, whether huddled under umbrellas, or watching the parade from their car.

Jessica Pigott came down from Flushing Township with her 6-year-old son. “It’s really cool and the kids love it,” she said. “We enjoy it. It’s a nice time to get together.”

After the parade, Kinnamon announced the individual, family and business of the year awards. The 2016 business of the year is N. Reding and Sons LLC, owned by Beth and Jeremy Domanik. The organization of the year is The Women of the Moose, and the individual of the year is Tony Engberg.

Jenna Veda and Tracy Taylor performed Christmas songs, as did the Holly High School marching band.

Children were also able to see Santa Claus, the star of the parade.

The festival runs this coming weekend, and next weekend. Go to hollydickensfestival.org for a complete schedule.
Supreme Court cases that changed the definition of free speech in America

By Hannah Ball

The Supreme Court has made a decision in the first amendment of the United States Bill of Rights that does not give Americans rights to say whatever they want.

The Supreme Court, the highest court in the land, decided in the case that dealt with what constitutes “free speech.”

Speech isn’t always “free” when dealing with certain exceptions like creating danger, obscenity, expressing political and sexual views, banned books, hate crimes, and many others.

The “clear and present danger” standard often comes up when talking about free speech. This standard doesn’t mean that any idea is off-limits if it’s dangerous. The Supreme Court has said that expressing an idea can harm the public and that public safety must be involved in deciding what is acceptable.

In 1919, Justice Oliver Holmes stated his famous quote about falsely shouting “fire” in a theatre in the Schenck v United States case.

This case reaffirmed the convictions of defendants who handed out leaflets comparing military conscription to involuntary servitude during wartime. The court found they violated certain federal statutes by attempting to incite subordination in the armed forces.

Cases like this have gone to the Supreme Court when they deal with freedom of speech or expression and war.

In Tikker v Des Moines Independent Community School District in 1969, a few students were expelled for wearing black armbands to school in protest of the Vietnam War. The court held that their constitutional rights are not suspended just because they’re at school, and that they have the right to express political and social views.

In another case involving free speech at school, Bethel School District v Fraser in 1987, a student was suspended for three days because he gave a speech that included obscenity. He claimed the school violated his right to free speech.

The Supreme Court held that the first amendment does not protect obscenity in school speeches.

The court has struggled with what can be defined as “obscene,” and in 1973 the justices decided on the Miller test.

In Miller v California, the owner of a mail-order business specializing in pornography, sent out advertising for books and film that showed sexual activity. He took the case all the way to the Supreme Court and argued his material was protected under free speech.

The court ruled it was not. While Miller lost, the court wrote the Miller test, which are three criteria to determine if certain material is obscene. It must have “actual prurient interest,” “appealing to the prurient interest,” and “lacks serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value.”

Certain offensive acts of freedom of speech are protected by the constitution, however.

In the infamous 1989 case of Texas v Johnson, the Supreme Court ruled that the government could not stop citizens from burning the American flag as a way of political protest. The court found it was a form of free speech and protected under the first amendment.

Cross burning has also been an issue. In R.A.V. v St. Paul in 1992, a few teenagers burned a cross on a black family’s lawn and were charged with a criminal ordinance, which prohibits the display of a symbol, which “arouses anger, alarm, or resentment in others on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, or gender.”

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The Supreme Court held that the ordinance was invalid because it prohibits speech on the basis of the subjects the speech addresses. The first amendment does not allow government to punish speech and expressive conduct because it disapproves of the ideas expressed.

The Supreme Court has routinely voted against limiting what’s considered hate speech.

In Snyder v Phelps in 2011, the Westboro Baptist Church picketed the funeral of Lance Corporal Matthew Snyder, who was killed in Iraq. The court upheld the church’s right to picket.

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BUILDINGS
Continued from Front Page
This week Johnson said, “Things are going well, just still working through all of our due diligence and planning. We are still working hard.”
Rhoads and Johnson Construction of Fenton, the builders for the Horizon Building, has Planning Commission approval to build a multi-use building on the northwest corner of Silver Lake Road and South LeRoy Street.
The total square footage of the building is 23,000. The first floor will accommodate retail tenants, while the second and third floors will be offices, according to Johnson.
The exact cost of the project has not yet been determined, but it is accurate to say it will be a multi-million dollar venture, according to Johnson.
The project is expected to create 50 to 100 construction jobs and the same number from businesses within the building. Johnson assured city officials that they will do everything to make sure construction has no impact on traffic.
Cornerstone 2
Further south, ground-breaking on the second Cornerstone building on S. LeRoy Street is expected to take place in the spring.
Corlin Builders is constructing the $6.8 million project. It will feature four stories for a total of 40,400 square feet. Floors one through three will feature 10,780 square feet of space and the fourth floor 9,460 square feet.
Two terraces proposed at each end of the building on the fourth floor make up the remaining square footage. The total overall square footage is 41,800.
Like the first Cornerstone building, at Silver Lake Road and S. LeRoy Street, the first floor of the second building will feature five retail spaces. The second floor will be offices, and the third and fourth floors will feature condominiums.
Ghassan Saab of Corlin Builders assured city administrators that they will do everything to limit the impact construction has on nearby 100-year-old buildings and that of the church, which is also historic.

BOND
Continued from Front Page
the old car that’s falling apart — it’s cheaper to replace it than to keep fixing it,” Tucker said. “That’s where we’re spending a bunch of money.”
Some repairs include complete overhauls of certain stations, and others will be partially replaced, and most will be updated with a new transducer, which allows the station to operate better.
He said the lift stations are well past their 25-year life.
The recommendation came from the township’s contracted engineering firm, Lawrence Engineering. Trustee Vince Lorraine expressed concerns over the wording in the letter on whether the firm could guarantee the bond and repairs would save the township money.
This bond will not cause an increase in the $255 quarterly payments Fenton Township residents pay for the sewers.
“The cash flow projection shows that we should actually get the money that we’re spending on the debt service back, plus probably almost that same amount again in savings. Spend money to save money,” Tucker said.
The resolution passed 6-1, with Trustee Shaun Shumaker casting the dissenting vote.
Shumaker said “I don’t feel the money is going to be spent as effectively as I would like. I understand we do need to make repairs but I just don’t think we’re going to use those funds in the most efficient way.”

STUCK
Continued from Page 3
to drivers behind you. If you have to change lanes, watch your mirrors and the traffic around you closely.
On the road, be especially careful about walking for help, especially in bad weather. If help is nearby, walk on the right side of the road, but never attempt to cross a multi-lane, high-speed road.
If you have a flat tire, change it safely if the tire is on the opposite side of the road. If your car is beyond repair, get professional help. Don’t try to flag down other vehicles. Raise your hood and tie a white cloth to the antenna or hang it out the window to show police officers or tow trucks that you need assistance.

CRASH
Continued from Front Page
injury crash.
The preliminary investigation has revealed that a 2011 Ford Fusion, operated by a 74-year-old Brighton resident, was traveling north on Old U.S. 23. As she proceeded into the intersection her vehicle was struck by a 2005 Jeep Liberty that was traveling east on White Lake Road.
The Jeep Liberty was being driven by a 50-year-old Fenton resident. The operator of the Jeep Liberty was transported to Genesys Hospital by Livingston County EMS with non-life threatening injuries.
The driver of the Ford Fusion was pronounced deceased at the scene. The roadway remained closed for approximately four hours during the investigation.
Alcohol and speed do not appear to be a factor in this crash. The crash remains under investigation by the Sheriff’s Office Traffic Safety Bureau.
Deputies were assisted at the scene by personnel from the Fenton Township Fire Department and Livingston County EMS.
Fenton Township Fire Chief Ryan Volz said he was the first responder to arrive at the busy intersection and there were already several bystanders there, some taking photos of the crash with their phones. He said it was apparent that some wanted to help, however, he would prefer that the bystanders give ample room for the trained emergency responders to work as quickly as possible.
Volz said that with a side impact crash such as this one, the air bag was still intact. If a bystander, who has good intentions, sticks their head inside the side window to help a victim, they too could be injured if the air bag deployed unexpectedly.
Livingston County Sheriff Michael Murphy said the name of the victim would be released on Wednesday. See tctimes.com for updates.
VILLAGE OF HOLLY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
PLANNING COMMISSION
NOTICE OF SPECIAL LAND USE REQUEST

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, in accordance with Section 157.077 (C)(4), Commercial District, New and Used Car Lots, of the Village of Holly Zoning Ordinance the Village of Holly Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing on request for a special land use permit on December 14, 2016 at 7:00 PM (or as soon thereafter as possible) in the Village Council Chambers located at 920 E. Baird Street, Holly, Michigan.

An application for a special land use permit was filed by Ryan Marsh, Marsh Auto Sales, 15133 N. Holly Road, Holly, MI to permit Commercial outdoor sales or storage on a portion of parcel ID # 1H-01-27-151-016. The proposed use is allowed only after review and approval by the Holly Planning Commission in accordance with Section 157.120 through 157.130 of the Holly Zoning Ordinance.

Written comments may be submitted to the Village Clerk/Treasurer, 300 East Street, Holly, Michigan 48442 prior to the review and may also be submitted at the meeting. All documents pertinent to the application are available for inspection in the Village Offices at the above address during regular business hours.

Interested persons are encouraged to attend the meeting. Handicapped persons needing assistance to attend are asked to contact the village office at least 48 hours prior to the meeting at (248) 634-9571 during regular business hours.

Cathrene A. Behrens
Clerk/Treasurer
Village of Holly
Injury bug hurts Eagles vs. Brighton Bulldogs, 66-43

By David Troppens
droppens@tctimes.com
810-433-6789

It took just 30 seconds for the Linden varsity girls basketball team to suffer its first major setback of the 2016-17 season.

About that amount of time into the first game, senior Bella Blank went out with a knee injury against the Brighton Bulldogs. That injury helped lead the Bulldogs to a 66-43 victory against Linden on Monday night.

“It would’ve gone a lot better if Bella didn’t get hurt in the first 30 seconds and didn’t play again. That was a killer,” Linden varsity girls basketball coach Ben Varner said. “She was going to be the catalyst for our defense and without her in there, we lost our most athletic player.”

That seems to be a trend in Fenton athletics lately. This fall has seen a lot of that type of activity. First, the Fenton varsity boys soccer team qualified for the state semifinals for the first time in school history, and then the Fenton varsity volleyball team made it to the state semifinals for the first time in Class A in school history.

Interestingly enough, some of the players that made last year’s girls’ basketball run possible were the same ones that made it possible for the volleyball team this season. Players like Chloe Idoni, Taylor Mowery, Erin Kaye and Kiley Aldredweren’t able to start practicing until recently due to the volleyball team’s success. But, such issues don’t bother Fenton varsity girls basketball coach Rebecca Moore, who enjoyed following the volleyball team’s success herself.

“My concern right now is getting my team back together and going from there,” Moore said. “We know we are behind compared to other teams, but the basketball season is long. Our kids got to play in the state semifinals and their teammates got to support them in that endeavor. Those opportunities don’t come along every day.”

No, they certainly don't. But don’t be shocked if the Tigers have just as much fun as magical a girls basketball season as some had with the volleyball team. It’s certainly a possibility.

The rest of the varsity girls basketball season isn’t as clear. The Holly Bronchos have been a Metro contender for years, and should still be one of the better teams in the league. However, they did lose who may See GIRLS on 13
**Tri-County’s 2016-17 Girls Basketball Preview**

**GIRLS**
Continued from Page 12: have been the best player in school history when Kaitlyn Smith graduated. They do return two very good players in Paige Reid and Becca Fugate. 

Linden is looking to improve upon last year’s two-win season, and looks to have the talent to do that. However, how much the Eagles improve is a good question. Sterling DeGayner should be the team’s top player.

The Blue Devils have some talent returning, but will be mighty small. How good they will be remains a reasonable mystery.

**FENTON TIGERS**

**Coach:** Rebecca Moore  
**2015-16 Record:** 18-7 overall, Class A district champs. Lost in Class A regional title game against Port Huron Northern.

**Graduated All-TCT players:** Sarah Cummings.  
**Returning All-TCT players:** Chloe Ioni (Hill All-State).

**Team summary:** The Tigers had a pretty nice season a year ago, and appears to be poised for another strong season this year. Chloe Ioni became the third freshman to ever be named first-team All-Metro last year, and is the early favorite to be our 2016-17 Player of the Year. But there’s plenty of other strong players surrounding her as well. Emma Eo missed most of last year due to an injury, but returns. Put her with Ioni and the Tigers have one fierce 1-2 punch right there. Others returning with starting experience are Kiley Aldred, Erin Kaye, Taylor Mowery, Ellie Reuschlein, Margaret Berry, Maddie Carr and Aly Lenz.

The team’s only “downfall” so far has been the volleyball team’s success. Many players were members of the squad, meaning they’ve had few practices with the varsity basketball squad.

**Coach Moore says:** “The whole team has been together for just two days, but the kids have just rolled with the schedule. They have not worried about what was going on or who we are. They have just shown up and worked hard every day. They have supported their teammates on the volleyball court, but they were glad to have them back.”

**Prediction:** Moore says the goal is to get better every day, and if the team does that things will take care of themselves. We believe her. The Tigers have a chance to have a magical season.

**HOLLY BRONCHOS**

**Coach:** David Hall  
**2015-16 Record:** 14-0 12-10 overall, Lost to Fenton in Class A district final.  
**Returning All-TCT players:** Paige Reid.

**Team summary:** The Bronchos have had their share of success in recent seasons, but now it’s time to rebuild, as many of the people who have made the program what it has been the last four to six seasons are now beyond their prep playing days. Still, there’s one nice player returning that any team in the Metro League would love to have among their starting five. That player is Paige Reid. Reid gives the Bronchos a legitimate offensive weapon, but she can’t do it alone. A strong candidate to help Reid out will be Becca Fugate, who had a pretty impressive season last year. The pair are the team’s only two returning starters.

Four other players return from a year ago. Sami Hild and Taylor Vines are two juniors who will help the Bronchos in the paint while Erika Reddy and Alex Karakus are a pair of seniors who should see plenty of playing time.

**Coach Hall says:** “I like how hard our team plays. I like how well they are working to improve. I like how they are playing to their strengths.”

**Prediction:** The Bronchos are probably not at the level they were a few years ago, but certainly remain a team to be respected. Holly should be returning to remain in the Metro League’s upper-division.

**LAKE FENTON BLUE DEVILS**

**Coach:** Brian VanBuren  
**2015-16 Record:** 4-16 overall. Lost to Goodrich in Class B district opener.  
**Team summary:** The Blue Devils have 11 players, including six returning varsity players. Two of them are guards: Hannah Gary and Sage Fuller. Gary will be a scoring threat and a strong player when it comes to setting up the offense and creating transition chances. The Blue Devils don’t have a lot of size, so they are going to look like a team of guards no matter who is on the court. Others who will make an impact are sophomore Haley Whittocar. She has a lot of upside, can handle the ball and can shoot the basketball. She also represents the team’s greatest size, at about 5-foot-8. Kennisha Golson was a transfer student a year ago. She will play some frontcourt, but isn’t tall herself. Renee Shaw also returns and has a toughness element to it. A couple of other players to watch out for include freshman Morgan Furey and Katelyn Siebert.

**Coach VanBuren says:** “We definitely want to create more tempo this year. Last year, no matter what we knew we could throw it inside and get a good look at the basket. This year will be different. We don’t see us entering the ball in the post, our post players will run the floor and get buckets that way, off the break. We will definitely look to playing in transition, a lot earlier now.”

**Prediction:** Lake Fenton looks to be a team in transition. The Blue Devils find themselves in a league that includes Goodrich, Beecher and Hamady, so looking for great progress will be challenging. Getting to six or seven wins would be a nice season.
VILLAGE OF HOLLY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING SPECIAL PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING NOTICE OF TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, in accordance with Articles 2400 of the Village of Holly Zoning Ordinance the Village of Holly Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing on a request by the Zoning Administrator for a text amendment to the Zoning Ordinance on December 14, 2016 at 7:00 PM (or as soon thereafter as possible) in the Village Council Chambers located at 920 E. Baird Street, Holly, Michigan.

A Test Amendment to the Village of Holly Zoning Ordinance was initiated by the Zoning Administrator. The Text Amendment of Chapter 15 of the Village of Holly Zoning Ordinance, if approved, would rescind Section 157.130; Sub-Section 31 regulating Medical Marijuana Dispensaries in the Village of Holly. Written comments may be submitted to the Village Clerk/Treasurer, 300 East Street, Karl Richter Center, Holly, Michigan 48442 prior to the review and may also be submitted at the meeting.

Interested persons are encouraged to attend the meeting. Handicapped persons needing assistance to attend are asked to contact the village offices at least 48 hours prior to the meeting at (248) 634-9571 during regular business hours.

Cathrene A. Behrens Clerk/Treasurer Village of Holly
WEDNESDAY JUMBLE

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 3-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★

★= Moderate ★★= Challenging ★★★= HO! BOY!

Answer in this Sunday’s edition of the Tri-County Times

WEDNESDAY SUDOKU

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 3-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: H

H= Moderate HH= Challenging HHH= HO! BOY!

Answer in this Sunday’s edition of the Tri-County Times

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21 to April 19)
Keep those sharp Sheep eyes focused on a hazy situation. As things begin to clear up, you’ll find a sharper picture emerging, showing something you will need to know.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)
Watch your expenses through the end of the month. Later, you’ll be glad to have extra money to pay for something that will make an acquisition of your Bovine’s heart beat faster.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)
You’re now ready to make that oft-deferred commitment, if you still believe it’s what you want. Don’t be afraid to change your mind if you feel you should go in another direction.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22)
Now that you are moving on with your life after that recent disappointment, how about reactivating your travel plans and taking someone special along with you.

LEO (July 23 to August 22)
Many new friends come into your personal life, which suits all of you social Lions just fine. However, one new friend might make demands that you could find difficult to deal with.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22)
Communication doesn’t exist unless it’s two-way. So if you’re getting no replies to the signals you’re sending, it could be time to look for someone more receptive.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)
A workplace complication that you thought was ironed out develops new wrinkles that need attention. Meanwhile, expect continuing improvement in your home life.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)
A tense personal problem needs to be talked out before someone decides to walk out. Resist making decisions until full explanations are offered from both sides.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)
A technological glitch that caused problems recently will soon be repaired, and life can return to normal. A colleague has a surprising message to deliver.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan.19)
Your partner might feel that you haven’t been as open with him or her as you should be. Deal with this now, before it turns into something more difficult to handle.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)
Good news: Many of the stumbling blocks that affected the progress of some of your career projects are fading away. Things also start to look up on the home front.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20)
You’ll need that strong Piscean pluck to get through waters that will be turbulent for a while. A more positive aspect soon emerges, along with some welcome news.

DVD RELEASES

INTERVENTION
A weekend getaway for four couples takes a sharp turn when one of the couples discovers the entire trip was orchestrated to host an intervention on their marriage.
R. 1 hr. 30 min. Comedy, Drama

DON’T BREATHE
A trio of reckless thieves breaks into the house of a wealthy blind man, thinking they’ll get away with the perfect heist. They’re wrong.
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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS
1 Timber wolf
5 U.K. television option
8 Lily variety
12 Opposed to, slantly
13 Always, in verse
14 Mimicked
15 Get bigger
16 Banner
18 “— Street”
20 Leads
21 Edges
23 Adam’s mate
24 Recklessly
28 Book after Joel
31 Sphere
32 “SNL” alumna Cheri
34 Debt notice
35 Seniors’ dance
37 Vexing situation
39 By way of
41 Use scissors
42 Offering a nice view
45 Illegal steroid use, e.g.
49 Vertical space
51 Birthright barterer
52 Not working
53 Genetic stuff (Abbr.)
54 Matterhorn’s range
55 Pincushion play
56 Affirmative
57 For fear that

DOWN
1 Trails behind
2 Shrek is one
3 Life stories, for short
4 Ahead
5 Huge monster
6 Spelling contest
7 Rugged cliff
8 Digestive aid
9 Widespread illness
10 Kelly or Hackman
11 Rhyming tributes
12 Tributary
17 Payable
19 Venus de —
20 Old daggers
22 Black Bounce
25 Blunder
26 Especially
27 Baby-sitters, often
29 Partner of aah
30 Take to court
33 Personal (Prefix)
36 Paid heed to
38 Attraction
40 Atmosphere
42 Thin wedge
44 Relinquish
45 Buffalo Bill’s last name
46 Capri, e.g.
47 Siestas
48 Sudden rush of wind
50 Individual

Answer in this Sunday’s edition of the Tri-County Times
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