



Happy Holidays

From our family to yours



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Weekend Times

VOL. 26 NO. LI

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2019

\$1.00

Township infrastructure to get 'Gold' standard

■ Ordinance, through nonprofit, hopes to improve underground systems

By Hannah Ball

The Fenton Township Board of Trustees is hoping to improve underground infrastructure by adopting the Gold Shovel Standard ordinance next month.

The Genesee County Drain Commissioner's Water and Waste Services Division (GCDC) recently joined Gold Shovel Standard (GSS), which is a nonprofit organization that aims to improve workforce, public safety and the integrity of underground infrastructure.

See **GOLD** on 25A

Have caution when using Troy-based online retailers

■ Better Business Bureau receives complaints about iCheap.net and banzunion.com

Better Business Bureau (BBB) serving Eastern Michigan has received several complaints about two online retailers, claiming to be headquartered in Troy. Going by the name of iCheap.net or banzunion.com, the companies

See **ONLINE** on 13A



Bill Graham portrays a shepherd during Jesus Walk. More than 50 actors recited lines at their stations along the walk. There's was unique since it included farm animals like goats and sheep. Photo: Tim Jagielo

33rd year for Jesus Walk

■ 735 attend annual live nativity at Tyrone church

By Tim Jagielo

Tyrone Twp. — Before the 2019 Jesus Walk started, there were already 20 guests gathered at the welcome center at the Tyrone Covenant Presbyterian Church.

Jesus Walk is essentially a live nativity with 12 stations where guests hear from parishioners dressed in period clothing reciting Biblical lines from within their small heated shacks. Guests hear from actors portraying Zechariah, the innkeeper, Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, Wise Men and more, all leading

See **JESUS WALK** on 23A

“It's exciting for the church. It's our 33rd year of doing this.”

William Edgar

Tyrone Covenant Presbyterian Church



After the chilly walk, guests warmed up inside with snacks and music. Photo: Tim Jagielo

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“Vera Hogan's article, 'You are not poor, you are very rich...' was an excellent reminder of the many blessings we often don't count. Thank you and Merry Christmas.”



“Let me put this out there. Fenton is proud of the fire trucks in our parade. They've been doing it for many years. In fact we take our grandkids because we know those great fire trucks are going to be in the great parade. Only thing wrong in Fenton is our town clock still doesn't work.”

“I hope Santa Claus is able to manage through the new roundabout Christmas Eve.”



COMMENT
OF THE WEEK

“Merry Christmas to each and every one of you. Have a safe and healthy New Year.”



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Reconsider gifting an animal for Christmas

■ Cost, travel and an excited environment are things to contemplate

By Hannah Ball

Surprising someone with a puppy or kitten as a Christmas gift may be adorable while unwrapping presents. However, many animal websites and sources caution against doing this, or at least heavily encourage a lot of pre-planning.

Parents may want their kids to learn responsibility with an animal, but they should be prepared if the kids lose interest. Owners might not realize how much their schedule changes with a puppy.

Jody Maddock, director of Adopt-A-Pet, said getting a puppy as a Christmas gift should be a well thought-out decision.

“We always recommend a lot of research be done before people make such a big commitment of adding an animal to their family. The number one reason dogs are being turned in to us right now is due to lack of training for the dog,” she said. “All dogs need training to be well adjusted family companions.”



For a dog to become a successful part of a new family, training is required, as well as much planning and consideration before being given as a gift. **Times file photo**

Christmas Day itself is filled with tearing open presents in an excited environment, which may not be the best introduction into a home, according to petmd.com. Another thing to consider is if you buy someone an animal, they'll need supplies, such as food, a bed, toys and treats for the pet immediately.

ISSUES TO CONSIDER BEFORE GIVING A DOG OR CAT AS A GIFT

Living situation

Consider and/or confirm the recipients' living situation and if a pet is allowed.

Allergies

According to the Asthma and Allergy

“We always recommend a lot of research be done before people make such a big commitment of adding an animal to their family.”

Jody Maddock
Adopt-A-Pet director

Foundation of America (AAFA), as many as three in 10 people in the United States have pet allergies. Make sure no one who would live with the animal is allergic to them.

Timing

Families staying home for the holidays and taking time off from school or work may be most capable of welcoming a furry new addition into their homes. Those who travel frequently may not.

Finances

Pets can be expensive. According to the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the yearly cost of owning a dog can reach \$2,000 and about \$1,100 for a cat. Before giving a pet to a child, consult the child's parents to determine if the family can afford it.



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CONTACT INFORMATION
General Office 810-629-8282
Advertising 810-629-8281
Classifieds 810-433-6787
Circulation 810-433-6797
Hot Line myfenton.com
Fax 810-629-9227
Email news@tctimes.com

EDITORIAL STAFF

Editor Sharon Stone 810-433-6786 sstone@tctimes.com
Associate Editor Vera Hogan 810-433-6823 vhogan@tctimes.com
Media Editor Tim Jagielo 810-433-6795 tjagielo@tctimes.com
Staff Reporter Hannah Ball 810-433-6792 hball@tctimes.com
Features Writer Sally Rummel news@tctimes.com
Sports Editor David Troppens 810-433-6789 dtroppens@tctimes.com

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Mark my words

By Mark Rummel

The gift that never gives

You wouldn't be happy if a gift you give this holiday season was never opened. But, about 1 percent of all gift cards given to family, friends, co-workers or others are never used.

Not spending "free" money? It sounds so un-American, but that's human nature for you.

Experts say we bought \$130 billion in gift cards in a recent year. They seem to be the perfect present, since they let the recipient choose his or her favorite item, size, color, style or whatever. Gift cards are easy to hand out or even mail, since so many of our family and friends live further away than in past generations. And they work great for either in-store or online shopping.

So, gift cards are the perfect present, right? Most of the time yes, but about \$1 billion worth of those pieces of plastic will never be redeemed.

Why? Some people misplace or lose them, while others don't have that particular store in their neighborhood, so some cards never get used. And other busy folks just forget them. A recent survey said 75 percent of people (68 percent of men, 81 percent of women) always

use gift cards they receive. But about 20 percent more say they sometimes forget to use those gift cards they receive.

Since 2005, more than \$45 billion in unused gift card balances have been floating around, experts say. The government and stores have tightened up gift card policies, so that number is "only" about \$1 billion annually, down from past years.

Store owners love gift cards, because cards essentially give stores an interest-free loan — you spend money to buy a card in November, give it in December



Mark Rummel

and the recipient might use it in March. The store has gotten use of those funds for five months.

Yet gift card sales continue to climb by about 6 percent each year. They ARE convenient and they ARE easy to use and fun to receive, especially if you are in a hurry or aren't certain about the giftee's favorite

size, color, etc.

Some experts say giving cash is much safer in Christmas gift giving. That's probably true, but I still like (and give) gift cards. And I'm happy to receive them, too. Now, where did I put those gift cards I got last Christmas?

Opinions offered in this column are the author's alone and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Tri-County Times or its staff. Email Mark Rummel at news@tctimes.com.



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All submissions, if approved for publication, must be 50 words or less and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Tri-County Times. We reserve the right to edit for clarity, length and liability.

YES, AS A parent, I was expected to work and raise my son, and work at my job no matter what came about. My husband and I worked different shifts so we could take care of him. No problem.

YOU ARE WHAT you eat. Clearly, this applies to food intake and how our body composition is directly correlated. Eat fruit and veggies, have a healthy physique. Eat fried, processed foods, have a sick body.

JUST HAD LUNCH at Little Rose Café & Tea Shop in Linden. The soup, sandwiches, potpie and pastries were all really good.

FENTON SHOULD BUILD a Red Lobster restaurant where the old Ruby Tuesday's used to be. I think it would do great business.

DEVOS RUNS FOR-profit K-12 charter schools. Anyone surprised that she's siding with for-profit colleges that defrauded their students over the students who were preyed upon? She sees herself in the operators of those colleges.

Compiled by Hannah Ball, staff reporter

Question asked to Holly Academy students

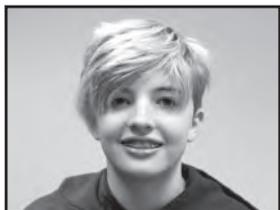
What's your favorite or most interesting thing about your pet?

| street talk



"There's a lot. We have two miniature golden doodles. They can be really hyper at times but if you're watching a movie, they'll sit with you and be calm."

Luke Schmidt
seventh grade



"I have three cats. They do dumb things. One will attack a door for no reason. They're fat and attack each other. Sometimes they won't be able to catch a mouse because they're fat."

Savannah Hagen
sixth grade



"I have three. Two cats and one dog. My cats like to chase each other. My cat, Twinkle, likes to chew cords and follows me everywhere. My dog, Maggie, likes to run in circles."

Abby Allen
sixth grade



"I have a dog, Cashew. He always follows me around and comforts me when I'm upset. He's really hyper. He likes to bark at people when they come in the house."

Anna Williams
eighth grade



"I love that he'll fit into my personality. When I want to do something, he'll want to do it, too. I tell him to do something, and he does it in the sloppiest way possible!"

Darrien Swantek
sixth grade



"We have dogs. Sometimes when he smiles, his teeth show. One of our dogs howls. When they were puppies, they would spin around in circles."

Aiden Feichtner
sixth grade

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POLICE & FIRE REPORT

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

MULTIPLE VEHICLE CRASH DAMAGES BUILDING

On Tuesday, Dec. 17 at approximately 2:56 p.m., a 67-year-old Holly Township woman, driving a 2013 Chevrolet Silverado truck, was pulling into an office parking lot from N. Saginaw Street near Hubble Drive and struck several parked vehicles in the parking lot, pushing an unoccupied 2018 GMC Terrain into the occupied front lobby area of a chiropractic office, according to the Holly Police Department's Facebook page. Holly police and fire departments arrived on scene in two minutes. The investigation revealed the driver of the Chevrolet truck misjudged the turn and struck the curb upon entry. She accidentally hit the accelerator instead of the brake,



striking three parked vehicles, one of which was occupied by a passenger. The third vehicle was pushed into the front of the office building. Occupants inside the office were able to avoid injury from the impact. There were no serious injuries reported. The driver of the vehicle was shaken and checked by medical personnel at the scene. The crash is under review by Holly police investigators.

Give your favorite charity the best Christmas gift

■ Save room in your holiday budget for end-of-year giving or budget year-round gifts in 2020

By Sally Rummel

Making a charitable donation to an organization you value is a worthy goal this time of year. And it can be a win-win for both the charity or church and your tax bill when April 15 rolls around next year.

When it comes to charity, about 30 percent of all donations come in during the month of December, according to Forbes.com. December is the month of giving for several reasons: the holidays encourage us to help others, the rise of the #GivingTuesday social movement and of course, tax strategies.

For a list of local non-profit groups that can use your support, refer to the Christmas 2019 featured section published Nov. 27, or the Times Source Book for many community organizations and churches.

Overall, if you itemize your deductions, making charitable contributions can decrease your tax bill. Since high earners generally pay tax at higher rates, they may get a large tax benefit from charitable contributions. Here are ways to maximize these benefits.

• **Give appreciated assets as opposed to giving cash.** If you donate long-term appreciated assets like bonds, stocks or real estate to charity, you generally don't have to pay capital gains, and you can take an income tax deduction for the full fair-market value, according to Bank of America.

• **Qualified Charitable Distribution:** More people are taking advantage of this giving strategy, commonly known as a Charitable IRA Rollover. Generally, a qualified charitable distribution is an otherwise taxable distribution from an IRA (with some restrictions and limits) owned by an individual who is age 70½ or over that is paid directly

from the IRA to a qualified charity, up to \$100,000. This can usually count as your required minimum distribution. For those not itemizing, this can be an especially smart strategy to use, according to Bank of America.

• **Bunching:** When individual taxpayers contribute by bunching donations, they combine multiple years of 'normal' annual charitable contributions into a single year. In the bunch year, the larger charitable contribution will increase the likelihood of exceeding the standard deduction and thus provide the taxpayers with additional tax savings.

For example, a married couple has a \$10,000 cap on the taxes that they can itemize and they gave \$10,000 in charity. They would have \$20,000 in deductions, which is less than the standard deduction so they wouldn't get any tax benefit by itemizing. If they plan to make a similar donation each year, an alternative is to bunch four years worth of donations this year for a total of \$40,000 and itemize deductions. Then over the next few years they will not make any donations and take the standard deduction.

BE MINDFUL OF THESE CHARITABLE GIVING YEAR- END DEADLINES FOR 2019:

- **Gifts of appreciated stock** should be initiated by Dec. 24. Notify your professional advisor of the transfer as soon as possible.
- **Checks sent** via the U.S. Postal Service or carriers such as FedEx, UPS and DHL must be postmarked on or before Dec. 31.
- **Qualified Charitable Distributions** from your IRA must be received by Dec. 31.
- **Wire transfers** of cash must be initiated no later than Dec. 27.
- **Credit card** gifts made by phone or online may be made until Dec. 31.

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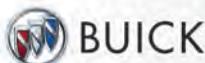
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2007 Ford Focus.....	\$3,373	2001 GMC Yukon SLE.....	\$4,997	2010 Chevrolet Malibu LT 2LT.....	\$6,595	2015 Nissan Sentra SV.....	\$8,295
2003 Pontiac Grand Am GT.....	\$3,377	2012 Ford Escape XLT.....	\$5,195	2012 Chevrolet Equinox LT 1LT.....	\$6,795	2014 Chrysler 200 Touring.....	\$8,295
2008 Nissan Quest	\$3,379	2012 Nissan Rogue SL.....	\$5,295	2010 Ford Flex SE.....	\$6,795	2013 Chrysler 200 Limited.....	\$8,393
2009 Mercury Milan Premier	\$3,495	2010 Ford Fusion SE	\$5,395	2014 Chevrolet Cruze 1LT	\$6,995	2010 Chevrolet Equinox LS	\$8,395
2005 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 WT.....	\$3,495	2010 Chevrolet Traverse LS	\$5,395	2012 Chevrolet Malibu LT 1LT.....	\$6,995	2014 Chevrolet Cruze 1LT.....	\$8,493
2009 Dodge Avenger R/T	\$3,695	2010 Chevrolet Traverse LS	\$5,495	2013 Nissan Altima 2.5 S.....	\$6,995	2007 GMC Sierra 1500 SLE2.....	\$8,495
2011 Chevrolet Malibu LT 1LT.....	\$3,995	2006 Chevrolet TrailBlazer LS	\$5,495	2014 Ford Fusion SE	\$6,995	2009 GMC Acadia SLT-1.....	\$8,495
2010 Dodge Journey SE.....	\$4,095	2010 GMC Terrain SLE-1	\$5,495	2012 Dodge Journey Crew	\$7,295	2012 Chevrolet Impala LTZ	\$8,495
2005 Chrysler 300C Base.....	\$4,350	2007 Ford Edge SEL Plus.....	\$5,495	2011 GMC Terrain SLE-2	\$7,369	2009 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 LT	\$8,495
2008 Pontiac Torrent Base.....	\$4,395	2011 Chevrolet Malibu LTZ	\$5,595	2010 Cadillac DTS Base	\$7,595	2012 Volkswagen Jetta 2.0	\$8,590
2008 GMC Envoy SLE.....	\$4,488	2012 Chevrolet Cruze LS	\$5,690	2008 Chevrolet Avalanche 1500 LT LT2.....	\$7,695	2012 Chrysler 200 Limited.....	\$8,895
2006 Cadillac SRX V6	\$4,495	2008 Ford Escape XLT	\$5,695	2012 Jeep Liberty Sport	\$7,695	2009 Ford Ranger Sport.....	\$8,990
2004 Ford F-150.....	\$4,495	2013 Chevrolet Cruze 1LT	\$5,777	2010 Buick LaCrosse CXS	\$7,800	2006 Chevrolet Colorado LT.....	\$8,995
2007 Chevrolet Equinox LS.....	\$4,495	2008 Ford Edge Limited	\$5,795	2007 GMC Sierra 1500 Classic WT	\$7,895	2011 GMC Terrain SLT-2.....	\$8,995
2000 Chevrolet S-10 LS	\$4,695	2009 GMC Acadia SLE-1	\$5,797	2009 Buick Enclave CXL 3RD Row	\$7,973	2009 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 LT	\$8,995
2003 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 LS	\$4,789	2006 GMC Envoy XL SLT.....	\$5,850	2010 Chevrolet Equinox LT 2LT.....	\$7,985	2005 Ford F-250SD Lariat 4WD	\$8,999
2009 GMC Acadia SLT-2.....	\$4,895	2012 Chevrolet Malibu LT 2LT.....	\$5,897	2016 Ford Fiesta SE	\$7,995	2004 Ford F-250SD XLT.....	\$9,190
2005 Jeep Liberty Limited.....	\$4,895	2014 Dodge Journey SXT	\$5,995	2013 Dodge Avenger SXT	\$7,995	2013 Chevrolet Impala LT.....	\$9,195
2007 Lincoln Town Car Signature Ltd.....	\$4,995	2014 Chevrolet Spark 1LT.....	\$5,995	2012 Chrysler 200 Limited.....	\$7,995	2012 Dodge Challenger SXT	\$9,473

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No need to hit Times Square for New Year's Eve

■ Locals can ring in the new year by catching a Facebook live show right here at home

By Vera Hogan

While most 18-year-olds would be looking forward to a festive New Year's Eve with friends and family, there is one Fenton teen who will be doing both — all from his home in Fenton.

Jonah Wolford, who graduated from Lake Fenton High School earlier this year, has transformed his bedroom into "Times Square," a near-exact replica of what travelers to New York City will see on New Year's Eve.

For the past 11 years, Wolford has been broadcasting his New Year's Eve show called "Prime Time Rockin' New Year's Eve 20" with Jonah Wolford. For the past four years, he has been broadcasting his show on Facebook Live (just look up Jonah Wolford on Facebook and "like" his page) and you'll be able to watch the program yourself.

See **NEW YEAR'S EVE** on 21A



Jonah Wolford gathered 270,000 views at his New Year's Eve 2018 Facebook Live event. His show included a replica of Times Square, the ball, and miniature stages for live performances. Photo: Tim Jagielo



Earlier this year, Jonah Wolford, 18, a Lake Fenton High School graduate, was surprised with a personal live taping with Ryan Seacrest and Kelly Ripa of "LIVE with Kelly and Ryan."

Submitted photo

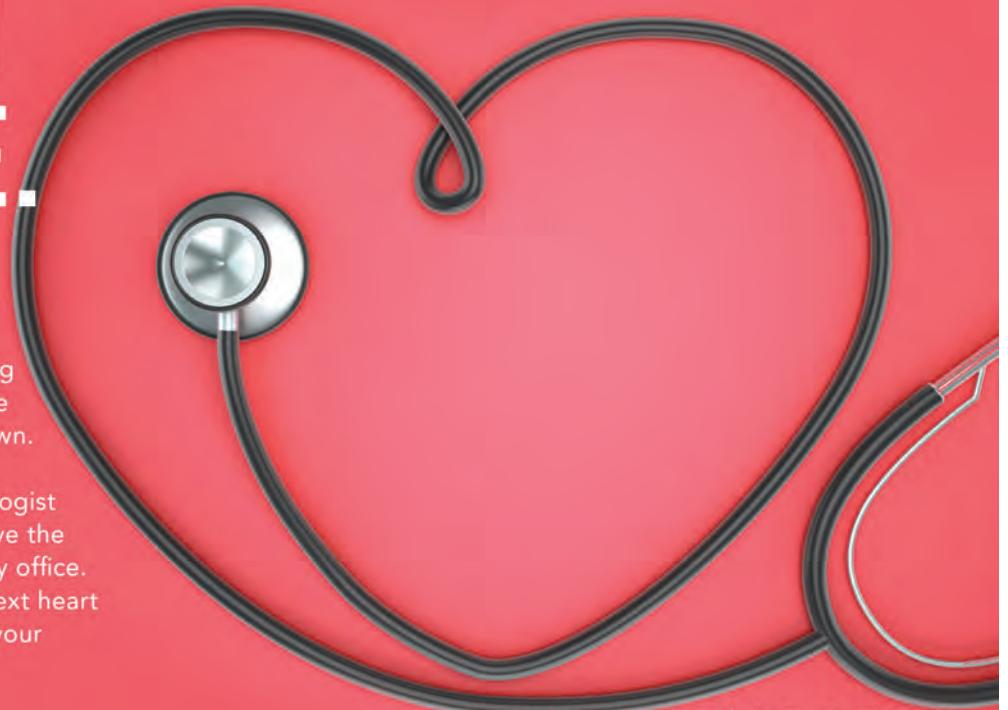
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WHAT YOU MISSED IN THE MIDWEEK TIMES

Compiled by Vera Hogan

The following are stories you may have missed in the **Wednesday, Dec. 18, Midweek Times**. To subscribe and receive both the Midweek and Sunday Weekend editions, please call (810) 629-8282 or go to myfenton.com.

From military to millwright

Program links former military to union trade apprenticeships.

Real Christmas tree sales are growing

Sales are up nationwide, large trees popular locally.



Argentine dam could cost 'hundreds of thousands' to fix

Supervisor says dam should last through next summer.

Santa Slam success

More than 400 toys collected from sixth annual dodge ball tournament.

'Everybody knows Ted Goupil'

Father and son have combined 36 years on Fenton Township Board.

Our Future

Meet Sheridan Goss, 17, senior at Linden High School and founder of "Snuggle Sacks."

The Tri-County Times will not be publishing the Midweek editions for Dec. 25 and Jan. 1, 2020.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS
from our family to yours.

POLICE & FIRE REPORT

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

SLOW POLICE CHASE EARLY SATURDAY MORNING

At 2:30 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 14, a Fenton police officer on patrol initiated a traffic stop on a vehicle for a violation on Owen Road, near U.S. 23. Lt. Jeff Cross said the vehicle initially stopped, however, as the patrol vehicle approached, the

vehicle took off and entered northbound U.S. 23. The officer followed as the car exited at Silver Lake Road and turned south onto Fenway Drive. The driver eventually pulled over and stopped at Fenway and Grant Street. When the officer approached the car, they detected the odor of intoxicants. The driver, a 41-year-old Fenton man, was arrested for operating a vehicle while intoxicated. His blood alcohol level was nearly three times the legal limit. He was also arrested for open intoxicants in a vehicle and fleeing and eluding police. He was transported to the Genesee County Jail.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

OBAMA TOLD MCCONNELL about Russian interference. As per usual, good ole Mitch ignored it. Do a little research.

IF OUR NATION feels the need to train other foreign military folk, just send the teachers there. Don't bring hundreds of potential problems onto American soil endangering our sons and daughters on our bases.

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HOT LINE CONTINUED

FOLLOW THE MONEY. The only reason why Democrats want to impeach Trump is that they have no candidate that can beat him in 2020. If they lose again, they will feel it in their bank accounts. Don't let them tell you they are doing it for our benefit.

APPARENTLY, REP. ELISSA Slotkin does not know her constituents. For her to be in favor of impeachment of President Trump means that she will

never get our vote again. Elections are where you get rid of candidates you don't like.

TO PROVE THAT he hasn't done anything wrong, President Trump should let his staff talk to Congress. Then we'll vote for him if he's okay.

YOU'VE GOT TO be kidding about POTUS kissing up to Saudis, right? The last president bowed before the Saudi King. Keep your friends close and your enemies closer.

Fenton graduate pens sci-fi thriller**'The Lazarus Vaccine'**
available to purchase**By Hannah Ball**

Fenton — A mysterious man with scars who doesn't remember his past comes into contact with two best friends, one of whom is harboring a world-altering secret about a miracle vaccine called "Lazarus" that can cure any disease.

In the book "The Lazarus Vaccine," a techno-thriller written by 2000 Fenton High School graduate Danny Gould, friendships are tested when the fate of humankind is at stake.

Gould, who writes under the name D. L. Gould, independently published "The Lazarus Vaccine" this year.

"The independent circuit is open to first-timers to get a hand in the game a little," he said.

Gould's father died when he was younger, and the experience with the healthcare system inspired "The Lazarus Vaccine."

"The character Adam is really frustrated with how the healthcare system works and how we could help people but we don't," he said. "I just thought to myself, 'what would happen if there was this miracle cure for all diseases' and that's where it really came from."

While Adam and Jason are best friends, their personalities are very opposite. Adam is a genius hacker, slated for great things. Jason fixes boat motors at a marina and doesn't always earn

passing grades.

Their friendship becomes strained when Adam connects with the mysterious hacker Lazarus and talks about starting a revolution. They're also teenagers, dealing with school and girls.

Tri-county readers will enjoy the Fenton references in the book, including familiar marinas and landscapes, especially the lakes.

"I was always around lakes my whole life," Gould said, mentioning Silver Lake and Lake Fenton. "The Crooked Lake in the book is a composite of all the lakes I've been to."

Gould did intensive research on artificial intelligence, and the book clearly explains the science and theories behind popular science-fiction topics.

"It really centers on the concept of artificial technologies and AI," he said. "I find

those things fascinating. It's my favorite thing to learn about and watch in fiction."

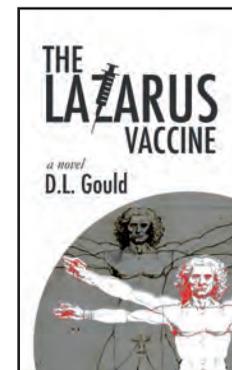
His favorite literary and fiction influences are a mix of classic American modernism, such as F. Scott Fitzgerald and Ernest Hemingway, and science-fiction authors, such as Michael Crichton, Stephen King and Steve Alten.

Gould is working on a second book, though it's not a sequel to "The Lazarus Vaccine," which can be purchased at Fenton's Open Book or online at thordlgoald.com.

He now lives in the suburbs of Chicago with his wife and two sons, and he teaches high school English and creative writing.



Danny Gould



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Teens under pressure

■ Anxiety is more severe in teens due to social media, over work and even over protection

By Tim Jagielo

According to The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), diagnosed anxiety in children aged 3 to 17 has increased over time. Anxiety in children and teens aged 12 to 17 is diagnosed much higher than depression or other behavior disorders.

Linden High School psychologist Lori Girard said she's seen a rapid increase in teen anxiety over her 28-year career.

Parents and counselors the Times reached out to for the story report what

most people seem to know already — teen anxiety is high, and it's more severe than it has been in the past.

Suggested causes include social media and technology, overwhelming pressures from school, conflicts with friends, peers and family. Harassment at school can be an issue extending into home life through social media.

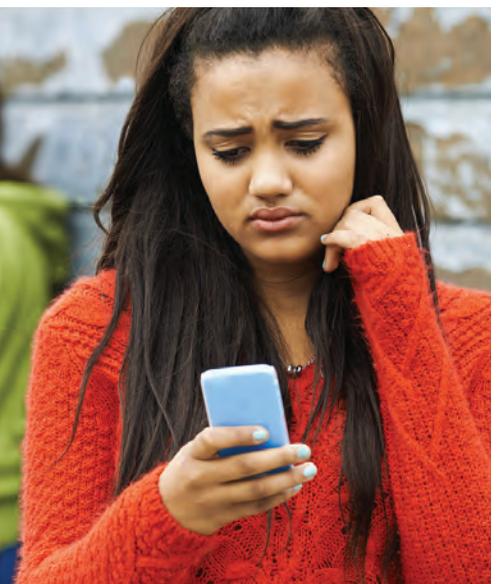
"They are exposed to violence and nudity and they may feel like they need

to be perfect like the photoshopped pictures we all see on magazine covers," said Lake Fenton senior Emma Ziraldo, 18. "Personally, I have experienced anxiety through the stress of keeping grades up and keeping my mentality healthy."

"My daughter has dealt with anxiety by talking to me and working stuff out

“They’re not in these situations when they develop their confidence and their personalities. At a certain age these kids need to learn by trial and error.”

Mark Carpenter
Life coach



herself with some guiding," Shelby Badal said. Her daughter Maddie, 13, is a Lake Fenton student. "I can only tell she's anxious when she's losing sleep or doesn't open herself up."

Aside from social media, Mark Carpenter of VAE Life Coaching in Fenton said causes also include parents being over protective and imprinting their own worldly fears onto their teens.

One remedy for the problem? Parents need to let their children stumble through challenges and learn how to learn from failures.

"They're not in these situations when they develop their confidence and their personalities," Carpenter said. "At a certain age these kids need to learn by trial and error."

See PRESSURE on 19A

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David Wood (left), an Eaton Rapids police officer, received nine weeks of proton therapy to treat his stage three pancreatic cancer. He poses with Dr. Hesham Gayar. **Photos: Ben Gagnon**

Cancer-killing proton therapy technology unveiled

■ Releases radiation doses to an exact point inside a tumor

Cancer patients in mid-Michigan now have access to cutting-edge radiation oncology treatment at the McLaren Proton Therapy Center in Flint.

Located on the campus of McLaren Health Care's Karmanos Cancer Institute, the McLaren Proton Therapy Center is one of 28 proton therapy centers in the United States and only

the second of its kind in Michigan. The facility offers an advanced and precise form of cancer treatment called proton therapy, which targets tumors while sparing healthy tissue and reducing the side effects of radiation.

Dr. Hesham Gayar, medical director of the McLaren Proton Therapy Center, said that proton therapy benefits cancer patients by releasing its radiation doses to an exact point inside a tumor.

"We have a technology called pencil-

beam scanning, which allows us to 'paint' the targets and treat tiny spots, even as small as three to seven millimeters in size, depending on depth," he said. "We can tailor and put the beam where it belongs, and sometimes use multiple beams."

Unlike traditional radiation treatments, proton therapy is equipped to stop at the tumor and does not continue on to harm healthy tissue and organs around a treatment area. In one example of treatment for a brain tumor, Gayar said that the amount of excess radiation to healthy tissue that could be avoided by using proton therapy instead of conventional X-ray radiation treatment could be equivalent to taking up to 450,000 dental X-rays without wearing a lead shield.

According to Gayar, proton therapy is most often used to treat solid, inoperable tumors that haven't spread to other parts of the body. Although the treatment is not applicable to every case, it can be used to combat a variety of different cancers, including prostate cancer, breast cancer, pancreatic cancer and lymphoma.

Since opening last December, the center has treated 50 patients and administered over 1,400 treatments. One of those patients is David Wood, an Eaton Rapids police officer who received nine weeks of proton therapy to treat his stage three pancreatic cancer.

Wood, the center's first patient, said that proton therapy not only eradicated his cancer but it also left him with few side effects and no pain after the procedures were finished. "My life has been normal, other than a little fatigue," he said. "I've been getting my energy back and I've started exercising again this week."

For more information visit mclaren.org/protontherapy.



The treatment room of the Synchrotron

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ONLINE

Continued from Front Page

claim to be selling popular items such as an Amazon Echo and popular children's items.

However, complaints to BBB allege customers pay for the items and then never receive them.

Many consumers tell BBB that despite never receiving their package, the tracking they were given claims the package was delivered. Some customers were able to track their package and learn that the package was delivered to a different address. When looking at the package delivery details, one customer said the size of the package was much different than what was ordered.

One customer told BBB he ordered a product from Banzunion.com. When he did not receive the package, he checked the tracking information provided, which stated the item had been delivered. He tried to track down his package but was unsuccessful. He tried to dispute the charges through PayPal but since there was a delivery notification, the dispute was denied.

Another customer tells BBB a similar story. When she tracked the package down, she was told a different address than hers was listed on record as the delivery address. She disputed the charges through PayPal twice but again, since the tracking said the item was delivered, her dispute was denied.

In an attempt to resolve the complaints, BBB reached out to the companies via the email addresses on file. Both were returned undeliverable.

BBB representatives then sent letters to the address listed on the "contact us" portion of the companies' websites. Upon receiving BBB's letter, the owner of the commercial building located at the address on file called BBB. He said that neither company has ever been tenants in the building and that his office had been receiving phone calls from unhappy customers looking for their orders.

To further try to contact the "companies," BBB called the phone number listed on both websites. That phone number has been disconnected.

Websites:

- iCheap.net is active and continuing to take orders.
- banzunion.com is no longer active. Other active websites linked to the companies:
- hudashdy.com
- jerseyeasy.com
- habatim.com

Smart Shopping Tips:

Better Business Bureau offers these tips for safe online shopping:

- **Know the company.** Some of the best deals are only available online, but be careful. It's easy to get lured in by a website that looks legitimate. Check out retailers at bbb.org before you shop.

- **Be a savvy shopper.** Does the offer seem too good to be true? Are other companies making offers that are close to that price? Scams often lure in victims with fantastic offers. Be cautious if a deal seems to be too good.

- **Shop with a credit card.** In case of a fraudulent transaction, a credit card provides additional protections; it's easier to dispute charges that you didn't approve. Debit cards, prepaid cards or gift cards don't have the same protections as a credit card. Being asked to pay for a product pay by wire transfer or alternative methods is a red flag that the company may not be a reputable as they claim. Wire transfers are untraceable, so if the opportunity is a scam you will lose your money and it will not be found.

- **When shopping online,** use reputable, traceable payment options such as PayPal.

- **Better Business Bureau encourages** you to report possible scams to BBB Scam Tracker at bbb.org/scamtracker. For assistance finding reputable businesses visit bbb.org.

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Times

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

MSU Extension Master Gardener Classes

New classes are starting Jan. 25, 2020 in Genesee County and Jan. 21, 2020 Livingston County. The MSU Extension Master Gardener Program is a volunteer leader training program for people who are enthusiastic to learn science based environmentally friendly gardening practices and share this knowledge with others to improve Michigan communities. For Genesee County courses, go to events.anr.msu.edu/mgvpgenesee20w. For Livingston County courses, go to events.anr.msu.edu/mgvpsspringlivingston20.

Hartland Audubon Nature Club

Hartland Audubon Nature Club will hold its January meeting Tuesday, Jan. 7, at 7:15 p.m. at Hartland Senior Center, 9525 E. Highland Rd. The evening's program is "Birding in Peru" with Scott Terry and Brad Murphy. For more information, go to Hartlandaudubon.weebly.com.

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Colds and the flu are common illnesses that can cause many uncomfortable symptoms, such as a runny nose, blocked sinuses, a sore throat, coughing, headaches, body aches, fever or chills. Photo: Metro Creative Connection

Home treatments for the cold, flu

■ Viruses cause colds, so antibiotics won't cure or prevent these illnesses

By Vera Hogan

First, if you haven't already done so, go out and get your flu shot. It's your best shot at avoiding the flu altogether.

According to the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), a flu vaccination can keep you from getting sick with flu. The CDC says flu vaccine prevents millions of illnesses and flu-related doctor's visits each year. For example, during 2017-2018, flu vaccination prevented an estimated 6.2 million influenza illnesses, 3.2 million influenza-associated medical visits, 91,000 influenza-associated hospitalizations, and 5,700 influenza-associated deaths.

During seasons when the flu vaccine viruses are similar to circulating flu viruses, the flu vaccine has been shown to reduce the risk of having to go to the doctor with flu by 40 percent to 60 percent.

Viruses are responsible for colds and flu, so antibiotics are not able to cure or prevent these illnesses. If you already have a cold or the flu, plenty of rest, fluids, and home remedies can help relieve symptoms.

Colds and the flu are common illnesses that can cause many uncomfortable symptoms, such as a runny nose, blocked sinuses, a sore throat, coughing,

headaches, body aches, fever or chills

The following home remedies may reduce symptoms and shorten the duration of a cold or the flu:

Stay home and get plenty of rest

On the first day you have symptoms, call your work or school and tell them you won't be coming in for a few days. You're sick — and very contagious. Take advantage of down time and give your body some much-needed rest.

Drink plenty of fluids

Make sure you get more liquids. It doesn't all have to be water — fruit juices, sports drinks, and broth-based soups (like chicken noodle soup) also count. They keep your respiratory system hydrated and help turn that nasty, thick mucus into a thin liquid you can cough up and spit out. That's good because if it builds up in your lungs it could lead to an infection.

Treat aches and fever

Got fever? That's because your body has turned up the heat to fight off the flu virus. Treat it and the aches that come with it with over-the-counter medications like acetaminophen, ibuprofen or naproxen. Never give aspirin to anyone younger than 19. It's linked to a condition known as Reye's syndrome, a serious illness that can damage the brain and liver.

See **TREATMENTS** on 27A

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We are so excited to see what 2020 has in store for everyone!

In reflection, 2019 was truly an amazing year. We were so blessed to have had tremendous growth, served hundreds upon hundreds of our friends and neighbors and gotten the opportunity to get to know them and their families. **Man, we truly live in an amazing community of fabulous people.** I cannot say enough about how lucky we are to have been led back to Michigan and into Fenton to open our Chiropractic & Neuropathy Clinic in 2014. To say the very least, God works in wondrous ways.

We would like to take this moment to say Thank You, to everyone who has helped our clinic grow and all who have entrusted our team with their health and wellness. Thank you for coming in and sharing your stories with us. Patients and their families thank us quite often but what many of you do not realize is how much you touch our hearts as well.

We want to make you a promise, a promise that we will be here, and we will continue to serve, to grow, to offer more and develop more treatment protocols that will give our community members healthy options for preventive care and safe options for treatment.

Prevention is always key and though we have some amazing medical doctors here in the area, it's always better and honestly easier to stay healthy rather than

trying to get back to health once its lost. We strive to teach an inside out approach, rather than and outside in approach to health. **Give your body what it needs in terms of nutrition, oxygen and movement and remove the toxins and interference and the body will work, respond and preform as it was designed to.**

When I say interference, I am referring to interference due to pressure and irritation that is placed on the nervous system, (which are the lines of communication from the brain to the organs, tissues and cells of the body). Pressure due to a bone that has slightly shifted out of place. That is where we come in! **We remove that pressure with a scientifically focused chiropractic adjustment (based on an exam and motion study x-ray analysis) and your body will heal.** You will experience less pain, better sleep, a heightened immune system, and all sorts of other amazing things based on what nerves the pressure was on and what organs they led to.

2020 is going to be amazing and we will be here saving lives, not just getting people out of pain but I can assure you we will be doing a lot of that as well! If you and your family would like an evaluation to determine how we can help you improve your health and prevent future illnesses and ailments in 2020, please do not hesitate to call our Fenton clinic

at 810-214-0684 to schedule. We accept all insurance and have special options for those in need. Our clinic successfully treats babies, kids and adults for issues with Colic, Earaches, Neck & Back Pain, Vertigo, Sciatica, Arthritis, Neuropathy, and Whiplash along with many other issues that come about when the body is out of its proper alignment. If we do not hear from you, don't worry, **this will not be the last you hear from us!**

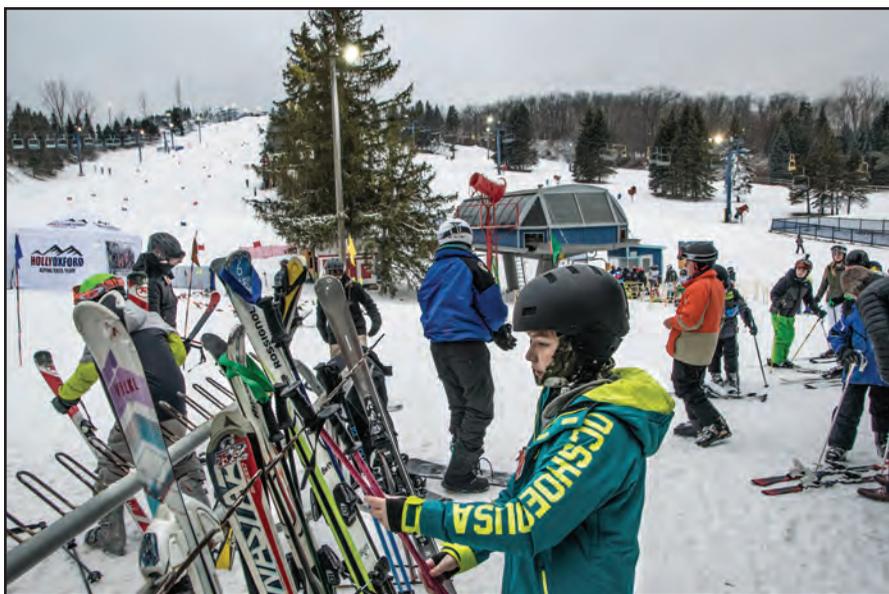
We will be spreading our message of health louder and more consistently in the coming year because we love this community and want to help it become as healthy as possible!

Thank you so much for reading until the end. **From the entire team, we would like to say God Bless You & Your Family, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a wholehearted Happy New Year!**

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Activities like skiing or other new or solo activities can help reduce unnecessary anxiety. *Times* file photo

PRESSURE

Continued from Page 11A

Girard said students with severe anxiety can learn from exposure therapy — facing their fears little by little. She said avoiding uncomfortable feelings just leads them to feel they are too fragile for life's challenges.

Carpenter has had 700 to 800 teens as counseling clients. Of the 30 he sees every week on average, 60 percent express having debilitating anxiety. As a retired marine, he said for example that teens in war-torn Iraq and Afghanistan express lower levels of anxiety.

This anxiety manifested during homecoming season. Teens reported wanting to go, or ask someone, but plans collapsed into near panic at the thought of this social interaction.

Fenton High School Principal Mark Suchowski said students have more on their plate than students in the past. "Over the last 20 years, high school graduation requirements have increased and parents and schools have raised expectations for all students to have plans for their post-high school career pathway," Suchowski said. He said a solution is talking to trusted staff members and other adults.

Girard said they try to identify warning signs of anxiety in students so that intervention can be offered.

Kelsy Hoerauf, Fenton marriage and family therapist, said that teen anxiety is just as serious as an adult's. "They may not have developed the skills or

tools to cope with anxiety the way an adult would," Hoerauf said. What does she say to teens who are anxious? "You are important, you matter and you are enough. You'll get through this time, but don't hesitate to ask for help. Trusted adults, friends and therapists, we're here for a reason."

Source: Mark Carpenter, Craig Golembiewski, Fenton guidance counselor

Suggestions for reducing anxiety

- Monitor and possibly reduce sugar and caffeine intake.
- Make goals, but plan them out and don't be afraid to fail.
- Find a form of exercise you enjoy. It doesn't need to be a team sport.
- Try new things.
- Talk to adults and friends you trust.
- Learn what triggers your anxiety and take a break.

**TEXT YOUR
HOT LINE**

810-771-TEXT (8398)

Times

POLICE & FIRE REPORT

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

RENTAL VEHICLE STOLEN WHILE FLORIDA MAN HAS DINNER

The Fenton Police Department is investigating a stolen vehicle complaint. Lt. Jeff Cross said a Florida resident reported that between 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 9, someone stole the rental vehicle he had parked in the community center parking lot while he had dinner at a nearby restaurant. He said he had rented a gray 2019 Ford Expedition in Detroit. He was surprised because he was in possession of both sets of keys and there were no signs of forced entry. Also stolen were about \$2,000 worth of personal belongings that were in the SUV. The theft remains under investigation.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

NANCY PELOSI CLAIMS she doesn't or can't hate anyone because she is a devout Catholic. Explain that to her support of late-term abortion of innocent life. She is not a Catholic. We don't support this murder of babies.

■■■■
I HAVE WORDS other than 'selfish' for the driver of the older-model, wine-colored truck who passed me on a double yellow line on Denton Hill. One day you will not make it home driving like that and sadly, you might take someone else's life with you.

■■■■
TRUMP SUPPORTERS IN the Hot lines are hilarious. You make up your own facts, most of which are so far from reality it's nuts. I love his approval rating is rising. Even Fox News disputes that. CNN ratings are going up not down.

■■■■
I'M SADDENED TO watch the Democratic Party self-destruct. A two-party system always gave a choice of how we wanted this country governed and one could be an independent voter. No more as the governing Democrats do not appear to care about anything other than their well-paid jobs.

■■■■
KNUTES SAYS MERRY Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

■■■■

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LOOKING BACK at this week in **HISTORY**

COMPILED BY VERA HOGAN

DEC. 22

1968: Julie Nixon and David Eisenhower, both progeny of United States presidents, tie the knot in New York City. Julie Nixon was the

daughter of Richard M. Nixon, who was running for president at the time of the wedding. Her groom was the grandson of Dwight D. Eisenhower, who served as America's 34th president from 1953 to 1961. They started dating in 1967, when they were both 19.

DEC. 23

1888: Dutch painter Vincent van Gogh, suffering from severe depression, cuts off the lower part of his left ear with a razor while staying in Arles, France. He later documented the event in a painting titled Self-Portrait with Bandaged Ear. Today, Van Gogh is

regarded as an artistic genius and his masterpieces sell for record-breaking prices; however, during his lifetime, he was a poster boy for tortured starving artists and sold only one painting.

DEC. 24

1865: In Pulaski, Tennessee, a group of Confederate veterans convenes to form a secret society that they christen the "Ku Klux Klan." The KKK rapidly grew from a secret social fraternity to a paramilitary force bent on reversing the federal government's progressive Reconstruction Era-activities in the South, especially policies that elevated

the rights of the local African American population.

DEC. 25

1914: Just after midnight on Christmas morning, the majority of German troops engaged in World War I cease firing their guns and artillery and commence to sing Christmas carols. At certain points along the eastern and western fronts, the soldiers of Russia, France, and Britain even heard brass bands joining the Germans in their joyous singing.

DEC. 26

1972: Former President Harry S. Truman dies in Independence, Missouri. Then-President Richard Nixon called Truman a man of "forthrightness and integrity" who had a deep respect for the office he held and for the people he served, and who "supported and wisely counseled each of his successors."

DEC. 27

1944: As World War II dragged on, President Franklin D. Roosevelt orders his secretary of war to seize properties belonging to the Montgomery Ward company because the company refused to comply with a labor agreement. In an effort to avert strikes in critical war-support industries, Roosevelt created the National War Labor Board in 1942. The board negotiated settlements between management and workers to avoid shut-downs in production that might cripple the war effort. However, Montgomery Ward Chairman Sewell Avery refused to comply with the terms of three different collective bargaining agreements with the United Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union. In April 1944, after Sewell refused a second board order, Roosevelt called out the Army National Guard to seize the company's main plant in Chicago. Sewell himself had to be carried out of his office by National Guard troops.

DEC. 28

1900: Convinced that her righteous campaign against alcohol justified her aggressive tactics, Carry Nation attacks a saloon in Wichita, Kansas, shattering a large mirror behind the bar and throwing rocks at a titillating painting of Cleopatra bathing. Carry Nation's lifelong battle against alcohol reflected a larger reformist spirit that swept through the nation in the early 20th century and led to laws against everything from child labor to impure food and drugs.

Source: history.com

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NEW YEAR'S EVE

Continued from Page 8A

"It's a buff off of Dick Clark's Rockin' New Year's Eve," Wolford said. "It's just for fun and enjoyment. It's a dress-up, alcohol-free and drug-free event at my house."

Wolford said that last year 248,000 people tuned in, including people from the Ukraine.

"I don't do this for money or advertising," he said. "I have not made one penny doing this and I don't plan to."

This year, the show opens with Shania Twain and her big hit, "Any Man of Mine." A medley of 10 of Lady Gaga's greatest hits will also be played, according to Wolford. He'll then feature the hottest music of the year and when the ball drops, a Frank Sinatra song will be played. He also will pay homage to the celebrities who lost their lives in 2019.

Yes, Wolford has a ball. This year it will be the star of the show. He built it 10 feet high so viewers will feel like they're in Times Square. For the first time, it is made of 144 symmetrical rhinestones of different colors. In previous years, the ball was made of tin foil. The theme of this year's ball is "Gift of open-mindedness in 2020."

The whole program begins at 6 p.m. on New Year's Eve. "At 8 p.m. I let Ryan Seacrest, the star of "Dick Clark's Rockin' New Year's Eve" do his thing. Then at 11 p.m., I come back on Facebook Live."

Earlier this year, on a class trip to New York City, Wolford said he received the surprise of his life. Ryan Gonder, the band director for Lake Fenton High School tricked Wolford. He and three other parent chap-



Jonah Wolford's set includes the One Times Square building and a large button (right) that a special guest will push to initiate the ball drop. Photos: Tim Jagiello

ones, Nancy Vance and Brenna Kauer, and Gonder's wife, Holly Rosser, told him they had to go to the NBC studios for a promotional activity.

"We had to get up so early, we didn't even have breakfast," Wolford said.

Instead of the NBC studios, Wolford was taken to the ABC studios where he was surprised with a personal live taping with Kelly Ripa and Seacrest of "LIVE with Kelly and Ryan."

Seacrest's advice to Wolford for his local New Year's Eve show — "Just do it. Don't worry about it. What's going to happen will happen. Ring in the new year like I know you can."

Also new this year is Wolford is sponsored by Sweet and Sassy Sisters Jewelry, who will be unpaid for sponsoring the show.

"New Year's is about a second chance at life," he said. "Do what you choose to do with your life; make it count. It's never too late to change what you want to change about you even if it's to calm down or lighten up. You be you; you do you; you change you for your better. Last year's chances end at midnight."



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Holly Academy, a Public School Academy, will be holding open student enrollment for the 2020-2021 school year beginning January 6, 2020 through March 6, 2020.

Applications may be picked up at any time from the office during regular school hours 8:00am to 4:00pm weekdays or you may access forms online at www.hollyacademy.org. Learn about the "Power of the Pack" at our New Family Expo, which will be held at the Academy on Monday, February 24, 2020 from 6:00pm until 7:30pm.

If there are more applicants to enroll in a specific grade than there are spaces available, students shall be selected using a public lottery process.

The lottery, if necessary, is scheduled to occur on Friday, March 20, 2020 at 9:00am.

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Brian Berkey speaks as Simeon along with Anna, portrayed by Judy Frantz, on Saturday, Dec. 14. Their script was from the Book of Luke, where the couple sees the child Jesus. Photo: Tim Jagielo

JESUS WALK

Continued from Front Page

up to the birth of Jesus. There are even live sheep and goats near the shepherds.

The final station is about the modern Christmas era. Betsey Berkey was the first to represent this stop on the walk.

A guide takes attendees on a winding 20-minute walk through the woods by lantern. Afterward, guests entered the church to warm up with snacks and live music. Flickering pots covered in smudge created a lighted path to the welcome center, which was attended by approximately 735 people.

The event ran from 5 to 8 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 14 and Sunday, Dec. 15.

This was the second year the Edgar

family was in charge of the event. William Edgar helped organize it with his family. "It's exciting for the church. It's our 33rd year of doing this," Edgar said. He hopes for many more years as long as they can keep running it.

He said preparation started in June, and work continued on and off all year. "You will learn about the birth of Jesus Christ, up to his birth and a little bit past," Edgar said. He enjoys the quiet atmosphere and watching the actors.

He said it takes 15 to 20 volunteers to run it and there are at least 50 actors working over two shifts.

"Jesus Walk has been a great way to introduce Tyrone Covenant to the community," said Kathy Toonder, secretary.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

ATTENTION REPUBLICAN AND Democratic voters. Politicians are playing with your minds and must not be trusted. Search out the truth and be able to tell fact from fake news before you believe a politician.

■■■

WE ARE EXTREMELY

disappointed that Hallmark is choosing to air the same-sex commercials during its 'family' Christmas movies. Our household has been an avid supporter of the channel and movies for years. At Christmas functions and church, we found many who are no longer going to watch these productions.

■■■

SLPR VOLLEYBALL, WHAT'S going on? Evaluations on a holiday weekend, no make-up day. If you're out of town or sick, you're out of luck. This was such a nice program, what happened? Soccer and now this, sad.

■■■

I COULDN'T BELIEVE a Republican was really voting for Andrew Yang so I Googled him and sure enough there is a whole group called Republicans for Yang.

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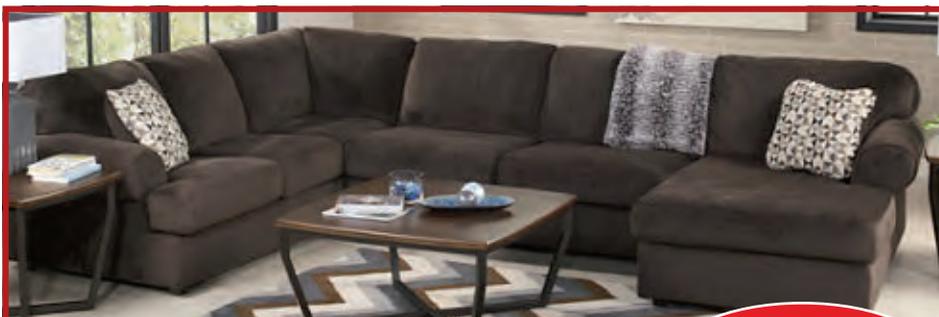
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GOLD**Continued from Front Page**

“The Gold Shovel Standard is really more about protecting underground utilities than safety. OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) regulates safety-related procedures and issues,” said Thomas Broecker, operations manager and deputy clerk for Fenton Township.

“**The Gold Shovel Standard is really more about protecting underground utilities than safety.**”

Thomas Broecker
Fenton Township operations
manager/deputy clerk

The goal of the program is for drain commissions and municipalities to share information about underground infrastructure to prevent life-threatening incidents.

“Providing the highest level of safety, quality of service, and peace of mind to the residents of our system is extremely important to us,” said Drain Commissioner Jeff Wright

in a press release. “Gold Shovel Standard is an established program that is straightforward to adopt and we can utilize it to reduce damages to underground infrastructure, maximize efficiency, and avoid wasteful use of resources in the various communities we serve.”

The Fenton Township Board held the first reading for the ordinance on Monday, Dec. 16 and will vote on it Monday, Jan. 6, 2020. The new ordinance will require contractors to provide proof that they participate in the Gold Shovel Standard. Broecker said currently, any contractor or excavator that works on sanitary sewers in Fenton Township, such as connecting a house to the sewer system, is required to obtain a sewer contractor license from the township.

“Once adopted, the ordinance will add the Gold Shovel Standard certification requirement to the application for those licenses,” he said.

The recommended effective date of the ordinance is March 1, 2020. This will allow contractors time to become certified under the standard. With this change, the Genesee County Drain Commission will be able to measure excavation performance and reduce risk to networks in their service areas, according to the memo.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

■■■
SO, WHY DID The Deck Bar & Grill on Lobdell Lake in Argentine close? Will they be re-opening?

■■■
VERY SAD SOMEONE chose to vandalize Adopt-A-Pet’s mailbox post for the second time this month. Every repair takes money away from the animals waiting for forever homes. Very grateful to our mail carrier who brings the mail to the building while we fix the post, again.

■■■

Merry CHRISTmas
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TREATMENTS

Continued from Page 15A

Take care of your cough

Over-the-counter treatments can calm your hack. Try an expectorant, which turns mucus into liquid so you can cough it up. Don't give over-the-counter cough or cold medicine to children under 4.

Sit in a steamy bathroom

If you're still stuffed up, sit in the bathroom with the door closed. Let the shower run hot until the room fills with moist steam. Sit away from the water to avoid burns.

Run the humidifier

If the air in your house is dry, a mist humidifier or vaporizer can moisten it to help ease congestion and coughs. Don't use a warm mist because it can promote the growth of bacteria and molds. Also make sure to keep the device clean to prevent mold development.

Try a lozenge

Sucking on soothing lozenges will moisten and coat a scratchy throat. It may quiet your cough, too.

Get salty

Saline nose drops or sprays are available over-the-counter at any drug or grocery store. They work, they're safe — even for kids. Put several drops into one nostril and gently blow the mucus and saline out. Repeat the process on the other side until both are unblocked.

Ask for an antiviral

You take these drugs as soon as symptoms start. They can lessen and shorten the flu. Call your doctor if you have signs of the flu and are at a higher risk for complications. That includes people who are 65 and older or those younger than 2 years of age. It also includes those with certain chronic conditions including problems with lungs, heart, kidney, liver or a weak immune system. Native Americans and Alaska Natives are also at higher risk for complications.

The CDC recommends baloxavir marboxil (Xofluza), oseltamivir (Tami-flu), peramivir (Rapivab), or zanamivir (Relenza). The drugs work best when you get them within 48 hours of your first symptoms. They may shorten the time you are sick and make your symptoms milder if you take the medicine early on.

Some you take for five days and the newer one, baloxavir marboxil (Xofluza), is just a single dose. Oseltamivir (Tami-flu) or zanamivir (Relenza) can also help prevent the flu in someone who has been exposed.

WHEN TO CALL THE DOCTOR

Call the doctor if you have any of the following symptoms:

- Earache or drainage from your ear
- Pain in your face or forehead along with thick yellow or green mucus for more than a week
- A temperature 100.4 F. or higher in an infant less than 3 months of age
- Temperature higher than 102 F. in older children or adults
- Hoarseness, sore throat, or a cough that won't go away
- Wheezing
- Shortness of breath
- Vomiting
- Symptoms that get worse or won't go away

Call 911 for trouble breathing or increased shortness of breath, chest pain, confusion, seizure, fainting, extreme fussiness in a baby, or trouble waking.

Source: boreal-emergency.org

HOT LINE CONTINUED

FORMER SWAMP DWELLER

(CIA and Obama's State Department), Elissa Slotkin is a pawn for the Socialist Democratic Party. Slotkin's 2018 statement, 'Party before country, always,' is an indication of her true far left beliefs. She was sent to Michigan to overthrow our elected president. Dump Slotkin in 2020.

WITH THE DIMINISHING

popularity of the Democratic candidates, several old and new names are being mentioned. Along with Democratic front-runner Biden, is Bloomberg, Clinton and Kerry. All are members of the elitist, Globalist group, the Council on Foreign Relations. The CFR is the foremost supporter of World Government.

WITH LESS THAN one year to the election it's time for Fenton Township Supervisor Bonnie Mathis to announce she is not running for another four years. You had a good run Bonnie; the township needs new leadership now.

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Linden Eagles soar past Corunna Cavaliers, 68-25

By David Troppens

Linden varsity boys basketball coach Chris Root wasn't particularly excited about his team's first game of the season.

His defending Metro League championship squad visited Holly and

edged out a 53-47 victory.

The team's second road contest of the season went much better. The Eagles improved their defense and also had balanced scoring in a 68-25 victory at Corunna. The Linden JV boys basketball team also dominated, defeating

Corunna 65-22.

In the varsity game, the Eagles (2-0) led 31-10 by halftime.

CONTINUED AT
TCTIMES.COM



Linden's
Eli Beil



Holly's Hannah Covert scored 18 points in the Bronchos' 58-22 victory against Clio. Photo: Mark Bolen

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2019 | PAGE 28A | MYFENTON.COM/SPORTS

Sports Times



Lake Fenton's Cade McMillan attempts a shot during the Blue Devils' loss to Swartz Creek.

Photo: David Troppens

Blue Devils lose tough verdict in OT vs Creek

By David Troppens

Lake Fenton — The Lake Fenton varsity boys basketball team has done a lot of things three games into the season.

The Blue Devils have led in all three of their games. They've changed their offensive style, creating a more visibly exciting brand of basketball for its fans. It's also resulted in high scoring, as Lake Fenton has scored at least 61 points in all three contests.

The one thing that hasn't happened is a victory.

After losing their first two contests by three and two points, the Blue Devils lost another heartbreaking contest Tuesday, losing to Swartz Creek 84-80 in overtime at Lake Fenton High School.

Initially it didn't look like an overtime was going to be needed. Lake Fenton trailed by as many as 43-22 with less than a minute left in the opening half. However, the Blue Devils finished the first half with a 9-1 run, cutting the gap to 44-31 at halftime. In the second half, Lake Fenton netted 12-of-21 shots from the field and actually took the lead before settling for a 70-70 tie and overtime.

"We are working really hard," said Lake Fenton's Carter Foerster who scored a team-high 30 points. "We are improving every night. At this moment, it's just playing a hard 32 minutes and we are going to be a tough team to beat."

Lake Fenton's biggest deficit

See **DEVILS** on 31A

Bronchos notch another Metro League victory

By David Troppens

When the Flint Metro League season began, the Holly varsity girls basketball team started hitting its stride.

After scoring a combined 55 points in its first two games, Holly has averaged 54 points in its last two contests, winning both.

The second of those two victories came Tuesday when the Bronchos crushed Clio 58-22 at Holly High School.

"Things are getting better," Holly varsity girls basketball coach Ben Varner said. "We started shooting the ball better, we've made some more shots and we played really good de-

See **BRONCHOS** on 30A

We would like to thank the community for their continued support throughout the year(s)!



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Blue Devils capture road win at Swartz Creek

By David Troppens

The Lake Fenton varsity girls basketball team made some history Tuesday night.

The Blue Devils captured their first victory against a Metro League member since joining the league by beating Swartz Creek 60-52 at Swartz Creek High School.

It was a close game throughout. The teams were tied at 9-9 after one quarter and Lake Fenton led 23-21 at halftime. The lead grew to 42-37 after three quarters.

Lake Fenton won the game at the free-throw line. The Blue Devils made 28 free throws compared to Swartz Creek's 18. Lake Fenton iced the victory at the charity stripe in the fourth quar-

ter, making 16-of-22 free throws in the final eight minutes. Katelyn Siebert made 10 straight free throws at one period.

"We used the old Bobby Knight theory to win — make more free throws than your opponents take," Lake Fenton varsity girls basketball coach Brian VanBuren said. "Katelyn hit her free throws as we held off the run and that was important."

Morgan Furey led the Blue Devils with 14 points, five steals and two assists while Siebert had 12 points and eight rebounds. Christina Lamb had seven points and four rebounds.

The Blue Devils (4-1) also won the JV game by a 59-23 score.

**CONTINUED AT
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Lake Fenton's Kerrigan Howdeshell passes a ball during a recent contest.

Photo: Erin Wetzel

Lady Tigers collect first victory, defeat Owosso

By David Troppens

The Fenton varsity girls basketball team had to wait a while to collect its first victory of the 2019-20 season.

And when the Tigers got their first victory, they had to wait a bit longer as well. They needed overtime to collect the victory.

Fenton captured its first victory of the season with a 52-46 home win against Flint Metro League Stars Division foe Owosso.

The game marked the Tigers' best offensive performance of the season by 16 points, and despite playing four more minutes, it represented their second-best defensive performance based on score for the season as well. After allowing at least 52



Fenton's Samantha Whaling looks to pass the ball during a recent game. Photo: Christopher Summers

points in each of their first three games, the Tigers held Owosso to 46 points over 36 minutes.

**CONTINUED AT
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Tigers split wrestling double dual event

By David Troppens

The Fenton varsity wrestling team had a split decision during the Tigers' most recent dual meet.

The Tigers defeated Swan Valley 51-30 while Chesaning defeated Fenton 51-23.

The Tigers had four wrestlers go 2-0 — Ella Turnblom (112/119), Isaac Croney (135), Mason Church (152) and Kendra Ryan (103).

Ryan and Turnblom had two of the team's most overwhelming per-

formances with each earning two pinfall wins. Church had a pinfall win and a tech fall victory while Croney earned a pinfall and a decision victory.

Four Fenton wrestlers earned one pinfall victory. They were Ethan Barancik (171), Luke Zywicki (189), Seth Sutter (215) and Dylan Beverly (140/145). Mason Canterbury (145) also earned a varsity victory.

In JV matches action, Logan Fuller and Ethan Radloff had JV victories.

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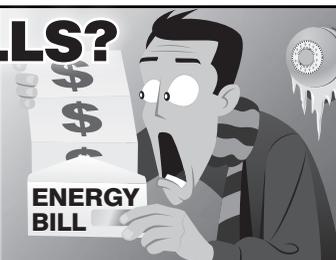
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Tigers collect first victory of season, defeat Trojans

By David Troppens

Last season the Fenton varsity boys basketball team made only a little more than 200 trips to the free-throw line.

And when the Tigers were there, they didn't make a great number of their charity stripe shots.

This season the Tigers hope to reverse both of those trends.

The Tigers do seem to be getting to the line more, and on Tuesday, they made their shots as well. The Tigers made 13-of-15 free throws in the fourth quarter, helping lead the squad to a 67-56 victory against Owosso.

"We only got to the line 200 times last year, and we've gotten there 50 times so far this season," Fenton varsity boys basketball coach Chad Logan said. "We play more downhill and we're attacking the basket more. We won the game by icing it at the foul line during the last five minutes."

See **TIGERS** on 31A

By David Troppens

When the Fenton/Linden co-op varsity hockey team has been successful, many players have contributed to the offensive output.

That was the case against Gabriel Richard on Wednesday night, resulting in a 6-4 victory at Hartland Sports Center.

Five different players scored goals in the contest, and no one had two until Brendan Miles scored, the Griffins' final goal, late into the contest.

The Griffins (3-5) took a 2-0 lead into the first intermission. Nick Temple scored the team's first goal while Miles had his first goal later on during the period.

Actually, both sides had balanced scoring. While Keegan McNamara, Heyden Justus and Ethan Hutchings scored goals, Gabriel Richard had four different goal scorers themselves. It wasn't until Myles scored off of assists from Ken Sorum and Hutchings that anyone had two goals.

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Ethan Hutchings scored a goal in the Griffins' 6-4 victory against Gabriel Richard. Photo: David Troppens

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Blue Devils showing steady progress, earn split between Mt. Morris, Montrose

By David Troppens

The Lake Fenton varsity wrestling team's future looks bright.

The squad has many young athletes, and the middle school program has more than 120 athletes in it as well.

Eventually those things translate into more team wins, but that wasn't the case Wednesday against two strong programs. The Blue Devils lost to Mt. Morris 47-30 and to state-ranked Montrose.

"We only have four varsity wres-

tlers back from last year in our line-up," Lake Fenton varsity wrestling coach Vance Corcoran said. "We have a couple of tough freshmen and a lot of tough inexperienced kids. It's going to be tough to compete with the good teams in the Metro this season, but as always, we will continue to improve throughout the season. We've already seen quite a bit of improvement in our last week of competition, so it's looking promising. I'm excited about the future of the program."

BRONCHOS

Continued from Page 28A

fense. It was a good night."

It also was a second straight strong game for Emma Tooley, who's become a strong team leader. Tooley scored a game-high 22 points, while also collecting 10 steals.

"She's playing outstanding and her defense is outstanding," Varner said. "She had 10 steals, so she had a double-double with points and steals. ... It's a lot of fun to watch her play like she did last night. She was making shots. She was getting a lot of layups off her steals, but she had some nice floaters down the lane."

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

Eagles competitive vs. Corunna, but fall 54-41

By David Troppens

The Linden varsity girls basketball team is still looking for its first victory against a Metro League team this season.

The Eagles (1-3) were competitive with Corunna but the Cavaliers were able to maintain a fourth-quarter lead and make free throws down the stretch resulting in a 54-41 Corunna win.

The Eagles were within 19-15 at halftime, but weren't able to earn the victory during the second half.

"We are very close to flipping the switch and putting a complete game together," first-year Linden varsity girls basketball coach Zack Darling said. "Once we do, the wins are sure to follow."

As an interesting tidbit, the con-

test marked the second straight game the Eagles scored 41 points. They lost a road game at Holly on Dec. 13, 50-41. In the team's only win, the Eagles defeated Durand by a 53-41 score.

Linden was led by Alexcis Parker who had 16 points, four rebounds and four steals. Paige Leedle played what Darling considered her best game of the year, scoring 15 points. Emma Miller had four points and two rebounds while Jordan Peterson had five assists. Kelsey McLennan had five rebounds.

Linden's Paige Leedle dribbles with the ball during a recent Eagles' contest. She scored 15 points in the squad's 54-41 loss to Corunna.

Photo: David Troppens



TIGERS

Continued from Page 30A

The Tigers led for most of the contest, but were unable to distance themselves too far ahead of the Trojans. Fenton led 18-7 after one quarter and 28-22 at halftime. The lead was 47-41 after three quarters. The Tigers iced it at the charity stripe.

"The only thing that kept them in the game was their three-point shooting. At one time they made five threes in a row, and they ended up making 9-of-20," Logan said. "We couldn't get away from them, but we start five seniors that were hungry for a win. We iced the game at the free-throw line."

Alec Kussro was pretty hot himself, making 6-of-10 shots for a team-high 18 points. He also had four rebounds, three assists and three steals.

CONTINUED AT
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Holly Bronchos fall to Mustangs, 76-53

By David Troppens

If one wanted to present a name to the Holly varsity boys basketball team's first two Metro League basketball contests, it could be called the "Title Contender Tour."

In back-to-back games the Bronchos have faced the defending Metro League champions (Linden) and then one of this season's favorites to a potential league title (Clio). The Bronchos weren't able to compete with the Mustangs as well as they were the Linden Eagles, losing a 76-53 road contest Tuesday. Holly battled with Linden four days earlier losing a very

competitive 53-47 verdict.

Holly stuck with Clio for the first quarter, trailing just 16-15. Hunter Jackson hit a pair of threes and a pair of free throws helping the Bronchos remain within a point. However, the Mustangs, led by Latavius Vaughter, took over in the second quarter. Vaughter scored 15 of his game-high 34 points in the second quarter, leading the Mustangs to a 43-23 halftime edge.

The Bronchos never fell further behind but were never able to make a severe dent into the lead.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

DEVILS

Continued from Page 28A

happened after an alley oop slam dunk by Swartz Creek's Terrain Armstrong, making it a 43-22 lead. However, the Blue Devils followed with a three-point trip with a Max Muenzer converted free throw and a putback hoop by Matt Turgeon. The Blue Devils continued to cut the gap in the final minute of the first half with two converted free throws by Foerster and two hoops by Turgeon. The Blue Devils trailed 44-31 at the half.

The Blue Devils spent a good chunk of the second half cutting into Swartz Creek's gap. Lake Fenton cut the deficit to less than double-digits at 52-43 on a three-pointer by Foerster with 3:20 left in the third quarter. The Blue Devils cut the gap to 57-50 with a three-pointer by Cade McMillan.

Lake Fenton scored the fourth quarter's first four points as well with Francis Senter hitting a 15-foot jumper and Foerster a driving layup. After a layup by Swartz Creek's Colby Mitchell, Foerster responded with a three-pointer, cutting the gap to 59-57.

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