



November 2019

HOLIDAY

Gift Guide

A special supplement to
The Malone Telegram



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Lise Vanier reads the Farmer Boy Christmas chapter to visitors in the Wilder home at a past event.

Plenty on tap this holiday season at Wilder Homestead

Celebrate holiday traditions at the Almanzo Wilder Homestead on Dec. 7th. This annual family favorite, Christmas With Almanzo, is set for 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the homestead on 177 Stacy Road in Burke. Come enjoy readings from “Farmer Boy” Christmas chapter in the parlor of the Wilder house at 11:15, 12:00, 12:45, 1:30, and 2:15. Munch on traditional cookies, sip mulled cider, sing Christmas carols, and participate in children’s craft activities. This is a family fun event

for all Farmer Boy and Little House fans! This local historical site is the boyhood home of Almanzo Wilder and site of the book “Farmer Boy”, written by his wife, Laura Ingalls Wilder. More information is at www.almanzowilderfarm.com and on Facebook. Admission and gift wrapping are free! Adults must accompany children. While you’re out on Dec. 7th, stop by the Annual Christmas Tea at the Franklin County House of History on Milwaukee Street in Malone!

Centenary United Methodist Church Dec. calendar

Centenary United Methodist Church
345 West Main St., Malone

Dec. 1 at 2:00 pm
Elf & Cookies

Pizza, Holiday Cookie Decorating and the Holiday Movie, ELF
Special visit from Santa.
Free event - all ages welcome.

Dec. 7

Christmas Bazaar 9:00 - 2:00
Luncheon 11:00 - 1:30

Dec. 18

Blue Christmas 6 pm
Blue Christmas

For those who grieve and those who love them.

Dec. 24

6:00 pm

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
A service of word and song.

Byler's Farm Market

Holiday Gifts Great For Family, Friends, Neighbors...

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Stocking Stuffers • Gift Certificates & More!

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Sat.: 9am-4:30pm • Sun: Closed

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PHOTO PROVIDED

Ecumenical Christmas concert Dec. 8

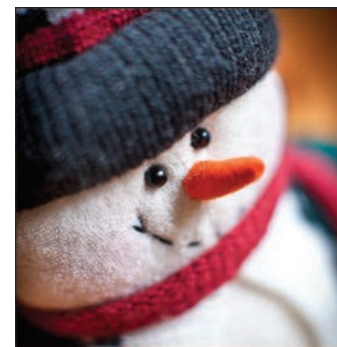
MALONE — Hospice of the North Country is pleased to invite the community to the 35th Annual Ecumenical Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 8 at 4:00 p.m. at the First Congregational Church of Malone, 2 Clay Street.

A beautiful and uplifting holiday tradition that many in the community look forward to, the Ecumenical Christmas Concert features a community choir under the direction of Dale Breault with accompaniment by Ralph Hastings. The concert will feature a variety of traditional and contemporary holiday music and special guest Thirty1&Mandolin will perform. “We are very grateful to Dale, Ralph,

and the choir members for their hard work and the many hours they have dedicated to rehearsing,” said Cathlyn Lamitie, Hospice of the North Country Director of Development/Communications. “We invite people to enjoy the choir’s amazing performance and an exciting performance by Thirty1&Mandolin.”

All proceeds from this event will remain in the North Country to benefit the patients and families served by Hospice of the North Country. Tickets are \$10.00 per person and children 10 and under are free. Tickets available now at the Hospice of the North Country office at 3909 State Route 11 in Malone or pur-

chased at the door. For more information, please contact Cathlyn Lamitie at 483.3200.



OPEN HOUSE!
Dec. 7th 11am-4pm
Linda & Mike's
GIFT SHOP

Come do your holiday shopping and enjoy a **FREE** buffet & drawings!
It's customer appreciation day!

Adirondack & Farmhouse Decor, Lighted Canvas, Gnomes, Tree Farm Truck Decor, Country & Primitive Items, Cardinal Decor, Candle Tarts & Burners, Scented Wax Dipped Animals, Seasonal Items & So Much More!

Open Tues, Wed, Sat & Sun 11-3:30,
Thurs & Fri 11-6:30 • Closed Mon
102 Pearl Street, Malone

Call To Artists: The Little Things Exhibit

Downtown Artist Cellar of Malone invites you to slow down and explore the little things this season. The Little Things Exhibit opening on Friday, Dec. 6 will feature smaller artwork by local artists priced for gift giving and exclusive jewelry by Charles Atwood King with feature artist Carol Allen. Carol is a placed based artist from Plattsburgh working mostly in watercolors.

The exhibit is open to all artists/media including: photography, sculpture, painting, drawing, fiber, ceramics, woodcrafts, jewelry, prints & constructions. Artwork must be framed and wired for hanging with size limit of 14' x 14'

max width and height. Two dimensional work must be suitably framed & wired for hanging. Work should be delivered to the Downtown Artist Cellar Gallery before Dec. 3 during business hours accompanied by a \$30 non-refundable entry fee for up to 5 entries. Make check payable to Downtown Artist Cellar. Gallery Hours are Thurs & Friday 11 a.m.- 4 p.m. — Saturday 11 a.m. — 5 p.m. or by appointment. For more information or questions and the complete prospectus, contact Jennifer at 518-651-5172 or email jenniferbilow@mac.com or downtownartistcellar@icloud.com.

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Lise Vanier reads the Farmer Boy Christmas chapter to visitors in the Wilder home at a past event.

Annual Christmas Tea and Festival of Trees

The Franklin County Historical & Museum Society invites you to join us for our Annual Christmas Tea and Festival of Trees. Admission is FREE and it will be held on Saturday, December 7th from 12-4pm at the House of History and Schryer Center at 51

Milwaukee Street in Malone. There will be a formal tea and cookies, the Festival of Trees, festive music and decorations, a bake sale, raffle and our book store will be open. Our festive music will be performed by the talented singers from St Joe's and Flanders Elementary 4th

and 5th grade choruses and the choir from the New Covenant Church which will be sure to put you in the holiday spirit. We are pleased to announce that we will be selling raffle tickets for a beautiful recliner, generously donated by Adirondack 1892.

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Black Friday shopping tips

Metro

People of a certain age might remember the often hectic Black Friday of old, when shoppers would line up outside stores in the wee hours of the morning hoping to land the best deals on gifts for their loved ones. While many shoppers still make such early morning pilgrimages to their favorite stores, the internet has helped to thin the deal-crazed herds on Black Friday.

Though stampeding crowds might not be as common as they once were on Black Friday, shoppers may still face some stiff competition as they try to land great deals before the shelves empty. The following are a handful of tips to help shoppers make the most of the unofficial kickoff to the holiday shopping season.

See TIPS 10

What's On Your Holiday Wish List?

KROWN

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Santa in the Park Dec. 7

The Malone Chamber of Commerce is having their annual Santa in the Park again this year on Saturday, December 7 from 12-2 in Arsenal Green. Children of all ages are welcome to visit Santa. We will be giving out hot chocolate and candy canes.

Chateaugay Annual Memory Tree Lighting

Tuesday, Dec 3rd at 7 PM
Chateaugay Town Hall
FREE

The CCS High School Chorus "Half Past Seven" will sing Christmas Carols during the tree lighting. Free refreshments for all who attend (hot cocoa, cookies etc..)

Provided by the Chateaugay Revitalization Committee

Brushton Moira Annual Memorial Tree lighting

Brushton Moira American Legion Auxiliary will be hosting their annual lighting of the Memorial Tree on Dec. 8 at 7:00 p.m. \$1.00 donation per bulb for deceased loved one. Please call Trudy La Bier 518-328-4325 or Sally Rivers 518-521-6095 or Tina Baker 518-521-5344 for the names to be added to the booklet by Dec. 1. Refreshments will be served.

7th Annual Winter Wonderland Craft & Vendor Show

The Emmaus Soup Kitchen pinches every penny to stretch it as far as it can to help those from across the North Country and the 7th Annual Winter Wonderland Craft & Vendor Show is planned to benefit that effort. This annual event will be held on Saturday, December 14 at Davis Elementary School at 183 Webster Street in Malone from 9:00am to 3:00pm. 100 plus crafters, artisans and vendors will be on site from all over the north country, Vermont, and Canada. Also on tap will be Selfies with Santa and a face painter for the kids to enjoy! A lunch sale of homemade soups, chili, hot dogs, etc will be served and sweet treats will be available at the bake sale. There will be a huge Chinese auction, 50/50, and more!

"This is the soup kitchen's lifeline event in a sense, the success of this show keeps the doors open

every Tuesday for our lunch meal." said organizer, Aimee Marshall. The soup kitchen has been open in Malone since February 1992, serving hot, nutritious lunches to patrons from across the North Country. Funds raised at this event go directly to purchase food ingredients, paper products, and insurance. The soup kitchen does not get any monetary aide from federal, state or local governments or receive any grants. This fundraiser and community donations support the organization. "We rely on the

kindness of the community to come out and support this event and you're sure to have a great time! The products people are selling are unique and there is definitely something for everyone on your shopping list!", according to Marshall. The thousands of items featured include jewelry, home décor, ornaments, wooden items and much more! Marshall invites people to, "Help us to pay it forward and help the patrons from across the North Country that rely on this organization. Hope to see you there!"



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Shop small businesses to improve the holiday experience

Metro

It's the time of year when newspapers thicken with sales circulars and holiday advertisements. Consumers looking to beat the hustle and bustle and steer clear of the crowds this year may want to pay attention to local businesses in lieu of trekking to nearby shopping malls.

Every time consumers visit local coffee shops to grab a latte, pick up a dress at a nearby boutique or patronize a farmer's market down the street, they are supporting a small business. The Friday and Saturday after Thanksgiving are some of the busiest shopping days of the season, and they also can be some of the friendliest to small businesses.

Plaid Friday was conceptualized in Oakland. It may have been born in the Golden State, but the movement soon spread across the country. Plaid Friday is an alternative to big box stores' Black Friday bonanzas. It is designed to promote both local and independently-owned businesses during the holiday season. The name Plaid



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terpart to Black Friday and Cyber Monday. The first event was created by American Express in conjunction with the nonprofit National Trust for Historic Preservation. Since its inception, many small business groups, merchants and politicians have touted the event and the Shop Small mantra. The idea is that when small businesses thrive, communities and individuals thrive along with them.

The Small Business Administration says that, since 1995, small businesses have generated 66 percent of all new jobs in the United States. There are a number of big reasons to shop small. One can start around the holidays and then continue all year long.

■ Shopping small businesses helps give back to the community directly. According to Civic Economics, a strategic planning business, on average 48 percent of each purchase made at independent businesses is recirculated locally through tax money and other support.

■ Small business owners

often strive to provide personalized, hands-on customer service. Repeat business is key to their survival, so they want to ensure shoppers are happy.

■ Small businesses, since they are not beholden to corporate oversight in terms of what they sell, have greater flexibility. That allows them to offer a diverse product selection.

■ Small business owners

often live nearby, and they're the people you see in town, schools and elsewhere in the local community. Many consumers are comforted to know they're supporting their neighbors, especially during the holiday season.

Supporting local businesses is easy. And shoppers who like what they see can share the good news with others on social media.

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Celebrating



35


Years!

35TH ANNUAL ECUMENICAL Concert

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2019 AT 4:00 P.M.
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF MALONE, 2 CLAY STREET

SPECIAL GUEST: THIRTY1&MANDOLIN

Tickets \$10 • Children 10 & Under Free
Available at the Hospice Malone Office, 3909 State Route 11

All Proceeds Will Benefit  *Hospice of the North Country*

Great gifts for the hunter on your list

Metro

Millions of people across the globe have a passion for hunting. When the time comes to find gifts for the avid hunters in your life, indulging their passion for the great outdoors can make for the perfect present.

Hunters come in all shapes and sizes and from all walks of life. When shopping for gifts for hunters, it can be advantageous, particularly for consumers who don't hunt, to think of the ages and experience levels of their loved ones and then go from there.

YOUNG AND/OR INEXPERIENCED HUNTERS

Many areas have minimum age requirements for hunters, and nearly every region requires hunters to take courses on hunting safety before they can apply for hunting licenses. Financing such educations can be an ideal gift for young hunters, ensuring they will have a strong foundation in firearm safety



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and other important aspects of hunting before they come of age and go on their first hunting trip.

A two-way radio makes another great gift for young hunters, especially who don't yet have their own phones. Even those that who have phones may find it more fun to speak with their fellow hunters over their special radios than on the phones they use every day.

Gear, which can include everything from attire to knives to compound bows

and more, also can make for a great gift for young hunters or those just learning the ropes. However, consumers buying for youngsters who aren't their own children should first consult the child's parents to determine their readiness for certain gear.

ESTABLISHED HUNTERS

Established hunters who have strong passions for the sport may already have everything they need. And even those that don't may prefer certain manufacturers. It can be difficult to learn of such preferences without speaking directly to a loved one, which can spoil the surprise. In such instances, consider gifting a hunting experience. Finance a trip to a hunting ground a loved one wants to visit but never has. Go along for the trip and you might just develop your own passion for hunting.

Some additional gifts that can be great for established hunters include a rifle case;

ammo cans; a bore guide, which hunters use to clean their rifles; camping gear; headlamps; and other items hunters routinely use that could be in need of an upgrade.

Of course, one of the best reasons to choose a hunting-related gift for the fam-

ily outdoorsman is it might compel them to share their bounty when they return home from a successful trip. A cookbook that offers tips on butchering in addition to recipes can make for the perfect gift, and one that the whole family will ultimately enjoy at the dinner table.

The Little Things Exhibit
December 6th ~ 5-7 PM
Smaller artwork by local artists priced for gift giving and exclusive jewelry by Charles Atwood King. Featured artist, Carol Allen

Poinsettia by Sarah Budd
Slow down & notice the little things this holiday season.
Downtown Artist Cellar
410 East Main Street, Malone
518.651.5172 Entrance on Mill St.
Thurs. & Fri. 11-4 • Sat. 11-5
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How to be certain you're buying safe toys



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Few things compare to seeing the joy on a child's face upon opening a holiday gift. Many adults remember holiday gifts they received as children, and holiday shoppers often try to look for gifts that will be just as memorable to the special youngsters in their lives.

Shoppers might have kids' smiles on their minds when holiday shopping, but it's just as important to focus on safety when buying gifts for

children. Prevent Blindness, an organization devoted to ensuring everyone enjoys healthy vision from infancy through adulthood, offers the following tips to toy buyers who want to make sure they give safe gifts to kids this holiday season.

■ Read all warnings and instructions on the box. Before taking a toy to the check out line, give the packaging a thorough read-through, paying particular attention to product warnings and in-

structions. Such warnings are designed to keep kids safe. When buying toys online, only purchase toys that include the warnings within the product description.

■ Purchase age-appropriate toys. Kids' toys come with age recommendations, which are typically listed on the front of the packaging. Stick to these recommendations. Kids might not have the ability to use toys designed for older children, and such toys might not be safe for them to use, so it's always best to stick to the age guidelines.

■ Avoid certain toys. Toys with sharp or rigid points, spikes, rods, or dangerous edges can pose a threat to youngsters. Avoid such toys, opting for toys with rounded and/or dull edges instead.

■ Stick to sturdy toys. Kids do not often treat their toys delicately. Toys will be dropped or thrown, so choose sturdy toys that can withstand being dropped or thrown without breaking into tiny pieces. Tiny shards can

pose a choking hazard to curious youngsters.

■ Purchase toys with the ASTM designation. ASTM International is an international standards organization that develops and publishes voluntary consensus technical standards for a wide range of products, including toys. Prevent Blindness notes that toys with the letters ASTM on

the packaging have been tested and met the toy standards set for by ASTM.

■ Avoid toys with parts that shoot or fly off. These types of toys can damage the eyes and lead to other accidents or injuries.

When shopping for toys for children this holiday season, shoppers must consider safety first.

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Thanks to families being more spread out than ever before, today's holiday shoppers must figure out ways to get holiday gifts to their destination on time. The holiday season tends to be the busiest time of year for many delivery services. The following tips should help shoppers ensure their loved ones' gifts arrive on time.

■ Ship directly. Adobe Analytics reported that online shopping hit a record high of \$108.2 billion in the 2017 holiday shopping season, and all indicators suggest online shopping will only increase in the years to come. Holiday shoppers who want to ensure their loved ones will receive their gifts on time can rely on online shopping. When check-

ing out, have gifts shipped directly to loved ones' homes. Many online retailers will even wrap gifts for a nominal fee.

■ Research shipping options. In 2019, Christmas falls on Wednesday. Shoppers who plan to rely on two-day or overnight shipping should keep that in mind. Some delivery services may be open throughout the weekend before Christmas, while others may only be open on Saturday. Last-minute shoppers, whether they're shopping online or in-person, should confirm their shipping options well in advance of Christmas. Because Christmas is on a Wednesday this year, getting gifts to their destination on time may require shoppers to purchase and ship them earlier than they otherwise might.

■ Purchase package insurance. Consumer Reports notes that UPS and FedEx shipments automatically come with declared-value coverage of up to \$100. (Note: Declared value is the carrier's maximum liability.) Purchasing additional

insurance can ease shoppers' concerns about lost or stolen packages. Just be sure to keep all invoices and receipts in case claims must be filed. Shoppers also should ask for tracking numbers on all packages so they can confirm when packages are delivered.

■ Properly secure the package. Many delivery services now have off-site drop-off boxes that can make it easy to send gifts. This is a convenient

service, but shoppers who use them won't be able to have a company employee provide in-person confirmation that their packages are secured to company standards. Poorly packaged items may never be shipped. Visit the shipping company's website for packaging guidelines, and include a business card and duplicate label inside the package just in case it is damaged after being dropped off.

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Great last-minute gift ideas

Metro

Tradition is a hallmark of the holiday season. Religious services, family gatherings and trips to see Santa Claus are just a few of the many traditions people adhere to during the holiday season.

Many holiday shoppers also adhere to the time-honored tradition of last-minute shopping. The perfect gift can sometimes prove elusive, especially as the sand in the holiday hour glass keeps dwindling. These last-minute gift ideas may be just what shoppers need to put smiles on the faces of their loved ones this holiday season.

■ **Books:** Books are often overlooked, especially now that so many readers use e-readers. But books can be an ideal gift and especially convenient for last-minute shoppers, who can even gift e-books. For example, Amazon, which has thousands of e-books in its online library, makes it easy for shoppers to gift e-books to Kindle users, who will simply receive an email on Christmas morning informing them that their books are ready to be downloaded to their devices.

■ **Experiences:** A 2017 survey by the global research firm NPD Group found that roughly 40 percent of holiday shoppers planned to give experiences as

gifts last year. Experience gifts open up a host of possibilities for last-minute shoppers stuck on what to give those loved ones who seemingly have it all.

■ **Food/beverage:** Television channels such as The Food Network have changed the way many people look at food. When gifting the family foodie, last-minute shoppers may not need to look further than the latest hotspot restaurant or specialty grocery store for the perfect gift. Take them out for a night on the town or give a gift card they can use at their convenience. The craft beer boom has created a host of devoted and knowledgeable beer drinkers, so a gift card or growler from a local craft brewery is sure to please people who love hoisting frosty pints.

■ **Streaming service subscriptions:** Many people are cutting the cord with their cable companies in favor of streaming services such as Netflix and Hulu. Subscriptions to such services can make ideal and affordable holiday gifts. A six-month or yearlong subscription likely won't break shoppers' budgets and will provide months of entertainment to loved ones.

Last-minute holiday shopping is easier than ever, especially for shoppers willing to think outside the box.

Tips

From 4

■ **Don't go shopping empty-handed.** Shopping on Black Friday without a list can lead to excess spending on items you or your loved ones may not even need or want. Creating a shopping list in advance gives shoppers time to research the best deals and where to find them. That organized approach can increase the likelihood that they land the best deals on a day that the National Retail Federation reported brought in \$6.2 billion in online sales alone in 2018. That's stiff competition for deals that typically have limited supplies, which only highlights the importance of shopping with a list in hand.

■ **Shop local.** Shoppers who want to venture out on Black Friday but still avoid crowds should skip shopping malls and big box stores in favor of local retailers. Shopping local is a great way to keep money in your community, and local shops tend to have more unique offerings than chain stores. One-of-a-kind gifts can be a great way to show loved

ones how much you appreciate them. And local shopping districts likely won't draw the massive crowds or produce the long checkout lines that consumers are likely to encounter at malls.

■ **Comparison shop.** Comparison shopping can make Black Friday even more deal-friendly. If you're stuck on a long checkout line, use the time spent waiting for the next cashier to look for the same item online. You might find it's less expensive somewhere else, and you can then present that price to the cashier at checkout. Ma-

ny retailers are willing to match lower prices from other retailers, but you won't know unless you ask.

■ **Start early.** The proverbial saying 'the early bird catches the worm' is especially true on Black Friday. If you want to find the best deals, you should probably avoid sleeping in on the day after Thanksgiving.

Black Friday has changed, but many of the strategies that worked in the pre-internet era can still help shoppers land the best deals today.

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Eco-friendly gift options

Metro

The saying 'the more the merrier' certainly applies during the holiday season. But during a season of big gifts, extra food and travel, 'more' can exact a heavy toll on the environment.

According to Stanford University, Americans generate 25 percent more trash between Thanksgiving and New Year's Eve than during the rest of the year. While no one wants to take anything away from the spirit of holiday season, everyone can take steps to make the holidays more eco-friendly. In fact, there are various eco-friendly gifts that can make great presents and benefit the environment at the same time.

PURCHASE EXPERIENTIAL GIFTS

When making holiday shopping lists, think of gifts that offer experiences rather than material goods. Gifts that involve experiences, such as going to a sporting event or attending a play or musical, decrease reliance on wrapping paper. Such gifts also reduce clutter in the recipient's house and conserve the resources otherwise used to manufacture alternative items that would have been purchased. Experiential gifts that also tap into environmental pursuits, such as

touring with an animal rescue group, or accommodations at a carbon-neutral hotel can be an added bonus.

OPT FOR LOCALLY MADE GIFTS

Select gifts made by local artisans or companies that operate domestically. This cuts down on the carbon emissions from having to ship products from long distances or even overseas.

GIVE CLIMATE-FRIENDLY STOCKING STUFFERS

Companies like Cool Effect offer gifts for those looking to offset carbon emissions through clever funding. People can buy and offer gifts that correlate to packages like Costa Rican wind power or the 'poo package,' which funds biogas digesters for family farms in India that capture methane emissions from cattle dung.

GET CRAFTY

Gifts from the kitchen or ones made by the giver can be crafted from sustainable materials. They also show how you care by taking the time to customize a gift for the recipient.

AVOID GAG OR USELESS GIFTS

Select gifts only with utility in mind. Skip purchases that are made only to beef-up the look

of presents under the tree or to make it appear that gifting was more generous. Items that a person cannot or will not use will ultimately be relegated to the trash, which is wasteful.

WRAP IN REUSABLE MATERIALS

Fancy wrapping paper certainly looks nice, but choose other materials that can be reused. Look for decorative tins, boxes, fancy gift bags, and other items that can be reused for years to come.

Sustainability is possible during a season of excess when gift givers shop and wrap gifts with the environment in mind.

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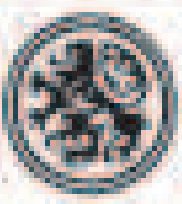
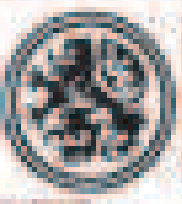
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