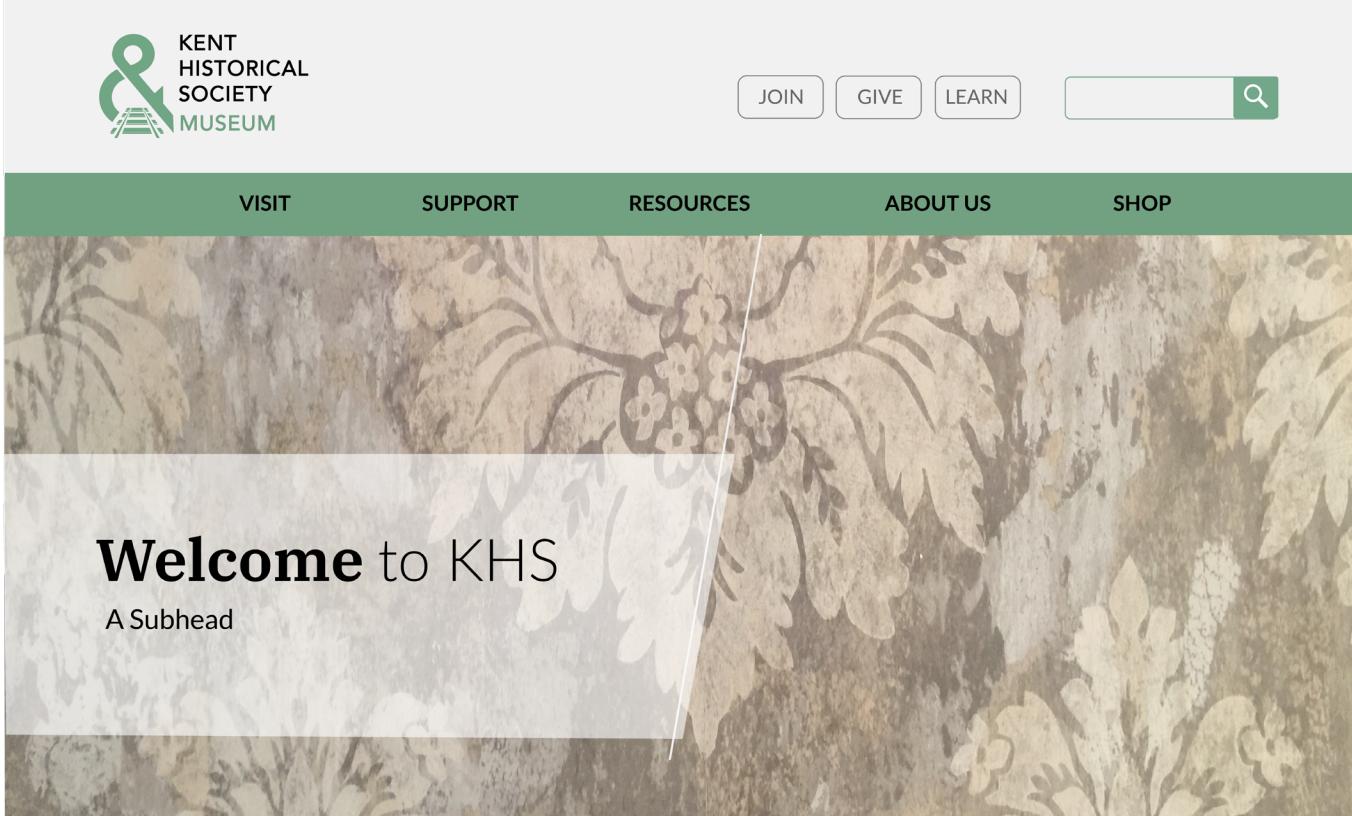


Final Designs

Front end team
April 2018

Home Mockup



KENT HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM

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Welcome to KHS

A Subhead

OPEN Friday & Saturday 9 A.M. - 2 P.M.

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Our Mission

The Mission of the Kent Historical Society is to be the primary Kent history resource and reference center, leading the community in the collection, preservation, and interpretation of Kent's heritage through exhibitions, educational programs, and activities. Join with us. Volunteer.



Current Exhibits

The 100th anniversary of the end of WWI is Nov. 11, 2018. The KHS is now collecting artifacts from WWI for a forthcoming exhibition. If you or someone you know has any artifacts from WWI the KHS would like to display what you have. We are looking for photographs, letters, uniforms, postcards, any and all mementos. Contact us by calling (330) 678-2712 or sending us an email.

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Feature Mockup



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Kent Tribune

Kent's History Online

OPEN Friday & Saturday 9 A.M. - 2 P.M.

Over six thousand pages of the Kent Tribune have been digitally uploaded by Kent Historical Society. Now you are able to browse the paper or search specific topics. This great resource has been made possible because of the generosity of KHS members. We sincerely thank you for your efforts in contributing to this project.

A Brief History

Video

Kent Tribune was founded in 1915 by John G. Paxton and Sam Baker. The first issue was published on November 18, 1915. By the spring of 1917, Paxton bought out Baker's shares. Paxton continued as sole owner of the paper until 1929 when he sold half the shares to J.B. Holm. The tribune documented the comings and goings of citizens of Kent as well as how world events affected the area. Some of the topics documented in the Kent Tribune are: Kent in WWI and its aftermath, social service, womens club, Davey Tree Kent established company, crime blotter, and much more.

VIEW KENT TRIBUNE

More Amazing Resources

Rooted In Kent: 101 Tales from the Tree City

Ohio History Connection

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Kent Historical Society Board Members

Our team members work hard in their dedication to preserve and present Kent's history. You can learn more about the members of our team and board - and what they do - below!

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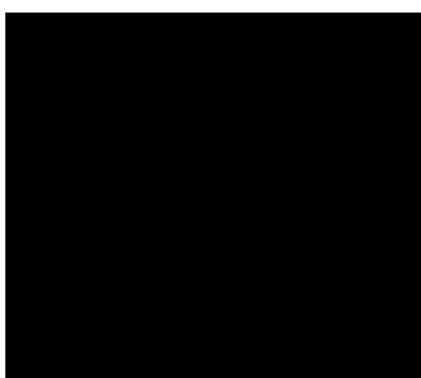
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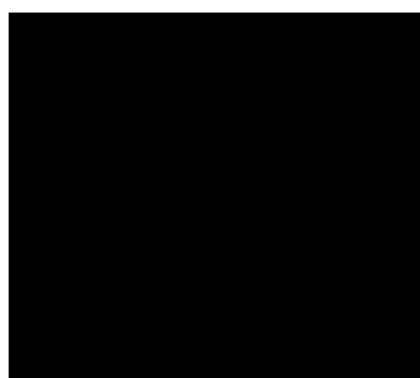
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1924 Cookbook

82 pages, illus. Kent Historical Society Publication, 2008 (ISBN 978160725143) A reprint of the original cookbook published by the Circle 'C' Ladies' Union of Kent's Congregational Church in 1924 with 300 of their favorite recipes with vintage advertisements from the period.

\$10.00

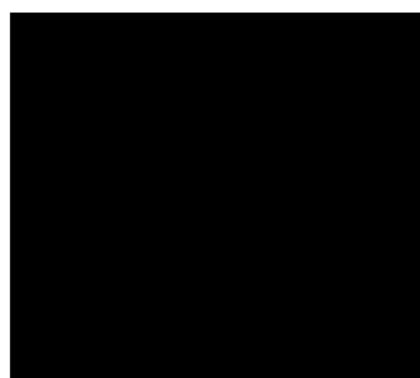


Book header

Over 125 historical postcards of Kent are depicted in full color in this beautiful new book by our own Roger J. Di Paolo. These postcards along with descriptions show Kent in all its historical glory. The cards date from 1895 to the 1960s. The Cuyahoga River, iconic buildings, landmarks, schools, churches, Twin Lakes, Brady Lake, the university, and so much more. This is a must have book for anyone who grew up in Kent, or just loves Kent history, this book will bring a smile, a bit of nostalgia and a sense of history to every reader.

For an added \$10.00 you can order the hard cover edition

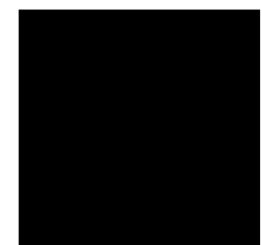
\$10.00



Grismer, History of Kent

By Karl H. Grismer, revised edition 2001, 320 pp, illus., index Kent Historical Society Publication (reprint of 1932 Record Publishing Co.) Softcover Contents include history of the area prior to the settlement of Franklin Mills through Kent's growth and includes detailed listings on its industries, churches, schools, military service records and a "who's who" list of profiles of leaders through 1931. If you're a student of Kent History this is a must-have.

\$5.00

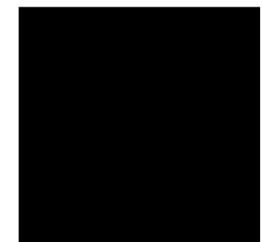


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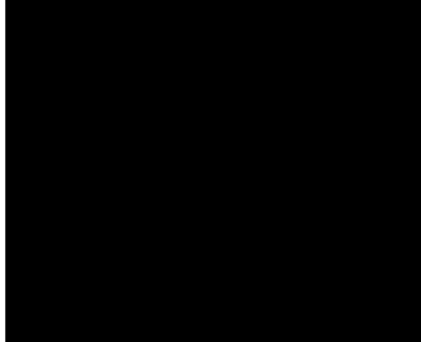
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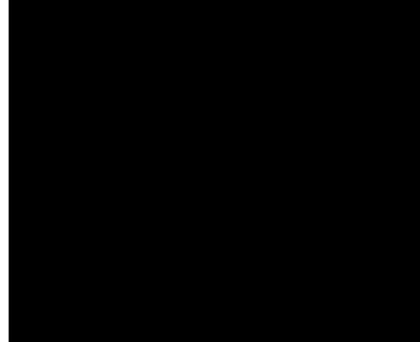
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Haunting Tales

56 pages, illus. ISBN 978-1-60725-176-7 An all new edition (2012) of this popular book. Many new ghostly stories have been added. A collection of unexplained ghostly happenings as recounted by Kent residents who experienced them or have heard of these "sightings". From the ghost at Ray's bar to the tales of the beautiful wife who died in a fire, these stories are spookylish tales from the Tree City.

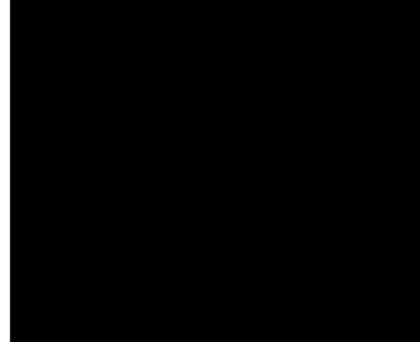
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Images of Kent

By Michelle Tryon Wardle, 2005, 128 pages, illus., index Arcadia Publishing ISBN 0-7385-3381-5 Using archival photos and captions, the history of Kent is traced from its earliest 19th century images through the end of the 20th century including major events and personalities. A great companion book for Grismer's, History of Kent.

\$20.00



Jim Tully

The first biography of the vagabond and hard-boiled writer who rocked Hollywood during the Roaring Twenties. The son of an Irish ditch-digger, Jim Tully (1886-1947) left his hometown of St. Marys, Ohio, in 1901, spending most of his teenage years in the company of hobos. Drifting across the country as a "road kid," he spent those years scrambling into boxcars, sleeping in hobo jungles, avoiding railroad cops, begging meals from back doors, and haunting public libraries. After six years on the road, he jumped off a railroad car in Kent, Ohio, with wild aspirations of becoming a writer.

\$39.95

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Timeline Mockup

Mobile version



Timeline

How it Began

Much of Kent's early success is due to its involvement with the booming railroad industry. However, in the beginning, railroad owners were passing up the opportunity to build in Kent. When Marvin Kent heard this, he made it his goal to convince the railroad owners to build in Kent, knowing that railroads would benefit the town greatly. On March 10, 1851, Marvin received a charter from the Franklin and Warren Railroad Companies, with more railroads to come. Marvin Kent's continual efforts in acquiring railroads resulted in the town, originally called Franklin Mills, to be renamed to Kent in his honor.

A&GW Railroad Depot

Kent's first depot was a boxcar; the second was a small frame building. When citizens requested a more substantial structure, the railroad's generosity was limited to about 60 percent of the cost. The balance was pledged by the community in a single meeting. Standing above a dam and mill race of the Cuyahoga River, the perfectly symmetrical, red brick depot was built in a Tuscan Revival style with a slate roof. One story segments hyphenated the depot's trio of two-story towers. Stone-arched windows on the upper floor were grouped in threes above a platform canopy dripping with pendants. The first floor housed the ticket and telegraph office, men's and ladies' waiting rooms, and baggage and express rooms. Big double doors on the track side led to an elegant restaurant, whose manager lived upstairs. The second floor also provided bunk space and a "Reading Room" for railroad workers. Just to the south was a wooden freight house; beyond that were rail yards with shops for building and repairing coaches and freight cars. Excerpted from: Great American Railroad Stations by Janet Greenstein Potter, Wiley Press

" Quote...
Quote
Quote"

Image

More About Railroads

Photos and Videos

View historic photos and videos of railroads in Kent, the Depot during its prime and much more!

EXPLORE

Marvin Kent

A key figure in the Kent's history from his contributions in the railroad industry to his involvement in the Ohio State Senate.

READ MORE

Railroad Town

This profusely illustrated book traces the history of the Erie railroad from its inception as the A&GW railroad and the profound effect it had on the economy of the city of Kent.

SHOP

Railroad Timeline

Learn about key events in Kent's railroad history and the people who worked hard to organize the construction of the railroads.

1851

Marvin Kent receives a charter for the Franklin and Warren Railroad Company.

The Erie and New York City Railroads are organized.

1852

Marvin Kent, Judge Kinsman, Dr. Earle, and Mr. Boyer of the Franklin and Warren Railroad attending a meeting of representatives with railroad interest at the American Hotel in Cleveland.

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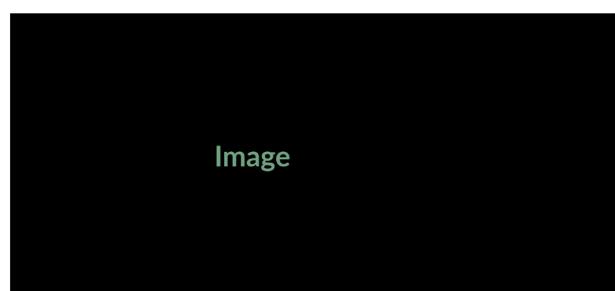
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“ Quote...
Quote
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Loder, the president of Erie Railroads, finds the proposed train route to be satisfactory after conducting a survey of the area.

Image

1853

Marvin Kent, Judge Kinsman, Dr. Earle, and Mr. Boyer of the Franklin and Warren Railroad attending a meeting of representatives with railroad interest at the American Hotel in Cleveland.

Loder, the president of Erie Railroads, finds the proposed train route to be satisfactory after conducting a survey of the area.

1857

Pennsylvania legislature charters the Meadville Railroad Company to build a railroad from Meadville, PA to Erie, PA.

Meadville Railroad Company is organized and William Reynolds is named president.

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1858

The Meadville Railroad Company changes its name to the Atlantic and Great Western Railroad Company of Pennsylvania.

C. L. Ward, Henry Doolittle, and William Reynolds go to Europe on behalf of the Ohio and Pennsylvania companies to sell bonds

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1859

The Atlantic and Great Western Railroad Company of New York is chartered. The new company immediately enters into a contract of mutual guarantee of bonds with Pennsylvania and Ohio companies and purchases the

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Image

1863

The Cleveland and Mahoning Railroad is leased to the A&GW for 99 years. A third rail is laid giving wide-gauge access to Cleveland.

Image

1864

The A&GW is connected to the Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton Railroad at Dayton, OH. This completed a broad gauge link from New York to St. Louis.

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1869

Construction work begins on the Atlantic and Great Western Company of New York. By the end of the year, Atlantic and Great Western Company of New York opens from Salamanca to Jamestown.

C. L. Ward, Henry Doolittle, and William Reynolds go to Europe on behalf of the Ohio and Pennsylvania companies to sell bonds

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1867

The company goes into the hands of a receiver, Robert B. Potter of New York.

The Erie Railroad leases the A&GW for 12 years.

Image

1868

Jay Gould and W. A. O'Doherty named receivers for the A&GW, then transferred to Reuben Hitchcock of Cleveland.

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Image

1870

A second lease is made for Erie Railroad, which is pending foreclosure.

1871

Gen. George McClellan and others purchase the A&GW at foreclosure.

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1874

Erie Railroad leases A&GW Railroad for 99 years at terms very favorable to A&GW. This lease was quickly repudiated by the new president of Erie Railroad, Hugh Jewett.

A&GW goes into the hands of a receiver, J. H. Devereaux.

1880

A&GW is sold at foreclosure to five trustees who reorganize it as the New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio Railroad Company.

A&GW is narrowed to standard gauge.

1883

A&GW is leased again to Erie Railroad.

1889

A&GW is sold at foreclosure to representatives of Erie Railroad.

Image

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We could use your help! We sometimes need volunteers when it comes to maintaining the Kent Historical Society. Use the form below to let us know what you can do to help us maintain our museum and celebrate our city's history! We will respond at our earliest convenience.

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Become A Member

The Kent Historical Society would like you as a member! We are dedicated to preserving the history of Kent and its heritage, and educating for the future. If you would like to contribute to this mission, join us and help the Kent Historical Society continue to grow! We are located at 237 E. Main St., accept all credit cards, and our membership levels can be viewed below.

All it takes to become a member is clicking the Join button! Our memberships are paid for through PayPal, so all you need to do is select your preferred membership level, fill your name in and click Join!

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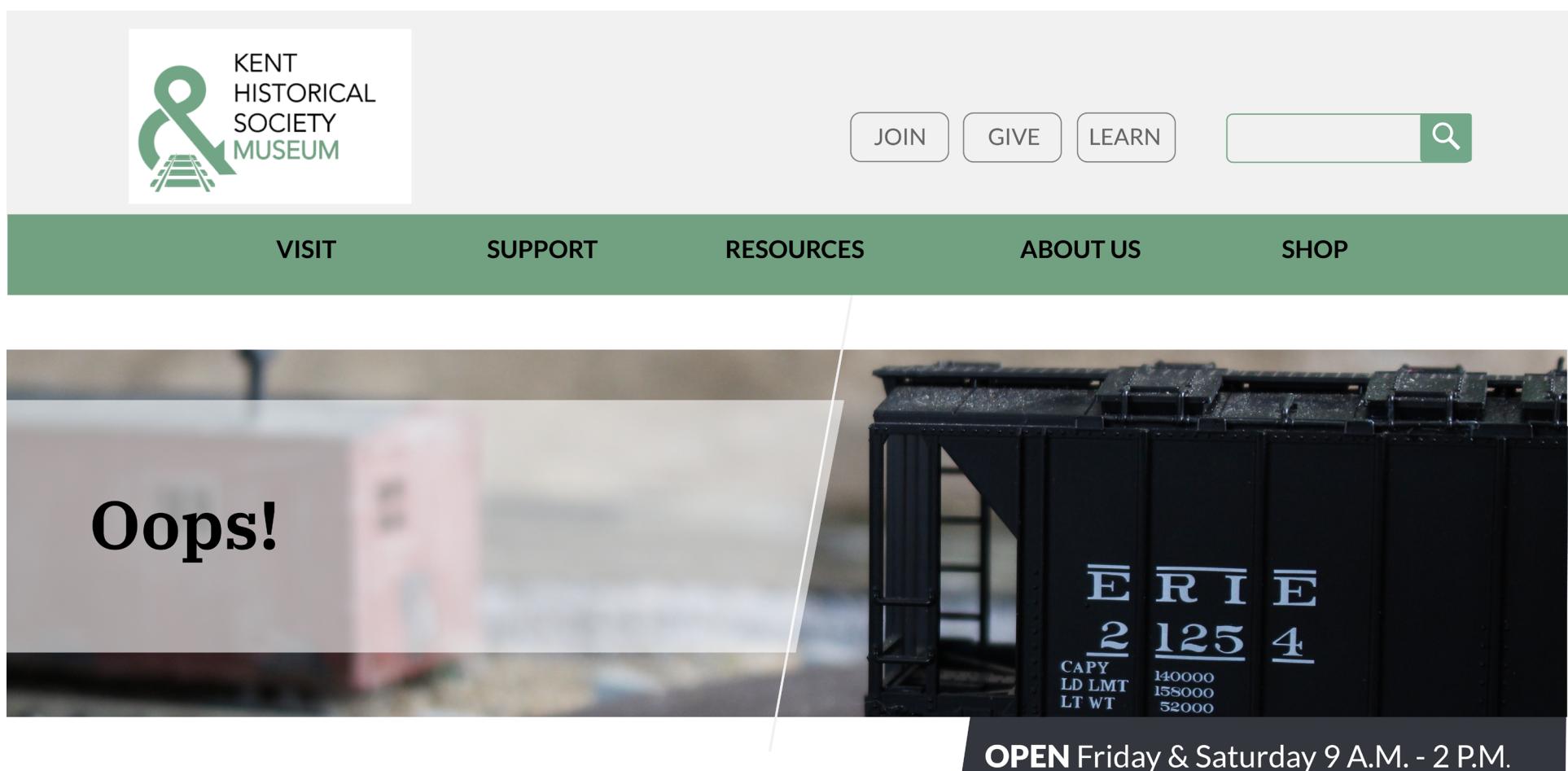
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