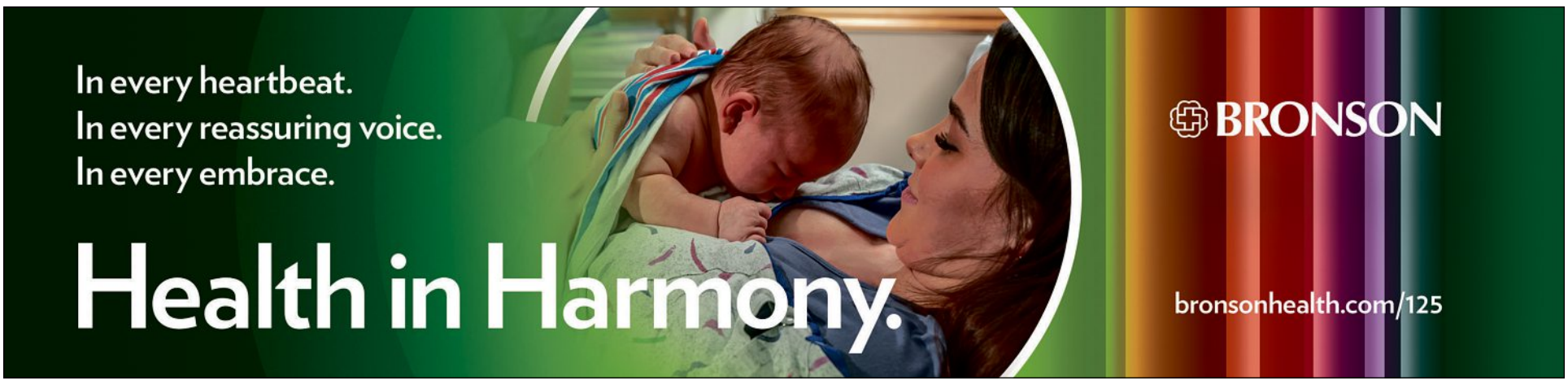
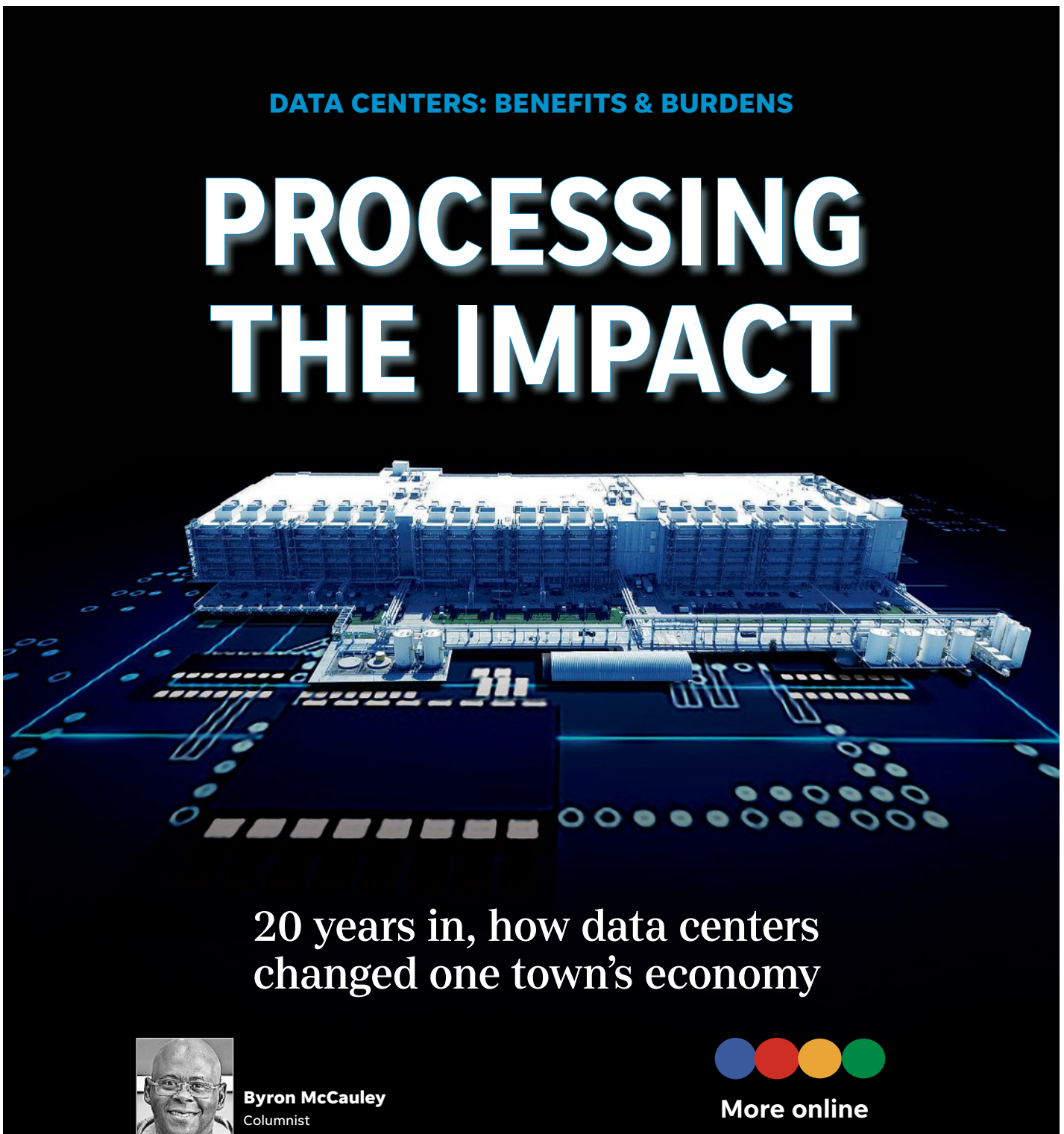


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Promised tax break ban faces debate

Benson campaigned on data center guardrails

Clara Hendrickson and Arpan Lobo
Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

Tax exemptions for data centers in Michigan may be short-lived after Democratic Gov. Gretchen Whitmer championed them as critical to luring the facilities powering the artificial intelligence boom to Michigan.

During her campaign, Gov.-elect Jocelyn Benson promised guardrails for data centers.


Benson

She called for greater environmental protections and ensuring Michiganders' electric bills don't increase due to the massive energy demands of the facilities.

"We will ban them from getting tax breaks," she also promised in video posted on social media in September.

See DATA CENTERS, Page 3A

ITC Michigan's holiday displays to light up transmission structures

Janis Reeser
Port Huron Times Herald
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

ITC Michigan is bringing holiday color to Michigan's Lower Peninsula by decorating 12 high-voltage electric transmission structures with thousands of LED lights.

The displays will turn on the week of Thanksgiving and remain illuminated through Jan. 4, according to a community announcement. ITC Michigan builds, operates and maintains the high-voltage transmission grid across most of the Lower Peninsula.

Each decorated transmission structure includes up to 250 feet of LED lighting, totaling nearly 20,000 LED lights. Each also features a star made of 1,600 LED lights and a 10-by-14-foot "Happy Holidays" sign containing 13,000 LED

See DISPLAYS, Page 2A

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