

To better serve our OVER-THE-AIR ANTENNA VIEWERS in the Grand Traverse Area, WWTV 9&10 News is switching to a different television channel. This began at 11 am Tuesday and will continue until around noon Wednesday, after which you will need rescan your TV



[.https://www.9and10news.com/news/coronavirus-crisis/.](https://www.9and10news.com/news/coronavirus-crisis/)

Giant Cherry Ready to Drop Over TC at Midnight

"It's just fun to come down with all the people, and I'm kind of excited to see it light up."

December 31, 2019 by [Bill Froehlich](https://www.9and10news.com/bios/bill-froehlich/) (<https://www.9and10news.com/bios/bill-froehlich/>).



The biggest party in the north is in Traverse City Tuesday night. An estimated 10,000-12,000 people are expected for this year's Cherry T Ball Drop, right downtown on Front Street.

The Cherry Capital hosts the Cherry T Ball Drop. The giant cherry will be all lit up, and raised nearly 100 feet off the ground.



(<https://www.9and10news.com/content/uploads/2019/12/CHERRY-T-BALL-DROP-web-img.jpg>).

Mark DeMoulied with Team Elmer's says, "It'll probably be up there at 98 feet with the angle of the boom. I pretty much wait until we've got 20 seconds left and I start dropping it and I've got to sit there and see if I can time it out to get it down close to the stoplight."

But in the daylight – Team Elmer's is the guardian of the giant cherry: sitting here, at a secret location. The National Cherry Festival spearheads the running of the Cherry T. Executive Director Kat Paye says, "The crane, the cherry, the fireworks, everything start arriving and we will put together [what is the Cherry T Ball Drop \(https://www.cherryballdrop.org/\)](https://www.cherryballdrop.org/) for 2020."

She adds that it will be busy in the downtown area starting at 5:00. "You'll see a lot of set-up going on and the crane will start getting into position with the cherry. And then we'll come back and open the gates at 10:00 and welcome our wonderful guests tonight to ring in the new year."



And as always, this is a "party with a purpose." Paye says, "Food Rescue of Northwest Michigan is our charity partner. They're receiving all the donations tonight, whether they're [online \(https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=6oCwYv\)](https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=6oCwYv), on [our Facebook page \(https://www.facebook.com/cherryballdrop/\)](https://www.facebook.com/cherryballdrop/), and/or down at the gates themselves. Tonight is party with a purpose and make sure we are giving back to the community we love."

Parking in the area is prohibited after 4:00 pm. Downtown is expected to be extremely busy from 9:00 pm until 2:00am.

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