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## THE IDLE AMERICAN Stars Shoot Both Ways.... Commentary by Dr. Don Newbury

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Most folks whose age is to eatch falling stars, tickled its on his "wagon-hitching." years are happy to be mov- if pointed downward. ing at all. A few are willing

within a quarter-century of at the prospect of experiencmy Uncle Mort's 103-plus ing one final "whoosh," even

Mort, though, places lim-

He's determined to seek trajectories aimed upward toward new heights. He continues to be an enigma, bearing head-on the challenge of "gearing up" to the year's hardest work during the holiday season while many other seniors relax.

He envisions days between now and December 25 to be equivalent to the workload of Santa's elves. It's a strong claim by a guy committed to putting off until tomorrow what should be done to-

day....

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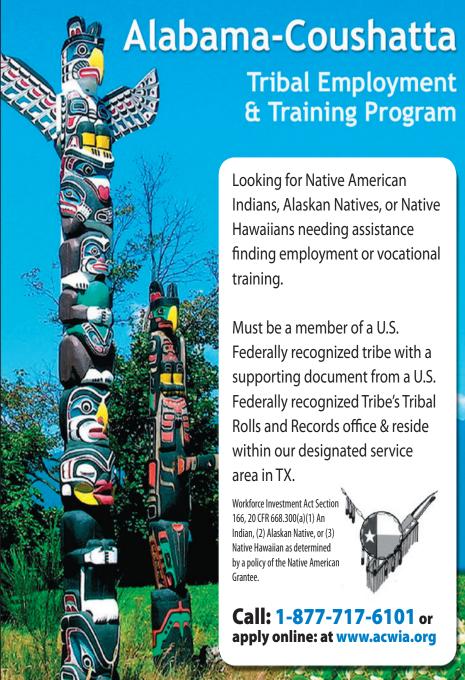
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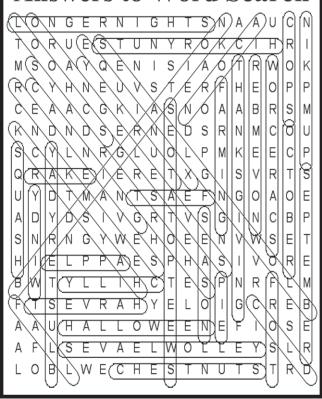
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The 6th annual St. Jude Trail Ride in Hopkins County has proven to be a supersuccessful teaming of big hearts and western ways in the spirit of giving. According to organizers Jim and Jean Murray, over \$30,000 came in from 2015 donations and auction. That amount, added to the previous \$78,000 from past Trail Rides, makes the Murray's dream come true...to raise over \$100,000 total for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. And everybody helped make it happen! There's just enough space here for a partial show-and-tell of the event held on November 14, 2015 at the 2J

Ranch at Como, Texas.



CRRA Rodeo

grandkids



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Jim Murray, Organizer

Colton Kearney, outrider



**Tumbleweed Smith** 



**Tumbleweed Smith** 

Bill Giles graduated from Van High School in 1956 and went

"Then I came back to the same school in 1960 and started my teaching career here," he says. "I wasn't very much older than the students I was teaching. I came back here when I was twenty years old. Some of my students were eighteen years old. It was sort of interesting for me that first year. Also, I taught my wife who was one of my students that first year."

His wife is three years younger than Bill.

"She was working in Dallas one summer and we ran into each other. We started dating in June and got married in September."

He started out teaching English and business and is now the Van High School counselor.

"I have been in Van High School for fifty-five years. I've had my wife in school here, I've had my grandson in school here. I've had my daughter in school here. I've had my son in school here. In fact I'm working right now on teaching the fourth generation of some students' families here."

In addition to his counseling duties, he is in charge of placement of international students, something he started doing in 1976.

"I have hosted six exchange students in my home. Every summer my wife and I go to Brazil to see what we still call our boys, even though they're forty-five and fifty years old now."

His office looks like he's been there for 55 years. Every bit of wall space, ceiling space, bookshelf space, table space and even some floor space is covered with photographs, flags, banners and memorabilia from his experiences with foreign exchange students. Candles, mugs, pom-poms, bulletin boards, certificates, plaques, trinkets, momentos and souvenirs are everywhere. It is really a showcase of what he has done the past fifty-five years.

"I've got almost every country represented because I've placed hundreds of students from other countries. I hope to die on the job because I sure don't want to have to clean up this mess. The custodial staff came in here once wanting to paint the walls and I told them 'we're not doing this. You can't see the walls so don't worry about them."

He knows of nobody else who has been at the same school for fifty-five years.

"Maybe I'll set a record. It has been an enjoyable place to work, one of the best places I've ever worked. Well, come to think of it, it's the only place I've worked. But it's wonderful and I look forward to coming here every day. I usually get here about six-thirty in the morning and usually stay until four-thirty or five in the afternoon."

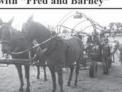
Tumbleweed Smith thinks Texas is a great place to live. Contact him at ts@tumbleweedsmith.com



Ava Dor'e, St. Jude Poster Child



Miller Lee of Buffalo, Tx with "Fred and Barney"



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David Herring of Quitman-





Bill and Donna Giles of Leon-

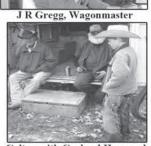
Richard Groom of Eustace, with "Magan and Sue"



JR Gregg's custom wagon with gray mules "Blue and Elvis".

Bob Kearney, Saltillo and Delbert Logan, Sulphur Springs with





Colton with Garland Hays and Oliver Jetton

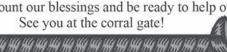


Ryder and "Stormy" of Wolfe

The folks pictured here take their livestock and their lifestyle seriously, yet find a lot of fun along the trail. I hope you have a dream, a cause, or a passion for something in life.

May you always have a reason you can't wait to to get up in the morning! Til next week, let's count our blessings and be ready to help our neighbors.

See you at the corral gate!



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- · Assist in the development and updating of the training program
- · Perform trials and calibrations of the equipment

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#### NEW GRADUATE WILL BE CONSIDERED

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- · Valid passport or the ability to obtain one
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#### Employment Status: Full-Time

#### Salary and advantages: To be determined

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For our Sulphur Springs site

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- · Develop, monitor & maintain troubleshooting tools

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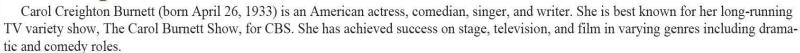


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Born in San Antonio, Texas to alcoholic parents, Burnett moved with her grandmother to Hollywood, where she attended Hollywood High School and eventually studied theater and musical comedy at UCLA. Later she performed in nightclubs in New York City and had a breakout success on Broadway in 1959 in Once Upon a Mattress, for which she received a Tony Award nomination. She soon made her television debut, regularly appearing on The Garry Moore Show for the next three years, and won her first Emmy Award in 1962. Burnett moved to Los Angeles, California, and began an 11-year run as star of The Carol Burnett Show on CBS television from 1967 to 1978. With its vaudeville roots, The Carol Burnett Show was a variety show that combined comedy sketches with song and dance. The comedy sketches included film parodies and character pieces. Burnett created many memorable characters during the show's television run, and both she and the show won numerous Emmy and Golden Globe Awards.

During and after her variety show, Burnett appeared in many television and film projects. Her film roles include Pete 'n' Tillie (1972), The Four Seasons (1981), Annie (1982), Noises Off (1992), and Horton Hears a Who! (2008). On television, she has appeared in other sketch shows; in dramatic roles in 6 Rms Riv Vu (1974) and Friendly Fire (1979); in various well-regarded guest roles, such as in Mad About You, for which she won an Emmy Award; and in specials with Julie Andrews, Dolly Parton, Beverly Sills, and others. She also returned to the Broadway stage in 1995 in Moon Over Buffalo, for which she was again nominated for a Tony Award

Burnett was born in San Antonio, Texas in 1933, the daughter of Ina Louise (née Creighton), a publicity writer for movie studios, and Joseph Thomas Burnett, a movie theater manager. Both of her parents suffered from alcoholism, and at a young age, she was left with her grandmother, Mabel Eudora White. Burnett's parents divorced in the late 1930s, and she and her grandmother moved to an apartment near Burnett's mother's in an impoverished area of Hollywood. There they stayed in a boarding house with Burnett's younger half-sister Chrissie. When Burnett was in second grade, she briefly invented an imaginary twin sister named Karen, with Shirley Templelike dimples. Motivated to further the pretense, Burnett fondly recalls that she "fooled the other boarders in the rooming house where we lived by frantically switching clothes and dashing in and out of the house by the fire escape and the front door. Then I became exhausted and Karen mysteriously vanished."

For a while, she worked as an usherette at what is now the Hollywood Pacific Theatre (the forecourt of which is now the location of her star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame; see the section in the theatre's article for more information). After graduating from Hollywood High School in 1951, Burnett received an anonymous envelope containing \$50 for one year's tuition at UCLA, where she initially planned on studying journalism. During her first year of college, Burnett switched her focus to theater arts and English, with the goal of becoming a playwright. She found she had to take an acting course to enter the playwright program; "I wasn't really ready to do the acting thing, but I had no choice." She followed a sudden impulse in her first performance; "Don't ask me why, but when we were in front of the audience, I suddenly decided I was going to stretch out all my words and my first line came out 'I'm baaaaaaaaack!'" The audience response moved her deeply:

"They laughed and it felt great. All of a sudden, after so much coldness and emptiness in my life, I knew the sensation of all that warmth wrapping around me. I had always been a quiet, shy, sad sort of girl and then everything changed for me. You spend the rest of your life hoping you'll hear a laugh that great again." During this time, Burnett performed in several university productions, garnering recognition for her comedic and musical abilities. Her mother disapproved of her acting ambitions:

"She wanted me to be a writer. She said you can always write, no matter what you look like. When I was growing up she told me to be a little lady, and a couple of times I got a whack for crossing my eyes for making funny faces. Of course, she never, I never, dreamed I would ever perform." The young Burnett, always insecure about her looks, responded many years afterward to her mother's advice, "You can always write, no matter what you look like," in

Burnett's memoir One More Time (1986), noting, "God, that hurt!"

During her senior year at UCLA, a professor invited Burnett and some other students to perform at a party in place of their class final that had been canceled (which required a performance in front of an audience). Afterwards, a man and his wife approached Burnett while Carol was stuffing cookies in her purse to take home to her grandmother. Instead of reprimanding her, the man complimented Burnett's performance and asked about her future plans. When he learned that Burnett wished to travel to New York in order to try her luck in musical comedy but couldn't afford the trip, right then and there he offered Carol and her boyfriend Don Saroyan each a \$1,000 interest-free loan. His conditions were simply that the loans were to be repaid within five years, his name was never to be revealed, and if she achieved success, she would help other aspiring talents to pursue their artistic dreams. Burnett took him up on his offer; she and Saroyan left college and moved to New York to pursue acting careers. That same year, Bunett's father died of causes related to his alcoholism.

Burnett starred in a few films while her variety show was running, including Pete 'n' Tillie (1972). She was nominated for an Emmy in 1974 for her role in the drama 6 Rms Riv Vu. After her show ended, Burnett assumed a number of roles that departed from comedy. She appeared in several dramatic roles, most notably in the television movie Friendly Fire. She appeared as Beatrice O'Reilly in the film Life of The Party: The Story of Beatrice, a story about a woman fighting her alcoholism. Her other film work includes The Four Seasons (1981), Annie (1982), and Noises Off (1992). She also returned in 2005 to star in a different role as Queen Aggravain in the movie version of Once Upon a Mattress. She guest-starred in season two of Desperate Housewives as Bree's stepmother, Elanor Mason.

Burnett was the first celebrity to appear on the children's series Sesame Street, on that series' first episode on November 10, 1969. She also made occasional returns to the stage in the 1970s and 1980s. In 1974, she appeared at The Muny Theater in St. Louis, Missouri, in I Do! I Do! with Rock Hudson.

A true variety show, The Carol Burnett Show struck a chord with viewers. Among other things, it parodied films ("Went With the Wind" for Gone With the Wind), television ("As the Stomach Turns" for the soap opera As the World Turns) and commercials. Musical numbers were also a frequent feature. Burnett and her team struck gold with the original sketch "The Family", which eventually was spun off into its own television show called Mama's Family, starring Vicki Lawrence.

Burnett opened most shows with an impromptu question-and-answer session with the audience, lasting a few minutes, during which she often demonstrated her ability to humorously ad lib. On numerous occasions, she obliged when asked to perform her trademark Tarzan yell.

Burnett ended each show by tugging on her left ear, which was a message to her grandmother who raised her. This was done to let her know that she was doing well and that she loved her. During the show's run, Burnett's grandmother died. On an Intimate Portrait episode on Burnett, she tearfully recalled her grandmother's last moments: "She said to my husband Joe from her hospital bed 'Joe, you see that spider up there?' There was no spider, but Joe said he did anyhow. She said 'Every few minutes a big spider jumps on that little spider and they go at it like rabbits!! And then she died. There's laughter in everything!" Burnett continued the tradition of tugging her ear.

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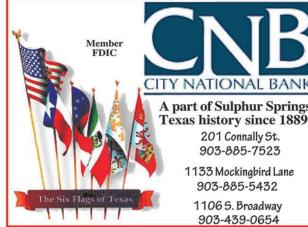




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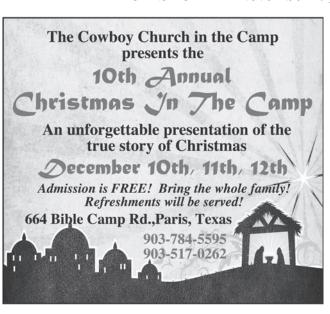


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It also gives the caregiver a few hours to run errands and to take care of personal healthcare needs, etc. knowing that their loved one is well taken care of in a safe and enjoyable environment.

The cost is \$20 each Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and that includes lunch!

"Terrific Tuesdays" meets at The First United Methodist Church Family Life Center at 301 Church Street, Sulphur Springs.

Contact Joyce McDonald at 903-243-5620 for more information

## Word Search

LONGERNIGHTSNAAUCN

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CANNING
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CHILLY
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CROPS
EQUINOX

**FALL** 

**FARMING** 

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FROST
HALLOWEEN
HARVEST
HAYSTACK
HICKORY NUTS
LONGER NIGHTS
NOVEMBER

NOVEMBER
OCTOBER
ORANGE LEAVES
PIE
PUMPKIN

RED LEAVES
SCARECROW
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Friday, November 20, 6pm – 9pm
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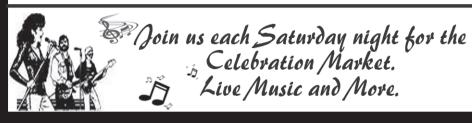
Call (903)438-8320 for Reservations and more information.

Saturday, November 21, 6pm – 9pm
Live Music by Ramoth Gilead at Lou Viney's Restaurant & Pub
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Sunday, November 22, 2pm – 4pm UPRA Cinch United Finals Rodeo Hopkins County Civic Center, Sulphur Springs

Wednesday, November 18, 1pm – 4pm Sulphur Springs Public Library - Lone Star Legal Aid 611 N Davis St Sulphur Springs

Sulphur Springs Public Library will host meeting space for Lone Star Legal Aid, a nonprofit law firm. They provide free civil legal help to low-income families and individuals. Please call 903-785-8711.





**RAKE** 

## Obics



#### Earnest "Bud" Hooks

Funeral services for Earnest "Bud" Hooks, age 60 of Sulphur Springs were held on Tuesday, November 17, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. at League Street Church of Christ with Jerry Savage officiating. Interment with military graveside honors followed at Forest Academy Cemetery with Owen Jobe, Troy Sewell, Justin Little, Alex Liddle, Tiny and Rusty McIlveene serving as pallbearers. Visitation was held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Monday, November 16, 2015 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home.

Earnest "Bud" passed away on Saturday, November 14, 2015 at his hunting lease in Bairdstown. He was born on May 18, 1955, in Refugio the son of Earnest and Thelma (Overly) Hooks. He married Lisa Childree Liddle on August 18, 2012 in Hot Springs,

Arkansas. He served in the Marines, was a regional sales manager for the Dallas Morning News, Sulphur Springs ISD (Douglas Elementary) tutor, member of League Street Church of Christ.

He is survived by his wife; sons, Tony Hooks of Sulphur Springs, Tim Hooks of Sulphur Springs, Kendall Robbins of Sulphur Springs, Alex Liddle of Austin, Justin Liddle of Tennessee and Marshall Liddle of Germany; eight grandchildren, Payton Hooks, Haylee Hooks, Mycaylah Hooks, Hanna Sandin, Hayden Hooks, Tristan Liddle, Gabrieal Liddle and Audrey Liddle and sister, Bobbie Thompson. He was preceded in death by his parents.



#### Mary Hyland

Mary Hyland, age 73, of Emory, passed away at her residence on Sunday, Nov. 8, 2015. She was born in Austin, on June 19, 1942.

Mary worked in the Dallas area for many years in advertising, sales, marketing, and was a publisher of a magazine there for a period of time. After retiring, Mary moved to Emory. She spent many happy hours at the Rains County Senior Citizens Center, lunching with her friends, and playing games during the morning and afternoon.

Survivors include: Son: Paul Stuart Hyland (and wife Lalisa) of Emory; Nephew: Ralph Gaines of Alaska; 1 Granddaughter: Meghan Rodrigues Hyland of Emory; Also loving friends: Kay Smith, Charlotte Stovall, the Garrett family, Jan Denson, and Donald Lee; Preceded in death by: her parents.

#### Thomas Pippin Jr.

Thomas Pippin Jr., of Cumby, TX, passed away on Wednesday, November 18, 2015, at Lake Point Medical Center. Arrangements are pending with West Oaks Funeral Home.

#### Shem Ray Jr.

Shem Ray Jr., of Sulphur Springs, TX, passed away on Wednesday, November 18, 2015, at his residence. Arrangements are pending with West Oaks Funeral Home.



#### **Maxine Hiller**

Funeral Service for Maxine Hiller, age 87, of Sulphur Springs, TX, were held at 1:00 p.m., on Wednesday, November 18, 2015, at Wesley United Methodist Church, with Rev. Steve Cook officiating. Interment followed at Mahoney Cemetery with Chris Hiller, Jeremy Hiller, Scott Hundt, Steve Hiller, J.W. Upton and Randy Hiller serving as Pallbearers. Honorary Pallbearers were Dennis Jordan, Gary Lewis, Jim Scaggs, and Max Drummond. Visitation was held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., on Tuesday, November 17, 2015 at West Oaks Funeral Home.

Maxine passed away on Friday, November 13, 2015, at The Manor of Seagoville. Maxine was born on May 16, 1928 in Enterprise, KS, the daughter of Robert Lester Upton and Josephine E. Zimmerman Upton. She married Lloyd A. Hiller Sr.,

on February 17, 1947 in Dallas, TX. He survives. Maxine was a member of Wesley United Methodist Church. She was a Tupperware manager for many years, also worked at Hopkins County Memorial Hospital as an Insurance Clerk for 13 years, after retirement she volunteered at the hospital up until last year.

She is survived by her husband, sons, Allen Hiller and wife Carolyn of Kaufman, Jack Hiller of Emory, and James Hiller and wife Karen of Dike, brother, Johnny W. Upton and wife Sandra of Longview, grandchildren, Randy Hiller, Steven Hiller, Julie Hundt, Chris Hiller, Jeremy Hiller, Heather Hiller, Sonya Romero and Tammy Romero, great grandchildren, Caden, Kayla, Kinley, Scott, Logan, Leigha, Autumn, Frank Jr., Thomas, Erik, Valerie, Noah and Maximus.

She is preceded in death by her parents, brother, Kenneth R. Upton and grandchild James Hiller Jr.



#### **■** Debrena Gaffney

Debrena Gaffney, 50, of Honey Grove, passed away on Thursday, November 12, 2015 in Plano, TX.

Brena was born in Honey Grove on October 29, 1965, to J. W. and Opal McGee. She was a graduate of Honey Grove High School in 1984. She worked at Lamar County Meals on Wheels.

Having accepted Christ at an early age, she worked faithfully on the Usher Board at Little Bethel Baptist Church, Ebenezer Baptist Church, Carter Temple and Christian Chapel CME where she was a member.

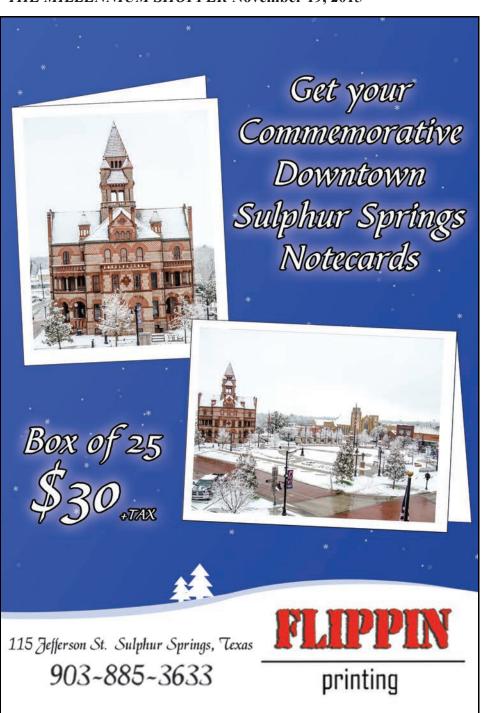
She will be remembered for her loving spirit and fellowship with friends and family; but, most of all, she will be remembered for her contagious smile. Her memory will live on with her generous gift of love as an organ donor which was in remem-

brance of her mother, Opal McGee who was a kidney transplant recipient.

She was preceded in death by her parents and brother, Walter Earl McGee.

Survivors include her fiancé, Greg Anderson; her son, Colton Maxwell; her step-son, Greg Anderson, Jr; her daughter, Jessica Brigham; her sisters and brothers: Eddie McGee, Jacqueline McGee, Gerry McGee (Graciela), Jerry McGee, Delores Patt (Roy), and Carolyn Stevenson-Harper; and, her grandchildren: Ze'Zay Maxwell and Skylar Woods.

Services will be Saturday, November 21, 2015, at 12:00 P.M. at Christian Chapel CME in Honey Grove with Rev. Esther Lawson officiating. Interment will follow at Cedar Hill Cemetery in Honey Grove.





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