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MOUNTAINSIDE GIRL SCOUTS SERVICE UNIT 51

Submitted by Erin Heyert, Daisy Troop Leader



(above) The first grade Daisy Troop 46127 organized the birthday supply collection and are pictured with some of the bags. Hailey Heyert, McKenna O’Grady, Emilia Klein, Charlotte Reichard, Madeline McSharry, Anna Hernandez, Allison Spivak, Claire Lund, Ava Adornato, and Lucy Czapek.

Girls Scouts’ across the US celebrated the 110th anniversary of Girls Scouts on March 12th. To mark the celebration, MountainSide Girl Scouts Service Unit 51 participated in Girl Scout Birthday Week; a spirit week encompassing all parts of the Girl Scout Pledge.

The highlights included: troops taking turns saying the Pledge of Allegiance at school during the morning announcements to serve their country, troops collecting birthday cake and party supplies to donate to Loaves and Fishes at St. Teresa of Avila Church in Summit to help people at all times, and girls coming up with ways to support each other by doing something kind for another scout to be good neighbors and friends.



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Mountainside View

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE COMMITTEE 10TH ANNUAL MEMORIAL DAY PARADE CALLING FOR VETERANS TO PARTICIPATE

On Monday, May 30th, Mountainside will sponsor a Memorial Day Ceremony followed by a parade honoring those who have died in our nation's service.

The ceremony will take place at 11:30 a.m. at the Veterans flagpole monument on Constitution Plaza (in front of the library). Upon conclusion of the ceremony, Veterans, Scouts, Rotary Club, Rescue Squad, Fire Department, Police and community groups will parade toward Deerfield School. The parade will proceed from Constitution Plaza up to Bridle Path to Wood Valley Road to Central Avenue, ending in Deerfield School parking lot and is expected to end at 12:30 p.m.

The Grand Marshal of Mountainside's parade will be Cyril John Massar. He was born in Tresckow, Pennsylvania. He is 97 years old and has been a Mountainside resident since 1991. Cyril entered Federal Service on January 26th, 1943. His highest rank held was Aviation Machinist's Mate Second Class.

He served as Naval Training Station, Sampson, New York: Naval Air Station, Miami, Florida: Naval Air Station, San Diego, California: and Naval Air Base, Navy 3149- Philippines Islands.

Cyril's Military Awards include Asiatic Pacific

Campaign Medal: Philippine Liberation Medal with 1 Star: Good Conduct Medal: and a WW II Victory Medal and was released from active service on February 12, 1946.

Cyril had a sales career until retiring in 1989 and currently serves as a Deacon for Volunteer Catholic Priests: Atlantic Visiting Nursing: and Hospice and Lyons VA Hospital. He has 5 children, 7 grandchildren, and 1 great-grandchild. His hobbies include volunteer service and music and he used to play the piano accordion.

The Mountainside Memorial Day Parade Committee is comprised of individuals representing the VFW, Mayor and Borough Council, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, Rotary Club, Local Businesses, Fire Department, Police Department, Rescue Squad and others. These groups came together to bring a fitting Memorial Day event to the town of Mountainside as an honor to our own brave citizens who have fought and sacrificed in wars so that we can enjoy the many freedoms that Mountainside enjoy. The Committee hopes that citizens come out in force to show their appreciation for our Veterans as we memorialize our heroes in this way.

For further information about the parade, please contact Deanna Andre at (908) 244-4111.

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NEW DEALS FOR OLD WHEELS

On Saturday, May 7, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, Faith Lutheran Church, 524 South Street in New Providence, will again be collecting second-hand bikes for use by adults and children in third world countries. The collection is being conducted on behalf of Pedals for Progress, an organization which annually recycles 6,000 bicycles for persons in developing countries. Anyone with a bicycle in repairable condition is urged to donate to this worthy cause. Bikes may be dropped off at the parking lot next to the church. On that day, members of Faith will repair and process the bikes for shipment by P4P.

Since 2002, Faith Lutheran has been collecting bikes for P4P. In 2021, five hundred sixty-four bikes were collected from persons and organizations in New Providence, Berkeley Heights, Mountainside, Westfield, Chatham, Warren, Scotch Plains and Fanwood. The collection by Faith occurs throughout the year. The range of towns was aided by articles published in Renna Media publications.

Every year affluent Americans buy 22 million new bicycles and discard millions of old ones, abandoning many more in basements, sheds and garages. Most of these end up in our already overburdened landfills.

P4P ships its reconditioned bikes to persons in need of countries in Latin America, Africa and Asia. The bikes provide reliable transportation to commute to work, transport produce to market, access health care and other services. Steady employment for adults is vital to the development and success of these economies.

P4P reports that the cost of shipping bikes has

increased significantly in recent years and now presents a substantial financial burden to P4P. Last year, Faith contributed \$3,000 toward the shipment of the bikes. Persons donating bikes gave \$1,273 toward shipment. P4P is asking persons to donate \$15 toward the shipping costs, if they are financially comfortable doing so. Donation or not, Faith welcomes all bikes in

repairable condition.

Since 2016, the chairperson of Faith's Pedal for Progress ministry has been Casey Walsh of Bridgewater, a long-time member of the church.

The pastor of Faith is Rev. Jane McCready. Visit online at famfaith.org or call the church office at 908-464-5177. The address is 524 South Street, New Providence.



2021 Pedals for Progress volunteers.

(above, l-r) Pedals for Progress organization; Alan and Gary, Faith; Bill Bradley of New Providence, Casey Walsh of Bridgewater, Sally Reier of Union, Diana Bjorge of Berkeley Heights, Ky Luu, formerly of Fanwood, now South Carolina, Linda Fuller of Berkeley Heights.

Courtesy photos

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BOY SCOUT CHESS TOURNAMENT RETURNS

After a two year hiatus due to Covid-19 restrictions the Boy Scouts Annual Chess Tournament in Cranford was back in full swing held on March 26, 2022 at the Cranford Community Center. The event was hosted by the newly configured Pioneer District or the Boy Scouts of America and Sponsored by Renna Media. Tom Andrea, Advisor, Patriots Path Council Chess Club and District Chairman Steve Flood organized the event.

First place winner was Paul Mild of Bound Brook who finished with a perfect score of 4.0, winning all four of his games. Second and third place winners with a score of 3.5, were Paul Rinaldi and Sander Merrick, both from Florham Park.

Thirty contestants participated in the tournament that is organized by Joe Renna of Renna Media, and Tournament Director John Moldovan. This tournament also met the 6a requirement for earning a Chess merit badge.

The Patriot Path Council Chess Club is open to all scouts and potential scouts and is free to join. Currently the club is playing monthly, Saturday morning online chess tournaments, usually the fourth Saturday of the month. There is a signup form to join the club that can be found on their website at 247scouting.com.



(above) Johnny Arena of Mountainside participated in Boy Scouts Chess Tournament.

RAKE & HOE DELIVER TABLETOP CHEER TO SENIORS

The Rake & Hoe Garden Club of Westfield (RHGC) has launched a new Community Projects initiative to provide flowers to nursing homes and assisted living centers in area towns. Members of the event committee visited The Chelsea at Fanwood on March 29th, bringing decorated pots of mini roses for the twelve tables in the dining room. Garden club members come from the towns of Mountainside, Scotch Plains, Westfield and Plainfield, and club members are presently reaching out to facilities in those towns. RHGC is known for its community projects with Mobile Meals, Jardine Academy, Lyons Veterans

Hospital, and beautification projects in four Westfield location.

RHGC is affiliated with the Garden Club of New Jersey and the National Garden Clubs, Inc. The club meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 12:00 p.m. at the Scotch Hills Country Club. Meetings feature speakers on horticulture, floral design, floral crafts, and environmental topics. Membership is open to residents of Westfield and surrounding towns. For more information, call Sharon Shiraga (908) 228 2865 or visit the club's website, rakeandhoe.org, or Facebook page.



(above) Jeanie Pelikan, Richard Pelikan and Betty Gulino, Joyce Mullen, President Beth Siano, Maryfran Annese, and Joe Da Rold.

Photo by RHGC

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GRETA'S RUN FOR IMAGINE - MAY 22

The 9th Annual Greta's Run for Imagine will be held in-person for the first time in 2 years! Join us on Sunday May 22, 2022 for an official USATF 5K race through Westfield, NJ. This year, we are introducing a Memory Walk – a 0.6 mile route where families of the community can walk in memory of anyone who has died. Memory Walk Registrants can purchase a sign to decorate with the name of their loved one to line the walk route and memorialize their family member.

Greta's Run began 9 years ago when a group of Greta Schoenemann's friends decided they wanted to honor her memory with a 5k race. Greta had died on September 15, 2002 due to injuries sustained when a branch fell on a group of students as they were eating lunch outside of Westfield High School. This year marks the 20th anniversary of Greta's death and the 9th year the race has been run in her honor.

Sadly, many of us have experienced the loss of someone we love and this year's event is in honor of all of them. We invite everyone to join us as we run, walk or roll in honor of Greta and all those we love who have died. At Imagine, we see this run as an act of honor, as an act of mourning and of remembrance for our families and our community.

Before the 5K race, we invite everyone to join us for a Memory Walk when we will provide time and space for all to walk in honor of those who have died but are not forgotten.

Proceeds from the race support Imagine's free peer support groups for children and families coping with grief, as well as Imagine's grief education programs which are available for

schools and businesses looking to better support their communities. Additionally, Imagine staff are available to provide support in the immediate aftermath of a loss in a school community, organization or place of business.

We are so thankful for our sponsors thus far for the 9th Annual Greta's Run for Imagine. A big thank you to our Memory Walk Sponsor: Toriello Family in honor of MTT Memorial Fund and thank you to our hydration sponsor Westfield Pediatric Dental Group, and shirt sponsors Family Investors Company and Rossi Funeral Home. Your sponsorships help underwrite the event and help ensure that every dollar goes directly to providing free grief support for children and families. To become a sponsor, please contact Angela Marie Tayco at angela@imaginejnj.org or 908-228-3360.

To register for Greta's Run and/or the Memory Walk, please visit imaginejnj.org/gretasrun. We

look forward to coming together as a community to honor and remember those we love who have died.

Imagine's Executive Director, Lindsay Schambach would like to extend this invitation to you: 'We hope that you will join us and walk alongside our families, our children, and our community, and let everyone know that their loss matters, that they are not alone, and they are never forgotten.'

Imagine offers grief and loss education and training to the community and free year-round grief support groups for children ages 3-18 who have had a parent, sibling, or close family member die. Concurrent groups are available for parents and guardians of the children in our groups, and young adults 18-30. Imagine also offers a support group for Spanish speaking adults. For more information, please contact Imagine at 908-264-3100 or info@imaginejnj.org.



(above) To register for Greta's Run and/or the Memory Walk, please visit imaginejnj.org/gretasrun.

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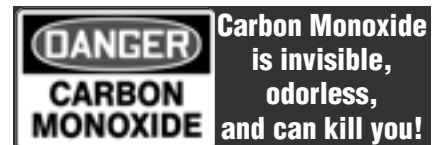
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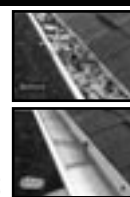
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EMS WEEK - MAY 19TH

The Mountainside Rescue Squad invites the community to celebrate EMS Week on May 19th from 6:30 – 9 p.m. The family friendly event will feature demos, tours, giveaways, and refreshments including grilled hamburgers and hot dogs. The open house will be at the Squad Building located at 1399 Route 22 East, Mountainside.

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The Mountainside Rescue Squad presents Operas on Film. The selected films from famous opera houses throughout the world, will be played with subtitles on the second Friday of the month at 1 p.m. Whether you are an opera buff or an opera neophyte, you are invited to join us for the following films:

Un Ballo in Maschera by Verdi

Friday, May 13 at 1 p.m.

Starring Plácido Domingo from the Salzburg Opera House (145 min.)

Aida by Verdi

Friday, June 10

Starring Luciano Pavarotti from La Scala Opera House (160 min.)

For more information contact Mena Clemson at m4clemson@gmail.com.

MEMBERS NEEDED

The Mountainside Rescue Squad is in need of Mountainside residents, over the age of 18, willing to help their fellow neighbor. We pay for all training and no experience is necessary. If you or someone you know has ever considered joining please give us a call at 908-233-6338 or email us at squad@ems22.com, and we will answer any questions you may have. If you're ready to join, please fill out an application at www.ems22.com/join.





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RELAY FOR LIFE – MAY 21

American Cancer Society

The American Cancer Society Relay For Life of Berkeley Heights invites the communities of Berkeley Heights, Mountainside, New Providence and Summit to join the movement to honor and remember loved ones and fight back for lifesaving change on Saturday May 21st, 2022 (noon to midnight) at The Grove at Connell Park – 200 Connell Dr, Berkeley Heights, NJ). There is no cost to attend the event and this year's event theme is "Under the "C" Sea" and will be featuring music and entertainment by Thoro Entertainment along with games, food, and activities for all!

Community volunteers are the backbone of this movement which includes cancer survivors,

caregivers, local citizens, and participants who believe that the future can be free from cancer and own the power to make that change.

Funds raised help the American Cancer Society attack cancer in dozens of ways, each of them critical to achieving a world without cancer – from developing breakthrough therapies to building supportive communities, from providing empowering resources to deploying activists to raise awareness.

There are many ways to get involved!

Join the Relay For Life of Berkeley Heights! – Sign up to join an as a participant, cancer survivor, existing team or start a new team at RelayForLife.org/BerkeleyHeightsNJ

Get your business involved! – Being involved in Relay For Life events supports your community Relay For Life event and provides your employees and customers, an opportunity to participate in the fight against cancer. For information on sponsorship opportunities or how you can get your business involved, contact Vicky Allen, Senior Development Manager at vicky.allen@cancer.org / 732-825-6958.

Invite someone or attend our Survivor Brunch! – Are you a cancer survivor or know someone who is? We'd like to celebrate you at our Survivor Brunch taking place on the day of Relay - Saturday, 5/21 @ 11 a.m. at The Grove - Connell Corporate Park. For more details and to RSVP please contact Maureen Pergola (973) 727-1101

/ maureenpergola1@gmail.com.

Donate! - If you can't participate in this year's event, you can still help save lives by making a event donation. Every dollar fuels the American Cancer Society's fight against cancer. Visit RelayForLife.org/BerkeleyHeightsNJ to make a donation today.

Dedicate a Luminaria Bag for a loved one! – Luminarias honor every life touched by cancer. For a \$10 donation, you can dedicate them to a loved one lost, someone currently battling, or anyone who's overcome it. Our Luminaria Ceremony begins after dusk and participants will see the Luminarias decorated with names and sometimes messages to the people they're dedicated to. To dedicate a Luminaria Bag go to: <https://tinyurl.com/LuminariaBH2022>.

Volunteer! – We are always looking for volunteers to join our Leadership Team, or just help out on the day of the event! Contact Vicky Allen for information on how you can volunteer; vicky.allen@cancer.org / 732-825-6958.

Founded by Dr. Gordy Klatt in Tacoma, Washington, in 1985, the Relay For Life movement unites communities across the globe to celebrate people who have been touched by cancer, remember loved ones lost, and take action for lifesaving change.

To learn more about Relay For Life of Berkeley Heights, visit RelayForLife.org/BerkeleyHeightsNJ

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HIGHLANDERS ICE HOCKEY TEAM WINS FIRST EVER STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Governor Livingston/New Providence claimed their first ever State Championship on Monday, March 7th, 2022 at the Prudential Center.

The Highlanders beat top-seeded Morris Knolls/Hills in the NJSIAA Public C final with a score of 2-0, thanks to a strong defensive

performance.

The Berkeley Heights and New Providence communities came together to support their win as the Highlanders concluded their historic season with a record of 18-6-1.



Photo by Berkeley Heights Public Schools



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A NEW KIND OF VETERANS' EVENT

Submitted by Jesus Alejandro MiroQuesada

The New Jersey Veterans Network (NJVN) has a different way of reaching out to veterans and they proved this during their recent NJVN Veterans Salute event, a joint venture between the NJVN and the State VFW. NJVN Director Frank "Doc" Schupp and President Michael Boll treated NJ veterans to an event filled with enjoyable times, hot meals, free business attire, and resources for our state's heroes.

As you walked into the large room at VFW 2433 in Union Township, NJ, there were dozens of veterans smiling and mingling while DJ Doc Bear (an army veteran) played some tunes. The usual serious tone of similar events was replaced with a feeling of fun, comradery and comfort.

Air Force Veteran Cristina Lozada said "This event provided an outlet for these veterans to be themselves and have fun in an environment with like-minded individuals. I saw firsthand how taking the time to give back really impacted these veterans lives by feeling cared for and acknowledged."

While waiting their turn to choose their clothing from an attic full of free apparel, veterans partook in video games, card games, and Army vs Navy, and Air Force vs Marines chess games. Delicious pizza was available from nearby Reggio's Pizza which was sponsored by NJVNs partner JM Rodgers. With impressive skill, local barber Emilio of Signature Barbers of Elizabeth, NJ cut veteran's hair free of charge. Volunteers, vets, and family members all enjoyed themselves side by side while honoring our brave men and women.

When asked about the event, organizer Doc Schupp explained, "We wanted to make it a point to create an atmosphere where vets can have fun while receiving resources; this way instead of feeling anxious and uncomfortable, they are relaxed while speaking to service providers."

The Veteran Salute program had plenty of community support as representatives from the

MOVES program, Vet Center, VFW, American Legion and New Bridge Medical Center were on hand to talk to veterans. The atmosphere was a very relaxed as vets interacted with service providers over games and refreshments.

Camillo Vanegas of the MOVES program was on hand to discuss their veteran job placement program. American Legion Commander Dennis Duddie listened respectfully to veterans' stories and advised them of various local programs. The Vet Center was on hand to answer questions about counseling and case management. Bergen New Bridge Medical Center set up a table explaining their many veteran assistance programs. FDU's internship program.

Volunteers included the Union High School ROTC, 5-year-old Vickie Almanazar volunteered alongside her father Daniel, Army veteran Uncle Homer, and many more served food, helped with clothing distribution, entertained, or just visited with the veterans while listening to their stories.

Army recruit Miss Matias, who was shipping out to basic training shortly, was on hand to volunteer and shared her thoughts, "The Veterans Salute event was so successful. We helped a lot of people and touched so many lives. Sometimes all a person needs are a warm smile and friendly conversation to take their mind of their troubles, even if only for a moment."

ABOUT NEW JERSEY VETERANS NETWORK

We are a group of veterans and volunteers dedicated to helping our veterans and their families live better lives. Our mission is to identify veterans and connect them with resources and programs designed to meet their unique set of needs. If you are interested in joining our team, would like us to speak at your event, or contribute to our mission, call 973-332-1556 or email mdbollio@optonline.net. To learn more visit njvn.org



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MOUNTAINSIDE ACTIVE RETIREES

Thirty-nine members and guests of the Mountainside Active Retirees visited LiGrecis Staaten in Staten Island where they held their April 12th 'meeting'. The business part of the meeting was suspended that day to

accommodate 5 + hours of dining, music, and live entertainment. The next scheduled regular meeting is on May 10th with Kathleen Malkiewicz - Senior Nutrition Program Director as guest speaker.

Meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of most months at the Mountainside Borough Hall starting at 10 a.m. Mountainside seniors 55+ are always welcomed.



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SHEET METAL WORKERS' UNION SUPPORTS MOBILE MEALS OF WESTFIELD

Sheet Metal Workers' Union No. 22 presented Mobile Meals of Westfield \$600 in gift cards on April 14.

Mobile Meals of Westfield is a non-profit organization which provides nutritious hot meals for those unable to provide meals for themselves. The organization serves the communities of Clark, Cranford, Fanwood, Garwood, Mountainside, Scotch Plains and Westfield.

For more information visit mobilemealsofwestfield.org or call 908- 233-6146.

Sheet Metal Workers' Union No. 22 serves Union, Morris, Somerset and Sussex Counties. The union members support veterans, the homeless and non-profit organizations as part of their community assistance programs. In addition, new union members, as part of their

apprenticeship, provide 20 hours of community service annually over a five-year period for a total of 100 hours. For more information on the union, visit MWIALU22.ORG. The union has been a consistent supporter of Mobile Meals of Westfield, and their generous donation is most appreciated.

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(above, l-r) Josephine Walsh, Mobile Meals of Westfield, and Jason Rooney Sheet Metal Workers' Union. Courtesy photo

MOUNTAINSIDE LIBRARY'S MAY PROGRAMS

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PROGRAMMING FOR ADULTS VIA ZOOM

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presented by Fred Rossi.

George Washington, New Jersey and the Revolutionary War

Tuesday May 17th at 7 p.m

Presented by Joel Farkas.

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SHINING STARS TO PRESENT “GREATEST HITS” - MAY 14TH

The Shining Stars are back! Celebrating 10 years on the stage, the talented special needs cast will be presenting “The Greatest Hits” — covering many of the memorable performances over the past decade.

The outdoor show will take place on the campus of Woodbridge High School, located at 1 Samuel Lupo Way, Woodbridge, on Saturday, May 14, 2022 at 5 p.m. There will be food trucks, a tricky tray and a 50/50 raffle.

“It’s hard to believe it’s been ten years, but it’s been an incredible journey,” noted Shining Stars Network Founder and Show Director Sally Curci. “We continue to be inspired by our performers every day. Their passion, dedication and talent is what makes our shows come to life.”

The Shining Stars have performed in front of audiences of 1,000 or more, with cast members from seven different counties performing over

the years. The Cranford-based organization still has many Cranford residents, but is open to anyone who wants to experience the performing arts.

“We’re all about inclusion and opportunity while building self-esteem and creating friendships,” said Shining Stars Network Founder and President Mike Curci. “There have been so many incredible performances over the years and we can’t wait to see our stars shine on stage once again.”

Tickets are available by going to ShiningStarsNetwork.org and clicking on the “purchase tickets” page. General admission tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the show. Please bring a folding chair or blanket. Seating boxes are first-come, first-served. Gates open at 4 p.m. Plenty of on-site parking is available. Rain date is May 21st. Any cancellation will be noted at ShiningStarsNetwork.org.

SHINING STARS NETWORK is a non-profit organization based in Cranford, N.J. founded by Sally and Mike Curci that shines the light on the special needs community by creating opportunities in the performing arts, with the goal of building self-confidence and self-esteem while enjoying the experience of performing on stage. In addition, their Shining Stars Ambassadors basketball team travels to play local first responders and organizations while building friendship and understanding. Now entering its 6th year, Camp Shine (for ages 10-20 years) and The Shining Stars Summer Workshop (21 and over performers) are two-week intensive programs open to everyone, including those with developmental disabilities, that will take place August 15-26, 2022. For more information on Shining Stars Network or any of their programs, please visit ShiningStarsNetwork.org or send your email to ShiningStarsNetwork@gmail.com.



(above) Shining Stars, a special needs performing arts group, takes the stage on May 14th. For more information visit ShiningStarsNetwork.org.



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