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Are you on the association board for your subdivision? Contact us for the information on how you can submit articles, updates, reminders, events and more to the residents. We create customized Homeowners Association sections at no cost to the HOA or the residents.

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CONTENT DUE:

November 27
December 27
January 27
February 27
March 27
April 27
May 27
June 27
July 27
August 27
September 27
October 27

EDITION DATE:

January
February
March
April
May
June
July
August
September
October
November
December



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Dear Glastonbury RESIDENTS,

Grab an ice cold drink and your favorite people because it's July, Glastonbury! Still Thirsty? Our favorite Glastonbury restaurants have shared never-before-tasted summer cocktails to help you elevate happy hour at home, so let's cheers to making this summer unforgettable.

We have so much to celebrate, it's hard to keep track. From Fourth of July fireworks in honor of our nation's Independence to Christmas in July, there's something to get excited about almost every day. We finally get to indulge in all the food trucks and outdoor concerts our hearts desire! And if you're aching for a mellow day of relaxation with friends and family, we've provided a special section in honor of National Picnic Month that includes a list of Glastonbury's many outdoor picnic and grilling areas, as well as tips on how to prepare from the picnicking pros.

We at *Glastonbury Neighbors* wish everyone a joyful month surrounded by family, friends and our fun community. And as always, we thank our local business sponsors, and you—our readers.

Happy July!



Tess Howat

Content Coordinator
Glastonbury Neighbors

Pet Corner

This July, our pet of the Month is

RUSTY

Rusty is a 1.5 year old King Charles Cavalier Spaniel. He loves cuddling, meeting new people and going for car rides!



To enter your pet to win Pet of the Month, email a bit about your pet along with its name, breed and a photo to thowat@bestversionmedia.com.

Celebrating Glastonbury's Independent Retailers

Collected by Tess Howat | Photos Provided by Retailers

July is Independent Retailer Month, so let's show some love to these Glastonbury businesses and their owners, who built their own brands from the ground up.



2400 Main

Home Decor Lifestyle Boutique

Founded by Stacy Britnell in November 2020

Services: All things home, garden and lifestyle.



As Within Medical Aesthetics & Wellness, LLC

Aesthetic Medicine Office (Medical Spa)

Founded by owner and lead injector Alicia Ciarello RN in May 2022

Services: Specializing in Advanced injectables such as Botox, Dermal Filler as well as aesthetic treatments such as medical grade skin care, micro needling & dermaplaning.



Harper's Invitations

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Founded by Mari Carmen Harper in 1996

Services: Invitations for every occasion, personalized stationery, wedding programs, place cards, menus, napkins, personalized gifts: tumblers, pens, travel mugs, folded notes, and more!



Strand Salon

Hair Salon

Founded by Jennifer and Paul Misciagno in 2013

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The Cake Stand, LLC

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Founded by Amber Kapoor in 2021

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In Honor of Ice Cream Month: The Family Behind Glastonbury's Sweetest Stop

By Tess Howat

Photos by Danielle Marie Photography

On the edge of South Glastonbury, past the farm stands and pick-your-owns, sits a farm like no other. Robb's Farm, a century-old jewel of the South Glastonbury hillside, is the ultimate family spot—it houses farm animals, breathtaking views, and the *real* jackpot: home-made ice cream. A quick stop off Route 2, Robb's Farm reels in folks from all over Connecticut to its scenic homestead, where patrons choose from nearly 50 flavors of ice cream, made fresh each week by the Armando Family. Robb and Karen, who raised their four children on the farm, hold a special relationship with the sweet treats they make as a family—and with the community they serve it to.

Karen and Robb Armando, both born and raised in Glastonbury, met though

a friend and were married in 1987.

The couple chose to move to Robb's childhood home, a gorgeous farm on Wassuc Road perched on a hill. Robb and Karen soon built a new house for his family alongside the home he grew up in, where his parents still live. On the farm sits a third house, the old homestead his grandfather was raised in, which Robb recently purchased from his parents. Robb and Karen raised their family on the farm, where they still nurture family traditions, new and old.

Robb, who's been running the farm since he graduated from GHS, experimented with growing and selling various crops over the years until 2005 when the farm gained its famous footing in the ice cream business. The Armandos still sell farm-fresh eggs in their store and grow hay to feed their animals, but they've found their perfect fit with the ice cream operation. The ice cream shop

has become the way they keep the farm active and prosperous, and the act of making their dessert fresh each week has become a welcomed family effort. They prepare the ice cream with a 16% butterfat mix of sweetened cream as a base, which they mix using a machine and top with extracts and candies from various vendors in New England. It's a long process, usually taking three to four days a week, but it's worth it—to the Armando family, freshness is everything. And boy, can you taste the difference! I tried a scoop of their Tractor Grease flavor, and it was fudgy brownie bite heaven! Karen's favorite flavor is Cappuccino Fudge Crunch, while Robb says he prefers a classic scoop of Chocolate Chip. You really can't go wrong with any scoop at Robb's!

The family has enjoyed creating some unique ice cream flavors and names over



the years together. In fact, they're in the process of creating a chocolate and almond flavored ice cream named after one of Robb's Farm's oldest inhabitants, Frosty the emu! Robb adopted the now 25-year-old bird for his son when he was young, back when Robb and Karen told their four kids that they could each choose a pet to have on the farm. That's how they acquired their resident donkey and the remaining goats and animals, all of whom live right around the corner from the ice cream store for families to visit.



Back when the farm housed more goats, the family adopted Great Pyrenees dogs to watch over the herd at night, at one point housing six pups who were trained to live with and protect the goats. Robb says he hopes to get another one (or two!) soon, since they made such great pets.

Robb has spent his entire life on the farm and says he wouldn't trade it for anything. "It teaches you so much about life, you know?" he tells me passionately, clearly proud of what he and his family have built since his great grandfather bought the farm in 1905. "It's molded me into the person I am today." Life on a farm for a family of six is anything but easy, but the couple say it was worth the hard work. Though there weren't many vacations or chances to get away once the farm became operational in 2001, Robb and Karen say they're forever grateful for the time they spent together with their children, making memories and working alongside one another every day until the kids graduated and began their own journeys. Though their youngest son, a recent UConn grad, has been helping his parents make ice cream and run the shop for the time being, and his parents have loved having him around. They treasure the time spent together on their beautiful plot of land, where they still cherish every hilltop sunset.

The Armandos are just one of many proud farming families who immigrated to Glastonbury from Italy around the start of the 20th century, and one of the fortuitous few that remain operational. Robb says that when he was a kid, the farms were smaller and worked in closer quarters. And though things have changed over the years, Robb's and the remaining farms keep in touch to reminisce and discuss the ever-changing struggles of modern farming.

Robb feels lucky that the farm found its

niche, and that it now serves as the anchor in his community. "Having the shop in the neighborhood for many years has kept us close to our old neighbors while welcoming many new neighbors," he says. The family cares deeply for their neighbors, some of whom Robb has known since childhood and now gets to meet their grandchildren.

The Armandos take great care to welcome every stranger that comes in for a scoop, inviting folks from all backgrounds and walks of life to become new neighbors and friends. Every once in a while, Robb gets a visit from an old neighbor and they light up, pouring over how much the place meant to them growing up and just how comforting it is to taste the ice cream again while overlooking the familiar, breathtaking hills of Robb's Farm.

There's truly no place like Robb's, and Robb assures me it's here to stay. "The connection I have to the farm is rooted in family—it's unbreakable."





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SUMMER CRAFT COCKTAILS

By Bricco Trattoria, Cotton Hollow Kitchen and Birch Hill Tavern

Crafted special by your favorite local restaurants, these drinks can be whipped up at home or found on their respective menus starting this month. And since it's National Blueberry and Peach Month, our friends behind the bar mixed us something extra sweet for summer. Time to take happy hour to the next level!



BEES AND BERRIES

2 oz of botanical gin
Muddled raspberry and blueberries
Teaspoon of honey
1 oz lemon juice

Shake and fine strain over ice in a rocks glass and enjoy!

Optional: rim of honeybee pollen

- Recipe courtesy of **Birch Hill Tavern**, featured on its July Brunch Menu.



CHK PEACH MARGARITA

This fun summer sipper is well balanced, salty & sweet. What are you waiting for...

2 oz Casamigos Reposado
1/2 oz Cointreau
1 oz Peach Liqueur
1 oz Peach Nectar
1 oz Lime Juice
Tajin Salt

Rim the glass with tajin and salt (1:1).
Shake and fine strain over ice in a rocks glass and enjoy!

- Recipe courtesy of **Cotton Hollow Kitchen**, featured on its July Cocktail Menu.



BLUEBERRY LIMONATA

Fresh Blueberries, Muddled
1 1/2 oz Boodle's Mulberry Gin
1/2 oz St. Germain Elderflower Liqueur
Fresh Lemon Juice & Simple Syrup
SanPellegrino Limonata Italian Sparkling Soda

Muddle fresh blueberries at the bottom of a highball glass.

Add gin and St. Germain elderflower liqueur.

Squeeze a fresh lemon juice and a dash of simple syrup or sugar to taste.

Stir together and top with ice. Fill the rest of glass with San Pellegrino Limonata Italian sparkling soda.

Garnish with lemon and sprig of rosemary and enjoy!

- Recipe courtesy of **Bricco Trattoria**, featured on its July Cocktail Menu

PICNIC LIKE A PRO

By Tess Howat

Pack your baskets and season your steaks— July is National Picnic and Grilling Month! In its honor, we've compiled a list of all the picnic and grilling friendly spots that you can enjoy all year long:



Melissa Rivera of Melissa Lee Luxe Picnics

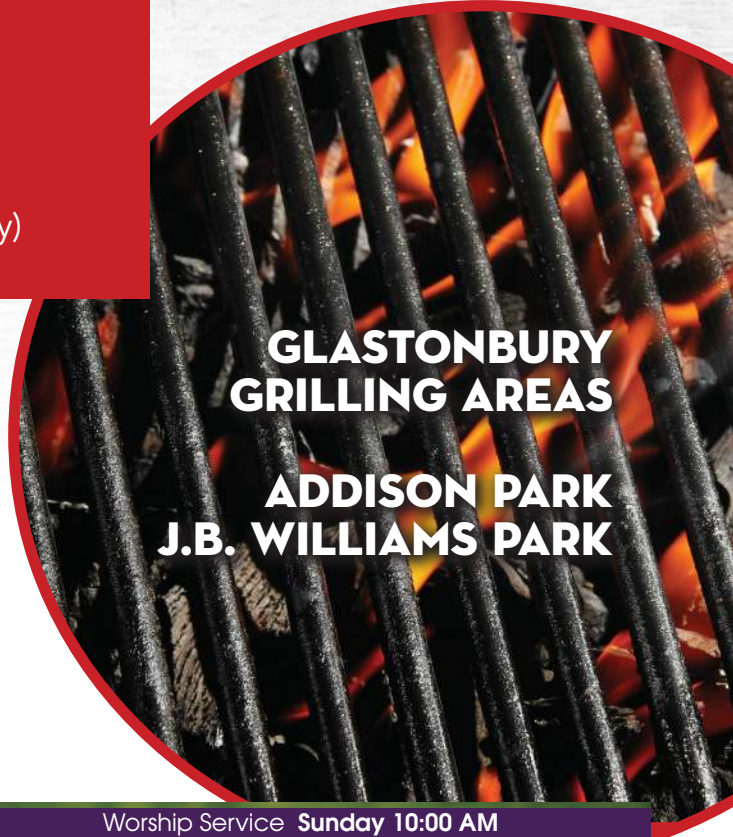
GLASTONBURY PICNIC AREAS

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| Academy Field | Riverfront Park |
| Addison Park | (+ Picnic Pavilion) |
| Buckingham Park | Ross Field |
| Butler Field | Salmon Brook Park |
| Center Green | J.B. Williams Park |
| Ferry Landing | (+ Picnic Pavilion) |
| Grange Pool | Rotary Field |
| Hubbard Green | (Picnic Pavilion Only) |

The art of the picnic is an old, grand practice—but it can be as simple as packing sandwiches in a bag, your kids in the car, and making the most out of a lovely day! In case you're looking for pointers, **Melissa Rivera of Melissa Lee Luxe Picnics** in Harford has crafted you a list of do's and don'ts that'll ensure you're well prepared for a picnic. Her personal favorite picnic spots are Wickham Park and Riverfront Park, but you can use take these tips anywhere your appetite leads you!

TOP 10 DO'S AND DON'TS FOR PICNIC

1. Do pick a location carefully.
2. Do bring something to sit on.
3. Don't bring food that spoils easily.
4. Don't bring food that's difficult to eat.
5. Do bring some games.
6. Don't take too many heavy things.
7. Do bring wet wipes.
8. Do prepare as much as possible at home.
9. Don't litter.
10. Don't be afraid to have a picnic by yourself!



GLASTONBURY GRILLING AREAS

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July 2022

Every Saturday in July

GLASTONBURY FARMER'S MARKET

@ Hubbard Green (corner of Main & Hubbard)
 Support your local 2022 Farmers Market on the Hubbard Green featuring local farms, artisans, businesses, non-profits, sponsors, yoga class, live music & lots of fun activities.
 Time: 10am-1pm

Every Saturday in July

SONNY'S PLACE CONCERT SERIES

@ Sonny's Place Amusement Park, Somers
 Time: Afternoon show- 1pm, Evening show- 8pm
 For details, lineup and tickets visit sonnysplace.com

Sat., July 2- Mon., July 4

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@ Six Flags New England
 For tickets and details, visit sixflags.com/newengland

Every Tuesday July 5-Aug. 13, plus the second Saturdays in July & August

TOUR THE WELLES-SHIPMAN-WARD HOUSE

@ The Welles-Shipman-Ward House
 The Historical Society of Glastonbury is opening their Welles-Shipman-Ward House for summer tours, showing the 1755 mansion, barns and property. Come

alone, with a friend, or call ahead to reserve a private tour for your group.
 Time: 9am-12pm, final tour begins at 11:15am.
 Cost: \$5/persons 10 and up.

Tue., July 12

TEEN PROGRAM: COLLEGE ESSAY WRITING WORKSHOP

@ Welles-Turner Memorial Library
 Time: 6pm
 Event is free, register online or by calling the library's Reference Department at 860-652-7720.

July 13, 20 and 27

RIVERFRONT MUSIC SERIES

@ Riverfront Park
 Live music and food trucks!
 Time: All concerts from 6pm-8pm
 More info at crvchamber.org/riverfront-music-series. Free parking and shuttle service.

Thurs., July 14- Sun., July 17

GREATER HARTFORD FESTIVAL OF JAZZ

@ Bushnell park
 Concert times vary. For details, visit hartfordjazz.org

Thurs., July 14- Sat., July 16

RIVERFRONT FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL

@ Mortensen Riverfront Plaza, Hartford
 Time: 11am-8pm
 More info at riverfront.org

Thurs., July 14- Sat., July 16

OLD HOME DAYS CELEBRATION

@ Downtown East Hampton
 Features a carnival, food trucks, a 5K marathon and the Annual Parade Saturday at 11am.
 Time: Thurs: 6pm-10pm, Fri: 6pm-11pm, Sat: 11am-11pm

Sat., July 23

PAWS IN THE PARK

@ John J. Mitchell Fairgrounds, South Windsor
 Dog contests and adoption parades alongside 100+ vendors and food trucks, live music and kids attractions.
 Time: 10am-7pm

Sun., July 24

CHRISTMAS IN JULY

@ Hop Culture Farms & Brew Co., Colchester
 Grab your Santa hats for live music, food trucks and local vendors.
 Time: 12pm-5pm, live music starts at 2pm

Thurs., July 28- Sat., July 30

GLASTONBURY YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES PRESENTS: ONCE UPON A MATTRESS, A MUSICAL BASED OFF THE PRINCESS AND THE PEA

@ Glastonbury High School
 Time: 7pm all three nights
 Cost: Tickets are \$12.50, purchase on showtix4u.com

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CHILLED BERRY SOUP

It's What's for Dessert!

By Inga Berghav

Sweet, fresh strawberries and blueberries combine with zesty lemon and spicy ginger for a chilled, perfectly refreshing dessert soup.

into a large bowl, then whisk in sour cream or yogurt until smooth. Cover and refrigerate for about 2 hours.

Yields 4 servings.

Ingredients

- 3 cups fresh strawberries, hulled
- 1 cup fresh blueberries
- 1/2 cup oat milk
- 1/4 cup maple syrup
- 2 Tbsp lemon juice
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 1 tsp powdered ginger
- 1 cup sour cream or yogurt

Tips

- For the sweetest (and healthiest) berries, choose organic and locally-grown if possible.
- For fuller flavor, opt for dark maple syrup.
- If fresh lemon juice isn't an option, the next best choice is one that's not from concentrate.
- For a dairy-free soup, use non-dairy sour cream or yogurt (such as one made from oat milk or coconut milk).
- Or, for a sweeter non-dairy version of this soup, use coconut cream in place of the sour cream or yogurt. In this instance, you may wish to use less maple syrup!
- If you prefer to use fresh ginger, peel and grate it as finely as possible. Use 2 to 4 tablespoons, to taste.

Directions

Rinse berries and place in a food processor or blender; cover and process until puréed. Add the oat milk, maple syrup, lemon juice and vanilla extract; cover and process until blended. Pour



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US PATRIOTIC HOLIDAYS: History & Practice

By Amanda Griffin

The US has three major patriotic holidays, all created for very specific purposes, but over the years, the lines have blurred around the original intent and they all seem to be celebrated in pretty much the same way these days. Visually there is the obligatory red, white, and blue color theme and various representations of the American flag. From a practice standpoint, the common tendency is to “throw a barbecue or a sale at it”, light some fireworks for good measure, imbibe some cold brewskies, and wish everyone a “happy _____ day.” Have you ever taken a moment to ponder what they actually mean, or considered what might be the intended way to commemorate the day? Here is a quick explanation to clear up those blurry lines.

MEMORIAL DAY

Established in 1888 and originally called Decoration Day, it is celebrated the last Monday of May each year. This holiday was created specifically to allow federal workers a day to visit and decorate the graves of their loved ones who were killed in the Civil War conflict, without the loss of wages. It was never intended to be a day of revelry, celebration, and happy wishes, but rather a day of solemnity, paying respect to, and honoring departed loved ones killed in service.¹ Today, now called Memorial Day, it is still meant to be a solemn day of honoring and remembering those who sacrificed their lives, though it now encompasses all service personnel lives lost during the active commission of service to their country, regardless of peace or wartime activities. It's inaccurate to wish someone “Happy Memorial Day” and for many, especially those who've lost loved ones in military service, that can sometimes be considered insensitive and disrespectful.

INDEPENDENCE DAY/FOURTH OF JULY

Established July 4, 1776, and celebrated on July 4th each year, this is the easiest one to remember—it's the day we celebrate our independence from British rule and the official establishment of our own independent government. It's intended to be a happy day full of revelry as Thomas Jefferson proclaimed, “It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forever more.”²

VETERANS DAY

Originally called Armistice Day, it was established in 1938 with November 11th, the day selected to commemorate and memorialize the Armistice that ended World War I on that date in 1918. It was proclaimed an official federal holiday by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1954. The intent behind this holiday was mixed as some in the legislature felt that the day “should not be devoted to the exaltation of glories achieved in war but, rather, to an emphasis upon those blessings which are associated with the peacetime activities of mankind.”³ Wishing someone who has served in, and retired honorably from, any of the branches of the US military, a Happy Veterans Day is not only acceptable, but is also recommended and appreciated by those who have served and the families who love them.

¹Decoration Day, May 30, was widely observed in Northern states as a date for commemoration of the Civil War dead and “decoration” of their graves. For more information, see Robert J. Myers, *Celebrations: The Complete Book of American Holidays* (Garden City, NY: Doubleday & Company, 1792), pp. 159-164

²[Archives.gov/boston/patriotic-holidays.html#independence](https://www.archives.gov/boston/patriotic-holidays.html#independence)

³Rep. Bertrand Gearhart, “Armistice Day,” remarks in the House, *Congressional Record*, vol. 83, part 6 (May 2, 1938), p. 6055.

The Kitchen Garden

Courtesy of Diane Hoover with The Historical Society of Glastonbury



The Three Sisters Plant in the Welles-Shipman-Ward House's kitchen garden, maintained by Glastonbury Partners in Planting (GPIP). Photo by GPIP.

During the months of June and July, Glastonbury colonial women and girls would have been tending the family's kitchen garden. These gardens were found on most families' property as nearly everyone was responsible for providing their own food – there were no grocery stores!

Many root vegetables would have been grown like carrots, beets, onions, radishes, peas, and beans. Squash and corn were also staples. Many were dried out, stored for the winter, and then hydrated for use in soups.

"The Three Sisters" plant was common. It was made of corn,

beans, and squash which grew interdependently. The colonists learned this planting technique from Native Americans. The beans climb up the corn stalks, using the stalks for support while providing nitrogen for the rest of the plant. The squash leaves

shaded out the weeds and kept the soil moist.

Corn was not eaten fresh as we do today. It was left to mature on the stalks, harvested in the fall and brought to the grist mill to turn into corn meal. Kitchen gardens were organic gardens since chemical pesticides had not been developed. However, such pesticides were not needed since there were few indigenous insects at this time.



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Summer Fun

By Mandi Blake

Word Scramble

1. TNAOVCAI _____
2. CEBAH _____
3. GAIPCMN _____
4. SIFGNIH _____
5. RFCAPIME _____
6. CEI MCARE _____
7. LMEDNEAO _____
8. MIWGNISM _____
9. EWSOKFRIR _____
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Welles-Turner's Book Club

Selected by Hilary Mauro, Lisa Amato, June Cho and Megan Campbell

Enjoy July's book recommendations from the staff at Welles-Turner Memorial Library, hot off the shelves and perfect for beach reading!

Nothing to See Here

KEVIN WILSON

Fiction

A comical fiction blended with magical realism, this book follows Lillian, a down-on-her-luck woman who takes a nannying job offered by an old friend. The only catch? The twins in her care have the odd ability of spontaneously bursting into flames!

The Guncle

STEVEN ROWLEY

Fiction

An emotional turn of events leaves former sitcom star Patrick O'Hara in charge of caring for his young niece and nephew at his lavish Palm Springs home. Whimsical and occasionally bittersweet, *The Guncle* will make you appreciate how family can sometimes be a beautiful mess.

Shark Summer

IRA MARCKS

Children's Graphic Novel (recommended for grades 4-6)

Get ready for a Jaw-some adventure when a Hollywood film crew arrives on Martha's Vineyard and a recovering baseball player realizes there's something fishy lurking under the surface.

The Camping Trip

JENNIFER K. MANN

Children's Picture Book

Ernestine, a city girl, is going camping with her aunt and cousin for the first time. Watch her gather all of the items she needs and enjoy her adventure. A perfect read aloud book for a family planning a camping trip this summer!

XOXO

AXIE OH

Teen Romance

Jenny has dreams of being a professional cellist and no time for anything else. However, she finds herself falling for a K-Pop idol and realizes maybe she's missing out on love. A contemporary young adult romance, perfect for fans of Jenny Han.



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National Suicide Prevention Lifeline:..... 1.800.273.8255 **

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