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219.853.6371

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219.853.6301

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701 Casino Center D.
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CITY OF HAMMOND COMPLETES FIRST PHASE OF LEAD REMEDIATION PROJECT

Mayor Thomas M. McDermott Jr. announced that the City of Hammond has completed the initial phase of an ongoing lead remediation project in the Robertsdale section of Hammond. The project, which is being funded with \$5M of American Rescue Plan funds received by the city of Hammond may be the first of its kind in the state. "We wanted to be proactive on this issue and give immediate relief to residents whose home values may have been impacted by the lead in the soil," said Mayor McDermott.

The lead was caused by decades of lead smelting

operations in the 20th century by now shuttered Federated Metals Corporation, which abandoned the facility in the early 1990's before clean up could be completed. In 2018, Mayor McDermott provided funding to purchase an X-ray Fluorescence Analyzer (XRF) to better pinpoint the contamination and lay out the scope of the project. "It was important to see the size of this issue, and then figure out a way to address it," said the mayor. "Hammond is lucky to have an environmental department that can help give a local perspective to these issues and Ron Novak and his

staff were very helpful to our residents in that regard."

The EPA took emergency removal action on a few properties that had higher levels of lead contamination, but for the nearly 100 properties that had lower levels, the solution would have been at least 5-7 years away and with a potential declaration of an EPA Superfund site.

"Rather than wait a number of years for action by the EPA of IDEM, we took the initiative to move the remediation effort forward", stated Mayor McDermott. "This is the responsible thing to do for our

children, community, and for our environment--to ensure a clean and safe place for these families to live and to ensure that their property still has good value."

The 2021 remediation project started on September 20, 2021. Initially 12 properties have been remediated in the first phase of the clean-up. There is a total of six phases need to be completed. It is estimated that within the next 2-3 years all phases will be completed, amounting to nearly 100 properties.

Source: City of Hammond

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Scott Rakos

Hammond 6th District Councilman

Church Directory

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6808 Missouri Ave., Hammond, IN

Pastor Dr. Michael White

(219) 845-0954

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.

Wed. Evening Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

www.alcccogop.org

Bethel Congregational C.O.G.I.C.

815 Michigan St., Hammond, IN

Deacon Lester Stokes

(219) 931-1301

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Sunday 10:30 a.m.

Friday 7:30 p.m.

Black Oak Church of Christ

2844 Stevenson St., Gary, IN

Pastor Steve Martinez

(219) 844-1789

Sunday 10:30 a.m.

Bible Study 9:30 - 10:15 a.m.

Greater Works Outreach Prayer and Deliverance Ministry

3916 173 St, Hammond, IN, 46323

Apostle Jose Ruiz (219) 852-0677

Sunday 11:30 a.m.

www.greaterwksmin.com

Hammond Christian Reformed Church

1910 167th St, Hammond, IN

Pastor Josh Christoffels

(219) 844-3331

Sunday School 9:50 a.m.

Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

Coffee Break Tuesday 9:00 a.m.

Ladies Bible Study Tuesday 6:00 p.m.

www.hammondcrcc.org

Hyde Park United Methodist Church

6348 Harrison Ave., Hammond, IN

Preacher Darryl Dorton

(219) 932-0613

Sunday 12:30 p.m.

Thursday Thrift shop 9:00 a.m. - Noon

Last Saturday of the month

Free Pancake breakfast 9-11 a.m.

Lighthouse Christian Fellowship of Whiting, IN

1403 Stanton Ave. Whiting, IN 46394

Pastor Junior Berrios

(219) 742-0526

Tuesday-Prayer 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday-Service 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday-Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

Thursday-Prayer 6:30 p.m.

Thursday-Service 7:30 p.m.

Sunday-Prayer 10:00 a.m.

Sunday-Service 11:00 a.m.

Mt. Zion Baptist Church

1047 Kenwood St., Hammond, IN

Reverend William R. Collins

(219) 931-4337

Sunday 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday Prayer 6:00 p.m.

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church

1117 Merrill St., Hammond, IN

Reverend Herman A. Polk, Sr.

(219) 932-5955

Sunday 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday 8:30 a.m, 1:30 & 7:00 p.m.

New Salem Missionary Baptist Church

833 Conkey St., Hammond, IN

Pastor Wayne Hudson

(219) 932-0999

Sunday 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

New Zion Temple Church

926 Morris Street, Hammond, IN

Bishop Brandon A. Jacobs

(219) 931-ZION (9466)

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Sunday Morning Worship 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday Prayer 6:30 p.m.

Wed Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

www.newziontemple.org

Testimony C.O.G.I.C. of Hammond

1022 Cleveland St, Hammond, IN

Elder Patrick Williams

(219) 937-4676

Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship 11:30 a.m.

Friday 7:30 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church

7227 Hohman Ave, Hammond, IN

(219) 932-4660

Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

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Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

www.trinityhammond.com

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Church Directory Listing

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**information submitted subject to editing for clarity and space allotted*

CHRISTMAS INVITATION

Hammond Christian Reformed Church will be celebrating Christmas at our 11 a.m. service on December 26, 2021. Refreshments will be served in the Fellowship Hall after the service.

Join us in praising God through some of our favorite songs of the season. Celebrate the birthday of our King with us! The entire service will remind us of the birth of Jesus who is the light of the world. We will

remember that Jesus brings us hope, peace, joy and love now and forever.

We invite you to join us for this special Christmas service Sunday, December 26 beginning at 11 a.m. The Hammond Christian Reformed Church is located at 167th St. and Baring Ave. across from the Woodmar Sports Complex. Call (219) 844-3331 for more information.

Public Comment Now Open Regarding Use of Funds for COVID-19 Mitigation Purposes

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the City of Hammond amended its PY2019 Annual Action Plan and PY2017-2021 Consolidated Plan to allocate \$1,665,837 of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and \$1,284,396 of Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds received from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) through the CARES Act. The amendment added the response to COVID-19 as a high priority need and the preparation, prevention, and response to COVID-19 as a goal.

The City is seeking comments on the use of CDBG and ESG funds for COVID-19 mitigation

purposes. The City will consider all comments received before 5:00 PM on December 21, 2021 before submitting the proposal to HUD. The City will continue to accept comments from the public after its submittal and use public comments to guide and inform possible future amendments. The preferred method for submitting comments is to submit them electronically using the form below, or via email to: millero@gohammond.com.

Comments can also be mailed to:
Hammond City Hall
ATTN: Owana Miller
5925 Calumet Avenue
Hammond, IN 46320

Source: City of Hammond



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from

Councilman at Large

Dan Spitale

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Tree Lighting Ceremony 2021



Mayor Thomas M. McDermott, Jr. kick off the Holiday season, November 26, in front of Hammond City Hall, with the 2021 Tree Lighting. There was a special performance by the Pulaski Park

Senior Center Dance Group and The Hammond Academy of Performing Arts Singers, Santa, Buddy the Elf and Reggie the Region Rat.

Source: City of Hammond

Turkey Giveaway

The Ministerial Alliance of Hammond & Vicinity and The Ophelia Steen Center in partnership with Councilman Barry Tyler Jr. and Council

woman Katrina Alexander and the Food Bank of NWI Giveaway Turkeys in time for the 2021 Thanksgiving celebration.



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Munster High School celebrates the Wanger Family Fab Lab's Grand Opening



New makerspace is one of 500 such facilities in the world Munster High School introduced its new Wanger Family Fab Lab to the community on November 22. The Fab Lab (short for Fabrication Lab) is the ultimate makerspace, giving high school students creative capabilities beyond their wildest imaginations. The grand opening had a special guest in attendance, U.S. Congressman Frank Mrvan. Congressman Mrvan, along with other attendees, had the pleasure of interacting with students and watching them demonstrate how various pieces of equipment would be utilized. All in attendance agreed that this exciting addition to Munster High School will afford students with tremendous hands-on experiences which can open many windows of opportunity for students and the community alike.

To make the Fab Lab with its cutting-edge software and equipment a reality, Munster High School partnered with the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago, which has its own Fab Lab. According to the museum, the

Fab Lab concept began as a community outreach program at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and has spread worldwide to India, Africa, Europe and the United States. All Fab Labs use the same core software and equipment so that projects can be shared among sites. Generous donations from the community also helped the school realize the dream of creating the modern-day workshop for computer-based innovation, design and fabrication.

“Our Wanger Family Fab Lab is one of approximately 500 such labs worldwide, and now Munster High School is part of this amazing network,” said Principal Mike Wells.

Munster's Fab Lab consists of:

- a laser cutter
- a knee milling machine
- vinyl cutters
- Cricut machines
- sewing machines
- an X-Carve machine
- several 3D printers
- and many more hands-on fabrication tools and machinery

In addition to offering fabrication and design, the Fab

Lab will also house a film studio and podcasting room.

This fall, the high school sent three staff members—Larry Hautzinger, science teacher and Robotics sponsor; Peter Frystak, robotics sponsor; and Margaret Matanic, English teacher and Theatre sponsor—to the museum for training as makerspace managers who can assist students with their hands-on projects. When they complete training, they also will train others how to safely use the equipment. Eventually, the school would like to create opportunities for community groups to use the space as well.

“Once the three teachers are trained, we can unlock the grid (to collaborate with other

labs) in order to connect with schools and industries around the world,” Wells added.

In April 2017, Munster High School became the first school in Indiana and the 13th high school in the United States to receive AdvancedEd® STEM certification. The Wanger Family Fab Lab, along with another STEM initiative, Project Green, the school's garden and orchard, and the addition of a new information technology internship opportunity for students through Purdue Northwest will feature prominently in the school's recertification process in 2022.

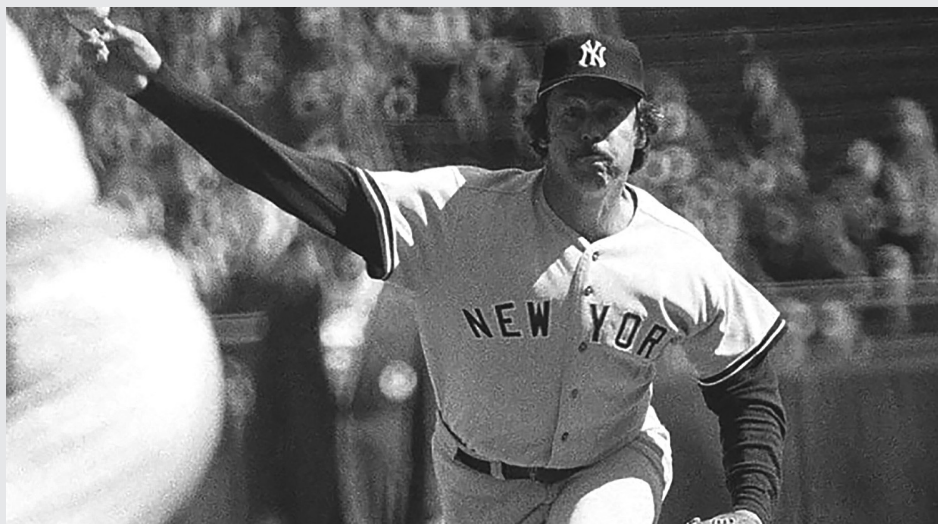
Source: Munster High School



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Hammond Councilwoman
Janet Venecz

“Catfish” Hunter becomes MLB’s first free agent in modern era



On December 15, 1974, Oakland’s Jim “Catfish” Hunter is ruled a free agent by arbitrator Peter Seitz—the first free agent in modern baseball history—after A’s owner Charles O. Finley fails to live up to terms of the star pitcher’s contract. “The contract is quite clear as to what Finley is obligated to do, and it is also clear he has done none of it,” Marvin Miller, head of the powerful Major League Baseball Players Association, tells reporters.

Hunter helped the Oakland A’s win World Series championships in 1972, 1973 and 1974. He won the Cy Young Award as the American League’s best pitcher in 1974. But that winter, he was unhappy with the A’s, particularly Finley.

The arbitrator’s decision left Hunter in limbo.

“I hung up the phone, turned to my wife and said, ‘We don’t belong to anybody,’” he said years later to the Los Angeles Times. “I was scared. I didn’t have a job. I didn’t realize the implications.”

After fielding offers from many other teams, Hunter signed with the New York Yankees for five years and \$3.75 million. He played five seasons in New York, winning two World Series.

Finley, an innovative mind but not universally liked by players, had a simple philosophy when it came to running the A’s. “We run our club like a pawn shop—we buy, we sell, we trade,” the Times quoted him as saying. But his philosophy eventually led to the decline of his once-powerful team.

Hunter, who was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1987, died in 1999.

In December 1975, MLB pitchers Dave McNally (Montreal Expos) and Andy Messersmith (Los Angeles Dodgers) were also declared free agents by Seitz, another seismic event in MLB history. The move effectively ended the reserve clause, which bound players to teams, and led to the first free-agent player draft on November 4, 1976.

Source: History.com Staff

CLINE AVENUE BRIDGE ANNOUNCES WINTER WEATHER PREP

Cline Avenue Bridge, LLC, owned and operated by United Bridge Partners, announces their winter weather preparations are in place to provide commuters a safe and dependable drive as the temperatures drop.

Cline Avenue Bridge has again partnered with American Veteran Industries, LLC (AVI), a veteran owned company, for snow removal services. To keep ahead of wintry conditions, Cline Avenue Bridge and American Veterans Industries continuously monitor the weather, then once a storm is imminent, a dispatch plan is created and resources are deployed.

To be ready for every storm, a fleet of three plow trucks and a front loader are kept onsite at the Cline Avenue Bridge operations center. Before a storm, the crew applies a brine mixture to all ramps and the bridge deck to prevent snow and ice from adhering to the road surface.

When snow starts falling, two plow trucks work in tandem with each clearing one direction of travel while applying ice melt. Plowing and

ice melt application continues until snowfall stops. At the end of a winter weather event, any snow accumulation is removed from bridge shoulders by the front loader and another layer of ice melt is applied to prevent refreezing.

“The safety of our customers is and always will be our number one priority, and this is especially evident in our winter preparedness strategy,” said Terry Velligan, general manager of operations at Cline Avenue Bridge. “The level of care and attention that we give to our 1.7-mile bridge assures our customers and emergency personnel a reliable route all winter long.”

To make the upcoming season safe for everyone on the road, the Cline Avenue Bridge reminds drivers to buckle up, drive distraction free, reduce travel speeds and increase following gaps during storms, and not to pass snow removal vehicles working to clear the roadway.

Source: Cline Avenue Bridge



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Vision Loss and Diabetes

How to detect and treat vision loss from diabetic eye disease. The eyes may be windows to the soul, but for people with diabetes, looking deep into the retina can also reveal a diabetes-related eye disease.

Two of the most common types of vision loss related to diabetes are macular edema and retinopathy. Both are under the scope of diabetic eye disease, which includes all the retinal changes caused by diabetes. Diabetes can also make you more likely to have other eye conditions, including cataracts and glaucoma.

The good news: Advances in testing are catching problems before serious retinal changes occur. This is an important step since eye damage may have no symptoms at first. And if you already have diabetes-related eye disease, advances in treatment can save your sight.

How the eye is affected

The structure of the eye is like a camera. Light passes through the transparent front lenses, as if through the lenses of a camera, until it reaches the back wall of the eye. This wall contains a very thin piece of light-sensitive tissue: the retina.

The tiny blood vessels that nourish the retina can be damaged by diabetes. The damage can cause the blood vessels to become leaky, like a water hose with holes in it. This is called non-proliferative retinopathy. Fluid leaks out of the blood vessels and into the retinal tissue which can cause vision problems. This causes the retina to thicken, creating blurred vision. The swelling associated with diabetes in the macula, the central part of the eye responsible for staring straight ahead, called diabetic macular edema.

In another process, blood vessels damaged by hyperglycemia (high blood sugar, or high blood glucose) close, and a series of events begin. Starving retinal tissue produces growth causing new blood vessels to form on the surface of the retina.

When the new blood vessels form, it's called proliferative retinopathy. These new blood vessels are weak and can easily break and bleed. This leads to scar tissue, which can build up on the back wall of the eye and stretch the retina, eventually separating it from the back of the eye. This condition is known as retinal detachment, and it can happen suddenly or slowly over time.

You can have 20/20 vision and still have diabetic retinopathy. Some of the early signs include:

- Cloudy vision
- Trouble seeing at night
- Seeing double
- Blurry vision in only one eye
- Redness or pain in your eye
- Seeing floaters or spots
- Loss of peripheral vision

This is why it's important for people with diabetes to have dilated eye exams at least once a year or more often if you have a problem. Managing your diabetes—by staying physically active, eating healthy and taking your medicine—can also help you prevent or delay vision loss.

What you should expect from an eye exam

Your ophthalmologist (eye doctor) will first check for any changes to your glasses or contact lens prescription. People with many diabetes related problems with their vision can still wear contact lenses. The doctor will then dilate your pupils and examine the retina. The drops used may sting for a short time. About 20 to 30 minutes later, your eyes will be fully dilated. With the use of special lenses and lights, the doctor will visually examine your retina.

To detect retinopathy, the doctor looks at all the retinal tissues. For signs of macular edema, the doctor looks at the macula in the back of your eye, but this may not be enough for a diagnosis. Your doctor

may perform an optical coherence tomography, which is a laser exam of the back of the eye. While the retina is very thin, the test can measure retinal thickening as small as a thousandth of a millimeter.

A fluorescein angiogram is a test that can detect diabetic retinopathy. During the test, a dye is injected into your arm. Within 45 seconds, the dye reaches the back of the eye. Just like how blood leaks from weak blood vessels, so does the dye. Special photographs help document the results.

If you have diabetes and visit your doctor for blurred vision, you can expect to have some or all of these tests. Your doctor will also check for cataracts (clouding of the lenses in the eye) and glaucoma (high pressure in the eye), which are more common in people with diabetes. Glaucoma can develop when abnormal blood vessels grow in the iris, the colored part of the eye, due to proliferative retinopathy.

What treatments are available

If your diabetic retinopathy is moderate and stable, treatment may not be necessary right away. Regular dilated eye exams can track the disease's progression and controlling your blood sugar can prevent it from getting worse. If your vision is already affected,

it's important to start treatment immediately.

The treatments for macular edema and proliferative retinopathy can prevent vision loss and even restore some of your lost vision. They include:




- Anti-VEGF (vascular endothelial growth factor) therapy, which involves injecting drugs into the eye to stop the leaking of the blood vessels
- Steroids to reduce retinal swelling
- Photocoagulation (laser therapy) to seal the blood vessels
- Vitrectomy, a surgery to remove scar tissue and cloudy fluid from inside the eye

What the future holds

Scientists are studying better ways to find, treat and prevent vision loss in people with diabetes.

The longer you've had diabetes, the more likely you are to have retinopathy—it's a common problem. But if you keep your blood sugar at your target levels, you may delay or even prevent it. Often you won't have symptoms until you've developed the problem, so get regular eye exams. These new tests and treatments will help address problems early.

Source: American Diabetes Association



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Purdue University Northwest contributes \$746 million in local income to regional economy

Purdue University Northwest (PNW) adds \$745.9 million in total income to Northwest Indiana, supporting 10,494 jobs across Lake, Porter and La Porte counties, according to a recently completed economic impact study.

PNW's impact accounts for 2% of gross regional product, including the accomplishments of students and alumni, research conducted, start-ups launched and visitors welcomed as a result of PNW's educational and engagement activities.

According to the study, the activities of PNW and its students support one out of every 36 jobs in Northwest Indiana.

Furthermore, expanding the research to PNW's primary service region including Cook and Will counties in Illinois and Berrien County in Michigan, the university adds \$1.4 billion in total income and supports 14,876 jobs.

"The results of this study further confirm PNW's role as a premier metropolitan university, transforming students' lives and our

region at the most significant rate among all local public universities," said PNW Chancellor Thomas L. Keon. "Every dollar spent by students on a PNW education increases their lifetime earnings fourfold. From a taxpayer perspective, every \$1 invested at PNW returns \$1.70 to the local economy, for a total value of \$89.7 million in future tax revenue and government savings."

The study also found:

- The average bachelor's degree graduate from PNW will see an increase in earnings of \$22,200 each year compared to someone with a high school diploma.
- The impact of PNW's alumni – including higher earnings, increased business profit and the ripple effects of alumni living and working in Northwest Indiana – added \$591.5 million in regional income, supporting 8,248 jobs.
- Start-up companies supported by PNW faculty, innovative centers and research added \$11 million in income to the Northwest Indiana economy.

- Spending by PNW students generated \$7.9 million in added income for the regional economy, which supported 178 jobs.
- The off-campus expenditures of PNW's out-of-region visitors generated a net impact of \$124,200 in added income for the regional economy.

The study was commissioned by PNW and conducted by Emsi Burning Glass, a leading labor market analytics firm that provides insights on the changing workforce to higher education institutions around the world, as well as to corporate and government clients. The study examined the economic impacts of PNW's spending across major industries in the region, and the costs associated with a PNW

education from the perspective of students, taxpayers and the region at large. The study was based on data from the 2019-2020 academic year.

Learn more about PNW's economic impact study at pnw.edu/impact.

Purdue University Northwest

Purdue University Northwest (PNW) is a premier metropolitan university dedicated to empowering transformational change in our students and in our community. Located in Northwest Indiana, near Chicago, PNW values academic excellence, supports growth, and celebrates diversity. For more information about PNW, visit www.pnw.edu.

Source: *Purdue University Northwest*



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Photograph #117-AFO



Photograph #118-AFO



Photograph #119-AFO



Photograph #120-AFO



Photograph #121-AFO



Photograph #122-AFO



Photograph #123-AFO



Photograph #124-AFO



Photograph #125-AFO



Photograph #126-AFO

DETAILS

The Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Washington Field Office is seeking the public's assistance in identifying individuals who made unlawful entry into the United States Capitol Building and assaulted federal law enforcement personnel on January 6, 2021, in Washington, D.C.

Anyone with information regarding these individuals, or anyone who witnessed any unlawful violent actions at the Capitol or near the area, is asked to contact the FBI's Toll-Free Tipline at 1-800-CALL-FBI (1-800-225-5324) to verbally report tips. You may also submit any information, photos, or videos that could be relevant online at fbi.gov/USCapitol. You may also contact your local FBI office or the nearest American Embassy or Consulate.

When calling to provide a tip on one of these individuals, please reference the above photo number, including the AFO.

Field Office: Washington D.C.

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