

STORYPOINT GROUP Gazette

Issue 5

Create. Explore. Repeat.

From favorite hobbies to learning new skills, residents find ways to make life colorful.

STORYPOINT GROUP



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What makes a person truly unique? Their stories, their interests, their dreams — these are the threads that weave together who a person really is.

At StoryPoint Group communities across the nation, we have the pleasure of getting to know the remarkable individuals who call our communities home. Each resident brings their own passions, whether they're an artist or an author, a fitness enthusiast or a card player. Some have spent years scrapbooking their lives, while others have a personal library filled with books they cherish. Whatever their interests, we encourage residents to share them, turning hobbies into opportunities for connection and joy.

We also believe in the excitement of trying something new. You don't have to be an experienced painter to pick up a brush, and you don't need to be a dance pro to enjoy moving your body. Every day presents an opportunity to step outside your comfort zone, explore new experiences, and have fun along the way.

I've gotten to know so many incredible residents over the years, and it's a privilege to learn more about them and their unique qualities. I'm deeply humbled to be a part of an organization that empowers residents to continue to embrace their passions, discover new interests, and shine in their own unique ways.

As you read this issue of the StoryPoint Group Gazette, you'll meet residents and team members who bring our communities to life. They'll share their hobbies, passions, and dreams — offering you a glimpse into what makes them so special. After all, these residents and team members are at the heart of what we do and why we do it. Providing the absolute best experience is our mission, and it's an incredible honor in my life.

You belong, and you matter.



Tim Bryant
StoryPoint Group, President



We're More Than Just a Place to Live — We're a Place to Belong

We're all about connection — and we mean it!

Whether it's sparking up a conversation over coffee or planning a surprise dance party, we live to bring people together. Because life's better when you share it with others, right?

It's more than care. It's life, made better.

Our team isn't just checking boxes — they're making moments. From prepping your favorite comfort meal to organizing themed nights, we're here to make every day feel special. Because the small things? They matter big time.

Got Questions? We've Got Answers.

We're the kind of team you can always count on — day or night. Need a quick chat, a helping hand, or a friendly face? We're just a call away, ready to make things easier.

We Love a Good Celebration.

Birthdays, milestones, Tuesdays — you name it — we'll find a reason to celebrate. Because life's too short not to throw a little confetti now and then.

No Place Like Home (Seriously).

StoryPoint Group isn't just a place to live — it's a place to thrive. Across the nation, we're creating spaces where residents find friends, family, and a whole lot of fun.

WELCOME NEW COMMUNITIES!

- Independence Village of Madison Heights, MI
- Pinebrook of Milford, OH
- StoryPoint Gahanna Central, OH
- StoryPoint Urbandale, IA
- Valparaiso Senior Village, IN



STORYPOINT GROUP FAMILY

FLORISH COLLECTION

- Oakland Charter Township, MI
- Rochester, MI

INDEPENDENCE VILLAGE

- Ames, IA
- Ankeny, IA
- Aurora, OH
- Avon, IN
- Avon Lake, OH
- Brighton, MI
- Carmel, IN
- Columbus, IN
- Des Moines, IA
- Evansville, IN
- Fishers, IN
- Grand Ledge, MI
- Midland, MI
- Oxford, MI
- Petoskey, MI
- Pella, IA
- Plymouth, MI
- Saginaw, MI
- Traverse City, MI
- Waterford, MI
- Waukegan, IA
- White Lake, MI
- Zionsville, IN

LEISURE LIVING

- Adrian, MI
- Allegan, MI
- Alma, MI
- Bad Axe, MI
- Bay City, MI
- Canton, MI
- Caro, MI
- Dowagiac, MI
- Grandville, MI
- Greenville, MI
- Grand Rapids, MI
- Hastings, MI
- Lakeview, MI
- Lansing, MI
- Lapeer, MI
- Ludington, MI
- Midland, MI
- Mt. Pleasant, MI
- Owosso, MI
- Paw Paw, MI
- Rockford, MI
- Sandusky, MI
- South Haven, MI
- St. Johns, MI
- Swartz Creek, MI
- Whitehall, MI
- Zeeland, MI

SOUTHWICK VILLAGE

- Southwick, MA

DANBURY

- Broadview Heights, OH
- Brunswick, OH
- Columbus, OH
- Cuyahoga Falls, OH
- Hudson, OH
- Massillon, OH
- Mentor, OH
- Millersburg, OH
- Mount Vernon, OH
- North Canton, OH
- North Ridgeville, OH
- Tallmadge, OH
- Tipp City, OH
- Westerville, OH
- Wooster, OH

STORYPOINT

- Bolingbrook, IL
- Birmingham, MI
- Chesterfield, MI
- Chattanooga, TN
- Chesterton, IN
- Cincinnati, OH
- Clinton Township, M
- Collierville, TN
- Cordova, TN
- East Lansing, MI
- Fairfield Twp., OH
- Farmington Hills, MI
- Fort Wayne, IN
- Gahanna, OH
- Grand Rapids, MI
- Granger, IN
- Grove City, OH
- Kalamazoo, MI
- Knoxville, TN
- Libertyville, IL
- Louisville, KY
- Medina, OH
- Memphis, TN
- Mequon, WI
- Middletown, KY
- Naperville, IL
- Northville, MI
- Novi, MI
- Pickerington, OH
- Portage, MI
- Powell, OH
- Prospect, KY
- Rockford, MI
- Romeo, IL
- Saline, MI
- Schererville, IN
- Shaker Heights, OH
- Strongsville, OH
- Troy, OH
- Union, KY
- Waterville, OH
- Wyoming, MI

8 of the Best Hobbies for Seniors

1. Painting and Drawing: Painting and drawing can be great skills to pick up at any age.

These activities can help boost your mood, improve your fine motor skills, and keep your mind sharp. To get started, you only need some basic supplies, like paper, pencils, and paints. It's best to work in a well-lit area and take breaks to avoid straining your eyes.

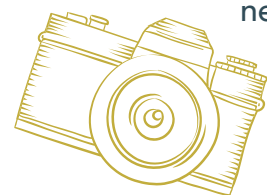


2. Yoga and Tai Chi: If you're seeking a gentle way to stay active, yoga and tai chi are excellent hobbies to consider. They can help improve flexibility, balance, and overall range of motion. Always listen to your body, avoid pushing yourself too hard, and consult your doctor, especially if you have any existing health conditions.

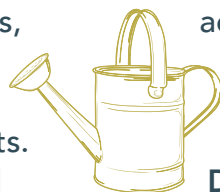
3. Bird Watching: If you love nature and have a keen eye for detail, bird watching might be the perfect hobby for you. You can set up a bird feeder to attract some feathered friends or visit a local park to see what birds you can find. This hobby can be extremely relaxing, just be sure to find a shady spot and wear sunscreen if you're spending prolonged time outdoors.



4. Photography: Photography is a creative way to stay active and engaged with your surroundings. If you're new to photography, you can start by capturing images of your neighborhood or favorite nature spots using a basic camera or your smartphone.



5. Gardening: Gardening is a rewarding outdoor hobby with physical and emotional benefits, from reducing stress to keeping joints active. Be sure to stay hydrated, use proper tools, and avoid extreme heat while tending to your garden.



Did you know? Many StoryPoint Group communities have community gardens, offering a great way to connect with others while enjoying the benefits of gardening!

6. Reading: Reading can be a fantastic way to discover engaging stories and learn new things. Whether you prefer novels, biographies, or magazines, there's a wide variety of selections to pique your interest. Book clubs can provide a great opportunity to meet new people while you share in the hobby together. Make sure to have good lighting that doesn't strain your eyes and find comfortable seating when enjoying this hobby.



7. Solving Puzzles: Keeping our brains active is especially crucial as we grow older. Puzzles and brain games are perfect for this. Whether it's crossword puzzles, Sudoku, or jigsaw puzzles, solving puzzles can help improve your problem-solving skills. You can find puzzles in books, online, or smartphone apps.

8. Scrapbooking: If you enjoy being creative, scrapbooking might be for you. It can be a wonderful way to showcase family photos and mementos in a personalized way. All you need to start is a scrapbook, some decorative paper, and adhesive. You can find many ideas and tutorials online to inspire your designs.



Finding Purpose Through Hobbies

There's something magical about the first step.

The first sweep of a paintbrush. The first stitch in a knitting project. The first roll of the dice in a game you've never played before. Trying something new isn't just about passing the time. It's about reigniting curiosity and unlocking moments of joy you didn't know were waiting. It's proof that every age brings new chances for discovery.

Imagine each day as a blank canvas — clean, crisp, full of possibility. What will you create? A new recipe, a long-awaited story, a vibrant flower arrangement, or a quilt stitched with your own stories? Hobbies are more than just simple enjoyment. They bring connection, purpose, and moments that inspire.

Hobbies also provide something powerful: a sense of rhythm and routine. There's comfort in returning to familiar tools — a well-worn deck of cards, soft yarn ready for knitting, or the feel of fresh soil in the garden. These simple moments bring calm, focus, and a space to simply be present. They remind us that joy can be found not only in the excitement of something new but also in the gentle repetition of something well-loved.

So why not pick up that brush, learn a new song, or dive into a puzzle? This is your invitation to explore, create, and let discovery lead the way.

Let the fun begin!

Celebrating Activities Professional Week

So much of the joy at our communities comes from the creative minds of our activities professionals! From unique activities to parties, events, and Dream Big experiences that make residents' dreams reality, we're so lucky to have them as a part of our StoryPoint Group family.

Our Life Enrichment team has four values — laughter, exploration, connection, and movement. They embody those values every single day, transforming those everyday moments into opportunities for residents to shine!

They absolutely deserve to be celebrated, during Activities Professional Week and every week!



“Today, we celebrate the incredible individuals who bring joy, creativity, and purpose to the lives of so many. Your dedication to creating meaningful experiences, fostering connections, and making every day brighter does not go unnoticed.”

— From your friends at StoryPoint Clinton Township

“These ladies work so hard to bring joy, purpose, and fun to the residents here at Danbury. We are so lucky to have such a great Life Enrichment team. Thank you for everything you do!”

— From your friends at Danbury Mount Vernon

“A huge THANK YOU to our amazing team of activity professionals for organizing meaningful events, fun activities, and enriching programs that brighten every moment here at StoryPoint Novi.”

— From your friends at StoryPoint Novi

The Joy of Hobbies, The Beauty of Creating

In our communities, hobbies bring people together, spark new passions, and turn ordinary moments into something special. Whether learning a new skill or rediscovering an old favorite, residents explore, create, and connect in ways that make every day more meaningful. Flip the page and see creativity in action!



Stem-tacular

Flower arranging adds color, creativity, and a touch of nature to our spaces! Residents at Hathaway Hills had a wonderful time selecting blooms, creating stunning arrangements, and enjoying the beauty of fresh flowers. It's a hands-on hobby that sparks joy, relaxation, and a little floral magic for all.

Gloss Boss

Swirls of color, glossy finishes, endless creativity — resin art opened up a whole new world for residents, staff, and family members at Independence Village of Midland. With no prior experience, they poured, mixed, and designed unique pieces, proving that trying something new is just the beginning of a masterpiece.

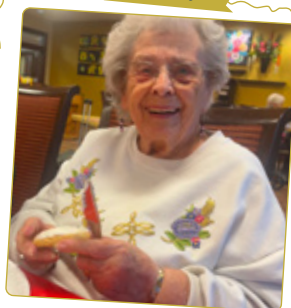
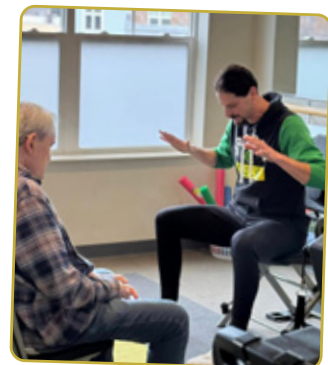
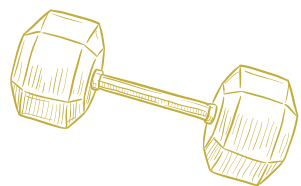
Masterpiece Movement

Art is more than just a hobby — it's a beautiful way to express, connect, and celebrate talent. At StoryPoint Troy, memory care residents proudly showcased their art in a special exhibit, and the mayor awarded ribbons. Their masterpieces were even available for sale, supporting the Alzheimer's Walk fundraiser.

Pick 'Em Up

Members of the StoryPoint Gahanna Euchre Club had so much fun challenging their StoryPoint Group neighbors for a euchre tournament. Thank you, StoryPoint Pickerington, for hosting a wonderful event and treating us to delicious food as we came together to enjoy our shared hobby!





Getting Stronger

Residents at StoryPoint Schererville have some hefty fitness goals, and with accessible exercise classes three times a week, their class instructor is excited to help residents achieve them! From yoga to tai chi, seated volleyball, and more, residents have countless fitness-related hobbies to enjoy at StoryPoint Group communities.

Dough-lightful Designs

Decorating cookies is a great way to express your creativity — just ask the residents at Danbury Westerville! It was heartwarming to see the joy in residents' faces as they added their own personal touches to each cookie. The event was filled with laughter, creativity, and lots of sprinkles!

What a Splat

We're creating beautiful works of art, one dart at a time! Residents at StoryPoint Northville had a blast throwing darts at balloons filled with paint to express themselves. Who knew an artistic hobby could be so unique and exciting?

All That Glow

Dancing brings on great energy and is pure fun. At the StoryPoint Powell North White Out Glow Party, residents lit up the dance floor in their all-white outfits, moving to the beat in a whole new way!

This Resident's Life Inspired Her to Write a Gripping True Crime Novel!

Meet Nancy Lee, StoryPoint Schererville resident and author of the novel "Maybe you Die?" Nancy's novel is a true crime story that was published in 2020. The novel details real-life events that unfolded in Nancy's early 20s, including crime, suspense, and near-death experiences. Nancy's novel has a 4.16/5-star rating on Goodreads (a popular website where readers rate and discuss books). Not only that, but 307 readers have left ratings and 34 have left reviews!

"I liked the way this story is told with a build up to what happens. The author's writing is enjoyable, despite the topic. I had a hard time putting it down."
— Reviewer of "Maybe you Die?" by Nancy Lee

When the team at StoryPoint Schererville got to know Nancy and more about her published novel, they saw an opportunity

to celebrate her and her incredible achievement. They hosted a "Meet the Author" event, and nearly every resident from the community attended. They began with a presentation where Nancy talked about her book and shared her personal story. Then, attendees were invited to ask questions, take photos with Nancy, and even had the chance to buy a signed copy of her book!

"I find it incredibly rewarding to not only get to know our residents as individuals, but also to share their life stories with others," said Brooke Runyon, StoryPoint Schererville Life Enrichment Director. "Seeing how happy it makes them is truly one of the best feelings."



We interviewed the author herself!

In an exclusive interview, Nancy shared more with us about her novel and the life experiences that lead her to publish it.

How would you describe your book to someone who has never read it?

"True crime. It is based on real events that started unfolding in my late 20s."

What inspired you to write "Maybe You Die?"

"It was my story that needed to be shared. After going through the experiences that I wrote about in the book, I couldn't help but think: How could something I once saw as so beautiful end in such a horrible way?"

When did you write the book?

"I started writing it in my early 30s, then tucked it away for years. In my late 50s, I read it to my late husband, and he told me the story needed to be published. That was the moment I began my journey to get it out into the world. After countless revisions and adjustments, it was finally published in 2020."

How does it feel to have your book be so well received by readers and your peers?

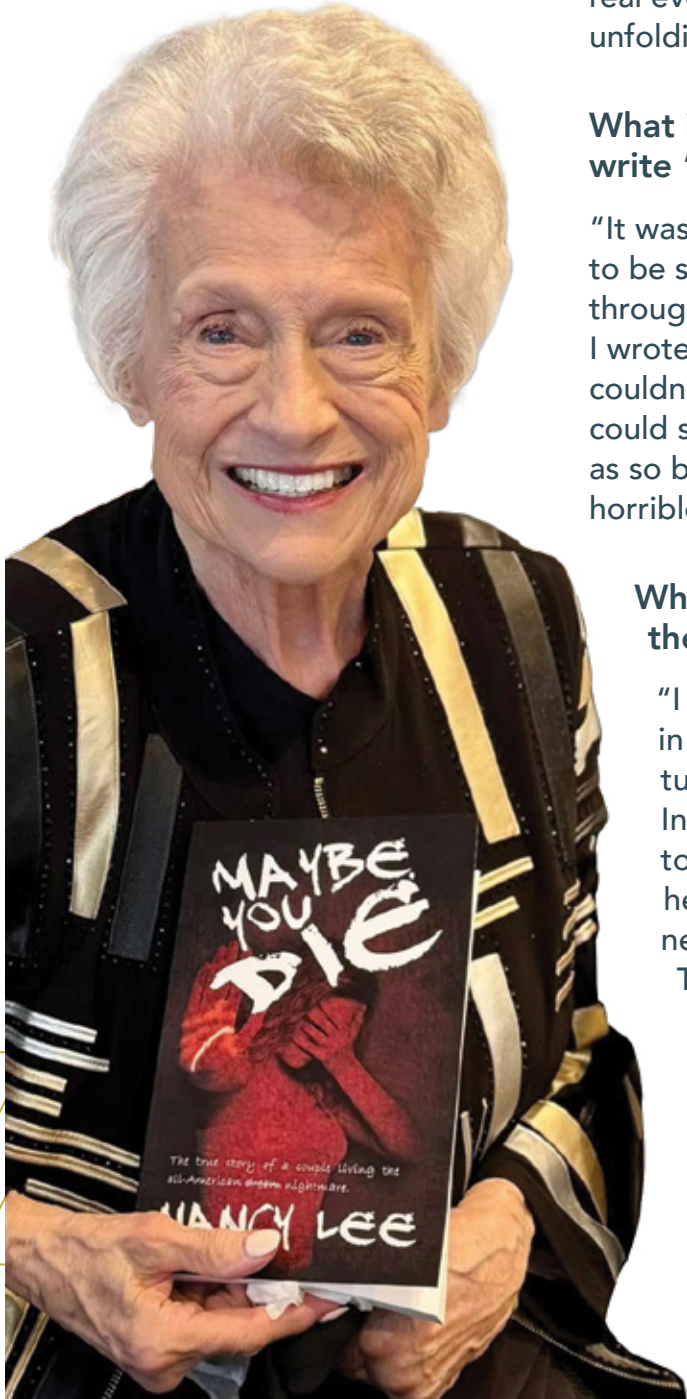
"It is unbelievable. I can't help but feel incredibly talented! It makes me think I need to start the process of publishing another one!"

Did you enjoy the "Meet the Author" event held at StoryPoint Schererville?

"I absolutely loved it. It was an incredible experience and so empowering to share my story and my book with my peers. 40 of my fellow residents attended, and 57 books were sold that day. It truly made me feel complete."

If you could give one piece of advice to an aspiring author, what would you tell them?

"Go for it and take that first step in the process. You're not alone — many people share the dream of becoming an author. The key is to start somewhere."





Lifelong Learning Opportunities

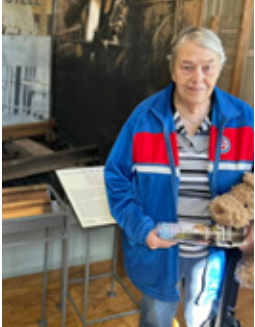
At StoryPoint Group communities, every day is an opportunity to learn or experience something new!

Our older years are a great time to try new hobbies, pick up new skills, and take the time to learn about something you never knew before. At StoryPoint Group communities, we help residents learn all the time, with guest speakers, expert demonstrations, educational activities, and more. Not all learning happens inside our communities, though!

Take a look at these lifelong learners and the museums they explored:

The Gaylord Building Historical Museum

Residents from StoryPoint Romeoville visited the Gaylord Building Historical Museum to learn more about the Illinois and Michigan Canal! Who knew they used so many innovative tools to build the canal? Residents enjoyed learning more about what the canal was used for and were treated with some the nice weather.



Grand Rapids Public Museum

Exploring the city's rich culture together made for a meaningful and inspiring day for residents at Cascade Trails! The vibrant Nature of Color exhibit, the stunning connection between Fashion and Nature, and the impressive Lego Grand Rapids display, every exhibit at the Grand Rapids Public Museum sparked curiosity and conversation.

MSU Eli & Edythe Broad Art Museum

Here's one benefit of living so close to Michigan State University — visiting the Eli & Edythe Broad Art Museum! Residents from Independence Village of Grand Ledge had a great time seeing the exhibit featuring an eclectic collection of art from a diverse group of artists.



A Taste of Something New

In our communities, culinary isn't just about meals — it's about experiences. Whether mastering the art of charcuterie or stepping into the kitchen as a chef for a day, there's always something new to discover.

From expert-led workshops to hands-on cooking opportunities, residents, team members, and even some special guests are getting creative with cuisine. Because sometimes, the best way to try something new is to taste it.

Crafting the Perfect Charcuterie

Kate from the StoryPoint Chesterton culinary team gave residents a hands-on lesson in creating beautiful charcuterie boards! From perfect cheese pairings to artistic arrangements, residents got a taste for the art behind the board.

Junior Chefs Take Over the Kitchen

Forest Glen welcomed four talented kids who became junior chefs for the day, rolling up their sleeves to prepare personal pizzas and side salads — all under the expert guidance of Chef Tami. But they didn't stop there! They set the dining room, served the residents, and brought a fresh perspective to the dining experience.



Shining Every Day

Shake, Rattle, and Roll

Across StoryPoint Northville, StoryPoint Birmingham, and StoryPoint Libertyville, residents turned up the volume and celebrated the King of Rock and Roll in style. From Elvis-inspired exercise and trivia to sing-alongs and themed snacks (hello, peanut butter, banana, and bacon sandwiches!), every community put their own spin on the musical legend's 90th birthday. With live performances, Elvis bingo, classic Elvis sideburns, and even some Blue Suede Shoes on the dance floor, it was a rocking good time.



Greased Lightning Strikes Again

Cue the poodle skirts and pump up the cardio drums! The Grease-inspired bash at StoryPoint Rockford was a thrill ride from start to finish. Residents channeled their inner T-Birds and Pink Ladies during a fun-filled day packed with fitness, lively music, carnival games, delicious milkshakes, and dancing.



Let's Get Ready to Rumble!

At Independence Village of Columbus, the gloves were off — well, on the robots anyway — as residents faced off in a New Year's Rock 'Em Sock 'Em Robot Competition. Cheers, laughter, and a little friendly trash talk filled the room as everyone took turns jabbing and blocking like champs. It was a knockout way to kick off the year with fun, quick reflexes, and some healthy competition.



A Hug You Can Wear

Hugs were the theme of the day at Devonshire. Residents and team members teamed up to design custom "hug shirts" as a surprise gift for their life enrichment team. They also set up a hugging booth, where staff, residents, and families stopped by to share quick squeezes and a few good laughs. It was a hands-on way to celebrate National Hug Day.



Word Search

Hobbies We All Love!

G	N	I	Q	N	A	R	R	A	H	E	F	O	H	F	O	L	S
A	G	Y	L	O	R	D	A	C	J	K	B	R	P	L	U	T	F
M	B	E	Q	M	I	U	A	X	O	F	R	X	K	I	R	A	P
B	M	D	G	H	K	L	M	N	D	M	U	E	V	O	E	P	H
F	U	N	N	E	M	U	S	I	C	N	U	X	P	L	E	M	O
P	A	R	I	X	D	O	P	Y	R	E	M	S	E	F	X	B	T
A	W	M	T	E	H	E	L	L	O	T	R	W	P	D	E	W	O
I	Q	R	T	R	O	P	U	Z	Z	L	E	S	G	R	R	E	G
N	U	P	I	P	A	R	T	Y	E	S	T	A	Q	O	C	C	R
T	I	I	N	U	B	W	R	I	T	I	N	G	U	B	I	A	A
I	L	T	K	Z	N	Y	G	F	U	N	I	S	Y	T	S	K	P
N	T	I	T	Z	E	N	Y	A	Y	W	B	U	S	A	E	I	H
G	I	N	C	E	I	D	E	N	B	A	P	S	E	V	M	N	Y
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P	Y	K	O	T	C	R	M	A	E	D	T	G	S	I	C	E	B
L	T	C	O	O	K	I	N	G	R	E	A	R	T	E	F	M	R
S	M	K	D	U	F	W	O	O	D	W	O	R	K	I	N	G	S

BAKING	WRITING	KNITTING	QUILTING
CARS	EXERCISE	MUSIC	READING
COOKING	FLOWER ARRANGING	PAINTING	SINGING
CRAFTS	GAMES	PHOTOGRAPHY	SPORTS
DANCE	GARDENING	PUZZLES	WOODWORKING



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