

# Village Views

WHEELING, ILLINOIS

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2000

## Village to Launch Holidays with Festival of Lights

The sight of holiday lights, the sounds of the Senior Pavilionaires and the smell and taste of hot cocoa and coffee will fill the air at the fourth annual Festival of Lights, which officially ushers in the Holiday Season in Wheeling, on November 26. The Board of Trustees and Village staff invite all residents to join the festivities beginning at 6 p.m.

The lighting of the Village's holiday display will be expanded to include a sleigh nestled among the figures of carolers, red ribbons and pine roping. The display features more than 75,000 lights.

The Pavilionaires chorus from Wheeling's Senior Pavilion will be the featured entertainers this year. Holiday banners emblazoned with the word "Joy" will be hung on light posts around the Village to coincide with the Festival of Lights.

"This is a time for friends, family and neighbors to come together and celebrate," said Trustee Judy Abruscato, who organizes the annual event. "It's a great way for residents of Wheeling to get

the holiday season off to a festive start."

For more information, contact Trustee Abruscato at 847-541-8783.

*Santa and Mrs. Claus will be on hand to talk with the many children expected to attend.*

## Wheeling Introduces New Electronic Services

The Village of Wheeling has expanded its electronic services to include Internet water and sewer bill payment, and e-mail delivery of timely information to residents. A new pay-by-phone option also has been added.



Follow the link to the E-PAY page – "**clicking here**." Enter "**Village of Wheeling**" in the box labeled "Find Government Unit." You reach the screen pictured above and follow the on-screen instructions. Payment can be made by credit or debit card.

The Village also has established a direct bank-withdrawal system from checking accounts. The authorization form needed for direct withdrawal is available on the Web site under forms and permits. Quarterly payments are automatically deducted from a resident's bank account and credited to that person's water and sewer account at the Village of Wheeling on the 20th of the month.

Touch-tone telephone payment with a credit card is also possible now by dialing, toll-free, 877-455-3729. For further information call the Wheeling Finance

Department at 847-459-2607.

The electronic-payment program is a cooperative effort with the Illinois State Treasurer's Office E-PAY system. Go to [www.vi.wheeling.il.us](http://www.vi.wheeling.il.us). Then click through to **Village Services, Finance and Administration,** and **Direct Pay.**

## Sign Up for New Information Service

The Village also has introduced an information-delivery system for residents to automatically receive Board of Trustee agendas and minutes, news releases, crime alerts, and community bulletins. A simple sign-up form on the Web site will launch the service. Unsubscribing is just as easy.

To subscribe, click on the scrolling message board when the message promoting the service appears, or click on Village Services, then Finance and Administration. Then click on Village Information Service at the top of the page.



*“Such expansion would allow for a doubling of commuter train traffic along the Wisconsin Central Railroad’s north-south right of way.”*

## Congress Earmarks Funding To Expand Metra North Central Line

Recent action by the U.S. Congress has raised hope that the North Central Metra rail line, which bisects Wheeling, will be expanded with the addition of a second track.

Such expansion would allow for a doubling of commuter train traffic along the Wisconsin Central Railroad’s north-south right of way.

A House-Senate Conference Committee endorsed full funding and earmarked \$35 million for the 2001 budget. The funds will cover expanding or extending three lines which Metra operates, including the North Central line. It has not yet been determined how the funds will be allocated.

Two sets of rails currently narrow into a single track north of the Wheeling train station. The 10 commuter trains currently using the line share space with heavy freight traffic.



“It’s a logistical problem to keep freight and commuter trains apart and still move them on time,” said Frank Malone, a Metra spokesperson.

Metra anticipates signing an agreement with the Federal Transit Administration late this year or early next year that will provide greater assurance – although no guarantee – that the project will receive full funding.

Even though the North Central line runs from Chicago’s Union Station to Antioch, current plans call for additional tracks in specific locations. The longest stretch will be the eight miles from Wheeling to Mundelein.

Metra is entering the early stage of final engineering, which will take about a year to complete. The bidding process could add an additional six months to the timetable.

Officials are hopeful construction will begin in late 2001 or early 2002. The project could take until 2004-2005 to complete.

Village President Greg Klatecki said, “Wheeling’s residential base keeps growing. We need additional capacity from Metra to help meet the needs of people commuting into and out of Wheeling.”



### Milwaukee-Dundee Intersection Former Site of Union Hotel



*The Union Hotel was a Wheeling landmark for more than a century. It was built in 1856 south of Dundee Rd. on Milwaukee Ave. The building burned in 1925. After it was rebuilt, the hotel appeared as it does in this 1940 photograph. The building evolved into several restaurants, including Kisses, shown below in a picture from the early 1980s. (Note the roofline*

*and window treatment on the second floor in both photos.) Billy and Company, a restaurant, was the last occupant of the building, which was torn down in 1996 to make way for Union Commons condominiums. (Photo courtesy of Wheeling Historical Society.)*



## 60 Volunteers Paint Four Wheeling Homes

Sixty volunteers descended on four Wheeling homes to paint up and fix up during the northwest suburbs' annual Paint-a-Thon.

Thirty participants included those from the Indian Trails Public Library, the Wheeling Public Works Department, the Village Manager, and students from Wheeling High School.

The "Village team" took just six hours to transform a two-story clapboard house. They washed shutters and gutters, scraped, primed, and painted.

A second team, consisting of 30 volunteers from OMNI Youth Services, took on a one-story house and two mobile homes.

The September effort marked the twelfth annual

Paint-a-Thon. A total of 33 houses got facelifts for homeowners who can no longer handle the job themselves due to health conditions or age.

The Paint-a-Thon was born in Minneapolis more than 50 years ago, when the president of Valspar Corporation came up with the idea. When the company moved to its present headquarters at 1191 Wheeling Rd. in the late 1980s, the Paint-a-Thon tradition moved with it.

Valspar donated 340 gallons of paint and virtually anything the volunteers needed for the 33 houses, from roller pans and trays to brushes, tape and caulk. The company also furnished t-shirts for the 700 volunteers. Wa-Pa-Ghetti's restaurant provided pizzas for the Wheeling teams.

*"The September effort marked the twelfth annual Paint-a-Thon. A total of 33 houses got facelifts..."*

## Village Adopts New Flood Maps

The Village of Wheeling is adopting new floodplain maps for Cook County developed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

The countywide format eliminates the need to reprint the maps when municipal boundaries change.

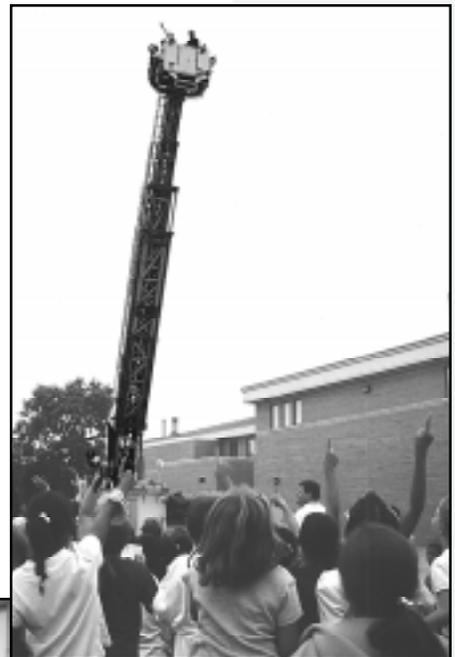
The maps are a result of a re-study of the Des Plaines River conducted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers after the flooding of 1986-87.

A few areas along the Des Plaines River have seen an increase in 100-year base flood heights. However, there is no significant change in the "special flood hazard areas" for the rest of the Village.

The maps are available for viewing during regular office hours at the Community Development Department, 111 S. Northgate Pkwy.

## Fire Department Hoists Principal for Summer Reading Program Success

*With the cooperation of the Wheeling Fire Department, Ralph Cook, principal of Walt Whitman Elementary School, promised he would be hoisted on an aerial ladder in proportion to the amount of time spent reading in the school's summer reading program. After congratulating his students for having read 353,511 minutes, the hoisting commenced. Even when he was 75 feet in the air, students continued jabbing their fingers skyward and chanting, "Higher!"*



## Burn Simulators Installed At Joint Fire Training Facility

Firefighters from the Village of Wheeling and three other fire departments have a new tool at their disposal – a computer-based “burn simulation” system recently installed at the Joint Fire Protection Facility on Deerfield Parkway in Buffalo Grove.

The natural gas-fed installation will speed training, provide greater safety and eliminate pollution associated with the burning of wood, paper and other materials. The \$395,000 system centers on two common household “props” – a living room couch and a bed. Fuel fed to the props is directed by a training officer using a hand-held control unit. As firefighters douse the flames, sensors feed vital information to a central computer, which measures room temperature, the fuel-air mixture, and the rate at which the fire builds.

The computer also calculates how much water is applied and determines if it is sufficient for the type and size of fire. The training officer has an instant-off switch at his disposal for added safety. Smoke generated by a smoke machine provides realism.

“The burn simulators will be a boon to our training programs,” said Wheeling Fire Chief Keith MacIsaac. “The system allows quicker turnaround because there’s almost no setup time and we can immediately rebuild the fire for each wave of trainees. When the fire is out, a ventilator clears the room for added firefighter safety. Plus, there’s no ash and dirt generated by the fire, so there’s no cleanup afterward.”

The system was designed and built by Symtron Systems, Inc., of Fair Lawn, NJ, which has installed training props at military bases and large civilian airports around the world – including O’Hare Airport. All but \$30,000 of the cost was defrayed by a grant from the state’s Build Illinois program. The remainder had been set aside for this purpose from the facility’s original construction budget.

The Joint Training Facility, now about a year old, is operated by the Wheeling and Buffalo Grove Fire Departments, and Long Grove and Lincolnshire/Riverwoods Fire Protection Districts.

## America Recycles Day, November 15

Recycling is alive and thriving in Wheeling. To recognize and encourage the participation of residents, the Board of Trustees has declared November 15 as America Recycles Day in the Village.

A look at the figures shows that many Wheeling residents are committed to recycling. By the end of the year, it’s expected that Waste Management Northwest will have collected more than 580 tons of glass, plastic and cans. They will have picked up another 1492 tons of paper. Additionally yard waste collections have nearly doubled in the past two years.

The Village’s recycling program, now in its Thirteenth year, provides one free recycling bin for each single-family household. Additional bins are available from the Department of Public Works for \$7 each. Residents without curbside recycling service can use a drop-off station in the parking lot behind the main fire station on Dundee Rd. Two large containers are available for recyclables.

## Palwaukee Open House



Wheeling Village President Greg Klatecki examines an L-39 Albatross training plane made by the Czechs and used by the former Warsaw Pact countries.

Ready on the flight line! Vintage planes salute visitors, 1200 of whom took 400 free plane rides, the celebration’s most popular event.



## Police Department Alert: Beware Telephone Fraud

The Wheeling Police Department has issued a consumer alert, cautioning residents to “beware of telemarketers.” Of particular concern are those soliciting donations to a “police association.” The department “strongly urges residents not to donate money to telemarketers,” said Chief John Popadowski.

“These people often want a big donation – the one they might take from your bank account or credit-card account if you give them access,” Popadowski said. “Sadly, telephone solicitors often target senior citizens.”

*Continued on page 5*



An estimated 3,000 Wheeling-area residents flocked to Palwaukee Municipal Airport's sixth Annual Open House in September. Everything from vintage airplanes to cargo helicopters was on display. Visitors also got to view the airport's control-tower operations in action.



Helicopters from WGN-TV (Ch. 9) and WFLD (Ch. 32) gave visitors a glimpse into the world of airborne television news.



The first thing a visitor learns when examining a so-called "black box," is that the flight data recorder isn't black at all. It's red.

## Police Department Alert

*Continued from page 4*

Police advise against donating to any charity without investigating its legitimacy:

- Request information in writing from any solicitor about the purpose of the charity, including a verifiable address (no post-office boxes).
- Charitable organizations can be verified through the Illinois Attorney General's Office.

"The Wheeling Police Department does not engage in telemarketing solicitations from residents," said Chief Popadowski.

# Staying Safe, Fire-Free Throughout Holidays

Colder weather and the holiday season provide a backdrop for safety concerns around the house, ranging from fire prevention to removal of snow and ice. Fire Chief Keith MacIsaac provides answers to some questions about keeping your home fire free and safe.

**Q. What should residents do to reduce fire hazards during the holidays?**

**A.** Holiday lights are a major concern. Safety starts with buying the lights. People should buy lights that have been tested for safety. Existing lights should be checked for good working conditions. If the cords have become brittle, the lights should be replaced.

**Q. Should people consider using old-fashioned candle decorations on holiday trees?**

**A.** Absolutely not! It's vital to keep all open flames away from trees. Even if trees are kept in water, they dry out and can ignite instantly. Also, holiday wrapping paper should be disposed of in the trash, not in fireplaces. Wrapping paper emits toxic pollution when burned.

**Q. What else should residents consider when winterizing homes?**

**A.** Now that houses are closed, furnaces running, and fireplaces crackling, homeowners should have their fireplaces and furnaces checked to minimize the chance of carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning. This might be a good time to consider installing a CO detector.

Since it's the holiday season, why not give "presents" to your smoke detectors? Check to make sure they're working properly, and replace the batteries where needed. Additionally, we'd like to have homeowners become "hydrant buddies" by clearing snow and ice from hydrants so the firefighters can access them. It's also a Village requirement that sidewalks be kept clear.

**Q. Any additional safety tips?**

**A.** Yes. With all the holiday parties, there's a greater chance that impaired drivers will be on the roads. People need to be more vigilant than usual. And, of course, anyone who has been drinking should rely on a sober friend as a designated driver.

**A Clarification:**

## School Buses and Traffic

The September-October edition of Village Views contained a review of driver-safety precautions during the school year. The article indicated that drivers in all directions are required to stop whenever a school bus displays flashing red lights and the swing-out stop "flag." The only exception to this rule is on highways with four lanes or more. Drivers approaching the bus in the opposite direction on the other side of a double-yellow line should proceed cautiously but do not need to stop.

*"The need to identify and register potential bone marrow donors is compelling."*

## Board of Health Hosts Blood Drive, First Bone Marrow Donor Drive, Nov. 8

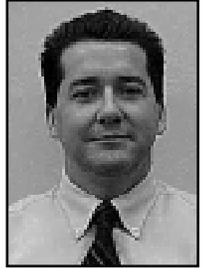
The Wheeling Board of Health is hosting blood and bone marrow donor drives on November 8, 2:30-8:30 p.m., at the Village Hall Fire Station, 255 West Dundee Rd.

Conducting three blood drives per year on the second Wednesdays in March, July and November is a long-standing tradition in the Village. Hosting a bone marrow donor drive is a Wheeling first.

The initiative got its start when members of the Board of Health learned that LifeSource worked with a national registry for bone marrow donors. During the drives, potential donors provide only a blood sample to be added to the registry.

"The need to identify and register potential bone marrow donors is compelling," said Wheeling Health Officer Mike Boyle.

"Finding a good match when a patient needs a bone marrow transplant can be very challenging. We hope to help improve the odds by getting more people in the national registry."



Mike Boyle

LifeSource takes a blood sample, then processes it to identify and record specific markers used for bone marrow donor matching. Results are entered in the national database and can be accessed when a patient needs a bone marrow transplant. If a match is found, the potential donor is contacted.

Bone marrow transplants have become more common in recent years as medical technology advances. Similarly, the need for blood donors continued to rise.

Most people may be unaware that local blood donations in the Chicago and suburban area fall short of the demand for blood and blood products. About 25% of blood supplied to area hospitals must be imported from outside the Chicago area.

For more information, call Mike Boyle at 459-2621.

### *You Are Invited*

#### *"Dancing to the Future"*

*presented by the Wheeling Special Events Committee*

*Dance to the music of*

#### *Larry Bemben's Big Band Orchestra*

*February 10, 2001, 6:30 p.m. - Midnight  
Chevy Chase Country Club, Main Ballroom*

*A dinner buffet will be served from  
7:45 - 9 p.m.*

*Tickets at \$35 per person may be purchased at  
Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd  
& Corus Bank, 125 N. McHenry Rd  
with cash or check.*

*Discover Card accepted at Village Hall only.  
A service charge applies to credit-card transactions.  
To order, mail your payment along with a self-addressed  
stamped envelope to:*

*Trustee Judy Abruscato, 125 W. Wayne Place*

*Checks should be made payable to  
Village of Wheeling Special Events Committee.  
For more information call Trustee Abruscato,  
847-541-8783.*

## Welcome New Business

**Desert Rose Cafe**— Nabil Samkari, 1057-59 Lake-Cook Rd., 229-1010

**Global Trade & Food Inc.**— Ventcho Pantohev, 507 N. Wolf Rd., 229-8636, wholesale distribution of food products

**Leroy's Welding Fabricating Inc.**— Neil Rubly, President, 363 Alice, 215-6151, misc. steel fabrication

**Lily International Inc.**— DBA Lily Window Fashions, Sineenat Thehawatanaset, 106 E. Dundee Rd., 559-8998, retail window treatments

**Peak Air Charter**— Michael Sachs, 1071 S. Wolf Rd. Hangar 10, Bay 4, 520-3800, aircraft charter

**Qdoba Mexican Grill**— Cynthia Barch, Manager, 300 E. Dundee Rd., 459-8185



# Community Calendar

Residents are invited to attend public meetings of the following Village boards and commissions. Most meet in the Village Hall Councilroom (unless otherwise noted).

*Village Board—Every Monday, 7:30 p.m.*

*Plan Commission—Second and fourth Thursdays of the month, 7 p.m.*

*Board of Health - Fourth Tuesday, every other month, 7 p.m.*

*Human Rights Commission—Third Tuesday of the month, 7:15 p.m., south half of Village Hall lunch room.*

*Zoning Board of Appeals—Second Tuesday of the month, 7:30 p.m.*

*Senior Citizens Commission—Third Monday of the month, 10 a.m., Pavilion Senior Center.*

*Fire and Police Commission—Third Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., Finance and Administration offices.*

*Palwaukee Airport Commission—Third Wednesday of the month, Committee of the Whole meeting, 7 p.m., regular meeting, 8 p.m., Airport offices, 1020 South Plant Rd.*

*Economic Development Commission—First Tuesday of each month, 8 a.m., south half of Village Hall lunch room.*

*Board of Ethics—Third Thursday of the month, January, April, July and October, 7 p.m., south half of Village Hall lunch room.*

*Special Events Committee—Second Tuesday of each month, 7:30 p.m., south half of Village Hall lunch room.*

## Calendar

### November

**4** Pavilion Holiday Bazaar, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Pavilion Senior Center, 199 N. First St. Telephone 847-459-2670 for information.

**7** Election Day

**8** Blood/bone marrow drive, Village Hall Fire Station, 2:30-8:30 p.m.

**15** America Recycles Day

**16** Child Care Training, 7 p.m., Village Councilroom, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

**23** Thanksgiving. Village offices closed. Trash pickup delayed one day.

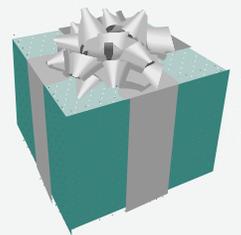
**24** Thanksgiving holiday, Village offices closed.

**26** Festival of Lights, 6 p.m., Village Hall

### December

**25** Christmas. Village offices closed. Trash pickup delayed one day.

*From November 1 to December 18, the Village of Wheeling and Bill Stasek Chevrolet will be drop-off points for the 2000 Toys for Tots program.*



## Toys for Tots Comes to Town

The Village of Wheeling and Bill Stasek Chevrolet will be drop-off points for the 2000 Toys for Tots program. Beginning November 1 and lasting through December 18, residents can drop off new toys in the collection bins at Village Hall and the car dealership. Used toys cannot be accepted.

Last year, with the help of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, the Toys for Tots campaign distributed 13.8 million toys to nearly 5.9 million needy children.

For more information, call Village Hall at 459-2600 or Bill Stasek Chevrolet at 537-7000, or visit the Wheeling Web site at [www.vi.wheeling.il.us](http://www.vi.wheeling.il.us)

# SPEAK OUT

Communicate with Wheeling elected officials and administrators. Your advice, suggestions, questions and opinions are appreciated and **will receive response**. Please complete this form, detach and return to: Village Manager, Village of Wheeling, 255 W. Dundee Road, Wheeling, IL 60090.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Comment \_\_\_\_\_

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## Dayton-Hudson Targets' Site In Wheeling

The Board of Trustees has approved the construction of a new Target store for Wheeling scheduled for completion in 2002.

The 138,000-square-foot store will be located on the north side of Lake-Cook Rd., directly across from the existing Wal-Mart and Sam's Club stores. The three-way intersection, controlled by a traffic light, will become a four-way intersection, with access to the Target store from Lake-Cook Rd.

The store will occupy about 12 acres of what is now farmland. Construction is to begin next spring and will take about a year to complete.

The project will include construction of a berm and buffering to shield residential properties to the north from traffic into the store. There will be room for 682 cars in the planned parking lot.

Target Stores is a division of Dayton-Hudson Corp., of Minneapolis.

Finance Director Robert Fialkowski estimates the new Target store will add about \$480,000 in annual sales tax revenue to Village receipts.



## Election Day Is November 7;

The polls open on Election Day 2000, November 7, at 7 a.m. A dozen polling places throughout the Village of Wheeling will be open until 7 o'clock that evening. The precinct in which you live determines where you will vote. Find your precinct number on your Voter Registration Card, or call Village Hall at **459-2600** for additional information.

## Where to Cast Your Ballot

### Precinct/ Location

01	Chamber Park, 181 N. Wolf Rd., Wheeling
09	Amvets Post 65, 700 McHenry Rd., Wheeling
13	P.H. Community Church, 400 N. Elmhurst Rd., Prospect Hts.
27	Mark Twain School, 515 Merle Ln., Wheeling
30	Harmony Village clubhouse, 1 Fern Ave., Wheeling
33	Walt Whitman School, 133 S. Wille Ave., Wheeling
37	Mark Twain School, 515 Merle Ln., Wheeling
43	River Trails Condo Assn. Clubhouse, 811 Apple Dr. Prospect Heights
48	Jack London School, 1001 W. Dundee Rd., Wheeling
49	Heritage Park, 222 S. Wolf Rd., Wheeling
50	Jack London School, 1001 W. Dundee Rd. Wheeling
55	Arlington Club Condominiums clubhouse, 1610 Newburn Ct., Wheeling
74	Eugene Field School, 81 St. Armand Ln., Wheeling
76	Harmony Village, 1 Fern Ave., Wheeling
93	Village of Wheeling, 255 W. Dundee Rd., Wheeling
105	Lexington Commons Condominiums, Lexington Dr., Wheeling
108	Lutheran Home Service for the Aging, 800 W. Oakton St., Arlington Hts.
125	Cedar Run Development, 601 Cedar Run Dr., Wheeling
126	Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 304 W. Palatine Rd., Prospect Hts.
127	Chelsea Cove Condominiums, 300 Denoyer Tr., Wheeling
130	Tahoe Village Condominiums, 1771 Tahoe Circle Dr., Wheeling
133	Prospect Heights Community Church, 400 N. Elmhurst Rd. Prospect Hts.
137	Eugene Field School, 51 St. Armand Ln., Wheeling
140	Lutheran Church of Good Shepherd, 1111 N. Elmhurst Rd., Prospect Hts.
144	Tahoe Village Condominiums., 1771 Tahoe Circle Dr., Wheeling

## VILLAGE OF WHEELING

255 WEST DUNDEE ROAD ● WHEELING, IL 60090  
 847/459-2600 ● TDD 847/459-2987  
 WEB SITE: WWW.VI.WHEELING.IL.US

### Fire/Police/Paramedics

### 911

Non-emergency Fire	459-2662
Non-emergency Police	459-2632
Community Development	459-2620
Economic Development	459-2978
Pavilion Senior Center	459-2670
Public Works	459-2624
Water Billing	459-2607
Code Enforcement Hotline	459-CODE
<b>Village President:</b> Greg Klatecki	459-2988
<b>Village Clerk:</b> Elaine Simpson	541-8692
<b>Village Manager:</b> Craig Anderson	459-2617

### Trustees

Judy Abruscato	541-8783	Trevor Lehmann	541-6700
Robert Heer	541-4274	William Spangenberg	520-1019
Patrick Horcher	419-1956	Wayne Wisinski	394-3432

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