

SANIBEL-CAPTI VA

ISLANDER

photos by larry c. huston

THE INTERESTS SANIBEL AND CAPTIVA ISLANDS

> The Finest Shelling Beaches In The Western Hemisphere

VOLUME 9

NUMBER 19

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

MAY 8, 1969



REMINISCENCES OF "UNCLE ART" GIBSON

We moved here on a Sunday afternoon, January 6 in 1900. We had lived up in Hillsborough County (on Tampa Bay) at that time and it was awful hard times up there. They just had a big freeze in eighteen hun-



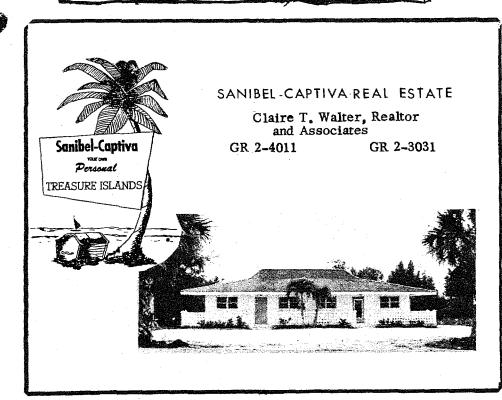
dred and ninety four and ninety five. They had two freezes in one winter. We moved -- it was four of us kids. I was the oldest and there were three girls. We moved from there in a little sailboat, a little schooner. My father came down here to try and locate a place where it would be easier to make a living than it was up there because it was awfully dead. That is right after the Spanish-American War, that is, just after the close of the war. And all the citrus that were growing in that country at that time were killed in the '94 and '95 freeze. At that time it was awful hard in that section so he came down this way with a friend of ours, a neighbor, to just look around. He got as far as Sanibel here and decided this was the place he could make an easier living for the family. So he worked about two months or so and then went back and got the same man that he came down here with to move us back down here in a little sailboat. His father did vegetable farming; tomatoes and egg plants, pepper and squash on the other end of the island (west). We moved up on to the Wulfert end of the island. Of course, there were people living all over it. All this land here was in vegetable farms, Tomatoes and stuff. Planted 'em twice a year and shipped them to the northern markets in the winter and we got a good price for 'em so that's the way we made our living. And we lived as long as our family held together. Mostly we lived entirely on the other end of the island on Wulfert. We built a house. My father filed on a homestead and he sold his homestead claim out to another man. The girls in the family grew up and married off and my mother and father lost their robust health and it kind of split the family up. I went to work for myself as another breadwinner in the family. I was 16 years old when I went and got a job. First job I went on was right here to plant out grapefruit for another man. I worked a full year for that job. Then I went up on the Caloosahatchee and worked on groves up there for 6 months. I came back and worked on a freight and passenger boat. I ran from Fort Myers to Punta Gorda. I was six or seven years on that job. While I was on that boating job there was a storm -- the first hurricane after we moved here. It was in 1910 on October 17. It's a long story. I was working for the Kinzie Brothers and they were running the mail from Fort Myers down by Iona and Punta Rassa, Sanibel, St. James over on Pine Island, and Wulfert and then over to Captiva. That's the post offices we had to carry for. And I went out that morning. We had our regular boat up on the dry dock getting it cleaned and painted. So I took another boat, an Orange River boat, to run the mail. It was a motor launch 34 feet long and we were supposed to carry passengers and mail on it and some little freight. But this morning, in question, the captain came to my place and woke me up early and asked me if I could take the motor launch and run the mail that day. He said the weather was too bad for the other boat they had intended to use. I said, 'Yep.'

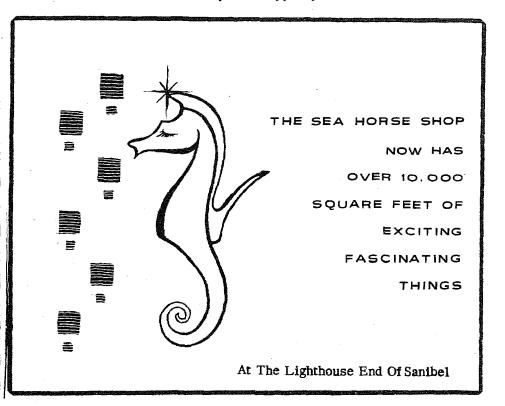
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BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT

The date has been changed from May 10 to May 17 for the road cleanup of Sanibel and Captiva Islands.

As stated last week, this is a joint effort of the Sanibel-Captiva Lions Club and Troop 88, Boy Scouts of America of Sanibel and Captiva. Lions, Scouts, and trucks will assemble at the New Rocks Subdivision on Gulf Drive at 9 a.m., Saturday, May 17.





SANIBEL CAPTIVA ISLANDER

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SUBSCRIPTIONS On-Island ... \$3.00 yearly

Priscilla Murphy

Realtor

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GR 2-4961

To The Islander:

Thank you for the first issue of my new sub-

scription. It's wonderful.

I read the Tribute to Mario Hutton with interest and respect, but I'd like to pay tribute to Jordan Davidson for his "It takes a lot of help to grow a forest."

An admirer of the well turned phrase, I read with deep satisfaction his words: The shouting of the wind...

A bragging brook has songs to sing...

A thousand years of lost designs... A waterfall that knows what Aprils know...

A hidden spring that gives the stars a twirl... I've looked at nature and longed to express what I saw like a singer yearns to sing. My compliments to Jordan Davidson, I wish I knew him. /s/ Maudie Coleman

30 North Main St., Poland, Ohio

Staying at the Reef are Mr. & Mrs. VAN ATTA of Binghamton, N.Y., Mr. & Mrs. JOHN WEBER with Mr. & Mrs. E. W. YOUNG of Clearwater, Mr. & Mrs. UPHAM of Clearwater, Mr. & Mrs. CLINTON MORGAN of Deltona, Mrs. ROBERT BERHANS from Stamford, Conn., Mr. and Mrs. MILTON GAY of New Hyde Park, N.Y. with Mr. & Mrs. WILLIAM TAYLOR of Syosset, N.Y., and Mr. & Mrs. DUYTSCHAVER of Holmes Beach,

JACK YVES REMUS, son of Mr. & Mrs. GERD A. REMUS of Sanibel, graduated Sunday from Edison Junior College with an Associate of Art

Born in Buffalo, N.Y., Jack is a graduate of Frankfurt American High School, Frankfurt, Germany. Jack was Senior Departmental Laboratory Aide for the past two years at Edison. He intends to major in Marine Zoology, and hopes to pursue a career in this field.

BOARD MEETING

Mr. Snider, attorney, was on hand to restate his advice that the Board go strictly according to the by-laws as set forth in the Constitution of the Chamber.

The Board went over the minutes of the general meeting very carefully, and found that there was still no clear-cut mandate on the booklet and brochures, so will pursue this matter further before making a definite decision.

Mr. Howard Dayton of Casa Ybel asked the Chamber to use its influence to see if it could get the Lee County Electric Co-opto change the dangerous overhead power lines that cross the west end of the airstrip and Gulf Drive as it is such a menace to the planes landing and taking off. He has been unable to get anything done although he has contacted the Electric Company several

The question of the signs was brought up again for discussion, as there have been many inquiries about them, so it was decided to revitalize the original sign committee of Holtzman, Bruno and Rushworth to pursue this matter further and report back at the next monthly Board meet-

It was noted that anyone wanting to attend the Board meetings held the last Monday in each month, should call the president, Mr. Rushworth, or the secretary, Mary Funk and be put on the agenda.

WINNING TICKET

Mrs. Thelma Ridge, president of Sanibel and Captiva Island Humane Society takes pleasure in announcing a drawing for the winning ticket for a lovely shell picture contributed by Mrs. Emma Guthrie which took place on May 5. The drawing was held at the Episcopal Church on Sanibel in the presence of the Rev. Thomas A. Madden, Mrs. Emma Guthrie, Thelma Ridge and Charles Hammock, who drew the lucky number 00295 for Mrs. Margaret Hicks of Terre Haute, Ind.

Beautiful residence on Gulf in strictly zoned residential area.

2 bedroom, 2 bath house close to Gulf. CBS construction, air conditioned, screened patio. This is a very well planned residence of excellent construction.

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Many attractive lots for immediate or future building.

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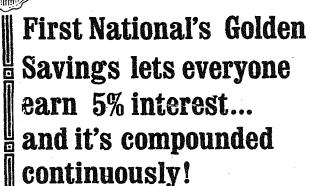
BINOCULARS

for rent \$1,00 a day

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Mrs. ROBERT BEHERNS of Stamford, Conn. is visiting the ORLOFF'S.

REAL ESTATE NEWS

ports the following sales:

Priscilla Murphy, Realtor re-

World Management Corp. to James A. Schregardus, 2 lots in Las Conchas Del Mar F. P. Bailey to Bert L. Jenks of Biloxi, Miss., lot in Sanibel Shores, Rob-

ert Johnson of Pittsburgh, Pa., to Marjorle Trend of Philadel-

phia, a lot in Sanibel Estates.

E. J. Loesch of Wickliff, Ohio, lot in Las Conchas Del Mar.

Lucian Barton of Trenton, N.J., 3 lots in Las Conchas Del Mar. Jamestown Beachview, to Crawford Cate, Los Angeles, Calif., lot in Shell Harbor. Episcopal Mission to J. W. Shockey, Hia-leah, Fla., lot in Sanibel Shores.

Frank Culpepper, Sanibel Island, home in Sanibel Estates to Janet L. Keller, of Madison, N.J.

PROGRESS?

Miami Herald (April 27) is an

advertisement by one of the lead-

ing and most popular resort mo-tels on Miami Beach. They offer:

"All Rooms" -- including ocean-

front and poolside rooms at \$3.50

per person, daily, double occu-pancy -- April 27 to June 15 --

efficiences, add \$1.00. And --

complete breakfast and deluxe 7course dinner for \$4,50. Of course, these low prices can be attributed partly to the "slack

season." However, Miami Beach

is super-saturated with hotel and

motel accommodations. Compet-

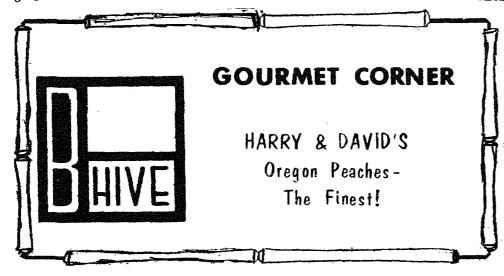
ition is fierce. It's a visitors'

market. Could the nascent Sanibel and Captiva Islands get into the

same predicament which could result in the over development

In the Sunday edition of the

World Management Corp. to



Unclassifieds

FOR RENT: 2 bedroom home from May 1st. \$110.00 monthly. Near Lighthouse, couple preferred, no pets. Call Westmore 6-1724.

Sea Dog sailing dinghy, 10 ft. All fiberglass with dacron sail. \$250.00. Call Island Inn, Sanibel.

NEED HELP:

Seeking position with motel. Management--clerk--full time-part time. Vin Vaczynski, Box 11, Sanibel.

> We carry Sarlo lawn mowers and McCulloch chain saws Welding and Repairs

SANIBEL MARINA Yachtsman Drive, Sanibel GR 2-6251 - Open daily 7 to 5

Motel owners and business people. You can now get color post cards and brochures. Beautiful full color reproduction, highest quality, low price. Call Larry C. Huston, commercial photographer, MO 4-6655.

WANTED TO RENT: Island business man needs apartment or house to rent or lease,

FOR SALE: 1965 Dyna 88 Oldsmobile convertible, R&H. Excellent condition. \$1,600. The Colony, GR 2-3101.

> Electric Stove Repair Washers - Dryers Refrigeration Air Conditioning Heating RITE - TEMP SERVICE MO 4-9556 6051 Estero Blvd.

ART SUPPLIES: Paints, brushes, etc. Also Flex-Bon paints, designed for tropical weather at LEGEL SUPPLY. Sanibel Island, GR 2-4051.

Get your lawn mowers in shape now. Call Chucks Repair Shop, GR 2-6411 or Bring them in, next to the Snack Shack.

Zella Mae Shannon, Associate

Call GR 2-5281.

of a single business?

William MacIntosh, conductor announces that all reservations for the Yugoslavia tour are filled. Departing date from New York is September 10, 1969 via Transworld Airlines for Zurich,

Thank you for the response and please register any suggestions for next year's trip with Mr. MacIntosh.

TO THE ISLANDER

Does the public have access to San Carlos bay down Buttonwood Lane? If so, why is it disguised as private?

How about Seagrape Lane? That's public from Bay to Gulf,

isn't it? /s/ Interested

HATS OFF!

To talented Coralie Rumgold's beautiful Danseuse who spent weeks of training with her little dancers to present evening of Ballet for all the Islanders to

HOURS 9 to 6 SANIBEL ISLAND FLORIDA World Management Corp. to Resort Wear, Mexican Imports, Gifts from 35 Countries,

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> > **Cranes**

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Sanibel Island, Florida GR 2-3041

SANIBEL PUBLIC LIBRARY

We have now added for your further reading ease a special section of rental books. The latest of novels and mysteries make up the larger part of this section. Come by and browse and start using this additional service which should prove most popular.

CORRECTION

The April 24 Islander stated that "Uncle Art" turned 83 on the 21st. He was 81.

hannon's Real Estate ON PALM AVENUE, CAPTIVA SALES COTTAGES RENTALS

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ROUND STEAK \$1.09

ROUND ROAST..... \$1.19

SIRLOIN TIP STEAK .. \$429

TOP ROUND STEAK...

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HOWARD JOHNSON'S 17 oz PK CAKES ORANGE, FUDGE or CO CONUT LIBBY'S GREEN PEAS 2/29 10 oz PKG TREASURE IS LE BREADED SHRIMP.....79



14 OZ BTL 32 OZ JAR





STOKELY
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ALWAYS GOOD
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S, STOKELY CUT
EEN BEANS 5/\$1
IS STOKELY CREAM OF WHOLE KERNEL

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GOLD MEDAL
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Chicken a La King, Sliced Beef, Sliced Turkey,
BBQ Beef, Sloppy Joe, Chipped Beef Salisbury Steak

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12 TO 16 LB AVG

BUTT HALF LB 59¢



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REG. 99¢, 6¾oz Tube

★COLGATE TOOTHPASTE.... 79¢ net

★PRO TOOTHBRUSH...... £ach 25¢

REG. \$1.49,100 CT. SIZE

REG. \$1.49,100 CT. SIZE

REG. \$1.07, 15½oz Btl

★EXCEDRIN.....\$1.19

★LAVORIS..... 79¢ ★PEPTO BISMOL..... 55¢

REG. 4/\$1.08, Soft White, 100,75,60, 40 Watt

★G.E. LIGHT BULBS..... 2/49¢

★G.E. LIGHT BULBS..... 2/45¢

½Gal. CTN. BLUEBIRD
ORANGE JUICE59¢
1 LB PKG ALWAYS GOOD
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KRAFT CHEESE FOOD63¢
16 oz CUP MASTER Pineapple or Fruit Salad
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SUNSWEET PRUNE JUICE32 OZ BTL 49¢
ARMOUR'S CORNED BEEF HASH 15/201 45¢
LIPTON TEA
SOUTHERN APPLE STRUDEL 12 0Z PKG 49¢
HANDI WRAP 200 Ft. ROLL 49¢
HOT SHOT BUG BOMB 13 OZ SIZE 79¢
GALA DINNER NAPKINS 60 CT. PKG 2/25¢



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THE ISLAND STORE

CAPTIVA

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ISLANDER

continued from front page REMINISCENCES OF "UNCLE ART" GIBSON

I can run the mail if you give me something to help & not require me to carry any freight or passengers, just the mail. So he said, that's a good idea. All you'll have to carry will be fresh meat. People had ordered from town, from Fort Myers, and we always had brought down a shipment for everybody on the island that wanted to buy meat. There wasn't any fresh meat sold on the island. You had to get all of your fresh meat from town. So I told him I'd deliver the meat and the mail on the run that day. He said, "All right."
And he gave me the fireman off the boat that they had on the dry dock. It was a steamboat. And he gave me that fireman as a helper. We left Fort Myers at 6 o'clock. We were supposed to leave at 60 clock and go down to Captiva and make all these different stops, transfer the mails and go back to Fort Myers the same evening -get back about 5 o'clock. That was about our schedule.

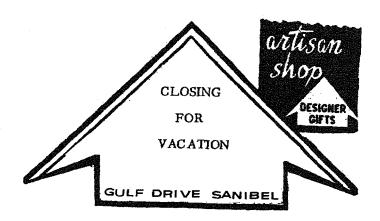
"We started out and made all our landings down but it was getting rougher and rougher. At that time we didn't know what a hurricane was. The had no weather reports, no weather bureau, no hurricane warnings or anything. You just took it as it came. So, it kept getting worse and worse. We made it on to Captiva and back as far as Wulfert. We made it that far back and it got so bad we had to tie up there and spend the rest of the hurricane. Our boat wrecked, went ashore, sunk, scattered the mail and everything else all along. The Mail was in heavy canvas bags and they were all over the beach. The boat went ashore some time between 11:00 and 12:00. We went back into a little house that was there.

"As soon as the hurricane began to pass on by and the weather got better we began to get to work on the boat as soon as the tide went out and daylight came. We bailed the boat out, raised it, got the mud and leaves and grass and stuff out of it. We cleaned up our motor and got it to running. The rudder was bent and we had to take it out, straighten it all on our own. We had nothing to work with.

"Anyway, we left Fort Myers at 6 o'clock one morning and we got back to Fort Myers the next day with that boat and all the mail at twenty after six the next evening. We were two days and one night when we were supposed to make it back in one day. We had no idea how hard the wind blew because we had nothing to measure the wind with. There was a wind gauge at Punta Rassa but it blew out at 110 miles an hour. So we never knew how hard the wind blew but from the damage it made, all the foliage and everything, the way it tore up trees and blew everything down, we just assume it must've been the hardest one we've had here. Since then we've never had one that did as much damage to the foliage. We decided that that's the worst one that -- I concluded that it was the worst one that has been here and I still think it was.

"The highest tide we've had since 1900 on Sanibel was in 1944. It was a pretty rough hurricane, too. While the hurricane was passing over Wulfert, the center passed right over our little house there. When the vortex, the center of the hurricane passed over, the wind went down to where you could walk out in the yard and strike a match, hold it up that way, and it wouldn't go out. It was like that for 23 minutes and then the wind came from the other direct-

continued to page 7





H. A. VROOMAN

Phone Number Changed To

GR2 - 6611

CAPTIVA ISLAND, FLORIDA



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GR2-3171



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WOOSTER TELEVISION

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Gulf Drive, Sanibel

GR 2-2101

Fort

Myers Beach

Florida

San Carlos & Estero Blvd.

continued from page 6

ion. It didn't hurt our house. It palms on the island, though. was in a heavily wooded area. It did tear down a lot of cabbage

Reminiscences of "Uncle Art" Gibson

"We've been through all the rest of the hurricanes since that time. They're all about alike only some are worse than others.

THE COLONY GUESTS

Guests enjoying a vacation at The Colony are: Mr. Robert Watkins, St. Louis, Mo.; Mr. & Mrs. E. C. Leonard, Meridian, Miss.; Mr. & Mrs. James E. Kauke and family, Jacksonville, Fla.; Mr. & Mrs. S. W. Horton, Miami, Fla.; Mr. & Mrs. Charles J. Pavel and family, Westchester, III.; Mr. & Mrs. Eugene S. Damm, Avon Lake, Ohio; Mrs. Charles Field, Hopkins, Minn. and Mr. & Mrs. Norman Miller of Merchantville, N.J.

NEW PASTOR AT SANIBEL COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sanibel Community Church of Sanibel will have a change of pastors. The Rev. Bailey Hathaway from Cape Coral, a retired Baptist Minister, will preside for 5 months. The Rev. Hathaway is associated with L.A.R.K. which is an organization in Fort Myers that deals with retarded children.

The Pharmacy

Nearest

Islands

MO 4-6128

REMEMBER MOTHER'S DAY

SUNDAY, MAY 11

To Remember Mother Best, Remember

> The Tridays' HOUSE OF TREASURES

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\$6.45 Value for \$3.95 (Save \$2.50) 8 oz. Fashion Tan and 4 oz. After Tan Tan beautifully with Alo, nature's own moisturizer



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NEW HOURS WILL BE

5:30 p.m. Until Midnight STILL SERVING

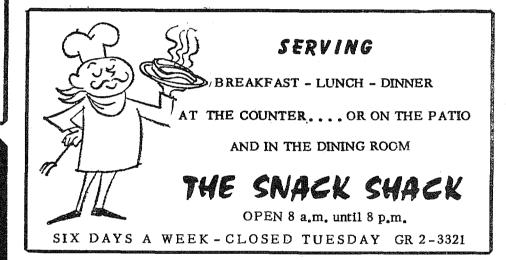






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ASSURANCE OF ACCURACY AND SATISFACTION

SUMMER HOURS Sunday 9 to 6 -- Tuesday and Friday 9 to 9 Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday 9 to 8 PHARMACY CLOSED ALL DAY SUNDAY

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Dresses...Shifts...Hand-Screened Dresses...Skirts

Knit Shells ... Blouses ... Culottes ... Sweaters

2 - Way Stretch Shorts & Slacks...Double Knit Dresses Terry Cover-Ups & Jackets...Coats

SEE OUR COMPLETE MEN'S SHOP IN SPORTSWEAR -

Sport Coats - Turtle Necks - Jackets - Walking Shorts

Sweaters - Hawaiian Shirts & Swimwear ● WE MAIL ANYWHERE ●

Seven Seas Shop

TRY OUR ISLAND'S COLOGNES AND PERFUMES

Turn Right From Causeway Open Sunday Thru Saturday

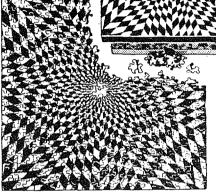
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- DECORATIVE ART
- MODERN ART NATURAL HISTORY
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Approximately 500 intricately cut and beautifully finished





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