

# Our Town

November/December 2015

TOWN of WAKE FOREST

Town of Wake Forest  
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Wake Forest, NC 27587  
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The 2015 Wake Forest Christmas Parade is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 12.

## 'TIS THE SEASON

*for experiencing community spirit at its best*

This year's line-up of holiday events is sure to put even the Grinch in a festive mood.



To help you keep track of the Whos and the Whats, the town has created a "Christmas in Wake Forest" portal on its website. Located at [wakeforestnc.gov](http://wakeforestnc.gov) (search for "Christmas") the web page provides detailed information about our area's most popular holiday events. Offering dates, times, locations, event descriptions and more, 'tis the season" to mark your calendars, so you don't miss a thing.

Also, be sure to download the town's app to access the "Christmas in Wake Forest" function. The function is designed to offer smartphone users instant access to all the town's holiday happenings. iPhone, iPod Touch, iPad, and Android users can download the town's free app by searching for "Town of Wake Forest" on iTunes, in the iPhone app store or in Google Play.

See the next two pages for an overview of holiday events in Wake Forest.



**Thousands of residents and visitors fill the streets of downtown Wake Forest to watch the Christmas parade.**

## News highlights

**Election Day is Nov. 3** » Wake Forest elections will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 3. The five candidates running for three open seats on the Wake Forest Board of Commissioners are Chad Casale, Brian Clemson, Greg Harrington, Brian Pate and Anne Reeve.

For voter information, visit the Board of Election website at [wakegov.com/elections](http://wakegov.com/elections).

A candidate's forum was held Oct. 13 at town hall. Residents who were unable to attend the forum can watch the event on Wake Forest TV 10 (WFTV 10) or on the town's website at [wakeforestnc.gov](http://wakeforestnc.gov). The unedited forum is rebroadcast daily on WFTV 10 at noon and 6 p.m. through Election Day.



**Change Your Clocks, Change Your Batteries** » Daylight Saving Time ends Nov. 1. Remember to set your clocks back one hour and change the batteries in your smoke detectors.



**More live music coming to South White Street** » Due to the outstanding success of Beach Night on White held this year along South White Street in August, the Town of Wake Forest and Wake Forest Downtown, Inc., are partnering to produce a live outdoor music series in 2016. As part of the monthly series, bands will perform free concerts on the second Friday of each month from April through September. More details will be provided in the January/February edition of *Our Town*.





## WFPD Turkey Drive is underway

The Wake Forest Police Department is accepting monetary donations through Saturday, Nov. 21, as part of its ninth annual Turkey Drive.

Cash and checks are accepted and will be used to purchase frozen turkeys. Checks should be written to the Wake Forest Police Department.

Donations of frozen turkeys may be dropped off at the police department, 225 S. Taylor St., on Saturday, Nov. 21, from 9 a.m. until noon.

The police department will distribute the turkeys while they last on Monday, Nov. 23, from 9-11 a.m., at the Wake Forest Community House located at 133 W. Owen Ave.

Anyone wishing to contribute to this year's Turkey Drive should contact Officer M.W. Sattler at 919-795-7270.



## Shop With A Cop brings joy to kids

For the 17th year, the Wake Forest Police Department will host a holiday shopping spree for Wake Forest children in need. Approximately 30 children will be paired with a police officer and together they will shop for a winter coat and other items of their choice at Walmart on Dec. 16.

Any individual or organization wishing to make a contribution to Shop With A Cop should contact Officer K.C. Warren at [kwarren@wakeforestnc.gov](mailto:kwarren@wakeforestnc.gov) or 919-554-6150.



Residents gather around the town's Christmas tree as the lights are turned on for the holiday season.

## Wake Forest Children's Choir Holiday Concert

**Monday, Nov. 30 ■ 6 p.m.**  
**Wake Forest Renaissance Centre**

The Wake Forest Children's Choir will present an evening of holiday songs and carols under the direction of Kasie Ryan and Terri Smith. *Free.* 919-435-9458.

## Lighting of Wake Forest

**Friday, Dec. 4 ■ 6-8:30 p.m.**  
**Wake Forest Town Hall**

The holiday season officially begins with the Lighting of Wake Forest. Mayor Vivian Jones will lead a countdown to light the town's Christmas tree followed by the eagerly anticipated arrival of Santa Claus on a fire truck. The event will include performances by local choirs, free hot cocoa and a children's craft activity.



**Pictures With Santa** will be offered from 6:45-8:30 p.m. Guests wishing to have a picture taken with Santa during the Lighting of Wake Forest must pick up a time ticket in the town hall lobby beginning at 5:30 p.m. Designed to reduce wait times, each time ticket will indicate the time your group should arrive at the line-up to have your picture taken. There are a limited number of time tickets available and a ticket is required to visit with Santa on Friday evening.

Weather permitting, free horse and

carriage rides will be offered along South White Street beginning at 6:30 p.m. The rides depart from the Depot Parking Lot, 110 S. White St.

*Sponsored by Traditions at Heritage Wake Forest. Presented by Wake Forest Downtown, Inc. 919-435-9415.*



Children may write letters to Santa at the tree lighting

## Downtown Holiday Open House

**Saturday, Dec. 5 ■ beginning at 10 a.m.**  
**South White Street**

Discover historic downtown Wake Forest's unique array of shops and restaurants. Enjoy special offers and complimentary refreshments at participating shops and restaurants, live entertainment, horse and carriage rides and fun-filled activities for kids and families.



**Pictures With Santa** will be offered from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Fidelity Bank, 231 S. White St. Children can have their face painted from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Jones Plaza, 110 S. White St. Take a free horse and carriage ride between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. and enjoy the afternoon in the downtown district.

*Sponsored by the Downtown Merchants Association. Presented by Wake Forest Downtown, Inc. 919-435-9415.*

## Calls From Santa

Thursday, Dec. 10 ■ 6-8 p.m.

Children ages 3-9 can receive a call from Santa. Registration forms will be available at [wakeforestnc.gov](http://wakeforestnc.gov) (search for "calls from santa") and at town hall beginning Dec. 1. Completed forms must be received by 5 p.m., Dec. 10. Telephone registrations will not be accepted. There is no charge for the event, but all calls must be local.

Sponsored by the Wake Forest Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Department. 919-435-9560.

## The Best Christmas Pageant Ever

Friday-Sunday, Dec. 11-13  
Wake Forest Renaissance Centre

Forest Moon Theater presents a family comedy that brings new meaning to Christmas spirit. Advance tickets: \$15 adult, \$13 student/senior; day of: \$18 adult, \$16 student/senior. [wakeforestnc.org](http://wakeforestnc.org), 919-435-9458.

## Art After Hours

Friday, Dec. 11 ■ 6-9 p.m.  
South White Street

Experience art, live music, dining and boutique shopping during a festive edition of Art After Hours. 919-435-9415.

## Wake Forest Christmas Parade

Saturday, Dec. 12 ■ 1 p.m.  
South White Street & South Brooks Street

The Wake Forest Christmas Parade is the place to experience community spirit at its best! Check [wakeforestnc.gov](http://wakeforestnc.gov) or the town's app for parking information.



**Pictures With Santa** will be offered before the Christmas parade from 10 a.m. to noon at Fidelity Bank, 231 S. White St.

Sponsored by PowerSecure. Presented by Wake Forest Downtown, Inc. 919-435-9415.



**Holiday Schedule:** Wake Forest Town Hall and all other administrative offices will be closed **Nov. 11** for Veteran's Day, **Nov. 26-27** for Thanksgiving, **Dec. 23-25** for Christmas and **Jan. 1** for New Year's Day. Garbage and recycling is not collected on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day or New Year's Day.

### PUBLIC WORKS

## Recycle your Christmas tree

Beginning Monday, Dec. 28, the town will collect and recycle live Christmas trees from residential homes according to its normal yard waste collection schedule. The trees will be ground into mulch and made available to residents upon request.

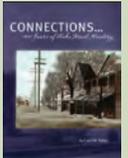
All Wake Forest residents whose yard waste is collected by the town may participate in the "Treecycling" program. To recycle your tree, please remove all decorations, tinsel, nails, stands and bags from the tree and set it behind the curb for collection. Residents are reminded that artificial trees cannot be recycled.

Orders for mulch are currently being accepted. For more information about Christmas tree recycling or to request mulch, contact Betty Pearce at 919-435-9570 or [bpearce@wakeforestnc.gov](mailto:bpearce@wakeforestnc.gov).



## 2 gift ideas for those who love Wake Forest

**Connections...100 Years of Wake Forest History** This hardcover book is filled with pictures, original artwork and stories recording the people, places and events of the past 100 years in Wake Forest. \$20.



**Commemorative Brick Paver** Be a part of history by purchasing an engraved brick paver which will become a permanent part of Centennial Plaza. \$125.



To purchase either item, visit [wakeforestnc.gov](http://wakeforestnc.gov) and search for "marketplace."



## Avoid Holiday Package Thefts

The police department is reminding homeowners to be vigilant when they have parcels delivered to their homes.

To avoid theft, require a signature upon receipt or schedule deliveries for days you will be home. If possible, have packages delivered to your work address, to a courier pickup station, or to a local retail location for in-store pickup.

Anyone witnessing or experiencing suspicious activity is urged to call the police department at 919-554-6150.



## Pictures With Santa

Wake Forest Downtown, Inc. offers **three opportunities** for pictures with Santa (look for the Santa icon  on these pages). There is no charge for having your photo taken by our professional photographer. You may take your own pictures, too! Photos can be viewed and purchased at the Wake Forest CVS, 245 E. Roosevelt Ave., on the Monday after the picture is taken.

**TIP:** Wait times are shortest during the Downtown Holiday Open House

## Santa's Secret Workshop

Kids, here's your chance to place a handmade surprise under the tree for a special loved one. Choose, create and wrap your special gift at Santa's Secret Workshop on **Saturday, Dec. 5** from 1-3 p.m. at the Renaissance Centre, 405 S. Brooks St. The workshop is geared for ages 5-8; the fee is \$20. Preregistration is required at [wakeforest.recdesk.com](http://wakeforest.recdesk.com). 919-435-9560.



**PUBLIC WORKS**

## Loose leaf collection continues through mid-March

Please make note of these guidelines as you prepare your leaves for collection:

- Rake leaves into piles behind the curb so they do not interfere with traffic or drainage
- Do not mix sticks, rocks, pine cones, limbs or other debris with loose leaves. The town's vacuum equipment is only designed to pick up loose leaves—other debris may cause mechanical breakdowns
- Other yard waste, such as limbs and brush, should be placed behind the curb in a pile separate from leaves

Track the progress of leaf collection crews by calling the Leaf Collection Hotline at 919-435-9582. A recorded message will tell you where crews will be working that day.

Leaf mulch is available upon request from October through March. Contact Betty Pearce at 919-435-9570. For more information visit [wakeforestnc.gov](http://wakeforestnc.gov) (search for "leaf collection").



**PUBLIC POWER**

## Who to call at Wake Forest Power

To save time when calling Wake Forest Power, please make note of the following direct phone lines:

For **power outages and emergencies**, call 919-435-9570, weekdays 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m. At all other times, call 919-554-6724.

For **billing and payments**, call customer service at 919-435-9478.

## N.C. Department of Transportation continues work on bridge replacement projects

# IMPROVING TRAVEL



Up-to-date information about the three remaining bridge replacement projects, including fact sheets and detour maps,

can be found at [wakeforestnc.gov](http://wakeforestnc.gov) (search for "operation bridge exchange").

**Forestville Road** ■ Forestville Road remains closed in the vicinity of the project just south of Heritage High School. The road is expected to reopen in December.

Improvements will include a sidewalk on the Heritage High School side as well as a pedestrian underpass to accommodate users wishing to access the Smith Creek and Sanford Creek Greenways.

**West Oak Avenue** ■ The closure of West Oak Avenue for the replacement of the bridge near the Harris Road intersection is expected to begin Oct. 26 and end in April 2016. A detour will direct motorists to use Harris Road and North Main Street.

The new three-lane bridge will include a sidewalk and a 10-foot-wide multi-use path. A pedestrian underpass will provide a link for a future greenway connecting Joyner Park to the Olde Mill Stream section of the Richland Creek Greenway.

**Rogers Road** ■ The Rogers Road bridge replacement and road widening project is expected to begin in May 2016 and end in September 2016. NCDOT will replace the existing two-lane bridge with a five-lane bridge and widen the portion of Rogers Road from Hope Lutheran Church to Forestville Road.

## Other Improvement Projects

As part of the 2014 bond referendum, the following three projects are now underway:

**Ligon Mill Road Operational Improvements** ■ The town will improve vehicular and pedestrian traffic flow near the South Main Street intersection by adding turn lanes, a variable median, sidewalks, bike lanes, streetlights and improved pedestrian signals. Right of way acquisition will begin in 2015.

**Smith & Sanford Creek Greenway** ■ The town will construct a 2.4 mile greenway trail and 1.25 miles of sidewalk and multi-use path in the vicinity of the Heritage public schools. The greenways, sidewalks and multi-use paths are scheduled to be ready for use in 2017.

**Stadium Drive, Complete Street** ■ The town is in the process of implementing a "Complete Street" vision along Stadium Drive. A "complete street" is designed to enable safe access for all users, including cyclists, pedestrians, motorists and transit riders. The improved Stadium Drive is scheduled to be ready for use in 2018.

**Dunn Creek Greenway, Downtown Connector** ■ The town will construct a 0.3 mile greenway from the northern end of the Dunn Creek Greenway at the NC 98 Bypass / Dr. Calvin Jones Highway, north to town property. The Downtown Connector is expected to be ready for use in 2016-17.

For more details visit [wakeforestnc.gov](http://wakeforestnc.gov) (search for "transportation projects").

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[northwakeanimalhospital.com](http://northwakeanimalhospital.com)



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Affirmative Groove will perform Motown favorites at the Broadway Ball.

Dance to the music of  
**MOTOWN**

Renaissance Centre  
Broadway Ball

Nov. 14 ■ 7 p.m.

Three-course dinner, dancing and a live band performing Motown classics. A portion of the proceeds will help fund educational scholarships for children. *Tickets: \$50 single, \$90 couple.*

Special Needs  
Family Bingo Night

Nov. 20 ■ 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Feeling lucky? Come play bingo, eat and socialize with us. Bring your favorite snack. Concessions will be available for purchase. Win prizes and have fun! Pre-registration is required. *Free.*



CHRIS CHARLES, CREATIVE SILENCE

Shana Tucker Concert

Jan. 9 ■ 7 p.m.

Singer-songwriter and cellist, Shana Tucker, performs music that has been described as mash-up of Joni Mitchell, Tracy Chapman and Dianne Reeves interwoven with the sounds of classical and jazz. *Advance tickets: \$15 adult; Day of: \$18.*

For tickets and information visit [wakeforestrencen.org](http://wakeforestrencen.org) or call 919-435-9458. More holiday performances listed on pages 2 & 3.

Monthly events at the centre

Writer's Night in the Forest.

Thursday, Nov. 19, 7 p.m. (Kim Church, author of *Byrd*). *Free.*



**Free at Three.** Monday, Nov. 9 and Monday, Dec. 14; 3 p.m. Movie showing geared for the over fifty crowd. Call 919-435-9428 to hear the name of the movie. *Free.*

Carolina Puppet Theater.

Wednesday, Nov. 4 and Nov. 18; 11 a.m. *Being Thankful.* Wednesday, Dec. 2 and Dec. 16; 11 a.m. *Everyone is Special.* Geared for ages 3-7. New shows each month. \$5 plus tax. Children under 3 are admitted free.



**First Friday Flix.** Friday, Nov. 6, 7 p.m. (no movie in December). Monthly movie showings feature a variety of film favorites. Call 919-435-9428 to hear the name of the movie. *Free.* Concessions for sale.

**Flix4Kids.** Monday, Nov. 9 and Monday, Dec. 14; 10:30 a.m. Movie showing geared for ages 3-10. All shows are rated G or PG. Call 919-435-9428 to hear the name of the movie. *Free.* Concessions for sale.

Wake Forest Renaissance Centre for the Arts  
405 S. Brooks St.  
BOX OFFICE: 919-435-9458  
EVENTS HOTLINE: 919-435-9428  
[wakeforestrencen.org](http://wakeforestrencen.org)

Planning a wedding?

Couples searching for a unique location for their wedding ceremony and reception will discover several excellent options in the Wake Forest area. Have you considered the Wake Forest Renaissance Centre as the place to celebrate your special day?

Primarily used as a cultural arts facility, the Renaissance Centre also offers an elegant and sophisticated backdrop for special events.

For rates and floorplans, visit [wakeforestrencen.org](http://wakeforestrencen.org) or contact Cathy Gouge at 919-435-9567 or [cgouge@wakeforestnc.gov](mailto:cgouge@wakeforestnc.gov).

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# Whose tree is it?

BY URBAN FORESTRY COORDINATOR JENNIFER RALL

When I receive a call or email from a resident asking me to take a look at a tree in their yard, I often have to ask myself “whose tree is it?” Depending on where the tree is located, it could be on private property, in a public right-of-way or in a street tree easement.



Trees planted within the public right-of-way or in a dedicated street tree easement are the responsibility of the town to maintain. The town is responsible for removing, replacing, pruning or treating the trees for insects and diseases.

In many subdivisions, the developer chose to dedicate an eight-foot-wide street tree easement, rather than plant trees within the street right-of-way. Because of this, residents may assume the tree is theirs to do with as they please. Residents should be aware that they may face fines and penalties for removing, damaging or excessively

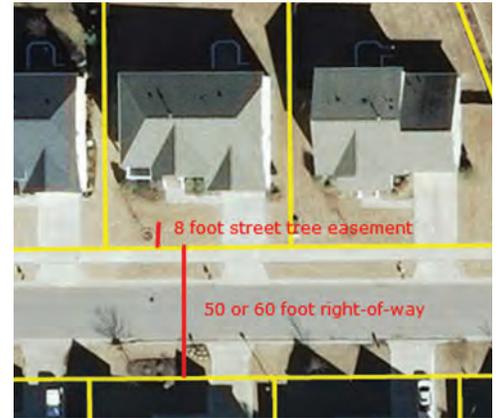
pruning (i.e., topping) a tree within an easement or right-of-way. Chapter 8 of Wake Forest’s Unified Development Ordinance sets the requirements and standards that developers and homeowners must abide by with regard to trees and landscaping.

## Locating the street tree easement

The street tree easement is measured from outside a 50 or 60 foot street right-of-way. The right-of-way is typically measured from sidewalk to sidewalk. Trees planted between the curb and sidewalk are within the right-of-way and are most likely recognized by residents as belonging to the town.

It gets trickier to determine town-owned trees when there is no sidewalk on one side of the street. This is when consulting the plot plan map recorded with your deed can be helpful.

The City of Raleigh and Wake County iMAPS website can help you determine if a tree is private or public. Go to [maps.raleighnc.gov/iMAPS](http://maps.raleighnc.gov/iMAPS) and enter your street address. Then click on the deed book icon



In the example above, there is an 8-foot street tree easement within the property lines. Trees in this area are maintained by the town.

and in most cases you will be able to view the plot plan recorded in the book of maps.

Occasionally the recorded maps do not show the street tree easement even though there may be one. If there is any uncertainty, the construction plans are kept on file in the Planning Department for reference.

Contact me at 919-435-9565 or [jrall@wakeforestnc.gov](mailto:jrall@wakeforestnc.gov) if you have any questions.

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**Our Market Our Community**

**Special Pre-Thanksgiving Market**  
Tues., Nov. 24, 3pm to 5pm

**Holiday Market and Local Crafts Fair**  
Sat. Dec. 5, 9am to 2pm

Eclectic variety of unique, locally made crafts  
For a full listing see  
[www.wakeforestmarket.org/events/holiday-craft-market](http://www.wakeforestmarket.org/events/holiday-craft-market)  
*Please no Pets (State Law Prohibits Pets at Farmers Markets)*



### Holding Park is now wheelchair accessible

The Town of Wake Forest has installed a new access ramp at Holding Park so that residents of all physical abilities can get to and enjoy the picnic area and playground. The enhancement project included a new fence, sidewalk and landscaping.

### Memorial Flag-Raising Ceremonies

The Town of Wake Forest and several local veterans' organizations honor the sacrifices of deceased Wake Forest veterans during monthly flag-raising ceremonies. The service is held on the first Monday of the month, from April through November, in town hall's Centennial Plaza beginning at 11 a.m. The public is invited to attend.

Following a break for the winter months, the next Memorial Flag-Raising Ceremony will be held in April 2016.

#### HUMAN RELATIONS COUNCIL

## Good Neighbor of the Year award winners

The Wake Forest Human Relations Council (HRC) is pleased to announce Norma Bennekin and Connie and Herman Cole as the adult co-winners of the 2015 Good Neighbor of the Year Award. Mayor Vivian Jones made the announcements during this year's Good Neighbor Day on Sept. 20.

Bennekin was nominated by J. Loraine Smith who wrote in her nomination narrative that Bennekin is a good neighbor because of her volunteer efforts throughout Wake Forest and the East End community. According to Smith, Bennekin has served "countless hours in the Hope House food ministry, the Read and Feed Program, the Back Pack School Supply giveaway and she coordinates the Hope House Angel Tree Program.

"Her efforts impacted well over 300 local families during the nominating year and she is not done," noted Smith. "Because she serves from the heart, she is deserving of the (Good Neighbor of the Year)."

Cindy Estes nominated the Coles. A neighbor of the couple for the past 35 years, Estes wrote that



Norma Bennekin



Herman and Connie Cole

she has watched them in action "caring for not only their neighbors but a great number of people in the Wake Forest community."

"As far back as I can remember, (the Coles) have gathered the widows and people without family in town for Thanksgiving Dinner. At Thanksgiving and other holidays it was not unusual for them to open their home to as many as five or six widows."

Estes also noted how the Coles have cared for the sick in our community by taking them to doctors' appointments, shopping for groceries and preparing meals.

The HRC created the Good Neighbor of the Year Award to recognize Wake Forest residents who make exceptional contributions to improve the quality of life in their neighborhoods. The program also honors those who make a difference in our community without seeking or receiving recognition for their service.

The HRC solicits nominations for the award each year from April through August and announces the winners during Good Neighbor Day held each year on the third Sunday in September.



## SeeClickFix

Now you can immediately report non-emergency problems to the Town of Wake Forest from your smartphone, tablet, or computer, using SeeClickFix.

Report issues such as:  
**damaged sidewalk • streetlight out • park issues**  
**pothole • graffiti • malfunctioning traffic signals**

Service requests are routed directly to the attention of the appropriate town staff for responsible handling.

- To report an issue through the website, go to [wakeforestnc.gov/report-a-problem.aspx](http://wakeforestnc.gov/report-a-problem.aspx)
- To report an issue using the Town of Wake Forest app, click on the SeeClickFix tab

## YOUR GOVERNMENT

### BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETINGS

Third Tuesday | 7 p.m.  
Town Hall Board Room

### BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WORK SESSION

First Tuesday | 5:30 p.m.  
Town Hall Board Room

### PLANNING BOARD MEETINGS

First Tuesday | 7:30 p.m.  
Town Hall Board Room

- Watch meetings live on WFTV 10.
- Watch meetings live or on-demand in streaming video: [wakeforestnc.gov/government-boardofcommissioners.aspx](http://wakeforestnc.gov/government-boardofcommissioners.aspx).
- Watch re-broadcasts of meetings on WFTV 10 at 9 a.m., 3 p.m. and 9 p.m. daily for up to two weeks after the meeting.



WFTV 10 can be found at digital channel 97.5. Watch it live online at [wakeforestnc.gov/wftv-10.aspx](http://wakeforestnc.gov/wftv-10.aspx).

## STAYING INFORMED

### E-NOTIFIER

Sign up for the town's free email subscription service at [wakeforestnc.gov](http://wakeforestnc.gov) (search for "E-Notifier")



### TOWN of WAKE FOREST

301 S. Brooks St.  
Wake Forest, NC 27587  
919-435-9400  
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