

# PawPrints

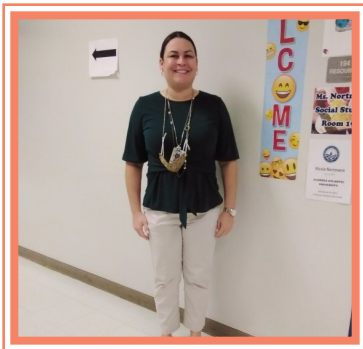
## Remembering the true meaning...

By Layla Rojas, Addison Brawner, Tobias Aguilar, Mishary Hossain, Arianna Vassell

We all know the story of Thanksgiving: Christopher Columbus and the pilgrims set up colonies in the new land, made peace with the natives and had a feast to celebrate the end of hardship. The holiday was originally created to celebrate the harvest and what they had after months of struggle. However, even though we have all been told the same story we all have different perspectives of Thanksgiving’s true meaning.

Some people use it as a time to reflect on what they have, while others use it to help individuals in need, and some people just use it as an excuse to eat with family and waste time at the mall. But, after all these years we seemed to have lost the true meaning of Thanksgiving.

Nonetheless, Thanksgiving is a special holiday that people enjoy no matter what their perspective is.



7th grade civics teacher, Ms. Nortmann, celebrates Thanksgiving with her family. She believes that Thanksgiving is a time to be grateful for what we have. “It’s giving thanks for being alive, giving thanks for friends and family, and being grateful for the blessings we have in our life.” she remarks.

6th grade ELA teacher, Ms. Vazquez, has a similar opinion. She believes that “[Thanksgiving] teaches us about unity. It helps us love and appreciate other people.”



7th grade student, Rose David-Adelee believes, “Thanksgiving is a time to be grateful and thankful for the people you love most.”

Photo credits: Layla Rojas and Addison Brawner

**Administration**  
 Mr. Ian Murray- Principal  
 Mrs. Irene Gonzalez- 8  
 Ms. Karen Birke- 7  
 Mr. David Malca- 6

# What's Trending?

## Rumor Has It... it's All Too Well

By Anna Acosta, Keven Cabrera, Kaylie Gonzalez, Isabella Pardo, Kyra Vaccato

Breaking News! Our favorite British superstar has made a comeback after five years of absence! On November 19th, Adele will be releasing her long-awaited 30 album. The album will consist of her latest single, "Easy On Me", which has already accumulated 53.9 million US streams. Adele has been in the public eye since she was 16, and since then we have seen her music gain popularity as she rose into fame. Her first song to be released was "Hometown Glory" in 2007, which was on her album 19, which premiered in late January of 2008.

Another young pop star that quickly rose to their fame is Taylor Swift. She has more than 45 million monthly listeners on Spotify. Her first release was her self-titled debut album, Taylor Swift, introducing her to the world. In less than 2 weeks the album hit number 19 on the Billboard 200 chart and sold 40,000 copies.

Taylor Swift and Adele are both musically inclined as they both debuted in their teens and continue to impress us with flawless music fulfilling our needs. Kheira Marouf, a 7th grader states that she prefers Adele "...because my mom listens to her, and I just started listening to her and I really like her so far." Cayden Fratina, a 6th grader, says that he would like to listen to both Taylor Swift and Adele's new album.

Both Taylor Swift and Adele are two of the best singer/songwriters of this generation. These albums are believed to "break the internet," as we get settled into the end of the year. We wish these woman the best as we hope they continue to shower us with their music in future years!

Taylor Swift also has a new album coming out on November 12. Red (Taylor's Version) will have 30 songs with 9 bonus tracks. Taylor Swift's album will include special features from well-known artists like, Pheobe Bridgers, Ed Sheeran, and Chris Stapelton.



Taylor Swift's new album cover has been released!

Photo Credits reddit.com



Adele has already released a sneak peak of her new album cover!

Photo Credit smoothradio.com

# What's Trending?

## Marvel Fans, Grab Some Popcorn!

By Anna Acosta, Keven Cabrera, Kaylie Gonzalez, Isabella Pardo, Kyra Vaccato

The Marvel Universe keeps on growing with their newest addition “Hawkeye”. The new miniseries will be released on November 24 on Disney+. The season finale is scheduled to be released on December 22, 2021. The series takes off using “plot threads” from Hawkeye’s last appearance in Avengers: Endgame. The show will give more incite to Hawkeye’s past, including a new character, Kate Bishop. The series is directed by Rhys Thomas and stars Jeremy Renner, Hailee Steinfeld, Florence Pugh, and Alaqua Cox. Many Marvel fans are overjoyed with the premiere and excited to see what awaits in Hawkeye’s mysterious backstory.

Hawkeye’s official cover poster including Jeremy Renner and Hailee Steinfeld  
Photo Credit thedirect.com



## Home Alone... Again?

The classic Christmas movie, “Home Alone,” is coming out with a “soft sequel” this Holiday Season to add to the Home Alone series. On November 12, 2021 “Home Sweet Home Alone” will be debuting on Disney+ to viewers all over the globe. The movie is said to be “the British retelling of ‘Home Alone,’ according to Deseret News. The director of the film is Dan Mazer, who happens to also be British. The cast members include Aisling Bea, Ellie Kemper, Rob Delaney, and Archie Yates. The movie “Home Alone” took the world by storm when first premiering in 1990, but since then, the sequels have been disappointing for many. Due to this, people are worrying if “Home Sweet, Home Alone” will continue the “Home Alone” “downward” streak. 7th grader, Addison Brawner suggests, “I don’t think it’ll be that good because it has been remade too many times with too many different casts.” Many people still have hope for the film and are excited to watch it when it is released.

## Black Friday Sales, Holiday Gifts Prevail!

The giving season is right around the corner, as sales arise, it's time for Holiday gifts to arrive! During Black Friday, many people take advantage of the deals and do their holiday shopping. This year, some of the most wanted items are the iPhone 13, AirPods, gaming sets, and trendy clothes. Though many people don’t shop on Black Friday, those who do also have various ideas on products to buy. 6th grader, Cayden Frantina says, “I usually just buy clothes on Black Friday.” Meanwhile, 7th grader, Kendra Spitaleri adds, “I usually go shopping at Ulta, Hollister, and American Eagle on Black Friday.” Other people also prefer to buy gifts for other people, instead of themselves. Whatever the case, savings are attracting more customers to buy more holiday gifts than ever before.



Many stores have already started releasing limited-time sales.  
Photo Credit gameranx.com

# Puzzles and Games

By: Amiyah Blandon, Lylah Fine, Morgan O'Steen, Rolando Tomasini

## - Fall Scramble -



- kuryet -
- vaygr -
- ottpoa -
- mipgri -
- ksviiantghng -
- iotdartin -
- eaceltbre -

Thanksgiving  
Tradition  
Celebrate



Turkey  
Gravy  
Potato  
Pilgrim

## - Riddles -

### Questions

- I am green when I grow and red when I fall. What am I?
- How do you fix a flat pumpkin?
- There is a bush, a pine tree, and an oak tree. It is the fall season. If the wind is blowing west, which way do the leaves on the pine tree fall?



Answers  
- A leaf  
- You use a pumpkin patch  
- Pine trees don't have leaves



# - Would You Rather -

- Turkey OR Chicken -
- Pumpkin OR Apple
- Ketchup OR Gravy -
- Fall OR Winter -
- Orange OR Red -
- Dinner OR Breakfast -
- Mashed Potatoes OR Baked Potatoes -



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

*Find these words!*

- PUMPKIN PIE**
- THANKSGIVING**
- NOVEMBER**
- CORNUCOPIA**
- GRAVY**
- FEAST**
- JACKOLANTERN**
- CARVE**
- FESTIVAL**
- AUTUMN**
- BLACKFRIDAY**
- PILGRIMS**
- NATIVEAMERICANS**
- POTATOES**

# Indian Ridge Middle School Athletes

## SERVE UP THE NEW VOLLEYBALL TEAM!

By: Kendra Spitaleri and Kennedy Elstein

Volleyball is an upcoming sport at IRMS. Gianna Lay, a 7th grader is trying out this season. Furthermore, she was asked a series of questions about the soon to come volleyball season. Gianna is very excited to make new friends and connect with her team! This shows how dedicated she is for this season. She began to play volleyball in October of 2020 and has not stopped playing since. Her friend sparked her love for volleyball, and she's been obsessed since then. Gianna decided to join volleyball because "I am so keen and want to make friends and dominate this years volleyball team!". This shows that our volleyball team players at Indian Ridge really care for the games and can hardly wait to play!

Photo Credit: Kennedy Elstein



Gianna Lay is so enthusiastic for this season at IRMS!

Mrs. Hill is the Indian Ridge Girls Volleyball coach. Tryouts have just ended, and here's what she has to say about them. There are over 165 girls trying out that are dedicated and hard working for this season! Mrs. Hill has been a volleyball coach since her first year out of high school, and has been playing almost her whole life from being a kid, through high school, through college, and now at Indian Ridge. She was even offered a job outside of school. Mrs. Hill has been waiting for over a year and a half to start playing for this season. She is ready to start up the girls volleyball team this season!



Mrs. Hill and current callback maker Layla ready for volleyball season!

# Indian Ridge Middle School Athletes

## HOOPS UP FOR BASKETBALL?

By: Angelina Mauro and Darasan Bispham

It has come a long way since basketball tryouts in September, there has been many games and practices since then. Daniel Urbina, a 6th grader on the basketball team is new to the ridge. Daniel is enjoying the IRMS basketball team so much! "It's my first time on a school team and it's very intense because there's a lot on the line" Many players struggle on different things, Daniel sometimes struggles as well! "I struggle on shooting but I am trying to get better." He thinks his teammates aren't perfect and all of them, including him, should work on improving shooting. This can help them win and strive for Jaguar pride! Daniel is very happy to be on the team, and is really determined to take the win.

Photo Credit: Kendra Spitaleri



Daniel is thrilled to be apart of his new basketball team at IRMS

Indian Ridge basketball player, Nikolai Williams is in 7th grade. His position is guard, which requires skill of dribbling, shooting, and passing, Nikolai is mostly eager for playoffs. He is confident his team at IRMS has a high chance of doing good this season. He thinks that Falcon Cove Middle will be his biggest rival. Nikolai and his team members will try their hardest to do their best and win as many games as possible! Nikolai is honored to be on the team and prepared for what comes next!!

Photo Credit: Kendra Spitaleri



Nikolai is going to kill it this season with his basketball team!

# Clubs for our Cubs

By Sophia Sierra, Kheira Marouf, Akshay Bhardwaj, and Sebastian Diaz

**In the past month, many clubs have started up at Indian Ridge Middle School. CHOC, Book Club, and Speech & Debate are some of them. These clubs all make a special difference in the lives of many students lives.**

## CHOC

There are a variety of clubs here at Indian Ridge Middle, and CHOC is one of them. CHOC, or Children Helping Other Children, is a club that is very special to one of the teachers at Indian Ridge, Ms. Weintraub. Ms. Weintraub is the teacher in charge of CHOC. She has been leading this club for 6 years! CHOC takes place every other Tuesday in Ms. Weintraub's room. Right now, there are around 40 participants in the club, but its a little too early to tell how many will be a part of it year round.

"The students decide who to help, and how to help them. They play a part in everything," said Ms. Weintraub. CHOC helps raise money for kids and orphans in Nigeria. This club raises money for special causes and partakes in special events. A cool event that CHOC regularly hosted was to visit hospitals in the area and carol around the holidays, but due to COVID-19, they haven't been able to do it yet. Ms. Weintraub is not sure if it will happen this year because it depends on what hospitals are allowing. Overall, CHOC is an amazing club that makes a difference. Join the next meeting to learn more about it!



Photo credit Ms. Didier

Aisha Naveo is an 8th grader at Indian Ridge who loves to participate in CHOC.

Aisha Naveo is one of the many students that are part of CHOC. Recently, CHOC participated in a Skype call with children in Nigeria.

"Going on the call made me feel very fortunate and grateful for what I have as we saw how little they have and how much they needed." explained Aisha. "We talked about how they live life, how they make food, and we personally got to ask questions to the kids." Aisha added.

This experience was really engaging and made everybody in CHOC feel grateful for all that they have. CHOC would like to do this as much as possible, and continue helping and supporting these kids in Nigeria.



# Clubs for our Cubs (Continued)

By Sophia Sierra, Kheira Marouf, Akshay Bhardwaj, and Sebastian Diaz

<u>Club:</u>	<u>Meeting Day &amp; Time:</u>
F.F.E.A.	Every other Wednesday from 4-5pm,
Student Council	Next meeting in the Media Center, 12/8 4-5pm
C.H.O.C.	Every other Tuesday from 4-5pm,
Dungeons & Dragons	Every other Wednesday from 4-5pm
First Priority	Every other Wednesday from 8:45-9:15am
Anime Club	Mondays in Room 184 from 4-5pm
Speech & Debate	Tuesdays from 4-5pm on the following dates: 12/7, 1/18, 2/15, 3/1
STEM & Robotics	Mondays from 4-5pm on the following dates: 11/16, 11/30,
Book Club	Thursdays from 4-5pm on these dates: 11/18, 12/2, 12/16,

## Book Club

The book club is a super fun club to join if you love to read and do crafts. Ms. Kannal is the sponsor of the book club. She has lead it for 6 years and really enjoys it. "I am very passionate about reading and books in general," explained Ms. Kannal. The book club is every other Thursday from 4-5pm. The next meeting is 11/18. The way the club works is the students that participate vote on a few books and whichever has the highest vote wins. That book is read over the course of the next few meetings and one activity is held each month. Scavenger hunts and arts & crafts are two examples. The book they are currently reading is the Greenglass House. Around fifteen students are attending this club right now. Sanya Ahmen, a seventh grade student who is an avid reader is in the club "because it's a way to express my love for reading with other people." The book club is a great place to read, participate in fun activities, and have discussions with others.

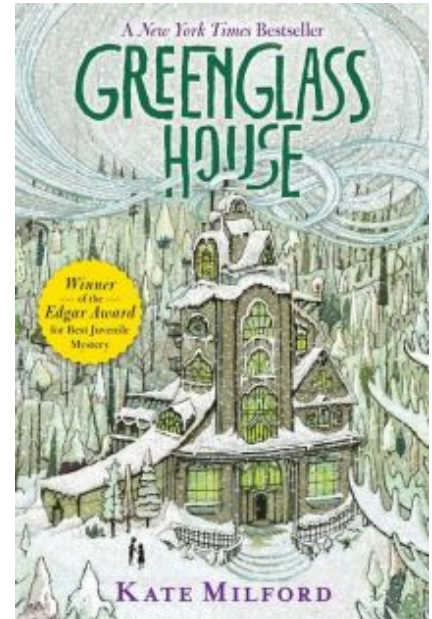


Photo credit HarperCollins Publishers

The Greenglass House is the novel the book club is reading. This book is full of mystery and magic.

# Jaguar on the Spot

by; Hayden Anton, Victoria De Leon Regil, Lily Shuman, Kelley Wyatt, and Enrique Leyvn

Many schools handle their scheduling differently. One of the most prominent examples is block scheduling. Block scheduling is when classes rotate each day so not all subjects are seen and worked on every day. For each day you would have longer class periods.

\*Block scheduling is where there are a less amount of periods each day, but a longer amount of time for those periods. There are A and B days.\*

**Do you think that Indian Ridge Middle School should follow block scheduling?**



## Mrs. Hill likes thinks it's about "time"



Photo credit Hayden Anton  
Mrs. Hill's job at her previous school followed the block schedule.

"I love block scheduling!" exclaimed Mrs. Hill. Mrs. Hill believes block scheduling is better for both teachers and students. Unlike normal scheduling, Mrs. Hill feels that block scheduling is not as much of a rush. "There is more time for teachers to do small group instruction. You're not rush rush hurry teach!" Mrs. Hill pronounced. There is also more time to complete projects and assignments in class, and gives kids two nights to complete homework. Mrs. Hill pointed out, "it gives you opportunities to have study halls, which again gives teachers time where we can help you one on one as well."

# Jaguar on the Spot

by; Hayden Anton, Victoria De Leon Regil, Lily Shuman, Kelley Wyatt, and Enrique Leyvn



Photo Credit Victoria De Leon Regil  
Nizar would like to use block scheduling to help with his homework.

## Block Scheduling=Less Homework?

Nizar is a 6th grade student that attends Indian Ridge Middle School. He stated, “I would like to have block scheduling.” He says that with block scheduling, you will most likely have less homework. “Since you only have three periods a day, you get less homework,” He thinks. “It is easier than having six periods.” He even gave a speech in his language arts class trying to persuade others to agree with him on this topic!

## Don't Forget or You'll Regret

Sofia Espinosa is a 7th grader at Indian Ridge Middle School and thinks we should not have block scheduling. “I think it wouldn't be efficient because since you would not see some of your periods every day, you could possibly forget a lot of the material that may be important in future for test,” She pronounced. “ Also, you cant see your friends which sucks,” she exhaled.



Photo credit Diana Apolinar  
Sofia believes its easier to forget things when you don't see all of your periods each day.

## Done in a Day

Ella Hollaway is an 8th grader at Indian Ridge that thinks six periods a day is better. “ I like having six periods better because you don't miss anything and you get to see your friends,” she stated. “I also like getting it all done in one day.” Ella also thinks the periods are shorter when all six periods are in one day than when there are three each day.

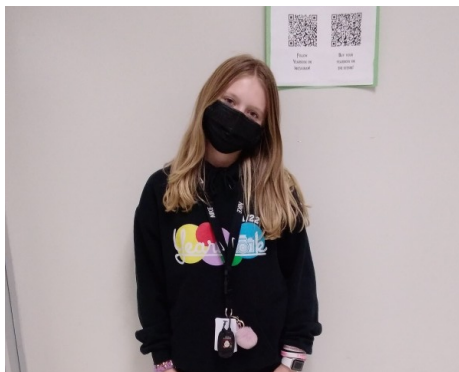


Photo credit Victoria De Leon Regil  
When Ella sees her friends, it makes her feel happy.

# Should Students Have A Mandated Gym Class?

By Valentina Lattanzio, Samantha Almonte, Julia Savin, Rose David-Adelee, Nikolai Williams.

## Yes

Gym is a very important and effective class. Therefore, it should be mandatory for multiple reasons. One thing is that it can improve your fitness and health. Being healthy is very important nowadays, because some people are getting hospitalized due to lack of exercise. Gym can decrease the number of these problems in people. Also, in middle school we have no recess, so if you have gym, it can let you take a class period to move around and stay active. This could help with your other classes where you have to think by giving you a little break. 8th grade student Caleb Sierra plays baseball and started gym class which helped him with it. He also said that he thinks

Andrea Dominguez agrees with mandated gym class because she thinks that people need to be more physically active, especially with the online classes last year. She has a



Photo credits: Rose David-Adelee. The P.E court, where students exercise during gym class.

soccer team outside of school, Sunrise Sting, and is very active. Andrea believes that gym class could affect your mental and physical health, and she said that when she is playing sports it is an escape from reality. She enjoys having fun with her friends, Many students agree that gym should be mandated for health reasons and to enjoy a break from school and work. Some students also agree that physical education helps them with after school activities.

# Should Students Have A Mandated Gym Class?

By Valentina Lattanzio, Samantha Almonte, Julia Savin, Rose David-Adelee, Nikolai Williams.

## No

A student is in their physical education class at school. The sun is scorching them, and they are about to collapse to the ground in exhaustion. A voice is yelling at them from afar... “Faster, faster!” The coach yells, sitting in his chair under the shade of his umbrella.

“I can’t keep going!” the student thinks. They are only in their first period. After this class, they have 5 more hours of school until they can go home. How can they go through the day like this? 7th grader Eibby Perez says no to mandated gym classes. She states that people can suffer from illnesses, or some other personal problems and they should be allowed to do different activities besides physical education. She does not participate in sports, which is another reason for not agreeing with mandated Physical Education. Eibby says that not taking gym class will not affect your health. Eibby believes that gym class should

not be mandated because “If you want to workout or do sports, you can do them on your own time.” She also thinks there should be hygiene products and water provided if it was mandated. “Since people can easily pass out and need water to be hydrated. If students are being forced to have mandated P.E, the best [the school system] could do is give some free hygiene products for [students] cooperation,” she said. In her point of view, she believes that physical education is not something obligatory. A whopping 103 out of 154 people chose that they did not want to have mandatory physical education. This shows that if Indian Ridge does have a mandated gym class, most students won’t enjoy it. When you go to school, don’t you want to learn without dreading a certain class?

# Indigenous People's Day Unrecognized

By Sanya Ahmed, Arianna Combs, Gabriella Larson, and Matthew Wheeler



Photo Credit: Antonio Ibarra and Montana Kaimin Aspen Decker and her son Nstews Plentyhorses honor indigenous children who lost their lives after being sent to boarding schools around the country, by holding signs at an Every Child Matters March on Oct. 11

**Indigenous People's Day is an unrecognized event that is important to our society and history.**

Everyone has heard of Columbus Day, the national holiday that celebrates the anniversary of Christopher Columbus discovering America. Then there is Indigenous People's Day, which students might not be aware of, which is exactly why there is a problem. It is a federal holiday that celebrates and honors the native Americans.

Was Christopher Columbus an astonishing explorer or a villain in disguise? To be honest, it just depends on which person gets asked. For example, 6th grade world history teacher Ms. Weintraub feels that he was terrible and committed some pretty heinous acts.

For a quick recap, Christopher Columbus is known for his 1492 'discovery' of the New World of America. The truth is, Columbus did not discover North America. On his voyage he went farther south to Central and South America, claiming the land for Spain. Since Indigenous People's Day obviously gives credit to the Native Americans, let's jump into some background about them. The ancestors of living Native Americans arrived in what is now the United States at least 15,000 years ago, maybe even earlier. They hiked over a land bridge from Asia to what is now Alaska more than 12,000 years ago.

According to The Panel Online some people believe that a disease wiped out the Native Americans. Keep in mind that their immune systems were not prepared, nor have the antibodies for those deadly diseases that were circulating. Other people disagree and believe that Christopher Columbus murdered the Indigenous people.



Photo Credit: Erin Clark/Boston Globe  
Protesters marched in an Indigenous Peoples Day rally in Boston on Oct. 10, 2020, as part of a demonstration to change Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day.

# Questions

Question 1: Add another reason why indigenous people's day should be celebrated?

Question 2: Explain a possible theory for why Christopher Columbus is celebrated instead of Indigenous People's day.

Question 3: Why do you think people are trying to raise awareness about Indigenous People's Day.

Question 4: Explain what is the biggest contribution unawareness to the holiday?

# Interviews

## Ms. McGann

While interviewing her, she believes that Indigenous People's Day is taking over Columbus day. She thinks that there were people there before Columbus arrived, and they were the Native Americans. While asking if she rejects people who celebrate Columbus she said, "I don't reject them, I just don't think they are very informed." As a teacher, she thinks it is important to have her students look up Native American tribes to get the students more informed. She thinks that Columbus was related or the cause of the deaths of the indigenous people.

## Mrs. Brosz

Everyone grew up learning about Columbus Day, but Indigenous People's Day is just recently coming around. She learned about the holiday in college where she learned that Columbus was very cruel to the Native Americans. "Unfortunately, Columbus does get more recondition, it's not fair". She believes Indigenous People's Day should get more remembrance because the Native Americans arrived before Christopher Columbus. She thinks it is important to recognize what was done in the past. "The ugly facts have to be talked about too."



Mrs. McGann 6th grade language arts teacher, explains that Indigenous People's Day is a day to be celebrated.  
Photo Credit: Arianna Combs



Mrs. Brosz, 6th grade World History, gives her views on Indigenous People's Day.  
Photo Credit: Mrs. Brosz

# Upcoming events:

Interim reports: November 19th

OMG HI! Comedy Tour: November 19th-20th 8:00pm-1:00am  
@Seminole Hard Rock Casino



Thanksgiving break: November 22nd - 26th



Florida Panthers vs. Seattle Kraken: November 27th 6:00-10:00pm  
@FLA Live Arena



Dolphins vs. Carolina Panthers: November 28th 1:00pm  
@Hard Rock Stadium

Miami Heat vs. Denver Nuggets: November 29th 7:30-11:30pm  
@FTX Arena



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