

Libraries Change Lives

"On a typical

Saturday after the

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the kids still enjoy

heading downtown

to the library."

Rochester Public Library News and Events

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Questions? Comments? Story ideas?

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Saturday is Waffle Day

-by Joel Ott

At our house, Saturday is Waffle Day. It's also quite often, Library Day. On most Saturdays, we make waffles from scratch, and on many of those Saturdays, we also head downtown to the library.

It started when the kids were small. They are now 8 and 11, but since they were toddlers, we've been in the habit of attending the library's Saturday morning programs (films, live music, etc.) After the show, we would browse the stacks and take home a new batch of books, DVDs and books on tape or CD.

In the last few months, on some Saturdays, things have gotten a little out of order. Before the first batter has hit the hot waffle

iron, there's a good chance I've already acquired a new book or two from the library. And I'm still in my pajamas.

The one morning of the week I don't have somewhere to be at a specific time, I enjoy popping open the laptop and connecting up with Rochester Public Library's web site to see

what's available in eBooks and downloadable audio books.

I've been interested in new technology and gadgets for as a long as I can remember,





but I don't run out and just buy the latest thing because it's new. I held off on buying an eBook reader until the one I knew I wanted to own would work at the library.

Finally, Amazon worked out the details of making library loans possible on their

> popular Kindle. That's when I bought one. It was a thrill the very first time I checked out an eBook from the library. I marveled at how easily I was taken to Amazon, and then a few seconds later, the book appeared on my Kindle.

> My kids will never know a world without WiFi and the Internet. My job ensures I

keep up on the latest technology and how it works. But I am still in awe at how well the whole system works each time I check out a new book electronically.

It was more than a year ago that I got started reading eBooks. Because of the Kindle's gadget appeal, my kids wanted to read that way as well. They already had become great readers, but the Kindle definitely renewed my interest in reading again. Another Kindle arrived in the house at Christmas, and now we're able to keep up with demand.

I was pleased with the RPL eBooks section of the web site when I first started using

See **Saturday is Waffle Day** continued on Page 2

Saturday is Waffle Day - continued from page 1

it, but early this year it was improved even more, with easier searching and browsing, and more appealing graphics. The whole experience is world-class. It's easier than ever to locate materials and check them out.

I've never read more than I have in the past 15 months since connecting our first Kindle to our RPL account.

I also buy eBooks from Amazon, but by far most of my reading is done with RPL materials. As for the kids, the ability to have many different titles loaded on a slender electronic device is wonderful. The web site makes it easy to locate materials for their specific reading and age levels. They still read most books on paper, but it sure is nice to go on a car trip with a fully loaded Kindle. It weighs considerably less than a backpack loaded

with paperbacks and hardcovers.

On a typical Saturday after the waffles are eaten, the kids still enjoy heading downtown to the library. They're old enough to roam the stacks without my help; I usually take a spot near the window and crack open my Kindle, reading my library book while they browse.

Some might think that the eBook revolution will make public libraries a thing of the past. I feel it underscores the importance of how a public lending library can serve the community in many ways. Thank you for providing such a high quality service at your physical location, and for investing in the latest technology to keep up with the demand from those of us who want to read digital books.

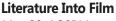
Bookgroups

Armchair Traveler

May 7, 11AM Meeting Room A

Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet

Jamie Ford



May 28, 1:30PM Meeting Room B Love in the Time of Cholera

Gabriel Garcia Marquez

Mystery Readers

May 20, 1PM Meeting Room A New Mystery Writers

Night Owl

May 21, 7PM Meeting Room A The Weight of Silence Heather Gudenkauf

Nonfiction Readers

May 8, 2PM
Meeting Room A

Packing for Mars: The Curious Science of Life in the Void

Mary Roach

Plain Readers

May 21, 12PM

Meeting Room A

In the Garden of Beasts: Love, Terror, and an American family in Hitler's Berlin

Erik Larson





Now in its 11th year, Rochester Reads has sought to encourage community discussion, family reading, literacy, understanding, and cross-community interaction by promoting the reading of a single book in the Rochester, Minnesota area. In addition to the main Rochester Reads selection, books similar in theme to the main book are chosen for both Young Adult and Child audiences.

Everyone is invited to participate by reading the books and then attending Rochester Reads events and discussions in May 2013.

Learn more at www.rochesterreads.org



Picture Book Selection *Mousetronaut: A Partially True Story* by Mark Kelly

Rochester Reads 2013 Partners

Center for Humanities in Medicine



Adult and Family Literacy Program
Barnes & Noble Booksellers
Diversity Council
The History Center of Olmsted County
Post-Bulletin Company
Rochester Public Library
Rochester Public Schools
Rochester Community and
Technical College

Junior Selection

Mars: You Decide How to Survive by Hena Kahn and David Borgenicht

1st Annual Edible Book Festival and Interview with Val Sauder

The first annual Edible Book Festival was held at Rochester Public Library on March 30th, 2013. Community members and businesses were encouraged to submit their most creative, and edible, literary work of art. The entries were required to be made entirely of edible materiels with the subject pertaining to books in shape or content.

Below are the award results.

Judge's Choice:

Entry title: Under the Jello Dome

Artist: Wes Duellman

Judge's Choice Honorable Mention:

Entry title: Stone Soup Artist: Winnie Yu

Wittiest:

Entry title: Harry Potter and the

Deathly Mallows

Artist: Virginia and Tess Nowakowski

Bunny

Youth (12 & under):

Entry title: Goldilocks and the Three Bears

Artist: Srithan S.

Youth (12 & Under) Honorable Mention:

Entry title: Amelia's Very Hungry Caterpillar

Artist: Amelia W.

Professional:

Entry title: Kill Bill **Artist:** David Tator

Below is an interview with Val Sauder, one of the participants, describing her experience.

RPL: What made you want to participate in the Edible Book Festival?

Val: My friend told me about it and I thought it would be really fun to do.

RPL: How did you decide what to enter in the festival?

Val: I chose between three children's books. Because it was close to Easter, I chose Bunny Trouble.

RPL: Are you a baker?

Val: Yes, I like to bake a lot! It was my first experience with fondant.

Thank you to our sponsors!

COUNTERPOINT









together?

manual.



Library Staff:

People's Choice:

RPL: How long did it take you to put your entry

RPL: Are you thinking of participating next year?

Val: Yes! I want to do a cake based off an instruction

RPL: Thank you for participating in this year's event and we look forward to seeing you next year!

Val: It took three days to put it together.

Entry title: Vanity Pear

Artist: Collaborative Group

Entry title: War and Peeps

Artist: Heather Hermann









Rochester Reads Author Visit: MARY ROACH

Mayo Civic Center Presentation Hall Wednesday, May 15 7PM

Mary Roach is known for her wry science writing in the bestselling books Stiff and Spook. In Packing for Mars, Roach tackles the strange science of space travel, and the psychology, technology, and politics that go into sending a crew into orbit. Roach is unfailingly inquisitive (Why is it impolite for astronauts to float upside down during conversations? Just how smelly does a spacecraft get after a two week mission?), and she eagerly seeks out the stories that don't make it onto NASA's website – from SPCA-certified space suits for chimps, to the trialand-error approach to crafting menus during the space program's early years (when the chefs are former livestock veterinarians, taste isn't high on the priority list). -from amazon.com

MAY 2013

All events at Rochester Public Library are free and open to the public

Wednesday, May 1

Preschool Storytime, Auditorium, 10AM

Join us for 30 minutes of stories, fingerplays, early literacy activities, and fun for you and your 3 to 5 year-old child! No registration required. If you require accommodations in order to participate in this program, please contact Children's Services at 328-2303 as soon as possible.

Thursday, May 2

Baby Time!, Auditorium, 10AM

Bring in your baby for fingerplays, rhymes, songs and stories just right for little ones (birth to 18 months). No registration required.

This program was funded by an IBM Centennial Grant. If you require accommodations in order to participate in this program, please contact Children's Services at 328-2303 as soon as possible.

Toddler Time!, Auditorium, 10:30AM & 11AM

Special stories and songs for active toddlers (ages 18 months to 3 years). No registration required. This program is funded by an IBM Centennial Grant. If you require accommodations in order to participate in this program, please contact Children's Services at 328-2303 as soon as possible.

Computer Basics Workshop, Meeting Room B, 1PM

Do you have general questions about computers, using email, using the library website or the internet? Come to the library to practice on our computers and ask a librarian your questions. No sign up for this session.

Ancestry and Heritage Quest Genealogy Databases, Meeting Room B, 4PM

An exploration of the genealogical value of two databases offered at the

Rochester Public Library. Dig through census records, read family histories, or find immigration records online using these popular tools.

Homework Assistance Study Table, 6PM

The Homework Assistance Study Table is held every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday on the 2nd floor of the Rochester Public Library (along the windows near the audio-books) from 6 - 8:45PM during the academic year. The study table is staffed by volunteers. The goal of the Homework Assistance Study Table is to provide individual assistance to students with specific questions regarding their daily homework assignments. Although all students in the community are welcome, the academic levels of the students who attend are generally grades 4 to 12. Students do not need to register ahead of time -- just come at the scheduled time.

Evening with an Elder Auditorium, 6PM

Our Dakota Elders are leaving us at an alarming rate. They carry with them the knowledge of the Dakota people, history and therefore, Dakota future. Many Indian children in Rochester do not have the opportunity to sit at the feet of an Elder and learn. This is what this year's American Indian Day is about: to hear whatever an Elder wants us to know. Reverend Syd Byrd has experienced many things in this long years and will impart some of his wisdom to the Indian children of Rochester and to the public.

Saturday, May 4

HOORAY FOR SATURDAY! Musical Fun with Friends! Presented by SEMYO, Auditorium, 10:30AM

Southeastern Minnesota Youth Orchestra Chamber Strings presents: Musical Fun with Friends! Please join us for this delightful family concert of favorite music directed by conductor Susan Oftedahl. Auditorium seating is limited to 250 people. If you require accommodations in order to participate in this program please contact Children's Services at 507-328-2303.

Sunday, May 5

MARS COLONIZATION: the steps to make it happen, Auditorium, 2PM

The United States landed the largest robotic rover ever sent to Mars in August of last year. It is a complete science laboratory called "Curiosity", and it's as big as a compact car. It is looking for signs of environments that could have supported life on Mars. This presentation will cover why we are so interested in Mars, what we have done in the past, and future scientific plans that will lead to the eventual placement of humans on the Red Planet. We'll also cover things young people can do right now to prepare themselves to be a part of this most exciting adventure in the history of mankind. Earle Kyle, our local NASA Solar System Ambassador will talk about Mars colonization as well as other aspects of space exploration.

Monday, May 6

Homework Assistance Study Table, 6PM

See description listed for May 2nd.

Tuesday, May 7

Chess Club for Homeschoolers!, Auditorium. 2:30PM

Learn the basics. Improve your game. Master strategies. Play other chess enthusiasts. It'll have you saying "Check, mate!" This program is best suited for children in Grades 2 to 6. Parents are asked to remain in the library while Chess Club is in session. Registration not is required.

Tuesday, May 7

Chess Club! Auditorium, 4PM See description above.

Homework Assistance Study Table, 6PM

See description listed for May 2nd.

Bedtime Stories, Auditorium, 6:30PM

Puppets, stories, songs, and rhymes to give you sweet dreams. Caregivers are asked to remain with their children. No registration is required.

Wednesday, May 8

Preschool Storytime, Auditorium, 10AM

Join us for 30 minutes of stories, fingerplays, early literacy activities, and fun for you and your 3 to 5 year-old child! No registration required. If you require accommodations in order to participate in this program, please contact Children's Services at 328-2303 as soon as possible.

Nonfiction Readers Book Discussion , Meeting Room A, 2PM

Join us to talk about the Rochester Reads book, "Packing for Mars: The Curious Science of Life in the Void," by Mary Roach.

iFilms: International and Independent Films, Auditorium, 6PM

OFF WHITE LIES Israel /Hebrew with English subtitles / Synopsis: After years of living apart from her dad, Libby, an introverted yet sharp-witted teenager, is sent to live with him is Israel. Her arrival coincides with the outbreak of the second Lebanon war. Libby quickly discovers that her dad, Shaul, is an infantile eccentric, and that he is 'in-between apartments' (in other words, homeless). Shaul comes up with a creative plan to put a roof over their heads - they pose as refugees from the bombarded northern region of Israel, and are taken in by a well-off family in Jerusalem. Finally in a 'normal' household, Shaul and Libby begin to build their father-

daughter relationship, but their false identities can't last forever, especially as Libby unleashes teenage fury at the lies permeating her life; those she must tell now, and those she's been fed since childhood. SHORT FILM CATHERINE THE GREAT Israel / Hebrew with English subtitles Synopsis Catherine, a young woman from Moldova, answers an appealing want-ad that calls for work overseas. She receives a plane ticket and arrives in Tel Aviv without the slightest notion of the cruelty that awaits her. The iFilm series is intended for mature adults. Please provide guidance to your children. Admission is free.

Facebook for Absolute Beginners, Meeting Room B, 6PM

Curious about Facebook? Learn how to set up a free Facebook account and find out what all the fuss is about. Note: you must have an email account that you can access from the internet prior to the class in order to set up a Facebook account.

Thursday, May 9

Baby Time!, Auditorium, 10AM

Bring in your baby for fingerplays, rhymes, songs and stories just right for little ones (birth to 18 months). No registration required. This program was funded by an IBM Centennial Grant. If you require accommodations in order to participate in this program, please contact Children's Services at 328-2303 as soon as possible.

Toddler Time!, Auditorium, 10:30AM & 11AM

Special stories and songs for active toddlers (ages 18 months to 3 years). No registration required. This program is funded by an IBM Centennial Grant. If you require accommodations in order to participate in this program, please contact Children's Services at 328-2303 as soon as possible.

Computer Basics Workshop, Meeting Room B, 1PM

Do you have general questions about computers, using email, using the library website or the internet? Come to the library to practice on our computers and ask a librarian your questions. No sign up for this session.

Homework Assistance Study Table, 6PM

See description listed for May 2nd.

Friday, May 10

Senior Techies - Email, Meeting Room B, 10AM

Have you ever wanted to have your own email account to send and receive emails from your friends and family? This class is for you! We will set up free email accounts, learn the basics of writing and sending emails, and talk about email safety (and some email scams to avoid).

Saturday, May 11

Hooray for Saturday: LEGO® Fun, Auditorium, 10:30AM

Do you like to build with LEGOs®? Build your own LEGO® Mars Rover creations! LEGOs® are provided by the library. *This week will have a Mars theme in honor of Rochester Reads. This program is best suited for children in Grades 2 to 6. Parents are asked to remain in the library while LEGO Fun is in session. Registration not is required. This program is sponsored by Friends of the Rochester Public Library

Monday, May 13

Homework Assistance Study Table, 6PM

See description listed for May 2nd.

Tuesday, May 14

Jim Gill Concert!!!, Auditorium, 10:30AM

Please join us for an exciting and engaging concert with award-winning children's recording artist Jim Gill! Jim Gill's music play makes a family room in the library. Prepare to dance, sing, and clap your way to silly! Caregivers are asked to remain with their children. No registration is required.

LEGO® Fun for Homeschoolers!, Auditorium, 2:30PM

Do you like to build with LEGOs®? Build your own LEGO® creations using our challenge idea or your imagination. Share your great ideas! LEGOs® are provided by the library. *This week will have a Mars theme in honor of Rochester Reads. This program is best suited for children in Grades 2 to 6. Parents are asked to remain in the library while LEGO Fun is in session. Registration not is required. This program is sponsored by Friends of the Library

LEGO® Fun!, Auditorium, 4PM See description above.

Homework Assistance Study Table, 6PM

See description listed for May 2nd.

Packing for Mars @ the Mayo Planetarium (Ages 14+), 6PM & 8PM

Before you venture to the Red Planet you will need to know how to find it in the night sky. Robots have revealed a lot about this destination for future astronauts. What can you expect to find when you arrive? One more thing to consider, how do you hit a moving target that orbits at a speed of about 55,000 mph? Prepare yourself for a future journey with a visit to the Mayo High School Planetarium, with Larry Mascotti as your guide. Sessions are free and open to the public. To register, call Community Ed (507.328.4000) or register online at http://www.rochesterce.org

Bedtime Stories--JIM GILL CONCERT!, Auditorium, 6:30PM

Please join us for an exciting and engaging concert with award-winning children's recording artist Jim Gill! Jim Gill's music play makes a family room in the library. Prepare to dance, sing, and clap your way to silly! Caregivers are asked to remain with their children. No registration is required.

Writing Group, Meeting Room A, 6:30PM

Stuck on your first draft? Not sure about your plot? Let's get together and help each other out. Once a month we will meet to read and critique member's writing. The goal is to improve our writing in a friendly, supportive environment. Mike Kalmbach will help to facilitate the meetings. Mike is a freelance writer and editor, and manages the online writing community http://writanon.com/. If you have any questions for Mike prior to your first meeting, please email kstecher@rochester.lib.mn.us, or call 328-2313.

Wednesday, May 15

Preschool Storytime, Auditorium, 10AM

Join us for 30 minutes of stories, fingerplays, early literacy activities, and fun for you and your 3 to 5 year-old child! No registration required. *This week will have a Space theme in honor of Rochester Reads. If you require accommodations in order to participate in this program, please contact Children's Services at 328-2303 as soon as possible.

Rochester Issues Forum : About You, Auditorium, 6:30PM

The Rochester Issues Forum will sponsor a presentation and facilitated round table discussion regarding the Rochester About You survey. The goal of the this event is to create an opportunity for dialog. Attendees will be encouraged to think critically about the issue and gain insights by listening respectfully to others' points of view.

Rochester Reads Author Visit: MARY ROACH, 7PM

Mary Roach, author of the 2013 Rochester Reads title, Packing for Mars, will be speaking at the Mayo Civic Center (Presentation Hall) at 7:00 p.m. This program is free and open to the public.

Star Gazing with the Rochester Astronomy Club, 8:30PM

If skies are clear, Rochester
Astronomy Club members will offer
free viewings of the Moon, Saturn,
and stars. Learn about different
telescopes, and what you can
actually see with one - even from
near downtown Rochester! Join us
outside Taylor Arena (Mayo Civic
Center, 30 Civic Center Drive SE)
immediately following Mary Roach's
presentation.

Thursday, May 16

Baby Time!, Auditorium, 10AM

Bring in your baby for fingerplays, rhymes, songs and stories just right for little ones (birth to 18 months). No registration required. This program was funded by an IBM Centennial Grant. If you require accommodations in order to participate in this program, please contact Children's Services at 328-2303 as soon as possible.

Thursday, May 16

Toddler Time!, Auditorium, 10:30AM & 11AM

Special stories and songs for active toddlers (ages 18 months to 3 years). No registration required. This program is funded by an IBM Centennial Grant. If you require accommodations in order to participate in this program, please contact Children's Services at 328-2303 as soon as possible.

Computer Basics Workshop, Meeting Room B, 1PM

Do you have general questions about computers, using email, using the library website or the internet? Come to the library to practice on our computers and ask a librarian your questions. No sign up for this session.

Thursday, May 16

Packing for Mars @ the Mayo Planetarium (Ages 9-13), 4PM & 6PM

Before you venture to the Red Planet you will need to know how to find it in the night sky. Robots have revealed a lot about this destination for future astronauts. What can you expect to find when you arrive? One more thing to consider, how do you hit a moving target that orbits at a speed of about 55,000 mph? Prepare yourself for a future journey with a visit to the Mayo High School Planetarium, with Larry Mascotti as your quide. Sessions are free and open to the public. To register, call Community Ed (507.328.4000) or register online at http://www.rochesterce.org

Homework Assistance Study Table, 6PM

See description listed for May 2nd.

Saturday, May 18

Hooray for Saturday: Children's Choice Book Awards Ceremony, Auditorium, 10:30AM

You've read the books. You've voted for your favorites. Join us for our awards ceremony as we announce the winners. Fancy dress is optional.

Writing Contest Awards Program, Auditorium, 1:30PM

Join us as we announce and celebrate the winners of the youth writing contest age 5-12. Come and hear the authors read their award winning poems and short stories.

Writing Contest Awards Program, Auditorium, 2:30PM

Join us as we announce and celebrate the winners of the youth writing contest age 10-18. Come and hear the authors read their award winning poems and short stories.

Monday, May 20

Mystery Book Group, Meeting Room A, 1PM

Join us at the Mystery Book Group. Today we will be discussing new mystery writers.

Introduction to Funding Sources, Meeting Room B, 2PM

Rochester Public Library is an affiliate of the Foundation Center Cooperating Collections network. Though we can't write proposals for you, we can provide information to start you on the way to researching and applying for funds via appropriate print and online resources. This class will include a review of such electronic sources as the Foundation Center Directory and the Minnesota Grantmaker Online; plus an examination of still-useful hard-copy sources.

TLC Meeting - Teen Library Council, Meeting Room A, 4PM

Come let your voice be heard! Assist in providing insight into tween/ teen reading interests, programing needs and activities. Help make the library a youth friendly space where you and your peers want to be! Any questions, contact Lynette @ 328-2305.

Homework Assistance Study Table, 6PM

See description listed for May 2nd.

Tuesday, May 21

Plain Readers, Meeting Room A, 12PM

Join us to read books set in the Midwest or by Midwestern authors. Book to be discussed - In the Garden of Beasts: Love, Terror, and an American family in Hitler's Berlin by Erik Larson

Chess Club for Homeschoolers!, Auditorium, 2:30PM

Learn the basics. Improve your game. Master strategies. Play other chess enthusiasts. It'll have you saying "Check, mate!" This program is best suited for children in Grades 2 to 6. Parents are asked to remain in the library while Chess Club is in session. Registration not is required.

Chess Club!, Auditorium, 4PM See description above.

Homework Assistance Study Table, 6PM

See description listed for May 2nd.

Bedtime Stories, Auditorium, 6:30PM

Puppets, stories, songs, and rhymes to give you sweet dreams. Caregivers are asked to remain with their children. No registration is required.

Night Owl Book Group, Meeting Room A, 7PM

This monthly book group will be reading page turning books you just can't put down. Book to be discussed - The Weight of Silence by Heather Gudenkauf.

Wednesday, May 22

Preschool Storytime, Auditorium, 10AM

Join us for 30 minutes of stories, fingerplays, early literacy activities, and fun for you and your 3 to 5 year-old child! No registration required. If you require accommodations in order to participate in this program, please contact Children's Services at 328-2303 as soon as possible.

Name This Club: Minecraft Edition! for Homeschoolers, Auditorium, 4PM

It's your library; it's your club. Play, create, discuss on a topic of your choice. The next month's meeting will be determined by you. But first, we need to name this club. Grades 2-6

Name This Club: Minecraft Edition!, Auditorium, 4PM

See description above.

Homeschooling Q&A (panel discussion), Auditorium, 6PM

Curious about homeschooling your children? Our panelists, representing a variety of homeschooling methods, will discuss the basics and answer your questions.

Thursday, May 23

Baby Time!, Auditorium, 10AM

Bring in your baby for fingerplays, rhymes, songs and stories just right for little ones (birth to 18 months). No registration required.

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Homework Assistance Study Table, 6PM

See description listed for May 2nd.

Saturday, May 25

Start of summer library hours.

Monday, May 27

Library closed in observance of Memorial Day.

Tuesday, May 28

LEGO® Fun for Homeschoolers!, Auditorium, 2:30PM

Do you like to build with LEGOs®? Build your own LEGO® creations using our challenge idea or your imagination. Share your great ideas! LEGOs® are provided by the library. This program is best suited for children in Grades 2 to 6. Parents are asked to remain in the library while LEGO Fun is in session. Registration not is required. This program is sponsored by Friends of the Library

LEGO® Fun!, Auditorium, 4PM See description above.

Homework Assistance Study Table, 6PM

See description listed for May 2nd.

Bedtime Stories, Auditorium, 6:30PM

Puppets, stories, songs, and rhymes to give you sweet dreams. Caregivers are asked to remain with their children. No registration is required.

Wednesday, May 29

Preschool Storytime, Auditorium, 10AM

Join us for 30 minutes of stories, fingerplays, early literacy activities, and fun for you and your 3 to 5 year-old child! No registration required. If you require accommodations in order to participate in this program, please contact Children's Services at 328-2303 as soon as possible.

Thursday, May 30

Baby Time!, Auditorium, 10AM

Bring in your baby for fingerplays, rhymes, songs and stories just right for little ones (birth to 18 months). No registration required.
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