

"When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy."

Matthew 2:10

**FEBRUARY 2011**

**A Message From the Rector**

Is this church's angel alive?

The spiritual writer Barbara Brown Taylor says this is the first question you should ask about any parish. In the book of Revelation, Saint John the Divine meets Jesus, the Son of Man, who tells him to sit down and write not to the people of the church in Ephesus, but to "the angel of the church in Ephesus." In this vision, there is something more to a church than a collection of people who happen to gather to worship in a certain way in a certain place. When we come together as a community, we develop a shared experience, a shared wisdom, a shared perspective on the world. The Holy Spirit speaks to us in our very own language, and we begin to hear a Word from God that is uniquely our own – our own angel.

When Taylor asks whether your church has a living angel, she means: Do these people listen to the voice of God? Do they have a purpose that calls them beyond their own comfort? Is something new and powerful happening here?

And we answer: Yes! I know that Calvary's angel is alive and well, speaking to us in the courage and faith and love that are so apparent every time we gather.

This is Epiphany, a season of discoveries. Through the Gospel readings, we see the moments that Jesus' family and his disciples

discovered that he was the Son of God, from the wise men showing up at his birth through the descent of the dove over him at his baptism and all the way to his shining appearance on the mountain with Moses and Elijah. We see with the disciples that there is something special about Jesus, something that calls them to lay down their fishing nets and follow. It is a season that asks each of us: Where is Jesus shining in your life? How is he calling you to notice his presence and to follow him? And it is a time for us to discover Jesus together, through the living voice of our spirit-filled community.

Over the coming months, your Vestry will be asking you to take part in a conversation about this parish's future. This inquiry was sparked by the difficult reality that our income only covers 80% of our annual expenses of about \$200,000, and we can only keep drawing on our reserves to cover the gap for 3-4 more years. However, the conversation is about more than money. It is an opportunity for us to listen together to that voice within us that can tell us where God needs us to go.

We know that God is doing great things through our parish now, and that God will give us many new opportunities to serve together in the future. Trusting in the living, loving angel of Calvary, I know we will find our way.

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**Calling on your Priest**

I have decided to **cancel my home office line** (978-223-1615). If you need to reach me outside of office hours, please feel free to call me on my cell phone (617-458-1253). Thanks!

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Schedule for February

- 6-Bishop Tom Shaw visits/one service at 10:00 a.m.
- 7-11 Scholastic Book Fair (parish hall)
- 8-March Newsletter deadline
- 12-Family Game Night 5:00 p.m.
- 13-Vestry 11:45
- 15-Senior Luncheon 12:00 p.m.
- 17-Book Club 7:00 (parlor)
- 20-Perfect Paws Pet Ministry 5:00 p.m.
- 21-25 Rev. Thea on vacation



Annual Meeting, January 23, 2011

### Newsletter Alert

By Paula Noyes

This is the last newsletter that will be strictly sent out by the US Mail.

From the March Issue on if you have an email address you will be sent your newsletter by email. Those of you who do not have a computer or email address will continue to receive the newsletter by US Mail. It has been tabulated that this will save us money. All parishioners that have active email addresses please send us or call us with that address so we can make sure you get the latest newsletter, online. Thanks, for your patience. If you don't get your newsletter let us know.

[paulaandsam@aol.com](mailto:paulaandsam@aol.com) or [admincalvary@gmail.com](mailto:admincalvary@gmail.com).



### Outreach Corner By Melissa West

Outreach continues to help those who have no where else to turn. We have provided boots and coats to several local families in the last month. Donations of adult/child hats and gloves would be greatly appreciated. Calvary parishioners continue to donate food and time to help an average of 50 residents of Lifebridge (formerly Crombie and Salem Mission). The men and women are so thankful for a hot breakfast. A big thank you to the Mission volunteers who make breakfast every third Saturday.

The Danvers People to People Food Pantry is running low on: **cereal, all juices (bottled and boxed), healthy children's snacks, tea, rice, white tuna fish.** Any donation would be greatly appreciated and can be left in the Narthex.



## Book Club

By Marlene Norton

The Book Club gathered to discuss their reading of Olive Kittredge by Elizabeth Strout.

Olive is a former 7th grade school teacher, who resides in the same Maine town where she taught. We decided that Olive is a complex, not well liked, and complicated woman, whose life is intermingled with former students and neighbors and their problems in the 13 short stories in the book. She is empathetic but can others see that? Her life with husband and son was wrought with problems- could she see the problems? It is an interesting and insightful read about this depressed and depressing woman, who does come to conclusions that lead her to reconsider her life.

The next meeting will be on **Thursday, February 17th at 7pm in the Parlor**. Please join us in reading and discussing the "Lace Reader" by Brunonia Barry. Taking place in Salem, Massachusetts, it is a tale about past generations of women, who see the future in the lace they are hand making and about their present day descendant, who suffering from some mental disorder, returns to Salem for a restful stay. She is confronted by the mysterious drowning of a relative and seeks to find answers.

## Coffee Hour – We need Help!

By Priscilla Gerrard

This is a request for folks to help out with the coffee hour following the 10:00 am service on Sundays. It is not a difficult task. There is a sign-up sheet in the Parish hall. Everything is in the cabinet in the kitchen. The only thing the server would need to provide are the goodies and the half and half for the coffee. Clean-up is minimal. I would like to have a couple of months filled ahead of time. It would be nice to have a few new volunteers. It is a job that could also be done in teams. It is a great means of providing fellowship following our morning worship.

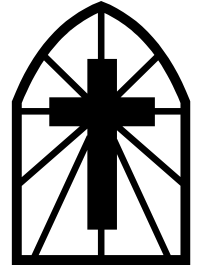


## Window Restoration

By Sally Symmes

As many of you may have noticed, the four arched windows on the Cherry Street side of the building are badly rotted. The Vestry, after looking at several options to fix the problem, voted to have **Restoration Windows of Woburn** fix the windows. They have an excellent reputation in the field and were willing to work with us to keep costs down. In the spring they will remove the sash, take them apart and replace all rotted pieces. They will also replace pieces in the opening and will fix the opening mechanism on the sides. They will replace the rope with something metal which will last longer. The original 1850 windows will look exactly as they did when the church was built.

Of course, all this comes with a cost. We have three lead gifts (two definite and one "most likely") each to replace a window. We would like to solicit gifts of any size to finish up the project. Anything over the cost (\$3000) that we receive will go to storms which will be decided on in the Spring after the windows are installed. If you would like to participate in this project, please make sure you mark your checks for **"Window Restoration"** so that the money will be properly accredited. These windows are a lovely remainder from our old church and will make our new church proud.



## Welcome Bishop Tom!

Service and Parish Luncheon: **Sunday, February 6 at 10:00 AM**

We will be honored to host the bishop of our diocese, the Rt. Rev. Thomas Shaw, on Sunday, February 6. **We will hold one service at 10:00 AM**, at which the bishop will celebrate and preach. Bishop Tom will join us for a potluck lunch after the service; please sign up in the narthex to let us know what you can bring. The vestry will also be meeting with the bishop after lunch. Please come out to welcome our bishop and receive his wisdom, blessing and guidance.

## Stepping Stones News

Stepping Stones is continuing to provide students with an excellent preschool experience. Looking forward to the 20011-2012 school year we will be offering **EXTENDED DAY ENRICHMENT PROGRAM** until 2 pm 5 days a week. The activities will include lunch, indoor and outdoor play, science experiments, cooking projects and literacy fun.

**Stepping Stones Preschool will be holding a Scholastic Book Fair in the Parish Hall Feb 7- Feb 11.** The school earns 40% in free books. Thanks in advance for your support.

Thank you to all who donated ornaments for the Christmas tree at the Inn Between Shelter. Your generosity has helped me continue to achieve my Girl Scout Gold Award and to give the families a beautiful Christmas tree this season. I greatly appreciate your support. Happy New Year! - Lindsay McCallum

**THANK YOU**

### From the Kitchen of Barbara French

It is still winter with many cold, snowy/stormy nights. There is nothing quite like a hearty soup with home-made bread and a yummy dessert to warm up the house and your spirit.

#### Minestrone Soup

1 onion/diced  
 1 green bell pepper/diced  
 3-4 carrots/diced  
 2 garlic cloves/minced  
 1-2 zucchini/diced  
 1 lge can tomatoes/with the juice  
 4 cups broth/vegetable or chicken  
 1 cup cabbage/chopped  
 1-2 cups fresh spinach/chopped  
 1 can cannellini beans (white kidney beans)  
 Olive, thyme, basil, oregano, & salt/pepper (begin w/ tablespoonful)



Tortellini (or pasta of your choice)/cooked & drained  
 In large stockpot, heat olive oil over med-high heat. Add onions, peppers, carrots & cook for a few minutes; add garlic & continue cooking until onions are translucent. Add zucchini & sauté a few minutes; then add tomatoes with juice (I break them up with my hands) and the broth.

Add spices to taste (I usually save the salt for end of cooking time). Simmer about 30mins, then add the cabbage. When all veggies are tender, add the spinach & beans, and cook until heated through.

To Serve: you can add the cooked pasta to the soup-pot or to each bowl and ladle the soup over it. I also serve w/grated Romano or Parmesan Cheese and some hearty bread!

If it doesn't seem to have enough broth, just add more. Recipe can be halved/doubled)

#### No Need to Knead Bread from Edna Baert

3 cups whole wheat flour  
 ¼ cup honey (or 1/3 cup sugar)  
 1 package dry yeast  
 1 egg  
 1 ¼ cups hot water (120-130 degrees)  
 1 ½ tsp salt

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Grease 9x5 loaf pan.

Mix dry ingredients together in a large bowl. Add egg, water & honey or sugar.

Stir 50 strong strokes. DO NOT KNEAD! Batter will be soft

Spoon into pan and bake 15 mins (no closer than 3/8 inch from top of oven).

Reduce heat to 350 degrees, and bake for 30-40mins.

Remove from oven and pan. Cool on a rack.

To finish off the evening and to honor both George Washington and all the Valentines out there; make some of

#### Linda Codden's Cherry Pie Squares

(I have absolutely no will-power when she makes these)

1 cup (2 sticks) margarine  
 2 cups sugar  
 4 eggs  
 ½ tsp vanilla extract  
 ½ tsp almond extract  
 3 cups flour

1 can (approx. 21oz) Cherry Pie filling

Mix margarine, sugar, eggs & flavorings together, Add flour and mix well. Spread ¾ of batter on a greased 15x10½ x 1 inch sheet pan. Cover batter with cherry pie filling. Drop the remaining ¼ batter over the top by spoonfuls.

Bake at 375 degrees for 35 minutes.

### Submitting an Article to the Visitor

By Paula Noyes

This is just a reminder on how to submit an article to the newsletter. If you have access to a computer send me an email with an attached document in verdana – regular – 12 pt – If you don't know what I am talking about just send it as part of the body of the email and email it to [paulandsam@aol.com](mailto:paulandsam@aol.com) – it comes to me **first** as I look it over for misspellings and punctuation and then I put it in a large document for Lauryn to work off of. If you send it to Lauryn first she just has to send it to me to go through that process. Our editorial process does not include changing content but we do spell and grammar check and we do not allow lewd or vulgar comments – The deadlines must be adhered to and they are: **February 8, March 8, and April 26.**

Then I have a week to get things to Lauryn and then she produces it or makes it look pretty and then I proofread it and then Thea proofreads it after Lauryn produces it. Then our trusty volunteers fold and spindle and label the newsletter to be sent out bulk mail. We send to neighborhood churches and some news agencies along with a lot of people who love Calvary. If you can't get hold of a computer then I will accept legibly hand written (I prefer printed) paper articles. I thank for your cooperation in this matter.

## Light a Candle, Push Back the Darkness: From the Keynote Address for the Danvers Committee on Diversity's Martin Luther King Jr. Awards Dinner, January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011

By Fran Weil

Listen to the lyrics of Chris Rice's song,  
**"GO LIGHT THE WORLD."**

*There is a candle in every soul  
 Some brightly burning, some dark and cold  
 Carry your candle, run to the darkness  
 Seek out the helpless, CONFUSED and TORN  
 Hold out your candle for all to see  
 Take your candle, and go light your world.*

It's a song about the courage that I believe we all possess somewhere deep inside, which we harness now and again, in big ways and small. It's the courage to step up and do something that's kind, generous and loving. There is the courage of the downtrodden, the disenfranchised, the spurned and those who are discriminated against and despised because they are perceived as being different – the outs vs. the ins. Their courage we see every day -- in big actions and small -- and in often surprising ways. Actions like that of Sonia Weitz. Actions like that of Rosa Parks, who found the courage, in the midst of a long, dark season of racial discrimination and hate in our country, to step up and stand out by refusing to obey a bus driver's order to give up her seat for a white passenger. Her courage said 'Enough! Know me as I am. I am no different than you.' With that one, small act of resistance – that beautiful act of self-affirmation -- she ignited a spark that burned more brightly each time someone heard her story; each time her action inspired someone else to follow her example. And with that, she helped moved this country toward civil rights and social justice. I'm thrilled to tell you that I have experienced firsthand how small actions can bring a little light and warmth into our world.

In 1990, two friends and I got together during a summer afternoon in Wellfleet, MA. One was the Rev. Kim Crawford Harvie, who is still the senior Minister of the storied Arlington Street Church – a bastion of social justice in the heart of Boston. The other was singer/songwriter and women's music pioneer, Cris Williamson. There, in Kim's summer cottage, I told them how deeply moved I was after watching a news segment on TV that morning, about babies born with HIV. AIDS was then a new, growing, and potentially devastating epidemic ... Attached to the disease was so much stigma, fear and misinformation, so much demonization that anyone who had it – even little babies – were shunned....So, I asked my friends, Kim and Cris, if they would use their considerable resources to do something to help kids with HIV/AIDS. **SPARK!** Cris said sure, I'll bring the music. And Kim said "I'll bring the church and we'll raise money for the kids." **FANTASTIC!** We had our first fundraiser at Arlington Street Church. But it occurred to me that since we had a spark, perhaps we might just coax out a little flame. I thought we could mobilize the good and willing people throughout the state of Massachusetts, from the Governor on down. And the whole city of Boston, from

the Mayor down.

And the hospitals that were starting to offer specialized pediatric AIDS care and research, that needed lots and lots of funding to operate. We named our wholly volunteer charitable organization In the Best Interests of the Children, or ITBIC, after a song Cris has written. We knocked on doors, and made countless phone calls. We trekked to the State House to meet with the Governor and headed to City Hall to meet with the Mayor. And they took light from the spark and hoisted their candles, agreeing to declare Pediatric AIDS week in Massachusetts and Boston, respectively, giving kids with HIV/AIDS a voice, a forum and a chance AND promoting AIDS prevention education. And here's where the story gets *REALLY* pretty ... so many people put a candle to our spark and began to shine a light in the darkness. We inspired 13 major AIDS prevention events throughout the state, including teen-focused AIDS prevention Health Jams in Boston's community health Centers. We even spawned a two-week day camp for kids with HIV on a Newton College campus that was completely staffed by volunteer medical personnel and teachers... And so, for more than eight years, we ran an unprecedented, first-in-the-nation outpouring of love and hope, AIDS prevention education, and yes, money, for kids with AIDS. All it took was those three small sparks to light the candles that became the torch that illuminated hearts and minds around the Commonwealth and beyond.

...My story is blessed with people who opted for light instead of darkness, tolerance and understanding instead of fear and prejudice....But too many out there, some even in here, have felt the powerful sting of discrimination. Too many have lost friends, families, jobs, and places to live. to prejudice. And too many out there have been derided, bullied, beaten and even killed because of color, disability, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, or simply because they are perceived as being different.

I believe in the Golden Rule. "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." It's more than a theological precept. I believe it's the basic core of human rights. Anything that disenfranchises us – that separates us from kind and loving behavior – hurts us all. ... Whether it's toward one another -- or to any other creature on this planet -- Kindness, compassion, empathy and LOVE bond us to the essence of our humanity -- and to each other. Even the smallest gesture of acceptance and understanding – a tiny flame –illuminates the unique beauty of the differences that surround us.

And so, tonight, I reaffirm my commitment to take the hard lessons of hurt and fear and uncertainty that have infused so many lives ... and turn them on their ear. Join me. Together, we *can* turn darkness into light ... one tiny spark, one small flame, at a time. So TAKE YOUR CANDLE – GO LIGHT THE WORLD.

## Double the Joy

By Paula Noyes

I have written before about how my 40<sup>th</sup> High Reunion was an epiphany of sorts. Well, the weekend of January 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> several classmates met in Newport for a 'mini-reunion' and a two birthday parties. There were initially five of us not counting a husband watching Football in the bar. I stayed at the Viking Hotel in the middle of Newport. It is the flagship and best hotel in Newport and I was intent on avoiding the dreaded bedbug so I got a deal on the Internet and drove down by myself (which I hadn't done in years because of my disability). When I got there the Hotel was on fire. Three fire engines were out front but it must have been a minor thing because the hotel never evacuated and there was no smell of smoke anywhere.

We met at the Moorings a wonderful restaurant, right on the waterfront at seven. The five of us soon became three of us and we talked and ate and we told each other the high points of our lives and the low points because that's what you share with people you love; the highs and lows. We closed down the restaurant and I might add I don't drink so I have clear recollection of these events. Then we went to the House of Blues and closed that down. One of my friends is a rock musician with CD's out and everything and she and my other friend danced with her husband and son. I am wise to the ways of my limits so I sat and observed the new mating rituals of younger people. Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom has nothing on these young people, but I digress. There is something about Rock music that brings out joy and a little abandon in me and my fellow classmates. Even though we were by far the oldest patrons in the establishment we thoroughly enjoyed our times and the hard-rocking rhythms of the excellent band. Although I could not repeat the lyrics in this family newsletter they were very powerful. The next day Sam came down from his work in Boston and met me at the Hotel and we packed me up and we met the original classmates and a few more at a local Restaurant that used to be called Johnny's and is now called the Atlantic Beach Club right on the beach. They serve an excellent brunch and we enjoyed each others company. The wonderful thing is that we all seem to love each other and we took a couple of pictures (they are on Facebook if you care) and it was wonderful.

## Divide the Sorrow

Tuesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, I woke early, about 4 am – I think and as I was going back to sleep about 6:30 am I went into this dream where I was with warm beings who were filled with light and tenderness and we were going on a trip. My dream ended abruptly as the phone rang. Later that day, unbeknownst to me or any of my other high school classmates, one of our member took her life. I had known Pam Dozier since we were children when we both had hair down to our waists and we both wore it in a long braid down her back. We played at recess and laughed and grew up together. Just a few years ago we were in contact and she had become a nurse and married a doctor who had cattle and she had Great Danes. We met with a few other classmates for coffee and we laughed and laughed, it was pretty magical and so much fun. We kept in touch and when her marriage ended in divorce and my mother dies and we were there for each other. We saw each other at the 40<sup>th</sup> Reunion and she looked so beautiful. Her brown hair was streaked with a soft grey and the compassion that was inside her soul was clearly etched on her face. I didn't recognize her, at first and then I realized it was Pam. She looked angelic to me. We kept in touch on Facebook and phone and Christmas card and one day last week I noticed she wasn't on Facebook and thought it odd as she was always on Facebook. Saturday, January 15<sup>th</sup> I got a call from my dearest friend, Donna who was also a classmate with the unbelievably sad news of Pam's untimely passing. Her family had kept it quiet and they were burying her that day, next to her father. We are left with questions and guilt. We keep asking 'was there something to be done' and wondering if any of us could do the same thing. God Bless you, Pam and be at peace.

### Altar Flower Dates

Altar flower and vigil light dates are still available, please contact Barbara Hooper if you like to reserve a date in memory of loved one. Upcoming flower dates are 2/13, 2/20, and 2/27.

## A Short Autobiography

By Bob Parsons

It was back in 1942 that I first came to Calvary Church. My neighbors, the Lewis family -- Bobby, Kenny and little sister Ruth invited me to go with them to the Strawberry Festival, "up at Church". I had a great time eating strawberry shortcake and meeting the Reverend Alan Clark and his wife Doris. They were very nice and invited me to come to Church. That was the beginning of my long membership at Calvary. Recently I have taken a few years sabbatical; however, I still support my Church!

The most significant influence on my life was the death of my mother when I was in the first grade. My father worked at the Pequot Mills in Salem and could not take care of me. He brought me into Boston to the New England Home for Little Wanderers. He remarried when I was in the sixth grade and that is when I came to Danvers I spent a year at the Home and then went to a foster home that was a small farm and there were several other kids there. The animals were a work horse, a cow and a calf and a big chicken coop. We kids took care of the animals and the gardens. My father visited Sunday afternoons usually bringing a bag of candy. What was significant was the foster parents' religion --- every Friday evening at sundown the work and play stopped and we read the Bible. Saturdays only a minimal amount of work was accomplished and Sunday was a very quiet day, no swings or outdoor play. I tell you this story because I learned about animals and more importantly developed a lot of respect and empathy for people who have lost a mother or father as well as the one parent family. Those five years were very lonely but not wasted. I always felt I was a better person because of it.

I met my beautiful wife, Marilyn Watkins, while attending Church here in the late 1950s and we were married here at Calvary in 1959 by the Reverend Robert Zimmerman. We have a wonderful family of two boys and two girls. Bob Jr. is an EMT Firefighter, Brad is a Mechanical Engineer, Lauren is an RN and Tracey is a Salem Police Officer. We also have ten grandchildren. Our dog is a shaggy haired Cairn terrier who gets me out walking everyday.

I am a graduate of Danvers High School where I was class president. I also played varsity football and basketball. I graduated with a BS from Northeastern University and Salem State College with a Master's of Education. After military service, Danvers High School principal Cornelius Dunn hired me as a Mechanical Drawing teacher, five years later I became a Guidance Counselor,

then Assistant Principal, and later House Master for Grades 10 through 12. I had a wonderful faculty and the students (900) were great! It was a very enjoyable time in my career.

My military career started in 1952 when I enlisted in the US Army and 3 years later left as a First Lieutenant. At home I decided to go into the Army Reserves and further my career as an Officer. I graduated from the Infantry School, the Armor School and The US Army Command and General Staff College. My last active duty tour was as Commandant of the large US Army Reserve School at the Boston Massachusetts Army Base. I retired as a Colonel at age 50 I had enjoyed the Army-- its camaraderie, discipline and quest to stay in good physical shape. My civilian and Army Reserve careers ran parallel to each other and very seldom did they overlap.

- Over the years I have been able to help out on the following activities at Calvary Church:
- I served on the Vestry a total of 12 years.
- Headed up the bottle and can redemption for 14 years.
- Chairman of the committee to sell the Rectory
- Worked with the Crombie Street crew for 15 years
- Producer of the Calvary Church video
- Helped son Bob build the bathroom in the Narthex

Calvary Episcopal Church has been a mainstay in our family for years and it has always been my pleasure to me.

## Topsfield Fair 2010 – Wrap-up

By Priscilla Gerrard

The 192<sup>nd</sup> edition of the Topsfield Fair came to a close on Columbus Day, October 11, 2010. This was my second and final year as President of the Essex Agricultural Society. We had a great show this year. Our theme was "Proud to be Giving Back". The theme was carried throughout the 10 day run. We celebrated the 100th birthday of Boy Scouting and the 100th anniversary of the fair being held at the present location in Topsfield. The Mrs. Essex County program had a special 40th "Ruby" anniversary as well.

We were entertained by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and their Musical Ride--always a treat for fairgoers. Chubby Checker celebrated his birthday and his 50th anniversary in show business with us. We had two special paid concerts performed by Mitchell Musso and Emily Osment from the Hannah Montana series and the second was "Boys Like Girls".

The weather provided us with a few challenges. Mid-week we had some rain which gave us our lowest attended day since we began keeping records. On the upside, we also had the highest recorded attendance in a single day! Both of the weekends were perfect weather-wise and brought many happy fairgoers.

We are looking ahead to 2011.



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*Tues., Wed. and Thurs. 9 - 4*  
*Service Schedule: Holy Eucharist Sundays 8:00 & 10:00 am*

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### **OFFICERS OF THE VESTRY**

Paul French ~ Warden  
Sally Symmes ~ Warden  
Bill Hooper ~ Treasurer  
Kat Lemieux ~ Clerk



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