

# **BROTHERS ALL**

# Charity ★ Justice Brotherly Love ★ Fidelity

March 2018

THE MONTHLY NEWS BULLETIN OF THE MIDDLETOWN B.P.O. ELKS LODGE 2179 251 Church Street • Belford, New Jersey 07718 • (732) 495-2733 • www.middletownelks2179.org

Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of U.S.A. A Fraternal Organization

### **EXALTED RULER'S MESSAGE**

Brothers All,

It's hard to believe we're wrapping up February already! February was a bit busy. We started the month with our annual PER Cheeseburgers in Paradise on February 2nd. Thank you to those who supported them. On February 4th our Annual Super Bowl Party was held and a great time was had by all. We had a class of 3 new members come in on February

18th. Welcome to our newcomers. On February 24th the Officers and I

competed in the state Ritual Contest at Long Branch Elks. Middletown took 5th place overall as a Team. DRAMATIC PAUSE...... A special congratulations to Charlie Diehl. He won 1st place for Inner Guard. Great job Charlie! I'd like to thank each and every one of my Officers for their participation this past year in ritual. It takes a lot of hard work, dedication and time to memorize your parts and I am grateful that you believe in the ritual ceremony and shared the experience with me. Thank you to Al Smith, our Candidate, for your dedication and support as well. Also, thanks to Ed Hahn, Donnie Anderson and Dan Maloney for your help in getting us prepared and keeping us focused throughout the year. We know your



Robert Fairhurst Exalted Ruler

time is valuable, so thank you very much for your commitment to our Team.

On March 9th please come out and join us for our Annual Charity Ball, honoring Caleigh Brennan. It's a great night of dinner and dancing for a wonderful cause! See Tom Cribbin with questions.

St. Patrick's Day falls on a Saturday this year! Members, Come down to the Lodge and enjoy the festivities!

On Friday, March 23rd from 7pm til 11pm, there will be a benefit held for Dominick Robbolino. Dominick and his family have been dealt a difficult hand these days. Please come down and support him. There will be music, food, and a gift auction. Spread the word!

And on Friday, March 30th we'll hold our Annual Good Friday Fish Fry. We hope to see you there.

"Helping others in need is not only a responsibility of life, it is what gives meaning to life"

God Bless America and God Bless the Elks.

Yours in Brotherhood, Robert Fairhurst

\*

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# ELECTED & APPOINTED OFFICERS 2017-2018

EXALTED RULER
LEADING KNIGHTKevin Brittain732-741-1076
LOYAL KNIGHT Michael Parulis, Jr., PER 732-495-1502
LECTURING KNIGHT Tom Cribbin 347-451-7913
LODGE SECRETARY Edward Hahn, DD 732-670-1775
LODGE TREASURER Mike Trieste, PDD 908-902-3447
TILERVinnie D'Acunzi
ESQUIRE Donald Desfosse, PEOY 732-788-4840
CHAPLAIN Rich Jaeger 732-241-3753
INNER GUARD Charlie Diehl

#### **TRUSTEES**

ONE YEAR TRUSTEE Fred Dollinger	;
TWO YEAR TRUSTEE Kevin McNulty732-513-9269	)
THREE YEAR TRUSTEE . Ronald Steinberger 732-495-6145	5
FOUR YEAR TRUSTEE Albert Smith, PER 732-804-2712	2
FIVE YEAR TRUSTEE Nick Giuriceo, PER 732-915-532	ĺ

#### **HOUSE COMMITTEE**

Chairman: Rich Centanni, PEOY

732-495-0110

Members: Bob Foster, Kevin Brittain,

Vinnie D'Acunzi, Al Smith, PER Nick Giuriceo, PER, Don Desfosse

Meet the Last Saturday of month at 12:00PM

### **COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN**

ACCIDENT PREVENTION Donald Desfosse, PEOY732-788-4840
AMERICANISMJohn Plumacher732-500-6084
AUDITING
BAR STEWARD Michael Parulis, Sr., PEOY
BLOOD BANKJohn Plumacher732-500-6084
BULLETINJohn DeSiato732-829-3890
CONVENTIONNick Figaro, VP732-241-5131
DRUG AWARENESS Albert Smith, PER732-495-4633
ELKS MEMORIAL DAY. Daniel P. Maloney, PDD 732-787-1622
FLAG DAYDaniel P. Maloney, PDD732-915-9351
GOLF TOURNAMENT Rich Centanni, PEOY 732-495-0110
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS Don Desfosse, PEOY .732-788-4840
HALL BOOKINGS Albert Smith, PER 732-495-4633
HOOP SHOOT Charlie Diehl732-671-0463
HOUSERich Centanni, PEOY732-495-0110
HOUSE & GROUNDSDon Desfosse, PEOY732-788-4840
INDOCTRINATION W. Randolph Smith, PDD 732-787-1941
INVESTIGATION Rich Jaeger732-787-1622
JUSTICE W. Randolph Smith, PDD732-787-1941
LAPSATION Edward Hahn, PDD 732-670-1775
LODGE ACTIVITIESDonald Desfosse, PEOY732-788-4840
LODGE PHOTOGRAPHER .Neil Grazebrook
MEDIATORJohn Klepach, PER, PDD, GER .732-787-7712
MEMBERSHIP Edward Hahn, PDD 732-670-1775
MOTORCYCLE Rich Jaeger732-787-1622
NATIONAL FOUNDATION Nick Giuriceo, PER732-915-5321
NATIONAL SERVICEMike Quilty
OFFICERS TRAINING Daniel P. Maloney, PDD 732-915-9351
PARADES Edward Foster732-747-7150
PUBLIC RELATIONS Michael Dickie, PVP
RITUAL Edward Hahn, DD732-671-0463
SATURDAY CLUBRichard Bryk732-546-0820
SCHOLARSHIPRichard Niekrash732-671-6347
SICKNESS & DISTRESS Mark Kelly732-787-0207
SOCCER SHOOT Tom Cribbin
SOCIAL & COMMUNITY WELFARE Vinnie A'cunzi
SPECIAL CHILDREN Tom Cribbin
TRACK DAY Nick Figaro, VP 732-241-5131
YOUTH ACTIVITIES Michael Parulis, Jr., PER 732-495-1502

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My Elk of the Month is Donnie Anderson.

Donnie's commitment to the Ritual Ceremony showed in the support he provided to our Team this past year.

Thank you Donnie!



IF YOU HAVE A WHEELCHAIR AND DON'T NEED IT ANYMORE. PLEASE RETURN.

### Kitchen Open

Friday, Saturday,
Sunday
12:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Buffalo Chicken,
Chicken Tenders,
Cheesesteak,
Italian Hotdog,
Flounder, Bar Pie
and more

## SPECIAL CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE

Hi All,

March is quickly upon us and February flew by. We had a successful Month with a solid turnout for our spaghetti dinner on February 7. Thank you to Don DesFossie and John Urbine and Rich Jaeger for assisting in the kitchen. As usual Kathy and Janet were great serving the meals. Our next Spaghetti dinner is March 7 and the special is Ravioli Parm, followed by our April 4 Dinner which will be Penne Vodka with grilled chicken. Our big event is closing near, Charity Ball. If you have not sent in your 50/50's, please do so as the Ball is Friday March 9 at 7 at the Grammercy at Lakeside. Please let me know if you are coming as I will be working on a seating chart. I hope to see you there. Our next event will be March 25th from 2-4 for our Easter Party... I believe the Easter bunny will be around.

Regards,

Tom Cribbin, SCC Chairman

# ST. PATRICK'S DAY LODGE OPENS AT 12 NOON CORNED BEEF AND ENTERTAINMENT



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# Middletown Elks Annual Charity Ball

Friday, March 9th, 2018 Gramercy Hall

Honoring Our Ambassador Caleigh Brennan

Cocktail Hour 7-8

Accolades & Dinner 8-12

\$75.00 Per Person

For More Information Call Tom Cribbin 347-451-7913

### MIDDLETOWN ELKS #2179 SPECIAL CHILD - CALEIGH BRENNAN MARCH 9, 2018



Caleigh was born on June 18, 2005 after a normal pregnancy and via normal delivery. She came into this world weighing 7lbs 1oz and was a typical healthy happy baby and we were overjoyed with her arrival. At 11 months old she had her first ear infection and things were never the same again. For the next six months we spent our time flip flopping from pediatrician, hospitals and ENT's trying to get to the bottom of things. Once she got her first set of ear tubes at 14 months, things were looking up. She started walking and saying words.

As these stories go, a few months later, the words became fewer and fewer and less understandable. Her frustration with being unable to communicate began to manifest itself with aggression. Thinking this was all related to her ears, we went to see an ENT at CHOP. He said the words I will never forget, "It's not her ears. She needs to see a Neurodevelopmental Pediatrician." I had no idea what a Neurodevelopmental pediatrician even was. I spoke to the pediatrician and started the ball rolling. I was fortunate to get an appointment within two weeks. She was diagnosed with PDD-NOS. As a girl, and being as young as she was, the Neurodevelopmental did not want to rush to a diagnosis of Autism.

We started early intervention, she went to school as soon as she turned three, however, she was almost completely non-verbal, very aggressive, still in diapers, socially withdrawn, sleeping only three hours a day and on sensory overload all the time. We tried a few medications with mild success. Just before she turned four, we transitioned to Children's Specialized Hospital for a more comprehensive care and treatment plan for her developmental delays and sensory processing issues. It was then that she received the diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder. Even though I knew that was a very real possibility, the diagnosis still shook me to my core. While it was overwhelming, I was grateful to have a more definitive answer and knew that now we could move forward with an appropriate care plan for her.

Medication played a big part in helping her overcome many of the obstacles. While medication will provide temporary relief of symptoms like aggression, there is no magic pill that will take away Autism. Medication afforded us the window of opportunity that allowed us to learn therapeutic interventions that have changed our lives. While I knew all along that something was off, it was still difficult to come to terms with the diagnosis for several years. We participated in all the recommended therapies, and at times several days a week.

However, it wasn't until after Superstorm Sandy that all the motions we were going through really sunk in. Caleigh was seven and as Union Beach residents, the experience was quite traumatic. We were rescued by the fire department from my sister's flooding minivan and lost just about everything in the storm. As we stayed at my dad's while the house was being cleaned out we hit a crucial breaking point. Her aggression was out of control and I was debating having her committed. She was a danger to herself and to her two younger sisters. That was our defining moment. It was then that I said to myself, 'I am only going through the motions and not truly following through with what I have learned through all of the therapies and I need to accept who she is and do my best to help her get through this.' Ever since then we have continued to move forward in a positive direction.

Caleigh was weaned off her medication and for the first time in her young life her personality came through. It was as though we were finally interacting with HER and not the diagnosis. In the five years since that moment Caleigh has grown and accomplished more than I ever thought she would be able to do. She is completely verbally communicative, in some mainstream classes, and participating in several extra-curricular activities. Now, if someone meets her for the first time, they usually can't even tell she is Autistic.

It has been a long road and we didn't do it alone. As a parent, I didn't have a choice when I was thrown into this realm. However, this has opened my eyes to a world filled with people who have hearts of gold and patience of Saints. It has also led me to people who listen to you when you are at your wits end without judging you, and people whose belief in you enables you to believe in yourself so that you can be the best parent you can be. Then there are the Angels who are there for the children: doctors, teachers, therapists, and those who volunteer to make life better for the kids by providing activities, events and sports accommodating for their participation.

Caleigh has obtained the rank of Brown Belt in Karate, she has been dancing (ballet, tap, jazz and hip hop) for the last three years, plays the clarinet in the school band, participates in Drama Club, and plays Buddy Ball Baseball. She is a fantastic artist, extremely talented at crochet and can crush all your hopes and dreams if you challenge her to a game of Just Dance!

With all that she does and can do, if you ask her, she will tell you that she is first and foremost a cheerleader, as she has been a Keyport Indian for the past seven years. Coach Patti Hunt started the Special Needs Team the year we signed up and we have been so grateful for this extended family since the first day. Those early years were rough, but seeing the smile on her face when she performs at competitions is life changing. There is nothing else she does where that pure joy exudes from her very soul.

It truly takes a village to raise a child, and it only takes a village with a bigger heart to raise a special needs child.

\*

### MESSAGE FROM BLOOD BANK CHAIRMAN

I would like to thank the members of Middletown Lodge 2179 for their support of the lodge. Blood Drive was held on January 3, 2018. The Central Jersey Blood Bank informed myself that 20 Members registered to give blood, 19 were accepted. Great job to all and thanks to Tom Cribbin, Don Desfosse and the kitchen crew for their support.

My Many Thanks,

John Plumacher, Blood Bank Chairman

### 2018 CONVENTION SIGN-UP SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 2018 1:00 - 3:00 PM

\$550 3-DAYS \$500 2-DAYS \$100 DEPOSIT TO RESERVE YOUR ROOM

ORDER PARADE SHIRT AT SIGN-UP

\$50 SHIRT AND HAT CONVENTION DATES:

**MAY 31 - JUNE 2** 

CONTACT: FRAN CORRIDON 732-978-0886

A BUS WILL LEAVE FROM THE LODGE ON SATURDAY JUNE 2 FOR THE PARADE

**FUTURE SIGN-UPS: APRIL 8, 2018** 

# GOOD FRIDAY FISH FRY

March 30, 2018 5 pm - 8 pm

Middletown Elks



Clams on a ½ Shell \* Shrimp Cocktail \*

Fried Fish and French Fries



 March 2018



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### **DISTRICT MEETINGS TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 2018 AT** MILLSTONE LODGE 7:30PM

Convention - Fran Corridon Drug Awareness - Al Smith Lodge Activities - Don Desfosse National Foundation - Ed Hahn Veterans - Mike Quilty Parades - Ed Hahn Youth Activities - Mike Parulis, Jr.

#### MEMBERS LAPSATION LIST **2017-2018**

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WILL BE DROPPED FROM OUR MEMBERSHIP ROLES ON MARCH 28, 2018.

> WARREN APEL MARVIN ARMSTRONG RANDY BRYK ROBERT BURTON MARK BYRNE ANTHONY CAPUTO RICHARD CASTLES MICHAEL CORCORAN ROBERT CORCORAN CHRISTOPHER DOUGAN TODD DYSON ERIC GUNDERSON THOMAS HAYDEN, JR. **MATTHEW HUGHES** RONALD JORGENSON ROBERT KELLY, SR. **ED KERNAN** LOUIS LASSEN MARK MASCARI MICHAEL MELFI HAROLD MERTZ **BRIAN PALMER EDWARD PRINCE** JAMES REGAN JOHN REGINA STEVEN SCARAMUTZ JASON SCARFI ROBERT SEE, JR. PATRICK SHOPP **CORY SMITH CHARLES SPEARS ED SZYMANSKI** THOMAS TREMER MICHAEL URBEALIS WILLIAM VETSEY ROBERT WILSON

> > ROBERT WYATT



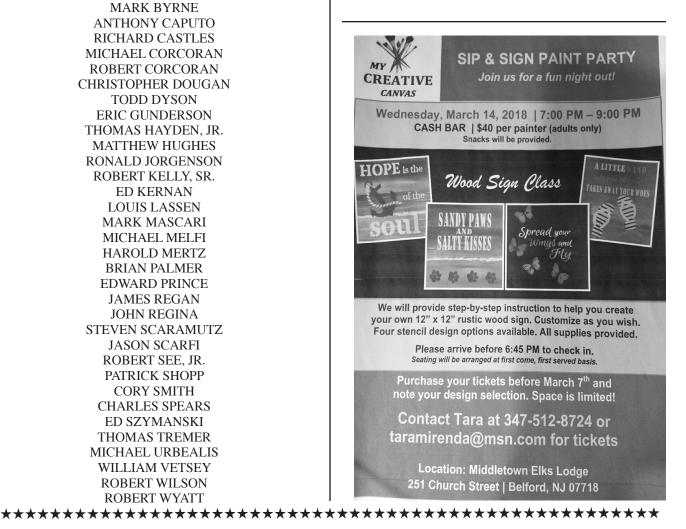
#### LODGE OF SORROW

**Thomas Kelly** 39 Years A Member

**Donald Henschel** 29 Years A Member

**Richard Riley** 39 Years A Member

May the world that they left become a better place in which to live and that our lodge be a haven brotherly love, charity, justice fidelity, because of their noble living and fine example. Grant them, O God, external rest, and be of comfort to their family and our family of Elks. Amen



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### Ladies Auxiliary Officers 2017-2018

President Lisa Hahn
Ist V.P.         Tisa D'Ziadzio        732-471-1594
2nd V.P
Treasurer
Recording Secretary Debby Gerardi 201-978-7223
Corresponding Sec Janet Desfosse 732-788-4839
Chaplain
Executive Board
Ginger Smith
Nancy Brandine
Kay Woods
Kathy Corridon
Melissa Vanderzee

#### **COMMITTEE CHAIRLADIES**

### Madame President's Message

Hello Ladies,

As my year slowly winds down I have begun to reflect on what the past year has meant to me. Last year at this time our Auxiliary was close to becoming extinct. But with the cast of new officers and the support of the Ladies Auxiliary and the Men of the Lodge we have begun to flourish again. It was not just one person but a lot of people who have put time and effort into making this a successful year. I learned this year to take all the help I could as President and learned to delegate more and be more open to change. Change is always hard but if you embrace it good things happen.

This isn't my last message as your new President Elect Tisa D'Ziadzio and her team of officers will be installed on April 7, 2018 at 6:00 PM. I will tell you that you are going to embark on an exciting year ahead. I look forward to seeing what the future holds for all of us as I have enjoyed the ride this year with this group of women and I am sure the best is yet to come.

The biggest function the Men of our Lodge run is the Charity Ball. This year's Charity Ball will be held at the Gramercy on Friday, March 9, 2018 at 7:00 PM. The cost of the affair is \$75.00 per person which includes a cocktail hour, dinner and dancing and an open bar. We honor the Poster Child for the upcoming Elks year that night. It truly is a special evening where you can give back. Hope to see you there.

Our last fundraiser is the Sip and Paint to be held on March 14, 2018 at 7:00 PM at the Lodge. The cost is \$40.00 and please contact Tara Mirenda for tickets by March 7, 2018. It is a lot of fun so come out an paint and enjoy time with friends.

I have decided to not have a Past President's luncheon as this is my second time as President, so I decided to do something different. The Men and Women are combining the Installations this year. On Installation Night I will present my Lady of the Year, Officer of the Year and my Chairman of the Year. I will give out my other awards on the night of my last meeting which is March 28, 2018. We will be moving the meeting to 7:00 PM so that I can hopefully have as many attend as possible. I will be providing finger food, some appetizers and some coffee and dessert that night. So please come out and enjoy the night with your fellow Auxiliary members as they receive the awards they deserve.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, February 28, 2018 at 7:00 PM.

Hope to see all of you at a meeting and a function. Please join us in making this year successful one for all of us.

Lisa Hahn, President

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### **BULLETIN BOOSTERS**

Each booster helps to offset printing and mailing costs of this monthly newsletter. Boosters are for one year, and payable in advance. Please note your name, and when it is due. Thank you. ANY OVER DUE HAVE BEEN DROPPED FROM LIST

January

Tom & Flo Gormley

**February** 

Tom McColgan

April

In Memory of Gene Ruck Mary Ruck Ed and Frann Glenney In Memory of Lou & Kay Dandorph Bill and Joan Burger Edna Bryk

In Memory of Ray Bryk

Mav

Joan McTigue Jim and Pat Waked Mary and Richard Bryk Nicholas and Donna DiGrigorio

June

In Memory of Dan Marchetti Dan and Carol Maloney In Memory of Robert J. Brant July

Red, White, & Blue

Chris Marchetti Mike and Nancy Brandine, Jr. August

In Memory of Jack Spann Joe and Rosemary Keeney John and Kathy Steakin Ed and Lynn O'Kane

September

In Memory of Mary Brant Frank and Dianne Zechman

October

In Memory of PER John McTigue In Memory of Kathleen L. McCartan Dan McCartan

Al and Cathy Grabau Bob and Alice Eckert In Memory of Bob Brant Kathleen Brant

November

In Memory of Willy Fix Chuck and Adrianne Bolin

Cathy Grabau December

In Memory of Ken Thompson Jane Thompson 'God's Little Miracles' Coach Saige

Please check to see if your payment is due - those more than two months in arrears will be dropped. Thank you for your support.

Please support your Bulletin	Committee expenses of printing
and mailing	with a Booster.

\$10.00 per person for a year • \$15.00 per couple Complete this coupon and send your check to:

> Middletown Elks #2179 **ATTN: Lodge Secretary** 251 Church St., Belford, NJ 07718

Name			
Address _	-w .		
City		 State	Zip

### HALL RENTALS

Contact Al Smith 732-804-2712 for Information

### Spotlight Badies

My Spotlight Ladies for March is Cathy Grabau.

I have known Cathy for over 28 years and she puts the same time in effort in helping make this Auxiliary the best in the state with the same intensity and

enthusiasm now as she did when I first met her. She is my go to person whenever I need a favor and will jump to help in at a moment's notice. Congratulations Cathy on a well deserved honor.

### MARCH LADIES BIRTHDAYS

MARCH IS AWINDY MONTH, WINTER IS STILL HERE, ALSO WEARING OF GREEN CARRYING THE SHILLELAGHS.... HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

2ND, COLLEEN KANE, GOLD STAR

3rd, Tara Miranda

5TH, JANET DESFOSSE, PAST PRESIDENT, PAST LADY OF THE YEAR AND CORRE-SPONDING SECRETARY

10th, Doris Berends

27th, Eleanor D'Antone, Gold Star

27th, Donna Langan

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR MARCH LADIES!

### **AUXILIARY MEMBERS**

Please remit your dues for 2018-2019. \$15.00 If you have questions, please feel free to call me. 732-788-4839. Thank you, Janet Desfosse, Corresponding Secretary

### **SUNSHINE** CHAIRLADY MESSAGE

Any Member Ill....or in the Hospital....Please contact Chris at 732-872-1189 to receive flowers or get well message...Thanks Chris

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### Alicia Kedz Sarin OWNER / SENIOR DIRECTOR

N.I. lic.# 4062

153 CHURCH STREET BELFORD N.J. 07718

732-787-0333

268 Seabreeze Ave. Middletown, NJ 07748



### **Electric Connection**

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#### or Current Resident

Calendar Events For March 2018							
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
				1 PER MEETING	2	3	
4	5 DARTS	6 CORNHOLE	7 SPAGHETTI DINNER	8 REGULAR MEETING	9 CHARITY BALL	10	
11	12 DARTS	13 CORNHOLE	14 MCC MEETING SIP & SIGN PAINT PARTY 7:00 - 9:00 PM	15 PER MEETING	16	17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY	
18	19 DARTS	20 FOP MEETING CORNHOLE	21	22 REGULAR MEETING	23 BENEFIT FOR DOMINICK ROBBOLINO	24	
25	26 DARTS	27 CORNHOLE	28 LADIES AUXILIARY MEETING	29	30 GOOD FRIDAY FISH FRY 5:00 - 8:00PM	31	

Calendar Events For April 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 EASTER SUNDAY	2	3	4 SPAGHETTI DINNER	5 PER MEETING	6	7 LADIES & MENS INSTALLATION
8	9 DARTS	10 CORNHOLE	11 MCC MEETING	12 REGULAR MEETING	13	14
15	16 DARTS	17 CORNHOLE	18	19 PER MEETING	20	21
22	23 DARTS	24 FOP MEETING CORNHOLE	25 AUXILIARY MEETING	26 REGULAR MEETING	27	28
29	30 DARTS					

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