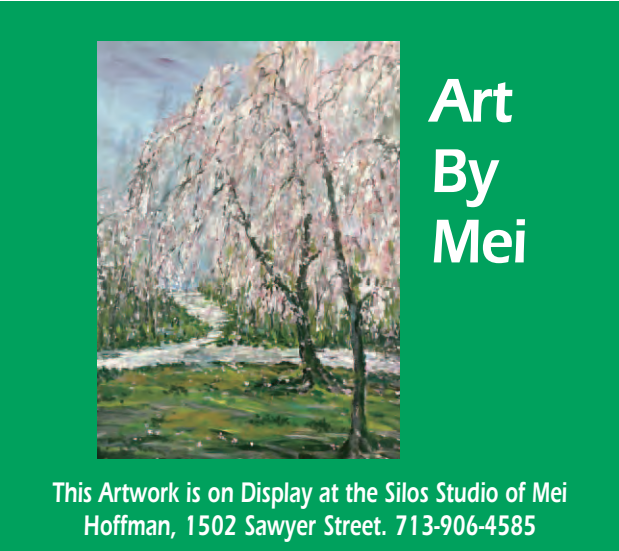




Family, Community Remembers Life of Beloved Louis Erebia

By David Taylor
Managing Editor

More than 1,000 mourners filled The River Church in Channelview last Saturday to celebrate the life of Louis Erebia, a man whose death has shaken the North Channel community and whose life, family members said, was defined by faith, generosity and an uncommon gift for making people feel seen.

Erebia, 56, was remembered not only for the tragic circumstances of his death but for the joyful rhythm of the life he built around the people he loved. Friends, relatives, church members and Little League families packed the sanctuary, a visible reflection of the reach of a man described again and again as a helper, encourager and protector.

The service's most emo-



Louis Erebia's two sons, Austin and Logan, carry their father's casket out of the church following a soul-stirring and emotional service remembering their dad.

tional moments came when his wife and children stepped to the microphone, not to list accomplishments, but to describe the small, ordinary acts that

made Louis unforgettable: goofy dances in the kitchen, early-morning break-

Continued. See HONORING LOUIS EREBIA: A LIFE OF FAITH, Page 6

Crosby Gears Up for America's 250th with Patriotic Festivities

By David Taylor
Managing Editor

CROSBY, Texas — The countdown is on to America's 250th anniversary, and Crosby is getting an early start with a Liberty Tree dedication, birthday cake, patriotic music and free family activities July 2 at Crosby Park and Community Center.

Organized by the Old Three Hundred Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution with support from local groups and sponsors, the event gives Crosby residents a hometown way to celebrate the nation's semiquincentennial ahead of the official July 4, 2026, milestone.

Festivities begin at 9 a.m. with a Liberty Tree presentation and dedication ceremony led by Harris County Precinct 3



Commissioner Tom Ramsey. Organizers said the ceremony will feature the Crosby High School JROTC Color Guard, the posting of the colors, hand-held flags for attendees and music by Lisa Worthen, the former Crosby High School choir director, who is scheduled to sing the national anthem and lead "God Bless America."

A birthday cake celebra-

tion follows at 9:30 a.m. inside the community center, with more free family activities planned from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the pavilion.

Laura Richard, regent of the Crosby chapter, said the event grew out of conversations within the

Continued. See CROSBY TO KICK OFF, page 2

Nearly 600 New Street Lights to Brighten Barrett Community

By Gerardo Hernandez,

BARRETT STATION—Residents of the Barrett community can expect brighter and safer streets as Harris County Precinct 3 and MUD 50 move forward with a major street lighting project that will bring nearly 600 new street lights to the area.

According to project officials, Precinct 3 is currently overseeing the installation of the new lighting infrastructure, while MUD 50 will assume responsibility for maintaining the lights once the project is complete.

A video released by the partnership highlights the scope of the effort, noting that 99 new utility poles are being installed and 483



A utility crew installs one of the nearly 600 new street lights in Barrett Station.



Alice Dangerfield
Harris County MUD 50 President

additional lights are being added to existing poles as part of the overall initiative. MUD 50 President Alice Dangerfield said "the project is aimed at improving public safety and enhancing the quality of life for Barrett residents."

Officials cites studies showing that improved street lighting can significantly reduce traffic accidents and vehicle-related injuries, while providing safer conditions for residents walking to bus stops, traveling through neighborhoods and spending time outdoors after dark.

Speaking in the video from Harris County Precinct 3 Commissioner facebook page, the MUD 50 president Dangerfield expressed excitement about the project and its long-term benefits for the community, emphasizing that additional lighting will help make neighborhoods

Continued. See HARRIS COUNTY PRECINCT 3 & MUD 50, page 2

Low-Cost Spay and Neuter Clinic Scheduled in Highlands



By Gerardo Hernandez,

HIGHLANDS — Pet owners in the Highlands area will have an opportunity to access affordable pet care later this month during a low-cost Spay and Neuter event organized by

Tom S Ramsey, Harris County Precinct 3 Commissioner's Office in partnership with PetSet at the San Jacinto Community Center.

The four-day event will be held from June 26 through June 29 at the San

Jacinto Community Center, located at 604 Highland Woods Drive in Highlands.

For \$20 per pet, owners will receive a package of

Continued. See AFFORDABLE SPAY & NEUTER, Page 5

Precinct 3 Summer Kids Program Draws More Than 160 Children and Families in Highlands

By Gerardo Hernandez,

HIGHLANDS — More than 160 children and their families gathered for another successful week of the Harris County Precinct 3 Summer Kids Program at the San Jacinto Community Center, where a day filled with fun, learning and community engagement highlighted the importance of safety and togetherness.

According to information posted on the San Jacinto Community Center's Facebook page, Week 2 of the summer program featured visits from the Harris County Precinct 3 Constable's Office and the Highlands Volunteer Fire Department. First re-



Tonya Kostka and her coworker providing free fruits and other items to kids at the San Jacinto Community Center

sponders shared important safety lessons with the children and gave them an up-close look at emergency vehicles, including a fire

truck and ambulance. One of the day's high-

Continued. See SUMMER PROGRAM CONTINUES TO PROVIDE, Page 5

Crosby to kick off America's 250th anniversary with patriotic festivities,

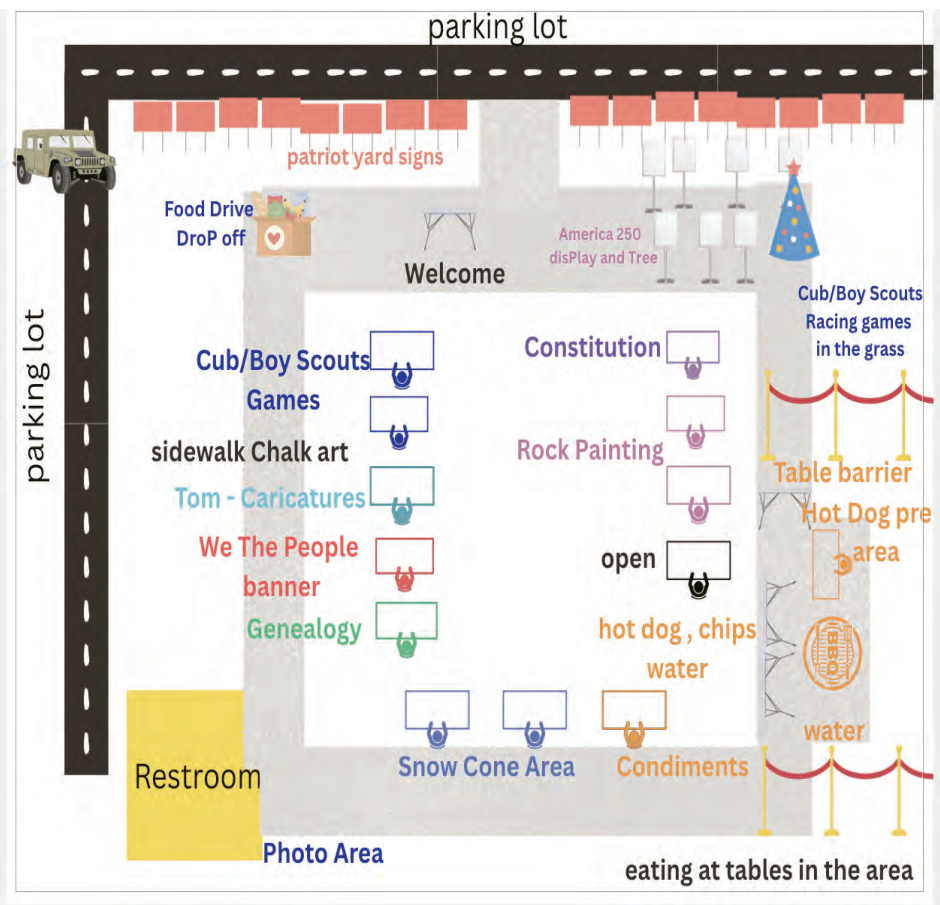
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

DAR about how local chapters could mark the country's 250th birthday in a way that feels both meaningful and lasting.

"We wanted to do something memorable, meaningful — something that would not just be thrown away and forgotten," Richard said. "The Liberty Tree is a symbol of liberty and unity, and it reminds people that communities need places where they can come together, talk to each other and work through things together."

Richard said chapter members first discussed what kind of permanent marker or monument could best represent the occasion. They eventually settled on the Liberty Tree, a symbol deeply tied to Revolutionary War history.

In colonial Boston, the Liberty Tree became a gathering place for protest against British policies, es-



pecially after the Stamp Act of 1765. Patriots known as the Sons of Liberty used the tree as a rallying point, hanging banners and signs from its branches. Although British loyalists later cut it down in 1775, the Liberty Tree endured as a symbol of resistance, civic action and unity.

For Richard, that symbolism still resonates.

"This is where we come and talk to each other. This is where we meet up. This is where we talk out things and figure out solutions," she said. "I think that is a great message for today."

Richard said organizers first hoped to fold the tribute into an existing community event but found that no local celebration was taking shape.

"Nobody was doing anything, so we just went from there," she said. "What started as a little Liberty Tree celebration has turned into quite an event."

Since then, the event has drawn support from scouts, local historical groups, the American Legion, the chamber of commerce, school organizations and businesses. Richard said American Heritage Girls also may participate.

Activities planned for the pavilion include children's games, patriotic crafts, a caricature artist, a Declaration of Independence writing activity, a community banner project, snow cones, hot dogs and educational displays. Organizers also will collect nonperishable food donations for disabled veterans.

The event is free and open to the public.

For additional information about the event, please contact the Old Three Hundred Chapter at old300chapter@gmail.com.

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Harris County Precinct 3 and MUD 50 move forward with a major street lighting project,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

safer and more accessible for families.

Officials said the nearly 600 new street lights represent a significant investment in the Barrett community and reflect a collaborative effort between Harris County Precinct 3 and MUD 50 to improve infrastructure and enhance public safety.

Once installation is completed, MUD 50 will oversee ongoing maintenance to ensure the new lights continue to serve residents for years to come.



THURSDAY, JULY 2ND

at the
CROSBY PARK & COMMUNITY CENTER

9:00 AM	OLD THREE HUNDRED CHAPTER DAR Liberty Tree Presentation and Dedication with COMMISSIONER TOM RAMSEY, CROSBY HIGH SCHOOL JROTC, with Special Guest Vocalist, Lisa Worthen
9:30 AM	AMERICA 250 BIRTHDAY CAKE & REFRESHMENTS in the COMMUNITY CENTER
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM	AMERICA 250 CELEBRATION ACTIVITIES, SNOW CONES & HOT DOGS at the PAVILION

NON-PERISHABLE FOOD DRIVE TO SUPPORT DISABLED VETERANS
Please bring non-perishable food items to help support local disabled veterans.

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BASED ON SEP 14, 2026 DEPARTURE

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Barbers Hill Dayton Press

Serving Mont Belvieu, Dayton, Baytown and surrounding communities since 1995

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THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 2026

MONT BELVIEU, TEXAS 77580

Traffic Stop Leads to Fraud Arrest, \$50,000 Recovered

BAYTOWN — A routine traffic stop in Chambers County led to the arrest of a New York man and the recovery of approximately \$50,000 that authorities say was stolen from an elderly Southeast Texas couple through a fraud scheme. According to the Chambers County Sher-



Qinfei He

iff's Office, detectives conducted a traffic stop on Wednesday, June 10, near the 810-mile marker on Interstate 10 in Wallisville. Information obtained during the stop prompted investigators to secure a search warrant for the vehicle. During the search, detectives discovered ap-

proximately \$50,000 in cash bundled with bank bands. Investigators later determined the money belonged to an elderly couple from Jefferson County who had been targeted in a scam. Authorities said the victims were contacted by an unknown caller posing as a federal

representative and were falsely told that their identities had been stolen and their finances were in jeopardy. Believing their money needed to be protected, the couple turned over the cash for what they thought was safekeeping. The driver of the vehicle, Qinfei He, of New

York, was arrested and charged with money laundering. The Chambers County Sheriff's Office is working closely with the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office in the investigation. Authorities said the recovered funds will be returned to the victims.

Dayton ISD Names Dr. Di Nardo Bazile as New Principal of Woodrow Wilson Junior High School

By Melanie Nunez,

DAYTON, TX — Dayton ISD is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Di Nardo Bazile as the new Principal of Woodrow Wilson Junior High, effective July 1, 2026. Dr. Bazile brings more than 30 years of experience in education, including over 20 years in administrative leadership across multiple levels. Throughout his distinguished career, he has remained committed to creating learning environments where students thrive, educators are



empowered, and families are valued partners in the educational process. He has served as a campus prin-

icipal for seven years and holds a Doctorate of Education in Educational Leadership from Nebraska Methodist College. Dr. Bazile is also a proud graduate of Grambling State University, a historically Black college and university (HBCU) known for developing leaders across a variety of professions. "We are excited to welcome Dr. Bazile to Dayton ISD and Woodrow Wilson Junior High," said Superintendent Dr. Travis Young. "His extensive experience, commitment to

student success, and passion for building strong relationships make him an excellent fit for our district. We look forward to the leadership and vision he will bring to our campus community." Dr. Bazile is dedicated to fostering a positive and collaborative school culture where students are inspired to learn, teachers are supported in their practice, and the entire community works together to ensure student success. When asked what he is most passionate about, Dr. Ba-

zile points to the importance of collaboration and building meaningful relationships within the learning community. "I am honored to join Dayton ISD and serve the students, staff, and families of Woodrow Wilson Junior High," said Dr. Bazile. "I believe strong relationships and teamwork are the foundation of a successful school. I look forward to working alongside the Dayton community to support student achievement and create opportunities for every stu-

dent to reach their fullest potential." Woodrow Wilson Junior High serves students in grades 6-8 and plays a vital role in preparing students for success in high school and beyond. Dayton ISD is confident that Dr. Bazile's experience, leadership, and student-centered approach will continue to strengthen the campus and support its ongoing commitment to excellence. Please join Dayton ISD in welcoming Dr. Di Nardo Bazile to the Bronco family.

The Bitter and Sweet of Life

By Mei Hoffman

Last Friday should have been a very big day for our household. First, my husband [Gil Hoffman, publisher of this newspaper] was scheduled to have a surgery on his spine, because of serious pain that he has been experiencing for many weeks. Second, I was supposed to attend the opening night of a new exhibit at the **Pearl Fincher Museum of Art**, because one of my paintings had been chosen for the collection. I was so honored and excited!

Unfortunately, we ended up with double disappointment instead.

After a long day of pre-surgery preparation, the procedure ended up getting delayed. This made Gil feel pretty discouraged and concerned, and as his partner, I felt it too. I didn't want to leave him alone in that vulnerable state, so I stayed by his side, skipping out on the opening night.

I think it was the right decision, but the timing was such bad luck. This was my first time to be invited to participate in an exhibit, and it had come out of the blue, just because someone from a museum happened to see and like my work. Receiving the invitation email months ago had been an incredible, happy surprise, and gave me validation as an artist. So I was really looking forward to being part of this celebration. I wanted to meet the other artists and ask them about their work. I would have loved to see people's reactions to my painting.

But life is like that sometimes. The bitter comes with the sweet.

What matters most is that Gil receives good care, and even though I missed the opening night, I can still be proud that my work is on display in such a wonderful museum.

MORE ABOUT THE EXHIBIT

Pearl Fincher Museum of Art
6815 Cypresswood Drive, Spring, TX 77379
Hours: 10 AM - 5 PM Tuesday through Saturday

Chromatica: A World in Color
June 13 - September 5

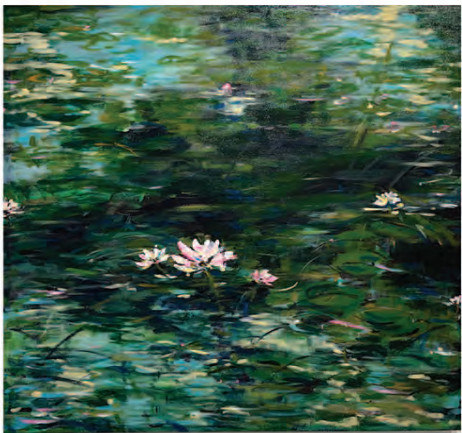


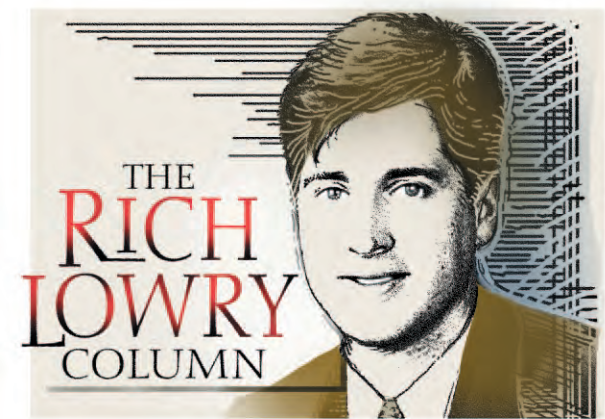
Chromatica: A World in Color explores the universal language of color. Drawing from multiple artists and loaned collections from Museum of the Red River and the Mabee-Gerrer Museum of Art, this group exhibition brings together artworks and culturally significant objects that highlight how color conveys symbolism, identity, and emotion across different societies and periods.

By presenting color as both a visual element and a cultural lens, Chromatica invites viewers to consider how pigments, materials, and meanings have circulated through time, revealing unexpected connections between art, history, and human creativity.

Featured Artists:

Jeremy Biggers - Dallas, TX
Bette Ridgeway - Santa Fe, NM
Diane Gelman - Houston, TX
Garrett Griffin - Houston, TX
Jamie Robertson - Virginia Beach, VA
Sajeela Siddiq - Houston, TX
April DeConick - Houston, TX
Adrienne Simmons - Houston, TX
Mei Hoffman - Houston, TX
Dan Lam - Austin, TX
Lauren Kelly (Citizen Potawatomi) - Norman, Oklahoma
Dixie Friend Gay - Houston, TX
Janice Freeman - Houston, TX
Calder Kamin - Austin, TX
Ken Pridgeon - Houston, TX
Celeste Reiter - Cincinnati, OH
Vicente Hernandez Vasquez - Oaxaca Mexico
Elsie John (Coushatta/Koasati) - Louisiana
Marcelino Vicente - Ocumicho, Michoacán, Mexico
Rosendo Carillo de la Rosa (Wixáritari) - Jalisco, Mexico
Dorleen Gashweseoma (Hopi) - Hotevilla-Bacavi, Arizona
O. Golubev - Village: Palekh, Russia
G. Brown
Robert "Robbie" McCuttry - Oklahoma
Dennis Belindo (Kiowa-Diné) - Oklahoma
Sam Lao - Dallas, TX





How to Kill the Supreme Court in One Easy Step

In 2016, the conservative writer Mike Anton made a galvanizing case for Donald Trump in his famous “Flight 93” essay, arguing that the stakes in the contest between Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton were existential.

His contention that a Clinton win would cement Democratic electoral dominance forever, such that Republicans needed to charge the cockpit or die, was implausible at the time and seems more so in retrospect.

If Hillary had won in 2016, in all likelihood, she would have been gone in 2020, washed away by the pandemic just like Trump was.

This time, though, really might be different. Democrats are now seriously contemplating measures that wouldn’t have occurred to Hillary Clinton circa 2016. Endorsing some version of court-packing, or “court reform,” as Democrats insist on calling it, is becoming orthodoxy among mainstream Democrats.

Several weeks ago, James Carville said that Democrats should pack the Court and add the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico as states in 2028 if they get unified control of Washington.

The immediate past Democratic presidential nominee, who has some chance of winning the 2028 Democratic nomination, Kamala Harris, associated herself with the same ideas. She added abolishing the Electoral College to the list.

House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries, who easily could be the Speaker of the House next year, has said: “In the new Congress, we’re going to have to do something about this Supreme Court, and let me be very clear: Everything is on the table.”

The top Democrat on the House Judiciary Committee, Jamie Raskin, has fashioned a reason why the Supreme Court needs to be expanded by four justices (supposedly, the number of justices should match the number of federal circuits at 13).

If all these ideas were to become consensus Democratic agenda items in 2028, they would constitute one of the most radical political platforms of a major political party in American history.

Court-packing alone would be a seismic, system-changing event, as would abolishing the Electoral College, which has been foundational to our presidential elections from the beginning.

The common theme of all of this would be guaranteeing outcomes — four new progressive justices, four new Democratic senators — in blatant power grabs undermining the legitimacy of the institutions in question.

What would a world look like where a substantial portion of the country thinks the Supreme Court is a sham, and not because the court is issuing unwelcome opinions, but because the court has been arbitrarily changed to produce a predetermined ideological result through a grotesque end-run around the rules?

Democrats will say Republicans have already done this, even though the GOP operated within standard procedures to forge the current conservative majority. Did Republicans play hardball? Sure. But their influence on the composition of the court depended on winning presidential and senate elections, and taking advantage of fortuitous timing to confirm justices the way they’ve always been confirmed.

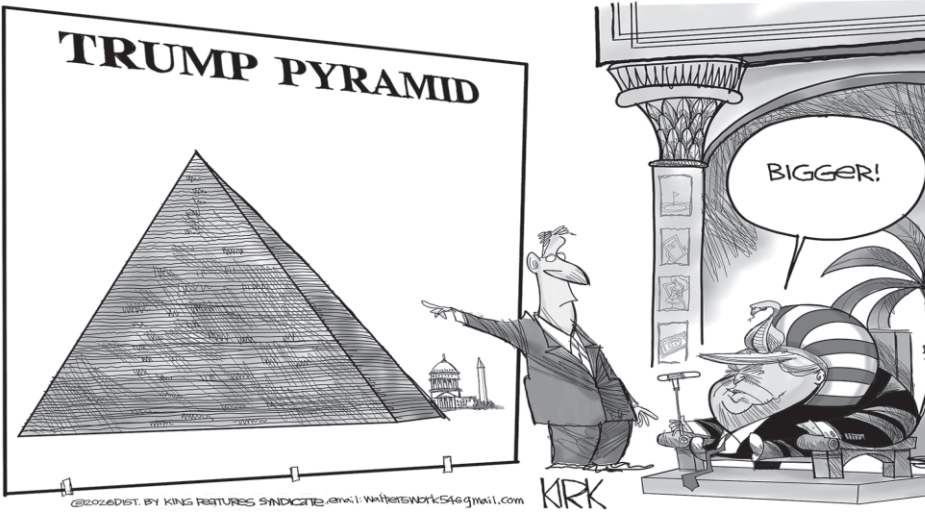
Manufacturing new seats out of nothing, or forcing the retirements of conservative justices by fiat, would be a blatant rigging of the court. If a portion of the country thinks that it no longer needs to abide by the Court’s decisions, that obviously creates the predicate for serious civil strife. The same is true if Congress is no longer seen as legitimate after it is packed with newly minted Democratic senators.

Democrats feel justified in embracing any means to match and exceed Trump’s comprehensive aggressiveness. Trump’s provocations — the lawfare, the executive overreach, the wars without congressional authorization, the gerrymandering — all have ample precedent among prior Democratic presidents. Democrats, of course, don’t see it that way, and they fear and loathe Donald Trump more than they have any other Republican president.

In reaction, should they sweep in 2028, they may try to push the American constitutional order past an event horizon from which it will never return. In other words, 12 years after the GOP was told to charge the cockpit or die, the stakes for our system really could be existential.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.
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SELF - AGGRANDIZEMENT TAKEN TO ITS ULTIMATE CONCLUSION...



★

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders



First Case in 2026 of West Nile Virus Reported

The year’s first case of West Nile virus has been reported in a Harris County resident, the Texas Department of State Health Services reported. The virus is transmitted through the bite of infected mosquitoes, though 80% of people infected with West Nile never experience symptoms.

“West Nile and other mosquito-borne illnesses are a fact of life in Texas in the warmer months, and all Texans should take precautions against mosquito bites to stay safe and healthy,” said DSHS Commissioner Jennifer A. Shuford. She advised removing standing water from homes and yards, such as in buckets, old tires and other items.

The symptoms experienced by the unlucky 20% include fever, headache, nausea, muscle and joint aches, and fatigue. Though rare, West Nile virus can be fatal.

In the past five years, there have been 976 cases of West Nile in Texas, according to DSHS, with 106 deaths during that period.

STATE’S WIND PROJECTS AT A STANDSTILL

Dozens of Texas wind projects have been halted because the Department of Defense has not approved the federal permits required for them to move forward, the Austin American-Statesman reported.

Data from the American Clean Power Association indicate that the state has 54 wind projects stalled as part of a nationwide delay affecting 165 onshore wind projects.

President Donald Trump has long opposed wind power. Energy experts such as Environment Texas Executive Director Luke Metzger say the administration is using the regulations, such as ensuring a wind project would not affect military airspace, as an attack on renewable power.

“It’s hard to see this as anything other than an effort to slow or stop wind power regardless of the consequences for consumers, the environment and grid reliability,” Metzger said.

In a statement, a defense department official said DOD is still evaluating the projects.

The department’s evaluation of wind turbines “is inher-



ently complex and time-consuming because it involves balancing two critical, and sometimes competing, interests: developing energy sources while ensuring military operations and readiness are not degraded or impaired to the extent an unacceptable risk to national security is created,” the official said.

R&D PLAYS VITAL ROLE IN STATE’S ECONOMY

Texas is one of the top five states contributing to research and development, according to a recent report from the state comptroller’s office.

The federal Bureau of Economic Analysis estimates R&D’s contribution to gross domestic product, “after accounting for the resources used to produce goods and services, employment and compensation from 2012 to 2023.”

The R&D value added by Texas businesses reached \$29.2 billion in 2023, a 131% increase from 2012. Further, R&D in the state supplied nearly 195,000 jobs and \$30.1 billion in wages, salaries and benefits in 2023.

Texas has 15 Tier 1 colleges and universities, the most in any state. In 2024, more than 11,800 patents were issued in Texas, the second highest in the country, after California.

“When investments are made in research, the returns multiply — strengthening our competitiveness, securing our future and improving the lives of all Texans,” said Fernanda Leite, interim vice president for research at UT-Austin.

FRANKLIN MOUNTAINS STATE PARK GROWS BY 1,000 ACRES

Franklin Mountains State Park, 15 minutes from El Paso, is now 1,054 acres larger to the east as the result of a new land acquisition, the Texas Parks and Wildlife

Department reported.

“I am excited about this acquisition,” said Superintendent Cesar Mendez, “which extends the buffer zone all the way to Martin Luther King Boulevard, adding some lower elevation and flatter land to Franklin Mountains State Park and securing access points (trailheads).”

With 28,000 acres — or 43 square miles — the park is one of the largest urban wilderness parks in the world. It has more than 120 miles of trail and is a popular site with birders.

The acquisition helps safeguard the main mountain area of desert bighorn sheep habitat.

FEDERAL AID FOR PANHANDLE WILDFIRE VICTIMS

The Federal Emergency Management Agency has approved a request for grant funds to assist victims of the Hungate Fire in Randall County, which has merged with the Chocolate Chip Fire, burning an estimated 14,000 acres and threatening more than 1,245 homes. Aid has also been granted for the Sinky Fire in Potter County, which has burned more than 2,500 acres and prompted evacuation of more than 500 acres.

“Texas has secured federal resources to further guard against wildfire threats in the Panhandle,” said Gov. Greg Abbott. “With this grant approval, Texas has additional tools to help Texans remain safe from wildfire danger.”

The approval of a Fire Management Assistance Grant makes the state eligible for 75% reimbursement from the federal government for eligible costs associated with wildfire suppression. These grants are available to states, counties and cities to support the mitigation, management, and control of fires that threaten to become major disasters.

BROKER IMPOSTER SCAMS BEING REPORTED

Several attempted broker-imposter scams over the past few months have prompted the Texas Department of Banking to warn that such ruses could pose a significant threat to financial institutions and consumers.

According to a TDB news release, “consumers are targeted after conducting searches for high-rate investment opportunities. Individuals contacted by the fraudsters are often not existing bank customers and are located across the United States.”

Some red flags to look for are cold calls, an incorrect or bogus email address, low-risk/high-reward offers, and unusual funding procedures.

Anyone who is targeted by a broker imposter is encouraged to contact the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority at finra.org.

Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches, Lufkin and Cedar Park.

Email: gborders@texaspres.com

★

THE POSTSCRIPT

By Carrie Classon

The Bells



“What’s up with the bells?” I asked someone who looked as if he might know something.

I live near a cathedral. I can’t hear the cathedral bells from our apartment, but I walk past the church coming and going on my walk every day and, when I got back from Mexico this spring, I discovered that one of the bells had stopped ringing.

I am sure you have heard bells like these. Sometimes the bells are now recorded, but these are the real thing. There is a short melody at a quarter past the hour and a longer one that plays at half past. At a quarter to the hour, almost the complete melody plays, but it stops early on a different note. Then, on the hour, the full melody plays. It is very satisfying.

To prevent the nearest neighbors from waking every quarter hour, the bells do not ring at night. But they ring all day long, and now one of the bells is missing. I can’t imagine how the folks in the immediate neighborhood can stand it.

“What’s up with the bells?” I asked some people who looked as if they had just come out of church on Sunday. They looked at me as if I was not speaking a language they knew. “There’s one that’s not ringing. How long has that been going on?”

No idea. I asked several people, and I started to feel sorry for whichever priest had been preaching that day. If these people hadn’t even noticed the missing bell, I found it hard to believe they had absorbed a word of his sermon.

On a weekday, I was passing by the rectory. I didn’t know what a rectory was until I googled it and learned this was where the priests lived. A man in his thirties came out the door. He was not wearing a clerical collar, but I figured if he lived in the rectory, he would have to know what was going on. So I pounced.

“What’s up with the bells?” The man looked genuinely afraid of me, and I started to wonder what it was about me that was so alarming. But that did not mean I was giving up my quest.

“The bells,” I continued. “There’s one missing. It isn’t ringing. This has been going on for weeks. I wondered if it was going to be fixed.”

The man had not stopped walking the whole while I talked.

“Um ... yes. I think there are some people fixing it,” he said, scurrying away. “They came from France.”

Then he darted off into the parking lot as if he couldn’t get away from me fast enough. I was genuinely puzzled. And I wondered if, living under the bells as they did, they no longer heard them. And, if so, this did not seem like a good thing.

Because those bells are beautiful. I hear them every day, and I think of what a wonderful thing that must have been on Easter Sunday, 1915, when the cathedral was officially opened and the bells rang. I think of how proud and excited everyone must have been, and how helpful it must have been, before everyone had a phone or even a time-piece, to always know where they were in their day in such a musical way.

I’m going to take a few days off from my inquiry. There’s a chance I might be getting a reputation. But I love the bells, and I am not giving up. Those folks from France sound like they could use a little encouragement.

Till next time,
Carrie

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Highlands affordable spay and neuter event,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

veterinary services that includes spay or neuter surgery, core vaccinations and microchipping. Officials say the event is designed to help reduce pet overpopulation while making essential preventive care more accessible and affordable for families. Spaying and neutering pets can help decrease the number of unwanted ani-

mals entering shelters, while vaccinations and microchipping provide added protection and improve the chances of reuniting lost pets with their owners. The Harris County Precinct 3 Commissioner's Office regularly hosts low-cost pet wellness events throughout the county as part of its efforts to promote responsible pet

ownership and improve animal welfare in local communities. Registration for the clinic is now open, and appointments are required. Pet owners may register online at pet-set.org/spay-neuter. For additional information, residents may call 281-624-5688.

Summer program continues to provide free activities and family friendly fun for local children,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Screwworm Detection Prompts Disaster Declaration in Texas

By Gary Borders,

TEXAS - Gov. Greg Abbott issued a statewide disaster declaration late last week after the New World screwworm was found in two calves in South Texas, according to The Dallas Morning News. Two cases have been identified in newborn calves in Zavala County, about 5.6 miles apart. The U.S. Department of Agriculture said a strike team was on site and that restrictions were in place to prevent the movement of cattle. "We have, in the past, prevented as well as eradicated this pest, and we can do it again," Abbott said. The New World screwworm is a parasitic fly that lays eggs in open wounds, nearly always in cattle. In the past, sterile male flies have proven effective in eradicating screwworm infestations.



The federal government is building a \$750 million facility to produce sterilized flies, but it won't be complete until November 2027. In the meantime, the government is purchasing sterile flies from a facility in Panama and using federal funds to re-vamp another facility in Mexico. However, total fly production from those

two plants accounts for only 40% of what is needed, The News reported. State officials have stressed that the New World screwworm does not pose a food or disease risk to humans. A widespread infestation could further drive up beef prices, already elevated by a ban on importing Mexican cattle and a drop in domestic production.

lights was the popular "Pizza with a Cop" activity, sponsored by the Harris County Precinct 3 Constable's Office. Goose Creek CISD also treated attendees to cheeseburgers, adding to the festive atmosphere. Organizers distributed more than 20 door prizes during the event, while every child received a take-home gift and a nutritious snack before leaving. The

program's activities created an afternoon of smiles, learning and memorable experiences for local families. Community partnerships played a key role in the event's success. Organizers expressed appreciation to sponsors Food Town Highlands, Seniors Helping Seniors and Sheffield Liquidation of Crosby for their support in helping provide resources and ac-

tivities for area children and families. The Precinct 3 Summer Kids Program continues to bring together residents, first responders, schools and local businesses to create a positive and enriching summer experience for children throughout the Highlands community. Source: Information and photos courtesy of the San Jacinto Community Center Facebook page.

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Honoring Louis Erebia: A life of faith & generosity,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

fasts, rides to practices and games, Sunday Tejano music, and a habit of turning strangers into friends before an errand was over.

His oldest daughter, Brandy, said her father’s kindness was the lesson that will outlive him. Remembering the “dorky faces” and “silly dances” that once seemed endless, she told mourners that even her own children already understand what Louis taught by example: “To be kind to others.” She promised that his light would continue through his children and grandchildren.

Austin, his oldest son, spoke with the weight of sudden responsibility and deep gratitude.

“My dad was the best man around,” he said. “He helped anyone and everyone and never complained once.” Austin vowed to carry forward the example his father set, telling his family, “I promise to take care of mom and my siblings. I’m honored to be able to say you were my dad.”

For Logan, whose stolen truck his father was trying to recover before he was killed, grief came wrapped in memory: baseball games, late-night talks and hard-won time together.

“He would always forgive. Never hated. He always loved,” Logan said, recalling a father who showed up for every game and every conversation that mattered.

Brooklyn described the

father she knew at home as the loud morning person who filled the house with music, made breakfast, watched movies and turned interruptions into affection. He was, she said, the kind of dad who “could light up an entire room” and who “never missed a game.”

Addison remembered a father who made even ordinary outings feel special and treated her friends like family.

“He taught me to always be kind to others, work hard and love everyone,” she said. “He taught me everything, just not how to live without him.”

His wife, Amanda, offered the story of a marriage built over 26 years from persistence, partnership and laughter. She remembered the man who asked her to lunch every Friday until she finally said yes, the husband who could be disorganized and stubborn, but who loved loudly and showed up unflinchingly for his family, church and friends.

“Because Louis was my partner,” she said, explaining how she managed the demands of work, church and community life. “We made an incredible team.”

Those tributes matched the broader picture sketched by relatives and friends: a Houston native who spent 32 years at American Packing and Gasket, loved coaching baseball, served at The River Church, volunteered

in the community and never seemed to run out of energy for people who needed him. He was the neighbor who helped, the church member who served, the parent in the stands and the grandfather known as “Pops.”

Family members said his generosity did not announce itself with grand gestures so much as with steady presence — a ride offered without hesitation, a phone call returned, a prayer spoken on the spot, a meal shared, a burden quietly carried. In a world that often feels rushed and transactional, Louis made people feel they mattered.

Again and again, the people who loved him returned to the same truth: Louis Erebia’s life was not defined by what happened in his final moments, but by the way he lived every day before them. He fed people, teased people, prayed with people, cheered for people and, in the end, protected people. In a sanctuary overflowing with grief, that legacy stood taller than sorrow.

As Amanda told the crowd, her husband “spent his life loving people well.” For a family now learning to live without him, and for a community still trying to absorb the loss, that may be the clearest measure of the man they came to honor: a life measured not in years alone, but in the love he gave away.

Abbott Orders Texas Regulators to Keep Data Center Costs Off Ratepayers

By David Taylor
Managing Editor

Gov. Greg Abbott has ordered Texas utility regulators to move quickly to prevent the cost of expanding data center infrastructure from being shifted onto households and small businesses, saying the state must not allow its fast-growing digital economy to raise electric bills for ordinary Texans.

In a June 10 letter to Public Utility Commission Chairman Thomas Gleeson and ERCOT President and CEO Pablo Vegas, Abbott said the “rapid scale of data center development requires oversight” to ensure Texans are not left paying for the infrastructure needed to support the industry’s growth. He directed the PUC to require data centers to “pay for all of their electric infrastructure costs to ensure that no residential ratepayer is burdened by those costs.”

Abbott also ordered the PUC to take action so that data center interconnections “will result in reduced residential electrical bills,” and told the PUC and ERCOT to review what steps they can already take under existing law “to safeguard Texans, their property, and resources.”

The governor set two near-term deadlines. He instructed the PUC and ERCOT to submit a joint memorandum to his office by July 17, 2026, outlining



Picture of a the Data center facility



actions they can take now, any statutory limits they face, and any legislative proposals needed to strengthen protections. He also ordered the PUC to “initiate action to reduce residential ratepayer transmission costs by July 31, 2026.”

Abbott framed the move as an effort to manage the side effects of Texas’ economic success, which has drawn a wave of data center development to the state. In the letter, he wrote that Texas has become “a magnet for business development, including data centers,” but said growth must not come “at the cost of Texans and our local communities.”

Beyond electricity costs, Abbott signaled a broader regulatory push next legislative session. He pledged to work with lawmakers to require new data centers to use “water-efficient technologies such as closed-loop cooling systems,” to mandate annual reporting of electricity and water use, and to repeal “sales tax exemptions and other outdated or unnecessary incentives for data centers.” He also said he wants operators to reduce neighborhood impacts through “best practices such as setbacks, noise-reduction technology, and other measures that take into account the concerns of neighbors.”

In the letter’s closing, Abbott said Texas should continue to welcome “innovation and investment,” but added that growth must “strengthen our people and their quality of life without placing undue burdens on Texans and local communities.”

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NANCY W. SMITH

The residence address of the administrator is in Harris County, Texas. The mailing address is:

c/o Weston Cotten
1500 E. Wallisville Road
Highlands, TX 77562

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
Dated this JUNE 15, 2026

by WESTON COTTE5N
Attorney for the Estate

LEGAL NOTICE

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Original Letters Testamentary for Docket No. 544134; Estate of DAVID LOUIS BYROM Deceased; In Probate Court No. 5 of Harris County, Texas, were issued on JUNE 8, 2026 to:

EDNA MALDONADO BYROM

The residence address of the administrator is in Harris County, Texas. The mailing address is:

c/o Weston Cotten
1500 E. Wallisville Road
Highlands, TX 77562

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
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Glen Powell star in "How to Make a Killing."

“How to Make a Killing”

“How to Make a Killing” (R) — Glen Powell (“The Running Man”) leads this black-comedy thriller that also stars Margaret Qualley (“The Substance”), Topher Grace (“Flight Risk”), and Ed Harris (“Love Lies Bleeding”). It follows Becket Redfellow (Powell), who was born to an affluent family but was shunned due to his mother being a teenager when she had him. Stuck on the idea that he still deserves the life that his family has, Becket learns that he’s still in line for the family fortune due to a loophole. So, he nefariously decides to murder the remaining living Redfellows so that he can claim the \$28 billion jackpot. The film barely made up its budget in

theaters and didn’t generate much buzz from audiences, which could be because it leans into “American Psycho” territory without the actual allure of the film. Premieres June 19. (HBO Max)

“Voicemails for Isabelle” (PG-13) — Netflix refuses to slow down on its genre of rom-coms. How are we supposed to keep up with the films that they keep cranking out when they all have the same poster, vibe, and type of actors? No offense to Zoey Deutch (“Anniversary”) and Nick Robinson (“Love, Simon”), but what do they give that Jennifer Lopez and Brett Goldstein didn’t in “Office Romance” or Rosamund Pike and Sacha Baron Cohen in “Ladies

First”? (Both were just released on the platform earlier this year.) Deutch plays Jill, who recently lost her sister, Isabelle, and continues to send voicemails to her phone as a form of comfort. Little does she know that Wes (Robinson), a real estate agent from across the country, was assigned Isabelle’s old number, and he’s been listening to every confession Jill’s been making. Premieres June 19. (Netflix)

In Case You Missed It “Love Island USA: Season 8” (TV-MA) — It’s almost unbelievable to think that it’s already been a year since the hot mess that was season 7 of “Love Island USA.” This time around, we’ve got a new batch of (somewhat) normal contestants, as opposed to the influencer-heavy group we had last year. For example, Beatriz Hatz from San Diego, California, is a Paralympic athlete looking to find a man who matches her spiciness. Of course, there are a handful of models, and digital creator Zach Georgiou is the brother of Charlie from last season. (Hopefully, he has better luck!) But overall, “Love Island USA” is back to its usual fashion of stirring up crazy amounts of drama with regular folks like the ones who are watching at home. Almost a dozen episodes are out now to watch, but you’ll have to catch up quickly so that you don’t miss out on the finale! (Peacock)

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HOLLYWOOD

by Tony Rizzo

HOLLYWOOD — “Paddington in Peru” grossed \$211 million in 2024 (while all three “Paddington” films have grossed about \$700 million combined). “Paddington 4” is now in preproduction. Hugh Bonneville, Emily Mortimer, Julie Walters and Jim Broadbent are expected to return, as is Ben Whishaw as the voice of Paddington.

Robert Pattinson has to be one of the busiest actors in films today. As he awaits the release of “The Odyssey” on July 17, he’s also waiting for “Dune: Part Three” to hit screens on Dec.18. He’ll follow these up with Netflix’s “Here Comes the Flood,” co-starring Denzel Washington and Daisy Edgar-Jones.

As if this wasn’t enough, he’s currently in preproduction for “The Batman: Part II.” Jeffrey Wright, Andy Serkis, Colin Farrell, Barry Keoghan and Charles Dance are returning, while Sebastian Stan, Scarlett Johansson, and Brian Tyree Henry are joining the cast. It started shooting this month for an October 2027 opening.

Julia Roberts will produce and star in “Home Economics,” which is based on the forthcoming novel by Katy Hays. But before this, we’ll see her thriller “Panic Carefully” with Eddie Redmayne and Brian Tyree Henry in February 2027. Redmayne can still be seen in Peacock’s series “The Day of the Jackal.”

Also due in February 2027 is “Narnia: The Magician’s Nephew,” starring Meryl Streep, Carey Mulligan and Daniel Craig. It wrapped filming this past January and is due to drop on Netflix after its theatrical run on April 2, 2027.

In 1958, “The Horror of Dracula,” starring Christopher Lee, ran into problems with sensors because of sexually explicit scenes that they had to cut out. Sixty-eight years later, Warner Bros. has restored the film in an uncut 4K version, which they’ll release around Halloween this year.

They went back to the long-forgotten Warner Bros. film vaults and uncovered the original too-hot-for-their-time scenes and also how Dracula dies in the end. In



Ben Whishaw (The voice of Paddington Bear)

1958, it cost \$278,000 and grossed \$3.5 million. (Big money then!)

Pedro Pascal scored big with “The Mandalorian and Grogu,” which grossed \$167.1 million during its first week. He’s completed his role in “Avengers: Doomsday” as Reed Richard/Mister Fantastic, and it’ll open on Dec. 18. He also completed “Behemoth!” with Will Arnett, Olivia Wilde and Matthew Lillard. We can only assume that it’s about yet another prehistoric creature on the loose.

Pascal’s currently shooting the romantic drama “De Noche,” opposite love interest Danny Ramirez, who was the Falcon in Marvel’s “Captain America: Brave New World” (2025) and the Disney+ series “The Falcon and the Winter Soldier” (2021). In addition, he starred in “Top Gun: Maverick” and the HBO series “The Last of Us,” which also starred Pascal.

Pascal is 51, while Ramirez is 33, and Ramirez looks like he could be Pascal’s son. And you thought Pascal exploring space was the only daring thing that he did!

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ENTERTAINMENT

Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps



Weekly SUDOKU

	4						3	6
3			9	4				7
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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Box is larger. 2. He is longer. 3. Jacket sleeve is longer. 4. Hair is larger. 5. House is wider. 6. Jacket sleeve is longer.

June 15, 2026 Posting Date

King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Mule, for one

5 Unruly group

8 Bygone fliers

12 Lawman Wyatt

13 Stop — dime

14 Ornamental jug

15 Heart charts

16 Business card no.

17 Calf-length

18 Stop

20 Son of Erik the Red

22 "War and Peace" author

26 Violin stroke

29 Cyclades island

30 British verb ending

31 Subject, usually

32 Fellow

33 Healthy

34 Internet address

35 Continent north of Afr.

36 Disinfectant brand

37 Oscar-winning actress in "The Fighter"

40 Arizona tribe

41 Prisoner

45 Conspiracy

47 Corn core

7 Inflated party prop

8 Big rigs

9 Fans of pop icon Taylor

10 — Talks (online lecture series)

11 Lanka lead-in

19 Stitch

21 Golf's Ernie

23 Pageant crown

24 City on a fjord

25 Holler

26 "E Pluribus —"

27 Skin opening

28 Megaphone's kin

32 "Suffs" or "Rent," e.g.

33 Cheyenne's state

35 Mentalist's gift

36 Cariou of "Blue Bloods"

38 Smidgens

39 Slander in print

42 Mine, in Marseille

43 Tart flavor

44 Alimony recipients

45 USMC rank

46 Privy

48 Japanese sash

Answers

King Crossword

Solution time: 25 mins.

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