



## DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS MAGICAL EVENT!!



**A**n overseas trip, a musical experience, and an impromptu encounter have turned into a major fundraiser for the Italian American Heritage Foundation – complete with an international opera star. On Sunday, October 21 at 3 PM, the Italian American Heritage Foundation (IAHFi) will be presenting “*An Afternoon with David Righeschi – A Tribute to Italian and American Tenors: Pavarotti, Bocelli, and Lanza*” at the Troy Savings Bank Music Hall.

Coming from his home in Florence, Italy for this his first visit to the States, Signor Righeschi will be accompanied by Maestro Gioacchino Longobardi, concert pianist and conductor, with guest appearances by the Saratoga Springs Youth Orchestra and soprano April-Joy Gutierrez.

A “Meet and Greet” reception will be held in the Troy Savings Bank downstairs from the concert hall immediately following the concert. Attendees will have an opportunity to meet Mr. Righeschi, obtain autographs and photographs, and enjoy the beautifully prepared food and wine reception provided by Mallozzi Caterers. A limited number of reception tickets (\$25 per person) is available. These may be purchased when ordering your concert tickets.

Celebrate your heritage! Please join us for this exciting weekend of musical events. Ticket cost for the concert is \$50 / \$35 and \$15 for students. Choice seating concert tickets are still available for purchase by IACC Members. Also available for members only, there is a specially priced package which includes the Saturday Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> Columbus Dinner Dance, along with premier seating for concert and the Meet and Greet Food and Wine Reception for \$110.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call the IACC office at (518) 456-4222, the Troy Savings Bank Music Hall at (518) 273-0038, or go to [www.troymusichall.org](http://www.troymusichall.org).

### Bus Trip to New York City

Don't be disappointed, call and reserve your seats! A fun and interesting day excursion has been planned for New York City on Tuesday, October 23. Leave your car at the IACC while we take a Yankee Trails bus to the city and spend the day as you wish or join us for the itinerary we have planned to show the 'Big Apple' to our guest, Italian tenor, David Righeschi, visiting America for the first time. For those wishing to participate, we will go to the Ground Zero Memorial, Ellis Island and to some of Manhattan's most famous spots with our tour bus.

Round trip bus fare with Yankee Trails: \$40 p/p | No wait, ferry ride and entrance to Ellis Island & Ground Zero Memorial: \$17 p/p  
Depart from the IACC parking lot - 7:30 AM (return from NYC about 7 PM) | Call the IACC office for reservations - 456-4222

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hello Everyone,

Once again our Women's League did a fabulous job on the Fall Festival. Each year it gets bigger and better. Thank you to all who helped make the day a success.

October is a busy month, kicking off with the CIAO festival at Cook Park and culminating with our Columbus Day Dinner Dance honoring Dr. Tartaglia. and our concert with David Righeschi. A lot of work has been put into planning all of these events which are the highlights of Italian Heritage Month. We hope that you are able to participate in at least one of these special events.

November is an important month for the Club. Board elections will be held at our annual meeting on November 13<sup>th</sup>. Anna Acconi has once again offered to chair the nomination committee. There are four vacancies on the Board. If you are interested, please contact Anna.

*George Urciuoli, President*

## October Calendar

View our complete online Calendar at [italianamerican.com](http://italianamerican.com)

Every Monday	Italian Grand Buffet Zumba
Every Sunday October 6 & 7	Farmers' Market CIAO Columbus Festival Cook Park, Colonie
October 8, Monday	Men's Club
October 10, Wednesday	Women's League
October 16, Tuesday	Board Meeting
October 20, Saturday	Columbus Dinner Dance
October 21, Sunday	David Righeschi Concert Troy Savings Bank Music Hall
October 23, Tuesday	Book Club Bus Trip to New York City with David Righeschi
October 27, Saturday	Family Halloween Party
October 28, Sunday	Farmers' Market Ends
<b>Save the Date</b>	
November 2, Friday	Comedy Night
November 13, Tuesday (Special Night)	Board Meeting General Membership Mtg Elections
December 16	Family Christmas Party

## ITALIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER

257 Washington Avenue Extension  
Albany, New York 12205

***a place where family and friends can  
meet, eat, play and  
celebrate Italian heritage***

### I A C C Office

Linda Sciocchetti IACC Office Manager

Monday - Friday 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM

518.456.IACC | FAX: 518.456.0338

[membership@italianamerican.com](mailto:membership@italianamerican.com)

### OFFICERS

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Please submit articles, suggestions, or comments to:  
Rachel Cameron, Editor, [rcamero@nycap.rr.com](mailto:rcamero@nycap.rr.com)

# Member Profile Diane Allegretta Biernacki By Anna Acconi

## And She Keeps On Going

There is much about Diane Allegretta Biernacki that is memorable, beginning with her birthdate on November 11, 1944, Armistice Day. Diane, an only child, grew up in the Second Avenue section of Albany and has many memories of an exciting and wonderful young life. She recalls dressing up to go downtown to shop at Meyer's and Whitney's, swinging on the green double swings in Washington Park while smelling the aroma of freshly made popcorn coming from the popcorn vendor and looking for the peanut man on the corner of State and Pearl Streets.



Diane's career in business began at an early age when, as a high school student, she worked in the sewing department at W.T. Grant's and, as a summer job, worked at City Hall Vital Statistics. Upon graduation, Diane worked at McKesson and Robbins, a drug company on Broadway. Soon after graduation, when Diane was 19, she married the "love of her life", Freddy Biernacki, whom she had dated since they were 14.

Freddy was a builder and believed in moving into a new house every five years. After living in Guilderland, Voorheesville and other towns in the area, Diane finds herself in her current house from where she can view the backyard of her first house with Freddy. Freddy and Diane had a philosophy about children. They wanted to have them in their 20's, raise them in their 30's and kiss them goodbye in their 40's. Of course, life doesn't always follow formulas and Diane's life has always been filled with the love of children and grandchildren. Her children, Cheryl, Michael and Jason, have given her 4 beautiful grandchildren, Ashley, Emily, Adam and Michael. Her family, including her wonderful daughters-in-law, Dawn and Shara, keep her energized and involved in activities that include go-carting, horse shows, baseball and dance.

When Diane returned to the workforce as her children grew older, she obtained a position as an aid in the Bethlehem School District. She left that to work in the Post Office in Slingerlands where she remained for 11 years before she retired. Did I say retired? Actually, Diane doesn't know the meaning of the word. After leaving the Post Office, she bought the Empire Travel Agency in Guilderland and, after selling that, went into the real estate business where she has remained for the past 22 years. Diane is an associate broker with Realty U.S.A. and also works part time as a library clerk at the Voorheesville Public Library.

Diane and Freddy joined the IACC in 1980 and remained active members. Freddy helped build the pavilion and donated picnic tables; Diane served as co-president of Woman's League where, to this day, she has been an active member and volunteer.

In 2004, Diane lost her love, Freddy, but has kept her life a full one. She indulges in two of her passions, travel and the study of history. Since considering herself semi-retired, Diane has traveled extensively to many countries, including Italy, Holland, France, Greece and Egypt. Her next trip, in February, will include a stay in New Orleans and a cruise to the west Caribbean. Diane, a member of the Albany Historical Society and the Shaker Society, plans one day, should she ever really retire, to become very active in these organizations. She already is working on ideas.

Diane is one of those people who will never grow old because she is always open to new ideas and to new adventures. She continues to inspire others with her love of work, friends and family and her indefatigable ability to enjoy it all.

"Have you made your reservations for the Columbus Dinner Dance?....."

Saturday, October 20, 2012 at 6 PM

Come celebrate Dr. Anthony Tartaglia  
our -Italian American of the Year

Enjoy our Signature Gala Event, Gourmet Dinner and Dancing

\$55 Members | \$65 Non-Members

Special Members Only package price for  
Gala and Sunday Concert \$110

If you haven't yet responded, call the office at  
456-4222 to charge your reservations

Hope to see you there !!!

### *C.I.A.O. of Upstate NY*

#### *Council of Italian American Organizations*

*Albany Sons of Italy Roma Intangible Lodge #215  
Albany Italian-American Community Center, Albany  
Columbia County Sons & Daughters Lodge #659  
Troy Italian Community Center*

# COLUMBUS FESTIVAL

**Saturday, October 6**  
**Noon – 8 PM**

**Sunday, October 7**  
**Noon – 6 PM**

Italian Food, Music,  
Cultural Displays, Dancing,  
Craft Vendors  
Rides for the Kids, Face Painter,  
Clowns and Stage Shows

*Fun for The Entire Family*

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Cook Park, Shambrook Pkwy, Colonie



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Chicken Parmesan  
*"Breaded, Topped with Tomato Sauce &  
Mozzarella Cheese"*

Oven Roasted Salmon  
*"Topped with Pan Fried Tomatoes &  
Seasonal Vegetables"*

Eggplant Rollatini  
*"Ricotta Cheese Filled Eggplant Slices, Marinara, Pecorino  
Romano,  
Mozzarella Cheese"*

*All Entrees Are Accompanied by:  
Tuscan Potatoes, Fresh Vegetables  
And Penne Tomato & Basil*

*You also receive our delicious Villa Italia Rolls &  
A Signature House Salad served with golden vinaigrette*

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Thursday Nights, 7 PM  
**September 27**  
**October 4, 11, 18, 25**  
**November 1, 8, 15**

**Elementary Italian** -- A course for beginners and those who wish to refresh their skills. Learn the basics: the Italian alphabet and the rules of pronunciation, numbers, time telling, conjugating verbs in the present tense, vocabulary, and basic conversations.

**\$75 Members | \$85 Non-Members**  
 Additional fee will be collected on the first night for textbook and other necessary materials  
 \* We will be using a new textbook this session.

Call the IACC Office at 456.4222 to register  
 Class size will be limited  
 Write checks payable to: Italian American Heritage Foundation, Inc. (IAHFI)  
 IAHFI, 257 Washington Ave Ext | Albany, NY 12205

## Pavilion

The Pavilion is preparing to close for the winter. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped with the spring clean up and the weekly clean ups before and after rentals. We had a busy season this year with almost every Saturday rented. Fund-raising events for the much-needed Pavilion renovations will continue throughout the year.

## IACC Bowling

By Maria Marchio

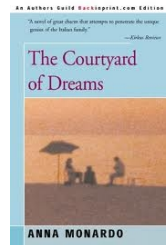
Members and non-members (male and female) are welcome to IACC Bowling on Wednesday evenings throughout fall and winter at Westlawn Lanes on Western Avenue. We begin at 6:30 PM. This is not a league. It is simply a time for everyone to get together and have fun. For further information, please contact Maria Marchio at 438.9067.



## IAHFi Book Club

By Dick Ognibene

**October 23, 2012**  
**Tuesday Evening 7:00 PM**



**THE COURTYARD OF DREAMS**

by Anna Monardo

Free Admission

Open to the Public

Join us in our Board Room,  
 second floor

If you finish this book early start reading our next book "Beastly Things" by Donna Leon for our meeting on November 27<sup>th</sup>.

## Farmers' Market Breakfast

By Christine Di Ionna

We are down to the last month of the Farmers' Market. Our customers have proclaimed that we serve the best breakfast in town for the lowest price! Please stop by the Farmers' Market on Sunday mornings for breakfast and shopping through the end of October. We will continue to offer a variety of breakfast sandwiches, made-to-order frittatas, and homemade waffles and pancakes. The proceeds from these breakfasts are going towards the much-needed renovation of the Pavilion. Please come join us. You will not be sorry!



Congratulations to the Padrones this years Men's Bocce League Champions. The team was lead by Captain Don Colbert. In photo below l to r, Mike Swanson, Mike Squillace, Chris Kollias, and Don Colbert.

# A Few Famous Italians

## Enzo Ferrari

The sacred monster of the motoring world! Enzo Ferrar, also called “The Commendatore” was a famous Italian car driver and entrepreneur, the founder of the Scuderia Ferrari Grand Prix motor racing team and of the Ferrari car manufacturer.

## Enrico Fermi

Nobel laureate (1938) and scientific luminary Enrico Fermi (September, 1901- November, 1954) was an Italian pioneering nuclear physicist whose works on the development of the first nuclear reactor, and for his contributions to the development of quantum theory, nuclear and particle physics, and statistical mechanics were numerous, profound, and lasting. He is being considered one of the greatest scientists of the 20th century.

## Leonardo Da Vinci

Leonardo Da Vinci is the archetypal Renaissance Man representing the humanistic values of that period in his art, science and writing. He is celebrated as the most diversely talented person ever to have lived! He was more than an artist, he was an Italian polymath, a scientist, mathematician, engineer, inventor, anatomist, painter, sculptor, architect, botanist, musician, astronomer and writer. His insatiable curiosity and intuitive sense were beyond any limits! Works like Mona Lisa and The Supper occupy unique positions being considered the most famous and the most reproduced.

## Cristopher Columbus

Also called the Admiral of the Ocean Sea, Columbus (1451 – 1506) remains a figure who has been variously characterized as one of the greatest mariners in history, a visionary genius, a hero, colonizer, a naive entrepreneur whose voyages across the Atlantic Ocean led to general European awareness of the American continents

## Carla Bruni

Born in Turin, Carla is a famous former supermodel, songwriter, singer and her fame increased even more after becoming the First Lady of France. The actual wife of the French President Nicolas Sarkozy was among the 20 highest-paid fashion models.

## Alessandro Volta

Can you imagine your life without batteries or electricity? The Italian physicist (1745-1827) is worldwide known for the development of the first electric cell, back in the 1800's. He discovered the first practical method for generate electricity. Constructed of alternating discs of zinc and copper, with pieces of cardboard soaked in brine between the metals, the voltaic pile produced electrical current.

## Andrea Bocelli

If God had a singing voice, he would sound like Andrea Bocelli! Andrea Bocelli, also called “the fourth tenor”, was a disciple of Luciano Pavarotti and Zuccherò Fornaciari. The blind, Tuscany-born vocalist has emerged as one of the most magnificent voices in contemporary opera.

## Giacomo Casanova

Italy certainly has a reputation for romance! And who can be called “the world's greatest lover” if not an Italian? Giacomo Casanova de Seingalt (1725 – 1798) was a Venetian adventurer and writer. Famous as a veritable womanizer, his name remains synonymous with the art of seduction. His main book *Histoire de ma vie* (Story of My Life) is regarded as an intimate portrait of the manners and European social life in the 18th century.

## Dante Alighieri

“Il sommo Poeta”, “The Supreme poet” or “The father of the Italian language” are references to the one and only Durante degli Alighieri, (1265 – September 14, 1321), commonly known as Dante, the Florentine poet of Middle Ages. His magnum opus, the epic poem *Divina Commedia* is considered a masterpiece of world literature.

## Giorgio Armani

Italy with its unique sense of style and fashion has long led the development and revolution of haute couture. Well-known for defining trends and setting couture standards, the glamorous world of fashion is incomplete without mentioning the name of the Italian fashion icon Giorgio Armani.

## Gaetano George Urciuoli

President of the Italian American Community Center, Albany

For a more complete list please visit <http://www.daytranslations.com/famousitalians>

# Fabulous



By Anna Acconi

On September 23, on a beautiful fall day, the Women's League sponsored its second annual fall festival. A combination of farmers' market and craft fair, the 38 participating vendors presented a wide variety of food and products. Shoppers were able to select their fresh produce for the week, buy bread straight from the oven, and browse through the many booths offering an array of beautiful and interesting crafts and services. Families enjoyed the day and were delighted that, for the children, the festival provided a bouncy ride, pumpkin painting and face painting.

The pavilion kitchen was busy all day, offering many choices for both breakfast and lunch. In addition, food and craft demos were provided for the public. Rose Barbato demonstrated the making of taralli, Chef Ryan made delicious butternut squash soup, Maria DeNitto prepared bruschetta and Joe DiIonna demonstrated the making of gnocchi. Two of our food vendors, Regina Bryant, a maker of goat cheese and spreads, and Tim Lane, a bread baker, illustrated the use of goat cheese and foccaccia in the creation of a delicious appetizer. One of the vendors, Patrick Durkin, worked on his potter's wheel to show how pottery is created.

For added interest, a Chinese auction presented the opportunity for participants to win any of thirty gift baskets or certificates. All in all, the festival provided a day full of activities under a beautiful fall sky.

Thank you to all the committee members who worked so tirelessly to make the day a success. There are so many who deserve recognition and would especially like to praise Christine DiIonna who coordinated the menu and the food committee and helped prepare so many delicious items. Gail Tarantino organized the food and craft demos, Donna Zumbo ran the 50/50 raffle and the Chinese auction and Mary Lou Marando scheduled the many volunteers. Santa Pasquini handled all the advertising. Special thanks also go to Dino and Rosette Barbato, Diane Biernacki, Marissa DiIonna, Sue and Charlie Ferrara, Angie Groelz, Joe Guastimacchio, Mary Jane Knowles, Maria Marchio, Teresa and Mike Swansen, Mary Lou Marando, Angelo Tarantino, and Gretchen VanValkenburg.

The Goblins are haunting  
the monsters will mash,  
are you ready  
for the annual  
IACC  
Halloween Bash?

Saturday  
October 27, 2012  
Noon - 4 PM  
IAHFi Pavilion

Adults \$7  
Children \$5

Pizza, Snacks &  
Halloween Treats  
Crafts, Games, Prizes &  
Music Featuring  
Ernie the DJ  
from Sound Control

RSVP by October 15 to Christine DiIonna  
357-8711 or [cdiionna@gmail.com](mailto:cdiionna@gmail.com)



# Women's League

## SOS CALLING ALL WOMEN

Hi Ladies,

This month we will once again be supporting "Uncle Shawn's Hugs" by having a blanket-making party. As many of you know, Uncle Shawn's Hugs was started to honor the memory of Dawn Martin's son. He was in the Marines and was killed in Iraq. Dawn always said Shawn gave the best hugs. Now she distributes fleece blankets to children with the Marines "Toys for Tots" drive, as a "hug", in honor of her son. So many children, some even without winter clothing, love these blankets! Now it's our turn to help out by making these blankets at our next meeting. We will try to have most of the blankets already cut, so all we need to do is tie the fringe ends to finish the blankets. However, just in case, bring along your scissors.

We need a large turnout to complete all these blankets, so if you have been thinking of coming to a meeting, this is one you don't want to miss. Please come. I urge all women in our IACC family to come!

We will start a bit earlier. Dinner will begin at 6:00 PM. After a short business meeting, we will make our blankets. Our dinner selections are Beef Roulade, Baked White Fish, or Manicotti Marinara. All entrees will be served with potato and vegetables. We will start with Butternut Squash Bisque and end with Warm Apple Crisp.

Email your reservations to Jeanne Sacca at [Asacca2@nycap.rr.com](mailto:Asacca2@nycap.rr.com) by Sunday October 7<sup>th</sup>. Cancellations by Monday, October 8<sup>th</sup>.

Hope to see MANY of you on October 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM.


*Donna Zumbo - Women's League President*

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**AN EVENING OF  
COMEDY**



**Johnny Rizzo    Aaron Ward**  
**Friday, November 2**

7:00 PM Doors Open

**7:30 – 9:00 PM Comedy Show Performance**

Cash Bar and Bottled Wine Specials available during the show

**Reservations Recommended**

For Show Tickets Call: 456.IACC (4222)

Dinner available before the show at Treviso

For Dinner Reservations Call Treviso at 456.0292

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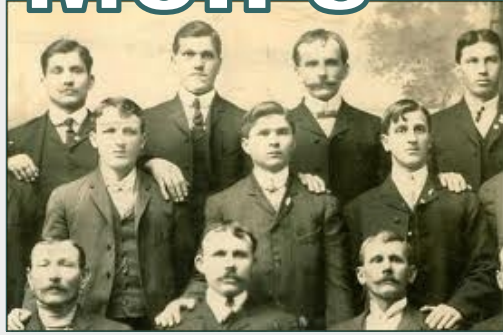
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IACC **Men's** Club



Men's Club will meet on Monday, October 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM for dinner at the Monday Night Buffet, followed by our business meeting at 6:30 PM in the Membership Room. We will be voting for new officers and deciding on what the group will do over the winter months. RSVP to John Ritz so he can reserve enough seats for the Buffet.

John Ritz at 434.0209 M – F 7:30 AM – 3:30 PM or evenings & weekends at 477.7477.

Our next meeting will be Monday, November 12.

*John Ritz, President*

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Sunday 8:30am - 1:00pm



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Size	Member Rates		Non-Member Rates	
	Monthly	Yearly	Monthly	Yearly
<b>Half Page</b>	\$80	<b>\$250</b>	\$120	<b>\$300</b>
<b>Quarter Page</b>	\$60	<b>\$175</b>	\$90	<b>\$225</b>
<b>Eighth Page</b>	\$40	<b>\$125</b>	\$60	<b>\$175</b>

## CARING & SHARING By Anna Acconi



### October Birthdays:

Angelina Anastasio  
Salvatore Anastasio  
Marilyn Aragosa  
Rosetta Barbato  
Michael Basile  
Paul Bonacquisti  
Suzanne Burns  
Robert Casillo  
David Cesari  
Helen Crisafulli  
Andrea Crisafulli-Russo  
Joseph Di Ionna  
Linda Dillon  
Marilyn Ellerbrock  
Richard Frank  
Joanne Gray

Maurilio Gregori  
Sandra Hameroff  
Pauline Kuzmak  
Robert LaMorte  
Larry Lenartz  
Janice Lindemann  
Theresa Lomonoco  
Tara Mallozzi  
Carolina Mancino  
Paul Mancuso  
Fulvia Pizzitola  
Philip Sabatino  
Wayne Tearno  
Paul Veillette  
Anna Zumbo

### Condolences:

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of long time member, Phil Mucci. We send our sympathy to Phil's family: Patrick and Beverly Mucci, Connie and Joseph Dominski, Ann Keneston, and Isabel and Nick Mancini. We also send condolences to his dear companion, Kay Benedict.

We send our deepest sympathy to the family of Sally D'Agostino on the passing of her mother, Theresa D'Agostino.

Charter member, Anna Zumbo, and her sister, Marian Neil, lost their brother, Dr. Charles Panetta. Our condolences to all family members.

### Congratulations:

Frank and Cathy Mesiti recently celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary at a special dinner party with their 5 children and 9 grandchildren.

Please contact Anna Acconi at 966.8664 or [aacconi111@aol.com](mailto:aacconi111@aol.com)

## New Members

Linda Papa  
Clifton Park

*Sponsor: Tom & Eileen Papa*

Christopher Zitzmann  
Duanesburg

*Sponsor: Maria DeNitto*



## Perfect Pie Crust

*By Sharon Patrei*

### Ingredients

9" pie plate  
2 cups all purpose flour  
1 cup Crisco  
1/4 cup iced water

Place Crisco and flour in a food processor and pulse until all is combined. If you do not use a food processor, cut Crisco into flour until combined. It must look like it is ready to roll out. Disregard the usual instruction of combining it until it looks like crumbs. Add water all at once and push water into dough thoroughly with a fork. Dough will be wet. Slather a good amount of flour on a pastry cloth. Cover rolling pin with a pastry sleeve. Divide dough in half. Place half in center of pastry cloth. Dip heel of hand in flour and gently press dough until it has a round shape. Roll out dough in short strokes being careful not to roll the edges too thin. I do not use the handles of the rolling pin. I run my hand back and forth in the middle of the rolling pin. Roll out to 10". Roll crust around rolling pin and roll out onto pie plate. Fill with your favorite filling and repeat for top crust.

## Layout Editor Needed

Please contact the IACC Office if you are interested: 456.4222





**Italian American  
Community Center**

*a place where family and friends can  
meet, eat, play and  
celebrate Italian heritage*

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