



VERONA AREA  
COMMUNITY THEATER  
presents

MEREDITH WILLSON'S

# THE MUSIC MAN SR.

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PILOT PRODUCTION

**May 13, 14, 2022 - 7:30 pm**

**May 14, 15, 2022 - 2:00 pm**

**VACT Theater**  
(103 Lincoln Street, Verona)

**31st Season, 163rd Show**



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The Verona Area Community Theater  
Production of

MEREDITH WILLSON'S  
**THE  
MUSIC MAN  
SR.**

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PILOT PRODUCTION

*Book, Music, & Lyrics by*

**MEREDITH WILSON**

*Based on a story by*

**MEREDITH WILSON & FRANKLIN LACEY**

*The Music Man Sr. Pilot Production*

is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.

[www.MTIShows.com](http://www.MTIShows.com)

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Jamie McSherry  
Patty Means  
Sara Milhans  
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Aaron Steger  
Jill Testrake  
Jordyn Thaves  
Kasey Thompson  
John Tolle  
Helga Vransy  
Molly Walter  
Susan Watters  
William Windels  
Roberta Woolums  
Pamela Ziemlewicz

Thank you to everyone for your generous support. If we have made an error in your listing, please contact Dee Baldock at 608-332-7991

# the production staff

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|                                |                                          |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Director . . . . .             | Dee Baldock                              |
| Producer . . . . .             | Dee Baldock                              |
| Music Director . . . . .       | Susie Kittel Moore                       |
| Choreographer . . . . .        | Dee Baldock                              |
| Stage Manager . . . . .        | Bill Owens                               |
| Costume Design . . . . .       | Paula Blankenheim                        |
| Costume assistants . . . . .   | Mary Quade, Missy Holcomb, Donna Spencer |
| Lighting Design . . . . .      | Steve Nickels                            |
| Sound Design . . . . .         | Dale Nickels                             |
| Conductor . . . . .            | Patty Schlafer                           |
| Set Construction . . . . .     | Jim Olmsted, Jon Stiller                 |
| Props Manager . . . . .        | Marie Kyle                               |
| Sound Board Operator . . . . . | Tom Blankenheim                          |
| Program . . . . .              | Sara Pfantz                              |
| Tickets . . . . .              | Lynn Vilker                              |
| House Manager . . . . .        | Tom Arnol                                |

Thank you to everyone that helped with costumes, props, sets, backstage, ushering and everything else that makes this production possible!

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# the scenes and musical numbers

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A Railway Car – The morning of July 4th, 1912

*Rock Island* - Salesmen and Charlie Cowell

River City, Iowa, Main Street – immediately following

*Iowa Stubborn* - Townspeople

*Ya Got Trouble* - Harold Hill and Townspeople

A Street in front of the Paroo House – immediately following

The Interior of the Paroo House – immediately following

*Piano Lesson/If You Don't Mind My Saying So* - Marian, Mrs. Paroo

*Goodnight, My Someone* - Marian

Madison Gymnasium in River City High School – 30 minutes later

*Columbia, Gem of the Ocean* - Townspeople

*Seventy-Six Trombones* - Harold and Townspeople

*Ice Cream/Sincere* - Harold and the School Board

Street outside the Madison Public Library

*Pick-a-Little, Talk-a-Little* - Alma, Ethel, Maud, Eulalie & Ladies

*Good Night Ladies* - Quartet

The Paroo's porch – immediately following

Center of Town

*The Wells Fargo Wagon* - Townspeople

*Shipoopi* - Marcellus and Townspeople

*Pick-a-Little, Talk-a-Little (Reprise)* - Alma, Ethel, Maud, Eulalie & Ladies

The Paroo's Porch – The following Wednesday, after supper

*Gary, Indiana* - Winthrop, Mrs. Paroo, Marian

Madison Park – a few minutes later

*Till There Was You* - Marian and Harold

# the cast

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## In Order Of Appearance

|                               |                   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Conductor . . . . .           | Tim Yanacheck     |
| Salesperson 1 . . . . .       | Sue Gorski        |
| Salesperson 2 . . . . .       | Julie Mansfield   |
| Salesperson 3 . . . . .       | Lisa Olmsted      |
| Salesperson 4 . . . . .       | Lisa Olmsted      |
| Salesperson 5 . . . . .       | Dee Baldock       |
| Newspaper reader #1 . . . . . | Mary Scott Herman |
| Newspaper reader #2 . . . . . | Mary Quade        |
| Newspaper reader #3 . . . . . | Paula Blankenheim |
| Charlie Cowell . . . . .      | Bill Windels      |
| Harold Hill . . . . .         | Rick Owens        |
| Mayor Shinn . . . . .         | Dave Santek       |
| Alma Hix . . . . .            | Lisa Olmsted      |
| Ethel Toffelmier . . . . .    | Shari Sailing     |

### School Board/Quartet

|                         |                |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| Ewart Dunlop . . . . .  | Kay Hinck      |
| Oliver Hix . . . . .    | Jim Ansay      |
| Jacey Squires . . . . . | Jim Olmsted    |
| Olin Britt . . . . .    | Gwen Torkelson |

|                                    |                    |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Marcellus Washburn . . . . .       | Jerry Neviaser     |
| Marian Paroo . . . . .             | Missy Holcomb      |
| Mrs. Paroo . . . . .               | Julie Pophal       |
| Amaryllis . . . . .                | Susie Kittel Moore |
| Winthrop Paroo . . . . .           | Jennifer Cullen    |
| Eulalie Mackecknie Shinn . . . . . | Theresa Gardocki   |
| Constable Locke . . . . .          | Tim Yanacheck      |
| Gracie Shinn . . . . .             | Amondee Brandt     |
| Maud Dunlop . . . . .              | Julie Mansfield    |
| Tommy Djilas . . . . .             | Jim McNeill        |
| Zaneeta Shinn . . . . .            | Sue Gorski         |
| Mrs. Squires . . . . .             | Angela Loniello    |

### Pick-A-Little Lady Ensemble

Dee Baldock  
Kelly Lynaugh  
Mary Quade

### River City Townpeople

Paula Blankenheim  
Mary Scott Herman

# the cast

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**AMONDEE  
BRANDT**



**JENNIFER  
CULLEN**



**THERESA  
GARDOCKI**



**SUE  
GORSKI**



**MISSY  
HOLCOMB**



**ANGELA  
LONIELLO**



**JULIE  
MANSFIELD**



**JIM  
MCNEILL**



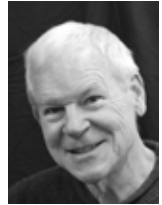
**SUSIE  
KITTEL MOORE**



**JERRY  
NEVIASER**



**LISA  
OLMSTED**



**RICK  
OWENS**



**JULIE  
POPHAL**



**SHARI  
SAILING**



**DAVE  
SANTEK**



**BILL  
WINDELS**

## notes from the director

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I learned about Senior Shows at the National AACTFest in Gettysburg in 2019. When I presented the idea to the VACT Board of Directors, they were enthusiastic and told me to go ahead. We cast the show in January 2020 and were going strong when the pandemic hit and we closed down in March. When the seniors were all vaccinated, we attempted to start again but by that time, a lot of the seniors were traveling or involved with their grandchildren. So we began again in 2022 and although some people had moved or were traveling, we were able to fill the cast and finally finish this project. I told the cast we weren't giving up until everyone was playing 3 roles! During a Senior Show, we come up with some interesting conversations – for example – one night we counted artificial joints – we had almost 20!

The Senior version of Music Man is shortened but you still get all the fun of the original show. I've loved Meredith Willson since I was a kid growing up very near his hometown of Mason City, Iowa on which River City was based. His music is fun and pokes fun at the people I was raised with. I hope you enjoy it as much as I have. We are so lucky to have The Gender Bender Barbershop quartet joining us in the show. Jim Olmsted and his original quartet was in the first Music Man I directed in 1994! Thanks, Jim for coming back to resurrect your role.

I'd like to thank the cast for their devotion and enthusiasm for the production – you have made it so much fun. Thanks to Paula for finding costumes for everyone and especially transforming seniors into kids! A big thank you to Marie for finding enough instruments to outfit the River City Band. Also thanks go to Steve and Dale Nickels for handling the tech to make the show look and sound so good. Thanks go to Patty Schlafer for coming in at the end and keeping us on the beat! And to Bill Owens for handling the backstage labors! Finally to all of you for coming to enjoy our labors – you are what makes theater come alive. If you would like to be involved with the senior theater in the future, please contact me.

Dee Baldock  
producer@vact.org



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# who's who in the cast

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**AMONDEE BRANDT** (Gracie Shinn) is extremely proud to be joining the talented cast and crew in this 1st ever VACT Senior production! This is her 4th show with VACT. Her first show with them was as one of the Inventors in *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*. Amondee has also appeared in *Young Frankenstein* and *Mamma Mia* as part of the ensemble cast. She wishes to express her gratitude to her grandchildren Antonio, Dominic & Brandee for without them none of this would have been possible and to everyone who gave their time to bring this show together!

**JENNIFER CULLEN** (Winthrop Paroo) In the 2018 VACT production of *The Christmas Story* Jennifer played a nurse (which she is), as well as an "old lady on a bench" (also true). She expected to enjoy a more youthful role in this first Senior production, but was quite surprised to be cast as a 10 year old boy! She's thankful to Dee and the cast for their support and humor, and she's forever grateful that her family encourages her to be brave.

**THERESA GARDOCKI** (Eulalie Mackecknie Shinn) has worked behind the scenes for many years while my kids were involved with VACT. It was so much fun, I wanted to try it myself. In my theatrical debut, I want to thank my family, friends and coworkers for their support and VACT Senior for this great opportunity.

**SUE GORSKI** (Zaneeta Shinn) is a seventh grade science teacher in Mount Horeb. This is her first time on stage in 40 years since her high school musical days. She is a forensic coach and has been a church soloist for 40 years. She'd like to thank those who have listened to her prattle on about this show, especially her patient husband Tom.

**MISSY HOLCOMB** (Marian Paroo) is excited to be back on stage with VACT in this "Premier" Senior show. Many thanks to Dee for letting me play this dream role and special thanks to my wonderful family for always supporting my theatrical whims. *Music Man* was my Dad's all time favorite musical and it has always held a special place in my heart.

**ANGIE LONIELLO** (Mrs. Squires) is thrilled to participate in the Senior version of *Music Man*. Encouraged by her grandchildren to join VACT, she absolutely enjoyed being part of the cast in *Little Mermaid*, *Christmas Story* and *Willy Wonka*. Since being part of the Senior's group has been so much fun and rewarding, she plans to continue performing and building relationships with those involved in this fantastic organization. She appreciates all those attending today and hopes that you enjoy the show!

**JULIE MANSFIELD** (Maud Dunlop) is so excited to be back with her VACT family after the Covid hiatus! Julie has participated in ensemble roles with VACT since 2018. These include *Willy Wonka*, *A Christmas Story*, and *Mama Mia!* When Julie is not singing and shuffling on stage she enjoys spending time with her 3 daughters Melissa, Amy, and Hallie and her 2 grandchildren Evelyn and Jack! Julie is beyond grateful to her parents who instilled a love of music in her since she was a young child many moons ago!

**JIM MCNEILL** (Tommy Djilas) Jim has appeared in numerous VACT shows for many years, playing characters of different ages, but found the character of a mischievous teenage boy strangely appealing. Jim is the oldest member of the cast at 84, but still remains young at heart.

**SUSIE KITTEL MOORE** (Amaryllis) has been playing the piano since the age of 4, and, after retirement from her state job in 2005, has enjoyed playing the keyboard for over 50 musicals in the Madison area. However, she is now experiencing the fruit of her very first audition by playing the part of Amaryllis and getting to play her "cross-hand piece" for you today. *The Music Man* story has played a significant role in her life since she first saw the movie in 1962, inspiring her to become an original founder of the Sweet Adelines' Yahara River Chorus. Also, she is married to a man exactly fitting the description of Marion's dream lover--the plain, honest, quiet man from the State of Iowa, who now sits with her in a cottage somewhere in the City of Madison. This new theater group shows that there are more perks to being a senior than restaurant discounts! Thanks, Dee!

# who's who in the cast

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**JERRY NEVIASER** (Marcellus Washburn) is happy to make his musical theater debut with VACT's *Music Man Senior!* A Madison native and professional musician, he has co-founded and provided drums/vocals for several successful groups over the years including Primitive Culture, Bluegills, and Hot Money Band. Also a lifelong supporter and fan of the theater, he is thrilled to take part in a production from the "other side of the stage". Jerry would like to express his love and thanks to his wife Elizabeth and daughter Rachel for their encouragement, and his gratitude to share the stage with all who persevered to bring this production together despite just a "minor" 2-year delay.

**LISA OLMSTED** (Alma Hix) This is Lisa's first production with VACT and she's very excited to be part of the *Music Man* show! She has lived in Verona for nine years and has watched one of her granddaughters participate in many VACT productions over the last 15 years. She and her husband, Jim, are both barbershop singers and Jim's quartet is the school board in the show. She was a member of the Yahara River Barbershop Chorus for 19 years until COVID arrived. It feels good to be singing and memorizing music again! Especially since all of us in the show are 55 and over!

**RICK OWENS** (Harold Hill) Rick first joined VACT as Tevye in *Fiddler On The Roof* in 1995, his first of some twenty roles with the troupe. This senior production of *The Music Man* is an opportunity to refresh old friendships and enjoy the teamwork of creating a show with new friends. "Hats off to everyone in the cast and crew for their energy and hard work to make this fun show happen."

**JULIE POPHAL** (Mrs. Paroo) has been singing since she was 3 years old and was in several "Operettas" in grade school. As an adult, she has always been in a Church choir. Following in her father's footsteps, she decided to attempt Community Theater. She was in Stoughton Village Player's "Titanic" and played a Mother who had to give up her baby to a life boat passenger and showed real torment in leaving her baby with others. This is Julie's second show with Verona. She previously played an "inventor" in *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*. Julie dedicates this performance to her "Poopy Pop" in heaven who she misses tremendously!!

**SHARI SAILING** (Ethel Toffelmier) is a veteran of community theatre but a newcomer to VACT where she has recently performed in productions of *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, and *The Importance of Being Earnest During a Pandemic*. Her first leading role was in *The Music Man* over 30 years ago, and she is delighted to once again spend time in River City with such a talented and wonderful group of new friends.

**DAVE SANTEK** (Mayor Shinn) is excited to be back on the stage after a 20 year hiatus. This is his first show with VACT, and his most challenging part as the Mayor. Previously, he was in CTM productions as a party guest in *A Christmas Carol*, school principal in *Girl of the Limberlost*, and a Winkie Guard in *The Wizard of Oz*. He would like to thank his family and the entire *Music Man* company for their support."

**BILL WINDELS** (Charlie Cowell) who lives in Cross Plains, is new to the stage experience. His prior acting experience was watching others perform. As Charlie Cowell would say "but he doesn't know the territory". Bill thanks VACT for this challenge and opportunity to "appreciate the territory", and all the talent and efforts needed to stage a play."

## who's who in the crew

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**DEE BALDOCK** (Producer, Director, Choreographer) founded VACT 30 years ago and has been involved ever since. She has directed 15 shows, produced 60 and appeared in many. Her new favorite is the senior show, but the 2nd-4th grade group is a close second. She has played many roles but her favorites are Grandma in *Billy Elliot* and Melissa Frake in *State Fair*. She is thrilled to introduce this new program to VACT and hope it can continue.

**STEVE NICKELS** (Lighting Designer) has been designing lights for VACT shows for over 15 years, and can usually be found up in the lighting booth. He has also worked backstage as a stage manager, ropes operator, spotlight operator, and producer, and occasionally can even be found on stage, but always manages to be involved with the lights. "May the Light shine on you!"

**DALE NICKELS** (Producer/Sound) has produced or directed several VACT shows and designed the sound for nearly every show since *The Wizard of Oz* in 1996. From time to time he shows up on stage. Most of the time he lives behind the sound board, dealing with an increasing number of wireless microphones. His most recent directorial outing was *Four Weddings and an Elvis*. "Thanks to my lovely wife, Deb, for letting me play.

**BILL OWENS** (Stage Manager) is delighted to be the Man Behind the Curtain for this production. Bill has enjoyed being onstage in shows ranging from *The Little Mermaid* to *The Odd Couple* to *Matilda*, but has found a true home for his acting talents in backstage work with all age groups, including such shows as *Annie KIDS*, *42nd Street YPE*, *Four Weddings and an Elvis*, and *Mamma Mia!* Bill is looking forward to being back onstage with VACT in *Beauty and the Beast* next month, and thanks his wife Kathleen and their children for their love and support. "Chalujnik!"

**PAULA BLANKENHEIM** (Costume Design) This is the eighth time Paula has taken on a major role in costuming for VACT. She started with *White Christmas* in 2010 and since then has done costumes for *Mary Poppins*, *A Seussified Christmas Carol*, *South Pacific*, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *3 Nanny Goats Gruff*, *Young Frankenstein* and *High School Musical 2 Jr.* "I want to thank Mary Quade and Donna Spencer for all their hard work on this show."





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# recent VACT Productions

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- 2012 Noises Off; Welcome to the Jungle; Seussical Jr.; Grease; Encore! 2012: Celebrating 20 Years; High Society; The Best Christmas Pageant Ever
- 2013 The Producers; Disney's Winnie The Pooh KIDS; Disney's The Little Mermaid Jr.; Legally Blonde, The Musical; Peter Pan; Seven Brides for Seven Brothers; The Best Christmas Pageant Ever
- 2014 Heaven Can Wait; Disney's 101 Dalmatians, KIDS; Encore Jr.; Bye Bye Birdie; The Music Man; How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying; Getting to Know The Sound of Music; White Christmas
- 2015 Singin' In The Rain; Aladdin, KIDS; Hairspray Jr.; The Drowsy Chaperone; Shrek The Musical; Forever Plaid; Elf The Musical Jr.; A Very Merry Hometown Christmas
- 2016 Brighton Beach Memoirs; Dinosaurs Before Dark, KIDS; High School Musical Jr.; Bring It On the Musical; Mary Poppins; Billy Elliot the Musical; A Seussified Christmas Carol; It's A Wonderful Life the Musical
- 2017 South Pacific; The Lion King, KIDS; Guys and Dolls Jr.; West Side Story; The Little Mermaid; Sister Act the Musical; Stone Soup; Godspell Jr.
- 2018 The Hunchback of Notre Dame; Bus Stop; A Race To The Finish; The Jungle Book KIDS; Bye Bye Birdie YPE; Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka; Little Shop of Horrors; Annie KIDS; Legally Blonde Jr.; A Christmas Story
- 2019 The Odd Couple; Three Nanny Goats Gruff; The Aristocats KIDS; 42nd Street YPE; Disney's Newsies; Chitty Chitty Bang Bang; Young Frankenstein; We Are Monsters; Disney's Frozen Jr.
- 2020 Mamma Mia!; 4 Weddings and An Elvis; Chicago High School Edition\*; Getting To Know Footloose The Musical\*; Seussical KIDS\*; Pajama Party\*; VACT Virtual Youth Theater Fall 2020; A Very Virtual Merry Hometown Holiday (\*cancelled due to COVID)
- 2021 The Importance of Being Earnest In a Pandemic; VACT Virtual Youth Theater Spring 2021; The Radio Play Disaster; Seussical KIDS; Singin' In The Rain Jr.; Matilda The Musical
- 2022 Don't Dress for Dinner; Somethin' Rotten; Pirates Past Noon KIDS; High School Musical 2 Jr.

For a complete list of VACT's past productions since 1992, please visit  
[www.vact.org/page-pp](http://www.vact.org/page-pp)

## Verona Area Community Theater, Inc

VACT, Inc. originated in the summer of 1992 and is now producing ten shows a year. From the beginning, our goal has been to offer the people in the Verona Area community opportunities to utilize their talents in all facets of the arts. Our primary goal is to have fun! If you are interested in participating in any way, please contact one of the board members listed below:

### VACT INC., BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### Officers

President: Dale Nickels  
Vice President: Sara Ward-Cassady  
Secretary: Elizabeth Kraemer  
Treasurer: Brian Johnson

#### Additional Members

Tom Arnol, Dee Baldock, Kim Eckmayer, K.B. Kendricks,  
Marie Kyle, Sarah Lederer, Lynn Vilker



Thank you so much for attending *The Music Man Sr.* Like many arts organizations, COVID-19 caused a great deal of change for VACT. We are so grateful for all of the support we received. Every kind message, donation, and show of support meant the world to us as we navigated time without live theater and figured out how to adapt. While there is a light at the end of the tunnel, your support will help us return to live theater and come back stronger than ever. If you're a theater lover who is in a position to help, please consider making a donation to VACT. Donations can be made through our website by going to [www.vact.org](http://www.vact.org) and clicking on the "donate now" link at the top of the page.

Visit [www.vact.org/donate-now](http://www.vact.org/donate-now) to make your donation today!





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# VACT Summer 2022

Registration open now on our website [www.vact.org](http://www.vact.org)

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**VACT**  
VERONA AREA  
COMMUNITY THEATER

**Questions?** Email Education  
Director Emma Vogel at  
[emma@vact.org](mailto:emma@vact.org)



# Masterwork Productions

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PHOTOGRAPHY

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[MasterworkProductions.com](http://MasterworkProductions.com)

[Marketing@MasterworkProductions.com](mailto:Marketing@MasterworkProductions.com)

(608) 620-3785

# Stay connected!



**@VeronaAreaCommunityTheater**

MEREDITH WILLSON'S  
**THE  
MUSIC MAN  
SR.**  
PILOT PRODUCTION

**Did you enjoy the show? Tell your friends!**

**Share your photos and experience with the official hashtag:  
#VACTheMusicManSr**

# Our 2021 - 2022 Season



November 18th - 20th  
2021



November 18th - 20th  
2021



December 2nd - 5th  
2021



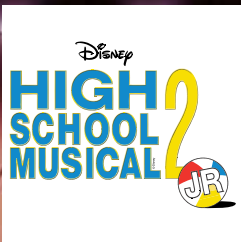
February 10th - 19th  
2022



April 7th - 9th  
2022



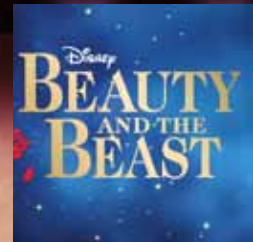
April 28th - 30th  
2022



April 28th - 30th  
2022



May 13th - 15th  
2022



June 17th - 25th  
2022

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