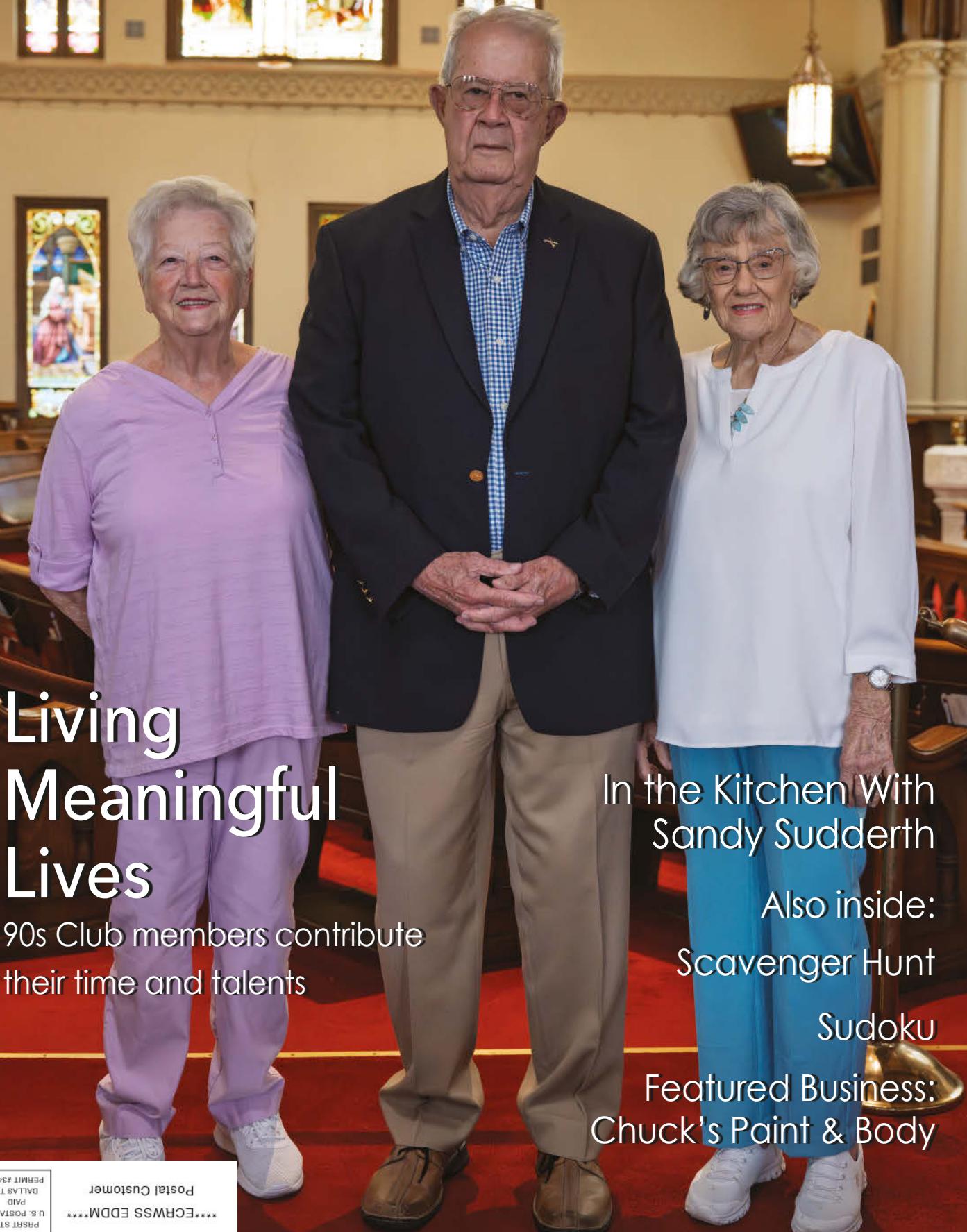


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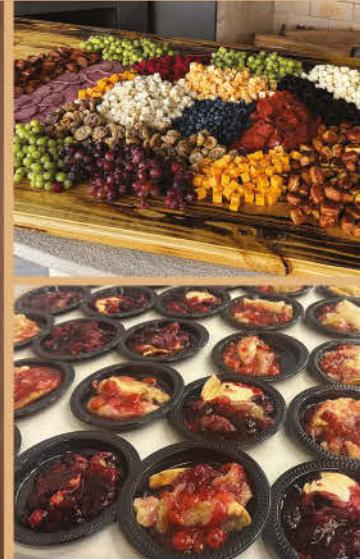
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EDITOR'S NOTE

Welcome, Fall!

Friday night lights are burning brightly again. The days are cooling off a little while getting noticeably shorter, and pumpkins are present everywhere. Yes, we made it through another long, hot summer!

I did escape the summer's heat a little while in the high desert Southwest. While there, I enjoyed the fruits, literally, of my youngest daughter's peach and apple trees. The experience of picking sun ripened and warmed fruit from the tree and partaking of it instantly is one that brings back childhood memories. My grandfather grew Freestone peaches in his backyard orchard/garden that were so good to eat. If any of the harvest made it into the kitchen, it became peach preserves the next day or was a wonderful topping to homemade ice cream I had to crank to perfection that evening. However, there's nothing like that sweet syrup dripping off one's chin into the ground and then burying the pit hoping for another tree to sprout in the spring.

While we celebrate our athletes returning to fields, courts and tracks this fall, I have added a new canine athlete to my furry family. My dog, Honey, helped me select and adopt Willie, supposedly a cross between a Chihuahua and an Italian Greyhound. A tribute to his greyhound genes, Willie is fast and agile, jumping to heights I've only ever seen cats accomplish. He's caused me to "Willie proof" my home and yard. When temps cool a bit more, I hope all of you can meet my little Willie and welcome Honey back to Community Park.

Virginia

Virginia Riddle
CorsicanaNOW Editor
virginia.riddle@nowmagazines.com
(903) 875-0187

Savor the Season!

October 2025
Volume 22, Issue 10

ON THE COVER



Aging while actively involved defines these church members.

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Living Meaningful

Their gaits may be a little slower, but their knowledge, determination and sense of humor are actively engaged. These are the current 13 members of the 90s Club at First Methodist Church Corsicana. It's an exclusive club, even though the only requirement for membership is to achieve 90-plus years of life! Collectively and individually, three of the 90s Club members, Ned Easterling, Susan Stites and Francie Yates, represent their fellow nonagenarians in many of the church's endeavors. "This is the friendliest church I've ever been a part of," Ned said.

Ned retired after serving 21 years in the U.S. Army, achieving the rank of colonel. A member of FMC for the past 14 of his 28 years as a Methodist, he shared, "We moved every three years, so I've been in 20-plus churches through my years. Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian — whatever denomination the main chapel on post was. At FMC, Ned cooks regularly at 6:30 a.m. for the Thursday Breakfast Bible Study Fellowship, which in the past four years has contributed nearly \$20,000 to area nonprofits and individuals in need. "I'm the oldest member of the Fellowship," he revealed. "I was privileged to swear our former pastor, Dr. Steven Bell, into the Army Reserves." He also offers his voice for cantatas and reads Scriptures in services twice monthly.

Susan, a retired teacher, has served 33 years as an FMC Sunday School teacher. She's a member of the prayer card committee, FMW Circle and volunteers in the church's library. "It's a blessing to me to attend Bible studies and serve in 1st Family Friends," she said. "We visit shut-ins, some who are younger than I am. People need to know they are remembered."

Francie, who still works in Daybreak's office, is active in the prayer ministry. She's proud of having raised her two sons in the church. "I love to work, and I like to be with people, especially family, so celebrating my 90th birthday in the church has been the greatest thing in my life," she shared.

Lives
— By Virginia Riddle

Their not-so-surprising “secrets” to longevity are very similar. Susan credits having good genes but also exercises and watches what she eats and drinks. “I’m known for riding a bike around town, and Francie and I try to make time to walk at First Baptist Church 1 mile a day, 5 days a week,” she remarked.

Francie added, “Working and having a faith in God helps, too, as well as doing new things. I flew with the Coyote Squadron when I was 90. I had a little trouble getting one knee in the plane, but we did it. Life is full of fun if you look for it.”

Ned agreed, “Being active and having a jovial attitude helps.”

Francie “jovially” quipped, “He has a very nice wife, too.”

When asked what they would tell their younger selves if they could, Susan replied, “Trust in God and don’t worry about what’s next. I too often



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pray, 'Lord, I give you this,' but I'm still hanging onto it."

Francie reflected, "I had the best marriage in the world for 45 years. I had the best mom and dad, too. I just wish I had appreciated them more then."

"When I retired, I knew with all my moves growing up and while in the Army, I wasn't a native of anywhere," Ned said. "I like to fish, so we first

moved to Rockport, Texas, but I soon learned I wasn't putting trout on the endangered list, and I grew tired of the corrosion living on the coast with salt water. My son told me about the good fishing on Lake Richland Chambers, so we moved here. I've been blessed since day one and have accomplished a lot. I'm lucky to still be here since, as a captain serving in Vietnam, there was a \$400 bounty on my head."

Jokingly, Francie said, "I wouldn't give \$400 for your head."

Not to be upstaged, Ned responded, "Neither would my wife!"

A Missouri native, Francie moved to Corsicana and family when her husband, Homer, couldn't farm anymore. "Missouri is the 'Show Me' state, so that might explain a lot about me," she said. She's worked in the insurance industry and at Mosaic. "I'm from a little bitty town where everyone was your mother. We couldn't get away with anything." She still is a voracious reader in her spare time.

Susan, a native of Canada, moved with her family to Stillwater, Oklahoma, where her dad was a professor. She

graduated from Oklahoma State University and had a 30-year teaching career. She enjoys playing games, reading, handwork and in the past, quilting. She has fond memories of both her childhood and of family times at FMC. "As children, we stayed out late at night, watching for the flick of the porch light signaling time to come in. We learned to take care of ourselves," she recalled. "Two of my grandchildren went to pre-K at FMC, joined FMC, were baptized here, and my daughter was married here. My mother and dad's funerals were held at FMC." Susan has five great-grandchildren and enjoys attending their events, and she volunteered 12,000 hours at Navarro Regional Hospital.

A blood donor, Ned has given seven gallons of blood. He enjoys reading, fishing, golfing, hunting and spending time with his two great-grandchildren. "They're a hoot," he said.

The people and climate of Corsicana are what all three 90s Club members enjoy, but Francie had the last word, "Wherever I live, I like home, and Corsicana and FMC are home." **NOW**



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Zoomed In: Susan Copeland

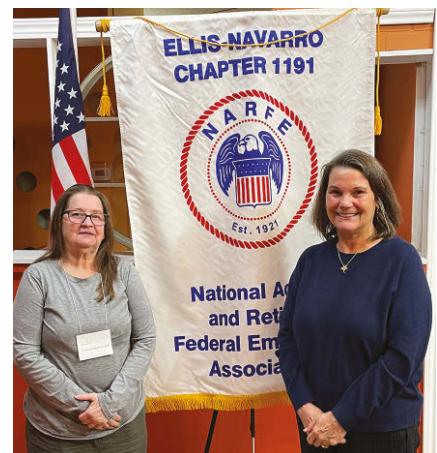
By Virginia Riddle

October is the Piecemakers' Quilt Guild of Corsicana's month to shine with their annual show. It's possible to peruse Susan Copeland's works of art and those of other area quilters. A retired nurse and Richardson, Texas, native, Susan and her family moved to the Lake Richland Chambers area in 2007. "I love to create things and teach and help others learn," Susan said.

Besides the guild, Susan has volunteered as a reading mentor and at the Corsicana Animal Shelter. She's a Corsicana Newcomers Club, Navarro County Humane Society and book club member. Susan loves working with fabric and pencil art and traveling. She added, "People are so nice here, and the only traffic jam is the unloading at the bakery and when a tractor breaks down on the road."



Courtney Prater shares her musical talents at The Patio Vendor Market.



NARFE Treasurer and Corsicana Program Coordinator, Rebecca Jones, introduces Barbara Long with CASA of Navarro County.



Kinsloe House Bloom & Belong Social Committee members kick off another great year at KH.



Hull Creative Arts Foundation board members congratulate scholarship recipients, Carson Hoover and London Moore.

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Stacy Mitchell and Dora Scruggs, members of James Blair DAR, host a kids' Manners & Etiquette Class at Corsicana YMCA.



Thomas Burns, YMCA director, updates Corsicana Newcomers Club members on all the happenings at the Y.

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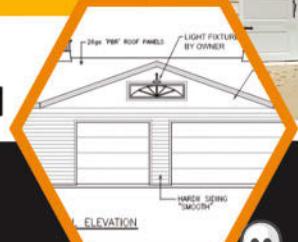
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Hours: Monday-Friday: 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Professional, trusted and reliable collision experts — those words described Chuck's Paint & Body when Chuck Rash owned the shop, and Greg Price, the shop's owner since January 2016, has continued that tradition. "For 27 years, this business was Chuck's. I'm building incrementally on his foundation," Greg stated.



Making sure customers are back on the road, safe and sound, in pre-accident condition or better is Greg's No. 1 goal. "Folks come in upset," he said. "Usually, their vehicle is their second most expensive investment." He recently expanded the shop and relocated his other business, Greg's Alignment, to a new address in the next block on N. Beaton. With this major move, the business is a one-stop shop serving Navarro County and the surrounding area. "We fix customers' vehicles, on average 80-100 monthly, as though one of our family members is driving it," Greg added.

Services include collision repair for cars and trucks, glass chip and crack repairs, frame and unibody straightening, two- and four-wheel alignments, all suspension needs and recalibration for forward facing cameras in advanced driver assistance systems. Tow-ins and rental cars are available,

and Greg offers free computerized estimates. "We accept all vehicle insurance and handle the claims," Greg explained. "I'm a working owner. We do whatever it takes, and our Facebook Five Star rating reflects that." The shop accepts major credit and debit cards, checks and cash as payment.

Chuck's Paint & Body has 20 employees filling jobs as estimator, painter, painter helpers, prep, body man and mechanic. "All the techs are Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) certified and are licensed in air conditioning," Greg added. "We're I-CAR trained and hold the I-CAR Gold Class certification. I've been in the auto body business for 28 years. It's in my blood. There's never been a time in this business I didn't like going to work, and over the years, I've developed a good following in this area." The business has been voted Best of the Best for seven years and is a member of the Auto Body Association of Texas and the National Federation of Independent Business.

Challenges center around the ever-changing technology in vehicles, difficulty in getting parts for the newer vehicles and working with insurance adjusters. "We have to stay ahead and learn to fix whatever is made," Greg explained. With the expanded square footage, modern paint technology, 3D measuring and an electric charging station have been added to the shop.

The business sponsors an annual car show with proceeds going toward the Youth Expo, youth sports, Go Texan, the 4-H shooting team, Mildred High School and Navarro College cheer program. Greg grew up in Mildred and Dawson, graduating from Dawson High School and receiving his training from Texas State Technical College in Waco. "I started TSTC in aircraft mechanics," he explained. He has two adult daughters of whom he's proud, and Greg has other extended family in the area. When he's not at the shop, Greg enjoys boating, traveling to car shows and fishing. "I've always been a water person," he said.

"Quantity makes money, but quality lets you stay in business," Greg concluded. "I'll always get the customer's job done and have them saying, 'Wow!' with a smile." **NOW**



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CookingNOW IN THE KITCHEN WITH SANDY SUDDERTH

— By Virginia Riddle



Sandy Sudderth's cooking experience began with a breakfast she prepared for herself and her dad. "He loved old-fashioned fried eggs dripping in bacon grease," Sandy recalled. "I've made a lot of progress since those early days."

Her love of gardening and living in a rural area has enhanced Sandy's learning. "Did you know you can make jelly out of mesquite beans?" Sandy asked. "It's a 'poor man's honey,' and it has a mild flavor." A great cook, she enjoys still learning and experimenting with recipes. "Experimenting makes cooking fun," she added.

Sandy has found her "tribe" in the Better Gardens Club, the Piecemakers' Quilt Guild and with the Corsicana Troop Support Angels. She revealed, "My cooking inspiration comes from food made by others including members in these groups. **NOW**

Darn Good Chocolate Cake

This cake is rich enough to eat as is, or a favorite frosting can be added.

Flour, for dusting

Cooking spray

1 box Devil's Food Cake Mix

8-oz. sour cream

1/2 cup warm water

1/2 cup vegetable oil

4 large eggs

1 12-oz. bag chocolate chips

1. Prepare a Bundt pan with the flour and

cooking spray; preheat the oven to 350 F.

2. In a bowl, mix all the ingredients together, except the eggs and chocolate chips. When well mixed, add all the eggs, one at a time, mix until blended. Fold in the chocolate chips.

3. Pour the batter into the Bundt pan; bake for 45 minutes. The sides of the cake should be pulling away from the pan's sides.

Hot and Spicy Pecans

2 Tbsp. butter, melted

1 Tbsp. Worcestershire Sauce

1/4 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. garlic powder
1 Tbsp. chili powder
2 cups pecan halves

1. Preheat the oven to 300 F in a medium-sized bowl, mix the butter, Worcestershire Sauce, salt, garlic powder and chili powder well.

2. Stir in the pecans, tossing them gently. Spread them on a cookie sheet; bake 30 minutes, stirring every 5 minutes. Remove them from the oven; let cool. Store in an airtight container.

Breakfast Casserole

1 lb. sausage
20-oz. hash browns, thawed
1/4 cup onions, finely diced
1/2 cup red peppers, diced
1/2 cup green peppers, diced
2 cups shredded cheddar cheese (divided use)
8 eggs
1 12-oz. can evaporated milk
1/2 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. black pepper
1/2 tsp. Italian seasoning

1. Preheat the oven to 350 F; grease and flour a 9x13-inch pan.

2. In a skillet, brown the sausage; drain the fat.

3. In the prepared pan, add the hash browns, sausage, onions, peppers and 1 1/2 cups of cheese; mix and spread evenly.

4. In a large bowl, add the eggs, milk, salt, pepper and Italian seasoning; whisk until well combined.

5. Pour the egg mixture over the ingredients already in the pan; top with the remaining cheese.

6. Bake for 55-65 minutes until cooked through, or cover and refrigerate for cooking later.



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				5	6	1		
3		5						
4	8	7		1				
					2			
2	6							
					6			
2		1	6		8			
9		8			2	4		

Medium

						7	9	
	8			7				
	4	1				2		
9		5						
				7		5	8	
				4	6	3		
	1	9	5					
	7		2					
4		3	8			2		

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HELLO, FALL

Some events may have been cancelled or rescheduled while we were at press.
Check with individual organizations or your city or Chamber websites to verify dates and times.

OCTOBER

10/6-10/29

**Piecemaker's Quilt
Guild Show:**

Monday-Friday: Noon-5:00
p.m.; **Saturday:** 10:00 a.m.-2:00
p.m., Warehouse Living Arts
Center, 119 W. 6th Ave.
www.corsicanaquiltguild.com.

10/9-10/19

**Zink: The Myth, the
Legend, the Zebra:**

Times/dates vary. Warehouse
Living Arts Center, 119 W. 6th
Ave. (903) 872-5421.

10/11

Corsicana Airsho:

Gates open: 9:00 a.m.; show
begins: noon, Corsicana
Municipal Airport, 9000 Navarro
Rd. www.coyotesquadron.org.

10/14

Game Night:

No purchase necessary. 5:00
p.m., Olive Branch Eatery 409
N. Beaton St. (903) 602-5000.

10/16-1/5

American Plains

Juried Show:

Oct. 16: Opening Reception:
5:30 p.m., Pearce Museum,
Cook Education Center,
3100 W. Collin St.
www.americanplainsartists.com.

10/18-10/19

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10/23

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