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Sanger News

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VOLUME 15, NO. 6 400 Bolivar Street, Suite 311 in Historic Wilfong Building - Sanger, TX 76266 February 20, 2026

Popeyes expected to start construction in April

Sanger Crossing is a 75,465 square foot retail development and grocery-anchored shopping center that includes a 50,565-square-foot Tom Thumb grocery store, 24,900 square feet of contiguous inline retail shops, and 15 single-tenant pad sites. Whataburger has already started construction on one of the pads and Popeyes will be next. The famous Louisiana fried chicken is landing in



Sanger! Popeyes Louisiana Kitchen has filed permits to construct a brand-new, ground-up location at the northeast corner of Keith Drive and West Chapman Drive.

The \$1.5 million project will see the construction of a standard 2,622-square-foot restaurant, featuring the brand's

latest New Orleans-inspired design. Unlike a renovation, this is a full "ground-up" build, meaning the site will be developed from the dirt up to include the new building, drive-thru, and parking.

Construction is scheduled to kick off on April 1, 2026, with a projected completion date of De-

cember 31, 2026.

Panda Express is anticipating breaking ground in 2026 and 7 Brew is opening next month. They are delivering FREE small drinks February 27-March 5 (25 minimum) to local businesses and organizations to give them a boost of 7 Brew energy before they officially open their doors!

May 2nd elections to be held for City Council and School Board

Bilyeu is unopposed for Mayor

Elections for the City of Sanger and the Sanger Independent School District (SISD) are set for May 2, 2026. Gary Bilyeu, who has served as a city councilman for 16 years, has filed to run for mayor and stands unopposed with the final filing day Friday, February 13. The incumbent mayor, Thomas Muir, announced in early January that he will not seek another term after more than a decade in office, having served since May 2010.

In the race for Place 4, Margie Tisdale, a special education teacher at Sanger High School, recently filed her candidacy. On the final filing day, Allen Chick, who has been a council member since 2010, also entered the race for Place 4. Meanwhile, Mark Bulger, a longtime Sanger resident, is running for Place 2 and is unopposed.

For the Sanger Independent School District, three positions are on the ballot: Place 7, currently held by Bruce Elsey; Place 6, held by Mitch Hammonds; and Place 1, held by Jarrod Roberts. Elsey and Hammonds will run without opposition, while Roberts will face Drew Hall in the contest for Place 1.

The Sanger News will feature profiles of these candidates in April, just ahead of the early voting period.



Gary Bilyeu

New businesses Coming to Sanger Crossing



Rib & Wing Cookoff held at Uptown Rail Brewery

Uptown Rail Brewery hosted the inaugural Rib Cookoff Association Rib & Wing Cookoff contest on Saturday, February 7th. Nearly 40 competitors participated, with several local cooks making a strong showing. Notably, Dennis Jordan won first place in the spare ribs category, while Coty Alambar took home the top prize for baby back ribs.

A celebrity BBQ competitor, Johnny Trigg, was also present, setting up his "Smokin Triggers" smoker just behind the local brewery. Trigg, who hails from Alvarado, Texas, is a renowned chef on the competitive barbecue circuit. He is a two-time Grand Champion of the Jack Daniel's World Championship Invitational and has appeared on the TLC reality television show BBQ Pitmasters.

Trigg bought his first trailer BBQ in 1984, following an enlightening experience at a competitive BBQ event in 1989. He entered his first BBQ competition in 1990 in Denton and humorously refers to

BBQ as his "golf game." After competing in Texas, he began participating in Kansas City Barbeque Society events in 1999 due to the more lucrative prize money. He typically enters around 45 contests each year, spending between 225 and 230 days on the road. Although he hasn't competed in the last couple of years, he came out to Sanger for this inaugural event.

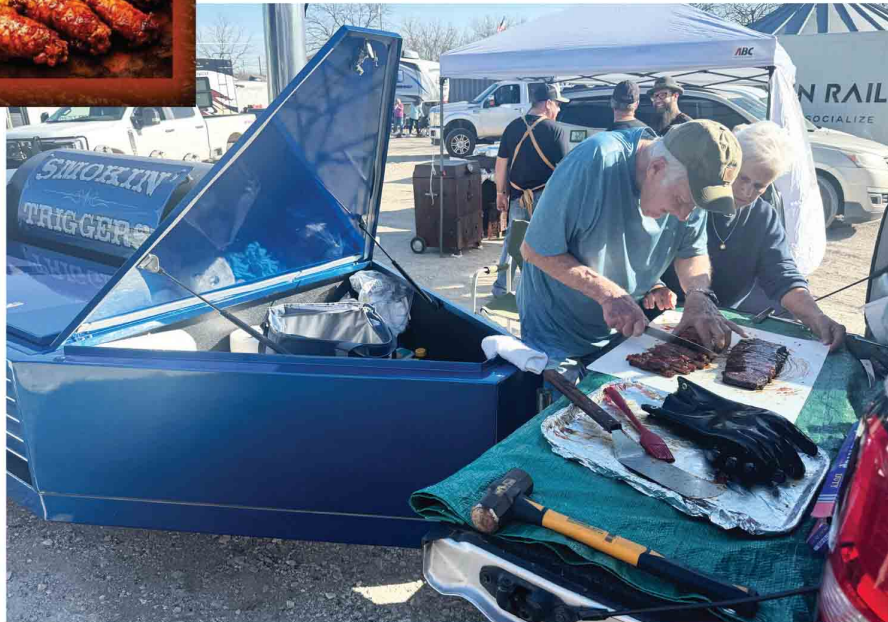
His BBQ team, "Smoking Triggers," earned him the nicknames "Godfather of BBQ" and "the New England Patriots of Barbecuing." He achieved the title of Grand Champion at the Jack Daniel's World Championship BBQ Invitational in Lynchburg, Tennessee, in 2000 and 2003, becoming the first competitor to win the prestigious title more than once.

Trigg was featured in the first two seasons of TLC's BBQ Pitmasters. He was among four chefs who traveled to Kuwait to cook for U.S. troops stationed there, preparing over a hundred briskets



at each location. In 2012, he was inducted into the Barbecue Hall of Fame by the American Royal Association. He returned to BBQ Pitmasters for season 3, where he not only took first place in the turkey and pork belly competition but advanced to the finale, ultimately being crowned the overall Grand Champion and earning the title of BBQ Pitmaster.

SEE RESULTS & PHOTOS ON PAGE 8:



Johnny Trigg slices his ribs for the Sanger contest.

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OBITUARIES...

Jonathan Eric King

July 16, 2000 - February 7, 2026

It is with profound sorrow that we announce the passing of Jonathan Eric King, born on July 16, 2000, in Fort Pierce, Florida. On February 7, 2026, Jonathan departed this world at the tender age of 25, leaving behind an indelible mark on those fortunate enough to have known him. He will be remembered not only as a devoted son and brother, but also as a cherished cousin and friend, whose vibrant spirit and kindness illuminated the lives of many.



Jonathan graduated from Sanger High School in 2018. He went on to earn a Bachelor's Degree and was employed in the construction industry as a security professional. Above all else, Jonathan was deeply devoted to his family and wanted nothing more than to know his brothers were taken care of. He is survived by his father, Julian King; his mother, Ruth King; and his four brothers: Joseph, Joshua, Jacob, and Jamey King. Jonathan's memory will also be cherished by his cousins, Marian Foster, Maya Welch, Myra Christopher, and Myka Christopher, each of whom treasures the time they shared with him.

Jonathan loved music, animals, and plants. He longed for the world to be simple and believed everyone should be allowed to be their most authentic selves. Those who knew him will remember his gentle heart and the love he shared so freely.

A funeral service to honor Jonathan's remarkable life was held February 17, 2026, at 2:00 PM at Slay Memorial Funeral Centers, where family and friends gathered to pay their final respects. Prior to the service, a visitation was held at 1:00 PM, providing an opportunity for loved ones to reflect on their memories of Jonathan and share stories of his life. Following the service, Jonathan was laid to rest at Slay-Bloomfield-Jones Cemetery, located on Mt. Pleasant Rd., Valley View, Texas.

In this time of profound grief, let us unite to celebrate Jonathan's life and the joy he brought into the world. May we remember him not only for his accomplishments but for his unwavering kindness and the love he shared with all around him.

Online condolences may be shared at www.slaymemorialfuneralcenter.com

Gene Arnold Gohlke

August 13, 1935 - February 8, 2026

Gene Arnold Gohlke, 90, of Denton passed away on Sunday, February 8th. He was born on August 13, 1935, to Arnold Herman and Carrie Mae Kusch Gohlke in Washington County, Texas.

At a young age, Gene moved with his family to Denison, Texas. He thoroughly enjoyed his childhood and had very fond memories of growing up in Denison and he continued to visit the area often until his passing. After graduating from Denison High School in 1953, he came to Denton to attend college at North Texas State College, where he received a business degree. It is in Denton where he met the love of his life, Judy Hoover. They met when Gene went to the movie at the Campus Theater where Judy was the box office attendant. They would end up marrying on September 4, 1959, and they recently celebrated 66 years of marriage.

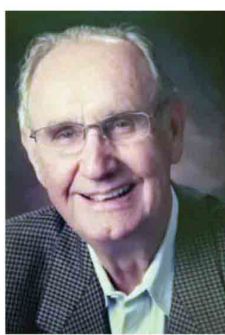
In February of 1956, he went to work for Bert Moore, owner of Moore Building Products. Moore Building Products sold masonry supplies, concrete blocks, and other building products mostly to the building trade. In 1958, Mr. Moore & Gene felt that the time was right to begin building swimming pools. That business is still in operation today. In 1963, Gene & Judy Gohlke purchased the business, expanding the product offerings to include windows and other residential home needs. He renamed the business a few years later to Gene Gohlke Building Products. His business philosophy of "Do what you say you are going to do and always do the right thing" carried the business for another 55 years. Gene sold the business property and retired in 2018 at the age of 83.

In his personal life, he enjoyed fishing, hunting, playing poker, the Dallas Cowboys, and watching Family Feud (Steve Harvey). But mostly, he enjoyed the friendships that he and Judy had developed over their 70+ years of living in Denton. He truly valued those friendships and it pained him deeply to see his friends pass away.

He was preceded in death by his father, mother, Duane Gohlke (brother), Bobbie Gohlke (sister-in-law), Luther Gohlke (brother), and Pat Gohlke (sister-in-law).

He is survived by his wife, Judy Hoover Gohlke. He is also survived by his daughter Gina and her husband Brian Wicker of Sanger; son Matt and his wife Whitney of Argyle; son Mark and his wife Lisa of Sanger; and his son Luke and his wife Stephanie of Denton. In addition, he leaves behind his grandchildren—Connor Gohlke (Madison), Grant Gohlke (Cali), Lauren Norcross (Chris), Ella Gohlke, Tori Howard (Josh), Cutter Gohlke, and Jake Gohlke. He also leaves behind his great grandchildren—Lizzie Norcross, Ben Norcross, and Cooper Howard.

The family would like to sincerely thank those who provided loving care, especially at the end of his life, in-



cluding Dr. Scott Simms, Dr. Galen Howard, Dr. Simon Allo, Denton Village (Good Sam), Vivian Bih and EZ Molina of Good Shepherd Hospice, and Teresa Perez, as well as countless others who helped along the way.

Services will be held on Saturday, February 21st, at 10am at First Christian Church with Reverend Kristin Galle officiating. Internment Burial will follow at IOOF Cemetery. The family will be at DeBerry Funeral Home on Friday, February 20th, from 4-6pm.

Services were under the direction of Bill Deberry Funeral Directors in Denton, TX. Please make online condolences at www.deberryfuneraldirectors.com/

Brenda Kaye (South) Hood

July 20, 1952 - February 6, 2026

Brenda Kaye (South) Hood, a resident of Sanger, Texas, died on February 6th, 2026, in Denton at the age of 73.

Born in Rotan, Texas, on July 20, 1952, she was the daughter of Lee Roy and Audry Inata (Disotell) South.

Brenda graduated from Ector High School and later earned her associate degree from North Central Texas College. She worked as an assembly worker for Victor E., assembling gas torches.

On February 12, 1994, Brenda married James Leonard Hood.

Her faith played a central role in her life, and she deeply valued her service at Victory Baptist Church, where she taught Sunday school. Being around children always brought her great joy.

She also treasured the companionship of her beloved pets: her dog Nyx and two cats, Scooter and Bandit.

She is survived by her husband, James Leonard Hood of Sanger; one daughter, Tiffany Raye Burger of Lakeside; Two sisters, Geraldine (Geri) Odom of Flint, Deborah (Debbie) Odom of Magnolia, Arkansas; as well as many nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Lee Roy South and Audry Inata Odom; two sisters, Linda South Robinson and Donna South Jones; and two brothers, Larry South and Ray Odom.

A visitation will be held on Friday, February 20, 2026, from 6:00 – 8:00 PM at Coker Funeral Home in Sanger, Texas.

A funeral service for Brenda will be held on Saturday, February 21, 2026, at 10:00 AM in Victory Baptist Church, 207 Kathryn Drive, Sanger, Texas. Pastor Robert Graf will officiate. Those serving as pallbearers will be Joseph Graf, Jeff Mathews, Justin Knott, Bill Payla, James Siefert, and Caleb Adams.

Services are under the direction of Coker Funeral Home. Friends and loved ones are invited to share memories or offer condolences to the Hood family in the online guest book at www.cokerfuneralhome.com



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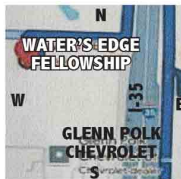
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OBITUARIES...

Fred Wade Hopson

February 21, 1971 - February 8, 2026

Fred Wade Hopson of Denton, Texas passed away on February 8, 2026, surrounded by his family and friends.

Wade was born on February 21, 1971, in Houston, Texas to Bill Hopson and Dolores Herrington. The family lived in Houston and later moved to Cisco, Huntsville, Athens, Canyon and Denton where Wade graduated high school in 1989. Following high school, he attended Trinity Valley Community College and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Houston. His career as a biology teacher and coach of football and softball took him to Alvarado and Birdville from which he retired in 2023.

Wade was passionate about many things: his sons, Cameron and Cohen, his family and his many, many students. He was always lifting spirits and encouraging others to be the best version of themselves. He just really loved everybody. If you knew him you saw the smiles, the energy, the fist bumps, the hugs and the music – there was always music!

Wade lived life to the fullest. “Doing Life” included being outdoors – four wheeling and hunting at the family ranch in Athens. Floating on the river, playing disc golf, working out, playing pool and hanging out with his friends and family.

Wade is survived by his father Bill Hopson and wife CJ of Lyons, his stepfather Bob Herrington of Athens, his sons Cameron and Cohen of Keller, and their mother Amanda Escamilla and their stepmother Brittny Locke. He is also survived by his brother Steve Hopson and wife Angela, nephews Trent and wife Malorie, and Dakota; niece Kimberlin of Sanger, along with many extended family members in Athens and life-long friends.

Wade was preceded in death by his mother Dolores, his brother Todd and his nephews Taylor and Brody Hopson.

Wade gave the gift of life by being an organ donor. He made his way to heaven doing what he loved!

Services were under the direction of Bill Deberry Funeral Directors in Denton, TX. Please make online condolences at www.deberryfuneraldirectors.com/

Services will be held Saturday, February 21, 2026 at noon at Trinity United Methodist Church in Denton (633 Hobson Lane, Denton).



Patricia Megan Attaway

April 18, 1943 - February 14, 2026

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of Patricia Megan Attaway (née Moreby), aged 82. Patricia was known affectionately to many as “Pat” and “Patsy”, and as “Nanny” to her grandchildren—true to her English fashion. Patricia was born in Portsmouth, England on April 18, 1943, to Leslie Edward and Ethel “Pat” Moreby. Pat was the eldest daughter of nine siblings, whom she dearly cherished alongside her parents.

Pat was a member of the Royal Air Force and was stationed in Germany as a nurse. It was there that she met the love of her life, James “Jim” David Attaway, an Airman in the United States Air Force. Jim always knew how to make her laugh, and they shared nearly 60 years of marriage and three wonderful sons: David, Steven, and Jason. The military took Pat’s family across Europe and America before she eventually settled for many years in Texas to be near her growing family.

Though a true Englishwoman til the end, Pat poured endless love and devotion into her home in Texas. While living in Sanger, Texas, Pat worked as a substitute teacher at Chisholm Trail Elementary and a clerk at the Sanger Drug Store. Pat was known for her boundless kindness and her enduring patience, winning the hearts of her many students and endless strangers. She loved to be involved in her church and spent many hours volunteering for the Society of St Vincent de Paul at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Denton, TX.

Pat always remained full of joy, laughter, and enough dry English humor to keep you on your toes. She enjoyed reading, knitting, baking, traveling, and making crafts for those she loved. Most of all, Pat loved nothing more than spending time with her family and friends. One of Pat’s greatest joys was seeing her grandchildren blossom, always happy to attend another game, choir concert, or theater production.

Pat entered her eternal rest on February 14, 2026, in Weatherford, Texas surrounded by love. She is survived by her husband, James, and her three sons: David, Steven (Debbie), and Jason (Jennifer). Through them she is also survived by her adoring grandchildren: Nicholas (Samela), Sofia, Katelyn, Jordyn, Adelyn, Ashlyn, and Brock; and her great grandson, Michael. Pat is also survived by her loving brothers and sisters: Michael (Jean), Jackie West, Terry Meadows (Eric), Martin (Gail), Pe-

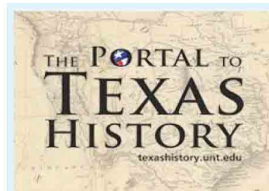


ter (Gwyneth), and Leslie Brock. Patricia is preceded in death by her parents, Leslie and Ethel Moreby, and her brothers John and Dennis. She joins them now for a long-awaited cup of tea.

The family welcomes all to celebrate the life of Pat Attaway, beloved Wife, Mom, and Nanny. Funeral Mass to be held Monday, February 23 at St. Stephens Catholic Church, 1802 Bethel Rd. Weatherford, Texas at 10:00 am. Interment to follow at the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery, 2000 Mountain Creek Parkway, Dallas, Texas at 2:15 pm

The family asks that you think of Pat the next time you have a warm cup of tea, especially if it’s more milk and sugar than tea. Let this be an enduring symbol of her warmth and a reminder to find sweetness and peace in little moments, as was often her way.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that a donation be made in Pat’s name to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul of North Texas, <https://www.svdpdallas.org/involved/donate>

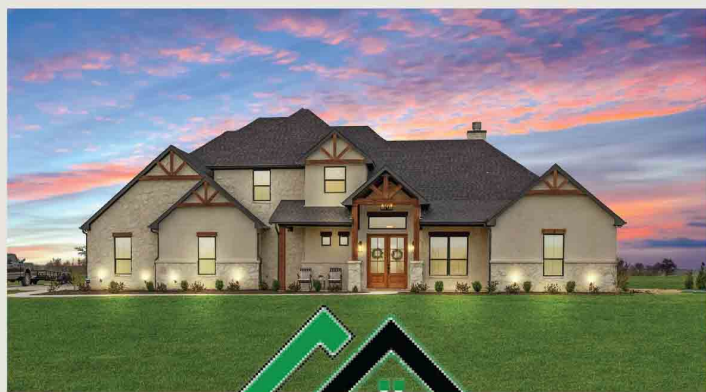
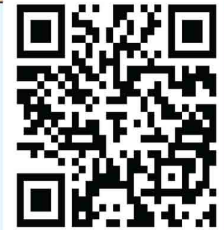


Thousands of digital scanned newspapers of Sanger Courier and News on Texas History Portal website

An original copy of a July 23, 1970 Sanger Courier newspaper, collected by the Sanger Historical Society and Sanger Public Library. Original copies are scanned, archived and are searchable in the new digital files.



The Sanger issues are searchable through The Portal to Texas History at <https://texashistory.unt.edu/explore/collections/SANG/> or **SCAN QR CODE:**



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Your credit score predicts how likely you are to pay bills on time. Lenders, landlords and even some employers use this number to evaluate how responsible you appear to be. A higher score signals that you're reliable with money, which can lead to lower interest rates on loans, better insurance premiums and easier access to cred-

it. Some service providers may even waive security deposits if you have a strong score.

The most common credit scoring system is the FICO score, ranging from 300 to 850. A score above 670 is considered good, while anything above 740 is very good and above 800 is exceptional. Most scoring models look at similar factors, with payment history the most important. Making payments on time accounts for 35% of your FICO score, so even one late payment can hurt you.

The second biggest factor is credit utilization, for 30% of your score. This measures how much credit you're using compared to your total available credit. Try to keep this below 30%. Other factors include the length of your credit history (15%), new credit applications (10%) and your mix of different credit types (10%).

It's much easier to maintain a good credit score than to rebuild one after it drops. A single

missed payment can stay on your report for seven years, dragging down your score and making it harder to qualify for loans or favorable interest rates. Prevention is far simpler than repair.

If you're looking to improve your score, start with the basics. Pay all your bills on time by setting up automatic payments or reminders. Keep your credit card balances low and pay them off in full when possible. Avoid applying for new credit too often, as each application can temporarily lower your score.

A Chapter 7 or Chapter 13 bankruptcy filing can drop your FICO score up to 200 points. For unpaid taxes, the IRS can report tax liens to your credit report.

Those just starting to build credit might consider applying for a secured credit card or becoming an authorized user on a family member's account. Some services will even report your rent and utili-

ty payments to credit bureaus, helping you establish a positive history.

You can check your credit report for free once a year from each of the three major credit bureaus (Equifax, Experian and TransUnion) through annualcreditreport.com, a site they jointly operate.

Many banks also offer free credit monitoring. Review your reports regularly to catch errors and track your progress.

Taking control of your credit score is an investment in your financial future. If you need some guidance to help you build or maintain your credit

score, a financial advisor can be a great resource. After all, the habits you establish today will make borrowing easier and less expensive tomorrow, giving you more flexibility to pursue your goals.

Nikki Smith is a financial advisor with Edward Jones in Sanger. She can be reached at 940-458-7866.

Bolivar Masonic Lodge is hosting their Annual Chili Supper fundraiser this coming Saturday evening, Feb. 21st, from 5-7 PM at the Lodge Hall in Sanger. It is "all you can eat" homemade chili and the fixins, ham and red beans, dessert, and fresh-brewed tea. Please come and help support our Lodge as we raise funds for the SHS scholarships and local charities. Tickets are \$10 at the door.

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Sanger Community Center, 101 Freese Drive. Go to www.votedenton.gov for a complete list of early voting locations in Denton County and view sample ballots for Republican and Democrats and list of propositions to vote on.

Early Voting Date & Times for March 3 Primary

February (febrero) 17 - 20	Tuesday – Friday (martes – viernes)	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
February (febrero) 21	Saturday (sábado)	7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
February (febrero) 22	Sunday (domingo)	11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
February (febrero) 23 – 27	Monday - Friday (lunes – viernes)	7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

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The Heart of Connection—Why Relationships Matter for Our Mental Health



Tiffany Stone, LMFT
Owner, New Hope
Counseling Services

February often brings talk of love, but for many, it's also a reminder of how important genuine connection is to our well-being. Whether it's the bond between partners, the laughter shared between friends, or the steady support of family, our relationships shape how we experience the world and influence our mental health more than we may realize.

Having a healthy relationship does not mean that the relationship is perfect, because no relationship is perfect. Real connection is built on trust, respect, and the willingness to grow together—even when times are tough. When we feel seen and heard, our brains and bodies benefit: stress levels drop, resilience increases, and hope feels a little more within reach. Research shows that people with strong social ties are more likely to recover from setbacks, manage anxiety, and even enjoy better physical health.

But connection takes effort. It's easy to get swept up in routines, let misunderstandings linger, or avoid difficult conversations. This February, try these small steps to nurture your relationships:

Make time for honest conversations, put away distractions and really listen.

Offer appreciation, even for the little things.

Set boundaries with kindness, respecting your own needs and those of others.

Don't shy away from saying "I'm sorry" or "I need help."

Celebrate each other's successes and support each other through challenges.

If you're feeling disconnected, remember that it's never too late to reach out. Sometimes, relationships need a little help to get back on track. Many find that talking with a counselor helps untangle challenges, improve communication, and build stronger bonds. Here in Sanger, mental health resources like New Hope Counseling Services are part of our community's commitment to wellness. Whether you're seeking support for yourself, your partnership, or your family, reaching out is always a sign of strength.

Let's keep the conversation going—because when we care for our connections, we care for ourselves and each other. This month let's make space for meaningful moments, honest conversations, and the kind of support that helps us all thrive.

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- Awards for all of our players.

At the end of the season/closing ceremony we will make an announcement with the sponsor's name or business name that provided us with this donation.

- Monetary donation for League fees/expenses

This will go towards any additional expenses throughout the season, snacks and drinks for all of our volunteers etc. Also snacks and drinks items can be bought and donated if preferable.

Help us make this spring season one to remember!
Baseball for all! If you have any questions you can contact me, Tatiana Medrano miracleleagueofsangertx@gmail.com
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Congratulations to the Sanger Public Library!

Each year, Texas Municipal Library Directors Association (TMLDA) confers awards for outstanding contributions by public libraries to their communities. Since 1966 TMLDA has served to promote the public library profession, improve the methods of library service delivery, and maintain high standards of professional ethics; TMLDA remains an affiliate of the Texas Municipal League.

The Achievement of Library Excellence Award is open to TMLDA member library directors and the libraries they represent. To receive the Achievement of Library Excellence Award, the library must support standards of excellence in the following categories:

1. Services to underserved populations through outreach, special programs, collaborations with other organizations, or special collections
2. Innovative and effective marketing materials highlighting services and publicity about specific library programs
3. Collaboration with community organizations
4. Enhanced service to the public either through an increase in service or additional type of services
5. Literacy support for all ages
6. Digital inclusion through public internet access, digital literacy training, and online library services



2025 Achievement of Excellence in Libraries Award

Presented to:

Sanger Public Library



Awarded by
Texas Municipal Library Directors Association

7. Workforce development support
8. Cultural, topical, and educational programming for adults and families
9. Professional training opportunities for staff at all levels
10. Other services that support community that demonstrate how the library served the community with excellence during the past year.

TMLDA recognizes that two of the many strengths of Texas libraries are individuality

and the ability to meet the specific needs of the communities served. Each award-winning library has chosen to emphasize the programs and services that best support local users where they live, work, and play. While no two public libraries are alike, they each strive for excellence.

According to the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, 545 public libraries exist in Texas. Of those libraries, only 101 received this award in 2025.

Public Notices

CITY OF SANGER, TEXAS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

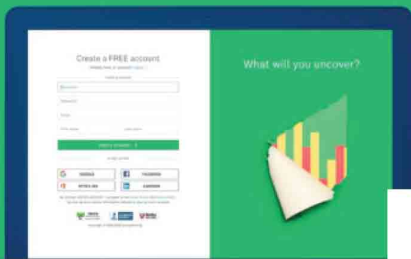
Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the City Council of the City of Sanger in the Historic Church Building, 403 N 7 th Street, Sanger, Texas at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 2, 2026, for the purpose of receiving public comments on the following:

A request for voluntary annexation of approximately 435.02 acres known as A0562A Hudson, Tr 3, A1281A S. WILLIAMS, TR 1, A1281A S. WILLIAMS, TR 1A, A0280A CRAWFORD, TR 1, and A0280A CRAWFORD, TR 1A, 1B generally located on the east side of Rector Road approximately 4458 feet south of the intersection of E Willow Street and Railroad Ave.

All interested citizens and property owners are hereby notified of their right to appear and be heard on this matter.

Kelly Edwards,
City Secretary, City of Sanger

SOLID WASTE CUSTOMER SURVEY



SURVEYMONKEY.COM

Republic Services Feedback Survey



REPUBLIC SERVICES

Have Your Say, Sanger!

We want to hear from you. The City of Sanger is asking residents to take a short Solid Waste Customer Survey to share feedback on our current trash and recycling services.

Your input helps us understand what is working well and where we can improve as we continue looking for ways to better serve our community.

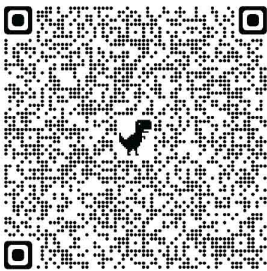
Take the survey here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Z9KKP6K>

- The survey will remain open through the end of February.

Thank you for taking a few minutes to share your thoughts and help shape future solid waste services in Sanger.

#survey #CityofSanger #CommunityInput



FOLLOW @DISCOVER SANGER

YOUR OFFICIAL SOURCE FOR ALL THINGS SANGER

Stay in the know, Sanger!

Looking for the latest on events, festivals, grand openings, and all the fun happening in town? The @DiscoverSanger Facebook page is your official go-to source for everything Sanger!

- Community events • Local business spotlights • Seasonal happenings
- Family-friendly fun • Follow Discover Sanger so you never miss a thing happening in our hometown!



SURVEYMONKEY.COM

Sanger EDC Retail Market Survey

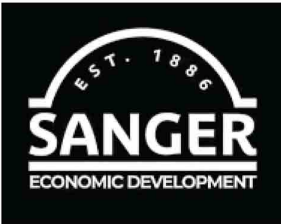
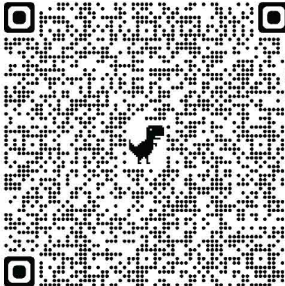
We Want to Hear From You!

The Sanger EDC is excited to launch our Retail Market Survey — and your input matters. In partnership with The Retail Coach, we're working to attract the businesses and development that Sanger residents truly want and need.

But we can't do it without you.

This is your opportunity to share your ideas and help shape the future of retail in our community. While we can't guarantee that every business mentioned will come to Sanger, your feedback plays a vital role in guiding our efforts and conversations with prospective retailers.

- The survey closes March 6, 2026 — don't miss your chance to be heard! Let's build Sanger's future together.



Winter Storm Fern Drives Increased Energy Use - Atmos Energy has solutions that can help

The Winter Storm Fern brought heavy snow, ice, and record-low temperatures throughout many of the areas that Atmos Energy serves from Jan. 23 through Jan. 27. Because of the prolonged cold, your natural gas usage may have increased as your heating system, water heater, fireplace, and other gas appliances worked harder to keep your home comfortable. This increased usage may result in a bill that's higher than what you typically see.

What options does Atmos Energy offer to manage my natural gas bill?

- Sign up for Budget Billing so your bill is more predictable each month.
- Enroll in an Installment Plan to spread the payment of your balance over time.
- Connect with energy assistance agencies in your area to learn about financial assistance that is available to qualifying customers.

From your online Account Center, you can make payments, enroll in these free payment programs, and find a local energy assistance agency at your convenience. To learn more about these solutions, visit atmosenergy.com/assistance.

How can I better understand my bill?

To learn more about the terms and factors on your bill, visit atmosenergy.com/mybill.

Additionally, the Bill Comparison tool in your Account Center is available to compare your current bill with a previous bill. This will help you better understand how the weather, number of days in your billing cycle, and amount of gas used impact your bill.

What factors impact my bill?

- The amount of natural gas used.
- The natural gas commodity cost, which is a pass-through cost.
- Customer and facility or delivery charges to your home or business.
- Taxes/fees.

Unusual or unexpected usage on your Atmos Energy bill could mean that you have a gas leak. If you smell or suspect a natural gas leak, leave the area immediately. Then, from a safe distance, call 911 and Atmos Energy's 24/7 emergency line at 866.322.8667.

Atmos Energy is committed to the safe and reliable delivery of natural gas and continuing to provide exceptional customer service.

As always, our Customer Contact Center is available to answer any questions you may have Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Central time at 888.286.6700.

Need Help Paying Your Gas Bill?



If you are unable to pay a past due balance, assistance is available. Atmos Energy is here to help you find solutions to pay your natural gas bill.

What Help Is Available?

Installment Plans*

You can set up a payment plan that spreads out the payment of your balance over time. There is no charge or fee.

Financial Assistance*

Even if you have not qualified in the past, financial assistance is available through assistance agencies.

Budget Billing

Budget Billing helps you manage your monthly household budget by spreading out your natural gas bills throughout the year, so you are not surprised with high winter gas bills.

*Qualifications Apply.

Ways to Save Money and Energy

Colder temperatures will increase the amount of natural gas you use and lead to higher bills. Consider implementing these tips to save energy, where safe to do so:

- Lower your thermostat to 68 degrees during the day and 58 degrees when you are away from home.
- Limit your shower and bath time - this can account for 40 percent of your hot water use.
- Do not use a pool heater. Instead, run your pool pump during the coldest part of the day to circulate the water and prevent freezing.
- Operate your clothes washer, dryer, and dishwasher only when fully loaded.
- Unless a fire is burning, close your fireplace damper to prevent warm air from escaping up the chimney.
- Customers can take advantage of rebates on high-efficiency natural gas appliances, energy-saving devices, and weatherization upgrades by visiting our website.

For more information, call Atmos Energy at:

888.286.6700 | 7 a.m. - 6 p.m. | Monday - Friday

www.atmosenergy.com/assistance

Smell gas? Act fast! If you suspect a gas leak, leave the area immediately! From a safe distance call 911 and Atmos Energy's 24/7, toll-free emergency number at 866.322.8667.



Announcements

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FIRST RACE 1:00 PM

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Sanger Middle School
February 21st

6pm - 8pm
Dancing
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Presale: \$20 per couple
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AWARDS AT 1PM

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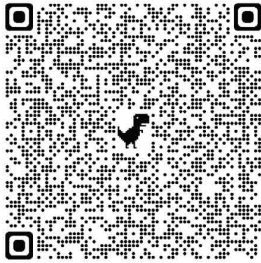
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• Grab your tickets now and make a difference: <https://www.zeffy.com/.../360-pro-wrestling-sangerslam>

Every cheer, every ticket, and every dollar helps fund classroom needs, teacher support, and unforgettable school experiences! Let's pack the house and show what Sanger pride looks like!!!



Sanger Area Chamber of Commerce Business Awards Luncheon



Wednesday, February 25, 2026 at 12 PM – 1:30 PM

Chamber of Commerce Business Awards
Riley's Room Event Studio

A special event recognizing outstanding businesses and individuals who make a meaningful impact in our community. Join us as we celebrate excellence and present awards in the following categories:

Chamber Business Partners • Visionary Award • Resilience Award
• Community Purpose Award • Whole Health Award
• Game Changer Award • Person of the Year

This luncheon is a time to honor leadership, innovation, and commitment to the Sanger community while enjoying networking and fellowship with fellow Chamber members. Seating is very limited. Reservations are required. Please be sure to reserve your seat early to ensure attendance. We look forward to celebrating the achievements that make our business community strong.

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RIB & WING Images



Cookoff

(Continued from pg. 1)



Wings Top 10

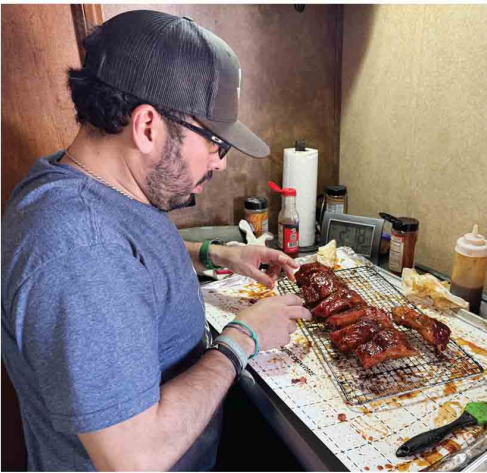
Place	Cooks Name	Points
1st	Justin West	131.90
2nd	Brittany Unkart	130.80
3rd	Coty Alambar	129.30
4th	David Johnson	128.80
5th	Bud Brown	125.90
6th	Jack Cashman	125.10
7th	Randy Burkhart	125.10
8th	Jim Paddock	124.40
9th	Lem Watson	123.70
10th	Not Claimed	121.90

Baby Back Ribs Top 10

Place	Cooks Name	Points
1st	Coty Alambar	139.10
2nd	Andy Bowen	138.70
3rd	Craig Scoggins	137.40
4th	Jack Cashman	136.80
5th	Kevin Peterson	135.90
6th	Henry Stephens	135.50
7th	Danny Ewer	135.40
8th	Brittany Unkart	135.20
9th	Bobby Oliver	134.40
10th	James Page	132.90

Spare Ribs Top 10

Place	Cooks Name	Points
1st	Dennis Jordan	140.10
2nd	Jack Cashman	139.90
3rd	Stephen Peacock	139.30
4th	E. Horton/ L. Freeman	139.20
5th	Henry Stephens	138.30
6th	Andy Bowen	138.10
7th	Paul Vanzura	137.30
8th	Bud Brown	136.90
9th	Bobby Oliver	136.20
10th	Coty Alambar	136.20



LEFT: Roland Escobedo and Coty Alambar (ABOVE) flavor the baby back ribs.



Jim Paddock gets the ribs ready for turn-in just behind Uptown Rail Brewery.



A good crowd was on hand for the announcements of the top 10 winners.



A contestant cutting his cooked ribs in downtown Sanger.



The judges taste the ribs.

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Lady Indians Softball Recap

Presented by Beaver Builders

The Lady Indians faced a high-level opponent Tuesday night, falling 12-1 to S&S Consolidated — a program that went 27-3 last season, captured its district title with a perfect 12-0 record, and advanced all the way to the Class 3A State Semifinals.

Sanger didn't back down from the challenge.

The Lady Indians wasted no time getting on the board in the top of the first inning when Lily Wilson came through with an RBI single. Wilson finished 1-for-2 at the plate and accounted for Sanger's run, continuing to show confidence early in the season.

Sanger tallied five hits on the night, with Dalilah Millan, Zoe Bassham, Abby Chapmond, Tarryn Liechty, and Wilson each recording a hit. Millan crossed the plate for the Lady Indians' run, while Bassham battled and reached after being hit by a pitch. Despite facing a proven pitcher, Sanger continued to compete in every at-bat.

Defensively, the Lady Indians showed flashes of sharp execution, turning a double play and battling through innings against a disciplined lineup that piled up 10 walks and timely extra-base hits.

In the circle, Madison Biediger got the start and worked two innings. Abby Chapmond came



PAIGE CHILD



SOPHIA TROEGLE

in to provide relief, going 2.1 innings and recording a strikeout. The experience against a state semifinal-caliber lineup will only strengthen this young group as the season progresses.

Make no mistake — this Lady Indians squad is building something. Facing a team with that kind of pedigree early in the year is exactly the kind of test that prepares you for district play.

Up next: a tournament in Waco this weekend, where Sanger will look to regroup, grow, and build momentum.

And mark your calendars — SSC's first softball broadcast of the season will be Monday, 2/23 at SHS as the Lady Indians host Denison. "We're fired up to bring you the action live."

SANGER Lady Indians	
NUMBER	PLAYER
2	Harley Miller Sr
3	Dalilah Millan Jr
4	Carley Kates Jr
5	Tarryn Liechty Soph
6	Callie Miller-Gideon Jr
7	Paige Child Sr
8	Abby Chapmond Jr
9	Lily Wilson Sr
10	Niki Boone Soph
11	Sophia Troegle Sr
12	Chelsea Walton Jr
13	Vivianne Lynch Jr
17	Madison Biediger Soph
20	Zoe Bassham Soph



Sanger Sports Corner provided this game recap. Check them out on FaceBook.

SHS varsity basketball closes out season

The Indians closed out their season Tuesday night hosting the Van Alstyne Panthers in a hard-fought battle at SHS. Sanger came out firing.

The Indians jumped out to a 15-4 first quarter lead, highlighted by a 12-0 run to stretch the advantage to 13 early. They kept the pressure on to start the second quarter, scoring the first four points to extend the lead to 19-4.

But Van Alstyne answered. The Panthers responded with a 7-0 run that carried into halftime as part of a 16-5 surge, trimming the Indian lead to 24-20 at the break.

The third quarter was a back-and-forth fight. Sanger pushed the lead back to five at one point, but the Panthers closed the quarter on a 7-2 run, tying the game at 31-31 heading into the fourth.

In the final frame, Van Alstyne's defense tightened up, holding the Indians to just four points and pulling away late to take the game 41-35.

Sanger Stat Recap:

- Wyatt Pennington
• 3 Points
• 12 Rebounds (Team High)
• 2 Steals
• 2 Blocks
Baylor Beard
• 13 Points
• 5 Rebounds
• 2 Steals
Logan Swofford
• 10 Points
• 4 Rebounds
• 4 Free Throws
JT Alambar
• 5 Points
• 3 Rebounds
• 1 Steal
Alex Dee
• 2 Points
• 2 Free Throws
Nash Brockett
• 1 Point
• 1 Rebound
Ethan Grant
• 1 Point
• 5 Rebounds

- Senior Recognition
As this chapter closes, we want to recognize three seniors who have poured their time, energy, and heart into this program:
JT Alambar
Ethan Exner
Kane Kirkland
Thank you for what you've given to Sanger basketball and for bleeding purple and gold. Your leadership and dedication will leave a mark on this program.

Presented by Hall Real Estate & Don Hall Construction



Sanger Sports Corner provided this game recap. Check them out on FaceBook.



The Sanger Golf Team competed Tuesday at the Denton Ryan Invitational held at Oakmont Country Club in Corinth — and battled through some extremely windy conditions.

Leading the way for the Lady Indians, Samantha Bentley finished 8th overall with an impressive 84, showing toughness and composure on a challenging day at Oakmont.

On the boys' side, Lincoln Roberts turned in a strong performance as well, shooting a personal best despite the tough weather conditions — a testament to his hard work and growth this season.

Also competing for Sanger: Briley Corbin, Presley Corbin, Kenzie Elam, Alexis Reyes, Cooper Wyatt.

Lady Indians Powerlifting Update:

The Lady Indians showed up and showed OUT at Monday's Powerlifting Meet in Sanger.

Big-time performances across the board, highlighted by:

- Avery Sides & Addison Rojas both posting their BEST meets in the 114 class
- Emma Hernandez 645 total lbs (148)
- Hazel Hicks – 580 total lbs (165)
- Sophia Troegle – 915 total lbs (181)
- Morgan Owens – 640 total lbs (198)

Regional qualifiers, representing Sanger High School will be announced soon.



Sanger Sports Corner provided the powerlifting and golf recap.

Frisco Panther Creek wins district

Frisco Panther Creek won district with a 13-1 record and Celina and Van Alstyne tied for second place at 10-4. Prosper Richland and Gainesville are vying for fourth place and final playoff spot. They both finished with 8-6 district records.

Aubrey finished sixth, Sanger came in seventh place and Lake Dallas was eighth.

2025-26 SHS VARSITY BOYS BASKETBALL ROSTER:

#	Player	Grade	Position	Height
0	Tyler Grimes	Jr.	SG	6'0"
1	Baylor Beard	Jr.	PG	5'10"
2	Alex Dee	Jr.	SG	5'11"
3	JT Alambar	Sr.	W	6'1"
4	Ethan Exner	Sr.	G	5'10"
5	Joel Rodriguez	Sr.	G	6'0"
15	Wyatt Pennington	Jr.	P	6'4"
12	Kane Kirkland	Sr.	G	5'6"
20	Nash Brockett	So.	G	5'10"
21	Dezmond Sampson	Jr.	P	6'2"
22	Ethan Grant	Fr.	SF	6'3"
23	Noel Hernandez	Fr.	SG	6'1"
24	Logan Swofford	Jr.	P	6'6"

2026 SANGER TRACK SCHEDULE

- RAM RELAYS**
FEB 27 | MINERAL WILLS HIGH SCHOOL
- SANGER INVITATIONAL**
MAR 5 | SANGER HIGH SCHOOL
- AUBREY INVITATIONAL**
MAR 19 | AUBREY HIGH SCHOOL
- POJO RELAYS**
MAR 26 | SPRINGTOWN HIGH SCHOOL
- KRUM INVITATIONAL**
APR 2 | KRUM HIGH SCHOOL
- DISTRICT 9-4A MEET**
APR 7-8 | AUBREY HIGH SCHOOL
- AREA 09 & 10 MEET**
APR 15 | CELINA HIGH SCHOOL
- REGION 2-4A MEET**
MAY 1 & 2 | TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE
- UIL STATE 4A MEET**
MAY 14 - 16 | THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

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At Sanger ISD, our mission is to make a positive difference in our students' lives by providing technology-rich, academically rigorous instruction paired with real-world applications. These experiences empower students to become confident, contributing members of our global community.

To learn more about our CTE programs, visit: www.sangerisd.net/ and click on departments or scan the QR CODE



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We are collecting new or gently used prom dresses/and suit jackets to help ensure EVERY girl/boy has access to a magical PROM experience

We accept:

- *Long or short prom dresses
- *Tuxes, Suit jackets/pants
- *All sizes welcome
- *Clean and gently worn
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Drop off location:
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105 Berry Street
Building #2

Please email Cosmetology@sangerisd.net for drop off times and for clothing selection times

Donations accepted until March 13th

Sanger ISD does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs or activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. For information about your rights or grievance procedures the following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: please contact the Assistant Superintendent, Jennie Flaa at (940)458-7438 or jflaa@sangerisd.net.

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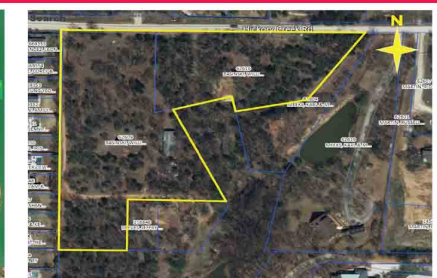
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Chisum road East

The Sanger area experienced over three inches of rain on Saturday within just a few hours. Coupled with nearly two inches of recently melted ice, the ground was already saturated. The Reaper Storm Chasers captured video footage of the streets flooding just south of downtown Sanger, near the Church of Christ. The Sanger News shared a screenshot of an SUV navigating through the rain runoff. Apex Storm Chaser posted on Facebook about the flooding on Chisum Road East, just north of Sanger, and reported that the creek near the Ranger Creek Subdivision and McReynolds Road had overflowed its banks. For timely updates during weather events, you can follow Apex Storm Chaser and The Reaper Storm Chasers on Facebook, as both provide valuable information and are local to Sanger. Additionally, the water level at Lake Ray Roberts rose by over one foot due to the rain and is now at full capacity.

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