



# news nuggets

Friday, September 28, 2018

## **RMC Financial Health Reported to the Executive Committee »**

In a report given to the members of the Rocky Mountain Executive Committee on September 25, George Crumley, RMC VP for finance, said that through the month of August of this year, total tithe was \$10,552,725. "This indicates a very strong increase of 10.97 percent. We praise the Lord for the faithfulness of our members in returning their tithes and offerings to support God's work in Rocky Mountain Conference and beyond," he said.



The committee also received a report about the sale of the Industrial Park at Campion. The proceeds reimbursed the conference for its operation of the park for the past years, and the remaining funds will benefit Campion Academy's endowment fund. The committee approved employment of a development director whose main responsibility would zero-in on increasing the fund income to be used for student aid. Darci Force, who formerly served Southwestern Adventist University in this same role, has been employed as development director, according to Don Reeder, principal of Campion Academy.

In the Education report, RMC VP for education, Lonnie Hetterle informed the committee of an increased enrollment for most of our schools. He also said that "Distance Learning is being implemented in several of the schools in RMC, and

"The fruit of Silence is prayer. The fruit of Prayer is faith. The fruit of Faith is love. The fruit of Love is service."

-- Mother Teresa

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some even involve students from other countries in distance learning,” he said. In his remarks to the committee, Ed Barnett, RMC president, commended student involvement in evangelism. “Wildfire student evangelism program in Pueblo last summer resulted in 16 baptisms and one profession of faith,” he said.

Staff changes are taking place in the RMC office, said Eric Nelson, VP for administration. RMC youth director, Steve Hamilton, has accepted the senior pastor position for the Paradise Church in central California; Noemi Borjon has taken a full-time position in the HR department, a position previously held by Vivien Vivanco; Hector Bonillia is serving the office as maintenance worker; and Matt Moreland transferred from the youth department to the serve as Trust Field Representative.

The committee voted recommendations to Mid-America Union Conference Executive Committee to ordain Chuck Gadway, district pastor in Northern Wyoming, David Rodriguez, pastor of Westminster Hispanic Church, Daniel Birai, pastor in Fort Collins, and Don Reeder, principal of Champion Academy, as well as to commission Lee Lee Dart, lead pastor of The Adventure Church in Greeley.

The committee also recorded the merger of the Longmont and Vista Fellowship churches into one church, now known as Mountain View Seventh-day Adventist Church.

--RMCNews, photo by Rajmund Dabrowski

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### **Students Overcome Challenges at Great San Dune National Park »**

HMS Richards teachers, Paul Bragaw and Davin Hammond, led a group of 23 fifth through eighth grade students and eight parents on a four-day adventure exploring and learning at Great Sand Dunes National Park and in the Buena Vista area for their annual outdoor school. The group developed better relationships with each other and with God, as they overcame challenges both planned and natural.



For the majority of students and parents attending, it was their first time visiting the dunes, and exploring them was a

## Upcoming Events

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**Women's Retreat**  
*September 28-30*

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**Hispanic Women's Retreat  
-- GVR**  
*October 5-7*

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**GVR Board**  
*October 16*

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**RMC Property & Trust**  
*October 17, 9:30 a.m.*

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**Hispanic Youth Congress**  
*October 26-28*

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**Hispanic INTEL Class**  
*November 2-3*

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**Hispanic Pastors Meeting**  
*November 5*

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**Hispanic Lay Leaders  
Training**  
*November 11*

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**Executive Committee**  
*November 26*

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**Hispanic INTEL  
Graduation**  
*Sunday, December 2*

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**Executive Committee**  
*9:30 a.m. December 4*

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**GVR Board**  
*December 18*

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**RMC Property & Trust**  
*December 19*

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**Story Guidelines: We  
want to share your**

highlight of the trip. The students were divided into two teams and had to work together to locate and collect ten tennis balls hidden at strategic locations on the climb up the dunes. Anna Douglas, 6<sup>th</sup> grade, reflected on the challenge they faced hiking up in the sand. “It was super hard, she said, “Every step we took, we would lose half of it from sliding down. In one steep part, I couldn’t even get up and I had to dig my hands deeper into the sand to get a grip.”

Once at the top, students were rewarded with 360-degree views of surrounding mountains while they ate their lunch. “My favorite part was running down the dunes and going as fast as we could!” exclaimed Nathan Halvorson, 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

Nathan’s mother, Debbie Halvorson, commented, “It seemed like it took about three hours to climb up and about 20 minutes to get down. Those kids were flying.”

Bragaw commented that outdoor school is about more than just hiking and camping; each activity is planned with the purpose of helping students learn how to work together, think creatively to overcome obstacles, and recognize God’s character displayed in nature. He added, “The hike has a real purpose, which is to build character and help the students realize that each member of their team is valuable.”

Throughout the challenges he noticed that each group demonstrated positive teamwork by helping their teammates, sometimes through verbal encouragement, and other times by carrying backpacks for those who were struggling.



Bella Fay, 8<sup>th</sup> grade, said, “Something that challenged me this trip was getting along with my teammates. We had troubles and we didn’t get along at all times, but in the end, we fixed it. When we got it together, we did well, and we made it to the top!”

Every morning and evening included worships and special prayer times. “After each challenge, the students were asked to reflect on how God spoke to them throughout it, and what lessons they learned about themselves and their team,” said Bragaw.

**news! »** News Nuggets is your publication. We strive to provide news and information expressing our church life. Every church, every family, every individual has a story to tell. We are inviting pastors and secretaries of churches and institutions within the Rocky Mountain Conference to share with us relevant information – about developments, issues, notable events, as well as experiences of church members.

Please email your story to [nuggets@rmcsda.org](mailto:nuggets@rmcsda.org) so we can share how God is working through His people in your territory. When submitting your story, please include the following: the Ws (who, what, where, when, why...also how), a personal quote, a photo and the name of the photographer. Please consider time constraints and always send in fresh new stories instead of outdated ones. Submission deadlines are Wednesdays by noon.

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Thankfully, the weather was perfect for their dune hike, but the students soon faced their first natural challenge that night in their tents when it rained steadily for seven hours. “It was a blessing that the rain finally stopped at 7 a.m. and we were able to pack up!” said Bragaw.

After spending two nights at the dunes, the group stopped to visit an alligator farm before heading to the Buena Vista area for their final night. Students got to see and even hold alligators and many other types of reptiles at this unique



location.

In Buena Vista, the students were able to have some time to relax and have fun while visiting Princeton Hot Springs. Once again, they were faced with another unexpected night-time challenge, below-freezing temperatures! “It was the coldest night we’ve ever had in outdoor school, 21 degrees,” explained Bragaw.

“When we woke up there was frost

everywhere and our swimsuits and everything was frozen!” exclaimed Anna Douglas.

Despite, or perhaps because of, the challenges, the group had a fun and memorable trip with everyone arriving home safely. Bragaw and Hammond are very thankful for the parent volunteers, especially camp chef, Becky Rushold, who helped make the trip possible.

-- Jill Harlow; photos by Paul Bragaw and Carey Jordan

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### **Wyoming Schools Team up for Outdoor School in Yellowstone and Grand Tetons »**

What do you call a combination of excited students, dedicated teachers and volunteers, four nights camping and three days exploring in Yellowstone and Grand Tetons National Parks? Outdoor school! The Laura E. Mason Christian Academy from Cheyenne and Mountain Road Christian Academy from Casper came together for several days of exciting outdoor



After pitching camp the first night in Grand Teton National Park and sleeping through a torrential rainstorm, the students spent the first day hiking in the Tetons with a Ranger, attending a Junior Ranger class, exploring the museum exhibits in the Visitor Center and visiting Jackson Hole.

Following another rainy night, the second day dawned sunny and beautiful, just right for spending time in Yellowstone National Park. Highlights of this day included seeing Old Faithful, hiking, visiting geysers and paint pots, seeing Grand Prismatic Spring, learning about the science of geysers with a Ranger, watching a video of the history and science of Yellowstone and sighting wild animals.

The third day students attended a demonstration/lecture on a tipi being set up by Native American Ranger Laine Thom. They also visited the Native American artifact display and canoed on beautiful String Lake at the base of the Tetons.

Back at camp and gathered around the campfire, they roasted their supper, sang and listened to worship talks by Pastor Shayne Vincent and Evan McClelland.

At the end of the trip, students and staff expressed their thoughts in these words:

"Canoeing was a blast and camping was awesome," enthused Annelise Jagitsch.

"I enjoyed going swimming and canoeing at String Lake with everybody. I know that all of us had a great time meeting new people, traveling and seeing everything," shared Faith Evert.

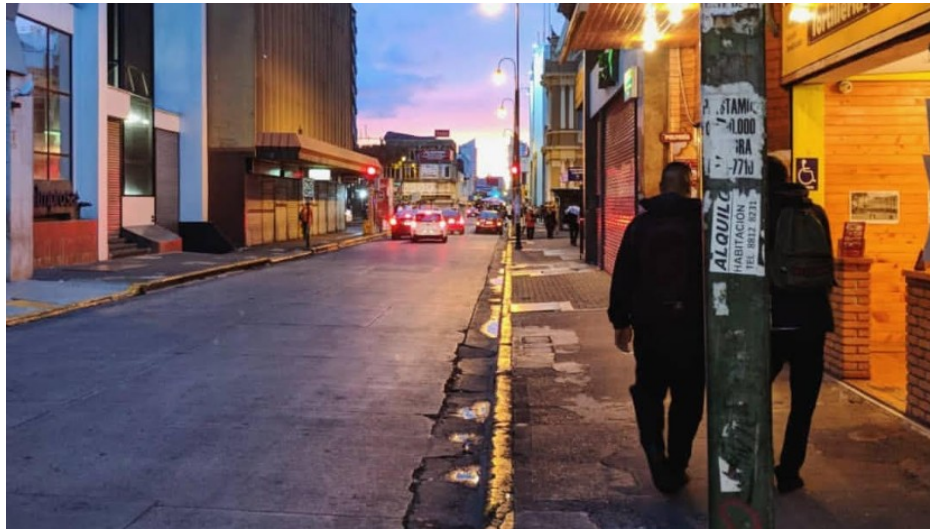
"I liked all the wildlife in the parks. I also liked seeing God everywhere. I liked all the mud pots." Drexol Williams.

"I am always so impressed by God's handiwork and the beauty of his nature," said Mrs. Pike. The uniqueness of Yellowstone and the majesty of the Grand Teton range to me are evidence of His great power and creativity."

-- Cara Jagitsch; photos by Pastor Shayne Vincent

**to Help Trafficked Women »** “Meaningless! This is meaningless! Someone please tell me the truth!”

Katie McTavish listened to these words screamed by a young American man outside of Del Ray – the largest brothel in Central America. “Intoxicated and physically exhausted, this man put words to the cry of the human heart,” voiced Katie, who spent time this summer working with Face of Justice Ministries in Costa Rica, an organization whose mission is to bring justice and freedom to those trapped in sexual exploitation and prostitution through prevention, intervention, and restoration.



A college student and member of Newday Church, Katie was serving as an intern with Face of Justice Ministries when she heard those words of hopelessness spoken by the man on the street.

“I was honored to do ministry alongside staff and other volunteers by working in their safe home, Casa Libertad or Freedom House, where girls ages 12-17 have been removed from situations of sexual exploitation and are experiencing restoration by receiving counseling, education, and freedom.

In the Red Zone, the area of the city where many women are in prostitution, the ministry runs an outreach called Casa Esperanza or Hope House. Here women are invited to receive job training, food, safety, and participate in Bible studies. One powerful experience in ministry for FOJ, explains Katie, is to go onto the streets for night ministry bearing cups of coffee, cookies, warm hugs, and prayer for the men and women in prostitution. By pursuing these friendships, she continues, the ministry can offer practical opportunities for a new way of life and share the truth of Jesus.

Many facets of this organization are motivated by prevention, intervention, and restoration, Katie explains, but in short, this ministry operates with the heart that every person deserves justice and freedom through love, which truly comes from knowing God.





One difficult week during Katie's internship, girls ran away from the safe house, followed by ambulance visits, suicide attempts and cutting incidents. Like a domino effect, as one girl's trauma resurfaced, another hit rock bottom. "I held a woman in the red light district while she sobbed and showed me wounds, burns, and bruises from the abusive relationship she is trapped in. At the same time a few feet away, a woman who overdosed was unresponsive for nearly 30 minutes. "We called an ambulance," Katie states, "but it never showed up because the system is broken.

"Jesus chose to throw His heart into the mess [of humanity] again and again," Katie comments with emotion. The intentional, reckless love of God doesn't "return the favor" when we abandon, reject, and curse Him. When despair paralyzes the human heart, prayer enables us to cling to hope as our anchor."

"I was 14 years old, sitting in church at Newday Parker," Katie explains, "when I first heard God calling me to be a proclaimer of freedom. Since then, I've spent much time learning about the issue of human trafficking and how to effectively combat it. God calls all his believers to be proclaimers of freedom and justice, and ultimately, this freedom only comes from knowing the truth of Jesus." "Humanity is crying out for freedom and truth, and the desire of the Father is to set the hearts of his people free."

"My prayer is that the freedom in truth empowers you to fight for the freedom of others, whether it's the girl trapped in sex trafficking or the co-worker who does not know Jesus."

-- RMCNews with Katie McTavish; photos by Katie McTavish

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**Donating to Victims of Hurricane Florence »** For those who wish to donate goods to the relief effort in North Carolina, we recommend online shopping. There are two sources you can use to get those items to those affected. Go to either Amazon.com (Amazon Prime ships free) or to Walmart.com (free shipping for purchases of \$35 or more) and start shopping. Ship the supplies directly to one of the

addresses listed below. Also, check out the "needs" list below for ideas on things to purchase.

**Designated Donation/Collection Sites:**

Ephesus SDA Church of Wilmington  
1602 Castle Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401

New Bern English Church  
2404 US 70  
New Bern , NC 28560

Adventist Community Center  
332 Old Wilmington Road  
Fayetteville, NC 28301

Ephesus SDA Church of New Bern  
878 NC Hwy 55W  
New Bern, NC 28562

Wilmington SDA Church  
2833 Market Street  
Wilmington, NC 28403

**Please indicate Attention to: SDA ACS DR**

**Needs List:**

Non Perishable food items

Diapers (adult & baby)

Baby wipes

Feminine Hygiene Products

Personal hygiene items (tooth paste, toothbrushes, shampoo, deodorant, razors, soap, etc.)

Cleaning Supplies (bleach, mops, buckets) Tarps

Purina Dog Food & Purina Puppy Chow Disposable plates, napkins, utensils Paper Towels

VISA gift cards

Toilet paper

Hand sanitizer & wipes

Towels & wash cloths

Box Fans, dehumidifiers, disposable gloves & masks for cleaning Laundry Detergent

Dish Detergent

Gloves

Plastic food storage containers

Plastic Totes

Clothing – New clothing from the online sites

**Not Accepting: cold/frozen food, prepared food, bottled water**

North American Division ACS would like to say Thank You for everyone's support. It's You that makes a difference.



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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Women's Retreat at GVR »** Don't miss out! Sign up TODAY for our "Branded in Christ" Women's Retreat NEXT WEEKEND, **September 28-30** at Glacier View Ranch! You'll be glad you joined us for dynamic seminars, our amazing prayer room, great music, and time in God's Word with Heather-Dawn Small. There's still room for YOU! Go to [www.rmcsda.org/women](http://www.rmcsda.org/women) for the link to register! Call 303-243-1172 with questions, and we'll see you on **Friday!**

**9Health Fair »** Vista Ridge Academy will host a 9Health Fair on Friday, **September 28** from 7 a.m. to noon. We are looking for volunteers, both medical and non-medical, to help in a variety of areas. Consider donating your time and expertise! To sign up as a volunteer, please visit <https://www.9healthfair.org/health-fairs/fall/288/index> or contact Marsha Bartulec at [mbartulec@vistaridge.org](mailto:mbartulec@vistaridge.org) or 303-828-4944.

**Attend The Appearing in Three Weeks »** The ancients predicted it. Millions of people can't stop talking about it. And even though global unrest and natural disasters indicate it will happen soon, few agree on exactly how or when it will happen. Is it possible that many people are making a mistake about the Appearing—an event mentioned more than 2,500 times in the Bible? Don't miss *The Appearing*, hosted by Voice of Prophecy Speaker/Director Shawn Boonstra and local pastors. It all begins **October 11** at a church near you. Test your knowledge about the Appearing and find the host location near you at [appearing.org](http://appearing.org).

**ACS Disaster Response Training »** Become certified in Donations Management and help people in need during a disaster like Hurricane Florence in North Carolina from 9 a.m.

to 5 p.m., **October 21** at Campion Church. The \$25 charge covers your manual, lunch and photo ID.. This training is recognized by FEMA and the State of Colorado Emergency Management.

Instructor Cathy Kissner is the Rocky Mountain Conference Community Service Director. She is certified in NAD ACSDR, FEMA, and Colorado Division of Emergency Management to be a training instructor in Donations Management. For pre-registration, email [cathyk@rmcsda.org](mailto:cathyk@rmcsda.org). Spanish manuals are available.

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**Mile High Academy »** You are invited to an afternoon of ***Eat, Mingle & Give*** benefitting MHA's Annual Fund on Sunday, **October 28**. Registration is at 3:30 p.m.; Golf & Dinner from 406 p.m.; Auction at 6 p.m. Happening at TOPGOLF, 10601 E. Easter Avenue, Centennial CO 80112. \$85/person. Go to <https://events.readysetauction.com/milehighacademy/mha2018>. For sponsorship opportunities, contact Jocelyn Aalborg at [jaalborg@milehighacademy.org](mailto:jaalborg@milehighacademy.org).

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## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

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**Mile High Academy »** Mile High Academy has immediate openings for the 2018-2019 school year for two part-time drivers for our transportation routes. Qualified candidates will be at least 21 years old, possess, or be able to obtain, a current Colorado driver's license (Commercial Driver's License not necessary) have no more than two traffic citations and no at fault accidents during the last three years. Candidates must also possess current U.S. work authorization. While maintaining the dignity and respect for all students, the driver's primary responsibility is the safety of students while transporting them to and from school. To apply, please send an email to Noemi Borjon to request an application ([noemib@rmcsda.org](mailto:noemib@rmcsda.org)) or contact her by phone at 303-282-3653.

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**HMS Richards Elementary »** Part-time preschool teacher needed at HMS. We are growing and looking for an enthusiastic teacher to lead our preschool program. Must be ECE teacher certified. Do not need to be director certified. Please contact Davin Hammond or Kari Lange for more information @ (970) 667-2427.

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**Vista Ridge Academy »** Seeking candidates for a **Part-time Extended Care Supervisor** (8-10 hours per week). Candidates must be an active member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and available to work after school.

For more information, please contact Sandy Hodgson at 303.828.4944 or [shodgson@vistaridge.org](mailto:shodgson@vistaridge.org).

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### **ESL Teacher Needed for Mile High Academy Sister School China Campus »**

Mile High Academy still has a position available on their extended campus at the Guangdong Experimental Shunde - **ESL Teacher Needed**

This is a unique opportunity to serve as a teacher in Shunde China at Mile High Academy's extended campus at the Guangdong Experimental Shunde. Please see link below to explore the

school: <http://www.gdsysd.com/Home/IndexEnglish>

Contact Principal Toakase Vunileva at [tvunileva@milehighacademy.org](mailto:tvunileva@milehighacademy.org) for questions or to submit your resume.

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### **NOW AVAILABLE ON THE WEB**

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### **NewsNuggets Archive Now Online »**

The *NewsNuggets* archive is now online, and can be found at <https://www-rmcscda-org.netadvent.org/newsnuggets-archive>.

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### **FROM THE EDITOR**

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**We want to share your news --** Change is a part of the communication age. With online media experiencing constant evolution, the *NewsNuggets* is also experiencing an increased access from our readers and contributors. We will continue to encourage news sharing from our churches, institutions, and individual church members.

In order to make our eNewsletter accommodate an increased volume of announcements, our editorial work proposes to present information in a more efficient approach, ensuring that all timely promotions and announcements be included in a weekly, Friday release

of *NewsNuggets*. **Submission deadline for stories, news, and announcements is at noon on every Wednesday.**

**Please send all your submissions to [nuggets@rmcsda.org](mailto:nuggets@rmcsda.org).**

Thank you for your contribution, but also comments, as *NewsNuggets* continues to serve the church in an efficient and effective way.

**NOTE:** Questions are being raised regarding guidelines for the Announcement section of the RMC *NewsNuggets* newsletter. After a review of the guidelines, the following few points should be considered when sending announcements or promotional materials:

- The newsletter has been established primarily for news



sharing within the conference, though selected general church news stories are also considered for publication.

- The primary readership of the newsletter are church members within the Rocky Mountain Conference.
- When submitting an announcement, consider that local Sabbath events may be drawing members from other local churches.
- Promoting evangelistic meetings in *NewsNuggets* is not attracting potential attendees for whom the meetings are primarily advertised.
- Due to space constraints, NewsNuggets will not publish posters and other large photos or images. However, information from the text will be used.
- Announcements will not be repeated more than twice, and they should be concise. Web page links or phone numbers should be provided for additional information.

We are inviting all correspondents and contributors to follow a general Adventist News Network *Style Guide*, including glossary. For guidelines,

see: <http://news.adventist.org/styleguide/>

--Editor

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**Share the NewsNuggets with your congregation »** Add a note to your church bulletin or newsletter with the following URL: [www.bit.ly/RMCnews](http://www.bit.ly/RMCnews)

Members can follow the link to sign up for weekly news and to keep up-to-date on what's happening around the Rocky Mountain Conference.

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## **Rocky Mountain Conference Mission Statement Tagline:**

*Knowing Christ and Making Him Fully Known*

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