

**8 THINGS YOU NEED TO
KNOW**

8 things to know: Wing spot opens on prominent downtown corner



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Image: Baltimore Business Journal

Buffalo Wild Wings Go has opened on Light Street in a space that also houses a Dunkin' and a Jimmy John's.

MORGAN SIMPSON/BBJ



By Jessica Iannetta – Editor-in-Chief, Baltimore Business Journal

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Good morning, Baltimore, and happy Friday!

Yesterday, we had some fun sports news for the soccer-inclined among us. D.C. United and Baltimore Mayor Brandon Scott announced yesterday that they are making a push to build a 7,500-seat soccer stadium (and a whole lot more) at the city-owned Carroll Park in Baltimore. The stadium would be home to a top-flight women's team and a minor league men's team, and Baltimore hooper and former NBA star Carmelo Anthony would be involved with the ownership group. As a lifelong New York Red Bulls (nee Metrostars) fan, the prospect of getting a soccer stadium in the city is exciting, even if it comes courtesy of one of my team's longest rivals. But more soccer is always a good thing. Read Reporter Garrett Dvorkin's full report here.

Let's start this roundup with some news that goes particularly well with sports.

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Buffalo Wild Wings Go opens downtown

The trifecta is complete. Buffalo Wild Wings Go officially opened Monday at the corner of Light and Lombard streets downtown, marking the third and final addition to the one-stop shop that also holds a Dunkin' and a Jimmy John's. The 3,000-square-foot space formerly held a Burger King before it shut down in 2022. Franchisee Neil Patel already owned the Dunkin', which had previously been located nearby at 25 Light St., and saw the opportunity to add wings and sandwiches to the mix. The Dunkin' and Jimmy John's opened last fall.

Local dry cleaning chain taps new CEO amid expansion

Value Drycleaners of America, the parent company of Howard County-based low-cost dry cleaning chain ZIPS Cleaners, has a new leader. Managing Editor Amanda Yeager spoke with the new CEO about the chain's expansion, its use of automation and his long career in the dry cleaning industry.

St. John Properties makes another North Carolina deal

Baltimore developer St. John Properties is expanding again in North Carolina, the Triangle Business Journal reports. An LLC associated with the firm just purchased 25 acres in Franklin County, north of Raleigh, for \$1.2 million to build an industrial park. The project would consist of 120,000 square feet of Class A flex space across three buildings, with plans to deliver the first two buildings in early 2027. The move comes after St. John broke ground on its first North Carolina project, Wake Forest Exchange, last May.

Baltimore lawyer elected to second term as head of Philly law firm

And now for some St. John news of a different variety. Jason St. John has been elected to a second term as managing partner of Philadelphia-based law firm Saul Ewing. St. John first took over the top role in 2022, replacing another Baltimore-based lawyer, Barry Levin. During St. John's first term, Saul Ewing expanded to the West Coast for the first time, and he now has his sights set on moving into Georgia, Texas and Colorado, as well as deepening the firm's presence in California. St. John spoke with our friends at the Philadelphia Business Journal about his plans.

Baltimore university gets \$4M to train students as asset managers

Morgan State University wants to train the next generation of asset managers with the help of a \$4 million grant for its student investment fund. BBJ Reporter Matt Hooke spoke with the school's business dean about how the grant will prepare students for future financial jobs.

Downtown group boosts training for future entertainment pros

A local youth arts organization that started in 2017 has grown to help more than 1,500 students per year turn their raw talent into professional skills. BBJ Research Editor Ben Terzi caught up with Media Rhythm Institute (MRI) for the next edition of our Black History Month series on organizations that have participated in the Downtown Partnership's BOOST program.

Rapper 2 Chainz, singer Mýa to headline CIAA tournament events

Rapper 2 Chainz and singer Mýa will headline the entertainment lineup for the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association's annual men's and women's basketball tournaments, which will return to CFG Bank Arena downtown from Feb. 24-28. 2 Chainz will perform at the Tip-Off Friday Party on Feb. 27, and Mýa will headline the Only R&B 4 Me Block Party on Feb. 28, according to a release Thursday. Both events will be held at Power Plant Live. The CIAA tournaments have been held in Baltimore since 2022 and are expected to bring 100,000 alumni, students, families and fans to the city.

Maryland sphere venue may open in less than four years

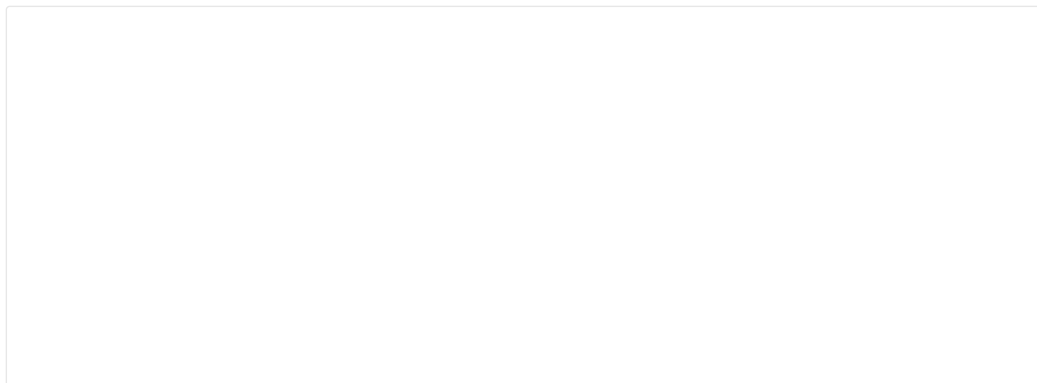
This last story may be a bit outside our, ahem, sphere of influence, but feels worth noting nonetheless. Maryland's mini sphere at National Harbor may open before 2030, company CEO James Dolan said Thursday during an earnings call. The Baltimore Banner reports that the call was the first time the Las Vegas firm behind the project had announced a potential timeline. The sphere would seat around 6,000 for concerts and shows, compared to its 18,000-seat Las Vegas counterpart, and was first announced in January.

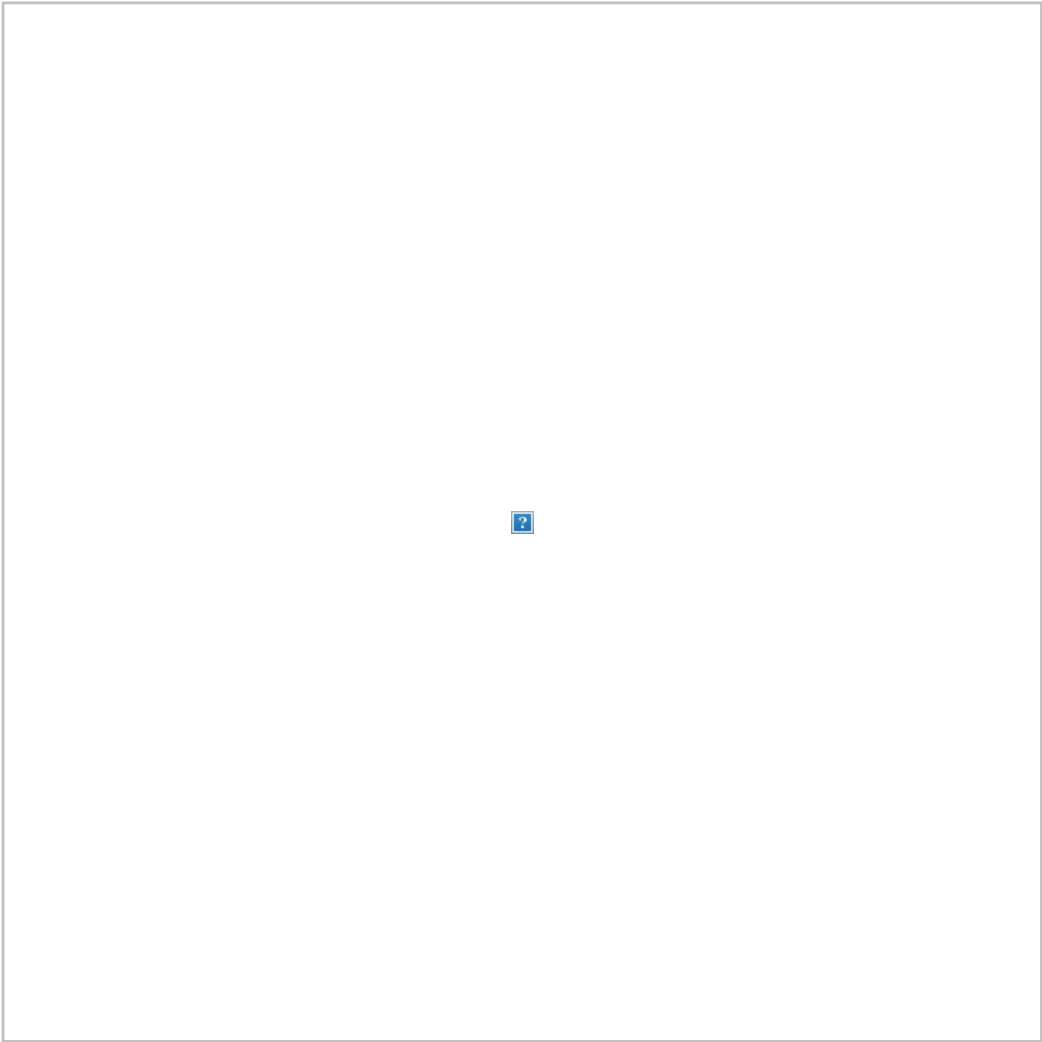
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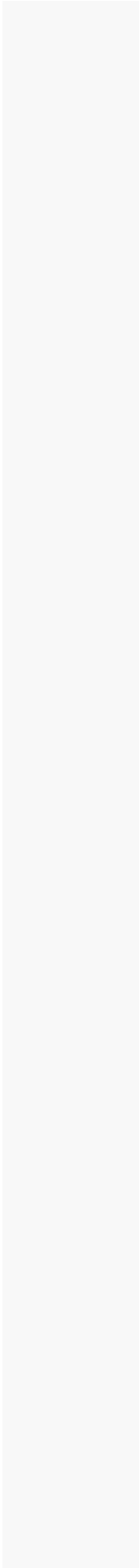
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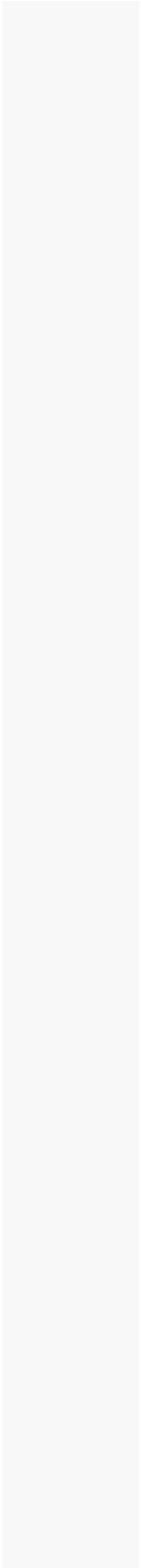
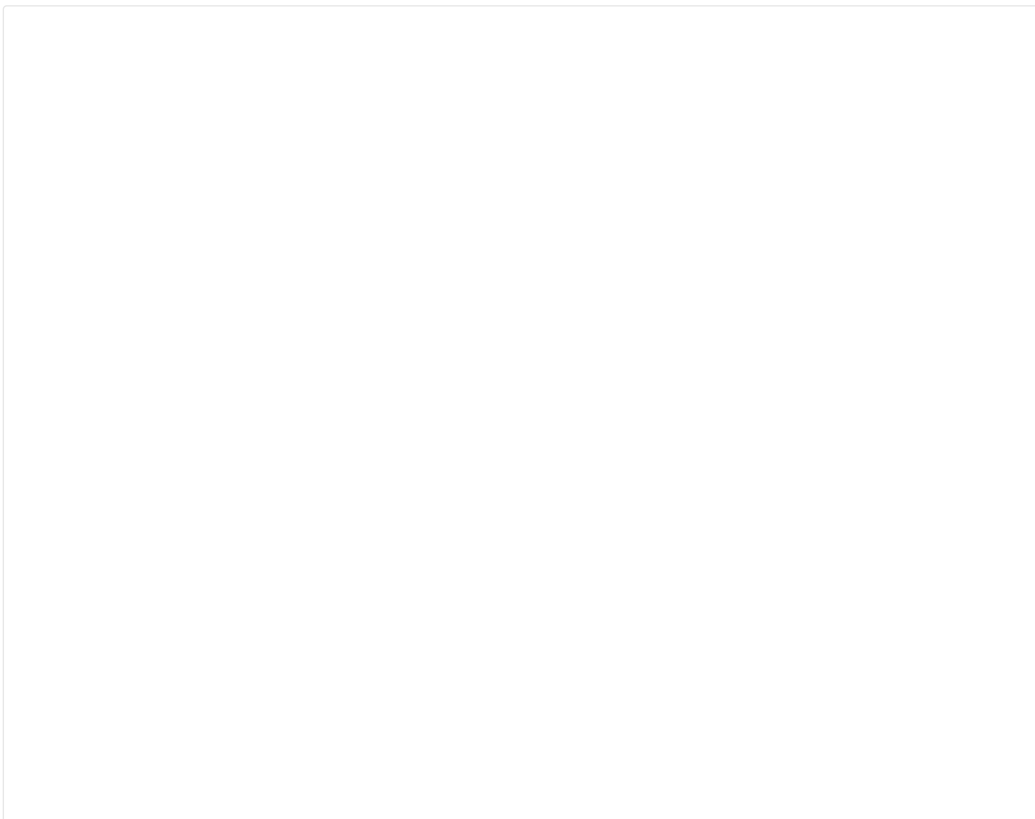


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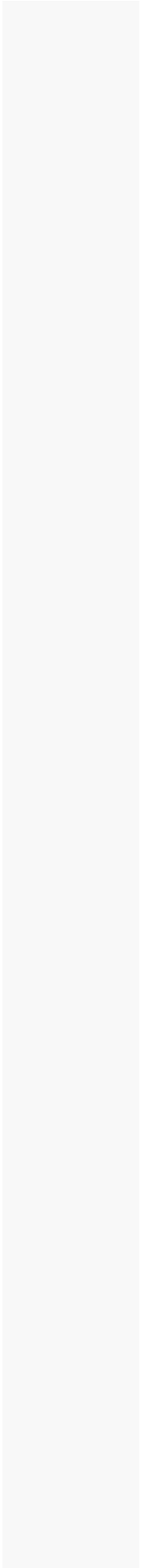
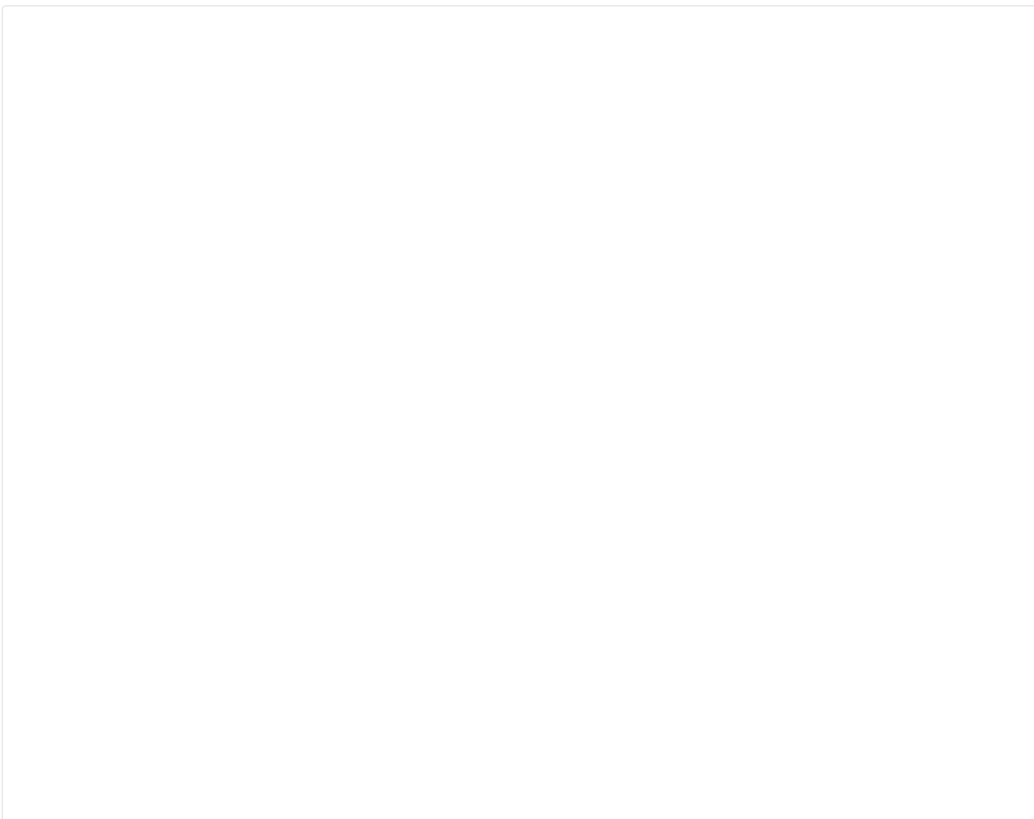


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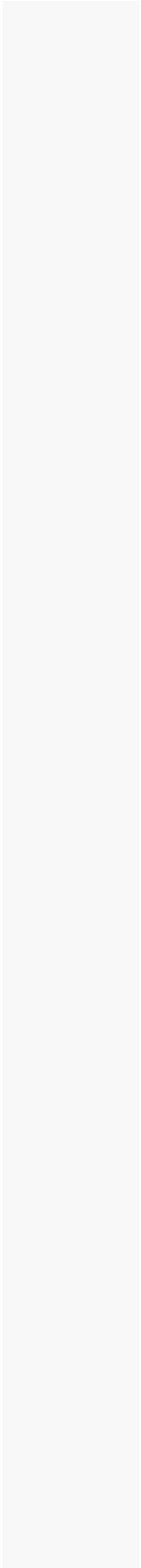
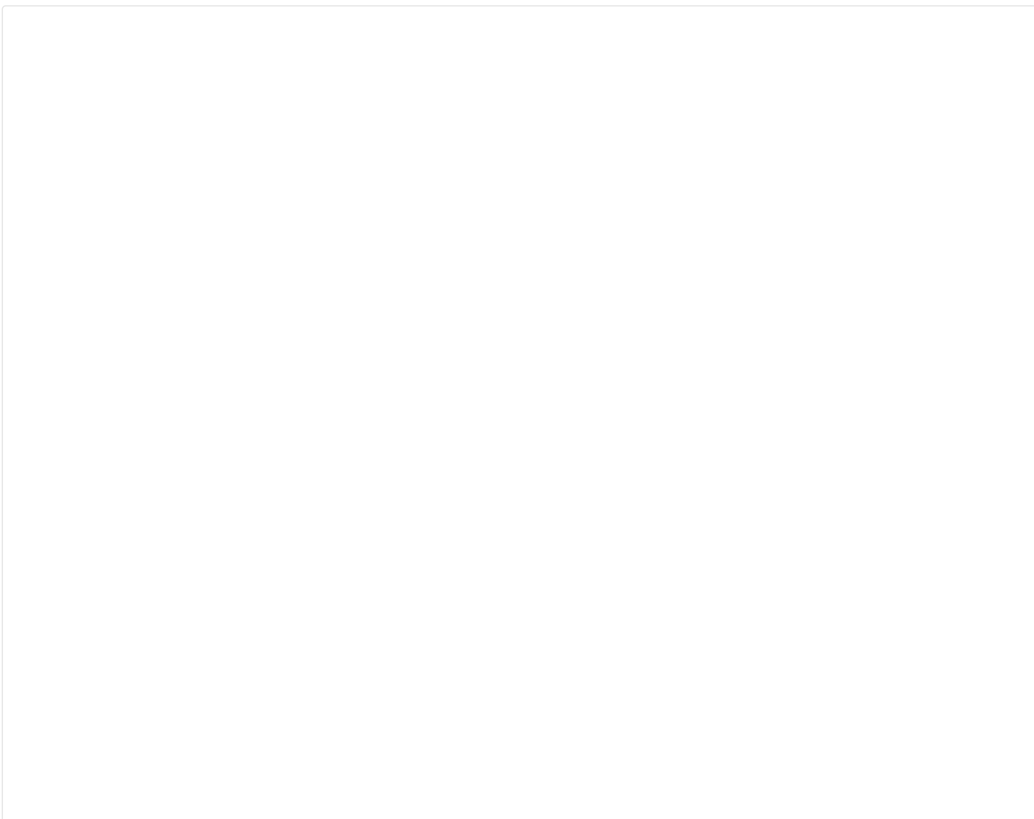


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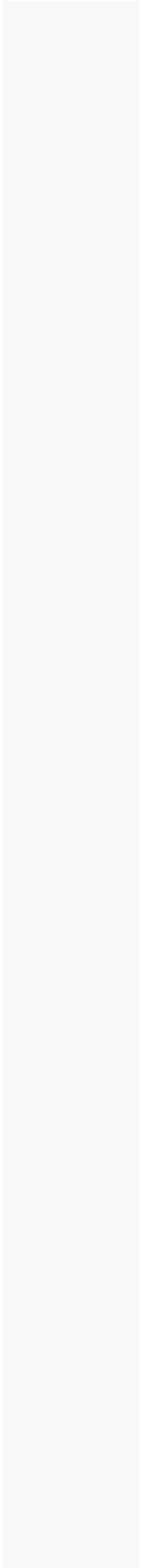
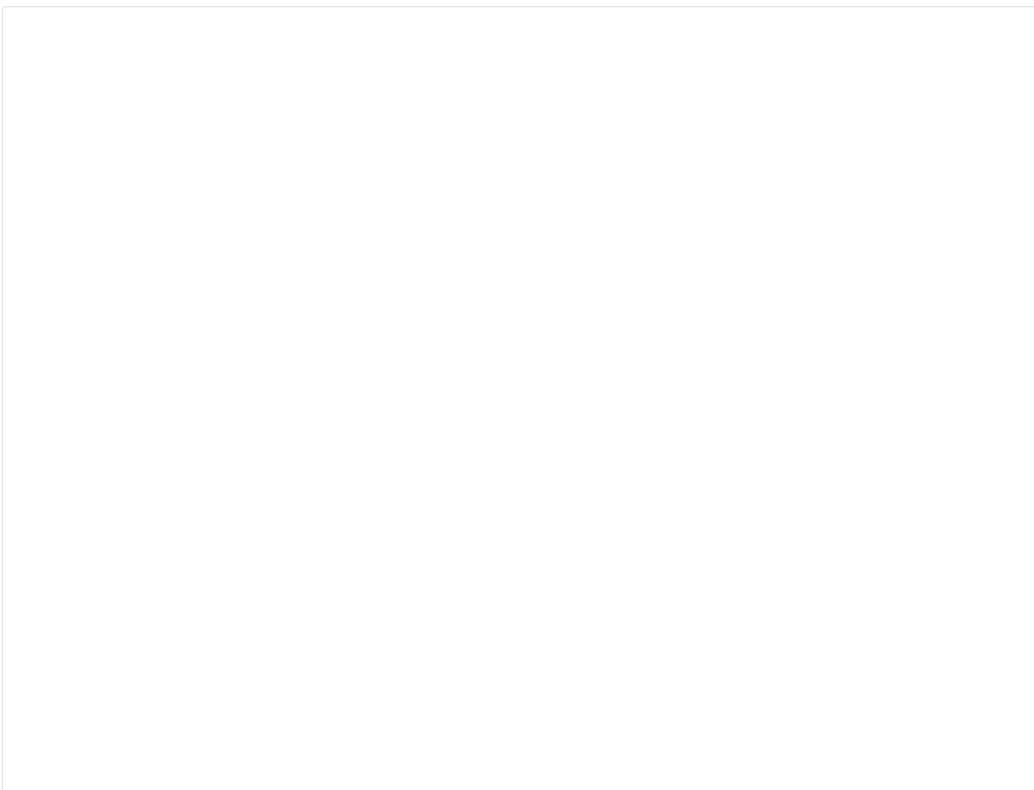


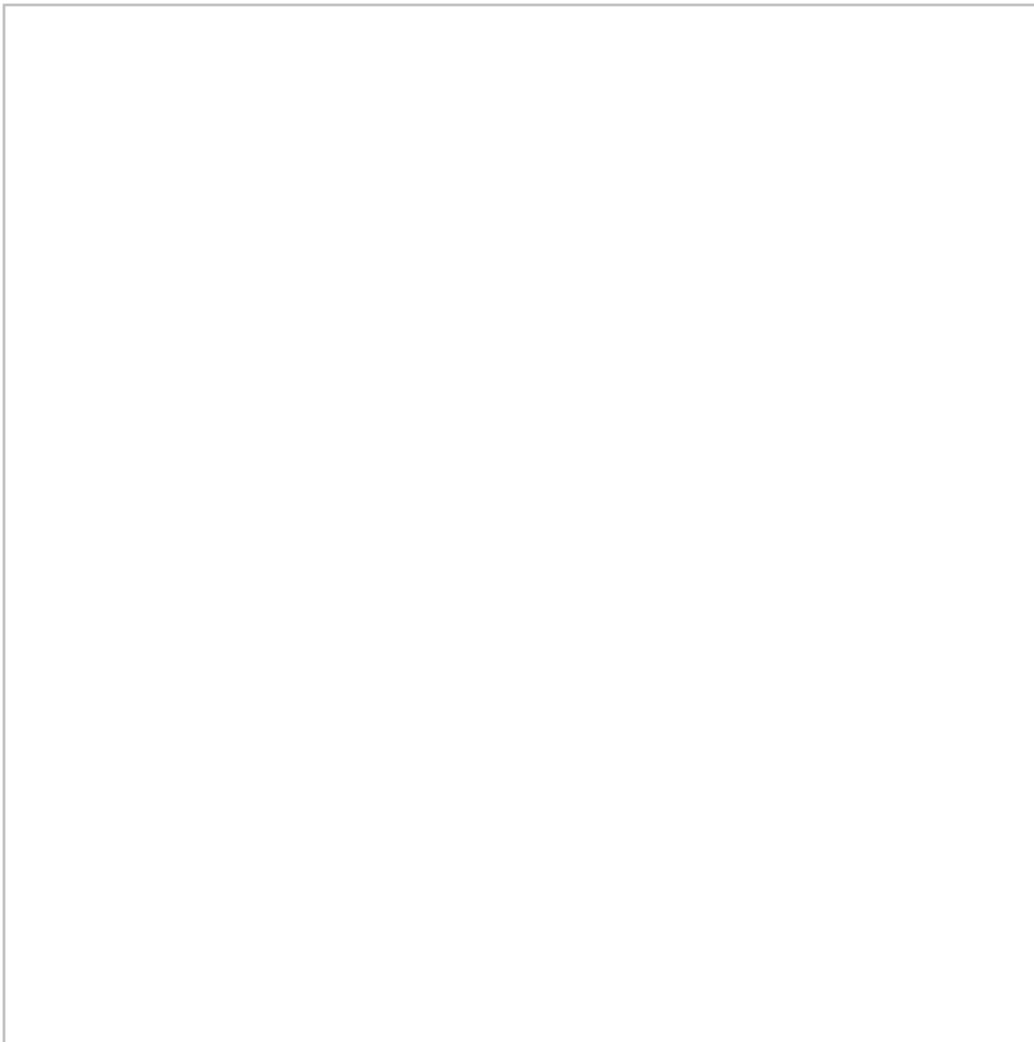
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