

June 2016

LA BELLA Vita

A Social Publication Exclusively for the Residents of Venetian Bay Golf & Country Club

A Father's Day Love Story **Meet the Bousquet Family**

By Wendy Tranter



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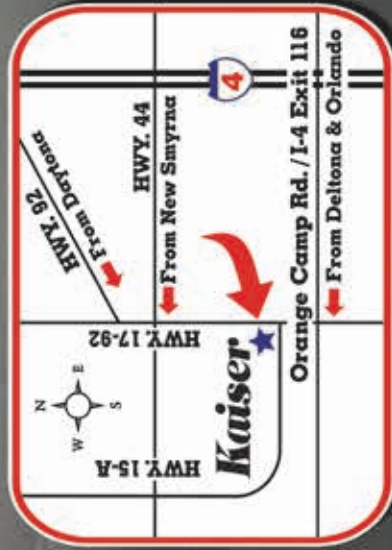
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CONTRIBUTORS AT LARGE The Residents of Venetian Bay
We are always looking for residents to follow up on leads, find great stories and send us ideas. Let's celebrate the great things happening in our community! No contribution is too small. Please email LaBellaVita@n2pub.com with your pictures, suggestions, or requests.

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Raving Review

of the month

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Resident- Diane Abrams



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publisher's note

Welcome

to the June issue of

La Bella Vita



The Publisher

I hope all the moms had a great Mother's Day last month, and I would like to say Happy Father's Day this month to all the dads out there. As another school year ends and summer begins, June is the month we say goodbye to our neighbors who head for cooler temperatures or exotic vacations. For some of us, the summer months can be a welcome relief from a very busy social season and it's time to begin that long overdue outdoor project. Better yet, maybe it's time to find the perfect book to read while relaxing by the pool. However, you spend your June please enjoy!

I would like to thank all of the business sponsors who partnered with us to make the magazine free to all residents, as well as the many residents who contributed to this issue. La Bella Vita would not exist without all of you!

ATTENTION: ALL 2016 GRADUATES!

We will be showcasing graduating students of all ages in an upcoming issue. Any student of any age is welcome to participate: high school graduates, college graduates, kindergarten, first grade, second grade, third grade-well, I think you get the point! The more the merrier!

So, you might be asking yourself, "This is awesome, but how do I get my kids into this special issue?" or "What type of information are you looking for?" Well, it's as simple as this: email any photos and accompanying text to labellavita@n2pub.com and that's it!

Here are some ideas of good information to include:

- Photos (1.5 Mb or larger)
- Captions for the photos
- Baby photos (before and after)
- Graduate Bio
- Special notes from Mom & Dad
- Anything else appropriate!

Thank You Contributors: We would like to thank our content coordinators for helping us highlight Venetian Bay residents.

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Deadlines for submitting photos or content:
 August Issue: June 25
 September Issue: July 25



Ladies of Savannah Point dine at

Champions Grill

Thank you to resident Alice Drew for submitting photos of the Savannah Pointe Social Group!

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By Resident Health Coach **Faith Stouffer**
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Navigating the Grocery Store

When living a healthy lifestyle, one of the most important things you can do is set yourself up for success with plenty of healthy options at home, but also by knowing how to navigate your local supermarket. You might not be aware, but there is actually a very specific design to how stores are laid out, where items are placed, and how they are displayed. These layouts drive impulses to buy the items that may not be best for your body! All the way down to the colors that they use for advertising!

Going to the store prepared will increase your plan for success, no matter where you are on your optimal health journey!

Avoid shopping late at night. Going shopping late is when our bodies are most tired and fall into temptation.

Shop the perimeter of the store. Everything you need for healthy fueling is on the outside of the store such as fruits, vegetables, meat, and dairy!

Avoid going to the store when stressed or hungry. When we are stressed or hungry we do not think clearly and make impulse choices. This is a result of not eating the right foods at the right times throughout the day.

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baked

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- 3 tablespoons light Land O' Lakes Butter with Canola Oil, melted (3 Healthy Fats)
- 1/4 teaspoons apple pie spice (1/2 Condiment)
- 1/4 teaspoons ground cinnamon (1/2 Condiment)
- 3 packets stevia in the raw (3 Condiments)

Toppings:

- 1 tablespoons Walden Farms caramel syrup (1/2 Condiment)
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Directions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line a cookie sheet or baking pan with non-stick foil.

Mix jicama with melted butter in a medium sized bowl. Add cinnamon, apple pie spice and stevia stirring until combined. Pour onto foil lined pan. Cover with foil. Bake for 20 minutes. Uncover and bake an additional 15 minutes.

The jicama will not get completely soft when baking. Expect to have a slight crisp center when eating and a slightly sweetened taste. Enjoy!

3 (1 cup) servings with 2 Greens, 1.8 Condiments, and 1 Healthy Fat per serving.

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venetian bay lawn & garden

Photography By Dorian Anderson

YARD OF BOB & TRISH GRAFFUM

How long have you lived in your house? We moved in on May 21, 2015 -- almost one year now.

What is unique about your garden? The visual background for our home is tall pine trees. We originate from New Hampshire, so the natural green preserve frames our yard and provides the perfect setting.

Please share the names of unique plants? Our plantings are all common for the region, we really do not have any unique plantings. This makes caring for them all simple.

Did you decorate it yourself? When we moved into our home, the yard was over-landscaped. In order to personalize our yard and home to our taste, we consulted our lawn care person, Heather Spears. Heather helped us gain an understanding of how to have a garden that would be easy to maintain and provide curb appeal. Basically, we did a little something each week to transform it, so it was easy and fun.



What was your inspiration? Our home generates a sense of peace, it is a great place for us to relax and enjoy life. Venetian Bay is so scenic with lakes, birds and wildlife. We just try to keep things simple and easy to care for. We incorporated yard decorations from our past homes.

If you could do it over again, would you change anything? We enjoy Venetian Bay, our neighborhood and New Smyrna Beach. Had we discovered it earlier we would have moved here sooner!

What advice would you give someone looking to spruce up his/her garden? Just enjoy your yard. If you are not native to Florida, (like us), research a variety of resources for local stores and yard maintenance companies online. To initially trim our large trees, we hired a professional.

Don't be afraid to trim, thin and cut ... it is Florida and plants will grow!

Congratulations to Bob & Trish! Thank you for keeping Venetian Bay Beautiful!



venetian bay golfer of the month

Submitted By Kelly Desuza



meet LEONARD VARACELLI

Name: Leonard Varacelli

What section of the neighborhood do you live in and how long have you lived in the neighborhood? Parkside Townhomes, since November 2011

Where did you grow up? Wickliffe, Ohio, just east of Cleveland

How long have you been playing golf? I have been playing golf for over 30 years and I have been a Golf Professional for 22 years.

What is your favorite golf pro/teacher/mentor's name? Favorite golf professional, Ben Hogan; teacher, Craig Shankland; mentor, Robert Bourne

Who do you idolize in the sport? Ben Hogan

How often do you normally practice? Three to four times a week ... used to be every day!

Are you on a team? No, I am not.

Have you met a famous Golf Pro before? Yes, Bernhard Langer, Moe Norman, Mo Martin, Zach Johnson and Arnold Palmer, just to name a few.

Have you traveled anywhere outside the state to play golf? California, South Carolina, North Carolina, Bahamas

What awards or honors have you won? 2001 Golf Digest Top Teachers in the State of Florida

What have you learned from participating in this sport? This game challenges the human spirit.

What is your favorite golf moment? I once missed qualifying for the US Senior Open — by one shot — to be able to say I had an opportunity to play once at such a high level. Also, I have had four holes-in-one!

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GOT INSURANCE?

PART I: FAMILY HURRICANE SEASON PREPAREDNESS PLANT

By **Chase Herbig**, CLU, ChFC, CFM- HIG Insurance President

Hurricane Season officially begins June 1 and ends Nov. 30. According to an insurance survey, about 42 percent of Florida residents do not make advanced preparations for tropical storms. As Florida natives with over 50 years of combined insurance experience and thousands of customers, including condo and homeowner associations, we have personally experienced the devastation caused by hurricanes, tornados, floods and fires.

Although you may have your property insured, you can mitigate your property damage, escape bodily injury, and, possibly, the loss of life just by having a preparedness plan established for all of the environmental perils inherent to Florida. Storms have different characteristics and whereas most preparedness plans address these differences, it is important to ensure yours is one of them.

Tornado "Watch" and "Warning" announcements are typically made within hours of a touch-down but a tornado can also be unpredictable and occur without notice, therefore, always be vigilant of your local weather. New Smyrna Beach experienced a devastating tornado that went through the middle of the towers and demolished condo unit property, resulting in displaced residents and major clean-up/repair efforts.

Conversely, hurricanes typically provide several days to track, review and implement your preparedness plan. But they are unpredictable as well, so don't be fooled, as they can change course and move in your direction as we have seen many times.

Hurricane categories are determined by wind-speed, as defined by the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale:

- Category 1: Sustained Winds 74-95 mph
- Category 2: Sustained Winds 96-110 mph
- Category 3: Sustained Winds 111-129 mph
- Category 4: Sustained Winds 130-156 mph
- Category 5: Sustained Winds Greater than 156 mph

Storm surges are considered the number-one disaster in the US and even homes in low-risk flood zones make up about 20 percent of flood claims. Hurricane Katrina developed 28-foot storm surges, which caused major devastation to New Orleans; Hurricane Sandy reached wave heights of 29 feet, devastating the Northeast.

Just two inches of water in an average size home can cause damage of more than \$25,000, in addition to the interruption of living and ensuing health hazards such as mold and mildew. Storm surges are not our only threat; rising water from major rain

storms causes major damage to homes and coverage is not provided under a homeowner policy. An example of a preferred-risk flood insurance policy that would cover \$100,000 in structural damage and \$40,000 for damage to household goods typically costs less than \$1 per day, therefore, even if you are not in a "flood zone," shouldn't you consider purchasing flood insurance?

Storm Surge from Hurricanes:

Irene, Category 1: Landfall in North Carolina produced extensive damage with an eight-to-11-foot storm surge.

Ike, Category 2: Landfall in Texas produced catastrophic damage with a 20-foot storm surge.

Katrina, Category 3: Landfall in Louisiana produced wrecked havoc with a 28-foot storm surge.

Charley, Category 4: Landfall in Florida produced a storm surge of six to eight feet.

Even Florida's tropical summer storms cause major property damage due to high winds and hail, but they have also caused bodily injury from flying objects. If you own a second home or will be away from your home, prepare your home appropriately for the unexpected, including wind-driven rain that frequently enters residences.

Please look for Part II in the next issue: Family Disaster Preparedness Plan

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Meet

NOAH

AKA MR. WONDERFUL

Family member names - Dorothy and Frank Lupi

Pet's name - Noah also known as "Mr. Wonderful"

Male or Female - Male

Pet's Age - four and a half years

Where did you get your pet? South East Volusia Animal Shelter

Why did you get your pet? We have always had a pet. After recently losing Nick, we decided it was time to visit the shelter and instantly fell in love with Noah.



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As you can see from Noah's military outfit he allows his owners to dress him up for special occasions. In his military attire Noah is playing Certified Drug and Bomb Sniffing Canine Patrol at the annual Promenade Boat Regatta.



Are you having an upcoming Neighborhood Event? Let us know.
LaBellaVita@n2pub.com.

Noah was "Top of his Class" in obedience school.

What we like best about Noah is just the most gentle and loving dog we've ever known.

How spoiled is he? Between the treats at home and the treats from the neighbors, Noah has put on a few pounds.

If you've ever been to Promenade in Venetian Bay, then you know Noah, otherwise known as "Mr. Wonderful". Noah is a four-year-old Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever.

We rescued Noah two years ago. It was just in time for him to be euthanized. He was diagnosed with heartworms but we didn't care, we brought him to the veterinarian and before we knew it he was in great health. It was love at first sight. We didn't even know what kind of dog he was but it didn't matter. We had to have him.

We have always had dogs. Most of them crazy, but Noah is just the sweetest and gentlest dog we've ever known. Noah's love is to walk the neighborhood daily. Everyone stops to say hello to Mr. Wonderful. Sometimes they get so carried away with Noah that they forget to say hello to Dorothy and Frank. Many people have treats ready for him when they see him coming down the street.



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venetian bay home of the month



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This former Johnson Group model home is larger than similar models and has all of the extras including an outdoor pool cabana with outdoor kitchen. This lovely Tuscan inspired top of the line home is located in Tuscany Reserve in sought after Venetian Bay. It features a gorgeous great room, with artistic faux and custom painting, ceiling medallions, tray ceilings and crown molding throughout. This traditional four-bedroom, three-bath, golf course/ lake view home has a bonus room that can convert into a fifth bedroom. Every room is oversized with volume ceilings as well as an extended three-car garage. This is why we chose this home to be featured as our home of the month.



Would you like to have your home or a special room(s) featured in an upcoming issue or would you like to nominate one of your neighbors? Then send an email to LaBellaVita@n2pub.com.

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A Father's Day *Love Story*

By Wendy Tranter

Rosemary was out with friends when a man came over to strike up a conversation. She remembers a friend encouraging her to talk with him. His name was Joe Bousquet. He worked in finance. Rosemary was a tax auditor for the state of Connecticut. They hit it off.

Five months later, on September 19, 1980, they married. Joe had three sons from a previous marriage and before the wedding said, "If the boys ever want to come live with me, I want them." Rosemary agreed. Soon after the ceremony, the boys -- Joseph, David and John -- did want to move in with their father in Oxford, Connecticut. Rosemary quickly learned to juggle career, parenting, marriage and a busy home. On March 8, 1983, their son, Christopher, was welcomed in to the family.

Joe "was a product of the 1950s," Rosemary reflected, "and that defined his parenting style. His sons knew that he loved them and was always there for them to share the joy of their accomplishments or aid them in moments of crisis."

In 1996, the family suffered a terrible tragedy when John, a passenger in the car, was killed in an automobile accident. He was 22 years old.

Three years later, Joe retired. He told Rosemary to take a picture of him shoveling the snow because it would be the last time that would happen. The couple moved to Pine Ridge, Florida, a golfing and equestrian community southwest of Ocala.

Life in Florida was wicked grand! Born in Attleboro and raised in Norton, Massachusetts, Joe was a diehard fan of Boston sports teams. In 2004, Rosemary did not touch or move the little Green Monster and "The Curse of the Bambino" was finally broken! The Red Sox won the World Series! Wicked grand!



"Joe was a man's man. He loved golf," Rosemary said. "One time he had a golf buddy distracted while he replaced the golf ball with a plastic one. His friend swung, hit the ball, it went in the air and exploded. His buddy thought he was something, so strong. When he turned around for accolades he found Joe rolling with laughter."

The Bousquets owned a beautiful home with some land in Pine Ridge, but it started to feel unnecessary. They downsized and in November 2013 moved into the home they had built in Venetian Bay. Once settled, they visited the Southeast Volusia Humane Society and found a gorgeous German Shepherd. Her name is Katey. She quickly owned Rosemary and Joe.

In April 2014, Joe got up one morning and could not tie his shoes. He had undergone surgery many months prior but had been doing better. Then came a couple of inexplicable falls and he became bedridden. Katey took up residence under his bed.

Bewildered, Rosemary listened as nurses indicated he was not going to recover. A doctor came to the house and determined that Joe had Progressive Supra-nuclear Palsy (PSP), also called Steele-Richardson-Olszewski Syndrome, a rare brain disorder.



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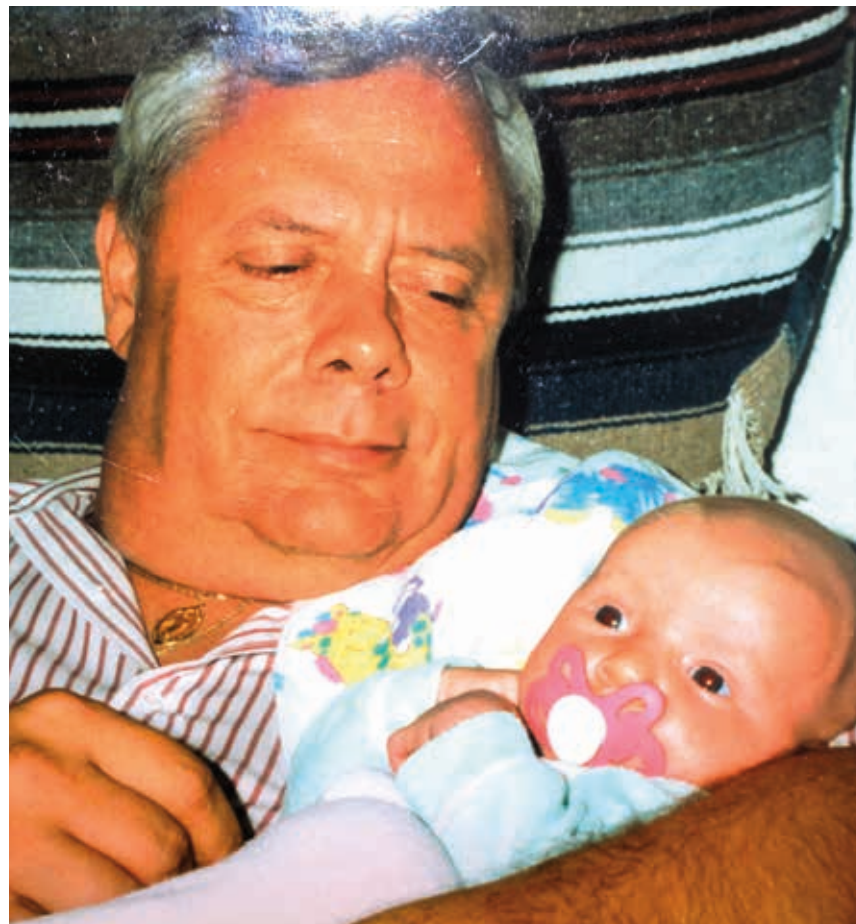
Rosemary called their sons who immediately flew down to share a week with their father. Joe had times when he rallied and they shared stories and laughs about growing up in their Oxford, Connecticut, home.

There was a day when Joe was able to be helped to the kitchen. Rosemary had made cherry cobbler, Joe's favorite. She carefully helped him eat some. Their son Christopher snapped a photo of his parents in that moment and captioned it, This is True Love. He posted it on Facebook.

On May 1, 2014, with Rosemary by his side and Katey under the bed, Joe passed.

Two years later, to the day, Rosemary fondly describes her husband: "He was always joking and had a great sense of humor. He was playful, yet ready to help out when anyone needed something. He loved people. Labels didn't impress him. He had a way of making people feel good and people loved him."

When asked the secret to their 33 years of marriage, she said, "I never tried to change him and he never tried to change me. I willingly shared him with family and friends because he was such a people person."



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Industry: Electrolysis & Laser Hair Removal
How many people does the company employ? Two, part-time
How long has it been in business? 19 years

What prompted you to start your own business? Working as a board certified Radiologic Technologist for 20 years, I wanted the freedom of owning my own business.

Describe what your company does: Electrolysis and laser hair removal

Anything extraordinary/unique that your company does: State of the art laser hair removal.

Given your business expertise and the nature of what you do, what advice (whether general or specific) would you give? Never tweeze or wax upper lip, chin or sides of the face. It will get worse. Shaving is actually best, if you choose not to do anything permanent.

How did you decide on this industry (events that led up to where you are now, where you went to school, etc.)? Worked in Radiology for 20 years and loved most of it, but wanted to do something more fun and less stressful. I trained at the Electrolysis and Laser Institute in Orlando, FL, and took both national exams for laser, the Certified Clinical Electrologist, and Certified Medical Electrologist

Where did you grow up? Beautiful Westchester County in New York

What are your hobbies/interests? Reading (self-help, growth and development) Medical, Business

What else we should know about you, your family or your business? I have two wonderful children, Rachel and John. Rachel is 29 and just graduated from Georgetown with a Master's in Public Relations and Corporate Communications and she just got engaged. John is 24 and has a certificate in Recording Engineering. He has his own recording studio and does his own music, as well as recording for friends. He also works at Belks in the inventory dept.



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SETTING FINANCIAL EXPECTATIONS

With Family And Friends

By Resident **David Carson**

As the weather heats up, so does the planning for vacations, graduations, weddings and family reunions. Your packed event schedule could impact your financial health, so it's important to set expectations with your family and friends early in the planning process. Discussions about money with family members and friends can be awkward but in some instances, neglecting to discuss financial expectations upfront can create stress and tension down the road. It could also leave you with a larger dent in your pocketbook than you expected.

Practicing good financial etiquette can help you smooth the way and minimize complicated financial situations. The first step is establishing a budget and knowing what you can—and cannot—afford to spend. The next is clearly and proactively communicating your financial boundaries to other involved parties. To help you get started, here are a few tips on how to approach some common financial discussions with grace.

Going out for dinner — Before you make a reservation or stop somewhere for a bite to eat as a group, discuss your price range

preference and reach an agreement on whether to split the bill evenly or ask for separate tabs. If you are on a tight budget, simply say so. Most people will understand and agree to separate tabs at an affordable location.

Celebrating milestones — Birthdays, weddings, graduations and other events can quickly become costly. Examine your budget and determine what you can afford to spend on gifts and travel expenses before the invitations start rolling in. Also use your budget as a guide to determine when to decline an invitation to an out-of-state wedding or other expensive events.

Giving gifts — If you plan to contribute to an expensive gift with someone else, be clear about your spending range before the shopping begins. If you're the one purchasing the gift, it's important that the total cost of the gift doesn't put a financial strain on your short-term finances. It may be unlikely, but if the other party unexpectedly can't reimburse you for their portion, it could also strain your relationship.

Co-hosting an event — Whether you're hosting a barbecue with the neighbors, a family reunion funded by all the siblings, or your child's wedding with your ex-spouse, it's important to discuss the budget for the event and how the costs will be divided before the planning begins. Additionally, if someone is donating their time (for example, to clean their house or create the floral arrangements for the event), factor the going rate for his or her services and the number of hours the task will take and give credit where credit is due. Doing so will help all parties feel recognized and appreciated for their time or financial contributions.

Planning a vacation — When traveling with others, agree upfront on a budget and determine who will pay for what before you hit the road. If you are booking the trip in advance — and cannot book accommodations or other aspects of the trip separately — ask your fellow travelers for reimbursement upfront so that you're not left feeling cheated or financially strained. If you are the one responsible for reimbursing someone else, do so before you depart for your destination. It will make it easier for everyone in your group to relax and have a good time.

Keep in mind -- With today's busy lifestyles, details can easily get lost in the shuffle. When planning larger group events or trips, consider creating a shared document that outlines the proposed budget and who is responsible for what costs and when payments are due. This will help minimize misunderstandings, making these events less stressful — and more enjoyable — for everyone involved.



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