



January / February 2017

Tevet / Shevat / Adar 95777

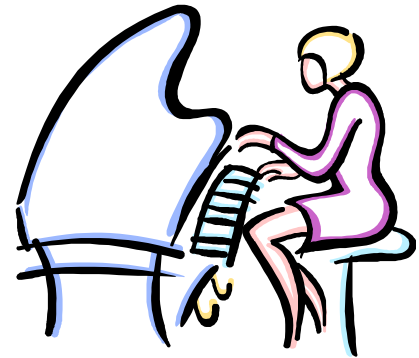
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(352) 326-3692

Rabbi Karen Allen
386-676-5157

An International Songbook



Featuring
Rabbi Karen Allen,
Keyboard and Vocals
And Zoriy Zinger,
Violinist



Pennbrooke Fairways
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Sunday
March 5, 2017
2:30 pm

Proceeds benefit:
Congregation Beth Sholom
and The Leesburg Food Bank

Tickets are \$18 For tickets contact:
Cookie Wright 352-324-1139
Linda Kost 352-315-0309

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January / Tevet / Shevat 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 Board Meeting 4:00 pm	4	5	6	7
8	9 Religious School 4:00 pm	10	11	12	13 Board Member Recognition Shabbat Service & Oneg	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23 Religious School 4:00 pm	24	25	26 Rabbi's Roundtable 2:30 pm	27	28 Shabbat Service & Kiddush 10:00 am
29 Annual Meeting 10:00 AM	30 Religious School 4:00 pm	31				

Annual Meeting Sunday January 29 10:00 AM



Coffee, croissants, pastries, and more
Are the treats that you will have in store.

Chatting with new friends and old
Are all part of the annual meeting we will hold.

So please join us in a fun, snack-filled, and informative atmosphere
As we vote for board members and learn about our
accomplishments of the past year.

All members are asked to attend. If you need an absentee ballot, call
Diane Weinbaum (352-636-4911) or Linda Kost (352-315-0309)

February / Shevat / Adar 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6 Religious School 4:00 pm	7	8	9	10 Tu B'Shevat Seder & Shabbat Service 6:30 pm page 7	11
12	13 Religious School 4:00 pm	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 Interfaith Roundtable 7:00 pm	24	25 Shabbat Service & Kiddush 10:00 am
26	27 Religious School 4:00 pm Adult Ed 4:00 pm page 8	28				

Rabbi's Interfaith Roundtable

February 23rd at 7:00 pm in our synagogue
 Members of Interfaith Lake County will be joining us for an
 interactive discussion led by Rabbi Allen.
 The topic for the evening is the Golden Rule as a common
 theme of world religions and traditions.
 Refreshments will be served.

Rabbi's Message

Oyfn pripetchik brent a fayerl - Un in shtub is heys. Un der rebbe lernt kleyne kinderlekh - Dem alef-beyz. A fire burns on the hearth - And it is warm in the little house. And the rabbi is teaching little children - The alphabet. -- Transliteration and Translation by Mindle Crystel Gross, Boynton Beach, FL

The traditional Yiddish song, *Oyfn Pripetchik*, is often included in anthologies of Chanukah songs. I had always considered the teaching of the *alef beit*, the Hebrew alphabet, as the connection of this beautiful song to Chanukah, through the history and symbolism of the *dreidel*.

Following our second annual celebration of *Chanukiyot*, the lighting of all the candles of the *Menorahs* brought by our congregants, I began to see another, perhaps deeper, connection between the song's fireplace and the Chanukah candles: that their importance and blessing lies not only in their light, but also in the surpassing warmth that can be felt only in close proximity to them.

On our congregational hearth, the fire of dozens of individual candles created together such an intense glow and such an alluring warmth, that we all were drawn once again to circle our chairs around the table where they blazed, to sing the songs of Chanukah in their immediate and nourishing presence.

On February 23rd, 2017, at 7:00 pm, Congregation Beth Sholom will host Interfaith Lake County, a group of clergy and members of local congregations of all faiths, at a Rabbi's Interfaith Roundtable at our synagogue. I have offered the topic of the Golden Rule, of which we so often speak and which binds the world's religious traditions, as the subject for our discussion on that evening.

Jewish tradition teaches that every human being has within us a spark of Divine light which, when shared among us, brightens all of our lives. This, then, is the purpose of our interfaith gathering: to *enlighten*. Each of us can be a *shammash*, the fire which brings light to others.

As we glow together, our collective blaze can bring warmth to the entire world. May it be so. With love and blessings – Rabbi Karen Allen 386-676-5157

p.s. As this issue of the *Shofar* is going to press, I was saddened to receive word of the passing of our beloved and venerable *gabbai*, Manny Spaiman. May the bright light of his soul continue to inspire and uplift every one of us. – rka.

The President's Message

What a wonderful year we have had at Congregation Beth Sholom!

Many of you have heard me say it is my dream that every visitor who enters our shul will know immediately that our congregation is where they belong. We must be doing that well, because at our new member service on December 9th, we recognized 17 new members and one returning member. What a wonderful feeling knowing that so many people have joined our spiritual family.

We have accomplished many things during the year, and we will run through the highlights at the Annual Meeting on January 29th. It is always wonderful to review the many activities and accomplishments our congregation achieves each year. *Please note that we changed the date of the Annual Meeting from January 8 to January 29 because of conflicts.*

Next year is going to be even more exciting!

We will continue the many activities that make Congregation Beth Sholom the synagogue that feels like family. In February alone we have 3 special events. We celebrate Tu B'Shevat with a Seder prior to services on February 10th (see page 7); on February 23rd, members of Interfaith Lake County will join us for an Interfaith Roundtable (see page 3); and will start a new Adult Education class on February 27th (see page 8). I am so excited that on March 5th Rabbi Allen will be joined by Zoriy Zinger for another wonderful concert. Many of you met Zoriy at the Kabbalat Shabbat Service in August. They will perform many genres of music, from many countries. Save the date – you won't want to miss their performance.

Throughout the year, we will also celebrate Purim, Passover, Sukkot, and Chanukah together. Below are photos from this year's Chanukah party.

What a wonderful year we are going to have!

I wish everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Linda

President-at-BethSholomFlorida.org (replace –at– with @) 352-315-0309



A Warm Welcome to Our New Members

These members have joined since the last edition of The Shofar:
Nettie and Ronny Goeler, Suzan Poukish

Meet New Members Linda Freidman and Jill Bulwash

Jill and Linda came to The Villages from New Mexico where they met renting studio space in a clay school. They have been married for over 7 years. Their two children are married and live with their families in Connecticut and Hawaii. They are blessed to have three grandchildren.



Linda was the President of the Jewish Federation of New Mexico and a hospital Chaplain, she still volunteers as a hospital chaplain in The Villages and Leesburg's hospitals and officiates at weddings. She is a non-denominational chaplain, but makes sure she sees all of the Jewish patients when she is on call. Linda bowls, golfs and attends mediation and spiritual groups.

Jill is a retired Chicago Police Officer and served in the Army. Now she enjoys playing golf and billiards. She volunteered at the Jewish Community food bank in New Mexico for many years. They are pleased to have found our synagogue.

Meet New Member Marjorie R. Heyman

Marjorie moved to The Villages four years ago (after swearing for decades that she would never buy a house in Florida!). She loves living here and has wonderful friends and neighbors.

Marjorie thrives on the active lifestyle and enjoys ballroom dancing, golf, water aerobics, Mah Jongg, volunteering, reading, taking day trips (she has traveled all over the world and is now content to "vacation at home"), and learning new things. She continues her lifelong love of needle arts, but now mostly knits, crochets, and sews for charity.

Marjorie returns to New Jersey each summer to spend time with her daughter, Sarah, and two grandchildren, 3 year old Brynn and 7 month old Leah, the lights of her life.

Marjorie earned her Masters in Reading and her Doctorate in Special Education / Learning Disabilities at Rutgers. After a long and successful career in Education as a First Grade Teacher, Reading Specialist, Gifted and Talented Teacher/Teacher Trainer, Learning Consultant, Director of Special Services, and Associate Professor of Special Education at the undergraduate and graduate level, she is now happily retired.

Marjorie feels truly blessed in her life. She is thrilled to be a member of the Congregation, and looks forward to taking an active part in congregation activities.



Be sure you are included on the new membership list!

An updated membership list will be distributed at the Annual Meeting. It will include those members who have made a dues payment. If you have been thinking about joining our shul, this is the time to do so! If you are a member mail in your dues payment now!

**Celebrate Shabbat and Tu B'Shevat on Friday Feb 10th at 6:30 pm
Tu B'Shevat is the New Year of the Trees.**



We will begin our evening as we celebrate the holiday with a short Seder

Shabbat Service will start at 7:00 followed by the Oneg Shabbat.

At the Tu B'Shevat Seder we tell stories of our relationship with creation. We eat special varieties of fruits to remind ourselves of the miracles of nature and our dependency on trees in particular.

This is a wonderful opportunity to gather with family and friends to learn and celebrate together.

Order your 2017 Mah Jongg Cards

Part of the proceeds benefit the Leesburg Food Bank.

Orders should be received by January 18, 2017

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

Number of Standard Cards @\$8 _____ Number of Large Print Cards @\$9 _____

Make checks payable to: Congregation Beth Sholom

Mail to: [Andrea Kraft](mailto:Andrea.Kraft@bethsholom.org) 1298 N. Hunt Club Drive, Hernando, FL 34442

If you play Mah Jongg, please be sure to buy your card through the synagogue.

It is a wonderful fundraiser. Ask the group you play with to support us.

We receive a contribution from the National Mah Jongg league based on how many cards are ordered.

Every card counts!

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Exploring Judaism—Adult Education Class

Mondays with Marsha

Mon. Feb 27th- March 20th 4-5 PM

This four week course will explore how we Jews came to observe various rituals. Symbols such as the mezuzah, customs associated with death and dying, and practices such as how we pray will be explained.

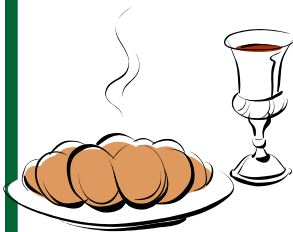
If you have ever wondered about the traditions behind different observances relating to Jewish Life sign up for this four week workshop.

Each class is a separate topic so you can attend any one or all classes.

Members free

non- members \$5 per class

Sign up sheet in synagogue or contact Marsha Stemerman
marshasz2002-at-yahoo.com (replace –at– with @) or 352-630-9259



RESERVE YOUR DATE NOW!
SPONSOR AN ONEG SHABBAT
OR KIDDUSH

To reserve your date, call Anita Sherman at 352-787-9681 or Linda Kost at 352-315-0309.

There are many reasons to be a sponsor: birthdays, anniversaries, special occasions, remembering a loved one, or just celebrating Shabbat.

Upcoming Dates:

Friday, Jan 13 —Helene Bachmann, in honor of the yahrzeit of her father, Harry Gripon

Saturday, Jan 28—Yvette and David Liwack, in celebration of their anniversary

Friday, Feb 10—Andrea Kraft, in celebration of Burt’s birthday

Saturday, Feb 25—available

Friday, March 10—available

Saturday, March 25—available

Friday, April 14—available

Saturday—April 22—

Jennifer and Roger Rice in celebration of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Sam



SEND A CARD AND SUPPORT THE SYNAGOGUE

There are lots of reasons to send cards: birthdays, anniversaries, get well, condolences, congratulations.

Your donations can benefit the synagogue and let someone know you care!

Mail your donation to the synagogue and contact Dave Englander at 352-504-4402.

He will send the card on your behalf, and your good wishes will appear in the Shofar.

Rabbi's Roundtable

Thursday January 26th at 2:30, in the conference room inside the library.
Sumter County Administration and Library Building
7375 Powell Rd., Wildwood

The Rabbi’s Roundtable series explores the current arc of Torah portion along with Jewish spiritual traditions and how they affect our thoughts, our actions and our personal experiences and aspirations.

The roundtable provides a unique opportunity to talk with Rabbi Allen as she leads an informal and interactive discussion focusing on topics of contemporary Jewish interest.

This location (near Pinellas Plaza) is convenient to Leesburg and the Villages.



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Nathan and his staff did a wonderful job painting our interior recently.

Thanks, Nathan, for beautifying our building at a great price!

Spread Some Joy with your used items

Board director Phyllis Berger is collecting **used hats, scarves, and costume jewelry** to be given to women in nursing homes where she is an ombudsman. Many of the residents are on Medicaid and unable to obtain anything new. Give them something to be excited about! If you have something to donate, bring it to the shul or call Phyllis at 352-223-4260 and she will make arrangements to pick it up.

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Thank you to everyone who supported President Linda Kost in the American Diabetes Step Out to stop Diabetes Campaign



Linda shows the award to the family of Earle Richards

Linda collected 69 donations, totaling \$3,011 this year. She was the recipient of the first Earle E. Richards Red Strider Award. This award will be given each year to a participant that goes above and beyond to manage their diabetes and Champion the Mission of the American Diabetes Association to improve the lives of those living with diabetes.



Linda always wears all her champion medals each year

Linda was chosen because this was her 10th year as a Champion—raising at least \$1,000 each of the years.



Order your nametag today!

Tags are just \$15 each. Mail check to the synagogue, with a note indicating the name you want on your nametag.

Contact Dave Englander at 352-504-4402 for more information.



Leesburg Food Bank

Thank you so much to everyone who brought food or clothes to be donated to the Leesburg Food Bank. Don't forget that they also take donations of toiletries, books and magazines.

We have donated 311 pounds of food since September 1!

Bring your items when you come to Congregation Beth Shalom for services and they will be taken to the Food Bank.

Thank you for your continued support of this ongoing project, and thank you Barry Wright, for delivering our donations and maintaining the relationship with the Food Bank.



CELEBRATIONS



Birthdays

January

Anniversaries

1/1 Anita Sherman
 1/7 Judy Marshall
 1/10 Helen Jacobs
 1/10 Michael Saks
 1/10 Matthew Cullen
 1/11 Joseph Dowsey
 1/11 Ariella Dowsey

1/12 Hailey Dowsey
 1/12 Joni Trebitz
 1/13 Roger Rice
 1/17 Michael Drexler
 1/28 Gary Harris
 1/28 Nathan Mularsky
 1/30 Burt Kraft

February

2/4 Fred Mularsky
 2/12 Dan Hirschfeld
 2/14 John Scholl

2/18 Lillian Reece
 2/24 Phylis Berger
 2/27 Marion Beckman

R'fuah Sh'leima (Get Well Wishes)

to those who have been ill or have had or will have surgery:
 Dorothy Strauss, Liz Shen, Bette Croll, Mike Davidoff, Lynne Bloom

Mi Shebeirach

If you know of anyone (members, family, or close friends) who is dealing with a wellness issue, who would appreciate prayers or benefit from contact with the synagogue, please contact Elly Rothbard at 352-753-9065 or email her at ellybard-at-comcast.net (replace -at- with @)

She will notify Rabbi Allen, and if desired will add them to the *Mi Shebeirach* list which is read at services.

Thank You

Oneg/Kiddish sponsors:

Friday, Nov 11 - Herb Siegel in honor of Veteran's Day.

Saturday, Nov 26 - Sandra Byrne in celebration of the birthday of her father, Herb Siegel.

Friday, Dec 9 - Priscilla Reisinger and Dr. Marnell LaRoe Hayes in honor of our new members.

Saturday Dec 24 - Suzan Poukish, in honor of her granddaughter, Tomyris Miriam Poukish.

To Herb Siegel for the wonderful Veteran's Day program.

To everyone involved with the Chanukah party: Phylis Berger for the decorations and latkes; Herb Siegel for the sweet potato latkes; Dan and Eileen Hirschfeld for the chocolate marshmallow dreidels; Sandra Byrne for the Adam Sandler Chanukah Song video; Dr. Marnell LaRoe Hayes for the great program and the delicious desserts, Linda Kost for the fruit salad, Diane Weinbaum for the jelly donuts, and everyone there who helped set up and clean up. It was a wonderful prelude to Chanukah.

Donations

Diveda Spector in observance of the Yahrzeit for her father Milton Goldfarb.

General Donations: Lowell Cramer, Elizabeth Morrison, Ron Faulk

Please remember we depend on donations for 20% of our budget.
See page 9 for information about sending cards for all occasions.

ADD YOUR LOVED ONE TO THE MEMORIAL BOARD

Memorializing a loved one with a permanent plaque in the sanctuary is a wonderful opportunity to honor their memory. The cost of a plaque is \$300, 2 or more are \$275 each

Contact Fred Jacobs for more information.

FredJacobs40-at-gmail.com (replace -at- with @) or 352-633-0500


IN MEMORIAM: THE FOLLOWING YAHRZEITS ARE OBSERVED


The Congregation expresses sympathy to Phylis Berger on the passing of her friend, Dan Pincus, who passed away on December 16.

The Congregation expresses sympathy to Marty and Elly Rothbard on the passing of his cousin, Jerry Tarnofsky, who passed away on December 6.

The Congregation expresses sympathy to Bob and Pam Milkman, on the passing of his brother, Murray Milkman, who passed away on November 20.

May their memory be for a blessing.

The following names will be read from the Bimah on January 13

Herman Saks	Father	of	Michael Saks	15	Tevet	13-Jan
Jerome Strauss	Husband	of	Dorothy Strauss	15	Tevet	13-Jan
Manuel Lutsky	Father	of	Linda Kost	15	Tevet	13-Jan
Bertram Davis	Father	of	Rochelle Goldberg	17	Tevet	15-Jan
Paula Debra Weinbaum	Sister	of	Diane Weinbaum			17-Jan
Ruth Kraft	Mother	of	Burt Kraft			18-Jan
Genevieve Frank	Mother	of	Bernadine F. Weiss	20	Tevet	18-Jan
Curt Freudenthal	Father	of	Nancy Morris			19-Jan
Joseph Selsky	Father	of	Gloria Blankenship			19-Jan
Max Tall	Uncle	of	Herb Siegel			19-Jan
Sarah D. Cramer	Mother	of	Pam Singer & Lowell Cramer	22	Tevet	20-Jan
Jeremy Abram Haimes	Son	of	Marshall Haimes			22-Jan
Shirley Goldfarb	Mother	of	Diveda Spector	25	Tevet	23-Jan
Sylvia Saks	Mother	of	Michael Saks	25	Tevet	23-Jan
Marion Blivess	Mother	of	Suzan Poukiah	25	Tevet	23-Jan
Natalie Lutsky	Mother	of	Linda Kost	27	Tevet	25-Jan
Philip Gelles	Grandfather	of	Diane Weinbaum			26-Jan
Harry Gripon	Father	of	Helene Bachmann			27-Jan
Theresa Rothbard	Aunt	of	Marty Rothbard	29	Tevet	27-Jan

The following names will be read from the Bimah on January 28

Florence Subit	Mother	of	Bette Croll	3	Shevat	30-Jan
Herbert Weinstein	Father	of	Yvette Litwack	5	Shevat	1-Feb
Irwin Sherman	Husband	of	Anita Sherman	7	Shevat	3-Feb
Herbert Carl King	Father	of	Robert King			4-Feb
Eve Graham	Mother	of	Eileen Hirschfeld	11	Shevat	7-Feb
Sidney Koren	Father	of	Michael Koren			7-Feb
Betty Siegel	Wife	of	Herb Siegel and			8-Feb
	Mother	of	Sandra Byrne			
Esther Osansky	Mother	of	Arnold Osansky	12	Shevat	8-Feb
Gussie Rothbard	Mother	of	Marty Rothbard	13	Shevat	9-Feb

The following names will be read from the Bimah on February 10

Evelyn Zalmanovich	Member	of	Congregation	15	Shevat	11-Feb
Marilyn Gelles	Aunt	of	Diane Weinbaum			11-Feb
Stanley Gelles	Uncle	of	Diane Weinbaum			11-Feb
Anna Charifson	Mother	of	Lillian Reece	17	Shevat	13-Feb
Morris Zalmanovich	Member	of	Congregation	17	Shevat	13-Feb
Jake Jurisz	Member	of	Congregation	22	Shevat	18-Feb
Cecilio Miller	Father	of	Patricia Stark	23	Shevat	19-Feb
Esther Wiener	Mother	of	Howard Wiener	23	Shevat	19-Feb
Max Block	Grandfather	of	Marsha Stemerman	26	Shevat	22-Feb
Claire Mohel	Mother	of	Barry Wright	28	Shevat	24-Feb


IN MEMORIAM: THE FOLLOWING YAHRZEITS ARE OBSERVED


It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Manny Spaiman on December 18. Manny and his wife Jeanne were members of the congregation from 1993 until they moved to Georgia in August of 2011. In addition to serving as *Gabbai* that entire time, Manny also served on the Board and on the ritual committee for many of those years. He and Jeanne made sure that the synagogue was ready for the High Holidays by dressing the bimah in white every year. In 2009, Manny and Jeanne painstakingly reupholstered all of our sanctuary chairs, restoring them to a better than new condition.

He will be missed. May his memory be for a blessing.

Condolences can be sent to Jeanne at 4000 So Cobb Dr., Apt. 9D, Smyrna, GA, 30080

To make a donation in his memory contact Dave Englander at 352-504-4402 and he will send a card to Jeanne indicating that a donation was made.

The following names will be read from the Bimah on February 25

Harry Bokow	Friend	of	Gloria Blankenship	30	Shevat	26-Feb
Percy Fellner	Father	of	Phylis Berger	1	Adar	27-Feb
Hyman Steinberg	Father-in-law	of	Harry Barnard	2	Adar	28-Feb
Frances Davidoff	Wife	of	Michael Davidoff	3	Adar	1-Mar
Peni Berger	Wife	of	Stephen Berger			1-Mar
Kurt Brauner	Father	of	Lene' Zalla			2-Mar
Irving Rothbard	Father	of	Marty Rothbard	4	Adar	2-Mar
Gerson Frank	Father	of	Bernadine F. Weiss	4	Adar	2-Mar
Ida Yanofsky	Mother	of	Harry Barnard	6	Adar	4-Mar
Robert Kessler	Brother	of	Jo Anne Burka	7	Adar	5-Mar
Dr. Saul Muffs	Father	of	Judy Hartstein	7	Adar	5-Mar
Syd Slater	Sister	of	Bette Croll	7	Adar	5-Mar
Selma Agines	Sister	of	Lillian Reece	8	Adar	6-Feb
Max Kessler	Father	of	Jo Anne Burka	9	Adar	7-Mar
Nathan Goldberg	Father	of	Ira Goldberg	10	Adar	8-Mar
Ruth Stangle	Mother	of	Toby Weber			8-Mar
Sophie Siegel	Mother	of	Herb Siegel			9-Mar
Jack Finkelstein	Father	of	Phyllis Simon			9-Mar
Sarah Meyers	Mother	of	Martin Meyers	11	Adar	9-Mar
Simon Cohen	Grandfather	of	Ronnie-Jane Boekema	11	Adar	9-Mar
Etta Pomeranz	Mother	of	Irving Pomeranz	11	Adar	9-Mar
Israel Barnard	Father	of	Harry Barnard	12	Adar	10-Mar
Selma Riggs	Mother	of	Vivian Riggs			10-Mar

EXPLANATION OF DATES ON YAHRZEIT LIST

We give our members the option to observe yahrzeit on the secular date (the actual date of passing) or the Hebrew date. If there is no Hebrew date next to a name, it is because their family prefers to observe yahrzeit on the secular calendar date.

To add a loved one to the yahrzeit list, contact Linda Kost and provide the names and relationship of the congregant and relative, and the actual date of passing including the year. Please indicate whether you wish to observe yahrzeit on the secular or Jewish date.

Contact Linda at president-at-bethsholomflorida.org (replace -at- with @) or 352-315-0309

Congregation Beth Sholom

315 North 13th Street
Leesburg, FL 34748

Phone: 352-326-3692

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