

The Leprechaun

A Publication of the Harper Woods Notre Dame Alumni Association

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Keeping the Spirit of the Fightin' Irish Alive Since 2005!

FEBRUARY 2010 EDITION



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Marlinga '64 Returns to Politics

Former Macomb County Prosecutor **Carl Marlinga '64** officially announced on Monday, January 4, that he would be making a return to the political arena. Marlinga declared his state Senate candidacy and portrayed himself as a centrist Democrat who can help forge bipartisan agreements to Michigan's ongoing budget crisis.

An election win would mark an extraordinary political comeback for Marlinga, who was indicted — and cleared by a federal jury — on charges of trading prosecutorial favors in exchange for campaign contributions in 2006. “Probably my talent is my ability to bridge the gap between Republicans and Democrats. I do not try to be too strident on anything,” said Marlinga. The Sterling Heights resident served as Macomb County Prosecutor from 1985-2005. “My decision to run was based on frustration, and almost disgust, with the way the budget process was handled the last couple of years - It was all politics and posturing,” he said.

Marlinga is expected to face a Democratic primary fight from county board Chairman Paul Gielegghem of Clinton Township, who has filed a Senate campaign committee but has not made an announcement. The seat they will be campaigning for is in the 10th District which covers Sterling Heights, Clinton Township, Roseville and Utica. On the Republican side, state Rep. Tory Rocca of Sterling Heights is the likely front-runner for the GOP nomination.



Carl Marlinga - Class of 1965

Marlinga filed for office the morning of January 4 and then announced his candidacy at a coffee klatch held at the home of a Roseville supporter. The former prosecutor said the event was the first of many small neighborhood gatherings he will hold as his campaign follows an “old fashioned, 1960s-style” template.

After years working as a defense attorney, sometimes landing high-profile criminal cases, Marlinga burst back onto the political scene in November when a poll he commissioned found that he led Gielegghem by a 42 percent to 16 percent margin in a hypothetical 10th District race. The contest is for an open seat being vacated by term-limited Senator Michael “Mickey” Switalski.

Marlinga said that the poll, plus early pledges for financial help, indicate that his criminal trial has had no lingering effects on his popularity. Once a top vote-getter in the county, Marlinga has set a \$400,000 fundraising goal for 2010 to pay for directmail, TV and radio advertising.

Joe DiSano, a Democratic political consultant, said that Marlinga's brush with the law is a settled issue and the former prosecutor's name recognition alone will be hard for Gielegghem or Rocca to overcome. “He has the name identification and that is a hill that Paul Gielegghem has to climb in the primary,” said DiSano, of Lansing-based Main Street Strategies. “He has to outspend and outwork Carl Marlinga, who is a natural-born campaigner.” In contrast, Rocca could benefit from a strong Republican surge in the 2010 elections, the analyst said.

In an interview with The Macomb Daily, Marlinga laid out an agenda that focuses on the economy, education and the environment. Here are the key points from that interview:

- ♣ Create an “engineering division” within state government that would work with Michigan universities to develop inventions and prototypes, particularly in the area of alternative energy, which would entice entrepreneurs to the state. Start-up companies could buy the licensing rights to a new product if they set up their manufacturing operations in Michigan.
- ♣ Eliminate the 22 percent surcharge on the Michigan Business Tax, even if it means a shift toward a higher income or sales tax. In addition, work toward long-term reform that would provide a tax exemption on the first \$20,000 of income earned by an individual, in exchange for a higher income tax rate.
- ♣ Hold the line on K-12 education spending but free up more money for the classrooms by consolidating all school administration operations at the intermediate school district level. Most of the state's 59 ISDs provide specialized services for one county, such as the Macomb Intermediate School District which services the county's 21 school districts. “If you're a deputy school superintendent, you probably don't want to vote for me,” Marlinga said, “because I want to get rid of your job.”

Marlinga Continued on page 3...

Marlinga Continued from page 2...

- ♣ Maintain the Promise Scholarships for those students who were promised the tuition assistance but gradually convert the effort into a student loan program.
- ♣ Return the Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of Natural Resources to a single, combined agency and transfer some environmental protection duties to local health departments and prosecutors.

For a candidate who has run for, or been considered for, numerous public offices - U.S. Senate, U.S. House, state Supreme Court, state attorney general, lieutenant governor and governor - Marlinga comes full circle with his bid for state Senate. In 1970, as a 23-year-old political novice, Marlinga ran and lost a Senate bid in a district based in Warren. This time, the political veteran promises a campaign that steers away from high-volume “glitz” and manufactured controversy. “I think there has to be room in politics,” he said, “for people who are serious — and sometimes boring,” he said.



Carl Marlinga '64 officially announcing his candidacy for senate at the home of supporter Monica Malewicz.

Source: The Macomb Daily

LeFevre '78 Sells Stake in Local Businesses

A new development could soon be under way at a closed landmark bowling alley in St. Clair Shores. **Tom LeFevre '78**, is the former owner of Shore Crest Lanes on Harper near 9 Mile Road. LeFevre said the new owner of the Shore Crest plans to demolish the building but declined to say what will emerge at the 3.5-acre site. “I can say this: The city will be proud of what goes in there,” he said. LeFevre is the only publicly known investor in a group



Tom LeFevre's Jack's Waterfront Restaurant.

known as 9 Mile Harper LLC, which is in the process of selling the land to an undisclosed purchaser. LeFevre was forced to close the bowling alley in the summer of 2008 due to economic circumstances. The St. Clair Shores City Council formally approved transferring the bowling alley's liquor license to the owner of O'Hara's, an eatery on 10 Mile in Eastpointe. O'Hara's has been in operation for several months serving only food until it could secure a license to sell beer, wine and alcohol. Shore Crest Lanes first opened as a bowling alley in the 1940s and burned down in 1983. The facility was rebuilt and reopened again in 1984 along with an adjoining bar known over the years as Brandy's, Discotheque and Scores. In recent years, a younger clientele began frequenting the center. Along with them, they brought an increase in violence. The older clientele began to avoid the center and business dropped off.

City council members expressed concern about the appearance of the closed building with overgrown weeds and a dilapidated fence creating an eyesore. Someone recently dumped 20 tires in the parking lot as well.

“We have some eyesores in St. Clair Shores,” said Councilman David Ruebello. “We don't want this one to become another one.”

Attorney Carl Rashid, representing LeFevre's group, assured the council that the new investors plan to demolish the two-story structure “very soon.”

When the bowling alley initially closed, there were rumors in the area that a buyer wanted to purchase several other lots for a large-scale project such as a Wal-mart. LeFevre said although the new owner may be interested in other lots, it was not to accommodate a Wal-Mart.

LeFevre, a well known nightclub operator and business owner in St. Clair Shores, also confirmed that he has sold Jack's Waterfront restaurant on Jefferson near Nine Mile Road for personal reasons. “It's a young man's game,” LeFevre said of the nightclub industry. “I'm getting older and I have some family issues I need to take care of.” LeFevre said the new owner of Jack's plans to reopen in the spring, but he did not know if the Jack's Waterfront theme and name would be retained.

Source: The Macomb Daily

Cali '82 Has His Bulldogs On Top

Romeo High School's wrestling team went from underdog to favorite in the race for the Macomb Area Conference Red Division dual-meet title in one night. The Bulldogs, coached by **Jim Cali '82**, knocked off Lamphere, 36-27, and then beat Macomb County Tournament champ Anchor Bay, 48-24, to remain the only undefeated team in the MAC Red. "We knew we had two tough teams we were wrestling," said Cali, whose squad improved to 5-0 in the MAC Red and 20-8 overall. "Our fear was our kids would overlook Lamphere because they really don't know them as well as they know Anchor Bay. I don't know why that is, but they battled their way through that opener." The start of the match against the Tars didn't go well for Romeo as Larry Rybarz (140 pounds) and Steve Sattler (145 pounds) each recorded first-period pins to put Anchor Bay ahead, 12-0. However, the Bulldogs next two wrestlers — Zach Schafer and Orrin Bryant — responded well. Schafer trailed 4-1 after the first period of his match before sticking his opponent just 10 seconds into the second period. Bryant followed with a first-period pin of his own to even the match. "That kind of woke us up and made the kids think we were still in the match," Cali said. "It was a good response to their quick start. If we don't get those pins, who knows how this match would have ended up."



Jim Cali '82 (left) coaching at the Bay City Super Duals.

The good feeling on Romeo's bench was short as Matt Schodowski got a pin for the Tars at 171 and then Nick Black scored an 8-2 decision to put Anchor Bay ahead, 21-12. Again, the Bulldogs responded emphatically, winning the next five matches. Joe Bacci got a pin in 23 seconds at 215, which was followed by a pin from Adam Bennett at 1:02 of the first period. Then Tayron Womble pinned his opponent midway through the third period to put Romeo up 30-21. Evan Richardson (112 pounds) and Joe Sinishtaj (119 pounds) each picked up decisions to put the Bulldogs in front, 36-21. It was a lead Romeo, which last won a MAC Red dual-meet title in 2008, wouldn't relinquish.

"I'm just really proud how our kids battled the whole time," Cali said. "They showed a lot of heart. The bottom line, we sent out 14 kids tonight and they all wrestled hard." Kyle Witgen (pin) and Jeremy Ward (void) got Romeo's other

wins. "They're better than us," said Anchor Bay coach Jim Morisette, whose team falls to 5-1 in the MAC Red and 16-8 overall. "This MAC Red is tough. This Romeo team is good. We just didn't have it in ourselves tonight," Morisette added. "If we wrestle like we did tonight at states we're not getting out of districts." Anchor Bay is the defending MAC Red dual-meet champs.

To follow Jim Cali's Romeo Bulldog wrestling team, please visit www.romeowrestling.com.

Source: The Macomb Daily

The Muggs

See the Muggs Live!

(Tony DeNardo '90 and Danny Methric '90)

- ♣ Saturday, February 5
TNT's - Clinton Twp, MI
- ♣ Saturday, February 13
Campus Martius Park
Detroit, MI
Motown Winter Blast
6:30-7:30pm
- ♣ Thursday, February 25
3rd & Lindsley
Nashville, TN
- ♣ Friday, February 26
Court Street Grill
Pomeroy, OH
- ♣ Saturday, February 27
The Magic Stick
Detroit, MI
Real Detroit's
11th Birthday Bash



Marrocco '66 Becomes First to Run for New County Executive Position

The race for county executive broke wide open this month when longtime Public Works Commissioner **Anthony Marrocco '66** surprised political observers by emerging as the first candidate to file for the new post. Marrocco, a Clinton Township Democrat, said he decided to jump into the race because the other contenders continue to jockey for position rather than declaring their intentions. "I'm looking around and decided I would be the best candidate for Macomb County executive," he said. "I'm just running my own campaign. I'm not trying to decide how I fit into a fourway race."

Those who are expected to run include county Treasurer Ted Wahby, Sheriff Mark Hackel and state Rep. Fred Miller. All are fellow Democrats. The outcome would be decided in the August primary. No Republican candidates have stepped forward to run on the November general election ballot. The winner would take office Jan. 1, 2011, as outlined by the county charter approved by voters last November.

Marrocco believes he has a distinct advantage in the race due to his track record on fiscal issues. He said his Public Works Office has come in under budget in each of the 17 years he has overseen the agency, saving the county a combined \$6 million. Unlike many county departments, Marrocco has weathered the ongoing county budget crisis without laying off any employees. "It can be done at the countywide level and I'm the man to do it. I will bring the county in under budget without any layoffs," he said.

Before winning election as public works commissioner in 1992, Marrocco was a businessman. He first won election in 1983 as a Chippewa Valley school board member where he served for two years. He later was elected as a county commissioner to a four year term.

If a four-way race shapes up for county executive, Marrocco's base of support would come from developers and the construction industry; Mark Hackel would rely upon the law enforcement community; Ted Wahby counts on broad support from the banking and financial sector; and Fred Miller will tap those Democrats loyal to **David Bonior '63** and the former congressman's political disciples who have held various elective offices. A deciding factor in the August primary could be fund-raising abilities in an economically depressed year when candidates of all stripes, in all types of races, are struggling to raise enough money to run a solid campaign. In addition, the wide open governor's race will siphon away money from a lot of wealthy contributors and interest groups, and the county Board of Commissioners races — with the number of seats cut from 26 to 13 — will also become expensive.

Marrocco may have a financial advantage because he has funds set aside in his public works commissioner campaign account, plus he has two independent political action committees that raise money. "I don't need to spend my own money to get elected," he said.

Source: The Macomb Daily



Anthony Marrocco '66

Rest in Peace

James Drohan - Class of 62

Passed away Jan. 3, 2010. Jim lived in Murrieta, CA. He courageously battled MS and the last three years with Pulmonary Fibrosis. Jim was the husband of the late Mary (7-19-2009) for 42 years. Children: son Steve, wife Lisa, grandchildren Amy, Jessica, and Dylan. Son Patrick of Long Island and fiancée Josette. Jim was a life-time resident of Michigan and moved to Murrieta, CA five years ago to be near his grandchildren.

Irene Wampuszyc - Mother of Jan '80

For the second time in as many weeks, I am sad to report another death. My mother, Irene, passed away Wednesday, January 13, two weeks after my father. He died of old age; she must have died of a broken heart. They had been married for 48 years.

Trophies

For the past four years, we have been storing over 160 of the school's trophies. We would like to put these trophies in the hands of the guys who earned them for Notre Dame. We have taken photos of all the trophies and uploaded them to the photo gallery on the website. Please browse through them. If you see any that you would like, please contact us, and we will make arrangements to get them to you. We will continue to store them indefinitely.



Roma '80 Named CFO of National Coney Island

Dan Roma '80 has been named to the newly created position of CFO at Roseville-based National Coney Island, Inc., which owns and operates more than 20 restaurants in the metro Detroit region. Dan earned a Bachelor of Science in accounting at the University of Detroit. Roma was most recently vice president at Soave Real Estate Group and is the former director of asset management with Pulte Homes Inc. He will be responsible for financial, accounting, human resource and strategic planning. National Coney Island has been in business since 1965.



Dan Roma '80

Diegel '63 Worth Every Single Dime

In this era of bashing everything related to government, too often those officials who are the most valuable and effective never receive their due. At the top of that list in Macomb County would be **Dave Diegel '63**, the long-time finance director who retired in January. The headlines in January 17th's Macomb Daily are about the big payout Diegel received from the deferred retirement program, based on his \$132,000 annual salary. In this time of paycheck envy and overwhelming bitterness over financial situations turned sour, many taxpayers will be outraged at Diegel's good fortune. But here's the bottom line: He was worth every penny.

Dozens of county officials through the years would agree with that assessment, citing the tens of millions of dollars — perhaps more than \$100 million — that he cumulatively saved the county by holding the line on spending. No county official was more responsible for the county tax rate remaining steady for 27 years than Diegel. After assuming the role of finance chief in 1983, Diegel quickly became an invaluable go-to guy for the Board of Commissioners. His frugal, no-nonsense approach sometimes made him the only sane voice in a boardroom filled with warring personalities.

Back in the 1980s and 1990s, Diegel and the late Ben Giampetroni, director of Planning and Economic Development, essentially ran the county. The commissioners couldn't agree on anything except that Diegel and Giampetroni could handle all the big problems that came along. "Gentle Ben" was diplomatic and professorial in his dealings with the volatile commissioners. Diegel was blunt and stubborn. As one former commissioner put it, Diegel provided "adult supervision" for the county board. One time Diegel put a young, brash commissioner — Dave Jaye — in his place by displaying what true, common sense conservatism is. Over time, the commissioners' respect for Diegel reached the point where they essentially left most of the budget process to the finance chief. When the budget was finished, Diegel would present it for approval.

But over the past several years, Diegel's role became more combative. He repeatedly issued warnings behind closed doors against adopting the "70-point" pension plan, which allows workers to retire at age 50. The finance director was worried about the impact on the budget, the "rainy day" fund, the pension fund and the county's top credit rating. In the process, he became the employee unions' Public Enemy No. 1 — and the commissioners caved in to labor pressure.

In private, Diegel, 64, was known to engage in heated discussions with commissioners, sometimes letting a few profanities fly. Publicly, he never berated them when the majority of the commissioners ignored his financial advice. One commissioner recalled a heated closed-door session that occurred in the early days of 2007 when a crop of new commissioners came into office. These young Democrats chastised the veteran finance boss, telling him that mounting deficits were not a concern because, if they continued, the state would "bail out" the county. An incredulous Diegel fought back and, over time, convinced the board that big spending cuts were inevitable and layoffs might be unavoidable. "For a while, it was very frustrating. They kept taking the easy way out and they didn't want to make the tough decisions," Diegel said in an interview.

Diegel is the latest of the county finance directors who played major roles in the history of county government. In 1928, Sherwood Bennett was appointed as the finance chief, the controller, and became an institution, serving until 1971. Bennett was followed by John Shore and 12 years later Diegel, who was initially hired by Bennett, rose to the top post.

Those who complain about Diegel's compensation should contemplate what would happen if a private sector company with 2,900 employees scattered across 32 departments, with an annual budget of \$500 million, advertised for a CFO at a salary of \$132,000. Even in this shaky economy, few qualified applicants would express interest. Diegel expressed an interest in 1983. And he stayed on for 27 years. County taxpayers should be thankful.

Source: The Macomb Daily

Upcoming Events

3RD ANNUAL LAUGH DETROIT COMEDY FESTIVAL

MARCH 21ST-27TH

50 COMEDIANS FROM THE US
AND CANADA WILL BE PERFORMING



HEYWOOD BANKS
MARCH 23RD
Host at Comedy Castle
-\$10, 7:30pm



COOL-AIDE
MARCH 23RD
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-\$10, 9:30pm



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MARCH 24TH
Host at Comedy Castle
"Woman's Night" -\$25



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TICKETS FOR MONDAY THRU SATURDAY PURCHASED AT
WWW.COMEDYCASTLE.COM THROUGH ETIX LINK.



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Upcoming Events

2010 Annual Alumni Basketball Tournament

March 5, 6, & 7, and March 13, & 14, 2010

Where: De La Salle High School, Warren, MI

Cost to play: \$30 per player

Format: Double Elimination

Winning team to face the winner of the DLS Alumni Tournament

On Sunday March 14, 2010



More Details:

Spectators are welcome at no charge

Adult beverages will be available for purchase via the DLS Dad's Club before and during games

Tournament is capped at 16 teams

Games will not start until all players have paid the entry fee

Teams with less than 7 players are subject to roster combining

Classes are not permitted to combine if roster has 7 or more players

Roster submission deadline is Sunday, February 28 at 10:00pm

Bracket will be posted to our website by Tuesday, March 2nd at 10:00pm



Payment Options:

To **pre-pay** using a **credit card**, please visit the website and click on the **"Donate"** button

Be sure to include your name, class, and that you are prepaying for the alumni basketball tournament in the note section

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2010 Annual Alumni Softball Tournament

Saturday, September 18, 2010

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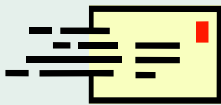


Yearbooks are Now Sold Exclusively Via Our On-Line Store

Wall of Fame

If you see your name listed below, we have your Wall of Fame plaque that hung on the wall behind the gym. We would like for you to have your plaque if you want it. Please email us at jmandl@friendsofnotredame.com, and we will make arrangements to get it to you!

Gary Lytle '61	Jerry Guinane '71	Walt Dixon '81	Jim Maher '88	
Dave Debol '74*	Mike McGreevy '73	Brett Nowak '82	Eric Taylor '89	
John Giordano '61*	Tim Flannery '73	Chris Gust '82	Eric Stanczak '89	
John Blum '77*	Jim Romeo '75	Paul Tripp '82	DezJuan Reynolds '90	* Pictured
David Bonior '63	Kevin Flannery '75	Brian Barney '83	Matt Ziolkowski '90	on the
Joe Przybycki '64	Tom Bentley '75	Andy Nanasi '83	Mark Staples, Jr. '91	same
Mike Boccia '65	Brian Monfils '75	Greg Placidi '83	Steve Jansen '92	plaque:
Chris Hacias '65	Mark McGreevy '76	Ken Zazula '84	Anthony Vitale '94	University
John Kraft '65	Tom Gadawski '76	Bruce Smith '85	Preston Brandimore '95	of
Rick Wenner '67	Marco Caporusco '78	Paul Seibert '86	Phil Ruggerio '95	Michigan
Pat Srock '74	Dave Wolfbauer '79	Paul Amodei '86	Jason Selleke '96	Hockey
Dan Richards '67	Gary Bass '80	Joe Trombley '87	Jason Stoicevich '97	
Glenn Radzik '69	Kevin Paterson '80	Andy Booth '87	James Fields '01	
Gary Radzik '69	Jim Forsgren '81	Scott Klott '88	Adam Fujita '01	
Frank Lutostanski '71	Craig Mitchell '81			



We Heard From...



David Curcuru, Class of 1969

Jimmy: You and dad are solely responsible for keeping alive the memory of a great school. I don't think I have ever been as satisfied as when I joined the bingo team in 1996. Working with your dad was so much fun. Your dedication to ND is more than admirable. Just wanted to tell you how much you and your dad are appreciated. Take care.

Bob Bendzinski, Class of 1958

Another great job, Jim! Best wishes to you and your family for a Happy, healthy and Prosperous New Year.

Frank Lutostanski, Class of 1970

I recently came across your website. It is very well done and informative. Keep up the great work. After attending Northwestern, I never left Chicago.

Larry Fetherolf, Class of 1985

Anyone from '85 interested in forming a 25 year reunion committee? It appears that we haven't started one. I am willing to be on it but not alone.

John Jay Cornell, Class of 1982

Just wanted to say hello to all the Notre Dame alum of class of 82!

Gordie Russ, Class of 1991

Do we have anyone from our school that is in the music business? I'm looking for a job and I'm trying to get into the business. I have my own studio and my focus is on writing and producing for people. I am willing to relocate. Please contact me at: trackmaster12000@yahoo.com

Tony Mardirosian, Head Baseball Coach 1989 State Champions

Thanks for continuing to send me the newsletter. I really enjoy reading it.

Mike Scharl, Class of 1971

Happy New Year! Thanks for keeping this all of this going!

Upcoming Reunions

Reunions in 2010

The following classes are due to celebrate reunion years in 2010:



2005 - 5 Years
 2000 - 10 Years
 1995 - 15 Years
 1990 - 20 Years
 1985 - 25 Years



1980 - 30 Years
 1975 - 35 Years
 1970 - 40 Years
 1965 - 45 Years
 1960 - 50 Years



Interested in forming a reunion committee for your class?

E-mail Jim Mandl '90 at jmandl@friendsofnotredame.com.

We are your *only* source for the most up-to-date alumni contact information!

Celebrating 50 Years - Class of 1960

Members of the class of 1960 have organized a 50th reunion!

When: Saturday, September 25, 2010

Where: Best Western Sterling Inn

15 Mile Rd. and Van Dyke, Sterling Heights, MI

Reunion Committee:

Eddie Kay at ewk51110@comcast.net

Gary Wilson at gwdc2@aol.com

If interested in joining the reunion committee, please email Eddie or Gary

For complete reunion information, please visit the class of 1960 web site:

www.notredamehw1960.org

Celebrating 20 Years - Class of 1990

Members of the class of 1990 have started organizing a 20th reunion!

When: TBD

Where: TBD

Reunion Committee:

Jim Mandl at jmandl@friendsofnotredame.com

Matt Sokol at mattsokol@gmail.com

Mike Balow at MikeBalow@gmail.com

If interested in joining the reunion committee, please email Jim, Matt, or Mike

Celebrating 10 Years - Class of 2000

Members of the class of 2000 have started organizing a 10th reunion!

When: TBD

Where: TBD

Reunion Committee:

William Pokriefka at willbbad69@yahoo.com

If interested in joining the reunion committee, please email William

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Greg Schultz '76 - President and Manager
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Casey Wakula '96 - Owner




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