



THE VOICE OF CONGREGATION B'NAI TIKVAH

THE JCC OF NORTH AND SOUTH BRUNSWICK

Our Mission: To foster a vibrant egalitarian Jewish community founded in the religious customs and traditions of Conservative Judaism; offering excellent Jewish education and community activities for all ages with commitment to Israel and Jewish communities throughout the world.



#### From Rabbi Wolkoff



#### From the Desk of Cantor Bruce Rockman

#### A New Beginning



A few weeks ago, on the Friday before Rosh Hashanah, as I dressed for Shabbat, I was watching Friday night services from Central Synagogue in New York on the Jewish Broadcasting System (JBS). I love the grandeur and beautiful singing of their rabbis and cantors. Some of their melodies are the same as ours; their "sound" is truly inspiring, there are times that I'm still hearing the Central clergy and their musicians as I lead our service.

Now as Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Sh'mini Atzeret, and Simchat Torah have joyously concluded, it becomes the time in which we move beyond our resolutions and intentions and embrace the challenges that we proclaimed to be better prepared to fulfill.

We have promised so much, we repented, we resolved to be more mindful and charitable and we reiterated our pledge to love the Lord our God all our heart. Although we have a variety of approaches, I believe that we are all on the same page, we are sincere and with the best of intentions.

Among the mitzvoth that we aspire to, is teaching these lessons to our children. We all recognize that the mitzvah of Jewish

education should reap its own rewards. Understanding who we are, where we stand and being prepared for our future is the purpose of our school. My goal is to collaborate with you, our students, Rabbi Wolkoff and all of our teachers to create a clearer path for our synagogue school.

Family Shabbat, lead by Bobbi and Marc Binder has been a big part of our B'nai Tikvah rhythm for so many years. This year we are renaming "Family Shabbat". "Shabbat Together", will embrace the full spectrum of our congregation from "cradle to cane". Bobbi and Marc will continue to lead a youth service followed by a youthful service led by Rabbi Wolkoff and me. There will also be times when some of our students, our musicians and other congregants will also have the opportunity to inspire us!

In my new capacity as Cantor/Religious School Director it is my intention to create a more synergetic relationship between our synagogue and our school. I'm grateful that our leadership shares similar this vision. Our beautiful sanctuary can ring with the sounds of "our" angels joining us in prayer. It is my hope that you will pray, learn, and sing with our children.

As I begin my 18<sup>th</sup> year as cantor, I continue to learn, change and grow. It is never too late to take on new challenges; I know, I've been convincing myself of this as I have accepted this, my latest challenge. I am truly blessed in so many ways, being your cantor is one of my most meaningful blessings. Please join your journey to mine.

Worship the Lord with Gladness and Joy,

#### Our Recent Trip to Israel

Every trip I have taken to Israel has been different. I have had the privilege of being a part of our country a dozen times. I have been fortunate enough to be here for a semester in high school, for a year after college and to come with my family. I have Stacey Rockman come here to see friends get married, I got my first sunburn in Israel and I even had my first kiss here. Israel has been a huge part of my life for so very long!

people returning.



For nearly a decade, I have wanted to help lead a group to Israel. This year that dream became a reality. Thirty eight people, spanning close to 70 years in age, came with my family to my favorite place. In helping to design the trip, I wanted to

see a lot, get a feel for the county, and to spark an interest in

Designing the itinerary was easy. I wanted a top-to-bottom tour to see the beauty of the north, the history of Masada, the vibrancy of Tel Aviv, and the old and modern of Jerusalem. As it turned out, we did many things I had never done before.

I asked a list of people if we overdid things. We went to close to three sites or activities each day and sometimes more. We hiked shopped swam and sweated. We drank gallons of water to avoid dehydration. We did fun things like rafting in the Jordan and serious things like going to Yad Vashem. We learned history and current events. We laughed together cried together and ate too much food together. It is hard to quantify what we did.

It is hard to say what the exact highlights were. What was my favorite thing versus what spoke to someone else is the same and yet totally different When I think about what my favorite was- it actually was seeing my country through everyone else's eyes I have not been a newcomer to Israel in over 35 years. Watching someone touch the kotel for the first time and burst into tears. Holding hands as we walked through the shuk. Learning History together and understanding real politics and boarder struggles.

Understanding that Israel is not a religious country and yet being in the majority and not the minority was mind blowing

Continued on page 5

#### From our President Adrienne Ross

# "We are family I got all my sisters with me We are family..."



I am sure that most of you remember singing and dancing to the Sisters Sledge, "we are Family." As I reflect on the preparations for the High Holy Days, I can't help but smile and think of that song and how we, as a congregation, came together as a family.

For those of you who arrive at shul, find your familiar spot, and join in the melodious prayer, you may not think about what it takes for our "family gathering". But, just like any gathering, this takes the incredible dedication and commitment of time by many to ensure we can all get as much as possible from our time together in the Sanctuary.

Our Ritual committee, of course, spends countless hours with our Spiritual Leaders to determine the course of the service, where honors are placed, who will speak, etc. Then, of course, they get their volunteer core to help with ushering, etc. To the spouses of our ushers, a special thank-you to your willingness to not have your partner with you so they can help the service run smoothly.

We all know the chairs in the Social Hall are not always there but not everyone appreciates the brigade that set them up.

Our VP Admin (Kevin Krane) wanted to make sure things went smoothly and had an entire army of volunteers to set up the chairs the morning of Rosh Hashanah. The team was so efficient that, by 9:30, all chairs were in rows. The USYers were also busy getting material ready and having the bags stapled to enable all of us to participate in the Annual Food Drive that they coordinate.

The energy that was in the building the morning of Rosh Hashanah eve was infectious. It was a site to be seen...a community of volunteers pulling together to enable us, as a community, to come together for "Tefilah, T'shuvah and T'zedakah.

I hope to see many more of these moments in the year(s) to come!

Adrienne

#### **USY / KADIMA**

#### Opening Events



Sydney Sookerman

The USY & Kadima Chapter opening events were each a success, filled with fun and friends! USY's event involved a sunny day outside with icebreakers, pizza and kickball! Thank you to the Woller family for hosting the event and opening up their home to us. Kadima's opening event was exciting for everyone, as the Kadimanicks entered a Sukkot themed Escape Room in the youth lounge, unlocking codes, solving puzzles and finding the lulav and etrog to "escape." Thank you to game expert Randy Sherman for his help with the Escape Room. We could not have done it without him. I look forward to October's events and hope to see even more new faces!



#### **Upcoming Events**

NSB Kadima Ice Skating - October 7<sup>th</sup>

NSBUSY Video Game/Wii Night - October 9<sup>th</sup>

Hagalil Kadima Regional Event - October 14<sup>th</sup>

Hagalil USY LTI Convention - October 19-21<sup>st</sup>

NSBUSY Cupcake Wars - October 24<sup>th</sup>

NSB Kadima Event - October 28<sup>th</sup>

NSBUSY Winter Olympics - November 6<sup>th</sup>

N/S Brunswick Kadima Event - November 13<sup>th</sup>

Hagalil USY Fall Kinnus - November 16th-18<sup>th</sup>

NSBUSY Event - November 20<sup>th</sup>

Hagalil Kadima Fall Kinnus - Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>-Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>

bnaitikvah.org

#### How can we make it easier?

HAKOL



We all have to eat. Which means, unless you live on a farm and grow your own food, you have to buy groceries. Both you and the synagogue can benefit greatly if everyone participates in our gift-card program. So, the question remains, what can we do to encourage every member to buy gift-cards for themselves, their grown children, families, and neighbors? I wouldn't be asking if I understood what the resistance is. We have been using gift-cards for ourselves and our non-member children ever since the program started. I understand there were objections in the beginning when scrip was sold as pieces of paper that some people could confuse with food stamps. But that is no longer the case. Our gift-cards look and work the same as credit cards, but for specific stores. You know, the ones you go to all time. Barry Safeer has been running the program for a very long time and I'm sure he can address all your concerns.

Hary Bergm

Contact: Safeer@comcast.net or 732-432-9622

#### Cont'd From page 3

for so many people. We laughed our heads off as we learned how to belly dance. We shopped and learned simple Hebrew phrases together. I always brought up the rear of our group and as a result was able to see what the perfect picture is and to chat with those in the back with me.

This group of 38 people will forever be connected. While there are no private jokes, there is a bond of the experience we had together. The best thing that I heard people say is "the next time I come to Israel I will.". It means that my job is done. I helped to spark an interest. Having an 8 year old cry because he was not ready to leave and needed to know when he was next returning. Having grandparents say that it was the best money that they have ever spent, I know that the fire was sparked.

We are told that with every trip to Israel you should be planning the next trip. With that in mind, please let me know if you are joining us on our next Israel adventure in July 2021.

#### The JCC Early Childhood Center

#### Off to a Great Start

22 Tishrei—22 Cheshvan 5779



Director

Our school has gotten off to a fabulous start! Everyone is beginning to feel comfortable and relaxed in school, and the children are learning the routines of their individual classroom. They are playing and interacting with each other, learning to share, take turns, socialize, and they are having so much fun at the same time!

Each classroom is humming with the beautiful and joyous sounds of the children's laughter, giggles, and songs. We are certainly off to an amazing school year filled with lots of learning and friendship!

Each child loved dipping apples in delicious sticky sweet honey for a sweet New Year. It was fun visiting our beautiful Sukkah, where we enjoyed yummy fruit salad for snack, and looked up to see the sun peeking at us through the roof.

Fall has arrived, along with some cooler weather, and the wonderful opportunity to spend time playing in our outdoor playground. The magnificent Fall foliage provided lots of great teaching moments involving crafts, discussions and story time about the new season.

The children are enjoying lots of movement and exercise during our weekly Yoga and Zumba classes, and they have fun taking home a book every two weeks from our School Library. I am so thankful for our FANTASTIC teachers and a wonderful beginning, with many great days to look forward to!

B'Shalom

Carol Winter





Lori Sookerman

Shelly Wistreich

Please plan to join us at Paid Up Membership, which will take place Sunday morning, November 4th. More information to follow. If you are interested in working on the committee, please contact Lisa Seidman: Lssnj9@verizon.net 732-236-0629.

Come nosh and slosh with your fellow CBT family on December 22nd, at 8:00 pm. There will be latkes, noshes and samplings of different vodkas (and non-alcoholic drinks). Bring your favorite vodka and cocktail mixers to share with the party.

Wednesday, March 27th - We welcome Rabbi Deborah R.Prinz, author of "On the Chocolate Trail", a delicious adventure connecting Jews, Religions, travel, rituals and recipes to the magic of cacao.

#### **Mazel Tosses**

Enhance the simcha of your child's special day by having Sisterhood provide these bags of soft candy to sweeten the day. Also great for an aufruf. Order your Mitzvah Baskets and Mazel Tosses at www.bnaitikvah.org at least one month before your mitzvah.

#### **Torah Fund**

The new pins are available with a \$180 or above pledge. We would love to welcome one and all as Torah Fund benefactors to help support the Women's League for Conservative Judaism for the Jewish Theological Seminary, its teachers, Cantors and Rabbis.

Contact: Ann Rosenzweig 732-249-9141 Anndyapt@optimum.net

#### Gift Shop

Store Hours: Sunday 9 am - 12 pm 25% off any Shabbat item (excludes candles) 50% off clearance items
Serena Blackin. 732-390-9515 or 848-702-3445

#### Mitzvah Baskets

Let us decorate the bima with nonperishable food baskets. We also deliver baskets to other synagogues. Tell your friends about this service. Contact: Teresa Samtur at 732-821-8163 or msamtur@comcast.net

#### Membership

Please visit the CBT website at bnaitikvah.org/ sismember to discover the joy of getting involved in our circle.

Sisterhood would love to welcome you.

## Asking or offering help to fellow congregants

B'nai Tikvah's email "eGroup" initially was designed as a discussion list, but it has evolved to become our unofficial bulletin board for classified ads. If you need to buy or sell something or wish to seek advice from your fellow congregants, this resource could be invaluable. The eGroup is exclusive to CBT and is totally free of outside spam. To join, just obtain a (free) Yahoo-id and visit groups.yahoo.com/group/bnaitikvah

#### **HAKOL**

The Newsletter of Congregation B'nai Tikvah, JCC of North & South Brunswick 1001 Finnegan's Lane, North Brunswick, NJ 08902

Published monthly, except July and August. Submissions are welcomed about events, group activities, and anything relevant to the Jewish community. Submissions, subject to available space and editorial constraints, are due by the 12th of the preceding month. Please address all articles and correspondence to Hakol@bnaitikvah.org and try to avoid use of PDF files. Current issues are emailed via the CBT Newsletter. Archives can be found at bnaitikvah.org/hakol. Editors: Gary Bergman, Ann Gold, Art Biderman, and Janet Weiss. Advertising: Meryl Harris.





**Craig Cohen** 

Josh Oliver

Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs, North NJ Region congratulates & celebrates for 2018

**Barry Safeer** 



CBT Men's Club Man of the Year

Brad Allen & Mason Smoller



CBT Co-Youth of the Year

Wednesday, November 7, 6pm Marlboro Jewish Center 103 School Road West Marlboro, NJ 07746

RSVP: to Steven Katz skatz56@aol.com 732-329-0687 \$60 pp or \$35 for MC members

Checks payable to CBT Men's Club (write MOY on the check).
Mail or drop in the Men's Club box

#### **CBT Hits the Trails**



Sunday, October 14<sup>th</sup> 12:30 / 1pm lunch\* 2pm hike begins

The location is yet to be determined. We will send an email once we have secured a location. Cost: NONE:)

This event is for all ages, so please bring your children for this day of fun on the trails. We have some great tour guides and are looking forward to an enjoyable afternoon outside together!

As long as the hike location isn't too far away, we
will be asking for volunteers to help us put together
some simple bagged lunches while Religious School
is taking place. We can then head to the hike
location where we can enjoy a picnic lunch together
before hitting the trails!

### The Religious School Committee



**Sharon Cohen** 



Suzanne Oliver

It was wondering seeing everyone at our Religious School opening day! First we would like to start by thanking the Men's Club for hosting breakfast for the Religious School that morning. We are reinstituting the JET program, Jews Eating Together. Our first breakfast will be held on Sunday, October 14<sup>th</sup> where we will invite the Dalet and Hei parents to come and schmooze with the Cantor, Rabbi, Religious School VPs and Co-chairs. Each month, another class will meet. This is a great way to connect with the families in your child's class and the school administrators.

Looking forward to a sharing a great year together!!!

Sharon and Suzanne

# SOCIAL ACTION IT'S ALREADY THAT TIME.... HELP A NEEDY FAMILY FOR THE HOLIDAYS



Janice Baer

#### Why we run this program?

The following is an excerpt of one of the thank you notes we received on behalf of a family we sponsored: "This family has never experienced such generosity. They felt overjoyed and emotional upon receiving the gifts. The mother told me she was happy to see that her children finally have toys to play with so they are no longer bored at home. The teachers were commenting that they noticed the children's self esteem improve when they came to school proudly dressed in their new clothes. The children are now appropriately dressed for the weather and are even wearing socks which were noticeably missing prior to receiving the gifts. They sleep much more comfortably at night with their new blankets and their heater....."

This is why we run this program... to make a difference in peoples' lives.

#### Who are these families?

These families are all in need. They are referred by various sources including Jewish Family Services and school social workers.

#### How does this program work?

Program

Each family will fill out a wish list of their needs. The wish lists typically include items like towels, sheets, blankets, clothing, shoes, coats and children's toys.

#### How can you help?

- 1. **Become a coordinator** for one family's wish list. This might involve getting your family, friends, co-workers, and merchants to donate the needed items to fulfill the family's wish list.
- 2. **Volunteer to obtain** one or more of the items on a family's wish list.
- **3. Donate money** that will be specifically used to purchase items on a family's wish list. Checks should be made payable to Congregation B'nai Tikvah Holiday Program.

#### PLEASE RESPOND BY NOVEMBER 18<sup>th</sup>

	Either mail the completed form to Janice Baer, 70 Diamond Spring Drive, Monroe Twp. 08831, or bring it to the synagogue office, or simply email the info to Jbbd11@verizon.net or call 732 940-0268.				
•	HELP A NEEDY FAMILY FOR THE HOLIDAYS				
	Name:	Telephone:			
	Address:	E-Mail:			
	I want to be a family coordinator				
	I want to volunteer to obtain one or more items on a family's wish list				
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family's wish list. Checks made payable to Congregation B'nai Tikvah Holiday



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# WE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS FROM THE LAST FEW YEARS Friday, October 19, 6:15pm

Wear your B'nai Tikvah t-shirt if you have one Don't' have one? We will give you a shirt (available on first-come first-served basis)

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# of young adults (14-18):  Number of children	@ \$ 0.00/person	\$					
Number of children  James of those attending (please list ages of those attending those at	children):						
Chicken is the main course, however, <b>vegetarian</b> meals can be <b>pre-ordered</b> . f so, how many vegetarian meals do you require?							
	ou require?	-					
	ning special in C	October? ur behalf,					
If so, how many vegetarian meals do yo  Celebrating someth  For \$18 we will make an	ning special in C announcement on your oonsoring our Kiddush	October? ur behalf,					
Celebrating someth For \$18 we will make an including that you are sp	ning special in Cannouncement on your consoring our Kiddush	October? ur behalf, dessert.					
Celebrating someth For \$18 we will make an including that you are sp	ning special in Cannouncement on your onsoring our Kiddush Occa	October?  ur behalf,  dessert.  asion to be announced:					

**RSVP A MUST** by Wednesday **OCTOBER 10**, for dinner prepared for Friday, Oct. 19 Contact: Bobbi Binder 732-690-4779 bobbijbinder@gmail.com

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**HAKOL** 



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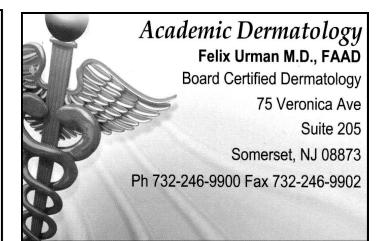




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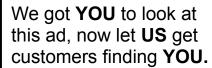




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The Irgon Family, in loving memory of Adam Irgon
Barbra & Bruce London, in honor of feeling so welcome by the
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The Rekant Family, in loving memory of Rebecca Slotoroff Jerry Kaminsky & Lois Shulman Kaminsky, in loving memory of Marion Shulman

Barry & Mona Portnoy, in loving memory of Gerald Portnoy Mark & Brenda Sherman, in honor of Craig and Randy Sherman's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of their B'nai Mitzvah Stephen Wolpert & Elizabeth Poplin Toby Block & Jerrold Greenberg

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Natasha Rosenbaum & Erwin Lewis, in honor of Ann's Birthday and Ann & Sam's Wedding Anniversary

Natasha Rosenbaum & Erwin Lewis, on the occasion of the Auf Ruf of Alex Welsher and Abigail Levison

Adrienne & Andy Ross, in loving memory of Bob Starr Mark & Brenda Sherman, in loving memory of Robert Starr Mark & Brenda Sherman, in honor of Rebecca Safeer and Jonathan Cohen's engagement

Adrienne & Andy Ross, in loving memory of Herbert Suesserman

Jerry & Phyllis Edley, in loving memory of Evelyn Glazer Adrienne & Andy Ross, in honor of the engagement of Rebecca Safeer to Jonathan Cohen

Peter Kuker

Andrea & Steven Katz, in loving memory of Calvin Lavendar Andrea & Steven Katz, in loving memory of Robert Starr Andrea & Steven Katz, in loving memory of Arthur Warner Mars Family, in honor of the engagement Rebecca Safeer to Jonathan Cohen

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#### **THANK YOUS**



to Norman Berens, Jay Scheuer, Gilda Gildenberg, Joyce Fishelberg, Bill Greenberg, , & Patricia Rosen for making birthday calls. A special "Thank You" to Phyllis Pinsky for doing beautiful calligraphy on B'nai Mitzvah and Baby Naming certificates, and to Marlene Buckwald for picking up challahs for Shabbat each week.

And a sincere thanks to all our members who helped setting up the chairs and made all the preparations for the Holidays.

Gary & Bobby Bergman, Brian and Harrison Berness, Arthur Biderman, Rob and Maya Blackin, Emma, Craig, and Jonathan Cohen, Paul Fischer, Andrew and Ethan Goldberger, Ben Gottesman, Gordon Heit, Shayna and Sam Jiorle, Steve Juro, David, Hayley, and Jenna Kozodoy, Kevin and Shea Krane, Julio Lopez, Howard Manson, Howie Nass, Cheryl Schwartz, Sydney Sookerman, Joella Sperber, Corey Sookerman, Phil Welscher, Gene and Sarah Wilk, and Ethan and Joseph Wolkoff.

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To reach out to Rabbi Wolkoff, call the synagogue or send him an email to myrabbi@bnaitikvah.org

# **Daily Schedule of Services**

Sunday 9:00 am & 7:30 pm

Monday 7:30 pm Tuesday 7:30 pm Wednesday 7:30 pm

Thursday 7:30 am & 7:30 pm

Friday 8:00 pm Saturday 9:30 am

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B'NAI TIKVAH DIRECTORY			
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Full page	8" x 10.5"	\$675	\$100
½ page	3¾" x 10½" / 8" x 5"	\$525	\$80
1/4 page	3.75" x 5"	\$400	\$60
Business card	2" x 3.5"	\$300	\$45

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	22 Tishrei School Closed Lunch SHMINI ATZERET (YIZKOR)	2 23 Tishrei School Closed Ice Cream after Services SIMCHAT TORAH	3 24 Tishrei Religious School	4 25 Tishrei  Judaism & Conflict	<b>5</b> 26 Tishrei	<b>6</b> 27 Tishrei  Jr. Congregation
<b>7</b> 28 Tishrei Religious School Kadima Opening Event Rutgers Promenaders	8 29 Tishrei Open Men's Basketball Sisterhood Board COLUMBUS DAY	9 30 Tishrei Book Club Open Men's Basketball USY Video Night	10 1 Cheshvan	2 Cheshvan  Eagles vs. Giants Football Night	12 3 Cheshvan  ECC Shabbat Party Birthday Shabbat	13 4 Cheshvan  Jr. Congregation  Lunch & Learn
14 5 Cheshvan Kadima Regional Event RSC Meeting Religious School Dalet & Hei JET	Open Men's Basketball Board of Directors	16 7 cheshvan  Rabbi's Lecture in Monroe  Open Men's Basketball	17 8 Cheshvan  Religious School Sisterhood	18 9 Cheshvan  Judaism & Conflict Bikur Cholim	19 <sub>10 Cheshvan</sub> New Member's Dinner Shabbat Together	<b>20</b> <sub>11 Cheshvan</sub> Jr. Congregation
21  USCJ Program  Religious School  Men's Club  Rutgers  Promenaders	Board of Ed Open Men's Basketball	Open Men's Basketball	24 <sub>15 Cheshvan</sub> Religious School USY Cupcake Wars	Judaism & Conflict Executive Committee	26 <sub>17 Cheshvan</sub>	27 <sub>18 Cheshvan</sub> Jr. Congregation  First Round with Rabbi
28 19 Cheshvan Religious School KADIMA Regional Opening Event	29 20 Cheshvan  Ritual Committee  Open Men's Basketball	Rutgers Film Festival begins Open Men's Basketball	31 <sub>22 Cheshvan</sub> No Religious School			



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