

MEMORIAL DAY 2002 services at the Bird City Cemetery were held Monday morning. The Bird City American Legion performed the gunsalute honoring all veterans. The flags were colorful in the brisk wind. Left, Hollis DaPron lays flowers on the grave of her granddaughter.



77th annual Bird City Alumni banquet well attended by many

The 77th annual Bird City Alumni Banquet was held at the Legion Hall Saturday evening. A large crowd attended. The meal was prepared by Deanna Nelson and her crew.

The Legion Hall was decorated with red, white, and blue, giving the patriotic theme it's full effect. The pledge of allegiance was followed by Pastor Doug Mason of the Methodist Church giving the invocation prior to the meal. Stan Dorsch served as master of ceremonies.

The eldest alumni in attendance was Lucile Long, Colby, from the Class of 1935. Incidentally, that was the first year the alumni banquet was held. Lucile taught second grade here for years and renewed acquaintances with many former students.

The 70-year class was represented by Audrey Duncan, Oberlin. Audrey had some fitting remarks. Clarence

Busse had originally planned to do the introductions but illness in the family changed his plans.

The 60-year class was introduced by Ruth Oestman, Cottonwood, Ariz. The 60 year class was in high school during the war and some of the war efforts were brought out.

Representing the 50-year class was Elaine Kehlbeck, St. Francis. Elaine mentioned the 50-year class seems much younger than the 50-year classes used to be. During the day, they had a noon luncheon and toured the library and the school. All of the 50-year class are still alive. Jerry (Hamn) and husband, Steve Meyer had come the furthest, 2000 miles from Medford, Ore., to attend the alumni banquet.

Eileen Moon, West Chester, Ohio, introduced the 40-year class with her usual exuberance. The 40-year class also had a brunch, afternoon reception,

and toured the library and the school. All of the 40-year class are also still alive and none the worse for wear.

Tim Burr, St. Francis introduced the 30-year class. It was noted that this class is much more computer literate than the earlier classes.

Entertainment for the evening was the Cheylin Music Department under the sponsorship of Rose Hengen. The entertainment was great and appreciation to Rose Hengen and the music department was expressed.

Serving as officers for the 2002 banquet were Dean and Joan Smith, Lynette Nolan, Kim Faylor, Tammy Zimelman, and Sara Sowers.

After a lot of visiting at the Legion Hall and the Senior Center, the alumni slowly left for parts all over the United States with plans to gather next year for the annual alumni banquet on Memorial Saturday.

McDonald Alumni deemed a success

By Vera Kacirek

The 2002 McDonald Alumni Day was a very successful event, with an estimated attendance of 260. The 1972 class of 30 years were in charge of the day. It was very well organized and the crowd was attentive as the classes were introduced. R.J. Sabatka acted as the Master of Ceremonies, making announcements and introducing the classes of 50 years, 40 years, and 30 years. He also recognized Anna (Brown) Bingaman from the Class of 1932. Ronald Moreland represented the 50 year class, stating they had 13 present for the delicious meal at Two Lee's on Saturday evening. They were Julia (Harwerth) and Gene Layne; Alan and Jackie Wilkens; Joan (Kempter) Vontz and husband, Bob; Phyllis (Officer) Case and husband, Bob; Carl and Sandra Antholz; Nadine (Kehlbeck) and husband, Artie Roesener; Edwin and LeAnn Simon; and Ronald Moreland. Lois (Weaver) Morelock who was a member of

the class but did not graduate with them was also present. Not present were Gordon Courtright and Joyce Keenan. Deceased members are Rieke Gerdes; Jim Hallagin; Carol (Pickett) Martin and Lois (Howard) Simon.

Nancy (Burk) Williamson introduced the 40 year class. Those who attended the Saturday night supper catered by Al Holub at the McDonald Senior Center were Dr. Bill Benkelman and Susan; Doris (Hartman) Campbell; Larry Holub and son, Joe; Marty Kopriwa and Marilyn; Doris (Knapp) and Lowell Martin; Ron Ribordy; and Nancy (Burk) and John Williamson. Following Nancy's introduction, Bill Benkelman talked about the class and teachers they had 40 years ago.

The host class of 1972 had met on Saturday evening with a supper at "City Limits" in Colby. Members present for the supper were Kevin and Terry Mears; Mark and Jackie Roesener; Brad and Tammy Loker; Connie (Johnson) Sabatka and Brian; Mary (Cahoj) and Richard

Howland, Becky (Andrews) and Ray Nelson; Cecilia (Antholz) Cooper; Julia (Klepper) Wilkens; R.J. and Susie Sabatka; Rex and Colleen Smith; and Greg Black. Others attending on Sunday were Jerry Enfield and Ronnie Holub. Greg Black was the spokesperson for the class. He mentioned all the work that Kathy Frisbie has done on the Alumni news letter, and she was given a round of applause. A drawing was held for several door prizes. All past servicemen were asked to stand and be recognized before the "Pledge of Allegiance" was said. Following this, Pastor Greg Moyer gave the meal blessing and everyone lined up to partake of the bounteous potluck meal in the Grade School cafeteria. They also admired the patriotic table decorations provided by the McDonald Garden Club. It was the consensus that this was one of the best ever and everyone will be looking for the Alumni Day 2003, which will be hosted by the Class of 1973.

Girls compete at State track

It is always an honor and a thrill to represent Cheylin in the big Cessna Stadium at Wichita State University. The sight of all the tents, the crowd cheering, all the different events going on at the same time, and all the athletes in attendance make the State Track Meet a very special experience for those who

qualify. Five members of the Lady Cougars finished their track season with a trip to the State Meet in Wichita on May 24 and 25. On Friday, Joy

The girls' performances at State were an excellent way to end a track season. Good job girls, you all competed well at the State Meet

—Marge Zumbahlen

Zumbahlen was to have competed at around 4:30 p.m. in the 1A triple jump, but it kept raining, and raining, and raining. Finally around 8:00 p.m., meet officials decided that enough was enough and postponed the remaining events until the next day.

Saturday was a beautiful day for the meet, temperatures were comfortable with only a slight breeze. The 4x800 meter relay (Samantha

Jensen, Stephanie Snyder, Hayley Young, and Joy Zumbahlen) competed at 11:50 a.m. They ran a good race and finished with a time of 10:35 to place 10th in the State.

Next came the high jump at noon with Amanda Poore representing Cheylin. It was a good battle and Amanda came away with 3rd in the State going 5'2" for the day. High jump honors went to her cousin from Coldwater (so they kept first place in the family). Congratulations, Amanda, on your State high jump medal!

Finally after much delay, Joy Zumbahlen was able to compete in her event around 6:00 p.m. She jumped 31'4" in the triple jump for the day, but didn't make it into the finals.

The girls' performances at State were an excellent way to end a track season. Good job girls, you all competed well at the State Meet.

Summer movie nights coming to Bird City

The Bird City Ministerial Alliance is sponsoring Summer Movie Nights in Bird City. The first Sunday of June, July and August will feature a movie, beginning at 7 p.m. at the Wesleyan Church.

After each movie there will be a short discussion time. Snacks will be provided and the evening is free of

charge.

June 2, is the first movie night featuring the movie "Megiddo." This is a sequel to "The Omega Code." Parents need to know that while "Megiddo" is morally appropriate, it does deal with end time issues and Satan. Some scenes might be too intense for young viewers.



CHEYENNE COUNTY COURTHOUSE was erected in 1924 at a cost of \$163,921. The building appears much the same as it was first constructed.

Times staff photo by Margaret Butholtz

Cheyenne County Courthouse in Register of Historic Places

The Kansas State Historical Society has announced that the Cheyenne County Courthouse in St. Francis has been entered onto the National Register of Historic Places.

Jennie Chinn, acting state historic preservation officer, reported that the listing of the courthouse will provide recognition of the community's historic importance and assures protective review of federal government projects that might adversely affect the character of the property. However, now that the property is listed in the National Register, there are certain federal investment tax credits for rehabilitation and other provisions which may apply.

She pointed out that the listing in the National Register doesn't mean that limitations will be placed on the property, public visitation rights will not be required nor will the government attach restrictive covenants.

The Heritage Trust Fund provides for the awarding of state grants for the preservation of the property. Applicants will have the opportunity to apply for grants but applicants will have to provide a matching share of perhaps 20 percent and will have to agree to follow the Secretary of the Interior's

History of courthouse

The Cheyenne County Courthouse is a Classic Revival style, four-story masonry structure and shares the block with a playground in St. Francis. Inside, a grand staircase, flanked with decorative torchers, rises from the ground level to the other levels.

The floor plan of the courthouse is typical of the majority of Kansas courthouses built during that period ranging from World War I to the onset of the Depression years.

The county was organized in 1886

when the governor of Kansas appointed a board of commissioners consisting of J.M. Ketcham, W.W. McKay and J.F. Murray. Their first responsibility was the establishment of three voting precincts for the May 15, 1886 election that filled the county's first positions of county clerk, treasurer, probate judge, attorney, clerk of district court, register of deeds, sheriff, superintendent of public instruction, surveyor, coroner and three new commissioners.

See History on Page 5

standards and guidelines for rehabilitation in carrying out the projects.

Two other financial incentive programs also available to assist with rehabilitation of historic property include the Kansas State Income Tax Credit and the federal investment tax credit.

The courthouse and other property approved for nomination to the National Register by the Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review are automatically listed in the Register of Historic

Kansas Places. Under the law, application for permits and changes which have the proposed potential to adversely affect national and state registered properties must be reviewed by the State Historic Preservation Officer for their appropriateness before the permit is granted or the zoning change occurs. If significant alteration of the courthouse results, it could be removed from the National Register.

McDonald News By Vera Kacirek

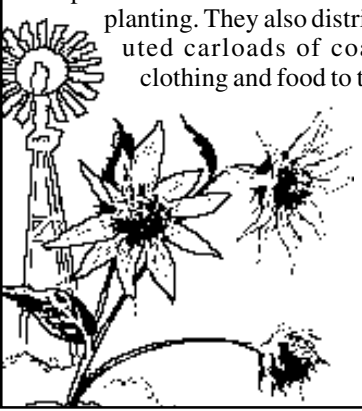
Continued from Page 1

According to the information sent from the National Register of Historic Places, the history of Cheyenne County reflects turbulent beginnings. The lure of inexpensive land brought the earliest Anglo-European settlers who were primarily of Germanic and Russian cultures, many of whom settled areas further east in Kansas before making their way to Cheyenne County. As late as the 1890s, inhabitants of the county suffered from famine and drought. In March and April of 1895, the county purchased oats, wheat, millet, corn seed, barley, sorghum seed and potatoes to be distributed for planting. They also distributed carloads of coal, clothing and food to the

needy. These early inhabitants survived and prevailed at establishing thriving towns that were linked through a network of roads and bridges.

The county first operated out of a building in Bird City leased from D.W. Cave, Benjamin Bird and Charles Kerndt for \$75 a month. In July 1888, the board of commissioners purchased the building for \$2,827. The use of this building proved to be temporary. In February 1889, voters moved the county seat to St. Francis where a new courthouse was to be constructed. By October 1889, a new 40-by-60-foot, two-story, wood, frame Italianate style structure opened for occupancy. The first building stood where the bandshell in Sawhill Park, east of the courthouse, now stands.

In 1924, the county erected the current Classical Revival style courthouse at a cost of \$163,921. With the exception of the replacement of original window sashes and casements, and the installation of a handicapped accessible entrance, the building appears much the same as when it was first constructed in 1924.



Owen and Phyllis Wingfield returned home last Tuesday from Paxico, Kans. where they were guests of Greg and Dina Wingfield and family. They attended the 8th grade graduation of Orion Wingfield where he received many high honors. He has had an invitation to attend Cambridge University in England for two weeks this summer, but he has declined to do this. He had been one of 77 students in a group of schools that had taken tests. He was first in Citizenship and Kansas History; 4th in English and American History; and Honorable Mention in Science and Social Stud-

ies. The Paxico school was the smallest school that had students involved in the testing.

Amelia Banister hosted a graduation party honoring David Banister on his 8th grade graduation on Monday night. Guests were Loraine Dickman and Darryl; Kathy Banister's sisters, Diane and Darla; Kent and Joan Banister; and George and Kathy Banister and family.

Agnes Reeh was a Wednesday visitor of Claribel Bell.

Kenny and Phyllis Wilkinson and Laddie and Vera Kacirek attended the 50th anniversary reception for Vic and

Lucy Pochop in Atwood on Sunday.

Jim and Ruby Tracy attended the Woderski family reunion in McCook on Saturday.

Merle and Kathy Stevens of Lincoln, Neb. were Sunday visitors of Jim and Ruby Tracy.

Verda Wancura of Colby took Dorothy Headrick to Bird City on Thursday to attend the funeral of Gertrude Antholz.

Beryl Rogers and Audrey Danielski were Sunday visitors of Dorothy Headrick and brought her red roses.

Mr. & Mrs. George Sutton of Stratton, Neb., were Friday visitors of

Dale and Ratha Lea Loker.

Juanita Schenewerk of Wichita was a Saturday visitor of Dale and Ratha Lea Loker.

Dale and Ratha Lea Loker attended the 80th birthday celebration for Melba Loker in Benkelman on Sunday.

Burney Kacirek of Denver was a Memorial weekend guest of Norman and Tessa Davis. On Sunday he attended the 50th anniversary reception for Vic and Lucy Pochop. On Monday, Laddie and Vera Kacirek accompanied him to McCook to visit Flo Lorens.

Lowell and Doris Martin of Strasburg, Colo. were weekend guests of her mother, Zelda Knapp.

Brenda Knapp was a weekend guest of Jerry and Betty Knapp. Additional guests were Stan and Becky Purvis and family of Goodland. All were Sunday supper guests of Zelda Knapp.

Rod, Lisa, and Josh Johnson were Memorial Day supper guests of Kenny and Phyllis Wilkinson for a cookout.

Memorial weekend guests of Vance and Betty Lewis were Thad Lewis of Santa Maria, Calif., Claudia and Roger Foster of Grand Junction, Colo., Keith and Betty Pickett of Aurora, Colo., Laverne Pickett of Sharon Springs, Alan and Pat Pickett of Goodland, and Herschel Pickett of Parker, Colo.

Kelly and Diane Simmonds and family entertained on Monday with a community BBQ. The 52 people who were present consumed 42 lbs. of chicken wings and 51 lbs. of ribs.

Harland and Joan Hubbard were Wednesday evening visitors of Gail and Kay Miller.

Frances Erickson accompanied Kay Miller to Benkelman on Saturday where they attended the Alumni luncheon at the Lutheran Church and also were present at a baby shower for Eli Spady.

Agriculture website launched

Just one day after President Bush signed the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 into law, the United States Department of Agriculture launched a new website aimed at helping farmers, ranchers and the general public learn the latest information about the new farm bill.

"The new farm bill is very broad and contains many new programs to assist America's farmers and ranchers," said Agriculture Secretary Ann M. Veneman. "This website will serve as a repository of information on the new farm bill as we begin vigorously implementing its provisions."

The website can be directly accessed from department's official website at <http://www.usda.gov/farbill> or by simply clicking on the 2002 Farm Bill icon on department of agriculture's main website at <http://www.usda.gov/>. The 2002 Farm Bill icon will also appear on department of agriculture's agency websites.

The new website will include farm bill program details, questions and answers, program applications and sign-up forms, as well as other important materials from department agencies on farm bill implementation. The website will also contain advanced electronic applications to help program applicants receive program benefits faster and more efficiently.

The website will help farmers, ranchers and others locate information through one site rather than searching through web pages of the many agencies that make up the department of agriculture. Information will be indexed by farm bill title and by agency. Users will be able to access specific agency information through the site and easily return to the home page by clicking on the Farm Bill 2002 logo located throughout department of agriculture agencies' web pages.

Information to be posted on the site over the next several weeks includes:

- A comparison of 1996 Farm Bill provisions and 2002 provisions prepared by the Economic Research Service;

- Fact sheets in English and Spanish that cover the changes in conservation programs administered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service;

- Information from the Farm Service Agency on program details and instructions on how to calculate new yields;

- On-line applications and electronic forms to help make processing time more efficient.

The website will be updated regularly as new information and program announcements become available. The "What's New" link will alert users to updates and added information.

President Bush signed the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 into law on May 13, immediately following the Congress sending it to him for signature. At the signing ceremony, the President said, "The farm bill will strengthen the farm economy, and that's important. It will promote farmer independence, and preserve the farm way of life for generations. It helps America's farmers, and therefore it helps America."

The new farm bill provides rebalanced loan rates, lives within the Congressional budget resolution agreed to last year and is consistent with international trade obligations. The farm bill also contains record-level support for environmental stewardship, a renewed commitment to renewable fuels programs, additional investments to help expand international markets, rural community programs and food stamp assistance for low-income Americans.

Secretary Veneman added, "This legislation will now provide certainty and support for America's farmers and ranchers in coming years."

Kansas Korner

Olive Lake

By Margaret Bucholtz

When I was looking through a June 5, 1930, St. Francis Herald I ran across an article that talked about Olive Lake. It stated that a thousand people had attended the opening of Olive Lake and 287 couples had been at the dance. This lake was located just a mile or so east of Wray, Colorado. I had never heard of the lake before so I started looking for more information. Many of our older people remember going to the lake and some have even returned for their alumni trips.

I.P. Olive had staked a claim on this pasture land about the time that Colorado had become a state. Olive Creek rippled on its way to the North Fork of the Republican River and Mr. Olive and his hired men had built a crude dam to keep the water for their herd of cattle. This was a necessity, since the North Fork was claimed by other cow outfits literally from its headwaters to the Nebraska line. They also put up two one-room sod houses one for the bunkhouse and one for the mess hall. Mr. Olive later left the area but one of his ranch foreman's stayed on for a few years and ran a horse herd for himself.

In 1898 the Laird Land & Ditch Company had acquired rights to many acres along the Republican which included Olive Creek and the H4 gulch and they built a larger Olive Lake Dam. The lake covered several acres and was held by two earthen dams, the larger on the northeast side of the lake and the other over a hill west of the first one.

By 1909 Olive Lake was used for picnicking, boat riding and etc. When Mr. Wilkerson bought it he put in some buildings for recreation and provided for boating and fishing. You could use a boat all day for 25 cents.

In 1922 John Remington bought the property and expanded the facilities.

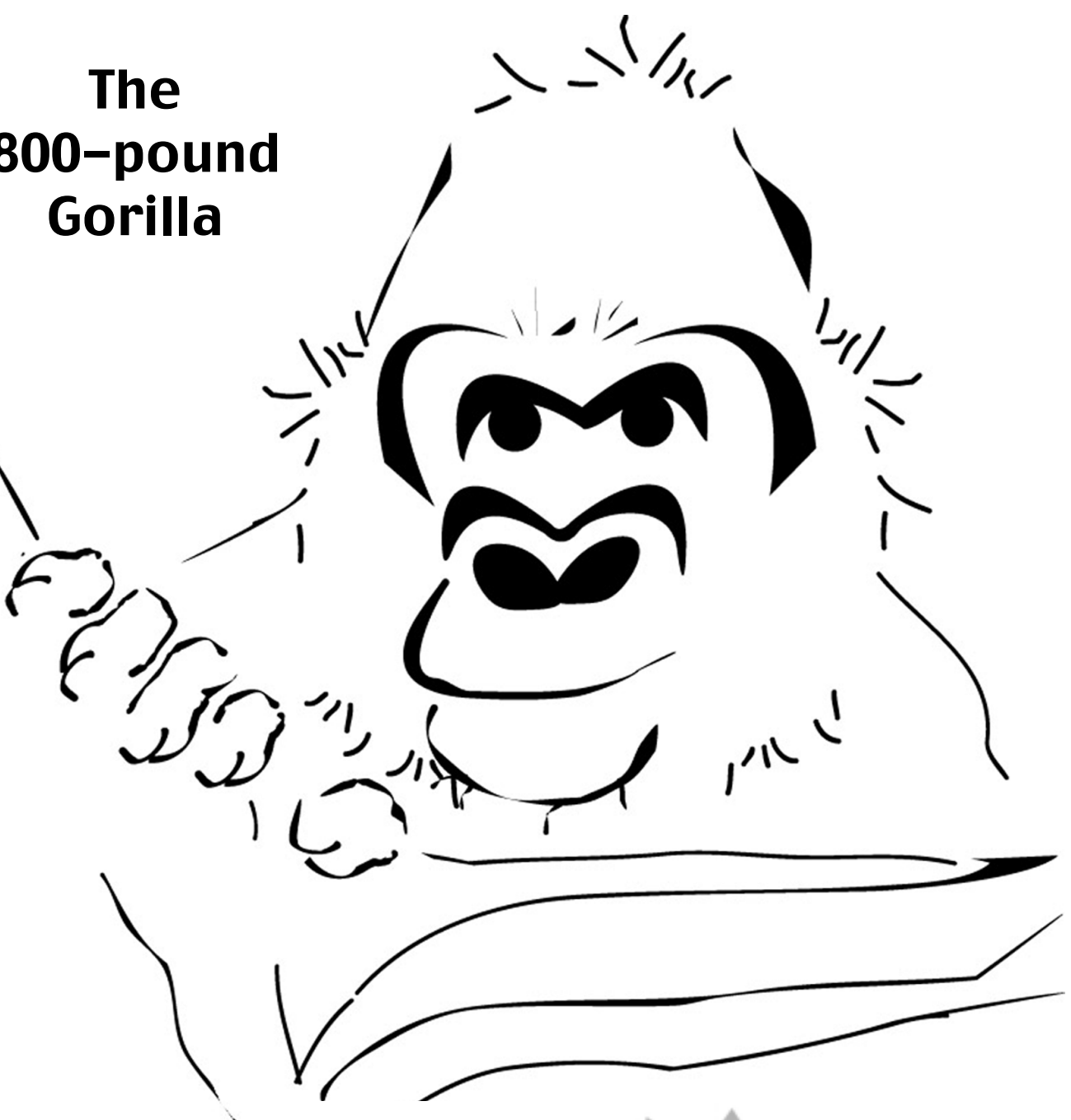
There was a bath house and a swimming area, boating, a roller skating rink, a dance hall and an adjoining sun room with windows overlooking the water. The resort was at its peak during these years. People came from all around to enjoy the facilities. However bad times came and it was sold at a sheriff's sale in January 1932 for \$851.73.

From April of 1932 to 1944 the place was bought and sold many times. It was not unusual for the dam to wash out each time there was a large rain storm. Finally in 1944 the grounds were closed to the public and most of the buildings were torn down.

Something to think about ...

- I believe that life is there to enjoy.
- I believe silence will teach you something if you listen hard.
- I believe crushes are there to crush hearts.
- I believe friends are needed no matter who you are.
- I believe you should give people chances.
- I believe family should stick by your side.
- I believe you should treat people the same because you never know what they will do for you in the future.
- I believe God will help you if you believe in him and trust him.

The 800-pound Gorilla



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