



Happy New Year everyone!!

# South Venice Beach Wave

JANUARY 2024

The heart of South Venice since 1955

## UPCOMING

See Full Calendar on page 8



Saturday, JANUARY 13

### Pancake Breakfast

8:00 to 10:00am

### Monday, JANUARY 15 at 7:00pm Annual Meeting—Elections

This is the Annual Business Meeting and there will be a vote to approve the slate for the 20324 Board. Also, our guest Corky Dalton will speak about the role of barrier islands and sand dunes.

Saturday, JANUARY 20

### Flea Market and Brat Fry

9:00am to 2:00pm



### Wednesday, JANUARY 31 at 9:00am SVCA Grounds Clean-up

MORE INFO ON PAGE 11

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Monday, JAN 8 at 3:30pm

### Pickleball Community Meeting

Monday, JAN 8 at 9:30am

### GARDEN CLUB

Monday, JAN 15 at 1:00pm

### BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, JAN 16 at 3:00pm

### CERT Emergency Response Team

Thursday, JAN 25 at 6:30pm  
at Venice Gardens Comm. Center

## Happy raffle winners at Breakfast with Santa

Arlyss, Tayden, Larowin and Teodor Toni look like the whole family enjoyed Breakfast with Santa. And the kids were especially thrilled to be the winners of the Kid's Basket Drawing!

(More photos on page 7)



## Pickleball court coming to SVCA?

FROM PAUL GILARTIN

The community is very excited about building pickle ball courts behind the Community Center. So, to get a possible project moving, an Ad Hoc committee met at the SVCA on December 14 to explore the possibility and the various options for consideration if we want to build courts, including how they would operate, what considerations should be taken into account and how much it might cost to build up to four pickleball courts. Over the next few weeks the Committee will be reviewing zoning laws, recreational permitting, and having a contractor develop a plan to resurface the current basketball court and

Continued on page 4



Tommy Lee, Betty Ann Rigg, Jerry Bannon and Miranda Ramsey enjoying the Holiday Social in December. Everyone had a great time, especially with Dwight Sullivan's music.

# South Venice Civic Association

*The heart of South Venice  
since 1955*

**720 Alligator Drive  
South Venice Beach, FL 34293**

Phone: 941-493-0006

Email: [svca@southvenice.org](mailto:svca@southvenice.org)

Office hours: 9:00am to 1:00pm

Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday

**[www.southvenice.org](http://www.southvenice.org)**

[svca@southvenice.org](mailto:svca@southvenice.org)

## BOARD OFFICERS

Joan 'Cherry' Giovinazzo, President

Sandy Tulenko, Vice-president

Dianna Brannan, Treasurer

Paul Gilmartin, Secretary

## DIRECTORS AT LARGE

Bobbie Drummond

Susan Juranek, Mario Fiorentino

## OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Jodie Cooper

## South Venice Beach WAVE

Editor: Maureen Holland

[maureenholland@comcast.net](mailto:maureenholland@comcast.net)

**Calvary Chapel Sonlife**  
Sunday Morning at 10:00am

Wednesday Night Bible Study at 7:00pm

*Right Here at the SVCA*



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exclusive publisher of  
this newsletter

## South Venice Beach Wave

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# The Heart of South Venice since 1955

**For 67 years, the SVCA has been here  
for South Venice, for YOU!**

With your support, we are a strong  
voice in Sarasota County



## MEMBERSHIP MAKES US STRONG!

When we're strong, we are heard at the County on issues that affect us—like tree trimming, ditch mowing, code enforcement, mosquito spraying, drain maintenance, zoning, permitting, water and sewer.

**Together, we work to keep South  
Venice a strong community!**

Beautiful Neighborhoods Initiative • Water Quality Task Force • Siesta Waterway Clean-up • Shamrock Park Clean-up • Community Emergency Response Team • South Venice Garden Club Government Affairs Committee

## One Community, One Mission

*To protect, preserve and improve our community's character, environment and quality of life, and to bring South Venice together.*

**JOIN or renew your membership  
today at [southvenice.org](http://southvenice.org).  
Just click on Member tab**

# Board Matters



FROM PAUL GILMARTIN

*This column in the Wave is to keep you informed on what your Board is doing, and to provide you with financial reports and a summary of Executive board meeting minutes.*

Exciting times for the SVCA! To be part of it, remember to renew your membership for 2024 at [www.southvenice.org](http://www.southvenice.org) today! Of course, you can still take care of it at the SVCA during office hours.

### Financial Summary: As of October 31, 2023

- Current Assets: \$40,399
- Fixed Assets: \$30,492
- Total Assets: \$70,891
- Total Liabilities: \$ 1,536
- Total Income/gross Profit: \$52,192
- Total Expenses: \$49,436
- Net income: \$ 3,302

As always, members can get a copy of Financials from the office during business hours.

### Executive Board Meeting Summary:

The SVCA board met on December 11 for Executive session and discussed the financials listed above. Other items included:

- Discussed 2024 budget and events
- Finalized the Wine and Cheese membership event for December 18
- Concluded planning on the January Flea Market
- Reviewed 2023-2024 Finances
- Approved building maintenance items

SVCA members can find minutes and agendas at the office during business hours.

### 2024 Election for Board of Directors

Final Slate for 2024 Board of director for members to vote

#### HOW TO CONTACT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Joan 'Cherry' Giovinazzo**  
kimballroad888@gmail.com  
215-872-2943

**Sandy Tulenko**  
stulenko@gmail.com  
973-809-7143

**Paul Gilmartin**  
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**Dianna Brannan**  
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**Bobbie Drummond**  
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404-217-0870

**Mario Fiorentino**  
mr.mariofiorentino@gmail.com  
262-325-7575

**Susan Juranek**  
susanjuranek@gmail.com  
941-275-5401

on during the general meeting on January 15. Nominated are:

Sandy Tulenko  
Susan Juranek  
Mario Fiorentino

Paul Gilmartin  
Bobbie Drummond

### 2024 Appointment of SVBET Trustee

Each year, the SVCA Board of Directors is mandated to appoint one new Trustee to the Beach Endowment Trust. A Trustee serves a five year term.

The SVCA nominating committee has concluded its interviews and have sent their appointment choice to the Trust.

Now, the Trust will make the announcement of the newly appointed Trustee.



**SVCA Board member Paul Gilmartin and Albert Frick, chair of the Pickleball Committee enjoying December's Holiday Wine & Cheese social.**

## MORE . . . FROM SANDY TULENKO



Once again, our December Breakfast with Santa was a big success. Everyone enjoyed a fabulous breakfast of eggs, pancakes, bacon, sausage, biscuit and gravy and more. But the best part was we got to enjoy watching our youngest members telling Santa what they wanted for Christmas.

A big thank you to our Santa, Gary Cole, and Santa's helper Joe Lewis. We also want to thank volunteer photographer Celeste Coan who took photos of each little supplicant on Santa's lap!

## We LOVE our volunteers

This month we want to thank another very special member who volunteered his services at our December Wine & Cheese Social. Dwight Sullivan provided the entertainment free of charge to the SVCA. His mix of holiday music and oldies had people singing and dancing throughout the evening. Thank you Dwight!



# Pickleball *(continued from Page One)*

then stripe it for pickleball. Since Shamrock Park just refurbished their basketball courts, and since SVCA's own courts are run down and rarely used, it makes sense for us to look at other uses for the space—like pickleball!

We're also looking for a member of the community with

fundraising experience to help us develop a fundraising plan to support the building of the courts.

If you are interested in supporting the initiative, contact me at [boardmembergil@gmail.com](mailto:boardmembergil@gmail.com) or come to the next meeting Saturday, January 13 at 9:30am.

As the planning process goes forward, you can keep up with our progress on our website at [southvenice.org/svca-pickle-ball/](http://southvenice.org/svca-pickle-ball/). There, you'll also find the 13-page presentation prepared by Committee member Albert Frick for the Committee's first meeting.

## ART CLASS

**Water Coloring with  
Carol Merenda  
every Wednesday  
at SVCA**



Monthly sessions.

Course starts first Wednesday every month  
12:00 to 3:00pm • The full course is \$130  
(plus supplies)

***New students register at the class or contact Carol at 941-366-2866 to get started.***

FROM GAIL PARKER

## ***SVCA Book Club***



Happy New Year everyone! The Club will gather on January 16 this month and we're planning a special event. Since we're currently reading *The Boys in the Boat* by Daniel James Brown, and since it's now an acclaimed movie, we're going that day to see the movie and then do lunch to discuss both the book and the film. I don't have meeting time yet but I'll know by January 13 and will email all club members then. And if you'd like to join us, just give me a call at 517-712-9719. We'd love to have you.

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*Lots of happy families came for Breakfast with Santa*



ABOVE: Serving the breakfast: Mario and Stacy Fiorentino and Cherry Giovinazzo



RIGHT: We think little Bailee Martin was the most excited to meet Santa!



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# Yoga classes coming back to SVCA next month!

We've offered yoga classes before and found they're very popular. So we're bringing it back—and this time with our own Jodie Cooper, who is a Registered Yoga Teacher to guide you.

Yoga with Jodie is for all levels, from the very beginner to more advanced yogi – where YOU are with YOUR body.

Classes will be every Wednesday from 8:30 to 9:30am beginning on February 7.

The fee is \$10.00 per class and please bring your own yoga mat and any props you may find helpful.



## GOT SOMETHING TO SAY? We'd love to hear from you!

Send Letters to the Editor to:  
[maureenholland@comcast.net](mailto:maureenholland@comcast.net)

## Community Improvement Projects UPCOMING WORKDAYS

We're a group of SVCA volunteers who, for over a decade, have gathered regularly for workdays in multiple locations — we are dedicated to removing trash from our waterways (like Siesta Creek) and our streets!



To join one of our teams or learn more contact Marla Wilcox at 303-818-3641 or [Marlawilcox63@gmail.com](mailto:Marlawilcox63@gmail.com)

### VENETIAN WATERWAY CLEAN UP

**Saturday, January 13 - 9:00am**

(meet in parking lot by courts at Shamrock Park)

### THE GROVE CLEAN-UP

**Saturday, January 20 - 9:00am**

(meet on Quincey between Seminole and Grant)



CERT: Community  
Emergency Response  
Team

**Thursday, Jan. 25**

**at 6:30pm**

Joint meeting at Venice Gardens Community Center on Shamrock Blvd. New volunteers welcome!

## Best of Venice Winner for 2022



### Do I Have a Loss?

**Blair Post, HAS, BC-HIS, ACA**

Board Certified Hearing Instrument Sciences  
American Conference of Audioprosthology

How do you know if you have a hearing loss?

The easy answer is you won't.

You won't notice at all. It is your family and friends who will notice your loss. They are the ones who have to repeat everything for you. They are the ones who repeat what the waitress said. They are the ones who repeat what the punchline of the joke is. They are the ones who repeat what your young grandchild asks. They are the ones who repeat what the news anchor announced as breaking news. They are the ones who repeat when the next meeting will be held.

We had a woman who heard me speak at her community event. She had asked the question, how do I know I have a loss? I told her only a hearing test would define any loss she had.

Karen heard her share that she was coming in as a favor to her son-in-law who was frustrated enough to say, I love you and I want you to hear what I say, please get your hearing tested.

As Karen remarked, that is a great man, to know that hearing what he says is how to show him love.

The sentence that saddened Karen was when the woman said, I don't think my loss is that bad. My husband and I hear the same things, so it isn't that bad of a loss. Karen didn't point out that hearing the same could mean both of them have a significant hearing loss. That neither are hearing what others are trying to share with them.

How do you know if you have a hearing loss? You have family and friends who repeat things for you. They love you enough to repeat things.

If you don't hear your friends and family the first time they share something and want a hearing test to know if you have a loss call 941-244-9300 for a free test.

We want you to hear the love of your family and friends.



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FROM JOE LEWIS, CHAIR

# Beach Trust News



Where has the year gone?  
We want to take this opportunity to thank Captain Lou for his years of service to the Ferry. He has decided to move on. We wish him the best of luck in the future.

We welcome new Captain Eric Lombardi. He is very happy to be at our Ferry providing a seamless transition on our team and

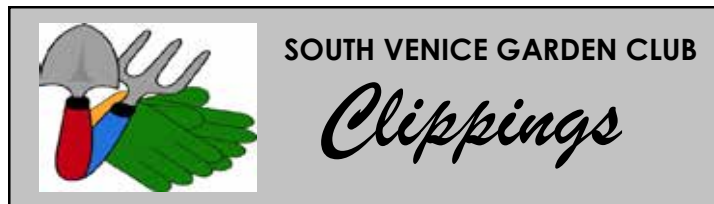
for Ferry riders as well. Congratulations!

Burgers at the Beach has been rescheduled for Saturday January 6. It will be located outside the Ferry House. There will be lots to eat including: Burgers, Hot Dogs, fries, cookies, drinks and more . . . The proceeds will help us with the continued cost from damages due to recent storms.

If you would like access to the Trail, Kayak, Canoe, Paddle board area please reach out to the Trust Office during office hours Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 9:00am to 1:00pm. The fee for the year beginning January 1 is \$100.

Honorable mention and continued many thanks to Gary Cole, Glen Haggett and Captain Eric Grossarth who, at a moments notice, immediately came down to the Ferry House in the wee hours of the morning to save our Ferry when it was hit with a very high tide and inclement weather—that’s just among many other activities.

Happy New Year to all!



FROM DEBBIE SULLIVAN

It was gifts all around when we celebrated at our Annual Holiday Party on December 18. There was a gift exchange, appetizers, and desserts.

### Coming up:

**JANUARY 15:** Greg Vine, chair of the Venice Urban Forest board with a presentation about “The New Venice Urban Forest Story,” nearly two miles of lush forest where people of all ages can enjoy an oasis of relaxation and peace.

**FEBRUARY 19:** Laurel Schiller, co-owner of the Florida Native Plant Nursery and Landscaping, Sarasota will present “Plant a Patch for Pollinators and the Importance of Planting for Pollinators.”

The club meets on the third Monday of each month at 1:00pm at the Civic Association from September through May. Visitors and new members are always welcome.

FROM TERESA GOOD, SHAMROCK PARK

# What’s up at the Park

**Demonstration Garden Tour** First Thursday each month. 9:00 to 11:00am. Ages 18 and up. FREE. Meet in the Demonstration Garden.

**Plant Clinic** – First and third Saturdays in January, 10:00am to noon. Master Gardeners will have a table set up in the nature center, ready to answer your plant questions. While you’re there, check out the nature center displays and kids zone!

**Seasons and Serendipity Stroll** - January 12. 9:00 to 10:30am. Ages 12 and up. Meet at Nature Center – Join park naturalist for a leisurely, guided walk in the park.

**Ecowalk: Unique Parks and Preserves** – February 8. 9:00 to 11:00am. Meet outside Nature Center. Join a UF/IFAS Extension Sarasota County ecology educator, and Shamrock Park’s naturalist to learn more about our amazing and unique Florida ecosystems. Registration required.

To register or for more information about any of these events, call 941-861-5000



**ABOVE:** Christmas came early at the Garden Club for Diane Clark, Barbara Brownyard, Helen Singer, Susan Juranek, Sherry Luizza, and Diane VandenBorre.

**BELOW:** Enjoying the Holiday Party are Edith Norby, Ginny McDonald, Judie Demarco, Jewell Cochara, Sandy Tulenko, Cindy Zelna, and Rose Spadaccini. All are long-time club members.



# JANUARY 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3 ART CLASS 12-3pm Events Cmte 11:00am Calvary Chapel Bible Study 7:00pm	4	5	6 Burgers at the Beach
7 Calvary Chapel Service 10:00am	8 SVCA Board Meeting 3:30pm	9	10 ART CLASS 12-3pm Calvary Chapel Bible Study 7:00pm	11	12 Pancake Breakfast 8:00am to 10:00pm Pickleball Cmte Meet 9:30am	13
14 Calvary Chapel Service 10:00am	15 GARDEN CLUB 1:00pm Annual Members Mtg BOARD ELECTIONS 7:00pm	16 BOOK CLUB 3:00pm	17 ART CLASS 12-3pm Calvary Chapel Bible Study 7:00pm	18	19 (FLEA MARKET) DONATION DROPOFF Noon to 6:00pm	20 FLEA MARKET and BRAT FRY 9:00am to 2:00pm
21 Calvary Chapel Service 10:00am	22	23	24 ART CLASS 12-3pm Calvary Chapel Bible Study 7:00pm	25 CERT 6:30pm Community Emergency Response Team at Venice Gardens CC	26	27
28 Calvary Chapel Service 10:00am	29	30	31 SVCA CLEAN UP 9:00am to 1:00pm ART CLASS 12-3pm Calvary Chapel Bible Study 7:00pm	<p><i>New calendar feature online</i></p> <p>Future meetings and events - not just this month - can now be accessed at the SVCA website, southvenice.org.</p> <p><b>Just click on the EVENTS tab and scroll down on that page.</b></p>		

## COMING UP!

FEBRUARY 7 • New weekly Yoga Class begins!

Pancake Breakfasts on FEBRUARY 10 and MARCH 9

MARCH 2 • Garden Club's Big Annual Plant Sale

MARCH 23 • Breakfast with the Bunny!



## Community Clean-ups continue

Thanks to our five volunteers who showed up on December 9 for the Alligator Drive Clean-up. Pictured are Blaine Tippett, Gary Bennett, Rick Boyle, and Wini Boyle. Not pictured was Marla Wilcox, behind the camera as usual. (Unfortunately you cannot see Blaine's cute tiny car with its red nose and Christmas lights and antlers!)

# South Venice

## Buying or Selling A Home?

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# HOME SALES November 16 to December 15, 2023

Address	HTD	BE	FB	Built	Pool	Garage	Lot Size	ADOM	List Price	Close Price
755 COLGATE RD	1,800	3	2	2008	None		8,000	31	\$270,000	\$205,000
90 CORAL RD	956	2	2	1978	None	1	8,000	128	\$275,000	\$252,500
3101 FALLOW RD	1,064	2	2	2001	None		10,000	6	\$335,000	\$285,000
580 TERRAPIN RD	1,118	2	2	1987	Private	2	8,000	4	\$335,000	\$295,000
1080 EUCLID RD	1,268	3	1	1984	None	1	8,000	38	\$300,000	\$300,000
207 AVALON RD	1,311	2	2	1972	None	1	10,000	97	\$299,900	\$310,000
1580 QUEEN RD	1,153	2	2	1981	None	1	8,000	4	\$373,500	\$356,000
771 MORNINGSIDES RD	1,460	3	2	1999	None	1	8,000	195	\$398,900	\$394,800
3506 TUNDRA RD	2,331	3	2	1981	Private	2	12,000	48	\$400,000	\$405,000
1220 INDUS RD	873	2	2	1986	Private	1	8,000	14	\$495,000	\$475,000
1366 QUEEN RD	1,106	3	2	1961	None		8,000	17	\$325,000	\$315,000
755 BRADENTON RD	1,328	2	2	1980	Private	2	8,000	1	\$380,000	\$380,000
1440 NANTUCKET RD	1,152	2	2	1976	Private	2	8,000	28	\$439,000	\$425,000
1087 PIEDMONT RD	1,755	3	2	2022	None	2	8,000	86	\$476,737	\$476,737
4427 W MERIDIAN RD	2,010	3	2	2023	None	2	8,000	50	\$497,199	\$487,199
1296 CUMBERLAND RD	2,107	3	3	1993	Private	2	12,000	193	\$500,000	\$500,000
140 AVALON RD	2,265	4	2	2023	None	2	10,000	42	\$521,995	\$521,995
2085 REDFERN RD	958	2	1	1969	None		9,622	19	\$239,900	\$155,000
807 JAMAICA RD	1,014	2	2	2002	Private	1	8,000	54	\$379,900	\$379,900
1481 PIEDMONT RD	1,667	4	2	1971	None	2	12,000	1	\$457,777	\$457,777
1026 INDUS RD	936	2	1	1963	None		8,000	32	\$299,900	\$285,000
240 AZURE RD	806	2	1	1980	None	1	9,246	15	\$259,000	\$250,000
340 PERIWINKLE RD	826	2	2	1978	None	1	8,000	2	\$268,900	\$263,000
523 SOUTHLAND RD	1,634	3	2	2018	None	2	8,000	2	\$499,995	\$288,000
1082 LINDEN RD	1,367	3	2	1988	Private	2	11,000	17	\$499,999	\$490,000
580 BLUEBELL RD	1,592	4	2	1991	Private	2	12,000	1	\$583,600	\$562,500



**Welcome to the  
best neighborhood  
in Sarasota County!**



# State of the Market

## KELLEY ANN AYERS

Happy New Year from Ayers & Associates Real Estate!

From November 16 to December 15, South Venice Beach experienced a vibrant real estate market, maintaining its allure as a favorite destination. A total of 26 closings were recorded, indicating normal market activity for this time of year. The highlight of this period was the sale of 580 Bluebell Road, in just one day, for \$562,500. This residence was a 4/2/2 pool home with 1592 square feet under air and had numerous infrastructure upgrades as well as a luxurious interior remodel. In contrast, a 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom home on Colgate Road changed hands for \$205,000, showcasing the diverse range of properties available in the area.

The average price per square foot went up this period with an average sold price per square foot at \$278.22 and an average sale price of \$365,977. Furthermore, properties spent an average of 43 days on the market, decreasing from the last period. With 22 homes currently pending and 90 active listings spanning a price range of \$279,000 to \$538,000, the South Venice Beach market is still promising and diverse for prospective buyers and sellers alike.

This market activity aligns with our expertise, which has facilitated the sale of 24 homes now in recent months. Our office at 718 Albee Rd W, Nokomis, just before you cross the Albee Bridge to Nokomis Beach, serves as a convenient hub for those looking to explore this thriving real estate market, promising smooth sailing for all involved parties. We welcome you to visit and join us for an ice cream treat at Sweet Melissa's, conveniently located next to our office.

Welcome to our newest members!

Dan Urquhart  
Nicholas Derita  
Pedro Levaque

*Membership makes us strong!*

### WE'RE MODERNIZING

## *Big changes as SVCA as membership goes digital*

**NEW! Your membership will now be on a rolling calendar, so your one-year membership begins when you join and runs for the next 12 months.**



When joining for the first time online, you'll be creating an account and will thereafter have access to the membership portal.

When your membership is due to renew (for current members, that is NOW), go to the membership link on the website and create your account - or sign in if you already have an account. You can renew by encrypted credit card, or you can bring a check or cash to the office. Please let us know if you have any questions and we'll be glad to help.

### **Don't miss out on important information!**

Please make sure we have your *current email address* on file. We continue to add features to the website—many of which will only work for you if our records reflect your current email address. Just email Jodi in the SVCA office with your current address to be sure.

## **Volunteer All-call!**

SVCA Community Center Clean-up Day  
**SATURDAY, JANUARY 31 9:00am to 1:00pm**

Join us for a day of light landscaping and grounds cleanup. Let's preserve the beauty of our neighborhood community center.

Sign up on the EVENTS page at southvenice.org or just show up.

*Every helper welcome!*

**Come on down—this'll be fun!**

## **REMEMBER**

*Our new website is live!*

Make sure the office has your **CURRENT EMAIL ADDRESS** so you can take advantage of all the features the site will have.

**NEW WEBSITE ADDRESS:**  
[www.southvenice.org](http://www.southvenice.org)

**NEW OFFICE EMAIL:**  
[svca@southvenice.org](mailto:svca@southvenice.org)

# ONE MISSION for our community

To protect, preserve and improve our community's character, conditions and quality of life. To bring South Venice together to promote our civic, social, intellectual and recreational interests.



## South Venice Civic Association

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