

RANCH RECORD

*News For The Residents of
Blackhorse Ranch*

Cypress Christian Places Second Overall in TAPPS District Academic/Speech Meet



We are pleased to give God all the glory for our victories at the TAPPS 3A District 4 Academic/Speech Meet organized and hosted by our own Cypress Christian School. Our high school students received 28 ribbons in sixteen of the eighteen categories. Overall, CCS placed second as a team in the district, swept the Poetry competition, and had three district champions. Sixteen students also qualified in twenty events to continue on to the TAPPS State Competition on April 1-2 at Concordia University in Austin. Congratulations to all students who participated.

Our winners are as follows. (*denotes students that qualified to move on to the State Competition): Ready Writing: Sarah Longridge - 2nd place*; Science: Kyle Francis - 5th place; Prose Interpretation: Lauren Slater - 2nd place*, Travis McGrath - 4th place*, Kelsie Suter - 6th place; Persuasive Speaking: Canyon Sanford - 2nd place*; Spelling: Cody Franklin - 3rd place*, Alyssa Beach - 6th place;

Number Sense: David Hurst - 1st place* Two-time DISTRICT CHAMPION; Barnabas Odeyomi - 3rd place*; Calculator: Ben Bennett - 4th place*; Solo Acting: Lauren Slater - 1st place* DISTRICT CHAMPION; Literary Criticism: Sarah Longridge - 4th place*, Allison Mayo - 6th place; Social Studies: Gabi Bourn - 4th place*; Spanish: Hannah Blume - 4th place*, Alyssa Beach - 6th place; Duet Acting: Natalie Moore/Ben Bennett - 2nd place*, Katie Moore/Amanda Swanton - 4th place*; Poetry Interpretation: Travis McGrath - 1st place* DISTRICT CHAMPION, Natalie Moore - 2nd place* (Two-time TAPPS State Silver Medalist in Poetry), Kelsie Suter - 3rd place*; Original Oratory: Sarah Kooiman - 3rd place*, Allie Aimone - 4th place*; TAPPS Mathematics: David Hurst - 3rd place*; Yearbook: -The Making of a Warrior (2009-2010) - 5th place-Alyssa Beach, Cody Franklin, Elyce Hornor, Lexus Van Pelt, Stacy Dennis, Amy

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 Harris County Sheriff.....713-221-6000
 Cy-Fair Volunteer Fire Dept. Bus. Office281-550-6663

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 North Cypress Medical Center 281-477-0830
 Willowbrook Methodist 281-477-1000

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 Spillane Middle School 281-213-1645
 Cy Woods High School..... 281-213-1727
 Cy Fair High School..... 281-897-4600

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Newsletter Article Submissions

Interested in submitting an article? You can do so by emailing blackhorse@peelinc.com or by going to <http://www.peelinc.com/articleSubmit.php>. All news must be received by the 9th of the month prior to the issue. So if you are involved with a school group, scouts, sports etc – please submit your articles for the Ranch Record. Personal news for the Stork Report, Teenage Job Seekers, special celebrations and military service are also welcome.

Meet Treyvon

Every day across Texas, thousands of children like 11 year old Treyvon wonder where today will lead them. Having been removed from their families due to abuse and or neglect, these children are looking for stable, loving family relationships that will allow them to feel safe and secure. Often these children are moved from one foster home to another as they experience difficulty adjusting to new rules, roles and expectations they have never experienced before and are ill prepared to meet. They face a never ending stream of changes in care givers, schools, caseworkers and foster siblings that often results in a sense of hopelessness and a lack of investment in relationships because they have found that caring leads to loss.



Despite these challenges, these children can be resilient. They bring strengths to their situation that can help to overcome the obvious challenges they face. Take Treyvon, for example. He is anything but an average child! In fact, he is an extremely bright child, who excels in all subjects at school. His future is hopeful as he desires to become an architect, engineer or author. Treyvon is a well rounded child who enjoys outdoor activities like football, swimming and riding horses. Like most boys his age, he loves to eat, with his favorite foods being pepperoni pizza and spaghetti with meatballs.

Treyvon needs a structured family that will provide him the love, encouragement and discipline that he needs while understanding the challenges he faces in adapting to a world much different from his early life experiences. He has a great mind that needs stimulation and direction to help him accomplish his goals. Adopting a child like Treyvon from the foster care system is not difficult or expensive. Perhaps you and your family would be a good place for Treyvon to learn and grow.

For more information, please contact Stephanie Berka, Wendy's Wonderful Kids Recruiter, Adoption Coalition of Texas at 512-450-8750 or email at stephanieberka@adopttexas.org. To learn more about the Adoption Coalition of Texas, please call Bruce Thompson at 512-301-2825 or visit our website at <http://www.adoptioncoalitiontx.org>

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Cy-Fair Women's Expo

Event: Cy-Fair Women's Expo
When: April 28, 2011
Time: 11:00am – 2:00pm
Where: Sterling Country Club
at Houston National
16500 Houston National Blvd
Houston, TX 77095

The 2011 Cy-Fair Women's Expo sponsored by North Cypress Medical Center and hosted by the Cy-Fair Express Network of ABWA is Thursday, April 28, 2011, from 11am-2pm, at Sterling Country Club at Houston National. Browse over 70 area businesses, enjoy lunch (\$15), and win door prizes! Free entry to first 200 attendees. More information is available @ www.cyfen.org or by emailing expo@cyfen.org.

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Spring Landscaping & Gardening Tips

Here in Houston it's time to start planning for the soon to come spring garden activities. For those of you who need a little guidance on what your landscape needs will be and some helpful hints to properly prepare we have outlined some of the most commonly asked questions. The following suggestions can help yield the desired results for you and your neighbors.

Before the weather starts to warm up have a plan to keep your landscape properly watered, this is very important. Those of you that have an automatic irrigation system can take advantage of this time to check it and make sure all repairs have been made prior to the extreme conditions we will face in the summer. Remember to set your irrigation controller to water between the hours of 2:00am and 6:30am. For those of you that do not have the benefit of an automatic irrigation system you will need to come up with a way to water with hoses and portable sprinklers. We suggest trying to use more than one sprinkler at a time if possible, this will save you some time. Set a schedule that will allow you to water in the early evening, when the sun is starting to set. Even though the best time to water is early in the morning this watering time may fit better in your daily schedule while still allowing you to help prevent the loss of water due to evaporation. Also make sure your hoses are in good condition and have no leaks. Don't over water and make sure your sprinklers are adjusted; this will help conserve water. The most important thing to consider is to evaluate the needs of your landscape and water accordingly.

Another item that many people have questions about is the type of fertilizer they should use and when to apply it. In our opinion, the most beneficial formulation for a spring lawn fertilizer with a post emergent, to take care of broadleaf weeds, would be the Scott's 29-3-4 blend with Atrazine. Another formulation we would recommend that is a well balanced

lawn fertilizer without any post emergent would be a 15-5-10 blend. Both of these fertilizers will promote a healthy green lawn. There are also special formulated fertilizers for your hibiscus, azaleas, camellias, bougainvilleas and other plant material that have special needs. All or most of these fertilizers can be found at your local lawn and garden centers as well as the Home Depot. Fertilizer needs to be applied at the rate recommended on the label, using the recommended spreader. Please remember one thing, "more is not better", especially when comes to fertilizers blended to control weeds with herbicides. Fertilizers should be applied during the first two weeks in March. After the fertilizer is applied make sure to wash down or sweep off concrete walks and driveways, this will help prevent discoloration caused from iron.

If you have any perennial plant material, such as ornamental grasses, groundcover or other such plants, cut back these plants to a one inch stub after the last chance of freezing temperatures. Other plants that have been damaged from the cold weather may need to be trimmed instead of cut back. The trimming required for these plants may be minor; this will be up to you. Crepe myrtles will also need to be trimmed not cut back. When trimming your crepe myrtles remove any rubbing branches and deadwood then trim only the tips that are no larger than approximately 1/4 of an inch.

We recommend mulching all beds and tree wells, doing this protects your plant's root system as well as adds a rich clean look to your landscaped beds. Apply the mulch after you have completed all of your trimming and cutting back any of your perennials. Try not to apply more than two inches of mulch at one time. Spring is a great time to start enjoying your lawn and all of your hard work; however this is just the beginning of our growing season and all of the work it takes to have a beautifully landscaped yard. **Enjoy your spring garden work!**

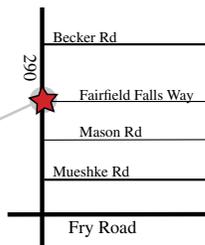


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WILDCATS RAP (Wildcats Right After Prom, Inc.)

WRAP 2011 planning is underway! WRAP is Cy-Woods High School's parent-driven Project Prom organization. The purpose of WRAP is to provide a drug- and alcohol-free all-night party for the graduating seniors and their guests after their prom. This year WRAP will be held at ITZ on May 27, 2011, as an overnight lock-in party, it is a fun-filled evening of shows, games, activities, food, gifts and prizes!

Have you filled out your Parent Information Form yet? We need this to get you on our e-mail list!

Visit www.cywoodswrap.org and be an active parent!

MEETINGS: FIRST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE CY-WOODS COMMONS.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- March 10 - Horse Plop Candy Sale – see where you plopped!
- April 2 - WRAP Booth at CyWoods Band Crawfish Boil
- April 9 – WRAP Garage Sale
- April 16 – WRAP Craft Show

More Info about The WRAP Garage Sale & Craft Show on Page 7!



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7:00 a.m. — Noon

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To donate sale items or to help with the garage sale,
please contact: Yvonne Bukowski
at ybukowski@yahoo.com or 281-304-0185.



Rosehill Storage is proud to sponsor the
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WRAP Craft Show



Saturday
April 16, 2011

Time: 10:00am - 4:00pm

CyFair Exhibit Center
11206 Telge
Cypress, TX 77429

Questions:
Libby.Young@sbcglobal.net

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WRAP EVENTS

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INFANTS CHILDREN TEENS

Lone Star College-CyFair “Perspective”

Look What’s New on Stage and in the Gallery

On stage, enjoy “Gloria” a choral show April 8 and “JazzJam2” April 27. For event information, go to LoneStar.edu/boxoffice. Other Main Stage Theatre events include the annual talent show “A Night in Paris” April 13, the Spring Poetry Slam April 14 and “An Evening with Richard White: History Matters” April 18. Go to LoneStar.edu for information. In the Bosque Gallery, the “Visual Communication Program Exhibition” continues through April 7 followed April 19 through May 5 with the “Spring Student Art Exhibition.” For gallery information, go to LoneStar.edu/bosquegallery.

To Jump Start College Career – Attend Dual Credit Information Session

High school juniors and seniors can earn high school and college credit in classes such as English, math, history, psychology, economics and more. The classes are transferable to most public universities and colleges. Tuition is free, though some fees do apply. Fee and textbook scholarships are available. LSC-CyFair and the Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District are co-hosting this information session for 10th- through 12th-graders and their parents April 12 at LSC-CyFair. For information, call 281.290.3947, e-mail cfcinfo@lonestar.edu or go to LoneStar.edu/jumpstart-cyfair.

Free Spring Business Success Seminars Series Continue

The Business Success Seminars continue this month with “LinkedIn – The Ultimate Business Place in Social Media” April 6, “Wow, I wish I knew that BEFORE I started my business!” April 13, “The Hidden Power of the Elevator Pitch” April 20 and “Beyond the Bullet Point” April 27. Seminars are held Wednesdays from 7:45 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. in library room 131, on the campus at 9191 Barker Cypress. No sign up is required and there will be door prizes. Sponsoring this series are the Small Business Development Center and the Lone Star College-CyFair Branch Library. For information, go to LoneStar.edu/library/business-seminars or call 281.290.3214 or 832.482.1057.

It’s Time to Register for Discovery College

Early-bird registration for Lone Star College-CyFair’s popular Discovery College summer camp for ages 6 to 14 is April 16 and April 30, 8 a.m. to noon. Regular registration begins May 16. The theme for the weeklong sessions that begin June 6 is “Learning for Fun.” The summer camp sessions are fun and educational providing children an opportunity to develop skills and learn new ones in a

(Continued on Page 9)

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Lone Star College - (Continued from Page 8)

friendly environment. Camps are held at the Barker Cypress campus and the Fairbanks Center campus. The cost of the weeklong sessions is \$99 per class. For registration or camp information, go to LoneStar.edu/youth-classes-cyfair.

Get Licensed to Drive – Teen Driver’s Education Available

A class for teens, ages 15 to 17, is available starting April 19. The driver’s education course covers road rules, road signs and laws to prepare the teens for the Department of Public Safety’s written exam. Other topics are car maintenance, effects of drugs and alcohol, laws and penalties for drinking and driving, emergency situations, basic driving procedures, road rage, and insurance. Parents are responsible for the in-car instruction. Students are required to purchase the Texas Traffic Safety Education Student Manual, which is available at the campus bookstore. Register in person in the Continuing Education office in MOD1. For information, call 281.290.3460.

Prom Dress Donations and Give-Away for Teens in Need

The Seventh Annual Prom Dress Give-Away benefiting teens without the financial means to purchase a dress for prom is set at

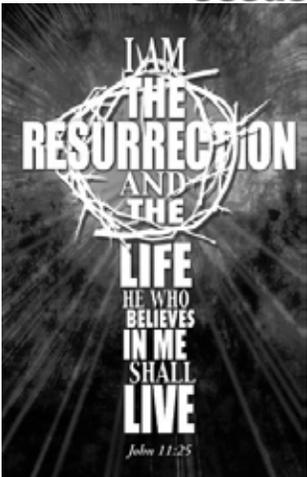
Lone Star College-CyFair Branch Library, 9191 Barker Cypress from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays April 10, April 17 and April 24 in the library, room 131 as well as by appointment. Drop off donations of prom dresses, jewelry (broken pieces to be refurbished accepted as well), unused make up samples, shoes, purses and accessories at the library’s Customer Service Desk located on the LSC-CyFair campus at 9191 Barker Cypress. Teens in need of a dress should contact the Youth Service Specialist at their high school or Prom Closet organizers Nancy Flanakin at meaford8510@yahoo.com or LSC-CyFair Teen Librarian Elise Sheppard at elise.j.sheppard@lonestar.edu or 281.290.5248.

L.I.F.E. Lessons in April

The Learning, Inspiration, Fellowship and Enrichment (L.I.F.E.) programs are free and held Wednesdays at 10 a.m. in the Lone Star College-CyFair Branch Library (Room 131.) Programs include “Acquainted with the Night” April 6, “Ayurvedic Self Massage” April 13, “Trash into Treasure” April 20 and “Le Jazz Hot” April 27 (Recital Hall, ART 102.) Call the library at 281.290.3214 for L.I.F.E. program information or go online to LoneStar.edu.

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Playgrounds



What's a Sprayground?

More and more cities are opening spraygrounds, which are water playgrounds. At a sprayground, kids can shoot each other with water cannons and get sprayed by dozens of water jets that squirt from different colored nozzles and hoses.

Do you have a favorite playground? Maybe it's a new wooden one that has lots of tall towers and passageways. Or maybe your favorite is an old-fashioned playground with swings and a seesaw. Playgrounds are fun places for kids because there's so much to do and other kids to have fun with.

But sometimes kids get hurt at playgrounds. That's no fun, so here are 10 ways to keep safe:

1. Take a grown-up. As kids get bigger, they like doing things on their own. Going to the playground

shouldn't be one of them, though. Grown-ups come in handy because they might spot problems at the playground, they can help you down if you get in a tight spot, and they can help if you happen to get hurt.

2. Take a good look around. If the playground has lots of trash, such as broken glass, or the equipment looks broken, don't play there.

3. Keep your size in mind. Many playgrounds have some equipment that's for little kids (like 2- to 5-year-olds) and other equipment that's meant for older kids. Use the equipment that's right for your age. If you squeeze yourself onto a swing for toddlers, you might get stuck. Likewise, if your little brother or sister starts climbing something meant for older kids, guide him or her to the little kid stuff.

4. Don't go too high. Many playgrounds have tall stuff to play on, such as towers or open passageways between equipment. Don't climb higher than you feel comfortable, and feel free to ask your grown-up if you need help getting down. Never climb up the outside of equipment, or hoist yourself up on the roof. The view might be cool, but it's a long way down.

5. Look out below. The best playgrounds put down special surfacing material, such as mulch, wood chips, sand, gravel, or rubber matting. These surfaces can help soften a fall, but that doesn't mean you won't get hurt, especially if you tumble from a high spot.

6. Swing safely. Kids often get hurt at the playground because they get hit by someone on a swing. If you're swinging, watch out for people who might be getting too close. And if you're walking around the playground, don't get too close to the swingers.

7. Use your head. Sometimes you'll see kids going headfirst down the slide or maybe two or three kids will get on a piece of equipment that's only meant for one. Or some kids might start goofing around and trying to push each other off a swing or off of a high spot. If your grown-up sees you doing this, he or she will probably say, "Knock it off. Someone's going to get hurt." It's true, so try to use the playground equipment properly. And if you get stuck, or don't know how to get down from something, call your grown-up over so he or she can help you down.

8. Report problems. If you see graffiti (when people write or paint on stuff), a broken swing, or find any other problems while you're playing, tell your grown-up. He or she can report the problem so it can be fixed.

9. Clean up. If you bring a drink or snack to the playground, clean up your trash before you leave. When you do, the park will look nice when the next kid comes along to play and you will have shown that you're a good playground citizen.

10. Have a great time! How can you make a good time at the playground even better? Bring a friend and only complain a little when it's time to leave.

Reviewed by: Steven Dowshen, MD

Date reviewed: May 2008

This information was provided by KidsHealth, one of the largest resources online for medically reviewed health information written for parents, kids, and teens. For more articles like this one, visit www.KidsHealth.org or www.TeensHealth.org. ©1995-2006. The Nemours Foundation

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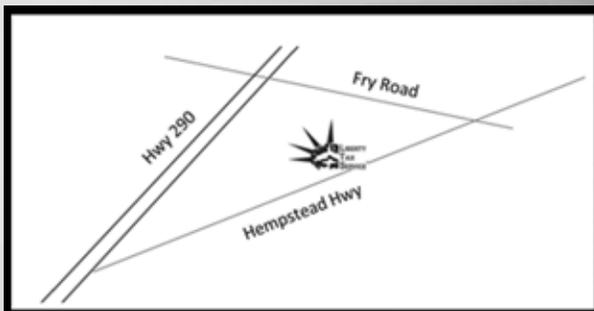
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Skim Jam

Skim Jam is an annual Flatland Skimboarding competition hosted by Skim 2 Live in the spring of each year in Cypress, Texas. This year the competition will be on April 23rd from noon till 3 in the back of Ravensway Neighborhood (Jarvis Rd. & Timberlake Dr.). The unique thing about the competition and Skim 2 Live is that everything is done in efforts of FIGHTING BREAST CANCER. The past 3 years have shown enormous growth as the 2008 competition raised \$250 and this past year, in 2010, more than \$6,000 in funds were raised with a crowd of about 600 people throughout the day. This year is looking bigger than ever with expanding support. All profits benefit The Rose: a non-profit breast cancer organization based in Houston (www.the-rose.org). The group promotes living healthy, active lifestyles to prevent breast cancer. We are also a very environmentally conscious group with goals to keep Cypress Creek clean for the animals and for the skimboarders.

Visit www.Skim2Live.com for more info and to see what Skim 2 Live is all about! Get out there and Skim 2 Live... Literally!

SKIM2LIVE IS HOSTING ITS 4TH ANNUAL SKIMBOARDING COMPETITION FOR BREAST CANCER. COME OUT FOR SOME SKIMBOARDING, FOOD, MUSIC, AND MUCH MORE!

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Cy-Woods FFA Booster Club *1st Annual Spring Craft Show*

CFISD TELGE EXHIBIT CENTER
SATURDAY APRIL 9TH – 9:00 TO 5:00
SUNDAY APRIL 10TH – 10:00 – 4:00

*for additional information or a booth registration form,
please email cywoodsffa@gmail.com*

Prescription Drug Take-Back

On April 30, 2011 from 10am to 4pm DEA and its community partners will take part in a nationwide prescription drug take-back, operating collection sites around the nation where Americans can turn in their unused, unneeded, and/or expired prescription medications. Unused or expired prescription medications are a public safety issue, leading to accidental poisoning, overdose, and abuse. This service is free and anonymous. Tablets, capsules, and all other solid dosage forms will be collected. Intravenous solutions,

injectables, and syringes will not be accepted. To find a collection site near you, go to www.dea.gov and click on the National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day icon.



HOW ARE YOUR SOCIAL NETWORKING SKILLS?

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COLIN'S HOPE

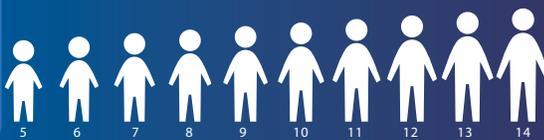
Increasing water safety awareness and standards

FACTS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT DROWNING

Drowning is the leading cause of unintentional injury-related death in children ages 1-4



DROWNING WILL AFFECT YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW



Drowning is the 2nd leading cause of unintentional injury-related death ages 1-14.

For more information, check out our website at www.colinshope.org

DROWNING CAN STILL OCCUR EVEN IF YOU KNOW HOW TO SWIM

NO ONE is "drown proof" – no matter their level of swimming ability.

Falls, entrapments, and injuries lead to drowning regardless of swimming level.

A majority of people overestimate their own and their child's ability to swim, especially in a panic event.

DROWNING IS QUICK AND SILENT



Drowning occurs in as little as 2 minutes.



Irreversible brain damage occurs in as little as 4 minutes.



Most children are out of sight or missing for less than 5 minutes and usually in the presence of 1 or both parents.



Most children die who are submerged for as little as 6-10 minutes.

Children who drown do not **scream, splash, or struggle**. They silently slip beneath the water, even with adults & lifeguards present.



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Blackhorse Year-to-Date Sales Report

	May '10	June '10	July '10	Aug '10	Sept '10	Oct '10	Nov '10	Dec '10	Jan '11	Feb '11
\$451,000 and above	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
\$351,000--\$450,999	0	1	2	2	0	1	2	0	1	0
\$276,000--\$350,999	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
\$231,000--\$275,999	1	1	1	3	0	1	1	2	0	0
\$201,000--\$230,999	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0
\$200,999 and below	3	2	3	0	1	0	1	1	0	2
Total	5	6	86	7	2	2	5	6	2	2
Highest \$/sq ft	\$83.78	\$125.60	\$95.31	\$122.78	\$76.83	\$78.46	\$104.92	\$101.85	\$104.40	\$80.88

This information is taken from the Houston Multiple Listing Service

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