

NOTABLE QUOTABLE

"I joined the Chamber for a lot of reasons. Mainly to get exposure for my business and to get involved with other local business owners."

Charlene Healey
Tru Colors Creative Styling

The Chamber
Newsletter

The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce Actively Supports The Business Community!

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Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce

Your Partner In Business!

**Chamber Sponsors
First Big Buck Contest**

The Chamber is pleased to announce that we will be sponsoring our first "Big Buck Contest" this fall. A committee of local hunting enthusiasts and businesses involved in the outdoor sports industry have been working over the past several months to put together an exciting tournament to promote the wonderful hunting spots within Montgomery County (Charleston State Forest, Lost Valley State Forest, and Yatesville State Forest) and support the businesses that are involved in this popular industry.

The event will coincide with the hunting season and prizes will be awarded in the categories of bow, rifle, muzzleloader, heaviest doe, female hunter, and youth hunter.

The contest will conclude at the end of regular hunting season, December 20, 2011. Paid contestants will have a chance at winning a rifle and door prizes which will be presented January 7, 2012 at Loopie's Pub in Tribes Hill (more details to be announced).

cont. on pg. 7

Third Annual VIP Appreciation Celebration

Sponsored by St. Mary's Healthcare

For the third year, The Chamber will honor individual employees and community organizational staff who contribute to the continued success and positive image of our business canvas. The VIP Appreciation Celebration will be held on Thursday, September 29th at The Raindancer, where the public is invited to join us in honoring all nominated individuals who were selected by their peers, employers, friends or family.



2010 Recipients

Awards will be presented to the employee of the year in the categories of Small Business, Large Business and Non-Profit. In addition the selection of Volunteer of the Year (Tourism/Community) will be announced, as well as the outstanding Junior Volunteer of the Year.

cont. on pg. 7

Save the Date!

Thursday, October 27, 2011

4pm - 6pm

Showcase Montgomery County Business Expo

America's Best Value Inn

City Lights Banquet Room

10 Market Street, Amsterdam

See insert to reserve your booth space.

Officers

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Charles Schwartz Esq.
The Schwartz Law Firm

Past Chair
John Lesniewski
NBT Bank

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Mike Decker
Liberty

Pete Rose
Betz, Rossi, Bellinger &
Stewart Family Funeral
Homes, Inc.

Vic Giulianelli
St. Mary's Hospital

Alex Kuchis
Teal, Becker, &
Chiaromonte

Jeanne R. So
Sarah Jane Sanford
Adult Home

Staff

Theresa Butkevitch
Bookkeeper

Gina DaBiere-Gibbs
Membership Assistant

Newsletter

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MEMBER News & Events



The Amsterdam Free Library will be holding a Literary Luncheon fundraiser on Saturday, September 10 at 11:30am. Bring your book club and make a table! A Fashion Show of Literary Characters, prizes and a book swap are just some of the fun. The luncheon is \$30 at Crystal Ristorante. Call 842-1080 for more information.

Nathan Littauer Hospital announced the appointment of Paul J. Husson Jr, MD to their medical staff. Dr. Husson is a Urologist and recently completed his residency at Albany Medical Center. With Dr. Husson's specialized training, the hospital will be offering a new cutting edge procedure, Laparoscopic Kidney Surgery, using small incisions resulting in shorter recovery times. As a member of the American Urologic Association, Dr. Husson will be able to offer surgical and medical solutions to a host of urological issues, including: kidney stones, urinary tract infections, incontinence and screenings for prostate, bladder and kidney cancers. Dr. Husson will be seeing patients out of the Gloversville Primary Care Center. To schedule an appointment patients are urged to call: 775-4133.

The Village of Hagaman will be hosting their 20th annual Art Show and Sale on October 1 and 2 from 12-5pm at 86 Pawling Street. This free event offers refreshments, raffles, Public Choice award, 60 artists on exhibit in seven areas: oils, acrylics, pastels, watercolors, drawing, photography, and mixed media; judged by Jim Wilson. Call Virginia Salamack at 843-2480 between 9am and 3pm for more information.

Friends of Sanford Stud Farm will be hosting their 4th Annual Open House including tours, food, entertainment, crafters, and horses on Saturday, September 17th. A day of family fun!

Horace J. Inman Senior Center ends their anniversary year celebration on Saturday, September 24th with a dinner dance featuring the Big Band sounds of The Accent Band, with Joe Cannavo. Enjoy appetizers, cash bar, a catered sit down dinner, and then dance to your old favorites. The Inman Center continues with their clothing drive. Items to be donated: clothing, belts, paired shoes, purses, curtains, draperies, blankets, towels, and stuffed animals. Their pie sale of 10" Smith Orchard pies will be ending September 13. For more information about these and other events call 842-3815.

Beech-Nut made a \$25,000 donation to St. Mary's Healthcare for the construction of the "Beech-Nut Café" in the newly renovated maternity ward. This donation is in addition to the \$100,000 gift given last year also for the maternity ward. The Beech-Nut Café has been designed to be a quiet, restful space for fathers and significant others. A warm masculine décor has been chosen; the space will house a kitchenette and comfortable lounge chairs. Renovations to the mother's rooms include new wall paper, curtains, and flat screen televisions. Two new birthing beds, new infant cribs, state of the art newborn phototherapy system, and additional airway management equipment has been purchased.

Five-Star Rating for Joint Repair Surgery

"I was on my feet most of the day and with the pain in my hip I could barely walk. My surgeon recommended St. Mary's Healthcare for my surgery and now I'm back on the job pain free!"

Sgt. Carl Rust




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CHAMBER MEMBER SPOTLITE



The Shoe Factory

Joanne Spragno Kowalczyk, owner of the Shoe Factory, started the business in November of 1987 to be close to home for her three children and contribute to the family income. Her family and their importance are highlighted on the store's website which was launched in December of 2003.

The Shoe Factory sells men's and women's shoes and sneakers in popular brands such as Soft Spot, Propet, and Ryka the only sneaker made exclusively for women. Specialty shoes and boots are also available such as Nursemates nursing shoes; Red Wing, Rocky Boots, Wolverine, and Carolina work boots; Georgia, Thorogood Boots, and Irish Setter steel toe boots and hunting boots; Vasque hiking boots; and Double H western boots to name a few. Police, military, and firefighter boots are also available.

There are several shopping options when purchasing from the Shoe Factory. Shop via their website www.theshoefactory.net, fax orders to 620-4192, or phone orders to 842-4888 during business hours: Monday and Friday 10am-6pm, Tuesday and Thursday 10am-7pm, Saturday 10pm-5pm. Stop in person; the Shoe Factory is located on the corner of Cranes Hollow Road and Route 67 in the town of Amsterdam.

Did you know? The Shoe Factory has seen an increase in sales due to Global Foundries construction workers buying their products. They are starting to sell to the Global Foundries employees as well, due to NStar Global, a technical services and staffing solutions company, having a Red Wing national account.

Hill & Markes Inc. Moves to a New Building

After 7 years of consideration and 3 years of planning, Hill & Markes Inc., wholesale distributor in Amsterdam, moved to their brand new facility on Route 5S in the Town of Florida. The 130,000 square foot Green facility houses the entire operation of warehousing and offices for the company.

In creating this building, the most important considerations were:

- An environmentally friendly facility. There will be an application for LEED Certification.
- State of the Art Technology. New computer systems as well as efficiencies in lighting and heating the building are being implemented with the move.
- Ability to train on site. A training room that will allow hands on training for staff and customers for products is a featured highlight of the building.
- Appropriate space. Warehouse operations are in an efficient state of the art location, eliminating multiple warehouse sites. Offices will allow for meeting space and expansion of the number of employees who can comfortably work in the building.

Did you know? Hill & Markes Inc. services the State of New York and Vermont with its own fleet of trucks. Product categories include: Food Service, Janitorial Products, Industrial Packaging and Office Supplies.

Mohawk Color New Division & Website Launched

From the front door of your office to the vertical blinds in the reception area- and even the toilet seat in the restroom, Mohawk Color, a division of Mohawk Sign Systems, offers vibrant, high-impact and off-beat solutions to company branding. Through creative use of state-of-the-art technology, virtually any surface within size can be printed on.

These capabilities enable Mohawk Color clients to think outside of the box when exploring ways to get key messages to their customers. Any market-focused business is encouraged to visit the new website, www.mohawkcolor.com, for inspiration and solutions.

Did you know? Mohawk Color offers endless possibilities from exterior signage to wall murals, trade-show graphics or window displays. Spend some time exploring with Mohawk Color on Thursday, September 15 from 3-6pm for demonstrations, networking, and refreshments. To register go to: <http://mohawkcolorsavethedate.weebly.com/>

	Amsterdam, 106 Hannaford Plaza*, 842-2121
	Catskill, 24 Church Street*, 673-3243
	Fonda, 34 West Main Street*, 853-4621
	Fort Plain, 41 Canal Street*, 933-2393
	Palmate Bridge, 44 Dutchtown Plaza, 873-3201
	St. Johnsville, 16 West Main Street, 568-7612
* ATM Location	www.nbtbank.com

Karen's Ice Cream & Produce Celebrates 10th Anniversary

The Chamber and Karen's Ice Cream & Produce, the recipient of the Chamber's 2011 Agricultural award, recently celebrated Karen's 10th Anniversary at a business mixer. This business mixer was a great opportunity to mingle with colleagues and prospective customers while picking up some in-season vegetables and enjoying an ice cream cake.



Alex Kuchis, Chamber Board Member, and Sheila Pieniazek, Key Bank, enjoy hors d'oeuvres



Jim and Meg Hoffman, owners of Sand Flats Orchard, cool down after a bike ride with Jamie Sammons, Sand Flats Orchard, and Cody Stoliker



Karen Terlecky and granddaughter, Courtney Shaver

The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce expresses their sympathy to the family of Mr. Stephen Terlecky, Sr. and will miss the support that he has not only given The Chamber but the community at large. He will be sorely missed.

Kwiat Eye and Laser Surgery holds Relocation Celebration

The Chamber held a Ribbon Cutting Celebration and Open House at Kwiat Eye and Laser Surgery to celebrate the relocation of the business to 100 Holland Circle in Amsterdam.

Kwiat Eye and Laser Surgery provides the highest quality eye care in the Capital Region in a timely and compassionate manner. Dr. Kwiat started his practice in Amsterdam due to the need for advanced eye care in Montgomery County. Individuals that previously needed to travel to larger cities now have access to top notch eye and surgical care at home. Their new location allows them to better deliver care with new instruments and a comfortable spacious environment.

The open house showcased their state of the art diagnostic equipment that allows the best medical and surgical outcomes possible.



Proprietor, Dr. David M. Kwiat, cuts the ribbon to celebrate his Relocation Opening. Front Row l to r: Carolyn Carter, Jamie Negron, Dr. Kwiat, Amy Kwiat, Deborah Auspemyer, Chamber President, Bethany Schmann-McGhee, Attorney at Law. Back row l to r: Alex Kuchis, Chamber Board Member, Adrienne Slade, Rebecca Ruczycky, Ashley Jewett, Kim Morey, Megan Dowgielewicz, Chuck Schwartz, Chamber Board Member



The Kwiat Eye and Laser staff. Front Row l to r: Carolyn Carter, Ashley Jewett, Dr. Kwiat, Adrienne Slade. Back row l to r: Jamie Negron, rebecca Ruczycky, Kim Morey, Megan Dowgielewicz

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Tru Colors Creative Styling holds Ribbon Cutting Celebration

The Chamber and Charlene Healey, proprietor of Tru Colors Creative Styling, recently held a Ribbon Cutting Celebration to celebrate the relocation of her salon. Tru Colors Creative Styling is now located at 4755 State Highway 30 in Amsterdam.

Other business professionals learned of all the services, products, and latest techniques Tru Colors has to offer. Tru Colors offers an array of services including haircuts, coloring and highlights, chemical straightening, keratin treatments, permanent wave, styling, a variety of add-ons, waxing, facials, makeup, and manicures and pedicures. They also offer adorable fire truck and airplane seats for your little ones to sit in while getting their hair cut. Gift Cards are available as well. Ask about multi-service package pricing.



Left: Airplane child seat.
Below: Pedicure station.



Proprietor, Charlene Healey, center, cuts the ribbon with on lookers from l to r: Carol Constantino, Board Member, Jeanne So, Board Member, stylist Lisa Wilson, stylist Christina St. Amour, stylist Amanda Nicosia, stylist Elora Bryk, James Healey, Charlene's husband, Gina DaBiere-Gibbs, Membership Assistant, Chuck Schwartz, Chairman of the Board, John Lesniewski, Board Member

Amsterdam Rotary Awards Banquet & Installation Dinner

Amsterdam Rotary recently held their awards banquet and installation dinner where President Thomas Brownell handed over the gavel to incoming President Dennis Wilson of Fulmont Community Action Agency.

At this year's dinner Dr. Kevin Cope was the recipient of the Citizen of the Year award. Dr. Cope has organized numerous humanitarian trips to Honduras to provide much needed medical care. He has been a family physician for 21 years, and served 7 years as Chief Medical Officer at Amsterdam Memorial. Dr. Cope is a founding member, and on the leadership team at Fulmont Community Church where he is a teen leader. He has been married to his wife, Sally, for 25 years and is the proud father of 4 children.

This year's recipient of the Sok Nam Ko Rotarian of the year award was given to Mr. James Martin. Mr. Martin has been a leader of the community in business and has led a life that exemplifies the Rotary's 4 way test and demonstrates "service above self". Mr. Martin has been a past club President; a Chairman of the Montgomery County Red Cross drive; past President of the Amsterdam Football booster club; past VP of Bishop Scully board; past President and Treasurer of St. Mary's Foundation; past treasurer of St. Mary's board of directors; and other numerous community fundraisers and organizations.

In other Amsterdam Rotary Club news, they recently presented NEADS Dogs for Deaf and Disabled Americans a check for \$10,000. NEADS provides highly skilled assistance dogs for people who are deaf or have a disability to help them lead more independent lives.

Diabetes?
Find balance with our
accredited diabetes team.

 **NATHAN
LITTAUER**



www.nlh.org



Some of your employees may be eligible for the LifeBridgeSM free life insurance program offered by Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company (MassMutual).

The LifeBridge Free Life Insurance Program is a free 10-year term life insurance policy designed to help parents or legal guardians who qualify protect their children's education. To be eligible, the proposed insured must be between the ages of 19 and 42, be employed full or part time, have a household income between \$10,000 and \$40,000, have a dependent under the age of 18, be a permanent legal United States resident, and be in reasonably good health (as determined by MassMutual's underwriting guidelines). If the insured dies within the 10-year term of the policy, MassMutual will put \$50,000 in trust, administered by The MassMutual Trust Company, FSB, a wholly owned stock subsidiary of MassMutual, to apply to the educational expenses of those dependent children. There is no cost to you or your employees. MassMutual pays all premiums.

As a fellow member of the business community in Montgomery County, I'm sure you share my commitment to civic responsibility. Please join me in my efforts to bring this important program to those who qualify. Contact Judy Austin judithaustin@financialguide.com 518-673-2622 for more information about this free program.

BERMUDA SHORTS

Celebrity Summit will leave you feeling as if you've reached the absolute pinnacle of premium cruising. Large in size yet intimately elegant in ambience, *Celebrity Summit* boasts all of the services and amenities that have made *Celebrity* the preferred choice of discerning cruisers around the world.



Savor world-class cuisine prepared tableside as you're surrounded by cosmopolitan yet classic style. Escape to the first music library at sea. Soak up the natural beauty of the Conservatory and the Waterfall Pool. Come aboard and scale the heights of style on *Celebrity Summit*. Sail to Bermuda May 6, 2012 with the Chamber. Prices starting at \$707.68 including all taxes and port fees.



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Welcome New Members

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Control System Integration LLC
673-5206

Electronic Business Products
783-0737 x203

Home Helps & Direct Link of Amsterdam
842-5626

Visit www.montgomerycountyny.com for information on these and other business members! Add www.montgomerycountyny.com to your favorites.

See enclosed insert on complete information on new members! Call and welcome them to The Chamber! Buy Local and Use Local Services.

Member Anniversaries

The following businesses realize the value of their Chamber investment and have renewed their membership. Please note these members and the year they joined.

Thanks to all of our renewing members!

Less Than 5 years

Glen Animal Hospital	2008
SEFCU	2009
Village of Fort Johnson	2008

5 to 9 Years

Bosco's Family Restaurant Inc.	2006
Elma's Tax Service	2003
GFWC Century Club of Amsterdam	2004
Halcyon Farm Bed & Breakfast	2003
Lowe's Home Improvement	2006
MCT Federal Credit Union	2003
Valley View Motor Inn	2002

10 to 20 Years

Arkell Museum & Canajoharie Library	1991
BBL Construction Services	1999
Countryside Fuels	1999
Egelston Oil	1999
Elaine Ko-Talmadge	1997
RicMar	1994
State Farm-Beatty	1999
Teal, Becker, & Chiaramante	1994
The Greco Olinsky Wealth Mangement Group	2001
Town of Amsterdam	2001

Over 20 Years

Anthony's Dog Grooming	1983
Putman Insurance	1990
The Recorder	1966

Congratulations!

Our Members have Longevity!

Investing in The Chamber is investing in Montgomery County! We invite you to get involved!! Ask us how!!

VIP Celebration continued

The 2010 award winners were:

Dr. Nancy Knudsen, St. Mary's Hospital
Joe Perecich, West End Wine & Liquor
Jeannette Stevens-Daury, Inman Senior Center
Paul Gavry, Waterfront Foundation
Amanda Auricchio from Amsterdam
Rusty Baumes from Palatine Bridge

Our appreciation to St. Mary's Healthcare for partnering with The Chamber for this event.

Nominations continue to come into the Chamber daily, as of the printing of the newsletter they include:

Large Business:

Eva VanAlstyne, Keymark Corp.
Betty Schneider, Kasson and Keller
Gail Markert, St. Mary's Healthcare
Mary Gilston, St. Mary's Healthcare
Linda Rosen, Liberty Enterprises (Montgomery County ARC)
Margaret Brodie, St. Mary's Healthcare

Small Business:

Barbara LaCoppola, Hear for You

Non-Profit:

Tammy Micken, United Way of Montgomery County

Volunteer of the Year:

John Hassfurter, Hagaman Neighborhood Watch
Donna "Peggy" Rogers, Walter Elwood Museum & DAR
Ryan Weitz, Schoharie Crossing, Historic League,
Montgomery County Dept. of History and Archives,
Montgomery County Genealogy Society
Sue Thompson, Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site

We encourage you to attend this event and celebrate those that admirably represent the workforce of Montgomery County. See the reservation insert or call the Chamber today - 842-8200 to make your reservations.

Member Benefit Corner Newsletter Inserts

Each chamber member receives one complimentary insert! Make sure to utilize this benefit and consider inserting on a quarterly basis. After your complimentary insert, it is only \$75 to have your insert included in the newsletter.

Space is limited so reserve early with the Membership Assistant at 842-8200. Please have 700 copies of your insert delivered to the Chamber by the 15th of the month prior to your scheduled slot. We suggest using both sides of your 8 1/2" x 11" sheet of paper for maximum benefit.

Hunting continued

All entries must be free-ranging whitetail deer of New York State origin, and must have been taken legally and tagged in accordance with the laws set by NYS Department of Environmental Conservation.

Registration forms are available at the Chamber offices at 1166 Riverfront Center, Amsterdam; and from committee members Dick Andrews, Mike Auriemma, John DiCaprio, Tom Georgia, John Havlick, Ron Kolidziej, Brent Phetteplace, Brennen Parker, Chuck Schwartz and Rick Vertucci.

They can also be downloaded from the Chamber's website at www.montgomerycountyny.com under "forms and applications" on the homepage.

Hunting licenses went on sale August 15, and are available at Frank's Gun & Tackle Shop Inc., 3549 State Highway 30, Gloversville, and Wal-Mart, Rt. 30, Amsterdam. You can also contact Amsterdam City Hall and your local town clerks. Be sure to visit the chamber's on-line business directory at www.montgomerycountyny.com for a list of member businesses that can provide hunting and sports equipment and supplies and visit <http://www.dec.ny.gov> for more information on hunting in Montgomery County and New York State.

Base registration for the tournament is only \$25 with \$5 from each registration form going toward the Chamber's scholarship fund. Our scholarship program was initiated to provide an opportunity for local students to gain access to higher education through FMCC, often the stepping-stone of many educational careers. To date, The Chamber has presented over \$5,000 to local high school students throughout Montgomery County including the Amsterdam, Canajoharie, Fonda-Fultonville, Fort Plain and St. Johnsville school districts.

Because of generous support we have been able to assist several students from throughout Montgomery County over the years to pursue careers in various fields including healthcare services, education, criminal justice, and human services to name just a few.

Hunting is a popular sport within our region and we invite all of our local outdoor sports enthusiasts to participate in this new and exciting tournament. For more information call us at 842-8200.



Have YOU Voted?!

Go to our website at
www.montgomerycountyny.com today.

The polls change regularly, be sure to add
www.montgomerycountyny.com
to your favorites.

The Chamber is also now on

facebook

We invite you to become fans of
**Montgomery County
Chamber of Commerce**



MONTGOMERY COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
 1166 Riverfront Center
 Amsterdam, New York 12010
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- Farmer's Direct Marketing Association
- Montgomery County Farm Bureau
- New York Business Development Corporation
- Tech Valley Chamber Coalition
- United States Chamber of Commerce

Link to www.montgomerycountyny.com today!!!

UPcoming EVENTS!

**✓MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE "DON'T MISS" EVENTS!! (Tell your staff too!)
 Call The Chamber at 842-8200 to RSVP**

9/15 ~ **LaCucina Business Mixer**, 1 Port Jackson Square, Amsterdam, 5-6:30pm. Join the Chamber and host Joe Parillo of LaCucina for an evening of networking and socializing with other business professionals. LaCucina is located on the Southside of Amsterdam. Hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be provided. See insert for more information.

9/21 ~ **Chamber Celebrity Cruise Night To Bermuda**, 6pm, AAA Northway Sanford Shopping Plaza, Rt. 30, Amsterdam. "When the Sand is Pink and the water is turquoise, the future can't help but look rosy." Join us and Celebrity's District Sales Manager, Kimberly Smith, to discover what awaits you on your Celebrity Cruise to Bermuda with the Chamber. Refreshments will be served, deposits will be taken, and agents will be available for questions. Call the Chamber at 842-8200 for more information on this event and the cruise or AAA Northway 684-0064 ext. 3601.

9/29 ~ **VIP Awards Dinner, Raindancer**, 4582 State Highway 30, Amsterdam, 6-8pm. Every business has employees that go the "extra mile"! Recognize these individuals for their outstanding contributions at the Chamber's VIP Awards Dinner. Awards to be recognized are Employee of the Year Large Business, Employee of the Year Small Business, Employee of the Year Non-Profit, Volunteer of the Year, and Junior Volunteer of the Year. See insert for reservation form.



**Apartments for Rent
 in the Town of
 Amsterdam (not the
 city) at Affordable
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AAA Northway presents...

Peru: Ancient Land of Mysteries

Join us for an informational night as we
 discuss AAA Member Choice Vacations...



Peru: Ancient Land of Mysteries

This features:
 Welcome Drinks & Light Hors d'oeuvres
 April 17 - 28, 2012
 12 Days 11 Breakfasts - 8 Dinners

PRICES FROM:
\$4099 (including taxes,
 airfare, hotel, breakfast)
 AAA Member Discount (10% per person)
 AAA Northway City Saver Tip

Amsterdam Travel Center
 Thursday, October 6 at 6pm

Call 684-0064
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