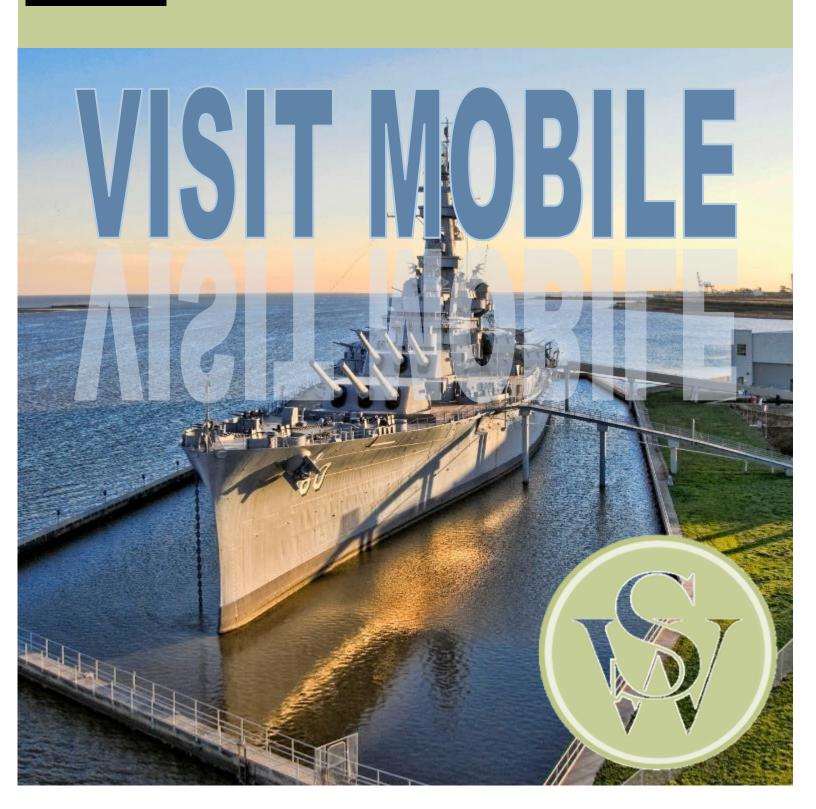
- THE SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

# THE CORNER

**MAY 2024** 





#### WELCOME TO THE

#### SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY

#### CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The first four months of the year have flown by, and it's been a busy time for the Chamber and staff. Thanks to Tina, Hope, and Jillian for all they do every day. Our partnership is growing and attendance continues to increase for our events. We are definitely on track for a great year in 2024.

Our Business Expo was a great success on April 5th. We had over 50 vendors located inside and outside the Community Center. The attendance from business partners and community members was great and we are very appreciative of everyone's participation. We would like to thank all of the businesses who donated door prizes for this event as well as the individuals who purchased tickets in support of our TALL Program.

Our May Luncheon will be special as we will announce our SWMCC Business of the Year. We are fortunate to have so many partners who are deserving of this award. Mayor Sandy Stimpson will be our speaker and will announce the award winner.

We would also like to invite you to our National Day of Prayer event that will be held on Thursday, May 2nd, at 7:00am in front of the Mobile Police Department Second Precinct office. We ask that you invite your neighbors, family, friends, and coworkers to join us as we pray for our community: city, county, and state government; law enforcement; military; businesses and business leaders; schools; churches; families; etc.

Join us on May 10th for our Partner Appreciation event. This is our way of thanking all of our Partners for their continued dedication, participation, and support. The event will be from 3:00pm to 5:00pm, so please join us as we celebrate YOU!

The planning of our Annual Kid's Day has started. This is a great outreach event for our community, but as they say: "It takes a village." The Chamber is in need of volunteers on Saturday, July 27th to make this event happen. We are also accepting donations to purchase school supplies and backpacks to give out to children in attendance. Please contact the Chamber office for more information.

SouthWest Mobile County Chamber is always looking for ways to add value to your partnership. We are here to promote your business and serve our community. We encourage each of you to get involved with our Chamber, attend our events, volunteer to help, and offer suggestions. We have the ability to make a tremendous impact and would love to hear your perspective. We truly believe that "YOUR SUCCESS IS OUR BUSINESS."

"A mother is she who can take the place of all others, but whose place no one else can take." —Cardinal Mermillod

Sharon Murrill

Alabama Power Community Relations Manager



Cover Photo: Alabama Tourism Department



5055 Carol Plantation Rd Mobile, AL 36619 (251) 666-2846

www.swmcchamber.com

#### TILLMAN'S CORNER MOBILE COUNTY, AL

#### **Executive Team**

President: Sharon Murrill

Vice President: Councilman Josh Woods

Treasurer: Elaine Sessions Secretary: Christy Myers

#### THE SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY CHAMBER'S

# EVENT CALENDAR

#### MAY 2024

Small Business of the Year Luncheon

Time: 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

**Location:** John C. Williams Auditorium **Speaker:** Mayor Sandy Stimpson

Caterer: Georgia Roussos Catering

**National Day of Prayer** 

Time: 7:00 am - 8:00 am

Location: Mobile Police Department Precinct 2

Address: 5441 US-90 #25, Mobile, AL 36619

TALL Applications Due

The deadline for 2024-2025 T.A.L.L. Student Program applications has been extended to May 15th. Applications are available on our website or in the Chamber office. This opportunity is for

2024-2025 high school seniors.

20 CAPS Meeting

Community Advisory Panel

Time: 4:30 pm

Location: John C. Williams Auditorium

Partner Appreciation

Time: 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Location: Tillman's Corner Community Center

Join us as we celebrate our Partners. All renewal dues must be paid in order to attend!

21 Coffee With The Chamber

Our monthly Coffee with the Chamber is a great opportunity to network with other business leaders and representatives. This event is open for both current SWMCC partners as well as

prospective partners.

Mother's Day

Happy Mother's Day to all of our lovely ladies! We hope you have a great day surrounded by those you love.

27 Happy Memorial Day!

The South West Mobile County Cham

The SouthWest Mobile County Chamber of Commerce and Tillman's Corner Community Center offices will be closed. We hope you will join us in taking a moment to honor those who have served our Great Nation.





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251-776-2362

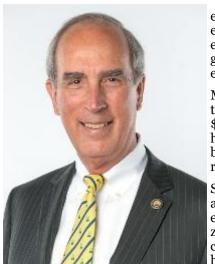
#### MONTHLY BUSINESS LUNCHEON

# NETWORKING

MAY 1ST, 2024

#### LUNCHEON SPEAKER

The City of Mobile's 108th Mayor, Sandy Stimpson has a bold mission for Mobile's citizens to become One Mobile - a safer, more business and family friendly city.



Driven by a desire to affect positive change in the life of each citizen, Mayor Stimpson has proven that the greatest level of success is achieved when everyone has a seat at the table. Stimpson's four decades of experience in the private sector and extensive community service provide a solid foundation for the type of practical change he has generated in his ten years in office. Mayor Stimpson has ushered in a new culture at City Hall, emphasizing a commitment to transparency, effectiveness, and efficiency.

Mayor Stimpson's leadership has led to unparalleled reform of city finances. Stimpson and his team have put the city on sound financial footing by reducing bonded indebtedness by nearly \$180 million and unfunded liabilities for pension and benefits by more than \$200 million. This has led to credit rating increases from both Moody's and S&P. During the same period, he has built and maintained a two-month rainy day reserve fund and enacted more than half a dozen raises for all City of Mobile employees.

Since assuming office in 2013, Mayor Stimpson's tenure has been marked by major achievements that stand to make a lasting impact for all citizens. Stimpson and his team have executed on several transformative initiatives including an overhaul of the city's decades-old zoning code, an unprecedented increase in the delivery of infrastructure improvements, and the city's first supplier diversity program. Under Mayor Stimpson's leadership, the City of Mobile has also been recognized nationally for its innovative approaches to addressing urban blight.

Mayor Stimpson's civic and business endeavors, both locally and statewide, have been numerous and varied. He has served on the boards of the Boys & Girls Club of Southwest Alabama; the Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce; the Alabama Policy Institute; the Business Council of Alabama; and the University of Alabama President's Cabinet.

A graduate from the University of Alabama in 1975 with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering, Stimpson began a nearly 40-year career in his family's lumber manufacturing business. Mayor Sandy Stimpson and his wife Jean have been married since 1975 and have four grown, married children and 14 grandchildren.

#### **LUNCHEON SPONSORS:**

A solid reputation for integrity and financial strength. The right resources, ready when you need them. The ability to scale our response to meet your needs. Discover why so many communities and local governments have chosen to partner with CrowderGulf.





The Holcim cement plant is located in Theodore and has been in operation since September 1981. The facility is a dry process plant that includes a four stage preheater and is built along the Theodore Ship canal. The plant has increased the usage of alternative raw materials and fuels to reduce its fossil fuel footprint and to lessen impacts on the environment. As part of Holcim US, we play an essential role in accelerating our world's transition to a net zero and inclusive future.

#### SWMCC SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

#### ANNOUNCEMENT ON MAY 1ST

#### PURCHASE YOUR TICKET NOW AT WWW.SWMCCHAMBER.COM







Oak Park Church: The mission of Oak Park Church is the same mission Jesus gave his followers: Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

The vision of Oak Park Church is to create a community of authentic believers and to witness a city transformed by the life changing reality of the gospel, as people come to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

Premier Cleaning & Janitorial: Premier Cleaning & Janitorial, LLC. provides completely managed janitorial services to Mobile and Baldwin counties. We offer weekly inspections, a proven 7-step cleaning process and no long-term contracts. Founded here in Mobile we are non-franchise affiliated and operate under our four core values of Be Honest, Be Relentless, Serve Others, Have Fun. We look forward to our future growth and continuing to serve Southwest Alabama.



Wings of Life: We are a non-profit, Christ centered, life recovery center empowering individuals and families through spiritual development, education, and opportunity.

We empower people to break destructive life cycles including poverty, addiction, incarceration and family violence. We accomplish this through Christian discipleship, wholistic education, and community partnerships.

Our vision is to see individuals, families, and communities transformed for the glory of God.

#### **NEW PARTNERS:**



#### **Chicken Salad Chick**

(251) 660-0501 aidencscmobile@gmail.com www.chickensaladchick.com 2370 Hillcrest Rd Unit R Mobile, AL 36695



#### Sweetbooks, Inc.

(251) 301-6834 services@sweetbooksinc.com www.sweekbooksinc.com 721 Oak Circle Drive E Suite A Mobile, AL 36609



If you plan to attend an upcoming Luncheon, please register ahead of time as to ensure you have a seat!

> \*\* \$20.00 Current Partners \*\* \$25.00 for Prospective Partners EVENT TICKETS ARE LIMITED.

RSVP by Tuesday, April 30th to reserve your seat!

Tickets can be purchased online at www.swmcchamber.com.

If you have prepaid tickets, please email the Chamber Staff to reserve your seat!



#### INFINITE OPPORTUNITIES 501c3 - Non Profit

Our Mission is to Promote Goodwill, Peace, Daily Essentials and Affordable Housing!

Mechelle Davis - Executive Director 5398 Hwy 90 W, #B Mobile, AL 36619 251-662-9812 or 251-298-7237

Nikki Jackson/President 251-209-6076

Terry Stirling/VP 251-377-2573

Email: info@infiniteopp.org Web: www.infiniteopp.org

Food Pantry & Affordable Housing

#### LEARNING LEADERSHIP

# STUDENT PROGRAMS

#### BUILDING TOMORROW

#### STAR STUDENTS

Each month, the SouthWest Mobile County Chamber of Commerce recognizes students from local elementary schools for their dedication to learning. This program would not be possible without the 2023-2024 Star Student Sponsors. Congratulations to

the following students who were recognized at the Business Luncheon on Wednesday, March 6th, 2024:

- Isabella Elmore from Bright Academy sponsored by Burton Property Group
- Maggie Seay from Cottage Hill Christian Academy sponsored by Brian Lancaster, State Farm Insurance
- Lauren Gray from Hollinger's Island Elementary sponsored by Evonik Corporation
- Meadowlake Elementary sponsored by Pilot
- Kamari Frank from Nan Gray Davis Elementary sponsored by BLP Mobile Paints
- Daisy Lawshee from Pearl Haskew Elementary sponsored by Roberts Brothers The Sessions Team
- Lola Logan from W.C. Griggs Elementary sponsored by Alabama Power



#### 11TH ANNUAL KIDS DAY

The SouthWest Mobile County Chamber is accepting vendor applications for its 11th Annual Kids Day on Saturday, July 27th, 2024. The event will take place from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Tillman's Corner Community Center. All applications and registration fees must be turned in by Friday, July 12th. The Chamber has implemented new dress code guidelines for participating vendors.

If you are interested in sponsoring this year's Kids Day, the Chamber has multiple packages available. For more information please email info@swmcchamber.com or call (251) 666-2846.



#### T.A.LL PROGRAM

The SouthWest Mobile County Chamber of Commerce makes instilling leadership skills into today's youth a top priority. The Chamber has a Student Scholarship Program for high school seniors called the Tillman's Corner Area Learning Leadership (T.A.L.L.) Program. Last month, our students had the opportunity to tour Evonik and learn more about the engineering field. We are so appreciative of their staff for making this such an unforgettable experience!

If you know a student who would be a great fit for the program, applications are now available for 2024-2025 seniors. Digital applications can be found at <a href="https://www.swmcchamber.com">www.swmcchamber.com</a> and paper copies are available in the Chamber Office. The deadline for applications has been extended to May 15th, 2024.





The SouthWest Mobile County Chamber of Commerce hosted a Commencement Ceremony for its T.A.L.L. Class of 2024 on Tuesday, April 9th, 2024. We would like to thank Chamber Board President Sharon Murrill, Judge Wesley Pipes, Director Leigh West and Director Paul Radczenko for speaking to attendees about the program. We would also like to thank this year's sponsors for contributing to scholarships for each student: City Councilman Ben Reynolds, CrowderGulf, Evonik Corporation, Holcim, Payroll Vault and Representative Margie Wilcox.

These students have spent the last eight months touring local businesses, meeting government officials, volunteering in the Tillman's Corner Community, learning from financial experts, assisting with Chamber events and more. They have done a tremendous job and the leaders of the SWMCC look forward to seeing the impact these young adults will make on our community after graduating.



**Church, Emma**Murphy High School



**Heller, Maggie**McGill-Toolen Catholic High School



Jones, Addison
Cottage Hill Christian Academy



**Leyk, Marc**Murphy High School



**Sprinkle, Willow**Mary G. Montgomery High School



**Stewart, Myla**Mobile Christian School



**Tate, Jhane**Cottage Hill Christian Academy



**Taylor, Lillian**Cottage Hill Christian Academy



**Thompson, Taylor** Cottage Hill Christian Academy



Washington, Madisyn Theodore High School



Wysong, Campbell
Baker High School



Class of 2024
We wish you all the best!

Thank you to all of the business representatives, sponsors, volunteers, parents, and school administrators who helped make this program possible. We would like to especially thank our Executive Director, Tina Poiroux, for organizing the scheduled activities, overseeing the students, seeking out program sponsors in order to provide the students with scholarships, etc. Mrs. Poiroux's dedication to both the T.A.L.L. Program and our students is unwavering and we are grateful for her continued efforts.

#### SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY CHAMBER

## FIRST RESPONDER SPOTLIGHT

#### SPONSORED BY CENTURY BANK

Congratulations to Officer Caleb Warren from the Mobile Police Department Precinct II on being selected as the Officer of the Month for April of 2024. Officer



Warren was recognized for his accomplishment at our Business Luncheon on Wednesday, April 3rd, 2024. The SouthWest Mobile County Chamber of Commerce would like to say thank you for your outstanding efforts and continued commitment to our community! He is pictured to the right, alongside Captain Matthew James, accepting the certificate from local Century Bank representative Jason Prater.





Deputy Antony Gates was also recognized for his efforts on Wednesday, April 3rd. Deputy Gates was named the Deputy of the Month for April 2024. The Chamber would like to thank you for making the sacrifices you have to protect others in our community. Deputy Gates is pictured to the left with Jason Prater, who represented Century Bank and assisted in presenting the award. We would also like to thank Sheriff Paul Burch and Officer Gates's superior for attending in support of

Burch and Officer Gates's superior for attending in support of this recognition program. The Chamber is proud to have the opportunity to recognize local first responders and greatly appreciate those who help make this recognition possible.



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right with Chamber Board President, Sharon Murrill, and Fire District Representative Bonita Tanner. The SouthWest Mobile County Chamber is proud to sponsor this added recognition. It is an honor to show appreciation towards these individuals for their bravery and dedication to our city. We appreciate the efforts of all three departments as well as their leadership for continuing to support the SouthWest Mobile County Chamber and its partners.



#### BROUGHT TO YOU BY



The SouthWest Mobile County Chamber of Commerce would like to thank Century Bank for sponsoring our Officer of the Month and Deputy of the Month Programs. We so appreciate their willingness to help recognize such outstanding members of our community. Without partners like Century Bank, the Chamber would not be able to impact the SouthWest Mobile County Area as it has.

"Today, the directors, officers and employees of Century Bank continue to uphold and maintain a legacy of being civic-minded to the communities we serve. We invite you to become part of our bank and experience the friendly attitude of our employees as they serve your financial needs with sincere pride in Century Bank and its heritage. After all, it is what we have done

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since 1903. Century Bank is a proud member of the communities we serve. Our involvement in extracurricular activities, fund raisers, organizations and other local events is a priority for directors, officers and employees of Century Bank."



# WEXTLEVEL



Why do world leaders meet with local chambers?

Each year, the SouthWest Mobile County Chamber meets with state and local officials representing the local businesses here in Mobile and in Montgomery at the Legislative level. As your voice of business for more than 45 years, local leaders know the Chamber is the place to discuss investment, innovation, and economic growth.

Through the annual SouthWest Mobile County Chamber partnership, you are given a voice in the Alabama Chamber Association and the U.S Chamber Association. We all champion the interests of Alabamians and American businesses as we help navigate risks and threats to our success. We help government leaders understand the needs our businesses encounter and support smart policy making. Having a proactive stance in local policies ensures businesses are well represented in critical discussion and negotiation in discriminatory regulations concerning taxes and growth. As this chamber advocates for you, we take pride in equipping our partnerships and local businesses with support from government entities. We execute this mission by partnering with local legislative groups like Coastal 150, the BCA, and regional executive chamber leaders. The climate has changed post covid, but we have pivoted to become more relevant to you and your needs by reaching out to our local officials that you have voted into office and continually developing relationships that are impactful for our future growth. As you consider renewing your partnership, take into account the impact we are making here locally as well as on the state level and make sure you are informed and educated about decisions concerning Alabama's future.

Tina Poiroux
Executive Director

#### 2024 BUSINESS EXPO











#### BUSINESS ADVANTAGE SPONSORS

#### **Honorary**

Evonik Corporation Mobile Coca-Cola Bottling Company Polysurveying of Mobile

#### **Diamond** CrowderGulf LLC

CrowderGulf LLC Holcim

#### <u>Platinum</u>

Keesler Federal Credit Union

#### Gold

Mobile County Commission Mobile County Sheriff's Office Payroll Vault Southern View Media

#### Silver

Alabama Power
Evonik Corporation
Polysurveying of Mobile
Proshield Pest Control
The Grounds

#### Bronze

American WeatherStar
Brown and Root Industrial Services
Cadence Bank
Corsentino Chiropractic
CRE - Mobile
Family Security Credit Union
Godfather's Pizza
Gulf Coast Graphix
Hammerhead Kayaks
Premier Cleaning & Janitorial
Rock & Roll Offs
Singing River Health System
Touching Hearts Senior Care

#### Friends of the Chamber

Broussard Agency, Inc Dick Russell's Bar-B-Q Express Employment Professionals Kalifeh Bedsole Adams PC Lindsey & Waldo, LLC Mobile Memorial Gardens Funeral Home Occupational Health Center The Shoulder of the Central Gulf Coast

#### NOT A PARTNER

#### **JOIN TODAY!**

SOUTHWEST MOBILE COUNTY CHAMBER

CALL (251) 666-2846

EMAIL INFO@SWMCCHAMBER.COM 5055 CAROL PLANTATION RD MOBILE, AL

#### THE REAL ESTATE CORNER

Local military nonprofit Vets Recover held a grand opening last month for the Col. John F. Kilpatrick Detox and Residential Treatment Facility at 1200 Springhill Avenue in Mobile. The 18,000-square-foot, two-story, 104-year-old building, formerly known as the historic Raphael Semmes School, has been under development for at least five years. Originally found in a formerly blighted area and used as a homeless shelter, the site has undergone an \$8.4 million transformation, through a combination of public and private funding, and offers interdisciplinary care and peer support services. The ground floor will include a detox facility and dining room, while the second floor includes four-bed dorm rooms and meeting spaces for therapy sessions. Overall, the site has 34-beds providing a level of care along the central Gulf Coast previously not available within a 4-hour drive of Mobile for disabled veterans. The center was developed by experts in recovery that are aware of the challenges many veterans and first responders face on a daily basis, providing multiple levels of care. "You can provide people with world-class healthcare, but if they leave the facility and return home without community support, it will not last. We're going to stop the bleeding here and, with the community's help, they are going to heal," Vets Recover CEO John Kilpatrick said.

The City of Mobile opened a new recycling center in April located at 1750 Dauphin Island Parkway, near the downtown international airport. Funded by a grant from the Alabama Department of Environmental Management, the "Parkway Recycling Center on the Peninsula" will help give Mobilians easy access to single-stream recycling services. Additionally, a separate grant from The Recycling Partnership will enable the city to also increase public education to the public about the available services for recycling and its benefits. These efforts are supported by the American and Alabama Beverage Association. Local 501c3 nonprofit, The Peninsula of Mobile, has partnered with the city on several environmental projects in the area and reportedly plans to construct a 2,000-square-foot visitor information center at the site sometime in the near future.

Last month locally-owned Yellowhammer Coffee held a grand opening of its newest 1,800 square-foot space located at 7849 Cottage Hill Road in West Mobile. This will be their first spot open with extended hours; 6 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Monday-Friday and 7 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Saturday. Yellowhammer Coffee was founded by Jeff and Monique Roberts in 2016 with a mission to focus on the culture of the company, as well as the coffee. Since then, they have opened multiple locations found in Mobile and Semmes.

For real estate questions and news tips about local developments, please call or text 251-219-8914 or email ron@hflend.com



## GETTING VACCINATED IS NOTHING NEW

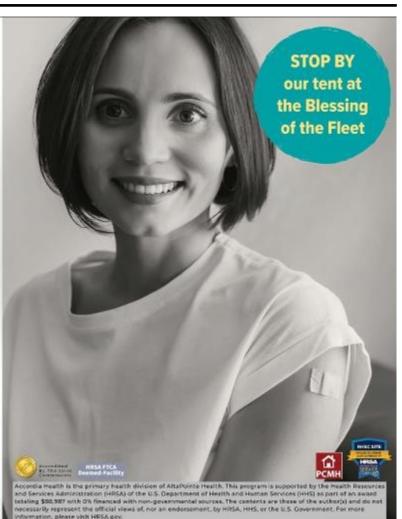
Vaccinations date back hundreds of years. And thanks to the development of vaccines and mass immunization, diseases like smallpox and polio have been eradicated.

But vaccines can't work, if people don't get them.

Protect yourself. Protect Your family. Get Vaccinated.

To make an appointment, find the Accordia Health location nearest you.



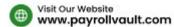


Payroll (13) Vault

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#### **Chamber and Community Center Staff**

#### Executive Director

#### <u>Administrative Assistant</u>

#### Event Coordinator

#### <u>Event Specialist</u>

For Rental Information call the Tillman's Corner Community Center at (251) 666-2488 For Chamber Information call the SWMCC at (251) 666-2846







ALABAMA ACCREDITED CHAMBER OF COMMERCE













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