

Among Friends

Summer/Fall 2008

Volume 3, Issue 1



WITH
a LITTLE
HELP FROM
MY FRIENDS

News, views and updates on animal issues in Antrim County

WITH a LITTLE HELP FROM MY FRIENDS, INC.

A non-profit corporation dealing with animal issues in Antrim County
Organization identification number 38-3605652 section 501C (3)

3820 Ritt Road · Bellaire, MI 49615
(231) 533-4070

walhfmf_4@hotmail.com
www.walhfmf.petfinder.org

Mission Statement

Protecting and teaching compassion for the animals in Antrim County.

Meetings

Meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at Central Lake Public Library
7900 Maple · 7:00pm-8:30pm

Annual Events

8th Annual Chili Cook Off
October 26th, 2008

8th Annual Window Night Central Lake – Christmas Pet Photos
December 3rd, 2008

6th Annual Garage Sale
May 24th, 2009

Look for other WaLHFMF events throughout the year.

WaLHFMF loves to hear from adults and kids! Send us your stories, jokes, drawings, and pictures.

WaLHFMF reserves the right, without further consideration, to use all entries in any publication, media and related promotions.

Keep a copy for yourself, entries can not be returned.



VISIT OUR GREAT PETS AT
Petfinder.com
ADOPT A HOMELESS PET

Does Antrim County really need an animal sanctuary?

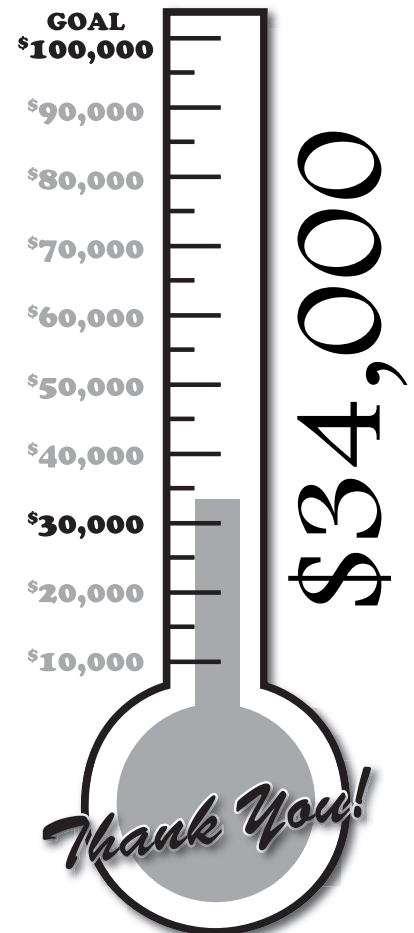
When talking to the residents of Antrim County, it's clear they understand the need for emergency housing for pets in sudden crisis. Many have already experienced situations where they had no where to turn during an emergency. This can be a temporary hospital stay, entering a nursing home, a family member's death or a home fire. They may be forced to make a very emotional decision in the midst of an already stressful time. It's very important to get this building up so WaLHFMF can begin to assist Antrim County Residents with the many animal issues we all face.

The sanctuary will have an adoption program for those pets whose families cannot return for them. It will be a safe haven for those very special pets with certain needs and adoption problems as they will be able to live out their lives in the sanctuary. The new building will offer classes for young people interested in animal welfare and workshops for the community groups and schools. You may want to come and just relax while petting the animals and discussing improvements for animal welfare.

Due to the generous spirit of many, WaLHFMF has a good start toward this goal. Five acres of land has been donated and prepared for a building. There is a road to the site, phone service, electricity, a well, and preliminary building plans have been drawn up. There are volunteers just waiting to help with the construction

Please consider making a donation. It will be through your generosity that the sanctuary will become a reality.

If you would like more information or would like to receive our email updates, call or email With a Little Help From My Friends at (231) 533-4070 or walhfmf_4@hotmail.com.



President's Corner



With all the work I do with animals I often hear "I don't know how you do it dealing with all these sad animal stories" or "I can't even go to the shelter because I'd bring them all home with me." I'm assuming that most of these people really love animals if a simple walk through the pound would make them bring home 20, maybe 30 animals. However, not seeing the animals makes things easier but does it change their fate? Anxiously they wait for someone to realize their worth as a precious gift. With their ability to give unconditional love – they don't care if you are fat or skinny, cute or ugly, old or young, rich or broke, or if you have a big fat pimple on your chin! They just want to love you and have you love them back. Unfortunately for many that home never comes and sadly, this means their wait is over. Even though they were the perfect pet for someone there was no one. Sometimes they were a puppy or kitten and still there was no one. Why? Because no one cares about these animals? NO. That is not the case in Antrim County. It's a simple math problem. Too many animals, not enough homes. It's that simple! Animals reproducing at a faster rate than homes are becoming available. We are the humans here, we have it within our reach to control the animal populations in our community. Not by having to euthanize but by not allowing the breeding to happen in the first place. You have control in your own community. Wouldn't it be great to have an actual shortage of pets in Antrim County? Imagine as soon as a pet became available there was a human home eagerly waiting? Let us do the waiting for a change. YOU can make a difference. Put .50¢ away in a jar every week to go towards a spay/neuter. That feral cat you have been feeding in your back yard, live trap it and get it in to be spayed or neutered. Talk to your neighbors about it not being cool to just let their animals keep breeding. Talk to anyone who'll listen and even those who won't. Come help us at some low cost spay/neuter programs in your neighborhood. Don't avoid seeing the problem because it's sad – it won't go away on its own. We are the humans. We have control of this problem. It will go away if we join together and face it head on and do something about it.

This is our community. What do you want to do about it?

Thank You,
Heather Knust
 President

Did you know these things ?

- 6 – 8 million cats and dogs enter shelters each year
- 3 – 4 million cats and dogs are euthanized by shelters each year
- 3 – 4 million cats and dogs are adopted from shelters each year
- 600,000 – 750,000 cats and dogs are reclaimed by owners from shelters each year
- 4,000 – 6,000 shelters in the United States
- 25% of dogs in shelters are purebred
- Average number of litters a fertile cat can produce in one year is 3
- Average number of kittens in a feline litter: 4-6
- Average number of litters a fertile dog can produce in one year: 2
- Average number of puppies in a canine litter: 6-10

*Humane Society of the United States
 Estimate 10/12/06*

Be a part of the solution! Spay or Neuter your pet!

Find more information and facts at www.thefoundbin.com

Things Anyone Can Do to Help the Animals in Antrim County

Help teach younger children compassion for animals by going into classrooms or scout groups with games, stories and lessons.

Raise money by making dog cookies, bottle & can drives or brainstorm a new idea. Use the money earned to order newsletters about animals for classrooms or to have an animal in the community spay or neutered.

Help educate the importance of spaying and neutering or other important animal issues in the county. Write articles for the newspaper or WaLHFMF' newsletter.

Volunteer your time to With a Little Help From My Friends writing grants or assisting with the website ☺

Keep yourself current on animal issues. Read articles and check out these web sites:

www.kindnews.org
www.humaneteen.org
www.hshs.org
www.petfinder.com
www.bestfriends.org
www.aspca.org



In Memory Of

Martin Mertz

*From Bruce & Lillian McLachlan
 Peggy Bonneau*

Debbie Shannon

From Marlene Attridge

Baby and Mama Duck

From Minish Family

Flex Seeley

From Marilyn, Steve & Storm

Jeanne & Webb Templin

From Heather & Jim Knust

In Honor Of

Josie Paulshock

Christmas

From Wil & Trudy Brown

Uncle Joe & Aunt Josephine

Paulshock Christmas

From Frank & Celi Benavidez

Libby Bagley

Valentine's Day

*From Mom & Dad
 (Melynda & Bob Bagley)*

All Moms

Mother's Day

From Kelsey Thero

Northern Tree Transplant, Inc.

Cody Robinson

From Ron & Sandi Robinson

Want to show your support for With a Little Help From My Friends as well as compassion for a loved one or beloved pet? Send your donation and In Memory Of or In Honor Of to:

**With a Little Help From My Friends
 3820 Ritt Road
 Bellaire, Michigan 49615**

*I get by with
 a little help from
 my friends...*

-John Lennon

Bills Relating to Animals and Where They Stand in Lansing

Animal Welfare Fund PASSED

Bill Number: MI S.B. 350 & S.B. 349

B. 350: Creates the Animal Welfare Fund to provide funds to promote sterilization and adoption of dogs and cats, to improve knowledge of the proper care of animals pursuant to state animal anticruelty laws by educating the public and training personnel authorized by law to enforce state animal anticruelty laws, to support and enhance programs that provide for the care and protection of animals pursuant to state anticruelty laws, and to allow the purchase of equipment and supplies for programs that receive grants.

S.B. 349: Allows individuals to contribute funds to the Animal Welfare Fund through their state income tax returns.

Leghold Traps PENDING

Bill Number: MI H.B. 4497

Prohibits the use of jawed leghold traps.

Animal Cruelty SIGNED INTO LAW

Bill Number: MI H.B. 4550 & 4551

Enhances animal cruelty penalties.

Animal Feeding Operations PENDING

Bill Number: MI S.B. 444 & H.B. 4667

Places a five-year moratorium on new or expanded animal feeding operations.

Pet Protection PENDING

Bill Number:

MI H.B. 4741, H.B. 4742, H.B. 4743

H.B. 4741 allows an individual to petition the family division of circuit court to enter a personal protection order to restrain or enjoin

- a spouse or former spouse,
- an individual with whom he or she has had a child,
- an individual whom he or she has dated, or
- an individual residing or having resided in the same household with the petitioner, who has injured, killed, tortured, neglected or threatened to injure, kill, torture or neglect an animal in the petitioner's possession.

H.B. 4742 makes a person who:

- willfully, maliciously, and without just cause or excuse kills, tortures, mutilates, maims, or disfigures an animal, or
- willfully and maliciously and without just cause or excuse administers poison to an animal, or
- exposes an animal to any poisonous substance other for therapeutic veterinary medical purposes, with the intent that the substance be taken or swallowed by the animal, as the means of perpetrating an act of domestic violence, guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than six years or a fine of not more than \$7,500, or both.

H.B. 4743 adds the crime of killing or torturing animals in perpetration of domestic violence to the criminal code.

Foie Gras PENDING

Bill Number: MI HB 4871

Bans the production and sale of foie gras.

Sexual Abuse of Animals PENDING

Bill Number MI H.B. 4139

Adds the sexual abuse of animals to the list of crimes for which one must register as a sexual offender.

Dog Racing PASSED SENATE

Bill Number: MI S.B. 626

Prohibits dog racing

Pound Seizure & Class B Dealers PENDING

Bill Number: MI H.B. 5263

Prohibit research facilities or dealer obtaining dogs or cats from an animal control shelter or animal protection shelter and regulate the purchase and sale of random source animals.

Animal Cruelty Penalties PASSED HOUSE

Bill Number: MI H.B. 4552

Allows for consecutive sentencing for each animal affected in cruelty cases.



Elected State Officials
You can contact any of these officials at
www.michigan.gov

Carl Levin, Senator
Debbie Stabenow, Senator
Bart Stupak, Representative

Jennifer Granholm, Governor
Kevin Elsenheimer, House
Jason Allen, MI Senate

submitted by
Bob & Cindy Morgner, Central Lake

Stray Cat

Oh, what unhappy twist of fate
Has brought you homeless to my gate?
The gate where once another stood
To beg for shelter, warmth, and food
For from that day I ceased to be
The master of my destiny

While he, with purr and velvet paw
Became within my house the law



He scratched the furniture and shed
And claimed the middle of my bed

He ruled in arrogance and pride
And broke my heart the day he died
So if you really think, Oh Cat,
I'd willingly relive all that
Because you come forlorn and thin
Well...don't just stand there...
Come on in!

Author *Francis Witham*
Submitted by *Linda Kinery, Kewadin*

Safety Checklist For Kids

Dogs can be fun to play with, but remember - a dog is not a toy. Always be kind and gentle with your dog, and never poke, step on or pull your dog's hair, ears or tail.

Learn the following rules and share them with your family and friends:



Always ask a dog's owner if you may pet the dog.

There may be a very good reason why a dog should not be touched. He may be "on duty" as a handicapped person's helper, or he may be hurt, sick, or afraid of kids.

Approach a dog from the front or side.

Hold your hands low and speak softly. If you surprise a dog from behind, wave your hands in the air, or yell, you could scare the dog and cause him to try to bite you.

Let a dog eat and sleep in peace.

A dog who is eating may think you are going to take his food away if you come too close, so be sure to leave him alone until he is done. If a dog is sleeping, you might scare him if you come too close and wake him up, so wait until he wakes up by himself.

Watch out for special toys.

Some dogs have strong feelings for their balls and chew toys - just like you do with your favorite toys! You wouldn't want someone to grab your favorite toy away from you, so don't take a bone or toy from a dog's mouth unless you have trained him to drop it and give it to you first.

Respect a dog's space.

Dogs naturally protect their territories. Sticking your hand inside a strange dog's pen, through a fence or in a car window where a dog is sitting may cause him to bite to protect his property.

**DO NOT
DISTURB**



Lessons from Geese



As each goose flaps its wings, it creates an "uplift" for the birds following. By flying in a "V" formation the whole flock adds 71% more flying range than if each bird flew alone.

Lesson: People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going quicker and easier because they are traveling on the thrust of one another.

When a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to fly alone and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the birds immediately in front.

Lesson: If we have as much sense as a goose, we will join in formation with those who are headed where we want to go.

When the lead goose gets tired, it rotates back into the formation and another goose flies at the point position.

Lesson: It pays to take turns doing the hard tasks and sharing leadership—with people, as with geese—interdependent with one another.

The geese in formation honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.
Lesson: We need to make sure our honking from behind is encouraging—not something less helpful.

When a goose gets sick or wounded or shot down, two geese drop out of formation and follow their fellow member down to provide protection. They stay with this member of the flock until he or she is able to fly again or dies. Then they launch out on their own, with another formation, or to catch up with their own flock.

Lesson: If we have as much sense as the geese, we'll stand by one another like they do.



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www.akc.org

Many Thanks to our Hardworking Volunteers for all the time, love, and tears they give for the cause.

And to the following businesses and individuals.

- **Antrim County Animal Shelter** for their continued support to WaLHFMF.
- **Antrim County Review** for their donation and help with PR.
- **Antrim County's veterinarians** and their caring staff for taking care of the animals.
- **Helena Township Hall** for the continued use of their facilities.
- Jack Bodis of **Creative Characters** in Central Lake for his help in the formatting and printing of this newsletter.
- **Chris & Merrie Corbett, Sophie DeWitt, Matt & Deborah Knudstrup** and the **Lundstrom Foundation** for their continued faith and support with WaLHFMF's new sanctuary.
- **Rochelle & Stephen Haeussler** owners of Wags to Wiskers Pet Store in Gaylord for their pet food donations.
- **Jacquelyn Ritt, CPA**

Donors 10/07 - 04/08 Fifty dollars +

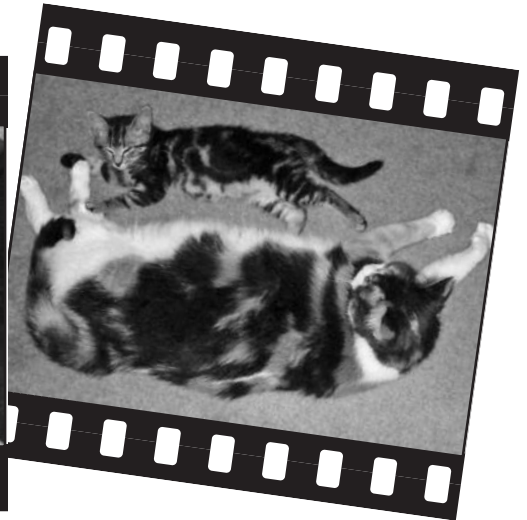
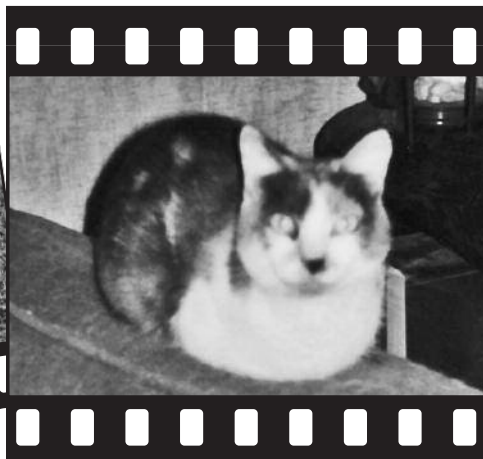
Marlene Attridge
Alden State Bank
Carpet Barn
Butch & Cindy Bartz
Frank & Celi Benavidez
Will & Trudy Brown
Merrie & Chris Corbett
Dean's Insurance

Rob Dolinka & Nancy Reye, MD
William & Marilyn Dewey
Sophie DeWitt
Paula Dent/Lois Holland
Bob & Sherry Flucht
Deborah Francis
Jean Griffin
Cathy & Kurt Hildorf
Meredith Kadlec
Linda Kenny
Lynn Kirby
Matt & Deborah Knudstrup
Jim & Heather Knust

Steve & Sue LaJoice
Linda Larsen
Lundstrom Foundation
Julie Mathiesen
Bill & Mona Minish
John Peterson/Diane Mortensen
Northern Tree Transplant Inc
Lynn Pahl
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Ron & Sandi Robinson
William & Karen Scadin

Kathryn Schwert
Marilyn Seely
Eugene Selden
Six Mile Lake Friends of the Animals
Elizabeth Smith
Diane Stevens
Stuff & Such
Deborah Taylor
Sue Thero
William Weiss
Arlene Westhoven
Dorothy & Bruce Wierman
Shirley Williams

Thank You For Your Continued Support! Please accept our sincere apology if your name was inadvertently omitted.



I was a throw away. Dumped off at Schuss Mt. and my adopted mom saved me from the Animal Shelter, now I go to work at Northern Tree and have had a great life for the last 10 years. I am hoping this money will help other dogs like me.

– *Cody Robinson*

Misty

Betty Derochei, Mancelona

Callie & Mindy

Summer 2007 "One of my favorite photos"
Marlene Attridge, Royal Oak



Doggie Fun

by *Susan M. Ehnis*

Hi, I'm Susan! I love dogs! I have one named Mindy and she's a beagle. We have had her for eight years and she's been so good. I love her and she loves me. We have a lot of fun together. I take her for walks a lot and she likes it.

My sister has a dog named Charger. When they come for a visit, Mindy and Charger play tug of war. We are all pals.

Have a Pet Behavior Problem?

Michigan Humane Society has a Help Line:
248-650-0127



Need Help Choosing the Right Pet?

Questions on health issues?

Ani-Med can help www.animed.org



Michigan Humane Society has an Adoption Club!

Free to join at www.michiganhumane.org
You can get questions about your pet answered and find other resources.

It's a human problem.

That is the problem of all those 5 month to 2 year old young adults in the shelter. If you won't take your dog to training classes and socialize your pup then get a stuffed dog, not a real one.

Are you ready for a puppy?

- Pour cold apple juice on the carpet in several places and walk around barefoot in the dark.
- Wear a sock to work that has had the toes shredded by a blender.
- Immediately upon waking, stand outside in the dark when it's raining saying "Be a good puppy, go potty now – hurry up – come on, let's go!"
- Cover your best suits with dog hair. Dark suits use white hair and light suits use dark hair. Also float some hair in your first cup of coffee in the morning.
- Play "catch" with a wet tennis ball for hours.
- Run out in the snow in your bare feet to close the gate.
- Tip over the laundry basket of clean laundry, scattering clothing all over the floor.
- Leave your underwear on the living room floor because that's where the dog will drag it anyway (especially when you have company).
- Jump out of your chair shortly before the end of your favorite TV program and run to the door shouting, "No, no! Do that OUTSIDE!" Miss the end of your program.
- Put chocolate pudding on the carpet in the morning and don't try cleaning it up until you return home from work that evening.
- Gouge the leg of the dining room table several times with a screwdriver – it's going to get chewed on anyway.
- **Take a warm and cuddly blanket out of the dryer and immediately wrap it around yourself. This is the feeling you will get when your puppy falls asleep on your lap.**



— author unknown

Submitted by Antrim County Animal Control

You Can Talk to Your Dog!

By Dr. Nicholas Dodman

Published: April 27, 2008

Good communication is key to a rewarding relationship with your dog, and the conversation has to go both ways. Try these tips to convey what you want to your pet and to help you understand what he's "saying" in return:

Keep commands short and simple. Dogs understand human speech by taking cues from distinct sounds. Short words ending in a clearly enunciated consonant are best.

Don't repeat yourself. Voice commands should be said just once for maximum effect. Most dogs have better hearing than humans and will remember a word for up to two minutes. If they don't respond, it's not that they don't hear you—it's that they aren't listening!

Expand your dog's vocabulary. Dogs can understand hundreds of words, but each should be linked to a specific object or action. Dogs cannot understand complete sentences. However, they will pick up on your tone of voice (happy, sad, and concerned) and respond accordingly.

Use your body. Recent studies show that dogs understand our gestures and body language. If you point at an object, your dog will not think you are imitating the Statue of Liberty—he will look toward where you are pointing.

Listen closely. Dogs' barks mean something. Many dog owners say they can tell by the tone of their dog's bark whether a friend or a stranger is approaching the house.

Check the tail. A new study shows that a dog wagging his tail with a bias to the right is excited and happy to see you. A dog wagging his tail predominantly to the left is excited but unsure or fearful. Since it can be hard to tell the difference, interpret all tail-wagging in context: If a dog is wagging his tail but also growling, it's best to back off.

Look into his eyes. Rapid blinking is a sign of nervousness or deep thought. A dog that blinks rapidly after being given a command is deciding whether or not to obey.

Get your licks. Pups lick their mothers' lips to get them to regurgitate food. When dogs lick people, it's a sign of submission or deference.

Let him lean. If your dog leans against your leg, he is asking you for protection in a threatening situation. This is good—you should be in charge—but understands that your dog is counting on you to make him feel safe again.

Read the "writing" on the wall. Call it pee-mail or canine graffiti—urine marking is an important method of communication for dogs. It may indicate territoriality, possessiveness or hostility. If you notice where he marks, you may be able to understand and address his concerns. And if a dog nudges you in the crotch or other pheromone-rich regions, he's just trying to get to know you from your scent.

Dr. Dodman is director of the Animal Behavior Clinic at Tufts Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine and author of "Dogs Behaving Badly" and other books

Upcoming advertising opportunities Among Friends

Starting with our Fall 2008 newsletter, With a Little Help From My Friends will accept advertising from animal lovers and their businesses, allowing you to let our local community know that you support and care for the animals in Antrim County. We will have different size ad spaces available and are working on finalizing the details. Please call (231) 533-4070 or email us at walhmf_4@hotmail.com for more information.

In the meantime, we dedicate this page to those businesses that have been instrumental in our success so far and encourage you to stop in and say thank you for their continued and very generous support.



Central Lake



*The Blue Pelican
Restaurant & Pelican
Banquet Room*
Central Lake



Alden State Bank
Alden Branch



Alden State Bank
Central Lake Branch



Alden State Bank
Bellaire Branch



**WAGS TO
WISKERS
PET SUPPLIES**
Gaylord



Alden State Bank
Elk Rapids Branch



Antrim Review
Bellaire



Brother's Restaurant
Central Lake



Alden



Bellaire



Downtown Elk Rapids



from Petalia.com.au



Human Foods That May Poison Pets



- Alcohol
- Apple cores
- Avocados
- Bones
- Broccoli (in large amounts)
- Caffeine
- Chocolate
- Coffee grounds, beans, & tea
- Cheese
- Cigarettes, tobacco, cigars
- Dough
- Fat
- Garlic
- Grapes & raisins
- Ham
- Hops (used in home brewing)
- Liver
- Milk
- Moldy or spoiled foods
- Mushrooms
- Onion
- Pear pips, the kernels of plums, peaches and apricots, apple core pips (*contains cyanogenic glycosides resulting in cyanide poisoning*)
- Potato peels & green looking potatoes
- Rhubarb leaves
- Tomato leaves & stem (green parts)
- Tuna
- Yeast dough



WITH
A LITTLE
HELP FROM
MY FRIENDS

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Bellaire, Mi 49615

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