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101st YEAR

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 2025

PHONE: (216) 441-2141 • EMAIL: NNEWS1923@AOL.COM

FREE



See Pages 4 & 5

Celebrating Maple Leaf's century of educating



Maple Leaf Elementary School, founded in 1925, and the Garfield Heights City School District celebrated Maple Leaf's 100th year of serving the Garfield Heights community on Monday in the school's courtyard. Everyone enjoyed hot dogs, soft drinks and dessert after singing a rousing rendition of "Happy Birthday." Shown in the photo at left is Maple Leaf Principal Paul Glazer with students, and at left State Rep. Darnell Brewer is shown with Garfield Heights School Board President Dr. Millette King. Brewer presented a special proclamation at the celebration commending Maple Leaf for 100 years of education. *Photos by Elena Psenicka*

Garfield council creates city's first ever grant program for home repairs

By Ellen Psenicka

Garfield Heights Council met Monday evening, April 28, and passed a resolution to create the Home Repair Assistance Grant Program in the city and to award funding to eligible applicants paid for from a CDSG supplemental grant of \$50,000 and an additional \$150,000 of ARPA funds to support this program.

The city of Garfield Heights will offer an Exterior Maintenance Grant to cover transformative projects to the outside of owner-occupied one- two- or three-family residential properties. These projects must be visible from the street and may include, but are not limited to: gutters, roofs, painting, windows, doors, and driveways/service walkways/sidewalks.

Senior Safety Grant funds will also be available to address immediate health and safety improvements. Projects can include grab bars, handrails, safety lighting/ switches and grounding electrical outlets with ground fault circuit interceptors. Homeowner must be receiving the State of Ohio's Homestead Exemption for their primary residence in the city of Garfield Heights to apply for the one-time use only Senior Safety Grant funds.

Additionally, 10 roof replacements for a total cost not to exceed \$50,000, will be funded by this program. Applicants must meet Housing and Urban Development's Extremely Low Income Limits to apply for the one-time use only of roof replacement project funds. The goal is to replace one roof in each of the city's seven wards, assuming at least one applicant from each ward applies and meets the funding guidelines. An additional three roof replacements will take place citywide.

(Continued on Page 2)

Local plant sales in May

With the arrival of spring come flower and plant sales that fill this month's calendar. Many are organized by local nonprofits that raise funds by offering an array of hard-to-find cultivars ideally suited to Northeast Ohio's climate.

Among the biggest sales:

WASHINGTON PARK HORTICULTURE SPRING SALE - May 8, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; May 8 is open until 6 p.m. 3875 Washington Park Blvd., Newburgh Heights. Plants grown by local students over winter. Proceeds support CMSD horticulture programs.

CANALWAY CENTER NATIVE PLANT SALE - Saturday, May 10, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Ohio & Erie Canal Reservation, 4524 E. 49 St., Cuyahoga Heights. A curated collection of Northeast Ohio favorites.

GARDENERS OF GREATER CLEVELAND ANNUAL PLANT SALE - May 15-17, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Rockefeller Greenhouse, 750 E. 88 St., Cleveland. Natives, annuals, perennials, herbs, houseplants, art. The venue is a gem of Cleveland public gardening.

MASTER GARDENERS OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY ANNUAL PLANT SALE - Saturday, May 31, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Kiwanis Pavilion, 6363 Selig Dr., Independence. This huge sale offers selections from members' own home gardens.

Bedford Council sets up fund for redeveloping old UH hospital property

By Ellen Psenicka

Bedford Council met Monday night and passed legislation establishing a new fund for the city to be known as the Blaine Avenue Campus Redevelopment Fund.

The fund will receive \$2.1 million from University Hospitals due to settled litigation regarding the old University Hospitals property located at 44 Blaine Ave., and possible grant funds, which will be used toward the improvement of the site, including professional services necessary to maintain, market or manage the property for economic development or sale, including but not limited to costs for legal, engineering and demolition.

Any funds received will be used within a 10-year period.

Council also passed the following legislation at its Monday meeting:

- Approving the Board of Zoning Appeals' decision to deny Roz Patrick of Patrick's Enterprises permission to build a new home at P.P.N. 813-14-038 which sought four variances.

- Making additional appropriations for current expenditures for the city during the year 2025.

County Council District 8 Forum in G.H.

The Cuyahoga County Democratic Party will sponsor the Future Forum Solution-Seeking Series for County Council District 8 on Thursday, May 15, beginning at 6:30 p.m., at the Garfield Heights Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library, 5409 Turney Rd., Garfield Heights.

Special guest will be Pernel Jones, Jr., County Council representative from District 8. All District 8 residents are invited to join Chairman Dave Brock and guests for a post-election debriefing and Q&A session.

- Entering into an agreement with Software Solutions Inc. (SSI) for utility billing (UB) software license, conversion, configuration and implementation for the Bedford Water Department.

(Continued on Page 2)

Free summer programs at Boys & Girls Clubs

- Entering into an agreement with Thendesign Architecture for planning services for the Garfield Heights Police Station. Thendesign will analyze the current needs of the police department, refine a previously developed program of requirements and evaluate conditions of

- Honoring and congratulating Matthew Thompson for winning the "Stop the Hate" Teacher of the Year Award. Thompson, an educator at Garfield Heights Middle School, has been honored with this award by the Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage for his commitment to anti-bias education and fostering an environment of inclusivity and empathy, according to the resolution.

- Levying special assessments for the improvement of lighting on streets and public places in the city. The levy will be at a rate of \$1.60 per each \$100 of tax valuation for tax year 2025 for lots and lands bounding and abutting said improvements.

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LIBRARIES PLAN SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Bedford (Bedford Heights/Oakwood Village) Branch Library

Here are some of the **FREE** programs coming up at the Bedford Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library, located at 70 Columbus Rd., Bedford, Ohio 44146. For more information, or to register for any program, please call 440-439-4997.

Magic Tree House Mondays -Grades 2-4, Monday, May 12, 7 p.m. Join us as we explore Mary Pope Osborne's classic series, "Mummies in the Morning." Whether you finished the book or not, join us for Magic Tree House discussion and fun. **MUST REGISTER**

Who Were the Buffalo Soldiers? Tuesday, May 13, 7 p.m. As the American Civil War ended, the United States faced the task of rebuilding the war-torn country. Jobs were hard to find, food was scarce and thousands were homeless. People traveled West to start a new life on the frontier. Learn more about the journey of the soldiers of the 9th and 10th Cavalry, how they earned the nickname "Buffalo Soldiers" and how their contributions assisted with expanding the West and creating the foundation for the National Parks Rangers.

Kindergarten Countdown -Children entering kindergarten next fall and their caregiver. Wednesday, May 14, 10:30 a.m. Join us as we help your child build kindergarten readiness skills in a program aligned to Ohio's Early Childhood Standards. **MUST REGISTER**

Independence Branch Library

Located at 6361 Selig Dr., Independence. For more information or to register for any program, please call 216-447-0160.

Thyme to Grow - Gardening Fun. Registration required. For students in grades K-3. Bring your green thumb and enjoy a gardening story and activities and plant some seeds to take home for planting in your own garden. Saturday, May 10, 2 p.m.



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See News Article on Page 1

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Death Notices

JOANNE CIESLA

Joanne Ciesla (nee Abramowski), age 74, passed away May 3, 2025, peacefully with her three sons at her side. Beloved wife to the late James Ciesla. Dear mother to Jason, Jonathan (Quentin), Jeffrey (Terra). Grandmother to Ulices and Isabelle. Sister of Kathy (Jack) and Debbie (Bill). Aunt to Michelle. She will be remembered in the lives of those she touched and will be missed.



The family will receive friends on Friday, May 9, from 4 to 8 p.m., at Fortuna Funeral Home, Independence, Ohio 44131. Mass of Christian Burial Tuesday, May 13, 2025, at 10:30 a.m. at St. John Nepomucene Church, 3785 Independence Rd., Cleveland, OH 44105. Interment St. Mary Cemetery.

Community Police Reports

(All information is preliminary and subject to change pending investigation.)

Garfield Heights

Motor Vehicle Accident

On April 18, about noon, police were dispatched to the area of Turney and Rockside rds. for a vehicle hitting a telephone pole. An Arby's employee told officers that a black male wearing a black sweatshirt, white t-shirt underneath and white shoes had gotten out of the car and left walking north on Turney Rd. Dispatch told police that city cameras had captured the accident and showed a black Mazda going north on Turney in the turning lane to head west onto Rockside. As the light changed to red the driver went left of center around a vehicle through the intersection, then made a left, lost control, drove over the curb and hit the utility pole on a tree lawn. The Mazda then came to rest facing north, blocking both westbound lanes of Rockside. During the pre-tow inventory of the car, officers found a bag with suspected crack cocaine and prescription insulin medications which belonged to a man with a Cleveland Heights address. He was also found to have a suspended driver's license and an active felony warrant for strangulation with the Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Office. Paperwork completed for hit-skip, traffic citations. Possible charges pending for drug possession.

Felonious Assault

• On April 20, at 7:10 p.m., officers arrived in the area of E. 128 St. and Oakview Blvd. for a report that a vehicle had struck a parked car and was trying to leave the scene. When police arrived they spoke to the wife of the driver of the vehicle who said her husband had left to get a floor jack to move his car. There was heavy passenger side damage, including the tires, which rendered the vehicle immobile. The husband arrived and openly admitted to driving the vehicle. Before the accident, he said he was moving his car into his driveway at which time a white

(Continued on Page 7)

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LAW OFFICE 216-241-0666



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INDEPENDENCE, OH 44131

KIDS' T-BALL REGISTRATION APRIL 21 to MAY 20 At Dan Kostel Rec Center, 5411 Turney Rd., Garfield Hts.

T-ball is for any child who will be age 5-7 years old on or before July 1, 2025.

Birth certificates are required for all players at the time of registration. Only a parent or legal guardian can register a child. All residents must bring in 2 current proofs of residency, consisting of 2 current utility bills, bank statement or pay stub showing name & address.

Residents pay \$60 + current \$20 rec ID card

Non-Residents pay \$80 + current \$50 rec ID card

Sign up Early! Registrations after May 20th are subject to a \$15 administrative late fee. The season will run from June through July and play is on average twice a week.

Remaining open office hours are:

April 30, May 1, 7, 8, 13, 16, 21, 22 - 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. only

May 19 & 20 - 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Saturday, May 17 - 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. only

Check web page: www.garfieldhts.org for details on flyer & open office hours offered, or call 216-475-7272 during open office hours to reach a team member by pressing 0.



Village of Newburgh Heights

Housing & Building Department
3801 Harvard Avenue
Newburgh Heights, Ohio 44105
216-641-4654
newburgh-oh.gov

NOTICE OF BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS SPECIAL MEETING

The Village of Newburgh Heights Board of Zoning Appeals will meet on Thursday, May 15, 2025 at 6:00pm in the Village Hall Council Chambers located at 3801 Harvard Ave. in Newburgh Heights.

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of Minutes (05/29/2024)
- III. Review of request for a use variance at 4051 E 44 St (PPN 511-12-049) from Commercial to Residential.
- IV. Review of request for a use variance a Hermit Avenue (PPN 511--06-086 and PPN 511-07-018) from Residential Vacant Land to General Commercial.
- V. Public comment
- VI. Action
- VII. Adjournment

Posted at Village Hall, Village Facebook, in The Neighborhood News and mailed, April 30, 2025
Posted in The Neighborhood News: May 7, 2025

THESE NEIGHBORHOOD CHURCHES WELCOME YOU

**Garfield Heights
United Methodist Church**
4977 Turney Road
Garfield Heights, Ohio
Worship Sundays at 11:30am
In Church and on Facebook Live
Pastor Andrew Scott

St. Monica Church
13623 Rockside Road
Garfield Heights 216-662-8685
Pastor: Rev. John J. Mullee
Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00 pm
Sunday Mass: 9:00 am and 10:45 am
All Mass times are Live streamed.

We Salute Moms Everywhere On Her Special Day!!

Mother's Day, Sunday, May 11, 2025



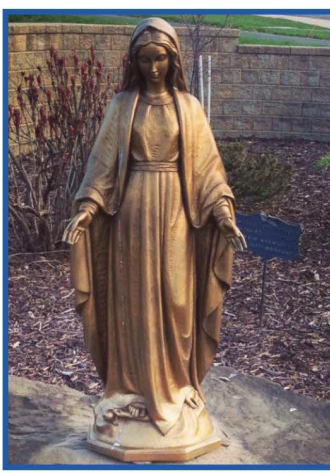
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Happy Mother's Day!

Lord Jesus,
We pray in gratitude for the gift of our mothers. Look with favor on all mothers on their special day and grant them the blessings of good health, happiness, and peace of mind. May our Blessed Mother Mary keep them close to her loving heart and remain a beacon of unconditional love. We remember the mothers who are no longer with us but live forever in our hearts and memory. Help us to cherish and honor our mothers today and always.
Amen

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Happy



Mothers Day!

Hydrant flushing in M.H.

The Maple Heights Fire Department began flushing fire hydrants throughout the city on Monday, May 5, and will continue until all hydrants have been completed.

The schedule will be Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., weather permitting.

Officials ask residents to check to see if water is rusty before drinking it, beginning food preparation or laundry. If it is, Cleveland Water recommends that you do not flow any water including flushing toilets for one hour. After that hour, start at the lowest level of the home and

turn on cold water until water runs clear. At that point you can turn off the water and proceed to your next level and follow same steps until each level flows clear.

Chicken Paprikash Dinner

Sokol Greater Cleveland will hold a Chicken Paprikash & Dumplings Dinner on Sunday, May 18, at Bohemian National Hall, 4939 Broadway Ave., Cleveland, serving from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Cost is \$20; reserve by Monday night, May 12. Call Vlad Nemecek at 216-894-3591.

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Mother's Day is Sunday

Remember Mom!

May 11, 2025

Exclusively Skin in Garfield Heights



Dr. Tracy Ringo is pleased to announce that Exclusively Skin, specializing in the treatment of skin diseases, has opened in Garfield Heights

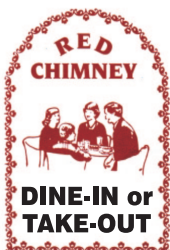
9565 Midwest Ave., Suite C.

Common issues treated include abscess/boils, acne, cellulitis, dark spots/blemishes, dry skin and scalp, eczema, hair loss, mole removals, psoriasis, skin cancer screenings, wart removal and more.

Dr. Ringo is a Cleveland native who graduated from Bedford High School and was inducted into the Bedford High School Hall of Fame in 2003.

She served for 30 years in the Ohio Army National Guard and is the first African American female to reach the rank of Colonel.

**Contact Exclusively Skin at 216-508-6500
or visit website: www.exclusively-skin.com.**



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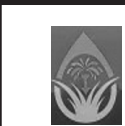
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BD CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

Community Police Reports

(Continued from Page 3)

Hyundai or Kia sedan came up to his residence on Mapleleaf Dr. and made a U-turn as the passenger leaned back into the vehicle and fired two rounds at him. The car then quickly sped off north on E. 128 St. The man told police he was still in his car and attempted to follow the suspect vehicle to get a plate number but soon after struck a fire hydrant at the intersection of Oakview and E. 128 St. Police did not locate any shell casings in the area. The driver was cited for failure to control and released on scene. He did not request any further police action.

• On April 21, at 2:11 p.m., an officer arrived at Calvary Cemetery, 10000 Miles Ave., in Cleveland, for a report that a staff member was stabbed by his co-worker. The victim told police he was coming back from his break when the co-worker and he got into a verbal argument. He said the co-worker got out a knife and cut him in the right

hand. The report noted the large amount of blood coming from the victim's hand and bandage that a co-worker had applied. Two witnesses provided statements that they saw the victim get stabbed. The victim said he was stabbed in the hand as he put his hands up to protect his face from getting punched. EMS took the man to Marymount Hospital for treatment. The co-worker who allegedly stabbed him fled the scene in a white Subaru Legacy and officers were unable to locate him at the time the police report was written. Charges signed for felonious assault and a warrant put out for his arrest. Forwarded to Detective Bureau.

Vandalism

On April 30, at 10:46 a.m., officer was dispatched to Boys Hope Girls Hope, 9603 Garfield Blvd., in regard to a criminal damaging report. The complainant told police that between April 25 and April 27, juveniles damaged fencing along the west side of their athletic field to gain entry. The complainant has video of the juvenile spray

painting the field turf on April 27, between 4:35 p.m. and 4:40 p.m. She said this is an ongoing problem with juveniles trespassing and causing damage to property.

Shots Fired

On April 28, at 9:55 p.m., GHPD was dispatched to the 4600 block of E. 131 St., for an anonymous caller reporting they heard three to four gunshots, and heard an argument shortly before hearing the shots. A second caller also said he heard several gunshots and people arguing. He provided a vague description of two black females and one black male standing in front of a residence. Officers canvassed the area for shell casings and located a total of seven spent 9mm casings in the parking lot nearest to the 4619 E. 131 St. apartment complex, but did not find any potential damage from the shootings. A witness told officers that a male and female were arguing and a second female involved started shooting. GHPD will review security camera footage that appears as if it would provide a relevant view of where the shootings took place.

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Newly refurbished St. Stanislaus Social Center dedicated in Slavic Village

On Monday, April 28, dedication ceremonies took place for the newly renovated St. Stanislaus Social Center and Carol A. Chase Entrance Hall, at 6521 Baxter Ave., in Cleveland's Slavic Village neighborhood, on the campus of St. Stanislaus Church and school and Cleveland Central Catholic High School.

A ribboncutting was held, along with a blessing by St. Stanislaus Church Pastor Fr. Eric Orzech and dedication of the completed phase of the new entrance hall.

The recent renovations include transforming the 65-year-old building with an expanded entrance hall and various other upgrades, including an elevator, energy-efficient windows and lighting, renovated office space and an outdoor promenade and gathering space.

CCCCHS President John Simon, Class of 1972, expressed heartfelt gratitude to George Chase, Class of 1961, whose generosity and dedication made the project possible. In a touching tribute, the new entrance hall was named in honor of his late wife, Carol Ann Chase, also Class of 1961.

"This project sends a strong message to the families, students, and other constituencies we serve in the Slavic Village community that we are committed to the well-being of our campus — now and in the future," said Simon. "We are grateful to the many individuals, foundations, and families who made this project possible through their generous support."

"This exciting new multi-million dollar investment started years ago with land assembly and a vision has become a dream come true for our neighborhood," said resident and former Cleveland City Councilman Tony Brancatelli. "The completion of this first phase which is the new entryway to the social center will be an asset for the entire community."

Undercover sweep of bars, others in Garfield Heights

As posted on the GHPD Facebook page

On the night of May 2, 2025, Tactical Enforcement Unit detectives, GHPD officers, and Ohio Investigative Unit agents conducted undercover operations at liquor establishments in the city of Garfield Heights. The detail targeted any business at which alcohol is sold including convenient stores, gas stations and bars. Officers and agents made 22 separate contacts with the following results:

- Firearms seized – 7
- Stolen firearms recovered – 2
- Drug charges – 2
- Warrant arrests – 1
- Traffic stops – 4
- Open container/littering violations – 2
- Firearms checked and released – 4

The Ohio Investigative Unit has been such a great partner for us. They are always willing to help and anytime they come to town it's a good day for law and order. Our department has numerous joint operations planned with outside agencies for the coming summer months. All with different focuses and all aimed at making our city safer and keeping criminals off our streets.

Thanks to Mayor Burke, City Council and our residents for their continued support!



Shown here at left is St. Stanislaus Church Pastor Rev. Eric Orzech at the blessing and dedication of the new entrance hall of the St. Stanislaus Social Center, with Cleveland Central Catholic High School President John Simon standing in the center, foreground.

Photos courtesy of Tony Brancatelli



The newly renovated St. Stanislaus Social Center was dedicated on April 28, culminating the yearlong upgrade to the popular Slavic Village venue.

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

By order of the Council of the City of Maple Heights, sealed bids will be received by the Purchasing Agent, at Maple Heights City Hall, 5353 Lee Road, Maple Heights, Ohio 44137, until **12:00 Noon, local time, on the 22nd day of May, 2025** for the **"Southwest Quadrant Sewer Repairs-Phase 3 Project"** in the City of Maple Heights, Ohio, NO FAXED COPIES ACCEPTED.

The bid documents, specifications and drawings may be examined without charge online at www.cvelimited.plancycle.com. To become a Registered Bidder, documents, specifications and drawings must be purchased at either www.cvelimited.plancycle.com, SE Blueprint at 2035 Hamilton Avenue Cleveland, OH 44114 or SE Blueprint at 520 South Main Street, Suite 2411 Akron, OH 44311 at the cost of \$100.00 + tax and delivery which includes bid registration, one hard copy set of the bid package and one complete set of pdf files. Additional sets of bid documents can also be ordered online at www.cvelimited.plancycle.com or by emailing seblue@seblueprint.com, calling 216-241-2250 or visiting an SE Blueprint location.

Each bidder is required to furnish with its proposal, a Bid Guaranty and Contract Bond in accordance with Section 153.54 of the Ohio Revised Code. Bid security furnished in Bond form, shall be issued by a Surety Company or Corporation licensed in the State of Ohio to provide said surety. Each bid must be made upon the Proposal Form provided in the set of specifications and must be accompanied by a bank check or cashier's check drawn on a solvent bank in Cuyahoga County in an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the amount bid, or a bid bond in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the amount bid, as a guarantee that if said bid is accepted, a contract will be entered into and a Surety Bond satisfactory to said City in an amount equal to 100% of the total bid will be furnished. Checks shall be made payable to the City of Maple Heights, Ohio.

Each Proposal must contain the full name of the party or parties submitting the proposal and all persons interested therein. Each bidder must submit evidence of its experiences on projects of similar size and complexity. The owner intends and requires that this project be completed no later than **June 1st, 2026**.

Bids will be opened and read at the time and place stated above. Those who submitted Proposals or their representatives are invited to attend.

All contractors and subcontractors involved with the project will to the extent practicable use Ohio products, materials, services, and labor in the implementation of their project. Additionally, contractor compliance with the equal employment opportunity requirements of Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 123 is required.

Bidders must comply with the prevailing wage rates on Public Improvements in Cuyahoga County and the City of Maple Heights, Ohio as determined by the Ohio Department of Commerce, Bureau of Wage and Hour Administration, 614.644.2239.

The right is reserved to accept any bidder, to reject any or all bids, and to waive informalities should it be deemed to be in the best interest of the City of Maple Heights to do so.

Bids are to be submitted in accordance with the plans and specifications on file in the office of the Purchasing Agent. Sealed bids must be marked, **"SOUTHWEST QUADRANT SEWER REPAIRS-PHASE 3 PROJECT"**

PUBLISHED: The Neighborhood News
May 7, 2025
May 14, 2025

Tinita Tillman
Finance Director
City of Maple Heights, Ohio

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