

1997 DeWitt Ox Roast

OFFICIAL PROGRAM



Brought to you by the *DeWitt-Bath Review* and
the *Clinton County News*, August 17, 1997

August 21, 22 & 23, 1997

ONE 1 STOP



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ONE STOP WASH-N-LUBE

Welcome to 52nd Annual DeWitt Ox Roast

Hi! The Memorial Association welcomes you to the 52nd Annual Ox Roast celebration. We hope to provide you with all kinds of events to keep the whole family busy and having a fun time.

This year's festival has much to offer you. We have a magician and a juggler making appearances on our stage. The arts and crafts will be starting at 3 p.m. on Friday afternoon. Arnold Amusements will be providing us with many big and fun rides. The second annual car show will be

Saturday. Be sure to stop at the food tent and get your delicious Ox burger, homemade pies and brownies. There will be a horse pulling contest and a 4 on 4 soccer tourney. Don't forget our fireworks show on Saturday night. It will be bigger and better than last year.

The people of the city of DeWitt, invite you to participate in all that we have to offer and help us to "Build a Better Tomorrow".

The Ox Roast is a time for renewing friendships, reliving traditions and

building new ones. We are elated that you have chosen to join us in our time honored tradition.

If you have any questions or concerns, please ask at the raffle booth for me or ask anyone wearing a DeWitt Memorial Board yellow t-shirt.

See you on Bridge Street.

Sincerely,
Nancy Kay (Hartman) Baker
President
DeWitt Memorial Association '97

Ox Roast is shining example of volunteerism

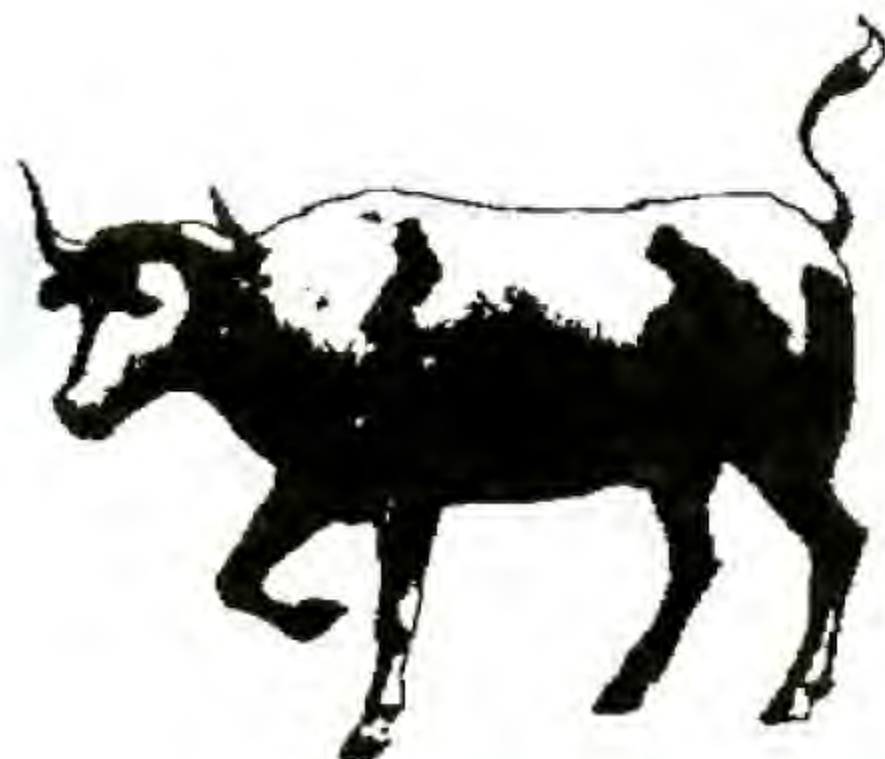
A special greeting to all our guests, friends and families who have come to share in the tradition of the DeWitt Ox Roast. The Ox Roast is the shining example of volunteerism in our community.

The parades, food tent, raffles, auctions, bingo and much more are all run by local citizens, dedicated to the continued maintenance of our Memorial Building, library and facility.

Please take time to visit our local businesses and

restaurants. We as a city place a high priority on family recreation and quality of life for our citizens. The recent addition of Bike/Pedestrian Pathways Park enhancements, and downtown revitalization projects, create an even greater pride in our home town of DeWitt. Enjoy our hospitality, be safe, have lots of fun and come back and see us soon.

Michael Towns
Mayor, City of DeWitt



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Ox Roast Guide is published by the *DeWitt-Bath Review/Clinton County News*, 320 N. Clinton Ave., St. Johns 48879; (517) 224-2361, 1-800-544-4094. Front page photos and layout by Patrick Yockey.

Three crowned following Miss DeWitt Pageant

Schaub, White and Fordyce
reign during Ox Roast

The Miss DeWitt Pageant, April 25 at DeWitt High School Auditorium, produced three winners and this year's DeWitt representatives are 1997 Miss DeWitt Kasey Schaub, Jr. Miss Maryelise White and DeWitt Little Miss Samantha Fordyce.

The theme this year was "A Garden Party."

The girls have represented the City of DeWitt and the DeWitt Ox Roast at the Lansing "Parade into the 21st Century," St. Johns Mint Festival and the DeWitt Ox Roast.

The pageant committee is already making plans for the 1998 Miss DeWitt Pageant, again hoping to have prizes of \$500 Queen, \$250 Jr. Miss and \$100 DeWitt Little Miss as well as second and third places in each category.

All the contestants work hard, meet new friends and have a fun two weeks preparing for the event.



Photo courtesy of Love Photography

At right are 1997 Miss DeWitt Kasey Schaub, DeWitt Little Miss Samantha Fordyce and Jr. Miss Maryelise White.

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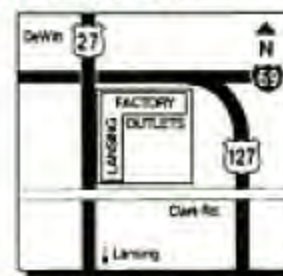
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Ducks converge on Looking Glass River

Quack attack is back! Anaheim has the Mighty Ducks, Walt Disney has Donald Duck, Warner Brothers has Daffy Duck, and DeWitt has the rubber ducks. That's right, the ducks are coming back to DeWitt to participate in this year's 52nd annual Ox Roast.

This year's race will be held on Saturday, Aug. 23 beginning at 3 p.m.

Once again, the rubber duck race is at Riverfront Park beginning at the east end of the park and "swimming" down the Looking Glass River to the east side of the Bridge Street bridge. The first lucky duck to cross the finish line will win \$100, second place wins \$50, third place will win \$25 and fourth-tenth place finishers will each win \$5.

Cost of tickets will be \$2 each and will be sold in advance, as well as the three days of the Ox Roast or until all tickets have been sold, so be sure to get your




tickets early. Ticket sellers can be identified by their duck bill orange hats. There will also be a couple of stationary booths in the event that you don't see an orange hat. In the event of bad weather that even a duck couldn't handle, tickets will

be drawn to determine the lucky winners.

Keep watching the *DeWitt-Bath Review* for more information as to when and where advanced ticket sales will begin.









Bagels

plain • cinnamon raisin • sesame • poppy • blueberry •
everything wheat • egg • pumpemickel • onion • garlic • salt

Cream Cheeses

plain • lite • garden veggie • chive • strawberry • smoked salmon

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DeWitt Family Floral

Downtown DeWitt

669-1508

(All major credit cards accepted)

Ready, aim, fire ...

Dunk your favorite volunteer Saturday

Just how accurate is your throwing arm?

The DeWitt Ox Roast Dunk Tank will take place on Saturday, Aug. 23 from 12-6 p.m. next to the DeWitt Laundry (122 S. Bridge). Cost is \$.50 per ball or five balls for \$2.

Dunkees

- 12-1 p.m. - Bob Acre, JV Football/Wrestling Coach
- 1-2 p.m. - Jim Lutzke, Varsity Basketball Coach
- 2-3 p.m. - Open
- 3-4 p.m. - Robert McClean, Police Chief
- 4-5 p.m. - Jason Eppler, City Administrator
- 5-6 p.m. - Mike Towns, Mayor

This event raised over \$350 dollars for the Memorial Association last year. The goal is to double that this year.

This schedule is subject to change as more "volunteers" come forward. Check the schedule at the dunk tank Saturday morning to see if there is someone you really want to torpedo.

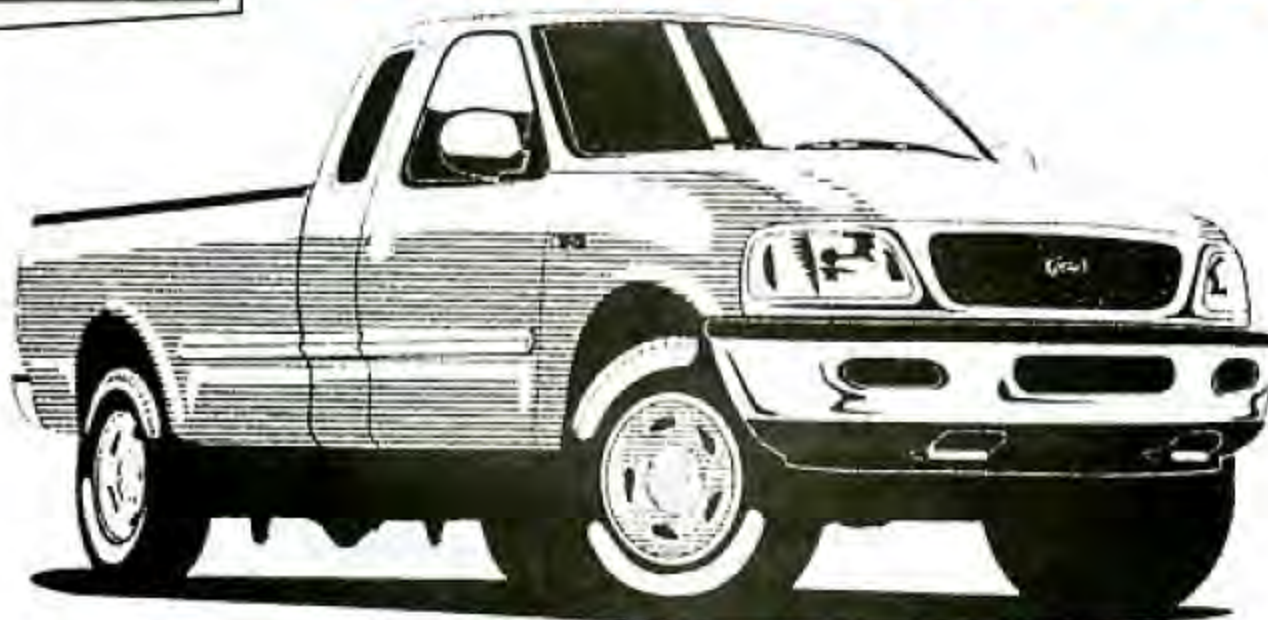
Anyone interested in volunteering for this event should contact Greg Weihl at 669-8400 soon, as seating is limited.



Mayor Mike Towns was a favorite target last year. He has graciously offered to get wet again this year from 5-6 p.m. on Saturday. All proceeds go the DeWitt Memorial Association.



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US-27, DeWitt

DeWitt Ox Roast offers full slate

Thursday, August 21

3 - 11 p.m. **Carnival and Pony Rides/Pot of Gold Raffle**
Riverside Park

8-10 p.m. **Band entertainment**
Across from Park in gazebo

Friday, August 22

3 - 9 p.m.	Pot of Golf Raffle Sales <i>Riverside Park</i>
	Arts and Crafts <i>Bridge Street</i>
	Face Painting/Story telling <i>Bridge Street/next to First of America</i>
3 - 11 p.m.	Carnival Rides/Pony Rides <i>Riverside Park</i>
4 - 8 p.m.	Stage Entertainment <i>Main stage, S. Bridge Street</i>
4 - 9 p.m.	Baseball Card Show <i>Memorial Building</i>
7 p.m.	Ice Cream Eating Contest <i>Main stage, S. Bridge Street</i>
8-10 p.m.	Street Dance <i>Stage Downtown</i>

Saturday, August 23

10 a.m.	Parade (see map below) <i>Downtown DeWitt</i>
10 a.m. - 6 p.m.	Baseball Card Show <i>Memorial Building</i>
10 a.m. - 9 p.m.	Pot of Gold Raffle Sales <i>Downtown Bridge Street</i>
11 a.m. - 6p.m.	Pony Rides <i>Across from Riverside Park</i>

11 a.m. - 9 p.m. **Food Tent**
W. Main Street
Face Painting and Story Telling
Bridge St./Next to First of America

11 a.m. - 11 p.m. **Carnival Rides**
Riverside Park

Noon **Frog Leap Registration**
West Riverside Park

Noon - 4 p.m. **Car Show**
Jefferson/Bridge/Scott Streets

Noon - 6 p.m. **Dunk Tank**
Riverside Park

Noon - 8 p.m. **Stage Entertainment**
South Bridge Street

Noon - 10 p.m. **Bingo Tent**
Memorial Building Parking Lot

1 p.m. **Frog Leaping Contest**
West Riverside Park

3 p.m. Duck Race
Looking Glass River, Bridge Street

Horse Pulling Contest
Main/Howe Rds./Across from Fire Station

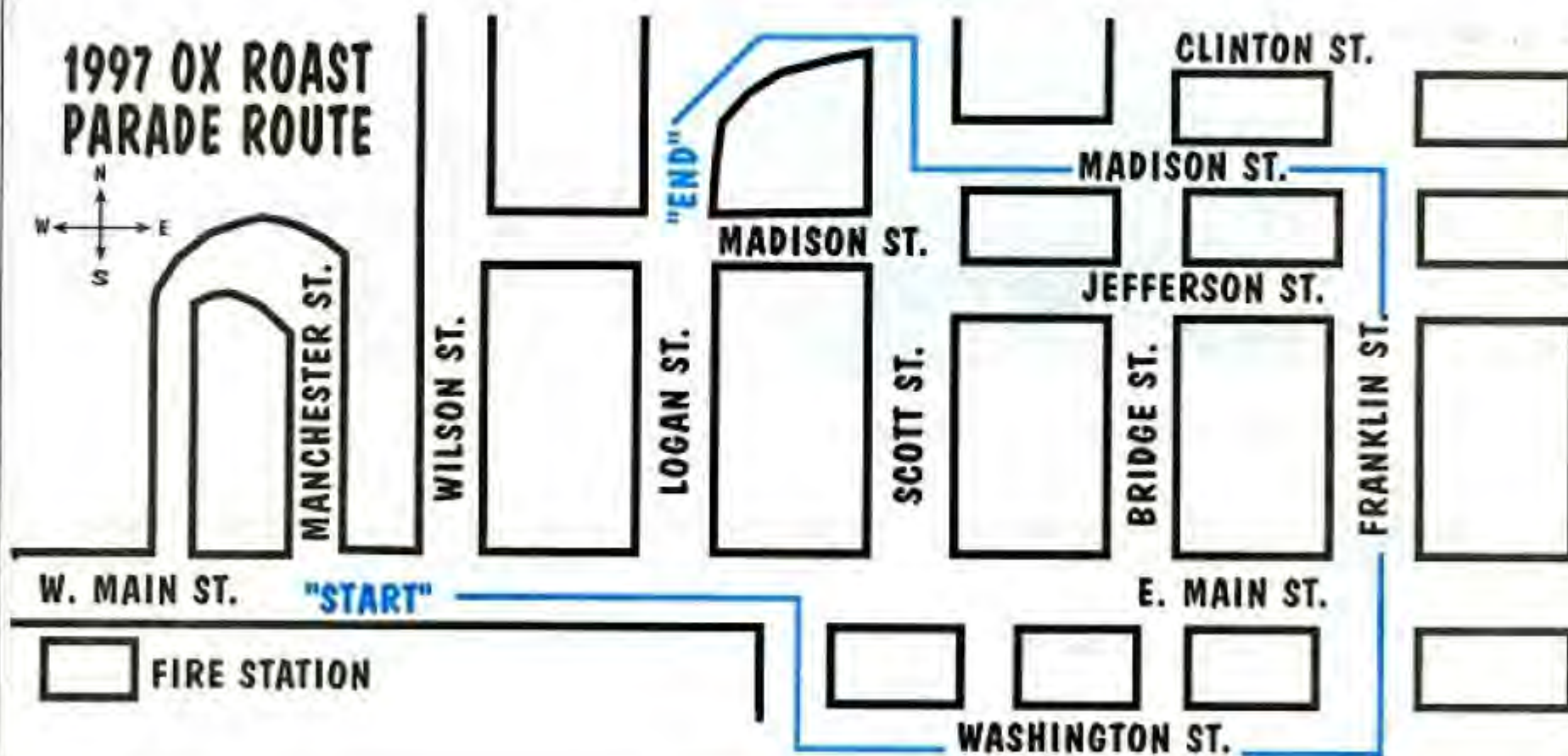
4 p.m. Kids Tractor Pull
E. Main Street

6 p.m. Auction
Main Stage, S. Bridge Street

9-12 p.m. **Street Dance**
Stage Area with Disc Jockey Tim Kiesling

10 p.m. **Fireworks**
Downtown DeWitt

10:30 p.m. Elvis Impersonator on Stage Area



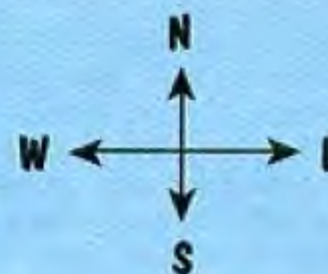
Plenty to do in Downtown DeWitt

***Special Note:** Horse Pulling Contest across the street from fire barn, on Main Street.

N. BRIDGE ST.

CAR SHOW

MADISON ST.



FRANKLIN ST.

JEFFERSON ST.

MAIN ST.

WASHINGTON ST.

CAR SHOW

SCOTT ST.

CAR SHOW

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DEWITT
OX ROAST**

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CONTEST

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RIDES

DUCK RACE

LOOKING
GLASS
RIVER

RIVERSIDE PARK

DUNK TANK

RIDES

Entertainment abounds

Plenty of free entertainment on tap

"Three days of fun and music, and nothing but fun and music!"

No, we're not talking about Woodstock, we're talking about the 52nd Annual Ox Roast. This year the Memorial Board is pleased to bring you even more fun and variety.

Thursday, Aug. 21, from 8-10 p.m. at the gazebo located at Riverside Park West will be the Lansing Ramblers, Dixieland jazz band.

The park across from the carnival is a beautiful setting for the Ramblers rendition of a pure American musical form, jazz! Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, and toe-tapping shoes for a fun family event.

Friday, Aug. 22 from 8-11 p.m., on the main stage in downtown DeWitt will be the fast paced show band, J&J Sounds. J&J Sounds features the exciting brass sounds of the "Heart Attack Horns". Their show is action-packed from beginning to end and is sure to bring dancers in the audience to their feet. They are on a mission to move your souls with Blues Brothers music, Chicago tunes, Motown sounds and pop classics from the 1950s to today. The group has an extensive repertoire and many of its members have been playing together since the early '70s.

Each member of the group has a colorful musical background including performances with world famous entertainers such as the Moody Blues, Mitzi Gaynor, Marvin Hamlisch and Maureen McGovern.

As if that weren't enough, Saturday, Aug. 23, explodes with an extravagant fireworks display at dusk. Starting at 8 p.m., on the downtown main stage is the "busiest man in the radio business", Tim Kiesling. This is Tim's second appearance at the Ox Roast. His "Sock Hop" brought the crowd to its feet last year. As a matter of fact we extended the street dance to accommodate the huge crowd.

Tim is the Program Director of Oldies 97.5 and brings almost 10 years experience to the Ox Roast. Tim will also be hosting the Oldies 97.5 live remote from 2:30 - 5:30 p.m. at the car show located at North Bridge and Madison streets.

Immediately after the fireworks, Tim Kiesling paves the way to a very special treat. We all know Elvis is still the King! That legend continues with Irv Cass. Irv is rated as one of the world's top Elvies and has performed at the Las Vegas Hilton, the Imperial Palace in Las Vegas, and Phil Donahue Show.

A big thank-you to all the people who have helped make the DeWitt Ox Roast Mid-Michigan's #1 Small Town Fair. A big thank-you Annie Rae Chevrolet for sponsoring, in part, the entertainment for a second straight year.

From the DeWitt Memorial Board, have a safe, enjoyable time, and remember, Hunka, Hunka, burnin' love!



Irv Cass will be performing as Elvis, Saturday evening.

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Review

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• Wade (Technician)
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Car Show attracting many proud owners

The Ox Roast added the open class car show last year and it has become one of its more popular draws.

The date is Saturday, Aug. 23, from 2-6 p.m. in downtown DeWitt. Registration will begin at 2 p.m. on the corner of North Bridge and Madison.

The registration fee is \$5, entrants can preregister by mailing a check c/o Gregory R. Kolankowski, 505 West Main Street, DeWitt, MI 48820. Phone calls can be directed to Chet Thorne at 339-5525 or Greg Kolankowski at 394-1800.

Dash plaques and goodie bags will be given to the first 150 cars. Trophies will be awarded in the following classes. All 1960 or older, Truck or van, Factory Muscle Car, Street Rod, Customized, Special Interest, Best Original 1961 to Present, Street Machine, Promoters Choice Award.

Activities include a parade at 10 a.m., a carnival for all ages, craft show, continuous family entertainment at the main stage, a WJIM live remote from 2:30-5:30 p.m., and much more.

This year's featured car is Bryan and Marty Graham's Street Rod, a hot and fast 1923 Roadster with a 283 small block Chevy engine, B&M Blower, a 350 turbo transmission, and an



DBR photo by Lynn Golubowski

The Graham's 1923 Roadster is this year's featured car. Pictured are Brian and his wife Marty with their children Ryan, Erica and Kailee (sitting.).

eye popping jade green paint job by DeWitt Auto Body. On week-ends Brian can be seen and heard driving the children of DeWitt in their classic car.

Bryan and Marty along with their children Erica, Ryan and Kailee are community and business mainstays in DeWitt. Most area people are familiar with Graham's Automotive on US-27, but some might not be aware of their commitment to customer service and community involvement. A case in point is a mother and her three children whose motor home began having mechanical problems in a thunderstorm. They pulled into Graham's, and Marty helped unload their vehicle and drove them home. They are a true exam-

ple of what DeWitt is all about.

The Memorial Board is expecting a huge turn out for the Car Show. While you're

here, say hello to the Graham's at their display at the entrance of the car show.

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Sun 10:00am - 6:00pm

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DeWitt

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DeWitt Office**

Happy 52nd

*Hours
M-F 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Saturday 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.*

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Downtown DeWitt

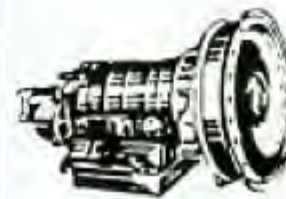


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DeWitt Memorial Association

**Welcome to the
52nd Annual
DeWitt Ox Roast**



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City Administrator/Frog Jumping



President Nancy Baker



Vice President Bryan Hills



Peggy Haviland
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Mike Towns
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Ron Welch
Downtown Business Assoc.



Tony Wheeler
Downtown Development Assoc.



Greg Kolankowski
Car Show



Patrick Yockey
Kiddie Tractor Pull



Jim Wilson
Sgt. DeWitt City Police



Dona Gartside
Pageant/Bingo

Board brings it all together

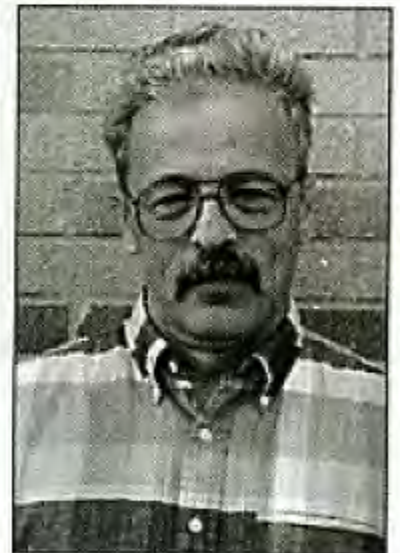
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Ox Roast offering more free entertainment



The Magic of Stuart and Lori will be performing on center stage from 2-3 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 23

DeWitt Ox Roast entertainment continues to grow every year. Beginning in 1992, the stage was introduced with entertainment all day on Saturday. The DeWitt Memorial Association tried to have a variety of things to make it fun to watch. The response from people was so overwhelming that the Association decided in 1993 to add Friday evening entertainment. Since the arts and crafts were selling at that time, it was also a good time to provide some sort of entertainment that people would enjoy.

A street dance made its debut in 1993 on Saturday night and the auction was moved from the Memorial Building to the stage where it has been a huge success.

This year the Ox Roast has some exciting things to offer.

Thursday, Aug. 21

8-10 p.m. - Band in the gazebo across from the carnival.

Friday, Aug. 22

5-5:30 p.m. - Jim Firos singing

5:45-6:45 p.m. - "Wild World" Animal Show

7-8 p.m. - Ice Cream Eating Contest

9-11 p.m. - Street Dance

Saturday, Aug. 23

12-12:30 p.m. - Capital Chordsmen Babershoppers

1-1:30 p.m. - DeWitt TaeKwonDo demonstration

2-3 p.m. - Magic of Stuart and Lori

3:30-4:30 p.m. - High Ground Gospel Group

5-5:30 p.m. - Juggler - Tom Salisbury

6-8:30 p.m. - Auction

9 p.m. - 12 a.m. - WJIM-FM's Tim Kiesling - Street Dance

10 p.m. - Fireworks downtown

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Pot-O-Gold drawings offer prizes to DeWitt Ox Roast visitors

Grand prize is \$1,000 on Aug. 23

The DeWitt Lions Breakfast Club sponsors the annual Pot-O-Gold drawing Saturday, Aug. 23. This perennial favorite among Ox Roast visitors awards prizes in cash each hour of the day starting at \$75 and concluding with the grand prize of \$1,000 at 9 p.m.

Each year it never fails, some couple with a few kids says, "Oh, we never win anything," and sure enough a lit-

tle while later, they collect the \$300 prize, says organizer Mike Towns. The next year there they are reminding us how the prior year's winning went toward a family trip and how they'll be back every year, he says.

Families make the Ox Roast special, many work long hours helping make it a great success, many more come help us celebrate "DeWitt" and enjoy a good old fashion family outing.

Create memories for your family, come join the fun at the DeWitt Ox Roast.

The DeWitt-Bath Review supports the DeWitt Ox Roast and encourages residents to come out for three days of fun

Who do you think sold the feed for the "OX" Roast?

Wishig everyone an enjoyable day!

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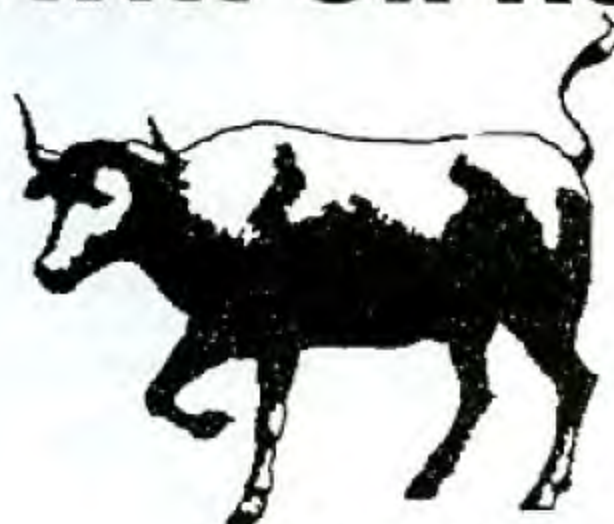
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Arts and crafts abound at DeWitt Ox Roast

Welcome to the DeWitt Ox Roast Arts and Crafts show and we hope that you will be pleased with the variety and talent of all the craft and art displayed at this year's event.

This year's arts and crafts fair will feature about 100 crafters and art displayers from all across the Michigan area, even from as far away as South Haven, Rochester Hills, Adrian and Manistee. The show will again be on Bridge Street running north and south of the stop light.

This year's variety features: jewelry, wood crafts, florals, leather, quilts, ceramics, children clothing, toys and furniture, dolls, candles, metal suns and garden markers, knitting and cro-

cheting, stained glass, bird-houses, cinnamon roasted almonds, Christmas items, clothes for cement geese, t-shirts and other items to numerous to mention that will entice even the lookers to help support these people who work so hard to bring their inventions to the area.

This year's show has an earlier starting time at 3 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 22 and runs until 9 p.m., and Saturday, Aug. 23, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Please come and enjoy the work of all the people who participate to make our Ox Roast an event to have fun at, and enjoy our small town atmosphere we're so proud to display.



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The DeWitt Business Association

welcomes everyone to the

52nd Anniversary of the DeWitt Ox Roast

DeWitt Business Association programs:

- Sponsors the Ice Cream Eating Contest at the DeWitt Ox Roast
- The Shopping Guide Advertising - provides a complete listing of all current DBA members plus offering 1/4 page advertisements on a rotating basis to DBA members.
- The DBA Directory- provides information that will acquaint you with local resources.
- The Christmas Program - provides promotion for the Christmas Tree Lighting and Santa Claus Mailbox.
- The Easter Egg Hunt- is usually held the Saturday before Easter.
- Special Events - are organized throughout the year to promote the DBA and its members especially during the Ox Roast that is held in August.

Contact the DeWitt City Hall at (517) 669-2441 to join or to obtain additional information



DeWitt



Ox Roast



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A grand show

The DeWitt Ox Roast parade through downtown DeWitt begins at 10 a.m. and offers a wide variety of entries including clowns, vintage vehicles, antique tractors, local clubs and organizations, fire trucks, horse and carriages, police cars and many others.

Bingo offered Aug. 23

This year bingo will not begin until Aug. 23 at noon, giving everyone a chance to enjoy the parade, which begins at 10 a.m. Bingo will run continuously until 8 p.m. Closing at 8 p.m. will allow workers time to tear down and still be able to participate in the fireworks display at 10 p.m.

Note this change: The bingo tent will be located in the parking lot of the DeWitt Memorial Building. This space should cut down on some of the noise and make it easier to hear the caller.

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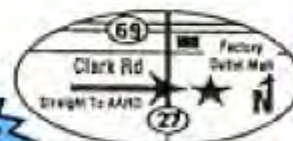
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The DeWitt Girls soccer program is sponsoring a 4-on-4 tournament. Pictured sitting are (l. to r.) Brile, John, and Erika Fitzgerald, (back row) Holly Hasper, Jordan Evertse, Stephanie Nees and Mindy Arney.



What a view

Carnival rides start Aug. 21 and offer fun for children and adults alike during the DeWitt Ox Roast.

Four-on-four soccer offered Aug. 23-24

The DeWitt High School Girls' Soccer Team is hosting a Four on Four Soccer Tournament.

It will coincide with the DeWitt Ox Roast, Aug. 23 and 24. The event will take place at the DeWitt Sports Park, and is a fund raiser for girls' soccer.

All age groups are invited to participate, including adult, youth, boys and girls teams. Registration forms are available at most DeWitt businesses and DeWitt City Hall or at these Lansing area businesses: Soccer Zone, Soccer Corner, TNT Soccer Store, Playmakers, Apple Sports Complex.

On Saturday, the Ox Roast will be in downtown DeWitt with many festivities for everyone to enjoy. Concessions will also be provided on the site of the tournament, with maps to the restaurant as well. The famous ox burgers are served all day at downtown locations.

A special thanks to the DeWitt Parks and Recreation Department and city council for support in providing the beautiful new Sports Park for this event. Thanks to the Michigan Apple Committee and its help with the bulk mailing.

Sponsoring this event is Real Estate One, Kroger, Dean Transportation, Westside Pharmacy, Culligan, Pat McCrackin Ford, Mint City Ex., M.J. Sing-a-Long Karaoke, MPC, Total Gas, E.H. Ward Heating and Cooling, Go Travel Shop-Rite, DeWitt Panther Hardware, Chad Ballard, Dee Co. Trucking, B.L.T.'s, Graham's Auto, Dr. Faust, Hair One Salon, Prairie Creek Golf, Lansing Printing, Simmons Insurance, Reed Insurance, Schwann Ice Cream, King's Homes, Draft House, Nip & Sip, Bob Davis, Mercy Ambulance, Meijer, Darling Building Supply, Coca-Cola, Pepsi, Pepperidge Farms, Capital Equipment, Zeeb Fertilizer. For further information call (517) 669-5333 and leave a message.

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The fastest frogs take the cash Aug. 23

Kermit says, "Enter the DeWitt Ox Roast frog jumping contest."

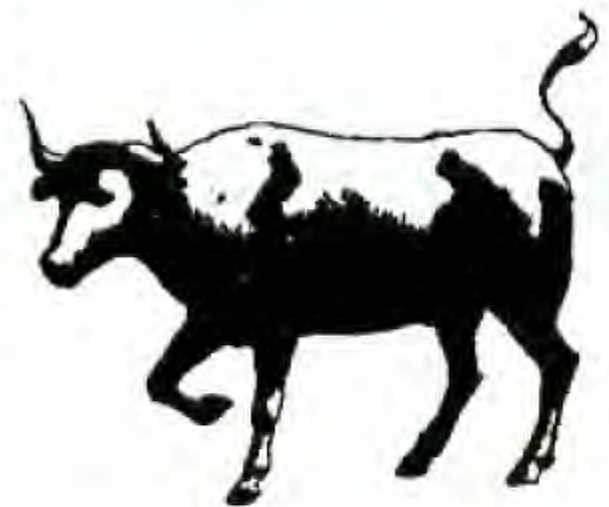
Bring your fastest live frog to Memorial Park (located on Bridge Street, across from the carnival rides) on Saturday, Aug. 23 at 1 p.m., sign-up begins at noon, to see if your frog is the fastest jumper.

The owners of the fastest frogs will win cash prizes. And everyone who enters will be in the drawing for the two bicycles that will be raffled off at the end of the contest.

Kermit, would also like to thank L & L Shop-Rite, the proud sponsor of this event.

Go froggy, go

The DeWitt Ox Roast frog jumping contest is a favorite attraction of the event. The contest is Aug. 23 and offers prizes to the owners of the fastest frogs.



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Please no pets

The DeWitt Memorial Association is asking your cooperation by leaving pets at home. Pets are not allowed anywhere on the grounds where the Ox Roast is taking place. Thank You.

Handicap Parking Available

Special reserved handicap parking is available at Fuerstenau School off Washington Street.

Restrooms on site

Portable restrooms will be available at Riverside Park and at both ends of Bridge Street in downtown DeWitt.

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Baseball Card Show is Friday and Saturday

The 2nd Annual Baseball Card Show is Friday, Aug. 22 from 4-9 p.m. and Saturday Aug. 23 from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. at the Memorial Building across from Fuerstenau School on Washington Street.

Stay clear of fireworks setup

Fireworks will be set up at Fuerstenau School and Field. All Ox Roast goers are asked to stay clear of that area Saturday night.

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Celebrate the
52nd
Annual DeWitt
OX ROAST

Friday - Ice Cream Eating Contest
 Ice cream & bike donated by L & L Shop-Rite
 Sponsored by DeWitt Business Association

Saturday - Frog Leaping Contest
 All contestants are entered in the bike raffle
 Sponsored by L & L Shop-Rite

Anyone may enter Bike Raffle at the
 Ice Cream Eating Contest!!!



Horse pull offers chance to see man and beast working together

There are a lot of horses in Michigan being used in various ways.

In the local DeWitt area there are miniature horses, English-Western competition horses, trail horses, mules and heavy draft horses being used for fun and profit. One way draft horses are used is for horse pulls.

Dave Gaut organized the first pull in the area at the Clinton County 4-H fair in 1989. His objectives were to bring more visitors to the fair and an outlet for his favorite hobby - horse pulling. From this first pull, it has expanded to pulls at Laingsburg Lions Springtime Festival, Ovid Carriage Days, Elsie Dairy Festival, DeWitt Ox Roast and others.

The teamsters are mostly local men and women who use their horses for farm work, logging or wagon rides.

The pull is at 3 p.m. in DeWitt at the corner of Norris and Howe Roads. Come and see these great horses and teamsters work together. Bring a lawn chair and we'll see you there.

The event is sponsored by the DeWitt City Fire Department.



The contest starts at 7 p.m., Aug. 22.

Ice cream eating contest open to all ages Aug. 22

The sixth annual DeWitt Ox Roast Ice Cream eating contest is Friday, Aug. 22 at 7 p.m.

This event is open to all ages. Plan on participating in this fun event. All contestants will be entered into a raffle for a chance to win one of two bikes.

Come and out and watch the fun as family members, friends and neighbors "lick" their way to the win!

The event is sponsored by the DeWitt Business Association, the organization that brings you the



The ice cream eating contest is Aug. 22 and offers a treat for both spectators and participants.

annual Christmas Sing-A-Long and the Easter Egg Hunt.

Ice cream is being donated by L&L DeWitt Shop-Rite.

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Ron and Margie Mull named 1997 Citizens of the Year

By LYNN GOLUBOWSKI
Staff Writer

If someone needs a hand, chances are Ron and Margie Mull will be the ones giving it.

The 40-year DeWitt residents are well-known in the community for helping out where needed. Because of their contributions, the couple has been named the City of DeWitt's 1997 Citizens of the Year.

Amy Mulford, a neighbor who has known the Mulls for more than 30 years, says the couple is very deserving of the honor.

"They are very nice neighbors," Mulford says. "When anybody needs something, Ron and Margie are one of the first ones there. Margie is always doing something for other people."

The couple was formally honored during DeWitt's Mayor Exchange Day May 21 at a dinner at the St. Francis Retreat Center. Although honored, the Mulls says there are many others who are more deserving.

"There are other people I have a ton of respect for," Ron says. "But then, you never really think of what you've done, yourself."

"I'm very proud to be chosen," Margie says. "I have to accept this award for a lot of people. We don't do any of the things we've done for any recognition."

The Mulls have served the city for many years and in many areas. Ron

served as a volunteer firefighter for 38 years, retiring from the department earlier this year, while Margie served on the Ladies Auxiliary and assisted with blood drives.

Ron was instrumental in building the DeWitt Community Church on Webb Road and the couple has served on various committees as members of the church since 1968. In addition, Margie was a Sunday School teacher at the church.

The Mulls have also been actively involved with the annual DeWitt Ox Roast and Ron served as chairman for nine years.

Ron was involved with the local Lions Club for about 10 years and the Little League in the late 1960s. Both Mulls were members of the PTA, Panther's Boosters Club and football concessions for a number of years when their children were in school.

Former Citizens of the Year include:



Margie and Ron Mull are well-known in the DeWitt community for helping others. They are the city's 1997 Citizens of the Year.

Bertha Lennemann - 1982, Arthur Newman - 1983, Clarence Fuerstenau - 1984, Willard Reed - 1985, Orla McGuire - 1986, Fred Grove - 1987, Lee and Linda Hodges - 1988, Audrey Fabus - 1989, Lynn and Susan Thayer - 1990, Robert Drouin - 1991, John Spoelma - 1992, Rodger Brown - 1993, Norma Robison - 1994, Dick Smeage - 1995 and Dona Gartside - 1996.

Children's tractor pull is fun for the whole family at the Ox Roast



The tractor pull is at 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 23 during the Ox Roast.

A traditional feature of the DeWitt Ox Roast is the children's tractor pull on Main Street, set for 4 p.m. Saturday across from DeWitt Panther Hardware.

The children's tractor pull is a fun contest that involves push-pedal tractors. No, you don't need to bring your own tractor. The contest organizers have kid-sized tractors.


"The kids get really excited about this race and the whole family will cheer them on," says Patrick Yockey, this year's Ox Roast organizer of the tractor pull. "It's a great family activity, and the top places are usually split evenly between the girls and boys."

Children from age four up through 11 can participate, with several separate age groups. The contest uses a real tractor pulled, just like the sleds the big tractors use in contests at fairs.

The concept is that the farther the tractor is pedaled, the more resistance the sled puts on the tractor (It gets harder as you go). So the child must get "steamed up" at the beginning and keep pedaling without stopping. Each child gets two chances. Each participant gets a ribbon and prize, with the top three places in each age group getting extra recognition.

Major sponsors of the 1997 tractor pull are Roger Overway, Quality Farm and Fleet, Carter Lumber and Farmco Distributing, Inc. Additional sponsors and prize donors include: Arby's Roast Beef Restaurant, Burger King, Subway, Mijos Restaurant, Bridge Street Hair Company, Bob Evans Restaurant, Little Caesars Pizza, Love Photo Lab, JJ Video, Video Express and others.

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- Sponsors the Ice Cream Eating Contest at the DeWitt Ox Roast
- The Shopping Guide Advertising - provides a complete listing of all current DBA members plus offering 1/4 page advertisements on a rotating basis to DBA members.
- The DBA Directory- provides information that will acquaint you with local resources.
- The Christmas Program - provides promotion for the Christmas Tree Lighting and Santa Claus Mailbox.
- The Easter Egg Hunt- is usually held the Saturday before Easter.
- Special Events - are organized throughout the year to promote the DBA and its members especially during the Ox Roast that is held in August.

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McCrackin Ford donates Ranger for Aug. 23 auction

On behalf of the DeWitt Host Lions Club we welcome you to this year's Ox Roast and auction Aug. 23, starting at 6 p.m. The auction is something new to the Lions Club this year so please bear with us.

The auction is in its seventh year now and has been a very worthwhile function for the Ox Roast. It was started by a lady named Marjean Pelkey Nickerson who is no longer on the board and is greatly missed.

The auction has different items donated by businesses in the area and around the state. So there are many different items to bid on that might be of interest to you. So if you buy one of the items please let the person know you appreciate their support of the Ox Roast.

ate their support of the Ox Roast.

This year, Pat McCrackin Ford is donating a 1992 Ford Ranger Super cab.

The auctioneer this year again is Don Vorce from DeWitt who has been volunteering his service from the beginning. Don is a professional auctioneer and his service is greatly appreciated.

The auction begins at 6 p.m. this year so it should be a little cooler on the black top, and it's still on the stage downtown. So stop by for the auction and help the Memorial Association to run the community building and if you're interested in the Lions see any of the workers at the auction about our functions in Lionism.



This 1992 Ford Ranger supercab is being auctioned off Aug. 23 at the Ox Roast

Area business donations make Ox Roast auction possible

The following businesses are contributors to the DeWitt Ox Roast auction:

Pat McCrackin Ford; DeWitt L&L Shop-Rite; Culligan Soft Water; Sleep Inn; Howe's Greenhouse; Love Photography; Carter Lumber, DeWitt; Robert's Wallpaper and Paint; DeWitt Family Golf; Hair Drop; DeWitt Family Floral; Rally Burgers; Manhattan Bagel; Little Caesars Pizza; Tommy's Italian Pizza; Olive Garden; Flap Jack Shack, DeWitt; Riverwalk Theater; JJ

Video; Comedy Club Connxtions; Builders Ready Mix; Frontier Lounge; De Lucas; Claire's; Henderson Family Jewelry; Impression 5; Sam's Solid Oak Furniture; Royal Scot Golf; Highland Hills Golf Course; DeWitt IGA; Samarkand Kennels; WKR 23; DeWitt Taekwondo Center; Town and Country Lamp Shades; Findley's Restaurant; Dannel's Barbershop; Wag-N-Tails of DeWitt; DeWitt Memorial Association; Carpet Care Plus; College

Bike Shop; Dennis Trailer Shop; King Mobile Home Sales; Red Roof Inn; MI Potato Commission; Hampton Inn; Keeleans Buick; Central Michigan Lumber; Club House Inn; Days Inn - South; Harley Hotel; Piazzano's; One Stop Wash-N-Lube of DeWitt; DeWitt Hardware; Keck's Appliance; Mary Lou's Restaurant of DeWitt; Sam's Kitchen; Relli's Bar; Professionally Yours Hair Salon and Hovey's Garage.



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When she's not taking care of our new additions, she's managing the Wreath Shop where she creates beautiful wreaths and has taken second place in a Michigan Wreath contest.

Then in her spare time she's out shearing Christmas trees on the farm, about 100 a day...

But when anybody asks, she says, "It's Ed's Farm"!!!

*I Love My Dear (Deer) Lady,
Ed Carpenter*



Deloris shearing Christmas trees



Jingle, Jangle, Bell and Deloris



Deloris in Wreath Shop



Deloris & Ed Carpenter

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