

Parkinson's disease fund-raising walk scheduled for Saturday at Gellert Park

Zeger Van Halteren will be walking with his family and at least 20 other supporters at this Saturday's SuperWalk (and Run) for Parkinson's disease.

Seven years after being diagnosed with the progressive disease himself, Van Halteren knows the importance of raising research dollars.

He underwent more than eight hours of brain surgery in August which relieved him of severe tremors and has made it possible for him to run a mobile machine repair business, Jigz Service, with his 17-year-old son, Michael.

"The surgery brought my life back", says Van Halteren, who was beginning to experience early symptoms of Parkinson's when he lost his job as national service manager for Danka Canada.

Parkinson's is a progressive, neurodegenerative disease causing tremors, muscle stiffness, slowness of movement and difficulty with balance. These symptoms become evident when, for reasons not yet understood, the cells that produce dopamine (the body's chemical responsible for transmitting messages between cells and to muscles) die.

Money raised from the SuperWalk goes towards research, education, advocacy and support services.

Marion Faulkner, whose husband has Parkinson's, helped start the Georgetown support group more than two years ago.

Her daughter, Lisa, says the support groups have been "very helpful for caregivers and patients. It can be scary, and it helps to be able to share information."

Van Halteren agrees.

"That's what we're all about, helping one another."

The event starts at Gellert Park, Georgetown South at 10 a.m. (registration from 9 a.m.) Organizers hope to raise even more than the \$12,000 gained from last year's first SuperWalk.

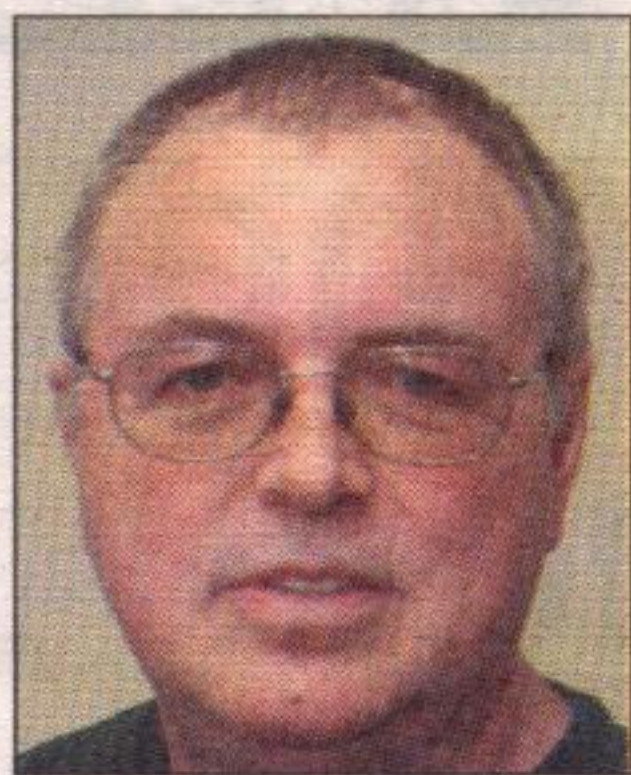
National grand prizes will be awarded to top fund-raisers through a lottery, but as an added incentive, local businesses

have donated prizes for participants who raise the most money.

To participate in the SuperWalk for Parkinson's, call Lisa Buck 905-877-4081, or Marion Faulkner 905-877-5858, or show up for registration at the Gellert Park parking lot off Main St.(Eighth Line).

To learn more about the walk, visit www.superwalk.com.

—By Patricia Post, special



ZEGER VAN HALTEREN

Complaints dept. busy

The town's enforcement services has received 692 new complaints in the first half of 2004, 506 are under investigation, 73 have legal action pending, and 87 are awaiting investigation.

The department was able to resolve 463 cases.

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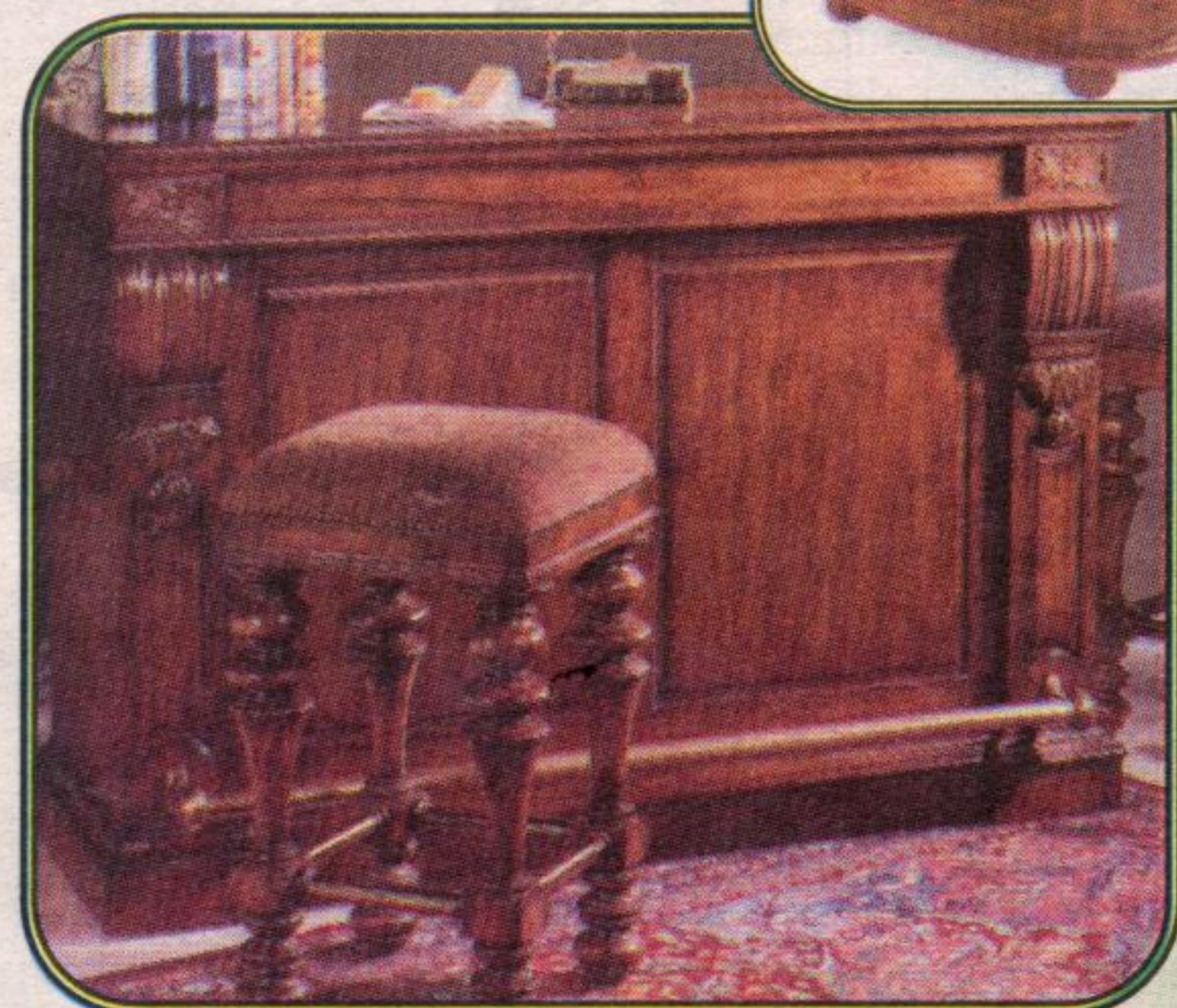
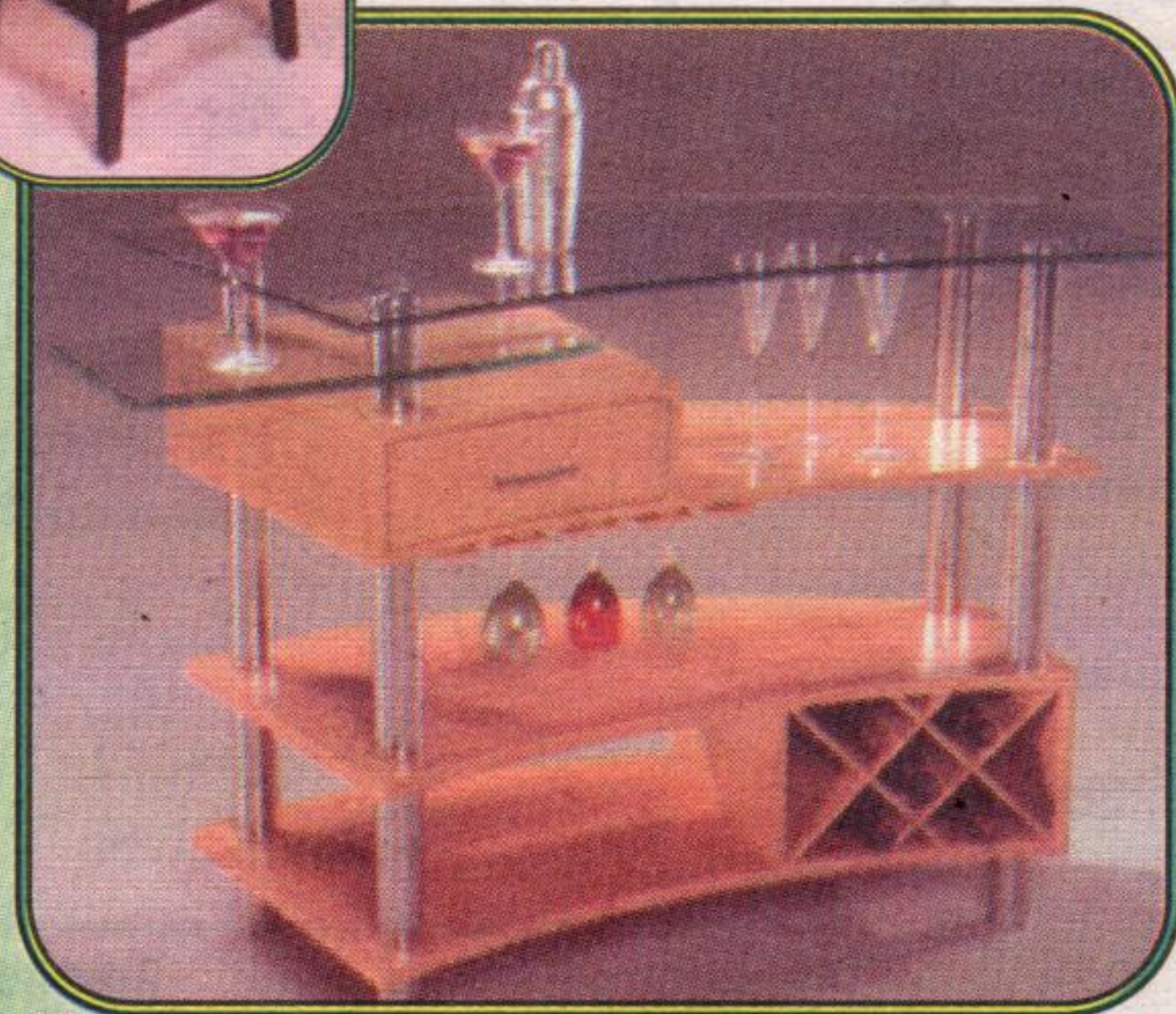
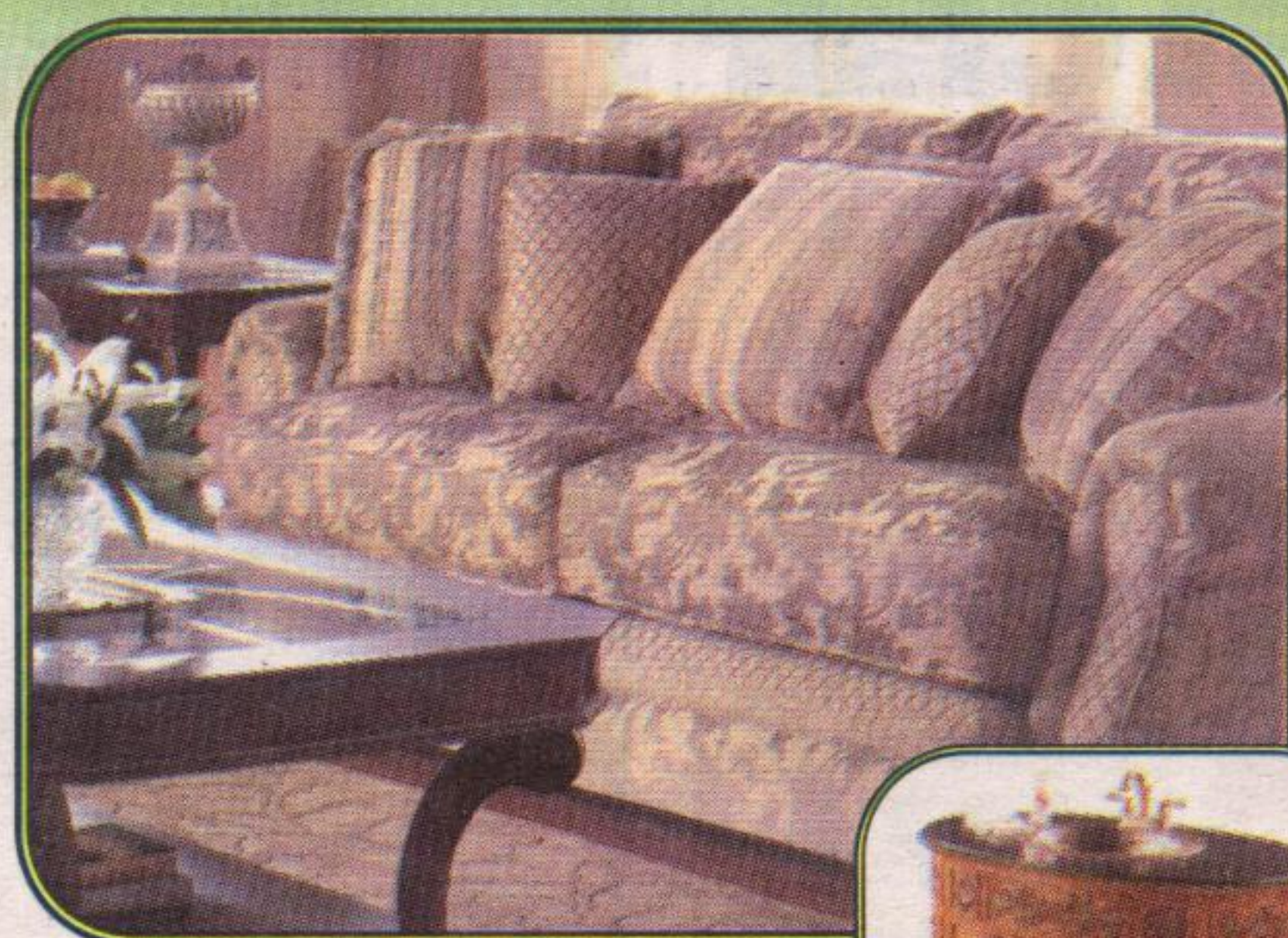
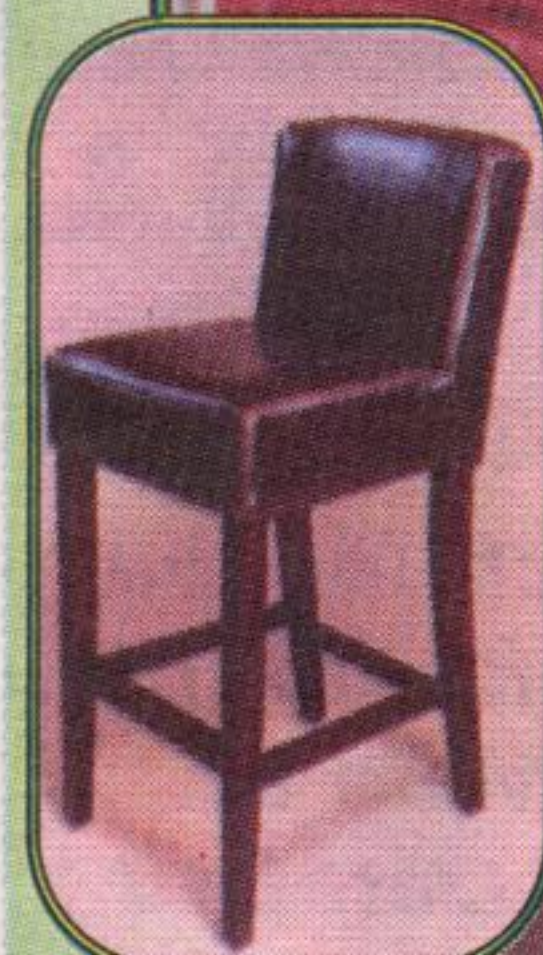


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