

STRONGHOLD THE GAZETTE

Vol. 3 No. 2 October 23, 147

Wright Publishing

Founded Oz CXLV

Fantastic First-class Festival Fun

By Thuun

Stronghold Horizons very own Wiggles sponsored a festival for the townsfolk. Deriving great satisfaction and accomplishment, Madame Felicitia Snickerdoodle, the Wright brothers, and Mrs. Glass are hoping to enjoy more events and gatherings in the future to entertain and unite the community. The activities were loved by all who were present. The food and games were delightful and joyful. Bandit went bananas for bubbles. Roland's eggcelent victory in the egg race left viewers eggstatic. Sugars stupendous spectacle as the melee champion was sensational. Eskalina used her advanced mathematic skills to conquer the jelly bean challenge. Cheers to all the hard work everyone contributed.

JOIN US FOR FESTIVE FALL FUN AT ALL HALLOW'S BAKE SALE AND ICE SCREAM SOCIAL AT 3PM ON SATURDAY

hosted by Horizon Stronghold's Event Planning Committee

Witch Troubles Improving

With Ozma's return and the deployment of her Royal Witch Hunting Society many problems caused by uncontrolled dark witches have been brought under control. Ozma's witch hunters continue having success with primarily non-lethal solutions, bringing the rampant problem in recent years of dark and wicked witches under control.

The people of Oz should not misunderstand the intention of her Royal Witch Hunters. Stories of killings and public executions are not the work of the Royal Witch Hunters. Mobs of armed gangs hunting and killing witches are not sanctioned by Ozma. These criminals are being dealt with harshly when captured. While the Royal Witch Hunters continue to fulfill their duty there is no open bounty being paid for the heads of witches.

The citizens of Oz are thankful for the aid of the Witch Hunters in restoring order to the land. No longer will the good people of Oz need to fear suffering at the hands of users of dark magic without the aid of Ozma and her Royal Witch Hunters.

From the desk of Mayor Snickerdoodle

My fellow Ozians, the days are growing shorter. Our Stormrider friends remind us that this is a sign that winter will soon be upon us. Now is the time for us to make preparations for harvest and storage of food so that we can persevere through the coming months of darker days and colder weather. We have come together to provide a sanctuary for the Cold so that it may feel at home in a place of its own and spare us from the worst of its power. We have made great sacrifices so that we may not fear the terrible hunger of Famine. I cannot tell you what new threats we may need to endure for this new winter, but should we continue as we have this last year and learn from our experiences we will surely overcome.

In these last months I've watched our people prosper with the warming days and our town has been flourishing. It is my hope that the rumors of magic and witchery have been quelled and that we can look forward to the continued bounty of an honest day's labor and ingenuity that Horizon's Stronghold has become known for. I must also congratulate the efforts of the many business owners and socialites that have continued to provide events such as our recent Hat Parade and upcoming festival of spooks and iced cream for providing much appreciated entertainment after a hard week's work.

With the coming of the end of this season the 'season' of elections is also upon us. I would like to continue to serve as your Mayor and I would like to hope that my record now stands for itself. We have mended many bridges where we were divided and overcome many obstacles. We no longer have threats like the Midnight Circus, the Hellrunners, or many of the magical beasts that menaced our land. We have come together to repair the damage caused by Ooglies and continue to push them away from our vulnerable.

I will freely admit that the city council met less frequently than I had hoped, but with all of its members doing such important work it has been difficult to manage to bring everyone together at the same time. Rather than draw these good folks from their tasks, I made it my duty to seek them out on their terms so that their concerns could be heard so that the council could live on in spirit. We began the process of reassessing taxes for properties and I have maintained my promise to contribute regularly to this fine paper. I have clearly demonstrated my commitment to businesses and prosperity and shown that the rumors that my family would take power to run other business out of town or degrade the moral standing of Horizon's Stronghold to be false. I have led you as best I can this last year, and I would like to help lead you farther.

In service to our fair town,
Pfeffernüsse Snickerdoodleher.

Don't go to sleep! By Luke Out

Many in Munchkinland have been experiencing horrendous nightmares recently. The nightmares are so bad that many munchkins are avoiding sleep altogether. Some of the sleep-deprived folk are reporting seeing the nightmares even while awake, unable to escape from such horrors no matter what they do! Monsters and terrible beasties haunt them. Not only are the nightmares bad, but most seem to report seeing a repeating symbol and hearing or seeing a cackling old woman laughing at their fear. She's always in shadows, but a nightmare-ridden munchkins swear that her skin is green!



Is this the work of a Wicked Witch? The Royal Society of Witch Hunters has yet to confirm the presence of a wicked witch, but they do ask any who seem to be having horrible nightmares to report their experiences.

Civil Authority

No articles, advertising, or opinions shall be presented promoting a violent, subversive agenda or actively encouraging and contributing to civil unrest.

STRONGHOLD THE GAZETTE

Horizon's Stronghold!

These are troubling and difficult times we live in! Too many deaths have caused great confusionism, feudalities, and insurmountable animocitations - due to estate and inheritance confusion. Don't

let this strife befall your loved ones!

This new and developing area of law is similar to the great royal lineages of Oz. It will open great resources for you to plan and prepare for your passing. Have your wishes respected after your death! Protect your friends and family from hardship with your estate! Establish trusts and inheritances now, before accident or misfortune befall you.

Your loved ones will thank you!

Seek the help of Law Ward Phibboc Locrite Threx, who has been at the forefront of this developmenting law form. Thoroughly trained, well versed, and perhaps the best estate planner for furlongs, make an appointment with this professional today!

Think of someone you want to protect after death, and urge those close to you to do the same!

Reasonable Fees! 2 fribbits per beneficiary (first beneficiary is free!), 1 E for the construction of will or estate, and 1 bit per 1/2 hour of work.

To set up appointment, enquire at the Wiggles Establishment.

Ozian Financial Forecast

By Phibboc L. Threx

With the recent political turmoil and in the wake of the breaking of the Great Spell, financial markets have strained. The Emerald City's riots have caused investors to flee the market. This dramatic plunge has opened new opportunities in new and emerging markets. By far, the Quadling Country offerings should be avoided - too great are the oscillations of their resources for an investment. Risk is not offset by possible growth, for there is little to no growth to be had where things currently stand. The powerhouse of Gillikin continues its rise with little disruption, but crowding of the market may lead to a bubble soon to pop. I would caution new investors from entering a market that may be on unstable and inflated ground. The Vinkus, with its high regulation and vast supply of resources is a wise choice for any investor on the move from dangerous markets to more stable ground. Munchkinland remains a market not yet fully tapped for investors but without a great deal of regulation, it may be perilous.

Make safe and sure investing decisions, my friends!



Congscription Begins in the Emerald City

By Paige Turner

Scarecrow's Army has begun conscription within the Emerald City for the first time since the United Oz Coalition was established in Year of Oz 142. Scarecrow's Army is the only ruling guild with the ability to conscript new members from Oz's populace against their will, but has relaxed this practice in the peaceful years following the truce between Ozma, Scarecrow, and Azkadellia. Compulsory temporary membership in the guild was removed after the fall of the Great Spell, and many Ozian citizens were surprised to discover that conscription was not removed from the guild's power as well. "I thought compulsory membership and conscription were the same thing!" Mira Jamb reports, "But I've learned the difference between the two now."

For those of you who have not previously had the opportunity to learn the difference between the Scarecrow Army's historical practice of compulsory temporary membership and the continued practice of conscription, we will present the distinction here. Historically, all Ozian citizens were required to participate in Scarecrow's Army once they reached school age. This temporary membership ended once the citizen became an adult. Many Ozians likely remember the time when war "games" were left to the children. After the Great Spell fell, however, it was decided that the potential for death presented to great a risk to the children of Oz. Conscription, on the other hand, is the practice of bringing an adult Ozian into Scarecrow's Army permanently.

There are some restrictions placed upon Scarecrow's Army and their ability to conscript. Scarecrow's Army may not conscript anyone who is not yet considered an adult by their people or culture, anyone who is already a member of a different ruling guild, or someone who is owned by another Ozian citizen. Free adult citizens who are not members of a ruling guild should be aware of the potential for conscription should Scarecrow's Army decide to extend this practice beyond the

Emerald City.

Letters to the Editor

Dearest Citizens of Horizon Stronghold,

It is with the greatest of regret that I must inform you that due to the current state of the roadways I will be unable to begin service on the date of my original plan. Fear not, dear citizens, for I have made alternate arrangements and shall be arriving sooner rather than later, weather permitting. I look forward to providing services to the community that you have been sorely lacking for some time, namely good tea and a warm meal. If you must get in contact with me, a post box will be available at the Government Building and I shall read all correspondences upon my arrival.

Yours in Service,

M. S. Noctus

Red Poppy Lounge

The building formerly known as The Red Poppy Tavern
has been reborn as

The Red Poppy Lounge.

Still the same great people and prices as before,
but now we are focused on providing you a more
relaxing atmosphere with good drinks,
good snacks, and good fun.

Come and see us!

Apply for your paperwork to join the
Bureaucrats Guild today!

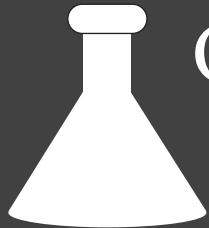
Correctly filed paperwork can make all
the difference. Are you ready for that responsibility?
Interested applicants, please apply at your local
Bureaucrat's Guild Office.

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Come mix it up with the Mephetics.



Alchemist

Like our ingredients, we work better together.

Interested applicants, please apply at your local Mephetic Guild Headquarters

Calling All Artists!

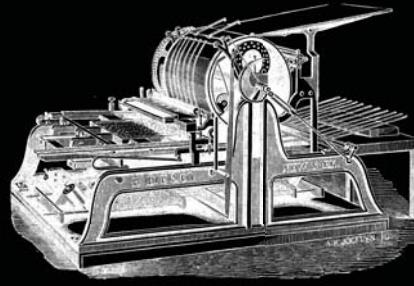
The proud town of Horizon's Stronghold has long been the home and safe haven to many of us. Now, in these interesting and troubling times, a symbol of our unity is essential more than ever. I am officially taking submissions of an official town crest to be submitted to the bureaucracy guild. Please submit your entries to Mrs. Preena Glass within 30 days of this newspaper publication to be considered for entry. All entries receive a free drink at The Red Poppy Lounge (one per person). Wright Publishing will be providing Prizes for best designs. The submissions will be voted upon by the citizens of Horizon's Stronghold at the Lurline-mas Celebrations. Best of luck to all of you! ~Mrs.

Preena Glass of The Gillikin Glass's

WRIGHT PUBLISHING

IS LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD OZIANS

TO JOIN THE NEWSPAPER
FREELANCE AND STAFF JOB AVAILABLE



Our Guild may be young, but our methods are tried and true.

Interested applicants may apply in Coran Teen (Lairabee County, Muchkinland).

Rippers
A cut above
the rest.

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Horizon's Habiliments By Geogiana Dawson and Prista Glass

This issue, we will be focusing on that all important accessory the hat, which got its due in the first "Horizon's Stronghold Fancy Hat Competition.

We begin with an interview Miss Doctor Dolly, who's hat took grand prize this year.

Georgie: Now, Dolly, where did get such a sensational chapeau?

Dr. Dolly: I went to the Emerald city, and I was window shopping, and I came across Eglantine's Emporium of Exquisite Eccentricities, and that's when I saw the hat.

Georgie: Why did you pick this particular piece?
Dr. Dolly: I thought it looked really elegant. I went in and told miss Eglantine why I was shopping for a hat, and which hat caught my eye, and she said that for that occasion the hat I was looking at was perfect. You see, I've never been shopping for a fancy hat before.

Georgie: Did it come decorated, or did you choose the adornments?

Dr. Dolly: I went in to ask about it, and you know what they told me? They told me I could pick out Everything! I got to pick out the color of flowers, the color of the hat, and I even got to add things. The butterflies were all my own idea. I picked those out and added them myself.

Georgie: What is your favorite part of your hat?
Dr. Dolly: Well, the pink butterflies of course, but I really love the dark purple fabric Miss Eglantine helped me pick out, and the original lace that comes around my neck is just so very pretty.

Georgie: What did you think of your competition? Did you have any favorites, besides your own lovely lid?

Dr. Dolly: Well, first thing is making the decision to even enter the contest in the first place. It was so exciting, and I got to do a lot of things I had never done before. I also just absolutely loved seeing everyone be so creative, and all the other hats were so lovely! I think it's wonderful when people come together and take part in something together like that. I think it makes them all so happy to have

Letters to the Editor

Scandal! Heart break! Mismanaged resources! Unattractive pants!

Rumor has it that a horrible deal was struck and the roads were rerouted so that a pair of star crossed lovers could see another in secret. Scandalous! No one actually knows who these people are, but that's not the point. Due to this over commitment of resources the roads have been inexplicably thrown off, goods rerouted or just plain lost, and travelers having nowhere to go. Who would do such a thing? Who are these people to so selfishly throw off our only means of travel? And why are their pants just so darn unflattering? Stay tuned to find out more as this intrepid reporter delves deeper into the seedy underbelly of civil engineering!

By Ms Goss Iper

WIGGLIES

Casino and Brothel

Located inside Hilde Hall.

Amenities include full bar, snacks, private rooms, music.



Casino Hours:

Fri: 11:00pm to 2:00am

Sat: 9:00 PM -Close

Sun: Closed for cleaning

Brothel Hours:

Always Open for Business

Are you In Need of Companionhip?
Lust?

Love?

Passion?

Leave it to the professionals darling.

Satisfaction guaranteed! Be serviced with a smile!

Wiggles takes pride in the variety and skill of our capable and experienced courtesans to suit your needs and fill your every desire.

We host and cater full service Bachelor and Bachelorette parties!
Walk-ins welcome! Schedule yours today!

something wonderful to concentrate on. My favorites? Uhm... I don't think I could ever pick.

They were all so wonderful.

Georgie: What advice do you have for Ozians shopping their own beauteous bonnet?

Dr. Dolly: Uhm, well... I really loved and appreciated all the advice I got from Miss Eglantine, but I know you can't always get to the Emerald City for things. So... Definitely consider why you want a hat, and for what occasion you are going to wear it, and if you can, at least visit a hat shop, and get advice. If you're polite enough, ladies who make hats for a living really love talking about making hats, and giving advice. The advice they have to give is invaluable!

Following on the heels of that lovely interview, and our previous article, we have decided to write a piece on the importance of choosing the proper headwear.

Whether you've chosen to go with a bold bowler cap, or a cute cloche, hats are the first thing people see from afar, and quite obvious when up close as well. Its imperative that one's hat ties in with one's overall look. As you can see with our winner's ensemble, her dress color nearly matches her prominent piece of headwear. This ties in the hat without looking intentional. Remember that balance is also key, a festooned larger piece like Miss Dr. Dolly's goes well with her lovely, yet simple, dress. Neither overwhelms the other, in counterpoint, a smaller hat pairs well with more extravagant dress, Madame Feliciticia Snickerdoodle's smaller top hat worn at a jaunty angle is an excellent example; while it has its share of decorations, the smaller size balances well with her more ornate fashion. Both Doctor Dolly and the Madame exude an air of careless grace. This is the goal with the top of one's outfit.

TOWN MEETING: SATURDAY, 2:00 PM

Tax Collection after town meeting

Friday Night

11:00 PM - 2:00 AM

Wigglies _____



WCB

Saturday Day

12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Market _____

Town Hall

2:00 PM

Town Meeting

Town Hall

3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Ice cream social & bake sale

Town Hall

Saturday Night

9:00 PM - Close

Wigglies _____

WCB

County Seat Discussions Heat Up as Winter Approaches

Sabernock continues to rally support to move the county seat from Lairabee. For years the dispute between the families has simmered but now with the completion of the Sabernock road the fortunes of the two families and towns has shifted.

Sabernock has been using their stone to pave an alternate path into the county. This path can cut hours off of the trade to the Emerald City. This road also bypasses the Lairabee toll booth that has been charging travelers and merchants coming into the county.

The Sabernock Freeway has caused Lairabee to

drop its tolls on most traffic across its road. This has caused general trade to increase throughout the county. Lairabee county should be well positioned for the upcoming season. Multiple roads out of the county provides extra security should winter storms close one or the other of the paths.

The question still remains for the citizens of the county: Should the county seat remain in Lairabee or should it be moved to one of the other towns?

Each of our towns will have their say soon.

**Town Meeting of
Horizon's Stronghold
May 16, 147**

By Phibboc L. Threx

Tense was the beginning of the Town Meeting. With the elected Mayor Pfeffernusse away on business, it fell to the acting mayor, the newly married and illustrious Preena Glass, to see business done. Ever with graceful strength, Mrs. Glass offered warm and gentle welcome to newcomers. Then, the first order of business: attacks from witch hunters.

The Royal Society of Witch Hunters purport that they take Dark Witches into custody and do not dispense swift executions as unofficial witch hunters are attempting to. Ozma has pontificated that magical use is illegal and that enforcement has lapsed. Arguments were raised about seeing these laws, and we still hold out hope that these laws may be examined thoroughly. As the laws of Oz have long been those made and ratified by the court of the Scarecrow King, all Law Wards of Oz have only been certificated in these laws. Due to this, all laws attested to by Ozma, no doubt reaching back to those laws dislegalized by the Wizard, must be reexamined and relearned if they are to be claimed as new laws of Oz - as it seems those who owe allegiance to Ozma wish it to be. Ozma's two Royal Witch Hunters that are now in town have said that they are in town to observe under Ozma's authority. We have yet to see if Queen Azkadellia or the Scarecrow King agree with these laws being applied to the populaship of Oz.

Gors and Clawdette were then invited to speak. They are, respectively, the Elder of Predator/Wild Changlings and the Elder of Prey/Domesticated Changlings. Should a Changeling be discovered who seems to be in distress or confused or even simply new to town, please, let us do our utmost to bring these Changlings to the newly established and funded Changeling Sanctuary and to alert the proper elder. Remember, Changlings are to be incapacitated if they are a threat to others. Do not kill, support their community.

A Mr. Thomas K. Cedarbark for the Scarecrow Army then addressed the assemblage. The Army has funds and aims to expand their ranks. There is an enlistment fund of 1 Emerald per person, 2 Emerald per specialist should any be interested in joining.

Then, Bandit stood. His speech was rousing - a eulogy for Courage long since forgotten from communities. He reminded us, passionately, "You are responsible for yourselves and others. Walk strongly, walk with heart; there are those who will help you on this path."

Taxes were postponed due to complications. Stay safe, citizens.

Good citizens follow the law.
Great citizens enforce it.

Show your greatness.
The Civil Authority.

Interested applicants,
please apply at your
local
Civil Authority Station.

