

# Nick Chopper Returns

By The Emerald City News Network

## HORIZON Stronghold Mayor candidate statements

By Gravemoss  
The frondliest mayor you'll ever elect.

Horizon Stronghold is a bountiful garden, flush with variety. Gravemoss has already been taking root in our town, and helping to grow a fruitful Horizon Stronghold! They are ready to branch out, and willing to get into the weeds to guide this town.

The field of governance is a delicate place, and as any gardener knows: one shouldn't overcrowd plants of the same variety. There are many fine meat people running our good town, but perhaps should avoid casting shade on one another and leave space in this field to other kinds.

With Gravemoss's guidance, the field of governance in Horizon Stronghold can flourish as a proper county seat. Gravemoss would grow that field to include a council of guilds: six companions to draw on each others strengths in making the laws of Horizon County. One each from Scarecrow's, Ozma's, and Azkadellia's guilds. One each from Labor, Emerald,

and War guilds. A fine mixture, with wisdom ready to harvest.

Gravemoss is actually a person. Not to be corny, but be assured that questions of personhood will not be a thorn in the side of this election. They are no produce partisan either, but a staunch citizen of Oz.

They are a Mangaboo of solid vegetable sense, and no meat-headed nonsense. You won't be rolling the dice if you elect Gravemoss. They are not afraid of thorny issues, no matter where they stem. Gravemoss has grassroots support from the local Grubbers, and holds to the values of the Scarecrow: education, hard work, and stable governance.

Don't gamble with the future of our community. Gravemoss won't raise the stakes, but plant them firmly where they can support Horizon Stronghold's growth. A vote for Gravemoss is planting the seed of a better tomorrow.

Fellow Ozians!  
A most glorious day has fallen upon us!  
  
By some miracle our most beloved Emperor of Winkie Country, he who lead the armies of Ozma, protector and confidant of our glorious Dorothy, staunchest of allies to the mighty Scarecrow has returned once more unto us!

Nick Chopper lives!

With the combined power and benevolence of our most glorious ladies, Ozma and Azkadellia, and in some truly magical and mysterious manner they have returned our most beloved Tin Man unto the world of the living, something never before having been accomplished.

As one can imagine, such a powerful entity brings into question the effects on the Trifecta. Fear not! For in his wisdom the Tin Man has proclaimed the following:

He does not seek to unbalance the current Trifecta d as a neutral intermediary in any

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### Civil Authority

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





## Red Poppy Lounge

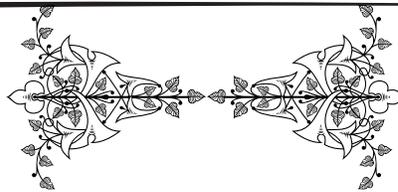
Still the same great people and prices as before,  
But now we are focused on providing you a more  
Relaxing atmosphere with good drinks,  
Good snacks, and good fun.

Come and see us!

## The Great Fairies

By Sterling  
In rather alarming news it seems that several of the Great Fairies have vanished as of late. Attempts to contact them have been met with silence and their lesser Fairy servants have been unwilling to answer questions on the matter. This reporter attempted to get a hold of Phoenix and The Wyld and was unable to find hide nor hair of them. Similar reports are trickling in from all over Oz. The last time a number of the Great Fairies vanished the Great Spell also fell in a frightening domino effect that we still feel to this very day and likely will for generations to come.

For our newer residents, and locals who do not remember their nursery rhymes, the Great Fairies are the descendents of Lurline, the first to be born of magic in the land and shapers of much of, if not all, that we know. They wove the Great Spell that kept us safe for so long. For such powerful beings to simply vanish is startling on a high degree. This reporter will certainly be following up on this story as it develops.

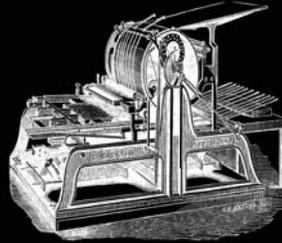


## WRIGHT PUBLISHING

IS LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD OZIAN!

TO JOIN THE NEWSPAPER

FREELANCE AND STAFF JOB AVAILABLE

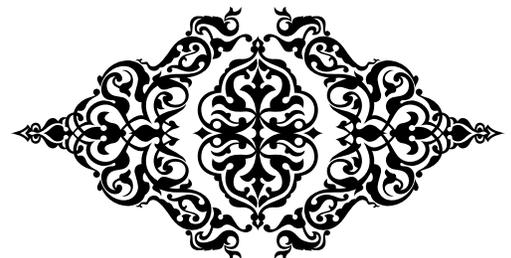
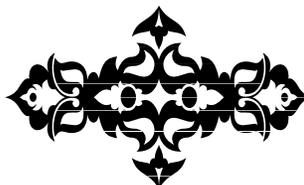
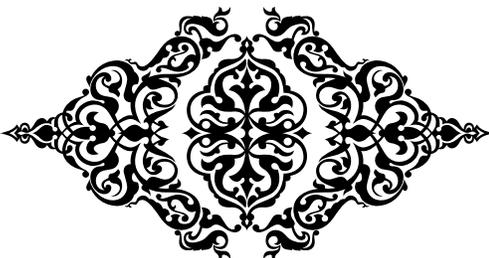


## The Green Belt Militia

By Cap. Talbot MacGregor  
(Edited by Quills, Lieutenant Clerk)

What is it that's rustling in the bushes or moving through the branches above while you're walking down the Yellow Brick Road? Though many travelers fear the forests and wilds of Oz, there are more things in the woods than Khalidas or Ooglies. Most citizens are well familiar with the changelings that live in the cities and towns of Oz, or the occasional so-called "wild" changelings that sometimes come out of the forests. But not as many know that countryside of Oz is home to many changelings that would be deemed "civilized" by cityfolk. The wilderness is the true and natural home of changelings since the founding of Oz and many changelings prefer to live there in more traditional homes - burrows, dens, and nests - rather than in houses or towns.

But by their very nature these communities do not benefit from the protection of the authorities and militaries of the Triad. Enter the Green Belt Militia. A fighting force of trained changelings, the Militia patrols through the land of Oz, protecting and fighting for the good of the woodland denizens. Originally founded in Quadling Country, the Green Belt Militia makes its way across all four countries of Oz, lending aid wherever they are needed. The changelings of Oz who live in the wild are in need of protection from monsters and nefarious creatures, bandits, hunters, and slave traders. The Green Belt Militia provides this protection with a strong paw and a good will for the Oz's changeling inhabitants. Militia members serve in a variety of positions, both in combat and support roles - and the Band is always recruiting qualified individuals!





ON April 28th  
Roman Michael Blake  
&

ANNA Marie Rose Tazer will exchange vows.  
This joyous occasion will be held at the  
Church of Erch in the Emerald City at 2:30 pm  
All of Horizon Stronghold are welcome to attend.

Both are Stormriders from the US of A.  
The Groom resides in Horizon Stronghold  
And the Bride is currently enrolled in the UEC  
And works for the Bureaucrats in EC.  
After Graduation she plans  
to return to Horizon to be with her beloved.

Reception is planned for May 12



## Political Unrest

By Sapphire City Reporter Valence

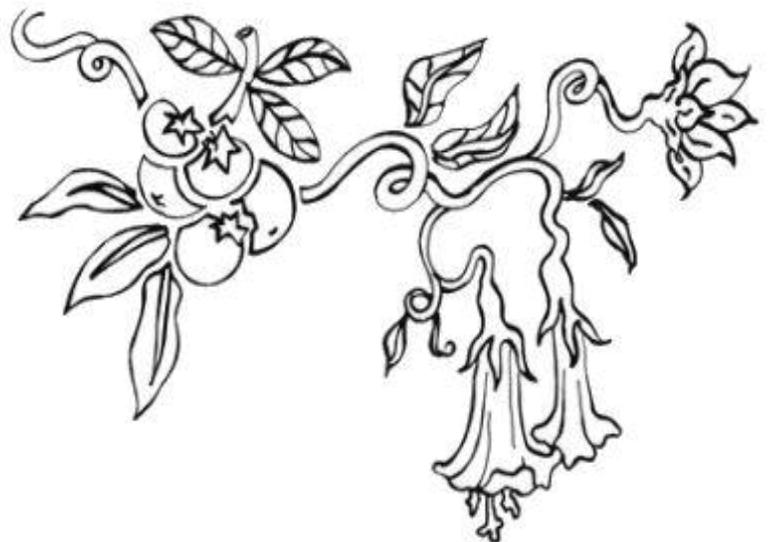
Over the past few months a political movement has been gaining popularity among the Changing populations and the more forward thinking minds of Oz. A push is being made to allow Changelings to obtain full Ozian citizenship after they have proven their domesticity. As one can imagine it is being met with mixed reactions among the upper crust, but on the local level many seem to be for the idea.

In a similar vein another movement is slowly gaining momentum. As anti-Storm Rider sentiment grows some are questioning whether they should be allowed to become citizens in the first place, or even if they should be considered an outside threat. More level heads are lobbying for a required citizenship test for all Storm Rider's wanting to reside within Oz before they are given any rights as a citizen.

## Grave Goods

*Gravemoss and Gravemoss, cultivators of fine fertilizer. From the Twining Vine, we bring you grave solutions for grave problems.\* The dead become new life through our fronds.*

*Do your running vines have a hitch in their step? Bun-berry trees gone stale? Better be-leaf we have a fertilizer for any need. Our dirty work makes the world bloom.*



*\*Bodies collected at one bit per body*



# AN INTERVIEW WITH JINETTE POTTS

By George Aleister Wright

Inquiring minds want to know, who is Miss Jinnette Potts? Lucky for us, Miss Potts was gracious enough to meet me last month, right before Lurlinemas. And luckier for me, she had lots of treats available!

GAW "Miss Potts, thank you so much for making the time to speak with me today. What's that? It's just Potts? No Miss? OK! Potts, I realize that you are very busy preparing for the Lurlinemas festivities, and appreciate you letting me ask you questions here in your kitchen. Yes, I would most certainly like another cup of tea. No sugar, thank you. A cookie? No thank you, I've already had three! Shall we get to the interview? What's that? I have a little something on my shirt? Oh how embarrassing, I've spilled crumbs all over my shirt gorging on those cookies...OK. So, Potts, inquiring minds want to know, where are you from?"

Potts " I am from the Baron's Lands in Quadling Country. Would you like a piece of ginger cake? It should be cool enough to serve any minute now".

GAW "Ginger cake? I would love a piece! Tell me, what is your occupation? Other than being a wonderful

baker!"

Potts "I have served the Von Needlespeek family for over 30 years, and I have served Sir, that is, Mister Fredrick, directly for about ten years. I do a little bit of everything, from cooking and doing laundry, as well as a variety of other tasks. "

GAW "In service of the Von Needlespeek family for over 30 years! My, that is a long time. They must really like your ginger cake, this is lovely! May I have another piece? Thank you! So, How long have you been in town?"

Potts "I have been in town since this last fall."

GAW "Not very long at all, but longer than a typical vacation. Tell me, what brings you to Horizon's Stronghold? Visiting family? Relatives? New employer?"

Potts " Sir sent me to arrange things for his arrival, but he has been delayed by the winter snows. While awaiting Sir's arrival, I have been working at the Emporium."

GAW "Ah, so you are still faithfully in the employ of the Von Needlespeek family. Please introduce me to Mr. Von

Needlespeek when he arrives. So, other than arrival preparation, do you have any goals?"

Potts " Right now, my goals are mostly centered around preparing things for Sir's arrival this spring, and seeing to the smooth running of the Emporium."

GAW "Smoothly running the Emporium? That in itself would be more than a full time job! I've taken too much of your time, so if you'll indulge me with just last question? Great! Is there anything else you want our readers to know about you? Favorite time of day, things you like to do when you're not working, etc. etc. ?"

Potts "Early morning is my favorite time of day - I'm often up early, preparing breakfast and a big pot of coffee. Sometimes I manage to get a little reading in while it's quiet."

GAW: "Well thank you so much for time today, and yes, I would love to have another piece of ginger bread to take home."

There you have it folks, an interview with Jinnette Potts. Please stop by the Emporium and welcome her to town, and if you're lucky, she'll be baking!

## Nick Chopper Returns Cont.

cross-factional disputes so that we may maintain unity.

To further this goal he will gather around him his one hundred Centurions who will be responsible for such matters as they arise.

He will return to his previous position as Emperor of Winkie Country, ensuring a prosperous future for the residents therein.

Rejoice! A new era of prosperity and greatness is surely just around the corner!





## Hue's Birth Signs

Find your season of birth and your type of person to discover your star sign.

### Spring

### Summer

**Mortal Leaf**

**Construct Brain**

**Immortal Silver**

**Mortal Storm**

**Construct Cog**

**Immortal Emerald**

You might be a bit confused with the mood of the day, Leaf, which fosters quick action and a sporadic approach to things. Do what you can to merge with this energy in order to add a more spontaneous spark to your daily routine. Take a walk on the wild side today.

**Love connection:** Storm, Emerald, Heart.

Separation from someone close to you could have you reflecting on the times you've spent together. You're likely not remain separated for long. You're feeling a lot of warmth and affection toward everyone around you, but a little sad as well, particularly when you think of those far away.

**Love connection:** Ruby, Heart, Spade.

Dreams with mixed messages might trouble your sleep tonight. One minute you'll be having a wonderful dream, and the next could be black and gloomy. Write them down! The message is probably more positive than it appears. Make sure you learn the facts about your situation before allowing yourself to panic!

**Love connection:** Cog, Heart, Diamond.

A special person in your life could be working too hard, causing strain her and frustration for you. Their extra work could interfere with your desire to enjoy quality time together. You might be wondering if you're doing everything that needs to be done. It might help to make a list and cross off each task you complete.

**Love connection:** Brain, Heart, Star.

Today you might try to continue or complete a creative project of some kind, but your imagination just is working overtime. Your overindulgence doesn't help the situation. Put your work aside before you give up on it completely. This is only a temporary situation.

**Love connection:** Leaf, Heart, Silver.

You might feel especially protective at the moment toward all those you love. Upsetting news might have you wondering about the future, but don't let it get you down. All should be well, so allow yourself to relax and enjoy your loved ones.

**Love connection:** Cup, Heart, Spade.

### Autumn

### Winter

**Mortal Cup**

**Construct Heart**

**Immortal Ruby**

**Mortal Star**

**Construct Spade**

**Immortal Diamond**

Social occasions could bring valuable contacts your way, which you could make good use of later. You might be having so much fun out among the beautiful people that you really don't want to go home! Don't make it too late a night, because you'll need all your energy tomorrow!

**Love connection:** Cog, Heart, Emerald.

Right now is the perfect time for love, expect to be surprised today. You'll be delighted. You might need to run a few errands, but don't let pressing matters weigh you down. You should be feeling especially affectionate right now. Be creative!

**Love connection:** Everybody! Have fun!

Your long-term plans could be a source of worry today, Ruby. However, focusing on the here and now will get you back on the right road. Delays are never permanent (although it might seem that way). Too much worry could spoil your day, and you don't want that. If there's anything you can do to ease the situation, do it. Otherwise, hang in there.

**Love connection:** Star, Heart, Leaf.

Too much recent stress and strain could cause you to clash with others. While not a disaster by any means, Star, this can put a damper on your day. It might be best if you took a few minutes to get away by yourself and let all your negativity fade away when no one's around. You'll feel better once you have a few moments to compose yourself.

**Love connection:** Cup, Heart, Ruby.

Plans for getting together with a group of close friends may have to be called off because of sudden unexpected events. This could have you feeling somewhat down, Spade, especially if a romance is involved. Try not to worry about it too much. You will be able to reschedule, and you could use the time alone anyway to relax and center yourself.

**Love connection:** Cog, Heart, Storm.

Recent overindulgence could have left you feeling a little off today, Diamond. You may want to spend the day in bed, but the prospect of leaving tasks undone is a bad idea. Don't force yourself to socialize, either. You need some time alone to recover and gather your resources so you can face the world with a clear head.

**Love connection:** Ruby, Heart, Emerald.

## Fox Family Farms

The friendliest family farm to find fresh, flavorful favorites for Ozian's of all forms and frames.



Furnishing fantastic fare in Horizon County for fair fees.

## Help Wanted

Large insectoid Changeling family seeks multiple persons for assistance! Many of our colony are with child and require help with daily chores and preparations for the impending bundles of joy. Nannies, night-nurses, and general home helpers sought. Room and board provided, generous compensation, and negotiable benefits. Must love children and be open to working with Changelings. Please respond to this ad if interested or for further information.

Franklin Formicidae

# THE

Coffee, Cookies, and Showers At

# EMPORIUM



# TOWN Schedule

Friday

Midnight  
Bonfire and Brats Chal-  
lenge!

Saturday

Noon -2 pm Market  
At Hildy Hall

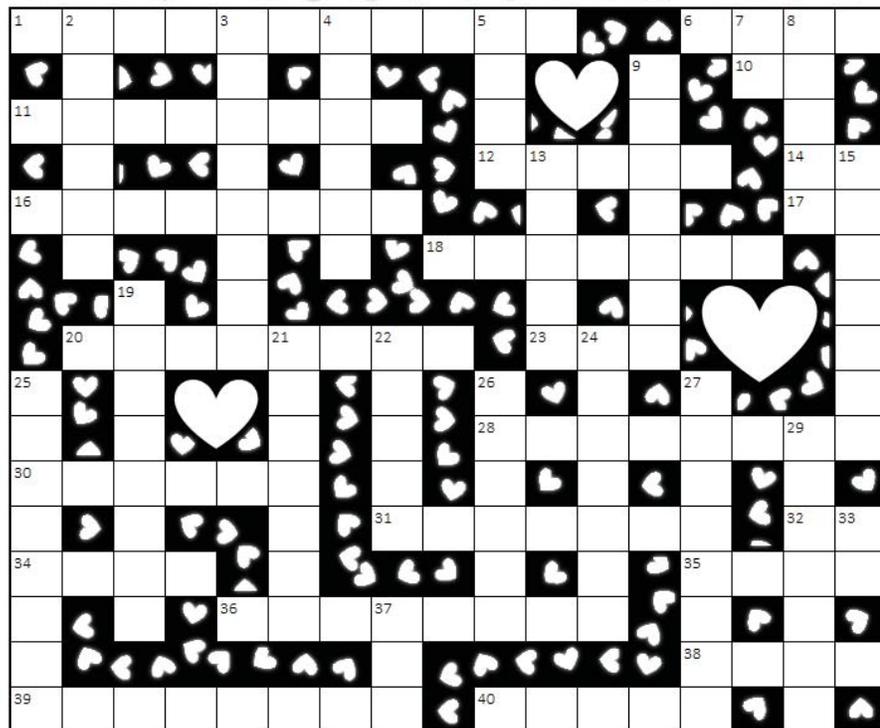
2 Pm  
Town Meeting/  
Election  
Tax collection  
At Hildy Hall

4 Pm Card Game  
At Red poppy

8 pm Dinner and Movie  
At Red Poppy

 It is Always Tea Time  
Tea Time B.&B. 

## Nue's Word Puzler



### Across Down

- 1 In The Middle (Yieldcream)
- 2 Distressed In Spring (Amyday)
- 6 Fuzzy Feeling (Vole)
- 3 Press Your Body Against (Creambad)
- 10 A Mirror Of Us (Oz)
- 4 Short-lived (Mooded)
- 11 Makes You Sing (Homynob)
- 5 Gets You Wet (Bust)
- 12 Part Of Anatomy (Pensi)
- 7 Home (Zo)
- 14 Expression Of Disgust (We)
- 8 Furry Animals (Loves)
- 16 Relaxing Fun (Assgaems)
- 9 Fun Thing To Say (Iweskin)
- 17 Foreign Agreement (Is)
- 13 Take In Appearance (Derip)
- 18 Suitable For All (Isunzei)
- 15 Say It Again (Kiswine)
- 20 Be Careful Going In (Wowdido)
- 19 Failure Of Intercourse (Smeihard)
- 23 Letter Out Loud (Ses)
- 21 Generally Wet (Awether)
- 28 Bounces Up And Down (Usrednob)
- 22 To Trace A Rounded Path (Tibor)
- 30 Better Than A Brain (Heatar)
- 24 Some People Won't Get It (Butstex)
- 31 Smaller Than Little (Neytits)
- 25 Red And Hard (Gladquin)
- 32 Not You (Em)
- 26 Agreement Before Merging (Penpur)
- 34 Animal Lubricant (Dral)
- 27 Beneath The Words (Lubetits)
- 35 Not Out Away From (Tani)
- 29 Ask Forcefully (Dedmans)
- 36 Inventor's Ailment (Cocktarp)
- 33 And Roman (Te)
- 38 Pleasurable Company (Daly)
- 37 Tin (Nac)
- 39 From The Land Of Oz (Ignikill)
- 40 Keep Close To Your Body (Pruse)

