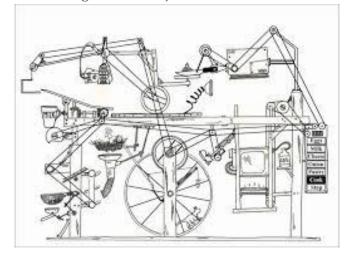
Editor: Shah Chien We Dig Deep Since 1400

THE DAY OF WONDERS ARRIVES

All citizens of Waterdeep are eagerly awaiting tomorows Day of Wonders celebration expo, fancy things parade and annual firework and magical light show. Be sure to grab a place street side the night before to get the best viewing experience to marvel at the many spectacles that parade past onlookers every year. From first sun up to the lunching hour one witness everyone from new musical instruments to magical enchantment to revels beyond description. This year highlights are said to include, Grinda Garloth and her magically "apparatus", Xoblob and his vanishing eggs and the Parade of the

Nimblewrights to name just a few.



SEE W-1 FOR MORE

DOOM AND GLOOM, AGAIN?

The so-called Doom Raiders, an elite arm of the Black Network or (Zhentarim) have been spotted on the road from Baldurs Gate and are scheduled to make the midnight ride through the city streets within the week. Authorities insist the raiders are still some days away and that the Day of Wonders festival will continue as planned however citizens are encouraged to keep their homes secure for the few days following. The Black cloaks, in the attempt to cull Zhent antics, fear tactics and terrorism from said groups have been stepping up security with the safety of their citizens in mind. World-wide religious considerations and freedom of faith have all been carefully weighed in the process and everything has been done to allow for freedom of expression. Long term residents of Waterdeep (this reporter included) have seen enough of their Doom and gloom predictions about the end of the world and would like to tell them to go terrorize Baldurs Gate instead this year! Though it seems, perhaps, they already have.

WELL, THAT'S JUST LIKE, YOUR OPINION, MAN

The spread of the infamous root 'Sclera Grass' addiction has been on the increase. Countless addicts claiming that the root brings clairvoyance and "opens the doors of perception" have already been apprehended by the city watch who have released the following statement to the Wazoo "Citizens of Waterdeep are encouraged to stay away from damp and dark areas this fungus has proven to a highly addictive hallucinogen that leads to erosion of the body, mania and eventually death. Local bards of the South ward have countered official statements saying, in brief, "Well, that's just like, your opinion, man".

GOLDEN SHOWERS

Victoro Cassalanter has once again generously donated 1000 gold crowns to the local temples of the Seaward. The wealthy family, always known for their generous donations, has delighted religious officials and townsfolk alike with gifts of such esteem. Various structures about the city have also been ordered annual inspection, in cooperation with House Kael with hopes to maintain city integrity after the last few years of unrest.

W -1 Continued

During the day besure to visit basin of the Great Drunkard and partake in the cornucopia of stalls and venders that sell all manor of delicious (often exotic) cuisine from around Abeir-Toril. As night falls the city head towards the high grounds near the griffon academy to see the spectacular light show in Waterdeep bay this years Grand Fireworks show brought to you by the Black Cloaks themselves should be second to none. There are also several small exhibitions being held in the various districts near any of the Sleeping Seven. Contact your local ward office for further details. City watch will be out enforce for the duration of the day so be sure to keep your arms covered or at home for your own safety and the safety and security of others.



NAMELESS KING, HEADLESS CITY, ARMS A PLENTY

It is no secret that since the ousting of Jury Grando there has been some political disarray (to put it lightly). However recently the Lord Alliance have since made the claim that through magical means they have found a true heir to the throne. Though details have been slow to come out of Castle Waterdeep. the open Lord Lady Laerel Silverhand, insists that the young Lord (who has yet to have his naming day) is believed to be a decendent of Ahghairon (an original founder of Waterdeep!). Many critics still doubt the claims of the yound would be kings ancestry and perhaps for good reason after the dark years under Grando. Silverhand and the Black Staff herself, in royal decree, with signees from the Melandrach line and hundreds of other noble houses certify that blood is of ancient and royal lineage yet the magical components used to make such a trace have yet to be disclosed leading the most adamant of sceptics, some say conspiracy theorists, to still believe its yet another a plot to put a puppet government in place. And the conspiracy runs deep. Wazoo reporters have found that there are those who believe that mercenary army forces, under the leadership of Lord Neverember (whose age would have had to have been magically enhanced) has been assembling north of the city. To take back the city? The Griffon academy has since debunked these claims stating quote, "no army has been spotted in the north what so ever". Jalester Silvermane, of the Lord alliance calls the accusations base and without merit claiming that despite what political unrest may exist in the city, it is merely the voice of a loud minority funded by Black Network dirty money. If they really want to make the public believe them however, why dont they release the information about the spell?



EKEING OUT THE EAST

The ongoing political struggles in the far-east continue as the city of Nethjet, known for its temple to Amaunator, despite rebuilding efforts, has once again fallen to a few remaining "Angels". Pocket factions of angels still exist in the region and travel advisories are still in effect. Sevra Belebantra, a key agent of the Order of the Gauntlet has stated that city officials and the Open Lord should send men at once to help contain this possible future threat as red wizards of Thay have also been reported in the area. Unfortunately for her and the Order, local interest in things "beyond Boarsky" are "Cormyr problems" and that interest in the East are at an all-time low after the devastation a century ago. Local opinion seems firm that, increased military presence in eastern conflicts will only lead to another quagmire and the loss of more Sword Coast youth. As crop growth and agriculture, since the Great Thaw, has begun to see the increase in wealth in the West and it is here that the Open Lord has been encouraged to relegate the most resources.

Crime

UNDER-HERE, UNDER-WHERE

Local City Watch officials are still on the lookout for a small vessel that was found ashore, unregistered, several weeks ago. The vessel contained clear residue of the Underdark spores and possible clothing fibers linking to the infamous Drow Bregan D'Aerth clan. Authorities are yet to close in on any suspects let alone make any arrests though all large tall ships in the harbor are currently being questioned for leads their holds rigorously searched. Requests have also been made to citizens residing in the Dock ward to report any potential suspicious activities.

LAMP LIGHTERS or STRIKE?

Gang Violence in the Dock ward near Candle Alley broke out in bloodshed yesterday in what appears to be boiling over tensions between two opposed factions. The area, no stranger to alcohol and guild related violence, has seen a recent spike in violent behavior in the past few weeks. Investigators are still looking into suspects including alleged nobility identy theft, kenku involvement, missing persons and a factory fire. Keep reading your local additions of the Waterdeep Wazoo for the latest developments.

ANARCHIST, ARACHNID, ADVENTURER

Local citing of the so called "lady in black" have been spreading about the Castleward and Tradeward and other areas of the city to much fear and amusement to its residents. While there has been no apparent motive or consistency among to the events in the stories circulating, they all seem to center around a mix of simple theft, rescue and/or intimidation. Indeed the sightings of a short, thin, possibly female, figure showing up late at night to terrorize locals in the Castle world is nothing new but people are asking she mean harm? Mean good? What could this lady in black want? Could it be the Black Widow herself? The City Watch asks that information regarding this possible vigilante be reported at once as such behavior is not something they wish to encourage.





Entertainment & Business

Kalain Karn, working with local business has started a new fashion trend. You may have seen them in local shops. Now as life-like as ever these new "Man-kins" can help any shop look as if actual people are wearing the newest and hottest apparel. Mr. Karn encourages interested parties to come enjoy the spectacle of his great moving wax sculpture on display during the Day of Wonders these week. It will be held near the market place of the Castle Ward. Accoring to Kalain, "Art enthusiasts should be sure not miss it."

The Book Wyrm has announced it's

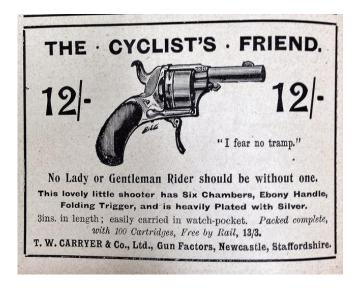
new location in the in Castle Ward. Rishal, the local and friendly bookseller, extends a warm greeting to all who value intelligence and wisdom to take a look at her "wondrous wares" and "tantalizing tomes" including the highly anticipated 'Rise of Tiamat and the Lords alliance: A compendium of history Figures of the Sword Coast and Waterdeep' that comes out this week. Rishal insists that this several hundred page manuscript will keep its readers enthralled for hours.

Redcast winery has seen a series of

fires this last summer due to record heats. Local bar owners fear less mead and wine from this highly regarded estate winery. Though a spokesperson for the winery insists there will be no depletion in supply.

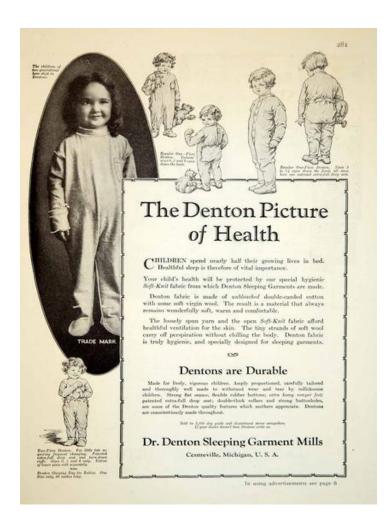
House Margaster has released an

official announcement that the shipping lanes to the isles of Helos and Codos are once again open. Though the danger of Drow shipping vessels still exists, the Margaster noble family ensures the people of Waterdeep that they can be sure to see an increase in pearls in the jewelers by next spring. Safe your crowns for Spring Waterdavians because come Ches, Pearls look to be the back on the racks...and necklaces.



Thrakkus Buthers, of mud flap

fame, has announced a new hearty, (albeit gamey) meat for your holiday seasonal meals. Hire a waggoneer to get though as this hot selling item comes with the coast of muddy boots and will set you back 15 silver for 1 portion. Reluctance aside, enthusiasts claim that the new meat is unlike anything they have ever tasted.



OLD WORLD OPINION

DEAD MAN ALE, the once beloved

drink of the sailor, the louse and the heavy drinker, as well as the mad alchemist, has seen resurgence of interest of late. Banned over a century ago due to its flammability and its high percent of alcohol (leading to divorces city wide) it seems the less than dry city of Waterdeep is looking for something with a little extra punch to once again wet its already soaking whistle. At the moment it seems only black network venues stock the potent brew but locals are asking if authorities should allow the ale for sale once again. "It's a historical part of the city", says one passerby. "I mean, if the Yawning portal can have that damn well, why can't I have my Dead mans?" Well, he may be able to get his way as popular support for the deadly brew seems to be gaining traction. Care to add your voice to the cause? Contact the Waterdeep Wazoo to add to the cause on either side of the "OLD WORLD OPINION" issues.

Events

New local business owners are invited to the gorgeous Urmbrusk summer villa in Undercliff for a night of dance music and cocktails with hopes to connect like-minded individuals and entrepreneurs. Contact the villas front gateman for details or to receive an invitation.

The Yawning portal is offering Free drinks for any participant willing to "TAKE THE DIP!" into its infamous well During the Day of Wonders Festival. Come by for a pint (or two?) You'll need it!

-Durnan of the YP

Volothamp Geddarm, world traveler and writer extraordinaire is said to be visiting the city on Marpenoth 30th for a book signing and lecture tour on his newest work regaling the Mad Mage of Undercliff. Don't miss it. Standing room only is available so sign up now with

-U Solizeph.

The Drawing Down Simirl Gala is still accepting bids for attendees for the wealthiest of citizen. Inquire with sevents of House Grahlund for your chance at a bid for attendance to the most sought after event all year.



Vincent Trench, Trollskull alley private eye. "We find what needs finding." Come visit in person for a consultation. -VT

SPEAK OF THE CITY OF SPLENDOR

- Down the with corrupt nobles. The Black Network reigns! -Long live M.
- -A.F. My love for you will never die. Nothing can keep us apart. A.S.



- -Please is anyone can help find my cat! She was lost in the south ward just last week. She is black with a white tail. I miss her so dearly - J. Hornraven.
- -Hey, Anyone looking to delve the sewers of Waterdeep! I hear they are infested with mind flayers. Seem like they are protecting something. Or hiding something, shiny and magical I know it. Find me. -Z
- -Come seek knowledge and information. Find Hlam in the Undermountain for spiritual awakening.

-X U X O

-Isteval is the true open lord of Baldurs Gate. Down with island trash.

- -Looking for a carriage driver? Contact Rowan Evanus. Silk lined seating makes you feel and look just like a noble.
- -I need a goldfish! I need a goldfish! I need a goldfish someone quick. –Otto
- -Looking to join a faction that actually does some good around here? Contact the R. Haventree of the Harpers. The oldest guild in Waterdeep.
- -What time is it? No what year is it? Anyone? -Chrona
- -Bring out your dead. Can't afford to dispose of your dead loved ones. I'll take them for free. Just leave them by the City of Dead southern gate way at midnight. Thanks in advance.
- -I saw you. Tall, blond beautiful. Me. Short, green, smelly. Lets me. -52
- -Wow its true. Someone told me you can write anything here. It only cost me 1 copper piece.Cooool! -Squiddly

Looking knowledge of the ethereal plane. Come find Hlam in the Undermountain.

-Asomodeus returns! The dark lord is returning. Repent now sinners!

