



Kathryn Toomey  
Register of Deeds

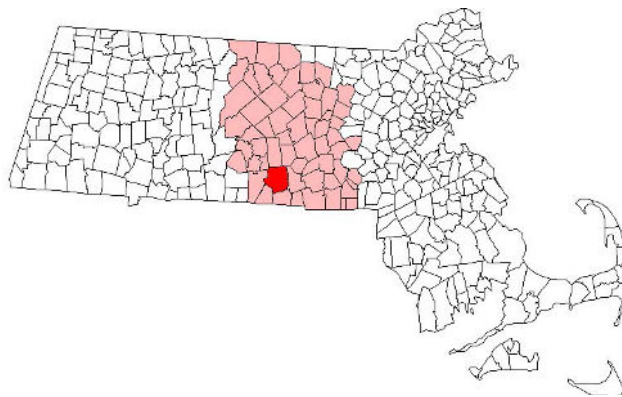
# Worcester Registry of Deeds

## Newsletter

November 2022 ~ Issue #15 ~ Town of Charlton

### What's Inside?

- ★ **Town Spotlight: Charlton** (p. 2)
- ★ **Veterans Day Quotes and Events** (p. 3)
- ★ **The First Thanksgiving and Word Search** (p.4)



Hello and welcome to our Newsletter. It has been a while but we are back.

We spotlight one community per month in our district of Worcester County.

This month it is Charlton, MA.

Charlton was first settled in 1735. It was established as a District separated from Oxford on January 10, 1755, and became a Town on August 23, 1775 by a law that made all Districts into Towns to help for the cause of the Revolutionary War. It was named after Sir Francis Charlton. During the 1800s, farming continued to be the major occupation, but woolen mills were being built along some of the town's brooks by the turn of the twentieth century.

Right now there are still 13 farms operating in Charlton from Orchards, horse farms and tree farms. There are also nature trails like Capen Hill Nature Sanctuary which is a great place to go hiking and it is also dog friendly.

Also one of these days I will have to get to Tree House Brewing. From what I hear it is a good place to go and enjoy your friends and relax.

Charlton has 40 public and private historic buildings, including the Rider Tavern – home to the Charlton Historical Society – which was built in 1797 by innkeeper and distiller Eli Wheelock to serve guests traveling between Worcester and Hartford and even hosted Gen. Lafayette of France in 1824 while he toured the country after

coming to assist in the Revolutionary War.

The Rider Tavern (also Rider's Hotel or Old North Charlton Inn) is an historic tavern in the Northside Village Historic District of Charlton, Massachusetts. The tavern, now a large three story wood frame building, was built c. 1797, and was for many years an important stop on the stagecoach road. It is owned by the Charlton Historical Society, and open for guided tours in the summer and special events.

### Community Statistics

Number of Recordings in September 2022  
**199**

Median Home Value  
**\$431K**

Homes Owned vs. Rented  
**79%**

Total Housing Units  
**5,239**

Density (Houses per Square Mile)  
**94**



# Town Spotlight

## Charlton

### John “Grizzly” Adams

John Adams was a member of the [Adams family](#) of New England that included many important men and women who contributed to the founding and early history of the United States. His great-great-great-great-grandfather, Henry Adams (1583–1646), emigrated with his family from England to Boston, Massachusetts, in 1632, and thus established the famous Adams family in America. Henry’s descendants include the patriot [Samuel Adams](#) and two presidents, [John Adams](#) and President Adams’ son, [John Quincy Adams](#). Grizzly was born in a suburb of Boston, Massachusetts, and was surrounded by relatives and cousins. During Grizzly Adams’ childhood, President John Adams lived within a short buggy ride of him in [Quincy, Massachusetts](#). John Adams was the third child and first son born to Eleazer

Adams (1776–1849) and Sybil (Capen) Adams (1785–1844). He had seven siblings, Susan B., Almy, Charles, James Capen, Zilpha, Francis and Albert. John married Cylena Drury in 1836. They had three children: Arabella, Arathusa Elizabeth, and Seymour. His son, Seymour, never married, so there were no male descendants of Grizzly Adams bearing the Adams surname. John’s younger brother, James Capen Adams, (the alias used by “Grizzly” Adams), married and fathered seven children. Curiously, when Grizzly Adams toured in Connecticut with the circus during the summer of 1860, his brother (the real) James Capen Adams and his family were living in Norfolk, Connecticut, at the time.

Adams suffered head and neck trauma during a grizzly attack in the [Sierra Nevada](#)

[mountains](#) of California in 1855. His scalp was dislodged, and he was left with a silver dollar-sized impression in his skull, just above his forehead. Adams had made pets of several grizzlies, and often wrestled with them while training them and in exhibitions. During one such bout, his most delinquent grizzly, General Fremont (named for [John C. Fremont](#)), struck Adams in the head and reopened the wound. It was subsequently re-injured several times, eventually leaving Adams’ brain tissue exposed. The damage was further exacerbated while Adams was on tour with a circus in [New England](#) during the summer of 1860, when a monkey he was attempting to train bit into the wound. After more than four months performing with his *California Menagerie*, complications from the injury led to Adams’ inability to continue with the show. After completing his



contract with [P. T. Barnum](#), he retired to [Neponset, Massachusetts](#), where he died of illness (possibly [meningitis](#)) just five days after arriving at the home of his wife and daughter (October 25). Upon hearing of Adams’ death, Barnum was deeply grieved.

Adams was interred at the Bay Path Cemetery in [Charlton, Massachusetts](#). It is believed P.T. Barnum commissioned the creation of his tombstone.

Also buried there nearby are his mother, father, a sister, his wife, his son and one of his two daughters.

# Veterans Day

Friday, November 11, 2022

*"Never was so much owed by so many to so few."*

– Winston Churchill

*"Honor to the soldier and sailor everywhere, who bravely bears his country's cause. Honor, also, to the citizen who cares for his brother in the field and serves, as he best can, the same cause."*

– Abraham Lincoln

*"In order to insure proper and widespread observance of this anniversary, all veterans, all veterans' organizations, and the entire citizenry will wish to join hands in the common purpose."*

– Dwight D. Eisenhower

*"This will remain the land of the free only so long as it is the home of the brave."*

– Elmer Davis

*"Word to the Nation: Guard zealously your right to serve in the Armed Forces, for without them, there will be no other rights to guard."*

– President John F. Kennedy



## Veterans Day Events



### Pancake Breakfast and Parade

Friday, November 11, 2022 • 9:00 a.m.  
69 Grove Street, Worcester, MA 01605

Join us for our annual Veterans Day Community Pancake Breakfast & Parade. All are welcome!

Click [HERE](#) for information on sponsorships.

To participate in the Worcester Veterans Day Parade on Friday, November 11, 2022 click [HERE](#).



### Charlton Depot Veterans Day

Friday, November 11, 2022 • 11 a.m. – 8 p.m.  
Charlton Depot

North Sturbridge Road, Charlton, MA 01507

Join us for a fun day of Veterans Day events by buying a ticket for this Veterans Day event near you. Enjoy paying respects in Charlton Depot.



# The First Thanksgiving

## *A Year After the Mayflower*

How could the Mayflower passengers lose more than half of their community, even entire families, and a year later set aside a day for a “harvest celebration?”

They didn’t, at least not exactly.

“The first Thanksgiving in 1621 was an expression of gratitude, but not just for an abundance of food,” says Beiler. “They were grateful to be alive while also mourning the loss of so many loved ones.”

We do not live in a perfect world. But only we can make each day a little better by being kind to one another. Enjoy our differences and celebrate together. We can make the world a better place one day at a time.

### THANKSGIVING WORD SEARCH

apples	I T J N O W N A P I E A L T N
cake	H T U O M Y L P U N M T Y U O
corn	B A I N V I Y P M N I H E O V
cranberry	C O R N T X L L P W R E H G E
dinner	M R Z U D O I E K T G E S V M
dressing	A U A B H I M S I C L K E I B
eat	D I N N E R A I N O I R H G E
family	E A T S B O F N D I P A Q C R
green beans	G U H G R E E N B E A N S Z F
holiday	T U R K E Y R D R E S S I N G
Indian	H O L I D A Y R I O D A E C L
November	L U F K N A H T Y I O C A K E
pie	
pilgrim	
Plymouth	
pumpkin	
thankful	
turkey	

Information on Sponsorships can be found [HERE](#). Your financial contributions make this event possible.