

THE BOUGH



NEWS OF EVERGREEN CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

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A Walk Through Evergreen Cemetery



**Dale J. Fiore, CCE,
General Manager**

We are heading into one of the most beautiful times to walk the grounds of Evergreen as the daffodils will be making their appearance, followed by tulips, and the flowering of trees in pink, purple, and white. The sun has been shining but the winds of winter have not yet abated and it's been cold when we arrive first thing in the morning. It's invigorating though to see life again poking its head through the soil as plants begin to emerge. The renewal of springtime.

As always, at this time of year, we begin to think back on loved ones who have passed before us as Easter approaches followed by mother's and father's days in May and June.

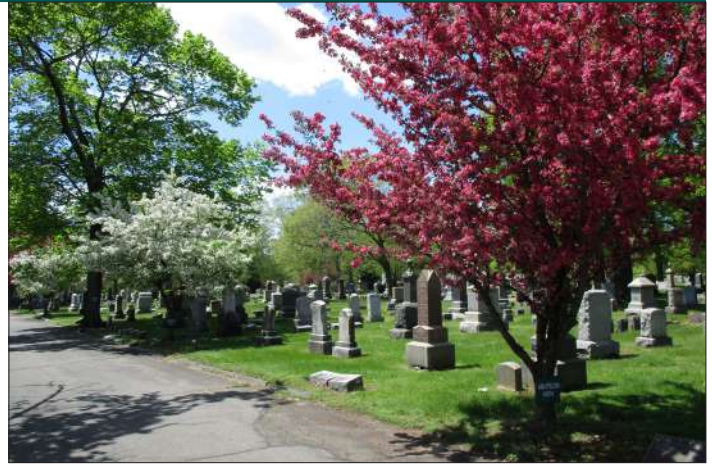
We are busily getting the grounds prepared for

placement of palm crosses, flowers to celebrate a person's life, and upcoming celebrations. It is a good time to think about stories of springs past and springs to come. To think about how our lives have changed and evolved and what might lie ahead as we move in new directions. It is a time for thought reflection.

If someone in your life has chosen cremation and their urn is sitting on a shelf or mantle, perhaps it's time to think about placement in a secure location.

Many people have already reserved their Niche within the Columbarium. Perhaps it's time for you to reserve a spot for yourself or your loved one too. You can have a celebration of life when their cremated remains are placed within the Niche. You can add memorabilia also that had meaning for your Loved One when she or he was alive.

Or, you may have been putting off purchasing a monument or marker for your Loved One who is already resting here at Evergreen. Spring is a good



The beauty of Evergreen as we emerge into spring.

time to think about how you would like to memorialize the life of those who have meant so much to you during your lifetime. We have many grandchildren who purchase monuments or markers for their grandparents who perhaps didn't have the money when they came here to rest. Our lives have become so much better and more prosperous. Maybe it's time to give back or play it forward.

We are going to host a celebration of Mary Herritage Newton, our notable in this issue, and her husband Thaddeus. As you will read on the reverse of this newsletter Mary traveled north in the hopes of securing her husband's freedom from slavery.

Evergreen Cemetery is designated as one of the sites on the Freedom Trail. The event will be sponsored by John Mills who brought this story to our attention.

Seasonal Flower Program



Our seasonal flower program has moved online. Please visit our website to make your selections for any special event or time of the year. Enjoy this new option to shop with your credit card.



Evergreen Cemetery
Association of
New Haven & Crematory
Tel: 203-624-5505
Fax: 203-624-1223
www.evergreencem.org

For More Information & Memorial Pages,
or to Search for a Loved One, Visit our Website.
www.evergreencem.org



Evergreen Cemetery Association
of New Haven & Crematory
769 Ella T. Grasso Blvd.
New Haven CT 06519



In loving memory... a bench set among the daffodils.

Visiting a Relative... Helen Hagan

We're sure that many of you remember Helen Hagan, concert pianist, composer, and teacher who was celebrated here at Evergreen in September 2016. Hagan was the first female African American student to graduate from the Yale School of Music in 1912, first black pianist to perform a solo recital at a New York concert hall, and the only female musician to entertain the American Expeditionary Forces in France in WWI. We are always happy to meet relatives who are visiting at Evergreen. In the photo to the right is Valerie Rooks of North Carolina, visiting her great aunt Helen Hagan with me, Dale J. Fiore, General Manager of Evergreen by her side.



Mary Herritage Newton - 1815-1904 - Securing Her Husband's Freedom...

Mary Herritage, a free black woman, married an enslaved man named Thaddeus Newton on February 14th 1837 in New Bern NC. They had many children together during the time of their marriage.

Mary traveled to Brooklyn NY in 1859 determined to find a way to secure the freedom of her husband, Thaddeus. She found known abolitionists in New York and began to work with them to raise money to purchase her husband's freedom. Her son Alexander Herritage Newton also engaged in abolitionist efforts in New Bern NC and again with his mother in

Brooklyn, NY.

In 1860, Mary secured her husband's freedom and together with Thaddeus they moved to New Haven CT. Thaddeus was too ill to work at his trade as a shoemaker. He became a peddler selling fruit and ice cream from a cart while his wife Mary and sons Stephen, William, and George would help him, and also wash the clothes of soldiers at Crisculo Park.

Eventually the family saved up \$100 for a down payment on a \$300 mortgage for a home on Winter Street in New Haven. Thaddeus was a Trustee in the First AME



Bethel Church of New Haven and worked to secure the property for their building on Sperry Street in New Haven.

Mary studied Homeopathic medicine and tried to find ways to help with her husband's illness, but alas

Thaddeus succumbed from his illness in 1868.

Mary Herritage Newton lived out the rest of her life in the home that she bought with her husband and came to rest beside him at Evergreen on the 18th of February 1904.