



THE BOUGH



NEWS OF EVERGREEN CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

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A Walk Through Evergreen Cemetery



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

Alas, it is the height of summer! The grass has continued to grow due to rainier conditions than usual. Hence, the trimming of bushes and preparation of flower beds for autumn has been scheduled in between the mowing, week-wacking, and beautification projects.

There are not too many holidays during August and September. Perhaps, only Labor Day on the 2nd of September this year. However, holidays are not the only time that we remember the loved ones who have passed before us. Any day is a good day to visit the cemetery or to have a flower placed on a gravesite or a Niche in the Columbarium.

Labor Day used to denote the beginning of a new school year, shopping for clothes, books, notebooks

and the cooler days to come, but now most classes start during the last week of August so shopping must begin earlier during the heat of summer. Whether we are in school or not, for those of us who grew up in the northeast, Labor Day denotes the beginning of a new season.

A walk through Evergreen and its park-like setting can now invigorate us to think new thoughts for the many major holidays to come Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Columbus Day, Indigenous Peoples' Day, and let us not forget Halloween, Diwali, and Day of the Dead. We have so many holidays to celebrate in the US.

The Mary & Thaddeus Newton Memorial Celebration that took place at Evergreen Cemetery on 21 June was a huge success. It began with a song, a story, a prayer, and then reflections by governmental officials, descendants of the 29th Colored Regiment, military honors, and closing remarks. Many stayed for the reception and conversation that followed in the Evergreen board room.

The Freedom Trail plaque



The beautiful obelisks and monuments of Evergreen.

was placed on the monument of the Newtons and many more will be placed throughout the cemetery as those who took part in the Freedom Trail movement are recognized.

The available options for cremated remains are numerous. Here at Evergreen, after cremation, we place cremated remains in a canister while the family decides whether to purchase an urn, which is available here, through your Funeral Director, or even online. But there are also other options, scattering, keepsake urns which are small and can be distributed to individual family members, or even jewelry. Please call if you'd like to discuss the options available.

Our notable in this issue is Rufus G. Russell, highly esteemed citizen and architect. He has designed many of the buildings that you pass during your daily travels.

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
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Tel: 203-624-5505
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For More Information, to Search for a Loved One, or Purchase a Monument, Niche, or Flowers, please visit, www.evergreencem.org



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The beauty of sunflowers
on a summers day.

The Crematory at Dusk - Choosing the Best...

We do not often write about the Crematory at Evergreen in this newsletter and yet many people choose to be cremated here. With growing environmental awareness some people choose cremation to reduce land usage or to preserve natural resources. Others may choose cremation because it is believed to be less expensive than burial and it still allows the family to hold a traditional service. If you have decided to choose cremation, then you can tell your Funeral Director that you wish to be cremated at Evergreen. We will treat you with the respect that you deserve.



Rufus G. Russell - 1823-1896 - Highly Esteemed Citizen & Architect

Rufus Gustavus Russell was born in Prospect Connecticut in 1823. His father, Ransom R. Russell, was a well-to-do manufacturer in Prospect and one of its most prominent citizens.

Rufus, as a young man, moved to New Haven to work for the city's leading architect, Henry Austin. The Garfield Memorial Church in Washington D.C., one of the finest edifices in the country, was designed by Russell.

Additionally, Russell was the designer of the Humphrey Street Congregational Church and architect of the Warner building on Chapel Street,

both erected in New Haven.

Russell established his own architectural firm in 1862 becoming one of the best known architects in the city of New Haven.

In 1863, he designed the David Lyman II Gothic Revival Style House in Middlefield Connecticut and in 1866, he designed the home of Nicholas Countryman, a leading builder in New Haven.

Russell went on to design the Calvary Baptist Church on Chapel Street in 1871, the New Haven Gas Company on Crown Street in 1872, and the Humphrey School on Hum-

phrey Street in 1877.

Russell continued throughout his entire career designing churches and hospitals, the New Haven City Court Building, a portion of the Yale Divinity School, and the Winchester Observatory at Yale University. He continued to work as an architect until his death in 1896.

During his lifetime in New Haven, Russell was elected to the Board of Aldermen on two occasions and also served as a member of the Common Council. He was a member of the Sons of Temperance and was active in temperance work.



In 1896, Russell was taken ill after returning from a ride on the electric cars. He complained of a numbness on one hand and soon after became unconscious and remained so until his death. Russell is resting in Evergreen.