

What's all the Construction About?

This year, The Woodlawn Cemetery broke ground on two of the biggest development projects we have seen in many decades. Read on to learn about these and if all your questions are not answered, call us toll free at 1-877-496-6352 and we will give you additional information.

Garden Conservatory Mausoleum

As reported in past Newsletters, there is a big effort under way to provide new burial spaces at The Woodlawn Cemetery. The much-anticipated Garden Conservatory Mausoleum is now under construction. Due to the harsh winter, we did not get as early a start as we had planned for, but on April 15, 2003, Carrier Mausoleum Construction mobilized to start building the structure.

Since that time, we have been going non-stop. From the excavation of the site to the first concrete being poured, to the crypts heading towards the sky, the construction crews have been working very hard to build as quickly as possible. By September, we will have a large part of the concrete work done, with most of it being completed by November. Then, over the winter months, we will be working on the granite finish and all the other decorative touches that will make this building special for the families who have purchased crypts and niches there.



Garden Conservatory Mausoleum construction

We invite those who would like information about the building to stop in or call our Main Office at (718) 920-0500 and we will answer any questions you may have. Please be sure to look in our Spring 2004 Newsletter for the official opening date. We hope that all our lot owners will come and see the completed Garden Conservatory Mausoleum.

New In-ground Burial Spaces

For those that have visited Woodlawn recently, you may have noticed a lot of work going on near the Fir, Knollwood and Oakwood Plots. This large tract of land has been an area where we have composted leaves for the last 40 years. Over the past two years, we have been recycling the compost to create topsoil for use within the cemetery. Now, we are to the point that we need additional in-ground burial spaces.



New in-ground burial spaces

The Building and Grounds Committee of the Board of Trustees approved a plan presented by staff to develop the Hillcrest/Knollwood Plot for new in-ground burial spaces. The plot is designed to be in keeping with the landscape and monument styles of the older plots that surround the area. It has large family lots, medium size lots and single grave lots. The majority of the lots are designed to accommodate upright monuments.

In order to better serve our families, we designed the space so that we can open it in phases. First, we removed the trees that had been growing wild and saved some of the great specimen trees. Then we will be grading half the plot and adding drainage, pathways and some more trees. Finally, we will be laying out the lots and opening certain areas for sale.

We plan to have these new lots available for purchase at the end of 2003. By fall we should be well into the final phases of this plot enhancement project. There will be over 2,000 burial spaces in the first phase of the development. If you are interested in purchasing in-ground burial space please contact our sales department at (718) 920-0500.

Help Us to Add to the Veterans Roster

On Memorial Day Weekend we read a Roster of Veterans at rest at Woodlawn in a ceremony at the Woolworth Chapel followed by the placing of flags on their graves. Our burial records do not indicate if an individual is a Veteran, so please call the Friends office to add the name of a Veteran to our roster: (718) 920-1469.



Chris Higgins, president of the Woodlawn Heights Taxpayers and Community Association, assists with the reading of the Veterans Roster

New Faces at Webster Office

We've added two new members to our management team: Robert A. Porco, Sales Manager and Richard Frye, Chief Financial Officer. Mr. Frye settled in the New York region thirty years ago and received his MBA from New York University. He worked in the Finance Department of Texaco for 28 years. Mr. Porco has worked in customer services and insurance sales for over fifteen years. He was born and raised in the Bronx and brings a wealth of experience to our sales staff.

Save the Date - Annual Lot Owners Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Lot Owners of the Woodlawn Cemetery will be held on February 17, 2004. At the meeting we will be voting on a resolution to change the date of the Annual Meeting. We are proposing to move the meeting to the spring to better accommodate our lot owners.