

Summer 2023 Newsletter



Volume IX, Issue 2

A New Look...

It's time to change things up a bit! Friends of Hope Cemetery & Woods has a new logo and will soon have its own website. The Hope Cemetery website is also being updated. This seemed like a good time to change the newsletter format a bit also. We hope you like it!

Focal Points



Thanks to all who contributed to the Friends' successful Annual Appeal! We greatly appreciate the support of nearly 100 donors (see page 3 for the full list).



The Hope Cemetery Committee on Long Range Planning is working with consultants in designing the future expansion of burial areas in the Cemetery. The intention is to Cemetery continue the rural garden-style cemetery design now seen in the older parts of the Cemetery.



New trees were planted in Hope Woods Meadow and work is scheduled for improvements to the Yellow Trail (see details on page 3).



Please be aware of the rules for dogs-did you know they are slightly different in the Cemetery and the Woods?

- * When on the <u>Hope Woods trails</u>, dogs must be <u>on a leash or under strict voice control</u>.
- * When in the Cemetery, dogs must be on a leash or inside a vehicle.

These rules are in place to keep the trails safe and enjoyable for all and to ensure respect for those buried in the Cemetery. We greatly appreciate your cooperation.



After two instances of injury to cemetery workers, a rule has been implemented prohibiting rocks from being placed at gravesites (see page 2 for details).



Our Trail Stewards continue their work to control invasive species in Hope Woods. This includes removal of Norway Maples and Oriental Bittersweet.

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Ongoing Work in Hope Cemetery

If you have ventured into Hope Cemetery in recent months you may have noticed that the severe winter storms and the summer's abnormal amount of rain have had a destructive impact on some of our very old Silent Sentinel trees. Spring clean-up was accomplished quickly by our staff and arborists and we expect more tree work to be done in the Fall, including the removal and stumping of severely diseased white pines. Road work will also continue.



Vehicle access to Cemetery roads may be closed at times due to tree or road work or an ongoing funeral. Foot

access to the Cemetery and Hope Woods is possible sunrise to sunset throughout the year.

Please heed the traffic signs (e.g. One Way and No Parking) in the Cemetery.

Hope Cemetery's Updated Rules & Regulations

Earlier this season, Cemetery workers were injured in two separate incidents involving rocks picked up and thrown by our mowing machines. As a result, the Rules & Regulations have been updated to include the rule "No rocks are allowed on a gravesite." While we recognize that visitors might like to place beach stones on the gravesites, the safety of our staff and visitors must take priority.

The full list of Rules & Regulations can be downloaded from the Hope Cemetery website (https:// hopecemeterykennebunk.com) or obtained from the Cemetery office.

Did You Know...

The first person to be buried in Hope Cemetery was Hannah Storer in 1790.



Hannah was the "relict" (a common term for widow in those days) of Col. Joseph Storer, a wealthy influential Kennebunk resident who died serving in the Revolutionary War.

The Storers' legacy lives on today. The Storer Mansion (on Storer Street) was built in 1758 for Joseph and Hannah. Garden Street got its name thanks to Hannah's prized flower gardens.

This information is provided courtesy of The Brick Store Museum. This year marks the 20th anniversary of the Museum's All Souls' Walk, a guided walk through Hope Cemetery telling stories of the people buried there. Learn more about the Storer family and many others from costumed interpreters along the walk. Contact the Brick store Museum for more information (207-985-4802 or https://brickstoremuseum.org).

Thank you, Annual Appeal Donors

In early June, Friends of Hope Cemetery & Woods made an appeal to those on our newsletter mailing list for donations to help support our work. Funds raised will be used to help Hope Cemetery care for the Silent Sentinel trees, as well as to maintain and improve the trails in Hope Woods. We offer our sincere thanks to the following donors for their gifts received since our last newsletter:

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Gifts Were Made in Honor of: **Betsy Stevens Cheryl Price**

New Trees & Scheduled Trail Improvements



This spring, 17 balsam trees were planted in Hope Woods Meadow. The trees, generously donated by George C. and Diantha C. Harrington, are thriving thanks to the dedicated work of our Stewardship Committee.

In September, our Trail Stewards will begin work on the extremely wet portions of the Yellow Trail between Wiggins Pond and the Accessible Trail. All materials were generously donated by Don Harty, one of our Trail Stewards. Permits were obtained from the Town of Kennebunk.



PO Box 1550 Kennebunk, ME 04043

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

New Websites Coming Soon!

This fall, Friends of Hope Cemetery & Woods will have its own website: hopewoodsfriends.org. Here you'll find information about the trails, notices of scheduled guided walks and other events, and an improved online donation feature.

The Hope Cemetery website will have a new look as well, focusing on the cemetery itself and its history.

The new sites are being designed by Sarah Bath of Port and Pine Creative.

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