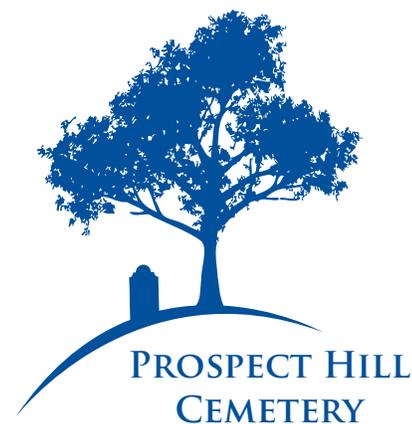


# THE VIEW

*from historic Prospect Hill Cemetery*

*Located in the heart of Towson at York Road and Washington Avenue  
P.O. Box 322 • Riderwood, MD 21139-0322 • 410-252-8462*



PROSPECT HILL  
CEMETERY

*Volume 3, Number 1  
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## GROWING PREFERENCE FOR CREMATION/COLUMBARIA BURIALS

The trend to cremate the remains of loved ones continues to grow in the United States. According to the Cremation Association of North America, 42% of Americans were cremated in 2011 and by 2025 that ratio is expected to increase to 65%. The reasons for the growth include everything from less expensive funeral costs to environmental and space concerns to increased religious acceptance. Until 1963, the Catholic Church had banned cremation; while full body burials are still preferred by the church, many dioceses, including Baltimore, permit a funeral Mass with cremains.



Prospect Hill now offers cremation lots (half size) for \$750 in our in-ground cremation area, and three sets of cremains can be buried in a full burial lot costing \$1500. These full lots are more widely available in the lower area of the cemetery. Please call or email for more information.

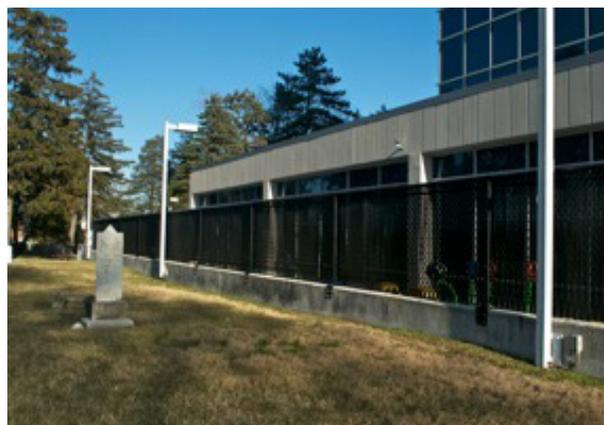
Accompanying the surge in cremations is the growing appeal of columbaria, which hold multiple cremains in individual niches within a 6 to 7 foot wall. The Prospect Hill board is beginning to research columbaria as it seeks to stay current with evolving burial practices and to provide options for its members. We are very interested in hearing from families on whether they would appreciate this option. Please share your thoughts!

## GOOD SAMARITAN, GOOD NEIGHBORS

Karen Jarboe, an employee of Washington & West at Towson City Center, looked out of her fifth floor office one cold winter day and observed an older gentleman struggling to get to the gravesite of a loved one. She hurried to locate a wheelchair and took it down to him, enabling him to access the site. This is a wonderful example of the value of having good neighbors to help us watch over the cemetery on a daily basis. Additionally, that interaction led to the staff in Ms. Jarboe's office scheduling a tour of PHC with Board President Carolyn Knott this spring.

## PLANTINGS PLANNED FOR TOWSON CITY CENTER BORDER

The PHC board is pleased to announce that Caves Valley Partners, owners of our new neighbor, Towson City Center (TCC), have agreed to jointly plant a hedge along the north and northeast retaining wall that divides our two properties. The new plantings, which will match our front hedge along York Rd. and include several Nellie Stevens Hollies at TCC's northeast plaza corner, will help to soften and beautify that border, in keeping with the Master Plan to provide more evergreen screening around the cemetery.



## WAYS TO CONNECT WITH PROSPECT HILL

We always welcome family members and others who are interested in preserving the beauty of historic Prospect Hill to join us in our work. We currently have an opening on our all-volunteer board, as well as the following volunteer opportunities that require an occasional commitment of time.

Email: [info@prospecthilltowson.org](mailto:info@prospecthilltowson.org) or call (410) 252-8462 and let us know what intrigues you!

- **Genealogy** – help research family histories for those buried at PHC
- **Living History Interviews** – conduct interviews with long-time Towson residents who know PHC
- **Docents** – learn to conduct or assist with tours of the cemetery
- **Administrative Support** – help us respond to requests for information, maintain the mailing list, and help with mailings and other duties
- **Information Technology (IT) Support** – assist with transferring records to electronic files and other PC-related duties
- **Cemetery Beautification** – volunteer to plant bulbs, trim bushes, water plantings, and perform other tasks to keep the cemetery looking immaculate
- **Liaisons** – help build stronger connections with local businesses, military and fraternal organizations, and schools
- **Photographers** – camera buffs can help us build a collection of images and record significant events for our newsletter and website (coming in 2013)

## EAGLE SCOUT PROJECTS COMMENCE

Two Scouts are working on Eagle Scout projects that will benefit PHC. In late March, one Scout begins working with board member Bill Wilson on a digital mapping project to provide the precise location of each grave. The scout will use GPS technology to determine the coordinates of each gravesite, and then upload that information and a photo into a spreadsheet. We will use this information for administrative purposes and to help families not familiar with PHC to locate their loved ones.

A second Eagle Scout project begins later this spring, focusing on restoring some of the field stone paths in the upper cemetery. Over the years, these stones have sunk into the turf and are no longer useful. This work continues the board's commitment to restore and preserve Prospect Hill's beautiful grounds.



## YOUR LETTERS

Jonathan King, son of Jean Phipps Bray, wrote of his gratitude for the board's personalized assistance when his family laid his mother's ashes to rest at PHC in August 2012. Enclosing a donation from his family with his letter, he wrote, "Mom considered Prospect Hill hallowed ground and would be pleased that half of the remaining balance of her estate is going to support the cemetery for posterity."



# WHO LIES HERE? MORE THAN FORTY BOSLEYS

*Historic Prospect Hill Cemetery contains many of Towson's most influential citizens. Many of the individuals and families who rest in this beautiful place figured prominently in the growth and development of our community.*

More than 40 members of Towson's Bosley family rest at Prospect Hill, including several infants. At age 100, Margaret Bosley Zimmerman is the sole surviving child of Aquilla and Eliza Bosley, who lived with their 11 offspring in a large, lovely home at 34 West Joppa Rd., on land that is now behind the old Gino's building. The Bosley siblings were Edwin, Catherine, Charles, John, Margaret, Marie, Eleanor and twin sister Lavinia, Clint, William Henry, Gertrude and John Edward Hurst.



Margaret, who now lives with her son, Robert Zimmerman, remembers that, despite the large family, there was typically another guest or two at the dining table. Robert also recollects that he, Eliza and Margaret liked to gather armloads of peonies and weigela blossoms from their yard to honor relatives on Decoration Day. "I remember going to my grandmother's house and putting flowers on the graves on this day. My cousins Barbara Magness and Terry Francis have continued the tradition to present date."

Margaret adds, "Just after Terry's wedding ceremony, she took flowers from her bouquet and put them on Mom Mom's grave. She refused to go to the reception until that had been accomplished." Robert also remembers that, as a child, he played hide and seek in the cemetery and played with ribbons from funeral flower arrangements.

"Daddy was a house painter and a volunteer fireman," Margaret recalls. "I remember he was up on a ladder trying to put out a fire and they hollered to him to get down just before the roof caved in."

Margaret never finished high school. "I missed school whenever my mother needed help, and then decided not to return at all the year I turned 16. I learned to cook by watching my mother and after I quit school, I began cooking and cleaning for other people," she reminisces. She was married to Clifton Zimmerman in 1936.

Margaret's grandmother, mother, father and six of her siblings are buried at Prospect Hill, only a few blocks from where they resided for so many years.

*Do you have a brief family history you'd like to share in our newsletter? Send to: [info@prospecthilltowson.org](mailto:info@prospecthilltowson.org) or call 410-252-8462.*