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**To:** Town Manager Terry Stewart  
**Cc:**  
**From:** Theresa Schober, Director of Cultural Resources  
**Date:** 11/5/10  
**Re:** Donation of Newton Historical Materials

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Dan Parker, an island resident since 1988 and regular visitor since 1976, is an avid collector of pins and other memorabilia and believes strongly in the value of history and historic preservation. Having served on the incorporation committee for the Town of Fort Myers Beach and subsequently, as the Town's purchasing agent with Harold Huber when Town Hall was originally set up, Dan was routinely involved in early Town efforts in providing public property for islanders. As such, Dan came to possess a number of documents relative to Jim Newton that would otherwise have been discarded. His interest in the family and Newton Park attributed to media coverage as the Town came into ownership of the property.

Dan spent 20 years in law enforcement in Nassau County, Long Island. At the time of his retirement, he was serving as Secretary for the 5,000 person strong Police Department Union. Upon his relocation to Fort Myers Beach, Dan became involved in the Kiwanis Club and was one of the first members of the Civic Association, serving as a Director of the organization for many years. Dan is a former Fire Commissioner on Fort Myers Beach, former member of the Town's Public Safety Task Force, and was Chair of the last Charter Review Committee.

Over the summer, Dan called the Mound House and indicated he had some things he wanted to show me. When I arrived at his house, Dan loaded a number of boxes of papers into my vehicle and personally handed over a personal pen inscription with the name James D. Newton. A Mound House intern, Carolyn Morrell, spent many weeks organizing and archiving the correspondence and developing a complete inventory. The documents donated by Dan Parker include earlier drafts of Jim Newton's book, "Uncommon Friends," with hand-written notes, notes of quotations and other thoughts to include, as well as a draft Foreword by Anne Morrow Lindbergh and a number of reprinted articles by Dr. Alexis Carrel. It is anticipated that these materials will contribute greatly to our understanding of Jim Newton and his own understanding of the importance of the recollections of his interactions with many internationally known personages. The donation includes 445 documents and one object.

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