Greetings and Introduction

The Tradition newsletter is a publication designed to introduce families new to Riverside Cemetery and to keep members informed of the current happenings around the grounds. Riverside Cemetery is a non-profit association of lot owners. Revenues from sales and services are used to fund day-to-day operations of this active and historic Cemetery. If you wish to be added or removed from the newsletter mailing or emailing list, or have any questions regarding Riverside Cemetery, please let us know. See page 4 for Contact Information and Cemetery Hours.

Riverside Participates in a Burial for Women in Need

On the morning of December 21, 2018, a rare type of symbolic service was held within the gates of Riverside Cemetery in our historic Section 3.

The service was arranged by Women in Need Ministries (W.I.N.), a local non-profit organization that serves as advocates and assistants to victims and survivors of domestic abuse. The service was a part of a women's empowerment seminar hosted by W.I.N. A collection of symbolic items and written letters prepared by women in the program were gathered so that they could literally be buried. This was intended to symbolize the peaceful end and letting go of depression, despair, rejection and any other bad feeling which resulted from living in abusive situations and which can potentially affect a survivor's ability to pursue a life of peace and joy even after escaping the abuse.

Those attending came in procession led by an actual hearse carrying an authentic casket, both of which were donated for use during the ceremony by one of Cleveland’s local funeral homes. During the service, heartfelt words were spoken, symbolic items were placed in the casket, and the items, casket and all, were lowered to its final resting place.

The lot itself was a single donated grave, the last in a historic family lot, which was likely to go unused by the owner. The grave was returned to the cemetery for use at its discretion very close to the time Riverside was approached to participate in the service. Both the cemetery and the donator were happy to find such a beneficial purpose for the unused grave so quickly.

Arrangements for a headstone donated by a local dealer are being made so that visitors, especially those participating in the service, can return to remember the event and the strength and goodwill it symbolizes. The cemetery staff feels it was an honor to be a part of the community which made this event possible.

ABOVE: The procession of the symbolic service passes the Riverside Gatehouse on its way to Section 3.

TO RIGHT: Participants in the program add their final touches to prepare for the burial, leaving letters, clothing, etc. and writing words and phrases they are ready to let go of onto the casket fabric.

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As mentioned in our 2018 Fall Newsletter, Riverside completed the task of repairing old underground water lines, and also adding new ones. You may have noticed during visits that certain water spigots were turned off while this project was going on. Our goal was to provide easy water access for visitors who come to treat their loved one’s plantings and flower pots. Any faulty or leaky water lines, some dating back to the 1800’s, has been recognized and corrected. The diagram map above shows where the functional water spigots can be found throughout the cemetery. The water will be turned on entering the growing season of spring, and are then shut off each winter prior to freezing temperatures. We ask all who use these spigots to please be sure that once finished, they are completely turned back off to save water.

Another announcement we are excited to make is our plans to resurface two highly active roads used at Riverside. Our map above shows both roads we plan to repair in 2019. One of these is the retaining wall road used often to lead funeral processions down into our valley area. The other is a horseshoe shaped road in our single-grave area, populated with recent burials from the last 3 decades, a section of the cemetery that tends to see more visitors than our more historic sections.
Donations Received
9/1/2018 to 2/1/2019

Drusilla Allen
In memory of
Clyde Allen & Emma Washam

Nadia Aziz
In memory of
Fakri Aziz

Terry Bauman
In memory of
The Kolb Family

Thomas A. Brandt
In memory of
All Family members at Riverside

Alexandra Braun
In memory of
Serhij & Katherine Terentiuk

Bernard & Marian Buckner
In memory of
Ruth P. Buckner

Betty Dinger
In memory of
Thomas W. Smith, Family & Albert Dinger

Ronald D. Eyring
In memory of
Eyring, Gideon, and Link Family

Grace Green
In memory of
Baby Boy Green

Marijane & Bill Halley
In memory of
Don R. Kuschel & Judge Ray Pianka

Shirley, Val, Ken & Mark
In memory of
David P. Halley

John & Fonda Harris
In memory of
Tom & Iry Hareford, Don & Wilma Roberts

Cynthia L. Kuehn
In memory of
Richard A. Kuehn

Robert & Teresa Polk

Mary Prager
In memory of
Thomas Prager & Virginia Gobel

Don & Mary Ann Obert
In memory of
Families of Riverside

Rothacker Family
In memory of
Shirley J. Graff

Gary & Linda Spiros
In memory of
Olivia Augustus Spiros, Gust Spiros, August
Alber & Johanna Alber, and Mainu Alber

Eric Townsend
In memory of
The Townsend and Beach Families

Jean Wolske
In memory of
Mike Wolske

Shirle Wozniak
In memory of
Wilburt E. Glatz & Thaddeus C. Wozniak

Your Generous Contributions
Support Our Community Events,
Education Programs, And Historic
Preservation Efforts
Thank You!
DATES TO REMEMBER

APRIL 21  EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE (6:30 a.m. at the William R. Halley Chapel)
Please join us once again for an inspirational start to your morning, celebrated in Riverside Cemetery’s Victorian Chapel. The service will include a meaningful Easter message, beautiful organ music, song, scripture, and concludes with the sunrise shining through the elegant chapel doors to send you on to your holiday.

MAY 27  MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE HONORING OUR VETERANS (9:00 a.m.)
Service will be held outside the main office beneath the flag pole. Seating and parking will be available. Join us in honoring the men and women who served in the United States military.

JUNE 8  ANNUAL BREWERS & NOTABLES WALKING TOUR (8:30-11:30 a.m.)
Orientation will begin at 8:30 a.m. in our Nationally Registered 1876 Victorian Chapel. Tour will be guided by William Halley, previous GM of Riverside Cemetery, and Doug Kusak, Historical Interpreter of the Cleveland Metroparks. Signs will direct you to the Chapel and adequate parking space is available. While there is no charge for the event and all are welcome to attend, giving advanced notice and number of attendees by email to riverside.cemetery@att.net or calling the office at 216-351-4800 will help us in our preparation. This is a walking tour, so be sure to have comfortable shoes.

Administrative Staff & Grounds Keepers

Mark Craig
General Manager

Brianna Owens
Administrative Assistant

Scott Halley
President

Bill Halley
Retired General Manager
Secretary/Treasurer

Kenneth Langley
Assistant General Foreman

Shirley Bill
General Foreman

RIVERSIDE CEMETERY
HOURS OF OPERATION & CONTACT INFORMATION

Cemetery Gates
October – March 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
April – September 7:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Office Hours
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday – Saturday (Closed Holidays)

Grave Clean-off Dates
(Weather permitting) March 1st & October 15th

3607 Pearl Road
Cleveland, OH 44109
216-351-4800

Email: riverside.cemetery@att.net
Website: www.riversidecemetarycleveland.org

To be added or removed from our Newsletter mailing list or email list, please call or email the office.