# NOVEMBER 201



# Entering a Season of hanksgiving

As we pause to remember the birth of Friends of Historic Riverview Cemetery in 2008 and appreciate its continual growth, we give thanks for each of you. FHRC has become a community that expands across the United States. It was your encouragement, volunteer service, and financial support over many years that 'saved' the 1951 Office/Chapel building from destruction in 2006. We documented various stages of work on the building since 2009 in monthly Newsletters. And, since 2013 we informed you of our progress with the capital campaign.

## Dedication of the Building and Open House are planned for the spring of 2018.

Going forward we will enjoy the simple pleasures of basic necessities: indoor toilets, running water, heat, electricity, and air conditioning.We will expand volunteer opportunities to include indoor projects. We will have a hospitable setting to meet the public for sale of gravesites, research requests, and special programs. Board Meetings will be on-site.

### AT LONG LAST

We are happy to announce-Construction is Complete! For 9 years we conducted cemetery business by meeting families outside and corresponded from our homes. We stored burial records off site.We offered only outdoor volunteer proiects and worked in hot,

restoration and preservation.

cold, and rainy conditions. We held Board Meetings at the local McDonalds or under a tree at Riverview. We brought jugs of water from our homes to keep flow-

> ers alive. And, we paid a monthly fee for a portable outdoor toilet.

### A NEW NAME

Over the next two months we will be equipping the interior space with basic furnishings and supplies and, we will establish new procedures. As we enter this next chapter in Riverview Cemetery's story, the former office/chapel will be called the Riverview Cemetery Visitor Center. Eventually our signage will

encourage walkers and historians to enter the cemetery and enjoy its 42 acre greenspace spanning both sides of N. Market Street.

A special thank you to State Representative Charles Potter, Jr for funding the entrance ramp and railings to comply with ADA requirements to ensure that the building is accessible to all.

A special thank you to Montchanin Design Group architect, Michael F. Looney and General Contractor, Michael A. Mekulski.

VOLUNTEER PROJECT November 11, 20179am - Noon

Sign in at the Mausoleum Get tools and supplies

**Project:** Repair Gravesite of Civil War Medal of Honor Recipient Fill Pot Holes with Gravel Trim Branches

# Snacks & beverages provided

**Community Service Certificates** available

#### FOOD DRIVE COLLECTION

FHRC collects food items which are donated to a local food cupboard at the end of the day. Items to share: canned soups, peanut butter, tuna, beans, cereal and pasta.

For Statewide Resources to assist with Loss and Grief visit the website of the Delaware Grief Awareness Consortium: www.degac.org

Mailing Address: Friends of Historic Riverview Cemetery P.O. Box 2173 Wilmington, DE 19899 www.riverviewcem.com





Riverview Cemetery • 3300 North Market Street • Wilmington, Delaware • (302) 762-4705

The mission of Friends of Historic Riverview Cemetery is to operate and maintain

Wilmington's most culturally diverse, non-profit, public cemetery, and to support its

## **ORAL HISTORY**

Riverview Cemetery: Reading the Stones – A Collection of Memories from the First State will be on sale for \$20 at the annual HOCKESSIN ART & BOOK FAIR, Saturday, November 4, 11 AM - 3 PM at the Hockessin PAL Center, 7259

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Lancaster Pike.

MEMBERSHIP: Friends of Historic Riverview Cemetery is a 501c/3 non-profit charitable organization. Your membership is tax-deductible and the funds are used for cemetery expenses. We have eliminated the 'Lifetime' level of membership and those who joined at this level between 2009 and 2017 will be listed as Founding Members. Please Join or Renew before the end of the year. As we begin 2018 we need your generosity and financial strength behind us.

# OMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

THE RESURRECTION CENTER invites you to a Thanksgiving Cantata - 'Spirit of a Grateful Nation' with a special tribute to Veterans on Saturday, November 11, at 5:30 pm. Free admission with 1 canned good or non-perishable item. Visit www.trclive.org

# PROJECTS of NOTE: A Beautification Project!

Two groups of Volunteers this fall focused their energy on the section of the cemetery that was originally known as the 'Baby Burial Ground'. These photos capture the progress in September and October. High weeds, trash, and branches were cleared in September by students from Wilmington Friends so that in October, wood chips could be spread, the fence painted, and weeds removed from the Baby Garden.FHRC Board of Directors thanks 20 students from Wilmington Friends School and 12 Bank of America Volunteers for their amazing contribution. B of A also donated new pruning tools and work gloves, a welcome gift!





#### CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Thank you to our September and October CONTRIBUTORS:

Bruce Dunlap	\$30
Zipfel Family	\$50
Edeltraut Gilgenast	\$70
Nancy Hlywiak	\$250

#### **CONGRATULATIONS TO**

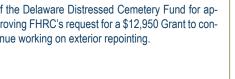
MARY KING on receiving a 2017 Governor's Outstanding Volunteer Service Award for her Community Service to Riverview Cemetery.

ESTATE PLANNING: Consider Riverview Cemetery in your Will. Gifts of stock, retirement plan assets, life insurance and real estate are all welcome. Contact us for assistance.

#### Veteran count 1058

To view a complete list and link to Find A Grave page, please visit www.riverviewcem.com

PUBLIC MAUSOLEUM: Our thanks to the Board of the Delaware Distressed Cemetery Fund for approving FHRC's request for a \$12,950 Grant to continue working on exterior repointing.





Lee Anderson President



Tedd Cocker





Mary King





Treasurer

Debbie Dodd Member-at-Large

#### BURIALS

The Board of Directors assisted with 1 burial in September and 2 burials in October.

#### CREMATION

Families who choose cremation at the time of death may select a cemetery at a later time. We are available to assist you with the placement of your loved one's cremains at Riverview Cemetery. Four family-related cremains may be placed in a single gravesite (a new grave or a grave belonging to your relative). Call 302-762-4705 to discuss this affordable option.



After removing a huge, heavy tarp filled with weeds, time to spread some wood chips and get out the paint brush!



Funds will be used to furnish and equip the new Visitor Center. Bank of America volunteers will handcraft 70 evergreen wreaths with ribbons and pinecones on December 8. Pre-ordered wreaths can be picked up on December 9. For those unable to do so, FHRC volunteers will place wreaths on gravesites (as our 2nd Saturday of the month project). Please mail order form and payment as soon as possible to reserve your wreath.

Visit our website: www.riverviewcem.com