

# OUR 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY! JANUARY 2018



## VOLUNTEER PROJECT

January 13, 2018  
9am – Noon

### MOVING DAY!

Sign in at the Mausoleum

Project:  
**Move Tools & Supplies to  
Visitor Center**

Snacks & beverages provided

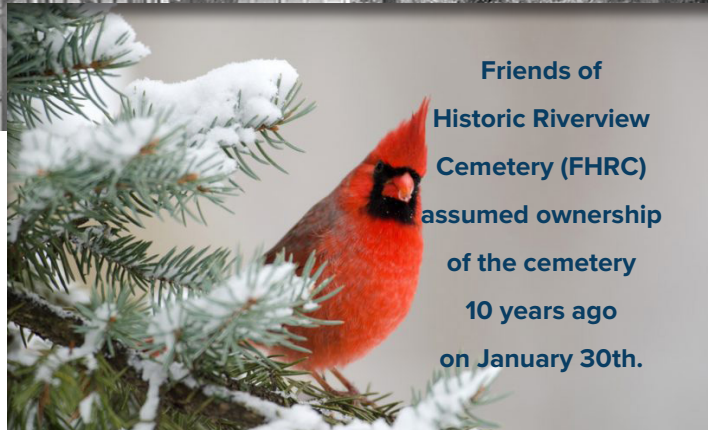
Community Service Certificates  
available

### 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](http://www.degac.org)

Mailing Address:  
Friends of Historic  
Riverview Cemetery  
P.O. Box 2173  
Wilmington, DE 19899  
[www.riverviewcem.com](http://www.riverviewcem.com)



Friends of  
Historic Riverview  
Cemetery (FHRC)  
assumed ownership  
of the cemetery  
10 years ago  
on January 30th.

The mission of FHRC is to operate and maintain Wilmington's most culturally diverse, non-profit, public cemetery, and to support its restoration and preservation. The mission is accomplished in a unique manner—through volunteer service and community partnerships.

### A TEN YEAR REVIEW

To keep it simple, a modern day miracle continues to transform this 42 acre cemetery spanning both sides of 3300 North Market Street in the City of Wilmington. And the miracle is each of you! It is only through the kindness of strangers that a community of friends has formed. Many of you have been part of the Riverview Cemetery Story for a long time while others are rather new. Together we are making a positive difference in the neighborhood by bringing this active burial ground and historic treasure back to life. And, throughout Delaware, FHRC Volunteers and Community Partners continue to be recognized for their exceptional leadership and service.

### WINTER READING

Spend some time on the FHRC website. You will find archived News Journal articles dating back to 2000 when the cemetery found itself in bankruptcy. You will also find the 2012 Report to the National Register of Historic Places full of fascinating information for history buffs. Read about our Veterans who are listed alphabetically and each one has a Find A Grave memorial page. Review some previous Newsletters (2015-2017) on a range of topics. Recent newsletters featured: Our Underground Neighborhood, Library of Lives, Neighbor Helping Neighbor and A Melting Pot of Diversity. Search for your

interest and you will find it. The website also provides the ability to donate online and to contact us by email.

We have all made reference to Six Degrees of Separation—the idea that all living things are 6 or fewer steps away from one another so that a chain of “a friend of a friend” statements can be made to connect any two people in a maximum of 6 steps. This year we want to encourage more and more people and organizations to find their connection to Riverview Cemetery. And, if you are reading this newsletter you may be the link that is vital to bringing more people-connections to FHRC. So tell one another some stories, or forward the newsletters to friends, family, neighbors, colleagues, classmates, team members. We extend a warm welcome to you! There is something for everyone at Riverview Cemetery.

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.

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 restoration and preservation.

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



## FROM *the* BOARD

### CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Many Thanks to our December 2017 DONORS

Genevieve T Luchejko in memory of parents, Joseph & Ann Tyrawski and brother, Steven Tyrawski	\$300
Mr. & Mrs. James Brown	\$400
Schneider Trailer & Container	\$125
Katherine Ward	\$100
Allison Geist	\$50
Julie & Ronald Brown	\$20
DeLaWarr Senior Center	\$20

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** We are looking for volunteers who are interested in helping FHRC Board Members with preparation for burials. Being available during the day is required for these outdoor tasks. Please call 302-762-4705 if you are interested in learning more.

**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. Please join or renew your annual membership now. And, find out if your employer will match your donation!

**Membership Levels: \$30 Individual, \$50 Family, \$125 Restorer, \$300 Preserver, \$500 Guardian.**

**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.

**ORAL HISTORY:** This is the year to contribute your memories, stories, and photos, of Riverview Cemetery. We cannot remember all the fascinating things we are learning through phone calls, email, visits to the cemetery, and meeting you at volunteer projects. Please write it down and send it to P.O. Box 2173 Wilmington, DE 19899. You may want to tell us about your family, friends, or general knowledge of the area. A 3 ring-binder will be located in the Visitor Center to archive your information.

### COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

A representative from Riverview Cemetery attends the 1st District Neighborhood Planning Council every month and appreciates the opportunity to get to know one another and improve the neighborhoods surrounding the cemetery. Many thanks to Subira Ibrahim, President, Vincent White, Vice President, and State Representative Charles Potter, Jr. for their leadership at the recent Public Safety Planning Summit.

### Veteran count 1063

To view a complete list and link to Find A Grave page, please visit [www.riverviewcem.com](http://www.riverviewcem.com)

### PROJECTS *of* NOTE:

#### Wreath Fundraiser raised \$1400!



**Our thanks** to all who purchased 70 wreaths from FHRC this year. Each wreath was one-of-a-kind thanks to the creativity of Bank of America Volunteers. For the first time, wreaths were assembled in a warm and lighted Visitor Center!



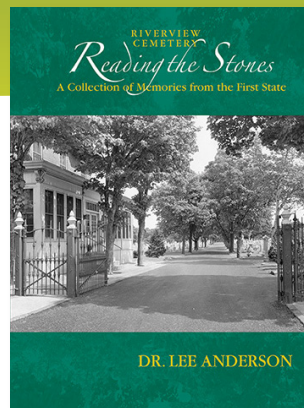
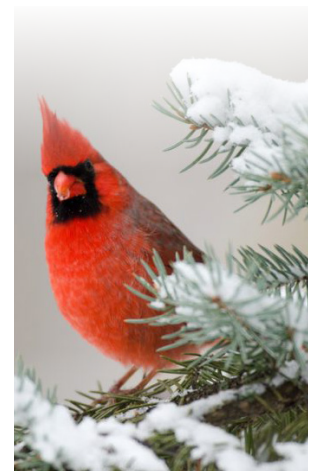
### RANDOM ACTS *of* KINDNESS:

Recently an anonymous volunteer repaired a bench that was unsafe due to rotten wood.



**City of Wilmington Department of Public Works** removed a very large pile of 'yard debris' from our 2nd Saturday of the Month Volunteer Projects. Thank you for your partnership since 2009!

**Davey Tree Company** will remove dead trees and limbs during the month of January to improve tree health & beauty. Thank you for your generosity—and for keeping visitors and grave monuments safe.



Lee Anderson  
President



Tedd Cocker  
Vice President



Mary King  
Secretary



Kate Wilhere  
Treasurer



Debbie Dodd  
Member-at-Large

### BURIALS

The Board of Directors assisted with 2 burials in November and 3 burials in December.

### 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.



Visit our website: [www.riverviewcem.com](http://www.riverviewcem.com)