

**OUTDOOR
VOLUNTEER
PROJECTS**

8 am - Noon*
Project dates:

January 13

February 10

March 9

*weather permitting

Delaware Cemetery Board Awards Grant *35 trees at Riverview will receive needed maintenance*

In October of 2023, members of the Board of Directors of Historic Riverview Cemetery met in Dover with representatives of the Delaware Cemetery Board, a part of the Delaware Department of Health and Social Services. In addition to other responsibilities, the Cemetery Board manages the Distressed Cemetery Fund, which can grant financial assistance to cemeteries that can verify a need. Riverview Cemetery received a grant of \$14,200.

The need at Riverview Cemetery is tree maintenance. When visitors come to walk the cemetery paths and visit gravesites, they may notice that some trees look unhealthy. Trees may have dead branches, damaged trunks with missing bark, or abundant debris on the ground after high winds or ice storms. During consultation with tree professionals, the trees are evaluated for health and safety. A plan of action is created that categorizes trees as acceptable, in need of pruning to remove dead wood or to reshape the tree, or a candidate for removal.

Since Riverview Cemetery was founded more than 150 years ago, it is possible that some trees are more than 100 years old. But, just like all living things, trees can succumb to disease or a harsh environment or simply live out their life expectancy. When they die, they leave behind a major alteration in the environment that they once occupied. What was a shady area must adjust to a harsh sun. The plant community will change, soil moisture will decrease, soil texture and microorganisms will

alter, and other species that depend on that tree for resources like food or shelter must search for substitutes. Removing a tree is a difficult decision.

Riverview Cemetery Board is grateful for financial assistance from the Delaware Cemetery Board, which allows us to perform needed maintenance on 35 trees. Most are being pruned to remove dead wood or branches that have become a traffic hazard. However, nine will be removed during the January 2-3, 2024, work by Brandywine Tree and Shrub.

You ask, "What happens next?" Planting replacement trees, of course! Riverview has an opportunity to expand the variety of woody plants on site. There are many species under-represented on our 42 acres, such as Sourwood, Elderberry, Southern Magnolia, Chestnut, Hornbeam, Big Leaf Magnolia, Gray Birch, and so many others. If you are hoping for a specific kind of tree to be added to our collection, please send your nomination to the Friends office. All nominations will be considered.



NOTES FROM the BOARD



Lee Anderson
President



Mary King
Secretary



Kate Wilhere
Treasurer



Vincent White
Board Member



Shirley Duffy
Board Member



Tedd Cocker
Honorary

SACRED GROUNDS

On November 12th, Representatives from Riverview Cemetery attended the Sacred Grounds program held at The Resurrection Center. Riverview's 'Sacred Ground' is located near the NW entrance.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS

OCTOBER THROUGH DECEMBER 2023

Contributions large and small are needed for cemetery expenses.

Mary Lee S. Merrill	50	Lewis W. Pennell	100
Karen Sharpe in memory of Tom & Betty Anderson	200	Iris Woolsey in memory of Betty Anderson	50
Joyce White	50	Joseph and Shirley Duffy	1000
Suzanne O'Connell	200	Elizabeth A. Smith in memory of Harry & Jane Smith, Daniel & Zoe Saville, and Lydia Benson	125
Alesia Steward (via Bank of America)	500	Kathleen Wilhere	100
Lance Layton (via Bank of America)	500	Rose Marie Mackey	50
Mary T. Farrell in memory of Tyrawski family	300	Patricia Hill	30
Katherine S. Ward	100	Ellen Whitford	100

Coming Soon!

Adjacent to Riverview Cemetery. . .the McMullen Square townhome project will add 19 homes along Market Street. The project is named for Richard Cann McMullen, Delaware's Governor from 1937-1941 who is buried at Riverview Cemetery.



Veterans Interred at Riverview



- To date, the graves of 1,275 veterans have been located
- Some veterans served in more than one war/conflict
- Veterans identified as "Defense" either did not serve in a war/conflict or we have not identified in which one they served



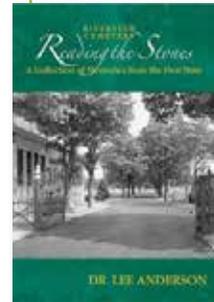
War/Conflict	Number of Veterans
Civil War	282
Indian Wars	1
Spanish-American War	161
Philippine-American War	1
World War I	278
World War II	385
Korean War	95
Vietnam War	32
Defense	169



Veteran count 1275

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

Make a Connection to the Oral History Project!



Reading the Stones - A Collection of Memories from the First State, published in 2005 is still relevant today. We continue to collect your memories, stories and photos to keep the Oral History Project alive. Please mail or email your

information. It will be placed in a binder for display in the Visitor Center. A complimentary copy of 'Reading the Stones' will be mailed as a token of our appreciation for your support of Riverview Cemetery.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/FHRCW

Email: riverviewfriends@gmail.com

Phone: 302 762 4705

With gratitude for everyone who is part of this large circle of care!

PROJECTS of NOTE



THANKS to our October Volunteer groups with Bank of America and Enterprise Holdings! *(Many hands and hearts make light work)*

We are so delighted to have volunteers from local schools. Stone Davis (l) and Ethan Lukach (r) from Wilmington Friends School accomplished a lot. They consolidated the mulch pile, trimmed vines from the tree stump, and transported lots and lots of tree branches. They were "Vee Vees" – Valuable Volunteers!

Visit our website: www.riverviewcem.com



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.

BURIALS: The Board of Directors assisted with 5 burials.

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 remains at Riverview Cemetery. Four family-related remains 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.