

APRIL 2022 SPRING



OUTDOOR VOLUNTEER PROJECTS
8 am - Noon*

April 9: Prepare cemetery for grass cutting on April 11 by removing decorations, branches and trash

May 14: Prepare for Memorial Day by joining us to place an American Flag on 1177 Veteran graves

June 11: Remove American Flags from grave sites

**weather permitting*

HELP WANTED

Part time Employment
\$25/hour

• **Burial Coordinator**

Job Description can be found on Riverviewcem.com/employmentopportunities

RIVERVIEW celebrates SESQUICENTENNIAL:

2022 marks the 150th anniversary of the founding of Riverview Cemetery. It was in that year that the Independent Order of the Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias finalized plans to establish a new cemetery in Wilmington on former farmland purchased from the Todd and Derickson families. After much planning, coordination and effort their goal was realized when on July 1, 1872 Riverview Cemetery opened for business and began selling burial lots.

Earlier in that year the name of the cemetery was selected, a cemetery design was developed and approved, and a layout of sections and lots on the southeast side of Market Street was created not only on paper, but also on the ground. Future plans included adding a fence around the cemetery, paving the roads within the cemetery, and building a residence on cemetery grounds for the cemetery superintendent that would contain a reception room and business office.

By all accounts, this venture was considered a success with more than 600 lots being sold by August 5, 1872. Just one week after the cemetery was opened, July 8, 1872, the first burial occurred. Earlier in that week, on July 3, 1872, Mrs. Elizabeth Warren, a 63 year old Wilmington resident, had taken ill and gradually got worse throughout the day. At 11 o'clock that same evening, she passed away. The doctor in

Marking 150 years of providing historic, affordable, and active burial grounds for people of all social, ethnic, religious, and economic backgrounds.

charge of her case at that time, Dr. H. F. Askew, attributed the death most probably to Cholera; however, cemetery records show her cause of death as Consumption, another name for Tuberculosis. Mrs. Warren was laid to rest in Section 5, Lot 33, Position 4, where an upright marble gravestone marks her burial location. Interestingly, a second burial occurred later that same day. Mary Elizabeth Baker, aged 21 years and 9 months, daughter of John and Mary Baker, passed away on 7 July 1872. She was buried the next day in Section 2, Lot 105, Position 4. She does not have a gravestone marking her burial location.



Riverview Cemetery continues in operation today under the ownership of Friends of Historic Riverview Cemetery (FHRC), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. On July 3, 2012, just 140 years after its opening, Riverview Cemetery was placed on the National Register of Historic Places by the United States Department of the Interior, and is recognized as the first

Delaware cemetery so honored on its own merit. Today, the cemetery is the final resting place for more than 35,000 souls.

*Submitted by Tedd Cocker
Riverview Honorary Board Member*



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.

NOTES FROM the BOARD



Lee Anderson
President



Mary King
Secretary



Kate Wilhere
Treasurer



Tedd Cocker
Honorary

Operational Income is down as we complete the first quarter of 2022. Please Donate!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS

January - March 2022

Greg McCauley	\$100
Karen A. Sharpe	\$100
Roger Brown	\$50
Debra Cain	\$50
Thomas D. Henderer	\$50
Elizabeth A. Smith	\$50
Alice and Harvey C. Smith, Jr.	\$50
Joyce K. Zipfel	\$50
Ulysses Beard	\$30
Dorothy Marx	\$30

Contributions large and small are needed for cemetery expenses.

Veteran count 1177
To view a complete list and Find A Grave page, please visit www.riverviewcem.com



Veterans Interred at Riverview



- *To date, the graves of 1,177 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 cannot identify in which one they served



War/Conflict	Number of Veterans
Civil War	280
Indian Wars	1
Spanish-American War	37
Philippine-American War	1
World War I	232
World War II	303
Korean War	54
Vietnam War	29
Defense	150



MEMBERSHIP: Friends of Historic Riverview Cemetery is a 501(c)(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 8 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 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.

PROJECTS of NOTE

Arboretum & Landscape Committee

Arboretum & Landscape Committee Members have been meeting twice a month since January 2022. We greatly appreciate the expertise and contributions of Geoff Anderson, Lee Anderson, Shirley Duffy, Sam Seo, Susan Wyndham, Julie Zorach and Peter Zorach.

Consider walking through the cemetery on Earth Day April 21 (or any day of the week). The majestic trees of Riverview Cemetery and preservation of its 42 acres of green space, enhances air quality and helps with storm water management.

Tree Maintenance Grant

The Delaware Forest Service awarded funds for the 2022 Urban and Community Forestry competitive grant to Riverview Cemetery.

Grass Cutting Resumes April 11

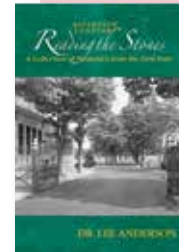
Our grass cutting partnership with **Plummer Community Correction Center (PCCC)** continues under the leadership of Warden Dorene Fields and her officers. First cut is scheduled for April 11 weather permitting.



THANK YOU for YOUR SERVICE!

Our heartfelt thanks to **Delaware Valley Classical School (DVCS)** students, faculty, and parents who volunteered at Riverview Cemetery from 9am to 2pm on Friday, April 1st. Before and after photos below demonstrate progress! All work was done on the Northwest side of the cemetery.

Make a Connection to the Oral History Project!



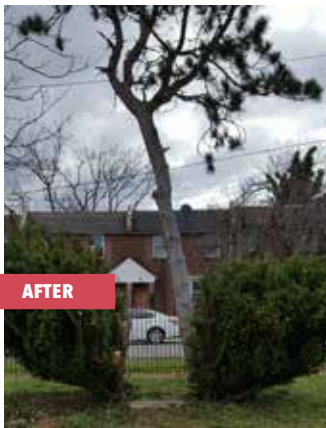
Reading the Stones - A Collection of Memories from the First State, published in 2005 is still relevant today. We continue to collect your memories, stories and photos to keep the Oral History Project alive. Please mail or email your information. It will be placed in a binder for display in the Visitor 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

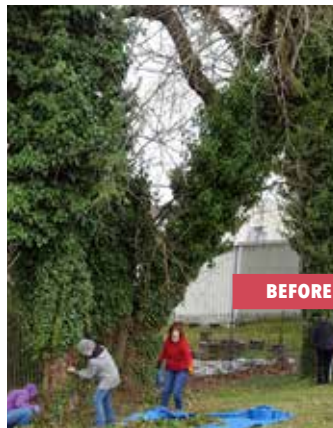
With gratitude for everyone who is part of this large circle of care!



BEFORE



AFTER



BEFORE



AFTER