The Gardens
Memory Gardens

2 seeking election to Board of Directors

The following two individuals are seeking election to three-year terms on the Memory Gardens Board of Directors:

Valerie Konopka
Valerie Konopka is a native of New York State who has a bachelor’s degree in Management from Regis University in Denver and a master’s degree in Management/Organizational Behavior from the University of Phoenix. Her career has included senior level leadership and management roles in healthcare, business, consulting and teaching. She serves as chair of the Long-Range Planning Committee.

Andy Marino
Andy Marino was appointed to the Board in February 2011. He is currently the board secretary and has served as vice-president. He twice chaired committees that reviewed and revised Memory Gardens’ bylaws. He is a psychologist and Committee on Special Education chairperson for an area school district.

All lot owners are encouraged to participate in the election process by completing and returning the form in this newsletter.

Covid 19 and the Annual Easter Sunrise Service

Like many businesses in the Capital District, Memory Gardens continues to take precautions to contain the spread of Covid 19. With Memory Gardens considered an essential business, our staff has done a great job serving the local funeral homes and families while staying safe. Our office continues to be open by appointment only Monday-Friday 8-4:30pm with telephone and Zoom appointments also available.

Because health protocols continue to restrict large gatherings, Memory Gardens will not hold the annual Easter Sunrise Service in 2021. Memory Gardens is happy to announce a new Easter fresh or artificial flower placement for this spring (see order form for details).

As the spring approaches, Memory Gardens expresses our deepest condolences to all capital district families who have been affected by the virus. Our staff is grateful for your patience and understanding while we continue to operate during these difficult times.

Volunteers needed to place Memorial Day flags, sponsor a garden

Volunteers needed before Memorial Day to place flags on the graves of military veterans interred in Memory Gardens. Help us honor those who have served our country before this solemn weekend.

Volunteers are also needed to sponsor a garden throughout the cemetery for the spring/summer/fall. We invite you to spend a sunny afternoon edging memorials and weeding flower beds. We could benefit from your time and energy in beautifying the gardens. Bring a friend and get some fresh air!

If you would like more information or would like to sign up, please call our office at (518)869-9506 or email info@memorygardens.org.

Guide to important dates at Memory Gardens

March 1 to April 1
Spring cleanup: All decorations are removed

April 1 to November 1
Bronze vases may be used until November 1

May 1
Annual Lot Owners Meeting via zoom, 10 a.m.

November 1 to November 15
Fall cleanup: All decorations are removed

November 1 to April 1
Bronze vases in markers not to be used

December 10
Christmas Celebration and Remembrance at the Chapel, 6 p.m.

Easter, Mother’s Day, Memorial Day, Father’s Day
Potted plants allowed three days before and three days after

Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, Veterans Day
Flags allowed three days before and three days after. Volunteers are needed to place flags for Memorial Day

For more details visit our website www.memorygardens.org
President’s Message

Spring is finally here. A welcome visitor shining in green buds and colorful song birds. I am always grateful when spring begins, it is as if we all get a second chance at life.

The Pandemic is showing signs of weakness, as we continue to see new vaccines at a record pace. There is a sense of hope that the new year will be better. May you and your family feel that sense of hope and renewal.

Memory Gardens will be busy with spring maintenance and repairs that could not be done over the winter. We hope to add some new trees where the dead trees were taken down thanks to “Friends of the Garden” Committee.

Due to the continued Covid-19 crowd restrictions, we will be unable to hold our Sun Rise Service this Easter. We are hopeful we can resume the service next year. May you and your family have a blessed Passover and Easter.

Valerie Konopka
President
Memory Gardens Board of Directors

Memory Gardens, Inc. Annual Meeting of Lot Owners

10 a.m. Saturday, May 1, 2021
via zoom only – call office for more details

Memory Gardens Administrative Building • 983 Watervliet Shaker Road • Albany, NY 12205

NOTE: Voting and attendance are limited to Lot Owners (those listed on the deed or direct heir). Lot Owners may vote either in person OR by completing and returning the proxy form below. Please sign full name, including middle initial. Joint owners should each sign. When signing as attorney, executor, administrator or guardian, please give full title as such.

**ILLEGIBLE OR UNSIGNED PROXIES WILL NOT BE COUNTED **
Completed proxy must be postmarked no later than April 22, 2021 to be counted.

PROXY SOLICITED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF MEMORY GARDENS, INC. FOR THE 2021 ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS. The undersigned hereby appoints the current President and Secretary of the Board of Directors, with full power of substitution, to represent the undersigned and as proxies to vote, with all the powers which the undersigned would possess if personally present at the annual meeting of members to be held via zoom meeting on May 1, 2021 at 10 a.m., or at any adjournment or postponement thereof. This proxy will be voted as specified by the undersigned. Further, the undersigned grants full power to the current President and Secretary of the Board of Directors to act as the undersigned’s proxy on any proposals arising other than Proposal 1.

The Board of Directors recommends a vote IN FAVOR OF Proposal 1. If no choice is specified, this proxy will be voted IN FAVOR OF Proposal 1.

Proposal 1: Election of Directors

1) Valerie Konopka Three-Year Term IN FAVOR OF / NOT IN FAVOR OF
2) Andy Marino Three-Year Term IN FAVOR OF / NOT IN FAVOR OF

Name(s) On Deed: ______________________________________________________ Garden: _____________________________ Lot #: ____________

Name: (print): __________________________________________________ Name: (print): __________________________________________________

Signature: _____________________________________________________ Signature: ____________________________________________________

Address: _______________________________________________________________________________________

Phone: _________________________________ Email: __________________________________________________________

☑ check if new address
Each year from early April through mid-October, Memory Gardens offers a floral placement service. For a small donation, our staff will place a lovely bouquet in remembrance of your loved one. Fresh and artificial bouquets are available, and we offer a variety of plans.

**Fresh bouquets** include mixed flowers of bright colors. Take advantage of our weekly plans to ensure your loved one will have a beautiful bouquet of fresh flowers from early April through mid-October.

**Artificial bouquets** in seasonal colors are pictured below. We offer an Easter bouquet, a "Red, White & Blue" patriotic bouquet for placement from Memorial Day through July 4th, an early-summer bouquet, a mid-summer bouquet, and a fall bouquet.

MEMORY GARDENS FLORAL PLACEMENT SERVICE ORDER FORM

Please complete the order form below and return it to Memory Gardens, 983 Watervliet Shaker Road, Albany, NY 12205 with payment, or call our office at (518) 869-9506, or select the “Floral Placement Service” link on our website, www.memorygardens.org

Name of Deceased: ____________________________________________________________________________________

Garden: __________________________________________ Lot: __________ Space: __________

Total Amount Enclosed: __________________________________________________________________________ Check Number: ______________

Card Type: □ MasterCard □ Visa □ Discover □ American Express Expiration Date: _________ Security Code: ______

Card Number: __________________________________________ Phone: _______________________

Name (Print): ___________________________________________ Sign: __________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________ □ Check if new address

Email: __________________________________________________________ Date: __________________

Please select which plan you desire below:

- **Plan A**..... 25 Fresh Bouquets – Once per week ............................................................ $350
  Fresh flowers each week from early April through mid-October

- **Plan B**..... 15 Fresh Bouquets – Every other week .......................................................... $225
  Includes Mother’s Day, Memorial Day, Father’s Day, July 4th and Labor Day

- **Plan C**..... 10 Fresh Bouquets – Every three weeks.......................................................... $160
  Includes Memorial Day, July 4th and Labor Day

- **Plan D**..... 5 Fresh Bouquets ........................................................................................... $125
  Includes Mother’s Day, Memorial Day, Father’s Day, July 4th and Labor Day

- **Plan E**..... 1-4 Fresh Bouquets .................................................................................... $30 each

- **Plan F**..... Artificial Bouquets: ................................................................................... $30 each
  Easter ___, *Red, White & Blue* ___, Early-Summer ___, Mid-Summer ___, Fall ___

- **Plan G**..... All Five Artificial Bouquets ............................................................................. $125

*Our staff does not place on weekends or holidays

Fresh flowers provided by Holland Flowers
Memory Gardens, Inc.
983 Watervliet Shaker Road
Albany, NY 12205
(518) 869-9506
www.memorygardens.org

Office Hours
Monday – Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Grounds Open
Dawn to Dusk

Floral Order
Form Enclosed

Visit our website! www.memorygardens.org

Please Like us on Facebook!
@memorygardensny

Pre-planning made easier
Online tools help families design bronze memorials from anywhere

In an effort to assist our lot owners and their families with pre-planning bronze memorials, Memory Gardens’ memorial advisors now have the capability of designing them online.

With endless options on sizes, colors, designs, styles and borders, our cast bronze memorials now have more options like photos, emblems and bronze cameos to consider. This no-cost process allows you to have the peace of mind that your memorial, and your family’s, is being created the way you want. Once you are finished with the design process, you have the option to purchase the memorial at today’s rate. With this service, your loved ones do not have to design the memorial and pay during their time of mourning.

For additional information, call or email a memorial advisor at info@memorygardens.org.

Lasting Tributes
Memory Gardens offers two very special tribute options to memorialize your loved one, entire family, or a special friend.

Memorial benches of polished granite include a bronze plaque with wording of your choice.

Living tributes include a Memorial tree or bush with the option of a bronze plaque placed at the foot. These living tributes contribute to the beauty of the gardens while memorializing your loved one.

Board of Directors
Valerie Konopka, President
Frank Coluccio
Sharon Greenfield
Cheryl Kowalski
Donna Landy
Andy Marino
Raymond Paradise
Catherine Romano

Update your Information
Moved, changed your name or email address? Let Memory Gardens know.

If you have recently changed your address, your name or email address, please send a note to our business office or an email to info@memorygardens.org with the following information: Your name(s), your old address and your new address, current phone number and your current email address. If you know your garden, lot and space information, please include this as well.

If you have recently changed your name, please send a copy of your marriage certificate or other documentation.

We thank you for your cooperation as this information will help keep our records current.