Spring 2018

The Gardens
Memory Gardens

4 seeking election to Board of Directors

Four individuals are seeking election to serve on the Memory Gardens Board of Directors. All lot owners are encouraged to participate in the election process by completing and returning the form in this newsletter. The following individuals are seeking three-year terms:

Anthony T. Garufi

Anthony Garufi was appointed to the board in March 2012. He has 40 years of real estate brokerage, development and management experience as well as three years of public accounting experience. He is a past board member of the Greater Capital Association of REALTORS® Board of Directors. He is a former board member of the Guilderland Chamber of Commerce and a past president and director of the Commercial & Industrial Real Estate Brokers (Capital District). He is a partner at Fraida Varah Real Estate Group. He currently chairs the Planning Committee.

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' by laws. He is a psychologist and Committee on Special Education chairperson for an area school district.

Salvatore Prividera Jr.

Salvatore Prividera Jr. brings more than 25 years of experience as a communications professional to the board. He is a former newspaper editor, and has directed internal and external communications programs for two statewide trade associations. He is director of communications for the New York State Association of REALTORS®. He is also currently serving as board president.

New Garden of Grace to open in late spring

The Garden of Grace, located on the far side of the pond and to the right of the Garden of Love, will be the newest garden to open at Memory Gardens. Expected to open later this spring, there will be approximately 700 spaces in this garden.

Memory Gardens will offer this garden at the introductory price of $400 per space. Please contact one of our memorial advisors for additional information and to reserve spaces for your family plot.

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.

Easter Sunrise Service set for April 1

Memory Gardens' 77th annual Easter Sunrise Service will begin at 7 a.m. on April 1, 2018, rain or shine. The Rev. Bruce Cornwell of the Community Reformed Church of Colonie will conduct the service. The service will be broadcast throughout the grounds via the Schulmerich Carillon.

We invite family and friends to participate in the service from their loved one's resting place or their favorite spot in the Gardens. We recommend arriving at least several minutes in advance to give you adequate time to pick up a program and get situated.

Programs and carnations are provided compliments of the Friends of the Gardens.

President's Message

Like you, I have family at rest in the Gardens. In my case, there are three generations of my Webster descendants and there's a spot in Good Shepard that will someday be my final resting place. I joined the board to carry on the work my mother, Kathryn Webster Prividera, began as a member of the Board of Directors.

Before 2013, when I joined the board, I visited my family plot in the Gardens and came to the grounds for funerals. I really didn't spend any time thinking about how Memory Gardens operated or what was involved in providing services to families in their time of need. I don't doubt that is the typical relationship most lot owners have with the Gardens.

I share this for two reasons. The first is that you have an opportunity to have your voice heard and to participate actively by voting for those who serve on the board (see below) and by attending the Annual Lot Owners meeting on Saturday, May 5.

I encourage you to attend to hear an update about activities at the Gardens, as well as to share your thoughts with us. Of course, if you have an immediate concern, you don't need to wait for this meeting. You may contact the office at (518) 869-9506 and speak with our Executive Director Andy Carroll or contact any member of the board.

The second reason is the board has begun a long-range planning process to provide a guide for operating the Gardens over the next five to 10 years. The professional operation of the Gardens during the past several years has put us in the position of being able to look beyond day-to-day operations. The goal is to have a plan that guides this board and future boards in maintaining Memory Gardens as one of the premier cemetery operations in the state, providing the highest level of service to lot owners.

The entire board participated at the start of this process to set overall goals. Now, a dedicated group of board volunteers is working to shape those goals into a final plan. This plan will position the board and staff to maintain Memory Gardens at the highest level, while not being so restrictive that we cannot react to change. It will be revisited frequently to ensure we are reaching intended benchmarks and making revisions based on current conditions. Watch for additional information about this effort in the next newsletter.

I hope to see many of you at the meeting May 5.

Salvatore Prividera Jr.

President

Memory Gardens, Inc. **Annual Meeting of Lot Owners**

10 a.m. Saturday, May 5, 2018

at the 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 23, 2018 to be counted.

PROXY SOLICITED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF MEMORY GARDENS, INC. FOR THE 2018 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 at the administrative building at 983 Watervliet Shaker Road, Albany, NY 12205 on May 5, 2018 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) Anthony T. Garufi	**Three-Year Term**	**IN FAVOR OF**	**/**	**NOT IN FAVOR OF**
2) Valerie Konopka	**Three-Year Term**	**IN FAVOR OF**	**/**	**NOT IN FAVOR OF**
3) Andy Marino	**Three-Year Term**	**IN FAVOR OF**	**/**	**NOT IN FAVOR OF**
4) Salvatore Prividera Jr.	**Three-Year Term**	**IN FAVOR OF**	**/**	**NOT IN FAVOR OF**

Name(s) on Deed: _____ Garden _____ Lot #: _____

Name: (print): _____ Name: (print): _____

Signature: _____ Signature: _____

Address: _____ ❑ check if new address

_____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Memory Gardens
2018 Floral Placement Service

Placement service begins April 23 and ends October 5

Each year from the end of April through mid-October, Memory Gardens offers 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 ranging from once per week to a single day.

Fresh bouquets include mixed flowers of bright colors. Choose one or more special dates or take advantage of our weekly plans to ensure your loved one will have a beautiful bouquet of fresh flowers from the end of April through mid-October. Artificial bouquets in seasonal colors are pictured below. We offer a spring bouquet, a *Red, White & Blue* patriotic bouquet for placement from Memorial Day through July 4th, an early summer bouquet, a mid-summer bouquet, a late 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 No: _____

Card Type: ❑ MasterCard ❑ Visa ❑ Discover ❑ American Express Expiration Date: _____

Card Number: _____ Security Code: _____

Name (Print): _____ Signature: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

_____ Date: _____

Email: _____

❑ Check if new address

Fresh flowers provided by Frank Gallo & Son Florist of Schenectady

Please select which plan you desire below:

❑ **Plan 1** **25 Fresh Bouquets -** Once per week **$325**
Fresh flowers each week from the end of April through mid-October

❑ **Plan 2** **15 Fresh Bouquets -** Every other week **$195**
Includes Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Father's Day, July 4th and Labor Day

❑ **Plan 3** **10 Fresh Bouquets -** Every three weeks **$130**
Includes Memorial Day, July 4th and Labor Day

❑ **Plan 4** **5 Fresh Bouquets -** Select 5 Special Dates* **$100**
(Dates from April 23 to October 5)

_____ _____ _____ _____ _____

❑ **Plan 5** **1 Fresh Bouquet -** Select any Special Day* ..... **$20 each**
(Dates from April 23 to October 5)

_____

❑ **Plan 6** **Artificial Bouquets -** Spring _____, Red, White & Blue _____ ..... **$25 each**
Early-Summer____, Mid-Summer _____, Late Summer _____, Fall _____

❑ **Plan 7** **All Six Artificial Bouquets** **$125**

Spring

Red, White & Blue

Early-Summer

Mid-Summer

Late Summer

Fall

*Our staff does not place on weekends or holidays

Memory Gardens, Inc.
983 Watervliet Shaker Road
Albany, NY 12205
(518) 869-9506
www.memorygardens.org

NON-PROFT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ALBANY, NY
PERMIT #203

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

Grounds Open
Dawn to Dusk

Floral Order Form Enclosed

Please Like us on Facebook!

@memorygardensny

Guide to important dates at Memory Gardens

March 1 to April 15
Spring cleanup: All decorations are removed

April 15 to November 1
Bronze vases may be used until November 1

May 5
Annual Lot Owners Meeting at Cemetery Office, 10 a.m.

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

November 1 to April 14
Bronze vases in markers not to be used

December 14
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

Purchase a niche in the new Last Supper feature and receive a free niche plaque

To commemorate the installation of the new Last Supper feature, Memory Gardens will provide a free niche plaque, a value of $495, with the purchase of a niche in the feature.

Depicting the Last Supper, the granite feature has a 64-niche columbarium. The columbarium is constructed of china gray granite and has polished black granite shutters with gold rosettes on the fronts of the niche spaces.

The Last Supper Feature, located at the highest point in the Town of Colonie, provides a gorgeous view of both the Adirondacks and Green Mountains.Please contact our office at (518) 869-9506 to take advantage of this special offer.

Board of Directors

Salvatore Prividera Jr., President

Gordon Bell
Frank Coluccio
Beverly Emerick
Anthony T. Garufi
Valerie Konopka
Cheryl Kowalski
Donna Landy
Andy Marino
Raymond Paradise
Catherine Romano