Spring 2020

The Gardens
Memory Gardens

4 seeking election to Board of Directors

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

Sharon Greenfield

Sharon Greenfield was appointed to the board in 2019. She holds a master's degree in special education and a bachelor's degree in home economics education. She retired from the Schenectady School system as a special education teacher. She is currently serving on the Ad Hoc Committee and the Friends of the Garden Committee.

Cheryl Kowalski

Cheryl Kowalski was appointed to the board in 2016. She is employed by Global Foundries as its risk manager. She holds a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's degree in health administration with a minor in geriatrics and management. She is currently on the Finance Committee and the Friends of the Gardens.

Raymond Paradise

Raymond Paradise was appointed to the board in 2009. He is an IT professional with over 20 years of experience. He is also a volunteer firefighter for the Colonie Fire Company. He has served as president and has served on the Human Resources, Finance and Information Technology Committees.

Catherine Romano

Catherine Romano was appointed to the board in 2009 and is the long-time chair of the Friends of the Garden. She also assists with the Annual Christmas Remembrance Celebration and the Easter Sunrise Service. She has also served on the By-laws, Newsletter, Marketing/Public Relations, and Nominations Committees.

All lot owners are encouraged to participate in the election process by completing and returning the form in this newsletter. You may also cast your vote at the Annual Lot Owners Meeting on May 2.

Easter Sunrise Service set for April 12

Memory Gardens' 79th annual Easter Sunrise Service will be at 7 a.m. on April 12, 2020, 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.

Volunteers needed to place Memorial Day flags, help with gardening

Volunteers are 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 for various gardening projects throughout the Gardens. We invite you to spend a sunny afternoon weeding the flower beds or edging memorials. We could benefit from your expertise in updating some of our older flower beds. Bring a friend.

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

President's Message

On behalf of your directors, it is my pleasure to introduce you to Memory Gardens' new executive director, Tony Pennacchio.

An experienced executive with deep experience in the hospital and health care industry, Tony started with the Gardens in October and spent three months learning the operation. He assumed the top executive's position on February 1 with the goal of ensuring Memory Gardens continues to be one of the leading cemeteries in the region in terms of its overall operation, pastoral beauty, and the high level of customer service provided to its lot owners.

He has 25 years of experience in both for-profit and non-profit organizations. Prior to joining the Gardens, he served as the executive director of a senior living facility and was previously a program manager with the New York State Department of Health.

He holds a Master of Business Administration focused in finance from Western International University and bachelor's degree from Northern Arizona University.

Please join us in welcoming Tony to the Gardens. A great opportunity to meet him in person would be during the annual Lot Owner's meeting on Saturday, May 2, starting at 10 a.m. in the cemetery office.

I encourage you to attend this event, and to cast your ballots for the members of the board of directors in person or by using the proxy form in this issue.

In closing, I would like to bring two items to your attention. The Friends of the Gardens is now a 501c3 non-profit organization, which means donations to it are now tax-deductible. This will help this donation-funded organization to continue its mission of adding to the beautification of the Gardens.

If you have driven through the grounds lately, I'm sure you have noticed new blacktop on many of the roads. We repaved from the bell tower to the exit gate last fall. This is an on-going process at the Gardens since our severe winters take their toll on the pavement.

Salvatore Prividera Jr.
President

Memory Gardens, Inc. Annual Meeting of Lot Owners

10 a.m. Saturday, May 2, 2020

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, 2020 to be counted.

PROXY SOLICITED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF MEMORY GARDENS, INC. FOR THE 2020 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 2, 2020 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) Raymond Paradise	Three-Year Term	IN FAVOR OF	/	NOT IN FAVOR OF
2) Catherine Romano	Three-Year Term	IN FAVOR OF	/	NOT IN FAVOR OF
3) Sharon Greenfield	Three-Year Term	IN FAVOR OF	/	NOT IN FAVOR OF
4) Cheryl Kowalski	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

2020 Floral Placement Service

***** Placement service begins April 24 and ends October 9 *****

Each year from the end of 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 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 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 1 ..... 25 Fresh Bouquets – Once per week $350**
Fresh flowers each week from the end of April through mid-October

❑ **Plan 2 ..... 15 Fresh Bouquets – Every other week $215**
Includes Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Father's Day, July 4th and Labor Day

❑ **Plan 3 ..... 10 Fresh Bouquets – Every three weeks..... $140**
Includes Memorial Day, July 4th and Labor Day

❑ **Plan 4 ..... 5 Fresh Bouquets $100**
Includes Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Father's Day, July 4th and Labor Day

❑ **Plan 5 ..... Artificial Bouquets: ..... $25 each**
Spring ____, *Red, White & Blue* ____, Early-Summer ____, Mid-Summer ____, Late Summer ____, Fall ____

❑ **Plan 6 ..... All Six Artificial Bouquets $125**

*Our staff does not place on weekends or holidays

Spring

Red, White & Blue

Early-Summer

Mid-Summer

Late Summer

Fall

Fresh flowers provided by Frank Gallo & Sons, Schenectady

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

Visit our website! www.memorygardens.org

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.

Please Like us on Facebook!

@memorygardensny

Memory Gardens offers free pre-planning seminars

Memory Gardens knows that you are busy and cannot always make time during the week to visit our office to discuss pre-planning for your family. This is why we try to offer a pre-planning seminar every few months in the Albany area for anyone who wants to talk with one of our experienced memorial advisors about our services.

We have several seminars scheduled through the spring and summer of 2020. Call the office at (518)869-9506 for information about upcoming sessions. You may also call us to schedule an appointment Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with one of our Memorial Advisors at our office.

Board of Directors

Salvatore Prividera Jr., President

Frank Coluccio	Cheryl Kowalski	Raymond Paradise
Sharon Greenfield	Donna Landy	Catherine Romano
Valerie Konopka	Andy Marino	

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 2
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 11
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