

# 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' by laws. 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.



### 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](http://www.memorygardens.org)

### 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](mailto:info@memorygardens.org).



## President's Message

Spring is finally here. A welcome visitor shinning 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: \_\_\_\_\_  check if new address

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

# Memory Gardens

## 2021 Floral Placement Service

**\*\*\* Placement service begins April 2 and ends October 8 \*\*\***

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](http://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 4<sup>th</sup> and Labor Day
- Plan C ..... 10 Fresh Bouquets – Every three weeks ..... \$160**  
Includes Memorial Day, July 4<sup>th</sup> and Labor Day
- Plan D ..... 5 Fresh Bouquets ..... \$125**  
Includes Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Father's Day, July 4<sup>th</sup> 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



Easter



Red, White & Blue



Early-Summer



Mid-Summer



Fall

# Memory Gardens, Inc.

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

NON-PROFIT 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](http://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](mailto: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

Andy Marino

Sharon Greenfield

Raymond Paradise

Cheryl Kowalski

Catherine Romano

Donna Landy

## 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](mailto: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.