



NEWSLETTER

River View Cemetery

Guardians of Your Community's Heritage & History Since 1882

A Message From Our President, John H. Herman



As it has for 127 years, River View Cemetery continues to provide superior service to our clients. One of the best ways for us to provide the best service is by helping clients pre-plan for their future cemetery and funeral home arrangements. Please contact a member of our seasoned, professional Family Service team for a no-obligation consultation.

While we continue to offer our “traditional” services, we are also keeping up with the demand for “new” methods of operating. With the gaining popularity of “natural” burials worldwide, we have researched and implemented a program to offer environmentally friendly burial to our clients. I encourage you to learn about natural burials from our Family Service team and to attend our forum on the topic on October 23rd (See back page for information).

In keeping with the times, we have recently conducted a major overhaul with our websites. Please visit both the cemetery and funeral home websites at riverviewcemetery.org. Within the sites you will find a wealth of information to help in your pre-planning, historical data, current events and research needs.

In other news, River View Cemetery has been working closely with the Portland biking community to create a mutually agreeable bicycle route through the cemetery. The route has been established, and we encourage all cyclists to educate themselves on the route before entering the property. We've had a very high level of compliance from the biking community, as a whole.

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River View Introduces Natural Burial Option

A growing number of people are choosing to live their lives in an environmentally friendly manner, by recycling and by using products that are biodegradable, renewable and non-toxic. Now it is possible for those individuals to make end-of-life choices that mirror the value system they lived by during their life.

River View Cemetery and our on-site funeral home, River View Cemetery Funeral Home, are pleased to offer natural burial and funeral options for individuals who wish to have a simple, environmentally friendly service and burial.

Unlike some cemeteries that only allow natural burials in one specific section of the cemetery, River View Cemetery has become one of the first cemeteries in the nation to allow natural burial in nearly every area of the cemetery.

What is “Natural Burial”? Here at River View Cemetery we define natural burial as the burial of human remains directly in the earth, without the use of an outer burial container (such as a vault or liner) and without being embalmed with toxic chemicals (e.g. formaldehyde).

With natural burial, the deceased is buried in a biodegradable casket, or wrapped in a shroud and lowered into the grave on a specially designed, biodegradable board to facilitate respectful placement in the grave.

Natural burial allows a person to have their body returned completely and naturally to the earth, to ultimately nourish the grass, trees and planting that make River View Cemetery such a beautiful place.

A Message From Our President

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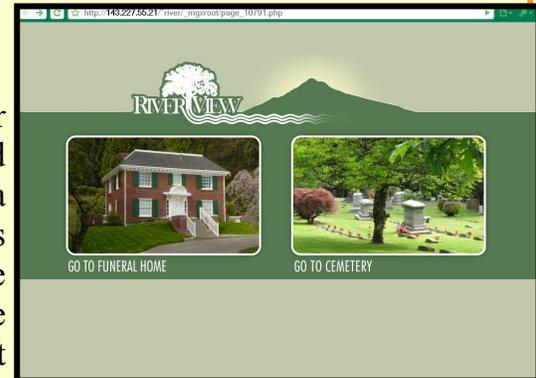
River View also continues working with Multnomah County on the ongoing redevelopment of the Sellwood Bridge, particularly the west end intersection which will impact our lower entrance. While the process has been slow, there is progress being made and it appears that the project will begin within the next few years.

Lastly, I would like to encourage patrons of River View Cemetery to learn about contributing to our "Foundation Fund" that has been established to assist in the ongoing effort for the beautification of our wonderful cemetery. While we are an endowment care cemetery, there are many "special projects" that would greatly enhance the beauty of the cemetery, which could only be completed with funds above and beyond the Endowment Fund. Please contact our office at 503.246.4251 and request to have a brochure mailed to you. Thank you for your consideration, and thank you for your support of River View Cemetery Association.

John Herman
President,
River View Cemetery Association

Website Upgrades Completed

Have you logged on to River View's website lately? On September 27th, we launched our newly upgraded websites. The new and improved websites have a wealth of information on them, including a historical timeline on the cemetery site which captures notable burials and historical information about the cemetery. Additionally, there are links to bereavement resources, upcoming events and a section where you can request genealogical information. Visit the website at riverviewcemetery.org.



River View Cemetery Funeral Home Anniversary

This coming February, River View Cemetery Funeral Home will celebrate its seven year anniversary. Since opening in 2004, the funeral home has served more than 1,500 families and provides services for more that half of the interments that River View Cemetery performs annually. If you are interested in pre-planning for your funeral needs, please contact River View Cemetery Funeral Home at 503.246.6488.

Coping With Grief During the Holidays

The holidays are approaching – a time when most people are especially joyful, as they celebrate special days with those they love. For a person who is grieving the recent loss of a loved one, the holiday season can be particularly difficult, since they are feeling anything but joyful. Here are some suggestions to help you cope:

Don't refuse to celebrate – doing nothing and ignoring what is going on around you will only foster loneliness, isolation and a self-pitying attitude.

Talk about your grief – Ignoring grief does not make it go away, but talking about it openly will make you feel understood. Your close friends and family know your situation and will likely be supportive and comforting.

Know your limits – The holidays take their toll even without being in a state of grief, so don't overextend yourself. Eliminate stress and allow for some private time.

Do what is right for you – Don't stray too far from your regular holiday traditions, as there is security in familiar territory. Enough things have changed for you already.

Have a good time – don't deny yourself the happiness the holidays can bring: good food, special events, and the companionship of family and friends. Your loved one would want to see you happy and surrounded by those you love.

Express your faith – Thanksgiving, Christmas and Hanukah are religious holidays, so take comfort in your beliefs by attending religious ceremonies. They will bring an inner strength and the assurance that God loves you.

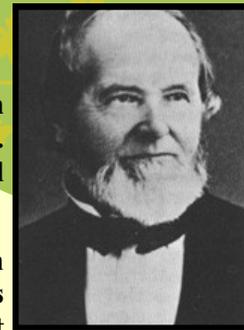
Historical Figure - George Abernethy

George Abernethy was born on October 7, 1807 in New York City. Abernethy travelled to Oregon in 1840 and was placed in charge of the Methodist Mission's mercantile business in Oregon City. Among his early accomplishments were building the first warehouse in the Oregon Territory and establishing the first newspaper, the *Oregon Spectator* in the Oregon Territory.

On June 3, 1845, Abernethy was elected to serve as first Provisional Governor of the Oregon Country, defeating Osborne Russell, a member of the outgoing Executive Committee. As provisional governor, Abernethy worked to build roads, levied the first property taxes, and sent representatives of the Provisional Government to Washington, D.C. to lobby for official U.S. territorial status. He was reelected in 1847 with the endorsement of the influential Dr. John McLoughlin over Asa Lovejoy, co-founder of Portland. The Abernethy administration ended in 1849.

Abernethy died on March 2, 1877. He was originally interred in a Vancouver area cemetery and was moved to River View in 1883 for re-interment.

Today, the Abernethy Bridge in Oregon City is named in his honor. The end of the Oregon Trail, also in Oregon City, lies near an area known as Abernethy Green.



River View's Cemetery Manager Celebrates 45th Anniversary!

Lee R. Rogers could likely write a book on the history of River View Cemetery. Amazingly, this year marks his 45th year as an employee here - more than one-third the amount of time that River View has existed (128 years)! Lee started his career on May 11, 1965 and expected his stay here to be for a short three-month temporary position. After being offered a full-time position on the grounds, which he accepted and stayed with for 17 years, Lee was then moved indoors and worked as a crematory operator, assistant manager, and in Family Service for the next 10 years. In 1991 Lee became the cemetery manager, a position which he continues to hold to this day.

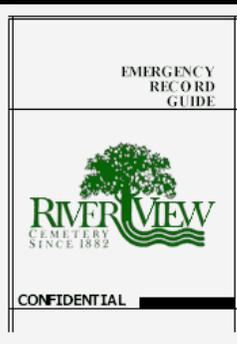


Group Presentations

River View personnel are available to give group presentations to your civic, service, religious, or social group - FREE. We have various presentations from informing the public about River View and its history to answering your questions on the topic of Pre-Planning your funeral and cemetery arrangements. Call 503.246.4251 for more information.

Although assisting families at the time of a death is a very important service, an even more important service we offer is advance planning. Planning ahead before death occurs can be one of the most responsible and caring things you can do to prevent emotional and financial stress on your family.

If decisions are made ahead of time, you can prevent your family the very difficult and expensive decisions that need to be made on possibly the worst day of their life. The family service team here at River View is here to assist you with your cemetery and funeral pre-arrangements. If you would like a complimentary Pre-Planning Records Guide Book to assist you with compiling the information needed at the time of death, please give us a call at our office at 503.246.4251 to receive your complimentary copy.



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Upcoming Events

Natural Burial Forum

Join us on **Saturday, October 23rd, 2:00 p.m.** at Adams Chapel in River View Cemetery to learn more about the newest (and oldest!) form of burial now available to our clients. Experts will weigh in on the facts and options of Natural Burials and Natural Funerals. We will have a display of natural burial products. Refreshments will be served.

Holiday Memorial Service

Our holiday memorial service is dedicated to families who have encountered the loss of a loved one. We invite all families to join us at this special service for a time of reflection and a special time to honor and cherish those they love. We realize the holidays can be a difficult time; our goal is to give each visitor a special time and place where they can find comfort and support. The service this year will be led by Pastor Tom Nolen and once again we will be joined by the Cleveland High School choral group the "Clevelandettes" for holiday carols. Please join us on **Saturday, December 11th, 1:00 p.m.** at Adams Chapel in River View Cemetery.

National Children's Memorial Day Can-

Each year, River View Cemetery joins sites all around the globe that participate in the National Children's Memorial Day event. Everyone, in every time zone around the world is invited to light a candle in honor of children who have died. To commemorate this special day, we will have our service in Adams Chapel at River View Cemetery on **Sunday, December 12th, 7:00 p.m.** If you have a picture of your child of any age that has passed and would like to share with us for a slideshow presentation, please contact Jessica Repp at 503.246.4251. If you have previously provided a picture, we have kept it and it will be in the presentation this year and years going forward.

If you wish to be removed from our mailing list, please contact Jessica Repp at 503.246.4251. If you wish to sign up for our e-mail list and receive the newsletter and event information electronically, please e-mail Jessica@riverviewcemetery.org.



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