

The TRIBUTE



Volume 20, Issue 1

Fall 2014



November

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Dates to Remember

November 2, 2014

Turn your clocks back (fall back) one hour

November 5, 2014

All decorations, with the exception of wooden crosses, will be cleared from all of the gravesites

November 11, 2014

Veteran's Day (Thank a Veteran Today)

November 15, 2014

You may begin placing Fall / Winter decorations on All regulation vases must be turned to the stored position for the winter to avoid damage from freezing.

November 27, 2014

Happy Thanksgiving!!!!

...And then the Flood Gates Opened!!!

On the evening of May 12, 2014, when all television was pre-empted by the devastating weather reports in the area, all sat glued to the screen to see how the storm would affect them. Unfortunately, there was an alarm report from Hope Memorial Gardens security. Certainly the howling winds and reported touchdown of a tornado in Brunswick had caused one of the connections to separate and trigger the alarm. The winds continued to howl, the skies opened up, the rains came, and came, and came.

In the quiet of the morning, the grounds crew were the first to arrive on the scene. I-Phone pictures were crowding the airwaves. The brutal wind and water had broken through a panel of the garage door and infiltrated the entire building. The dumpster was moved and the 300 gallon fuel tanks were tossed off their stands. Inside the building, the equipment had floated across the garage floor, all mower decks had been underwater and were left covered with mud. Everything on the floor and two and one half feet up was dislodged, mud-covered and waterlogged.

The crew went through the building to find the office was also covered with

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Flood Gates...continued from page 1

the aftermath of at least one foot of water. The damage was incomprehensible. The water had penetrated everywhere damaging the floor, carpeting and saturating the walls in all of the offices. The water also infiltrated the filing cabinets and precious records.

With the onset of the busiest time of the cemetery's year, Memorial Day, the clean up had to begin. Everything in the garage was removed and power washed. Several pieces of equipment were destroyed and needed replacement due to water damage. The inside of the garage was then power washed and the equipment was reorganized. All of this clean up was taking place in spite of more rain, it never let up. The garage doors needed three panels replaced. The man door in the back also had to be replaced.

Once the garage was in semi-repair the offices had to be emptied. Drenched carpeting, mud covered furnishings and filing cabinets' lower drawers filled with muddy water were removed and put in the garage. The arduous task of cutting away all of the walls two feet up, blowing fans to dry out the walls and then replace the insulation and drywall was a long painstaking task. All of the furniture had to be cleaned and the records had to be separated and returned to the office. There are still boxes of irreplaceable records that need to be copied and refiled.

The Lord does not every give us more than we can handle. However, this has truly been a test. With limited resources, both financial and staff, the strain this one evening in May has put on Hope Memorial Gardens will not soon be forgotten. You can only imagine the cost involved, both time and money to accomplish this task. During all of this, the staff would like to extend their heartfelt appreciation to all that tolerated shortcomings both in the field and in the offices. Each and every employee was asked to go above and beyond their normal scope of work. If you would like to help with this disaster expense please send donations to either office made payable to Hope Memorial Gardens.

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

II Cor 9:7



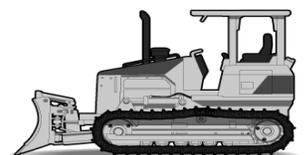
*Wanted
Surveyor/Engineer*

...In the Aftermath, More Help Needed!!

How are the water issues to be addressed? The Engineer at Medina County was called about the flood. They suggested to contact a **Surveyor, Engineer and Excavator** to help solve the issues at hand. It is obvious there is a need to divert the water from the building so this does not happen again.

Phone calls were made to several surveyors to no avail.

**If anyone is a surveyor/engineer or personally knows of someone that can assist with solving this issue please notify
Donna Maminkas, Supt. 330-225-7040.**



Roads Need Work

The cemetery roads at both locations are in desperate need of repair, patching, sealing and in some cases replacing.



There is a considerable amount of roadway at both locations. There are no easy and inexpensive fixes to the roads. Again, it would be very helpful if someone knew of an asphalt company that could help us with repairs or replacement at a reasonable price. Snow plowing will only do more damage to the roads when they are already in this condition.

Warning: Please be aware of the roadways and drive carefully through the cemeteries.

Genealogy

The newest and latest past-time has been spent doing genealogy, researching your heritage.

Please be considerate when doing your research. Call ahead allowing the staff the time to look up your relative's information.

It is difficult when you appear and expect staff available at that moment to assist you. It is never the object to offend you but sometimes the business at hand does not allow the staff to stop what they are working on.

Call Roberta at Lutheran Cemetery (216-351-1308) / or Beth at Hope Memorial Gardens (330-225-7040) for your information.

Hopefully, the information will again be available on our website soon.