



FRIENDS OF THE CEMETERY

Issue 35

Medina, Ohio

December 2016



Friends of the Cemetery

775 East Washington Street
Medina, Ohio 44256

www.friendsofmedinacemetery.org

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Trustees

Teresa Merkle
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Harold Waite

Cynthia Szunyog

Editors

Teresa Merkle

Cynthia Szunyog

Photos

James Hjort

Lisa Macino

Teresa Merkle

Cynthia Szunyog

Harold Waite

Board Meetings

First Thursday at 7 pm

FOC office

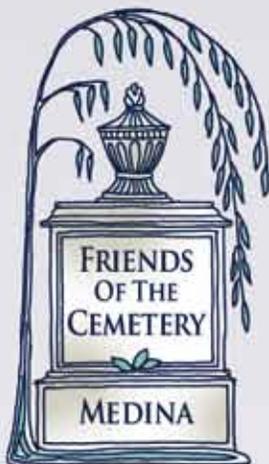
775 East Washington Street

Conference Room

Please call first.

Designed by

Ron Bell/Advison Design



HISTORICAL WALK

By: Cynthia Szunyog

The annual historical walk took place at Spring Grove Cemetery on Saturday, August 20, 2016. Presenters were Harold Waite, Pat Morgan, Pat Van Hoose and Cynthia Szunyog. Harold Waite presented his great-grandfather, Herbert Waite. He was dressed as a funeral director from the early 1900's and told the story in his great-grandfather's voice. The Waite family started in the funeral home business in 1902 and Harold's great-grandfather also had been a carpenter, as was common in those days. Everyone enjoyed Harold's animated and amusing narrative. It was great to have Harold's parents, his wife, Nanette, his brother, Darrell, and his sister-in-law, Carolyn, in attendance. Pat Morgan then told the story of the Bradway brothers – H.C. and W.W. - Herbert (H.C.) was a prominent Medina County Republican, serving the Medina County Board of Elections for 25 years, while his brother, William (W.W.) was one of Medina County's most ardent Democrats and in the employ of A.I. Root for 55 years. One of Medina's city streets bears the name of these brothers. Cynthia Szunyog related the story of her Aunt Helen Graham Leggett's life. Helen began her life on a farm near Weymouth and moved to Medina when she was a little older. She had the normal life of a woman born in the 1880's in the Ohio countryside but weathered several dramatic events, including being operated on for appendicitis on the kitchen table when she was around nine-years old and taking care of her ill mother and little sister after her father was murdered in Cleveland in 1907. Cynthia has Helen's journal for that year. Pat Van Hoose spoke about her Ferriman family ancestors. Details of her talk appear in this newsletter. Everyone in attendance enjoyed the walk very much.

Annual Meeting

The Friends of the Cemetery held their Annual Meeting on Sunday, September 11, 2016. The business meeting included a review of the projects the Friends have been involved in over the past year and the election of officers and trustees. Our current slate of officers are: Teresa Merkle, President, John Gill, Vice-President, Linda Fenn, Secretary and Vickie Fleming, Treasurer. Linda Fenn and John Gill were re-elected to three year terms as Trustees. Following the business portion of the meeting, author and Friends member, Joann King, spoke about researching and writing her latest book, *Medina County Coming of Age 1810 – 1900*. It was a very enjoyable and informative gathering.



Helen Streett Resigns as FOC Trustee

We are sad to announce that Helen Streett has resigned from the Friends of the Cemetery Board due to health issues. We greatly appreciate the years Helen has served the Board. Helen has always been supportive and a positive influence even while dealing with her health and mobility issues the last couple of years. We have looked to Helen for wise counsel in many decisions we have made and could always count on her calm, pleasant demeanor every time we met. We wish the very best for Helen!



Harold Waite Joins the FOC Board



We are pleased to announce that Harold Waite has joined the Friends of the Cemetery Board of Trustees. Harold “Hank” brings a lifetime association and wealth of knowledge of the City of Medina and its cemeteries. Harold retired from his family business, the Waite and Son Funeral Homes, on October 1 of this year. We welcome Hank and look forward to a long association with him as a Trustee.

Harold shares the following: “I have lived in Medina all my life and I have always loved Spring Grove Cemetery and appreciated its beauty and had a special place for it in my heart with all of our family, several generations of both sides of my families, all buried there and always being a part of Memorial Day celebrations for many decades with scouts and band, etc., and decorating our graves. For me, watching how the Friends of the Cemetery came to be formed and what the group has done during its tenure has given me a great appreciation for the group during my 40 years as a funeral director at Waite and Son.”



Ribbon-Cutting and Open House

On Friday, June 3, the Friends of the Cemetery hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony and reception at the Amos C. Mears Memorial building. This event “officially” opened the doors to our offices and maintenance center and was attended by City officials, employees and commission members, state government representatives and contractors involved in the design, construction and decorating of the buildings and Friends of the Cemetery trustees. On Saturday, June 4, the Friends of the Cemetery hosted an open house for the public to tour the facilities and view FOC and cemetery displays along with Mears artifacts. We were pleased so many folks were able to attend and were happy to hear so many positive and encouraging comments.

Spring Grove Water Line Project

The Friends of the Cemetery donated \$12,220 to the City of Medina in September 2016 for the installation of 2,000 feet of 2” plastic water line to replace the existing ¾”-1” galvanized lines at Spring Grove Cemetery. The new lines will be much easier to work with and repair, if needed, and cemetery staff will now know where water lines are located and their depth. The project included trenching, installation of water lines (which included boring under ten of the cemetery roadways), backfilling and installation of hydrants. Several years ago, the Friends purchased 22 water hydrants for Spring Grove Cemetery. These new hydrants were meant to replace the old galvanized stick pipe spigots that have long stood here and there throughout the cemetery sections. When the City first tried to install these new hydrants years ago after they were purchased by the Friends, they found that existing water lines running through Spring Grove were too narrow to accommodate the new hydrants. The new hydrants were stored away and the project tabled until this past September when it resurfaced and the Friends agreed to fund the project. The City awarded the contract for the work to Williams Trenching, Inc. of Medina.



Before



After

Wrought Iron Gates Refurbished

In keeping with our mission of preserving the historic structures at Spring Grove Cemetery, the Friends of the Cemetery funded the refurbishment of the wrought iron gates at the entry archway to Spring Grove Cemetery this past October. This included the two main gates of the carriage entryway and the two walk-through gates on each side of the carriage way. In the past, the 132-year old iron gates have been maintained by sanding off rust and re-painting, but it was decided to have the gates removed and transported to Medina Powdered Coatings on Lafayette Road in Medina. There, the gates were sandblasted and painted with an epoxy primer, then put through a special electronic powdered coating process before being reinstalled at Spring Grove. We expect this process will keep the wrought iron gates lovely and well-maintained for many, many years to come.



New Columbarium Memorial Garden

The City of Medina has constructed a new memorial/garden area along the top of the columbarium wall. This new area has been designated as the place to leave memorial flowers

or mementos to those buried in the wall and will solve the overcrowding of the very narrow strip just below the wall where items have been left in the past. JTS Landscaping of

Seville, OH was tapped to do the project which included building retention walls on each side of the back of the columbarium to guard against erosion. The City had limestone blocks from another project that the contractor was able to use for the retention walls. #1 Landscaping removed plants that were in the ground above the wall and took them to their facility to be stored over the winter months and will replant those in the new garden area in the spring. The City has posted a sign in the new memorial garden area that reads: "Decorations only permitted behind the columbarium wall."



Fall and Winter Decorations

The regulations for Spring Grove Cemetery call for fall decorations to be removed from graves by December 15 and winter decorations removed by March 15. On or after those dates, cemetery staff will remove any remaining and/or unsightly decorations.

Thomas Ferriman

by Pat Van Hoose

Pat was one of our presenters at our annual historical walk at Spring Grove in August.

Below is the presentation Pat gave about her Ferriman family ancestors.

My mother's maiden name was Ferriman. Her great grandparents, Holden and Nancy Ferriman, came from Lancashire England to Sharon Township in Medina County around 1842. Holden Ferriman arrived in Sharon first and, after a couple of years, his wife, Nancy and their first two children, Robert and Harriet, joined him. In 1845 another child, Thomas, was born in Sharon. Robert, the eldest Ferriman child, married Amanda Hiestand and then died in the Civil War. They had a son that, unfortunately, Robert never saw. Robert's sister, Harriet Ferriman, married Joseph Fetterman. When Harriet died, their children went to live with several other families. Thomas, the third Ferriman child, was written about in the "History of the Western Reserve" which gave me a lot of information.

At 16, Thomas enrolled in Battery A, 1st Ohio Light Artillery. He was discharged in July 1865 and came to Brunswick, OH where his family had moved. When he came home from the war, he took a job at the B.H. Wood and Co., which dealt in wool, lumber and general merchandise. He purchased an interest in the clothing store of Lewis and Nichols. He eventually bought out Lewis and the store became known as Nichols and Ferriman. This store was located on the west side of the Medina square where Main Street Café is now. In 1868 Thomas married Angeline Meacham. They had two sons, Orlen, who became a lawyer in Cleveland and, Myron Holden, who later moved to Artesia, NM. Most descendants from this family come from Myron. Thomas moved to Medina in 1883 and first lived on Vine Street. Later he moved

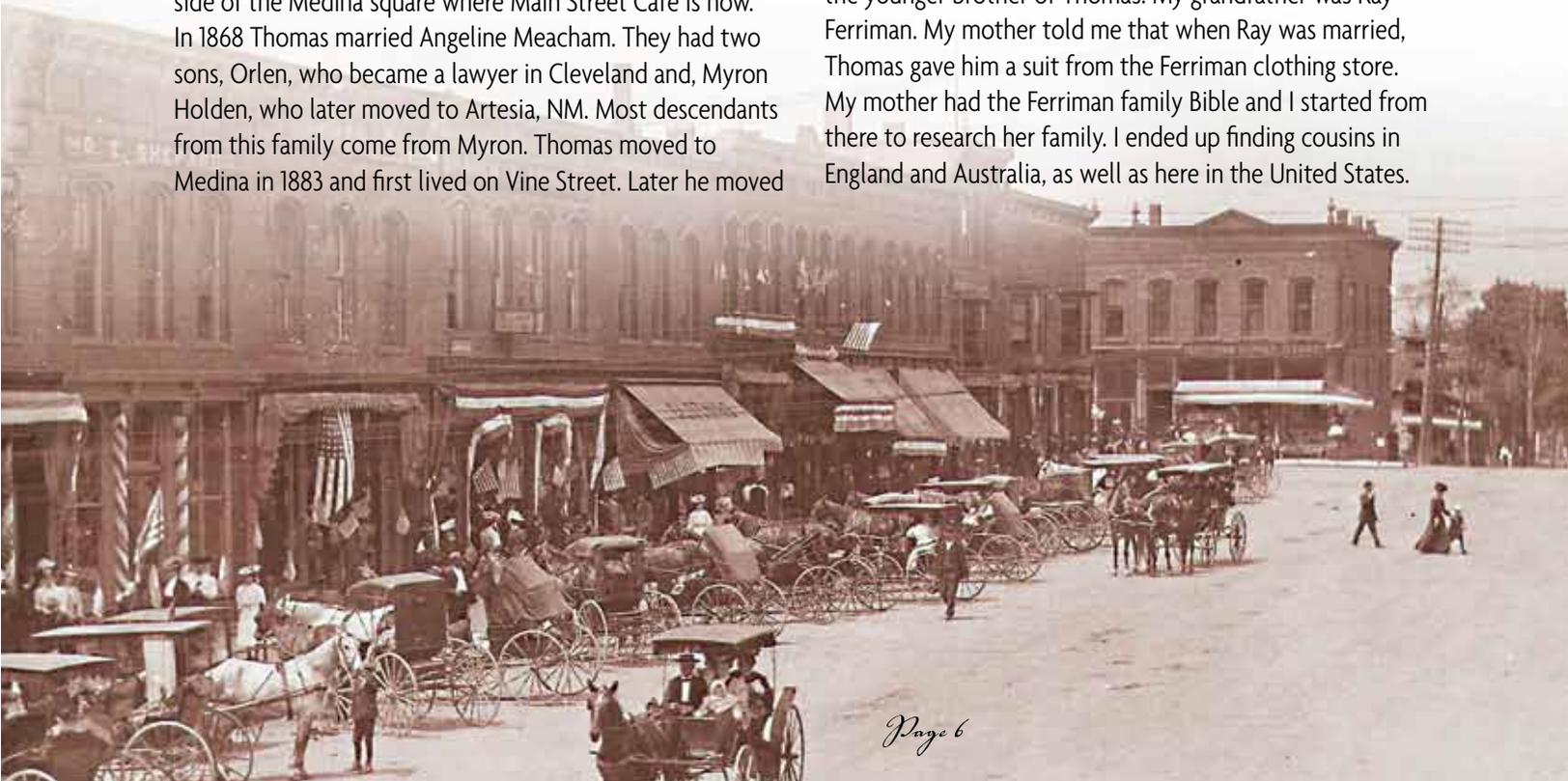
to 403 East Liberty Street, the corner of East Liberty and East Street. Angeline, his wife, died in April 1891.

In the 1940's the Medina Sentinel printed memory letters from across the land. Dr. George Hays wrote from Indiana about his boyhood in Medina and recounted the square as it was in the late 1880's: "Nichols and Ferriman sold men's clothing." Dr. Hays remembered when they got in a price-cutting war with O.N. Leach – Leach got down to selling boys' short pants for 5 cents. The ultimate bargain came when O.N. gathered up his unsold stock, wrapped them up and threw them off the roof of his building. A large crowd waited below "to catch what they could."

In 1892 Thomas married Mary Kunitz. They had two children, Ruth Beatrice and Thomas Ferriman Jr. Thomas Jr. worked at the clothing store for a while and the name was changed to Ferriman and Son. Sadly, Thomas Jr. was killed in 1924 in an accident in which his car hit a 2-horse wagon loaded with coal on Lafayette Road. A newspaper article in the November 14, 1924 Medina Gazette said that the accident happened "half mile north of the center."

In doing my research, I found that Tom Brotherton, a grandson of Thomas Ferriman, Jr., was working as a chef at the Main Street Café – the same building his grandfather and great-grandfather ran their clothing store.

My great grandfather was William Ferriman of Brunswick, the younger brother of Thomas. My grandfather was Ray Ferriman. My mother told me that when Ray was married, Thomas gave him a suit from the Ferriman clothing store. My mother had the Ferriman family Bible and I started from there to research her family. I ended up finding cousins in England and Australia, as well as here in the United States.



Friends of the Cemetery

MEMBERSHIP LISTING - DECEMBER 2016

Steve & Molly Adams	Gary & Patricia DeHass	Richard & Joyce Komjati	Charles & Patricia Ruffin
Charles & Margaret Anderson	Judy Delahoyde	Margaret Krupa **	Janice Rusak
Steve & Jane Anderson	Dick & Joyce Dirham **	Dennis & Bonnie Leach	Rod & Sandy Sampsel
Audrey E. Auman	Sandra Miller Dudas	Bob & Colleen Leedy	Fred & Jill Schubert *
Jim Bachtell	Carole Dusbiber	Marliese Leggett	Gale Schuckman
Betty Bagley	Robert & Patricia Farkas	Dave & Pat Lehotan	Dorothy A. Seamon
Dr. and Mrs. David Bagley	Bob & Linda Fenn	Lila Lehrer	Lucy Sekerka
Donald Baker	Gary & Elaine Fernwood	A. Jean Lloyd	Jim Shields
James & Paula Banks	Audrey Filous	Christine Flowers LoGuidice	Kathryn Simmons
Kathleen Barco	Vickie Fleming	Alfred & Diane Macino	Clay & Judy Smith
Alan B. & Norma W. Batchelder	Wes & Lenore Florian	John & Lisa Macino	Jeanne Smith
Bill & Alice Batchelder	Fred Fri	Ann McClaning	Dean & Margaret Snider
Larry & Linda Beer	Sandy Frommeyer	Jim & Pat McDermott	Nancy W. & Elizabeth Sprowls
Carter & Elizabeth Bennett	Sharon Fuller	Mary (Muffy) McDowell	Elizabeth Stadden
Elby A. Bennett **	Raymond & Maryellen Furse	Thomas W. & Kay McFadden **	Linda Stekelenburg
Peter & Sydney Sue Benson	John Gill **	Pat McIntire	Helen Streett
Ruth Beshire	Jim & Nancy Gowe **	Nancy McKee	Steve & Tena Strine
Joseph & Kelly Blackburn Family	Charles C. Griesinger **	Lyle McQueeney	Carol Szakovits
Carey & Karen Blair	Jerry & Sally Gunner	Charles & Teresa Merkle	Paul & Susan Szanislo **
Dean Bowman	Hallock Family	Matthew Merkle & Katherine Hall	Cynthia Szunyog
Mary Jane Brewer	Judy Hamer	Sylvia D. Mollohan	Alberta Taylor
Nancy Brintnall	Barbara M. Harrington	Jane Moos	Joseph Thompson
David & Bea Bryenton	Irwin (Bud) Herrle	Pat Morgan	James & Jean Thornburg
Sue Bryenton	Gary M. Hetrick **	Elwood & Doris Naragon	Ruth Tubbs
Edy Campbell	Nicole Hettinger	Hildy Navratil	Mary R. Tucker
Reg Campbell	Thomas Hilberg	Emogene Neumann-Eriksson	Murray & Susan Van Epp **
Don & Marilyn Canfield	Jack & Patricia Hofstetter	Terry & Heidi Novak	John & Pat Van Hoose
Dr. Michael Carlson	Dee Huddilston	Kenneth Oleksiak	Harold & Nanette Waite
Ron & Catherine Carmany	Bert & Carole Humpal	Sally Otterbacher	Ralph & Helen Waite
Beth Streett Cassella	Mrs. Howard Hunter	Alan Parkhurst	Nancy Walczak *
Casto Family	Mr. & Mrs. David Hyde	James & Annette Patneau **	Lyle West **
Citizens Charitable Foundation	Robert & Shirley Hyde	Robert Pennington	John Wetzel
Barbara Clark	Roger & Sara Jane Ingraham	William & Jane Pierce	Jerry & Marsha Whitnable **
Mrs. John P.H. Clark	John & Virginia Jeandrevin **	Sandra Pilarski	Don & Hope Wilder **
John & Marianne Clevidence	Harold & JoAnn Johnson	Dorothy Piovano	Rob & Chris Wilder
James & Maureen Cook	Irene Johnson	William Randall	Paul Wood *
Jane Corbus	Randi L. Jones	Ed & Pat Rickard	Rick & Kim Wuescher
Joyce Craddock	Jackie Kehnle **	Betty Riegger	Ross & Dolly Yowler
John & Peggy Dague	David Kellogg	Robert & Jane Riegger	Jay & Janis Zachman
Eric Daiber	John & Anna Marie Kelly	Dean Riggenbach	Betty Zarney **
Mike & Judy Davanzo	Bob & Betty Kiley **	Robert & JoAnn Robson	
Homer C. Davis	Peter & Joann King	George & Ruth Rodgers **	
	Mary Kay Klein	John & Elisabeth Root	

* designates new member
 ** designates life-time member

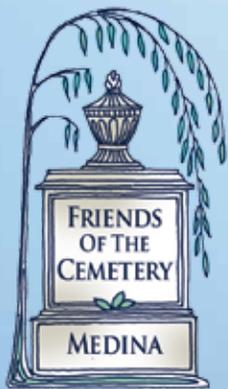
New Members since May 2016:

Fred & Jill Schubert
 Paul Wood
 Nancy Walczak

New Lifetime Members since May 2016:

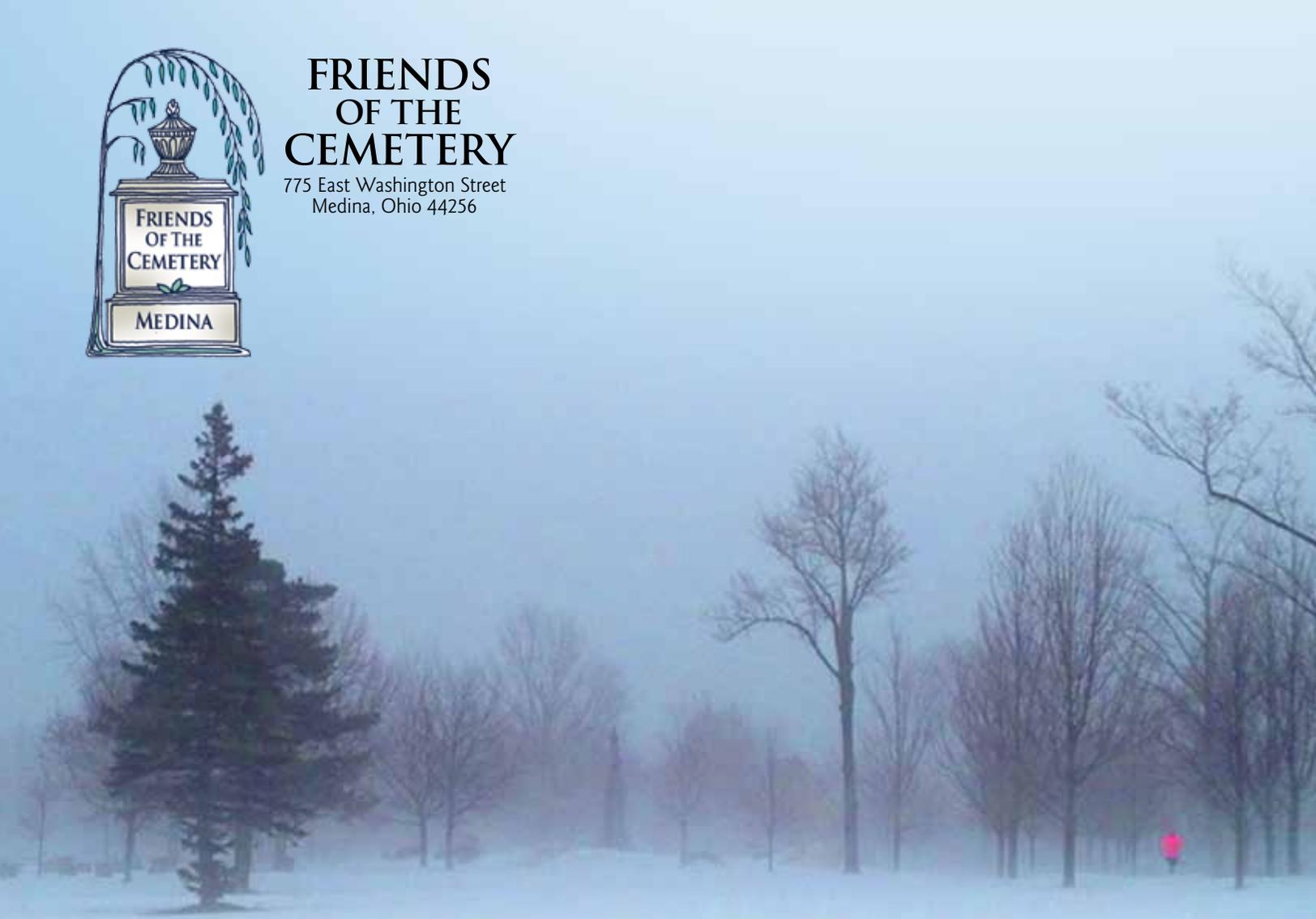
Bob & Betty Kiley
 Don & Hope Wilder
 Betty Zarney

*I*f you have not yet joined the Friends of the Cemetery, please do so today. For your convenience, we have provided a self-addressed envelope in this newsletter. Our membership schedule is included on the envelope flap. If you have been a member in the past, but do not see your name listed above, please take time today to renew your membership using the enclosed envelope.



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775 East Washington Street
Medina, Ohio 44256



Become a Friend of the Cemetery

"Show me the manner in which a nation or community cares for its dead and I will measure with mathematical exactness the tender mercies of its people, their respect for the law of the land, and their loyalty to high ideals."

William Gladstone

Don't forget to check us out on the web at: www.friendsofmedinacemetery.org

Memberships are available as follows:

Senior _____	\$10.00	Supporting _____	\$100.00
Individual _____	\$15.00	Heritage _____	\$250.00
Family _____	\$25.00	Lifetime _____	\$500.00
Contributing _____	\$50.00	Corporate _____	\$1,000.00



Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Membership enclosed _____

Please return to:

Friends of the Cemetery • 775 East Washington Street • Medina, OH 44256