

The Gardens Memory Gardens

Memorial Park

A Memorial Park Dedicated to the Dignity of Mankind

Help Save Memory Gardens!

Lot owners and visitors to Memory Gardens are urgently needed to attend the next meeting of the Colonie Zoning Board of Appeals to oppose a developer's plans to build athletic fields, an enormous "multi-use" building, and a monstrous dome adjacent to our memorial park. Fortunately, the ZBA postponed the matter until its Nov. 21 meeting. We need as many people as possible to attend that meeting.

The developer is seeking permission from the Town of Colonie to build a multi-use sports park and domed facility

on property adjacent to the Good Shepherd, Memorylawn and Seclusion sections of Memory Gardens. Afrim Nezaj, owner of Afrim Sports Inc., wants to build a multi-use sports park at 969 Watervliet Shaker Road. It would include outdoor soccer/multi-use fields, 75-foot field lights, a 3,400 square-foot multi-use building, and an 86,865 square-foot dome. This project would destroy much of Memory Gardens' pastoral beauty, as well as the solemnity we now enjoy.

Memory Gardens bears no ill will toward sports facilities or their developers, but the

intrusion on our cemetery would be intolerable. Imagine the private moments visiting your loved one -- quiet remembrance, private reflection, and prayer -- shattered by a cheering or booing crowd, or others wandering carelessly about. Worse, put yourself in the shoes of a family who must bear

such impositions while laying a loved one to rest. The traffic from this complex would almost continuously threaten to disrupt funeral processions into and out of Memory Gardens.

Soccer games attract hundreds of visitors. People unable to find a spot would

undoubtedly park at Memory Gardens then traverse graves to reach the sports facility. They would also leave behind discarded cigarette butts and other litter.

All visitors to Memory Gardens would be affected, even if their loved ones do not rest in one of the aforementioned gardens. The pastoral beauty of our memorial park would be forever lost by the gigantic domed facility looming overhead. The overwhelming field lighting would invade the privacy of those of us visiting our loved ones just before sundown.

Please Attend!

What: Colonie Zoning Board of Appeals meeting

When: 7 p.m. Thursday, November 21

Where: Public Operations Center, 347 Old Niskayuna Road, Latham

Why: To speak out against developing a sport complex adjacent to Memory Gardens

How you can help:

- Sign and cut out the petition below then mail it to the ZBA
- Sign our online petition at <https://www.change.org/petitions/town-of-colonie-zoning-board-deny-a-permit-to-build-athletic-fields-adjacent-to-memory-gardens-2>
- Write a letter to the editor of the Times Union and/or the Colonie Spotlight opposing the development:
 - o Times Union:
 - Times Union Letters to the Editor, Box 15000, Albany, NY 12212
 - Letters can be e-mailed to tuleters@timesunion.com. Please put your letter in the text of an e-mail, not as an attachment.
 - o Colonie Spotlight:
 - Spotlight News, P.O. Box 100, Delmar, NY 12054
 - Letters can be e-mailed to news@spotlightnews.com
- Consider making a donation to Friends of the Gardens. We need financial help to continue this effort. Donations can be sent to 983 Watervliet Shaker Road, Albany, NY 12205

Petition

Dear Colonie Zoning Board of Appeals:

I am opposed to a building permit for Afrim Nezaj, owner of Afrim Sports Inc., to construct a multi-use sports park at 969 Watervliet Shaker Road, which is adjacent to Memory Gardens Cemetery and Memorial Park.

I oppose Mr. Nezaj's project for the following reasons:

- It would border the Good Shepherd, Memorylawn and Seclusion sections of Memory Gardens. With the removal of trees and other vegetation, the privacy those of us enjoy in our moments of solitude – quiet remembrance, private reflection, and prayer – would be destroyed by soccer games being played just a few yards away.
- Memory Gardens' pastoral beauty would be forever lost by the unsightly intrusion of the domed facility.
- The solemnity of funerals would be violated by the cheering and related noise. Also, funeral processions into and out of Memory Gardens would be disrupted by the traffic from this complex.

Name (in print): _____

Signature: _____

Affiliation with Memory Gardens: _____

- The overwhelming lighting would invade the privacy of those of us visiting our loved ones just before sundown.
- There are plenty of other sites near parks and other areas in Colonie where this complex could be developed without intruding on the solemnity and beauty Memory Gardens provides.

I urge the Zoning Board of Appeals to deny this permit, and encourage Mr. Nezaj to find another location more suitable for such a venture.

President's Message

As the days grow shorter and cooler, we enjoy the many outdoor events that fall brings. Parents and siblings cheer their sons and brothers at football games. On Halloween night, our streets are decorated with an imaginative mix of the adorable and ghoulish as costumed children trick-or-treat. Entire families delight in the sights, tastes, and excitement of county fairs and street festivals.

Indeed, fall can be a time of great fun. It is also a time to respect and appreciate those who served and continue to serve our country. As Veterans Day (Nov. 11) approaches, please take a moment to stroll Memory Gardens and value the many bronze memorial markers commemorating local veterans. Their simple yet elegant presence is noted by the veteran's full name, branch of service, and dates of birth and passing. The

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs provides the 24- by 12- inch markers free as a service to our veterans and their families.

Memory Gardens contributes by waiving its \$275 fee to install these markers, which are placed on a concrete or granite foundation. We offer the foundations at the greatly reduced rate of \$35 (concrete) or \$75 (granite.) Our office staff also provides complimentary assistance to families of veterans in completing the necessary application for the marker via their local Veterans Affairs office.

During the spring and summer, Memory Gardens took its commitment a step further by placing previously-ordered veterans' markers for which the necessary foundation was never purchased by the family. The markers, which had been safely stored, were finally placed at the gravesides of our deserving

veterans. All fees associated with storing and placing the markers were waived. However, Memory Gardens gratefully accepted donations and expressions of gratitude for this effort.

Memory Gardens continues to partner with every family to ensure markers or emblems are affixed to the crypt or niche front of their beloved veteran. For more information about this program, please call our office at (518) 869-9506 or send an email to info@memorygardens.org

Please participate in one of the many regional observances of Veterans Day throughout the Capital Region.

Let's all take pride in honoring and thanking those who served and continue to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Richard P. Jacobson
President

Memory Gardens Board of Directors

Richard P. Jacobson, President
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Carol Durant, Memorial Advisor
Joe Mazmanian, Memorial Advisor
Chris Reivik, Administrative Assistant
Kathryn Tisaj, Office Assistant
Pete Luste, Grounds Superintendent
Kenneth Pappalau, Assistant Grounds Superintendent
Scott Emerson, Groundskeeper
Juan Muñoz, Groundskeeper
Robert Rigney, Groundskeeper

Guide to important dates at Memory Gardens

2013

November 1

Bronze vases in markers not to be used

November 1 to 15

Fall cleanup: All decorations are removed

November 15 to January 31

Wreaths on a stand allowed

December 13

Christmas Celebration and Remembrance at the Chapel, 6 p.m.

2014

January 31

Holiday decoration removal begins

March 1 to April 15

Spring cleanup: All decorations are removed

April 15

Bronze vases may be used until November 1

April 20

Easter Sunrise Service (park wide) 7 a.m.

May 3

Annual Lot Owners Meeting at Cemetery Office, 10 a.m.

For more details, visit our website:
www.memorygardens.org

Annual Christmas Celebration and Remembrance

Memory Gardens' 2013 Christmas Celebration and Remembrance will be 6 p.m. on Friday, December 13. The evening features holiday music and readings plus the placing of ornaments on our Trees of Remembrance in memory of loved ones.

For the third year, the service will be at our recently renovated Chapel. Pastor Nicholas Teborde, of the United Church of Cohoes, is slated to give the blessing and deliver the message.

This service is open to the public as well as members of Memory Gardens. We welcome all attending to join us in the Chapel for refreshments following the service.

(Detach and return this portion with your payment)

HOLIDAY PLACEMENT SERVICE ORDER FORM

WREATH \$37 POINSETTIA \$22 (inside mausoleums only)

Name of Deceased: _____

Garden: _____ Lot: _____ Space: _____

(LOCATION INFORMATION CAN BE LEFT BLANK IF UNKNOWN)

Total Amount Enclosed: _____ Check or Money Order No: _____

Card Type: MasterCard Visa Discover American Express Expiration Date: _____

Card Number: _____ Security Code: _____

Name (Print): _____ Signature: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

_____ Email: _____

Please complete the above order form 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

Memory Gardens

2013 Holiday Placement Service

Memory Gardens offers our Holiday Placement Service to those who wish for a beautiful holiday decoration to be placed in memory of a loved one.

For outside burial spaces, we offer wreath placement.

For inside the mausoleum chapels, we offer a silk poinsettia plant.

WREATH \$37

A natural evergreen wreath beautifully decorated and secured to a tripod stand.

Wreath placement begins December 2

Please place your orders by November 27

Quantity is limited! Orders will be filled while supplies last.

POINSETTIA \$22

A beautiful silk poinsettia plant with card will be placed.

You may take your plant home any time before March 1.

NOTE: Allowed inside the Mausoleum Chapels only.



Wreaths provided by Frank Gallo & Son Florist of Schenectady



Memory Gardens, Inc.

983 Watervliet Shaker Road
Albany, NY 12205

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ALBANY, NY
PERMIT #203

How to Reach Us

- By phone: (518) 869-9506
- By email: info@memorygardens.org

Office Hours

Monday – Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Grounds Open

Spring/Summer 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Fall/Winter 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Visit our website!
www.memorygardens.org



Please “Like” us
on Facebook!

Create a permanent memorial for your loved one’s ashes

Search the Internet and you’ll find any number of unusual and very creative ways to memorialize yours or your loved ones’ ashes. “Cremains” can be rocketed to space, made into fireworks, permanently attached to a coral reef, embellished into jewelry, or scattered by air or sea.

Cremains are actually stark white, and look like aquarium gravel. Because they are so easily noticed, it may not be possible to scatter them discretely. Further, state and federal laws and regulations governing the disbursement of ashes can curb one’s creativity.

When you scatter the ashes of a loved one – or arrange for your own cremains to be scattered – the result might not be what you intended. For example, the once pristine land on which your ashes are distributed might be sold for industrial development. Your unmarked urn kept for decades by a loved one who then passes away might wind up lost in storage – forever unidentified. Family members who are not sure what to do with your cremains might misguidedly spread them in a favorite backyard spot. When they sell the property, your ashes would then belong to complete strangers.

Any of these misfortunes would leave your family with no place to remember you and no permanent memorial for your descendants to appreciate. The best way to honor your loved ones is to bury or entomb them at Memory Gardens. Cremains can be interred in the ground or in a columbarium (stand-alone features with niches to deposit urns) niche or mausoleum (an above-ground building that houses remains) niche. Memory Gardens houses columbariums in the Gardens of Hope, Love, and Resurrection. We also have two mausoleums: Edgewood and Briarwood Fernwood. When a cremation is placed in the ground

at Memory Gardens, one space can accommodate either one casket and a cremation urn or two cremation urns.

Placing cremains in a space or niche (within a mausoleum or columbarium) at Memory Gardens provides a permanent commemoration that can be adorned with a marker. Generations of your family and friends can visit, and there will be a permanent record of the memorial.

For more information, please call our office at (518) 869-9506 or email us at info@memorygardens.org

Let us help you design the perfect cremation urn

Choosing a cremation urn is a deeply personal decision, but also an essential part of the memorial process. If you are trying to select a special urn to commemorate your loved one’s personality and style, we offer many options. You can choose from different shapes – such as square, vase, or even book – as well as varying heights.

If you choose to place your loved one’s urn in one of our columbarium niches or mausoleums, you can adorn it with one of our new bronze crypt and niche vases. They can be attached directly to the front of your loved one’s crypt or niche front. They add a touch of thoughtfulness to your loved one’s space and give you the ability to place flowers throughout the year directly at your loved one’s space.



For more information or help in selecting a special urn, please call one of our memorial advisors, Carol Durant or Joe Mazmanian, at (518) 869-9506 or send an email to carol.durant@memorygardens.org or joe.mazmanian@memorygardens.org