

Women's Auxiliary Cemetery Association

Serving Prairie Home and St. John's Cemeteries in New Rockford, ND, since 1954



Ed & Kathy O'Connor
2080 62nd Ave NE
New Rockford ND 58356

May 1, 2019

Greetings:

Many of us have loved ones whose final resting places are at the Prairie Home or St. John's Cemeteries in New Rockford, North Dakota. The Women's Auxiliary Cemetery Association is dedicated to keeping these grounds beautiful and preserved for those interred, their friends and family, and future generations.

As many of you are aware, the cemetery took a beating in the wind storm last July 8, 2018. Because of the straight line winds, over 150 trees fell and there are still many left standing with half broken tops or extensive damage. Electricity lines were down and water lines broken. Tombstones were tipped over but thankfully none were destroyed.

With the great help of community volunteers donating their time, machinery and labor the cemetery was presentable in no time. Harvey Sand and Gravel was hired to remove the downed trees and stumps for around \$9000. The water lines were fixed. Devils Lake Monument Company straightened and glued all the tombstones. Restoring the electricity will be a project in the spring of 2019. Plans are to bury the wires to prevent the wind or elements from taking them down again. We will also have to assess whether more trees and hedges around the perimeter will need to be cleaned up, removed and replaced.

All these projects will take a fair amount of money. We were so blown away by all the generosity given to the cemetery. We cannot say "Thank You" enough.

Our yearly budget is around \$25,000 just to keep the grounds mowed and trimmed and the mower maintenance. With increasing costs, it has become necessary for us to ask for your help in this mission. Your donation in any amount will be greatly appreciated, as we do not receive

Women's Auxiliary Cemetery Association • PO Box 303 • New Rockford, ND 58356

Respect Memory Permanence Sympathy

direct funding from the purchase of lots, taxes, city, county, state, or federal funds. Your gift will go directly to the maintenance of the cemetery grounds and may help us qualify for grants and additional sources of funding.

Donations may be made in your own name, in memory or honor of someone else, or anonymously. Checks can be made payable to Women's Auxiliary Cemetery Association and returned in the enclosed envelope. Your postage stamp on the envelope will also help us reduce expenses.

More information is available on our website at www.cityofnewrockford.com/cemetery. If you have any questions, please contact our treasurer, Patti Gehrtz, at (701) 947-2903.

Thank you for your help and consideration,

Women's Auxiliary Cemetery Association

Women's Auxiliary Cemetery Association • PO Box 303 • New Rockford, ND 58356

Respect Memory Permanence Sympathy