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Prospect Hill Cemetery

Our Nation's Capital's German-American Cemetery

HOLIDAY ISSUE

NEWSLETTER

2017



YOUR YEAR-END MEMORIAL DONATIONS HONOR YOUR LOVED ONES AND HELP PRESERVE OUR CEMETERY

Although the financial climate in the US seems to be flying high, PHC has not benefited due to continually increasing operating expenses. This is due primarily to the ever-increasing water bill levied by DC Water; see the article on Page 2 for more details.

So, we need your support more than ever. And we want you to know that every dollar you contribute to our Year-End Holiday Memorial Fundraising Campaign goes entirely toward the upkeep, expenses and beautification of our historic cemetery and the old stone house residence of Superintendent Joe Connell. We give no incentive holiday gifts and know exactly how and where your donations are spent.

We are appealing to you on a more personal basis. Let's not forget our own departed loved ones during this joyous holiday season when memories of happier days gone by keep filling our hearts and minds. Your donation to Prospect Hill is like a personal holiday present to your departed loved one.

Contributions have been declining at an average rate of 2% per year since 2007 partly because the list of faithful contributors continues to shrink. We continue to operate under financial pressure. Let's not let that continue!

If you wish to honor your departed loved one with a Year-End memorial donation, which we hope you do, please indicate it on the Order Form on page 7. A complete list of contributors and departed loved one(s) they are honoring will be printed in the Spring 2018 Newsletter. (The amount contributed will not be mentioned.)

If you do not wish to contribute a memorial donation please help us with an End-of-Year financial support donation, also indicated on the Order Form.

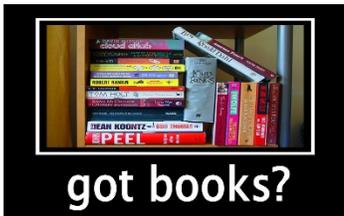
Thanks to all for your continued support of Prospect Hill.

OTHER WAYS TO HONOR YOUR LOVED ONES

Another opportunity for you to honor your deceased loved ones and contribute to the upkeep of the cemetery is to transfer appreciated securities (stocks, bonds, etc.). You'll receive a federal tax deduction for the value of the security, and not have to pay a capital gains tax calculated on the original value of the security.

Still another way you can help ensure the future of our cemetery is to include it in your will (called a bequest). We have received several such bequests in the past and would welcome any in the future. It is best that a bequest is “unrestricted” so the cemetery can use the funds to fulfill any of its needs. Several bequests enabled replacement of the Gatehouse roof.

Consult your attorney for more information on how you can transfer your securities or honor our cemetery with a bequest. Your Board of Trustees appreciates any such contributions that will help secure the future of our historic Prospect Hill Cemetery.



CEMETERY PUBLICATIONS MAKE GREAT CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

Prospect Hill publications provide interesting and valuable information about people buried at the cemetery as well as historical information about how they contributed to the growth of Washington, DC, especially during its formative years. It is important for the future preservation of Prospect Hill that we inform our children and grandchildren about the cemetery so that they may support it after we have departed.

Prospect Hill Cemetery Adult Burial List, compiled by president Carol Holler and our former cemetery historian the late Jean Crabill, may rouse your curiosity and make you want to know more. Nearly 300 pages, the book lists all burials of persons 14 years of age or older through year 2003. It has been a “best seller,” having already been reprinted once, and is available for \$35 (plus \$5 postage).

Prospect Hill Cemetery Children’s Burial List, a companion to the Adult Burial List, records all burials of persons younger than 14 years of age, and is available for \$20 plus \$5.

And if you’d like to read many interesting mini-biographies of persons interred in Prospect Hill, another book, *The Families of Prospect Hill*, is also available. Written in collaboration with about 160 lot owners and descendants, the book contains 496 pages with many photographs, and is priced at \$20 plus \$5.

Perhaps the most historic of Crabill’s books about our cemetery is her first one, *The Immigrants and Their Cemetery: The Story of Prospect Hill*. This book contains the original history written around 1949 by Catholic University German Professor Dr. Paul Gleis (who worked from the original cemetery’s Board minutes, written in German until about 1920), then from 1950 to the present time, and tells about the early German-American immigrant history in Washington, DC. It contains 194 pages and costs \$30 plus \$5.

All books may be purchased by using the Order Form on page 7.

UNITED CHURCH HOLDS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS SERVICE



This year the Annual Christmas Service at The United Church/Die Vereinigte Kirche will be held on Sunday, December 17, 2017 at 3:00 PM. As in years past, the Washington Saengerbund German choral group will perform during the service.

The church is located at 1920 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006

After the service, refreshments will be served in the church social hall downstairs.

**RECENT AND PROJECTED CHANGES TO THE IMPERVIOUS SURFACE AREA
CHARGE:
FY 2014 -2023**



UPDATE ON THE WATER BILL ISSUE aka CRIAC

The water and sewer service fees charged by DC Water will have risen from \$17,000 in 2016 to \$20,400 in 2017 and are estimated to be \$22,400 in 2018.

Considerable progress has been made in efforts to reduce or eliminate the Clean Rivers Impervious Area Charge (CRIAC) being imposed on historic cemeteries in the District of Columbia. A coalition of cemeteries including Prospect Hill, Rock Creek Cemetery, Glenwood Cemetery, St. Mary's and Mount Olivet Cemeteries, and Congressional Cemetery has been successful in getting a legislative bill written. The "D.C. Cemetery Private Road and Parking Lot Exemption of Clean Water Fees Amendment Act" was introduced to the DC Council by Council Member Brandon Todd on November 7, 2017.

There has been favorable support in the media for this issue. The NBC Washington TV Station News4 I-Team produced a public interest program focusing on the high water bills of DC cemeteries. The program can be viewed here:
<http://www.nbcwashington.com/investigations/Historic-DC-Cemeteries-in-Jeopardy-of-Closing-Due-to-Growing-Water-Bills-452918463.html>.

The next step in the process is to get the bill passed by the DC Council. The support of PHC's Councilmember Kenyon McDuffie, who represents Ward 5 within which PHC is located, is required. **This is where you come in.**

A letter to Councilmember McDuffie urging his support of the "D.C. Cemetery Private Road and Parking Lot Exemption of Clean Water Fees Amendment Act" bill is enclosed with this newsletter. We ask that you sign the letter and send it to Mr. McDuffie at the address listed at the top of the letter. An address label is included. You may also email him at KMcDuffie@dccouncil.us.

You do not need to be a resident of DC. Please call me if you have questions: 540-308-5965

We hope many of you will support this effort to gain passage of the Cemetery Exemption bill.

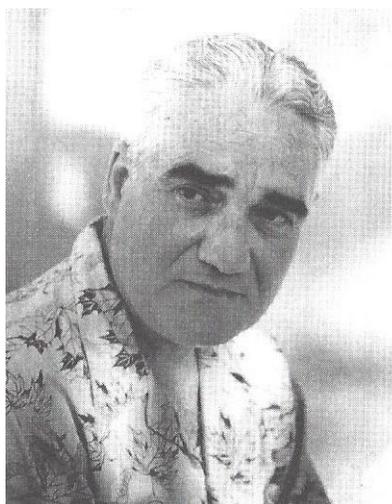
FAMILIES OF PROSPECT HILL

Beginning in 1996, Mrs. Crabill, former historian of Prospect Hill, researched and assembled the stories of 133 families buried at Prospect Hill. It was a monumental task to gather information about the families, but she was ably assisted by Mrs. Holler, several members of Mrs. Crabill's family, and others. The result was a 496-page book, published by Prospect Hill in August 1997.

At the suggestion of Henry Fankhauser, Editor Emeritus (Decd), we will feature selected excerpts from the book in selected newsletter editions.

The story for this edition is that of the Carroll S. Linkins family.

Carroll S. Linkins



He was the first living person to be so honored. At the beginning of President Truman's 1952 campaign for re-election, the White House Correspondents Association paid tribute to Carroll S. ("Link") Linkins by placing his name in gilt letters on the Pennsylvania Railroad's red coach number 1733 used by the press. Throughout Truman's whistle-stop campaign the car traveled fifth in the sixteen-car train.

A native of Washington, DC, born there on January 8, 1899, Link got his start in communications at the age of 14, when he began working as a Morse operator. He later graduated to a "bug," the standard 1950s Morse sender, reportedly so named after a telegrapher commented that it looked like a bug. In 1933 Link was named Western Union's man on presidential trains and at the White House. It was his responsibility to make communications easier for reporters covering the President and major events. In 1960 it was noted that he had been a part of every presidential campaign since he began his White

House assignment.

In the days of telegraph "bugs" and the later teletypes, any reporter knew that the best story in the world was useless unless he or she could get it in the paper. Serving as a liaison between officials and correspondents, Link was responsible for setting up complex communications networks that gave correspondents access to their newspapers as quickly as possible. In 1952, 50,000 wired words were being sent from the press car each day.¹ Eight years later, at the Los Angeles Convention in 1960, with 5,500 U.S. and foreign newsmen on hand, "Linkins and WU had mobilized enough men and equipment to transmit 200,000 words an hour-and it expected that the total file from the convention might run to a staggering 12 million words."²

Link loved his quick-paced job, at one time stating, "A convention is an unpredictable and exciting time...What rings in your ears most often are the pleas of the fellows who are just a little late in getting their copy written. 'Gee, Link,' they'll say, 'this has got to move-it's due in New York in 30 minutes.' ...I feel the same pressure as the newspapermen...I'm sweating the deadlines just like they are. You've just got to move the story."³

But Link did much more than move words. Known as the "mother hen" of top U.S. newspapermen from the time they entered the national scene, he looked after their baggage, held up planes and trains until they were all on board, carried extra cash for those who "got caught short," and hunted them down at beaches, bars, and golf courses when a fast-breaking story was at hand.

Link was enthusiastic about those with whom he worked. "I think newspapermen are the most dedicated people I have ever known...They'll stay up all night waiting for a story because the public ought to be informed and, of

course, I stay up all night with them." As Walter Trohan, then Washington Bureau chief of the *Chicago Tribune*, stated, "One of Link's secrets...is his great love for the press. They are knights in shining armor to him, and he is their squire, ready to fight their battles. He has really loved each one of us individually and collectively."⁴

In turn, Link was loved by the press, who found his presence reassuring. Edward T. Folliard, former White House correspondent for *The Washington Post and Times Herald*, once stated, "Link is the No. 1 communications man in the world."⁵ Trohan concurred, saying "There was never anybody who captured the affection of so many newspaper people."⁶

Always inviting him to their presidential dinners, the White House Correspondents Association considered "Link of Western Union" an honorary member, first unofficially and then officially. At their 30th annual dinner, on behalf of the Association President Eisenhower presented Carroll S. Linkins with an engraved watch and honorary Association membership "in appreciation of his cooperation in helping correspondents get their copy to their offices to meet deadlines during out-of-town travels of presidents since 1933."⁷

Eleanor Fenton Carre Linkins

On December 3, 1946, Link married Eleanor F. Carre. Born in Philadelphia on October 15, 1907, Eleanor had moved to Washington, DC, in 1927 to work for the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company. In 1935 she accepted a position with the Department of the Treasury, and the following year was appointed personal telephone operator to Henry Morgenthau, then the Department's Secretary. She served in a similar position with the five Secretaries of the Treasury who had succeeded Morgenthau. In 1960 she was named chief of communications for the Treasury Department, during which time she oversaw the revamping of the communications office.

Eleanor retired in 1965. Link left the world of work the following year. At that time, the couple moved to Florida.

Eleanor died on February 20, 1978. Link lived another five years, the date of his death being November 24, 1983. They were survived by Carroll's daughter and Eleanor's stepdaughter, Grace Linkins Murray of Norfolk, Virginia, and four grandchildren.

By Grace Linkins Murray.

¹Newsweek, October 20, 1952.

²"Man Behind the News," Newsweek, July 18, 1960, page 60

³Op. cit.

⁴Op. cit.

⁵Op. cit.

⁶Op. cit.

⁷"Correspondents Rib President at Dinner," unknown newspaper source

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND MANY THANKS FROM YOUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND SUPERINTENDENT CONNELL

As we approach the upcoming holidays our thoughts naturally turn to memories of the good times spent with loved ones who have passed on. We'll also be thinking about the good times we anticipate celebrating with our current loved ones, families and friends

Let the good times roll, but let's not forget the true meaning of these joyous times: to be thankful to our Creator who gave us our life to live.

If you're thinking of something different to give as a gift, I have a suggestion. For folks who may not be familiar with our historic cemetery, or those who'd like to find out more about it, the four books about Prospect Hill mentioned on page 2 are available to purchase.

But what might be your most significant gift of all, one that honors your loved one(s) interred in our cemetery, is a contribution to our Year-End Holiday Memorial Fundraising Campaign. These contributions are like a personal gift to your deceased loved ones to keep their final resting place beautiful and preserved.

Your Board of Trustees and Superintendent Connell extend their heartfelt thanks and gratitude to all donors and volunteers who have given their time and generosity during the year to help in the upkeep and preservation of our beloved cemetery.

All of us wish all of you a prayerful Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

Carol Holler, President
Board of Trustees

PLEASE CALL FIRST AND MAKE AN APPOINTMENT

At times, folks have entered the cemetery unannounced seeking help or direction from Superintendent Connell and found no one at home. Since he is our only employee, his duties sometimes take him away from the cemetery. He suggests you call first and make an appointment. This way he can prepare for your visit and give you his undivided attention. He will be glad to help you in any way. The office number is 202-667-0676.

The Newsletter is produced by the Board of Trustees of Prospect Hill Cemetery, 2201 North Capitol St., NE, Washington, DC 20002

Rudolph Becker, Editor

Prospect Hill Cemetery

Order Form

Please fill out the form below completely so we can accurately account for your donation and purchases in the cemetery's financial records. Use return address label for your convenience. Separate checks for donations and purchases are NOT required.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email address: _____

1. I wish to give a Year-End Memorial donation in memory of or in honor of:

_____ Amount of Donation \$ _____

2. I wish to make an end-of-year financial support donation of: \$ _____

3. I would like to order the following books:

_____ copies, The Immigrants and Their Cemetery: The Story of Prospect Hill (35) \$ _____

_____ copies, Families of Prospect Hill (\$20) \$ _____

_____ copies, Prospect Hill Cemetery Adult Burial List (\$35) \$ _____

_____ copies, Prospect Hill Cemetery Children's Burial List (\$20) \$ _____

Total number of books _____ times \$5 each for postage \$ _____

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Total amount of book order, postage, and/or donations \$ _____

Make checks payable to **Prospect Hill Cemetery**, and mail this full sheet with your donation and book order to:

Prospect Hill Cemetery
c/o Rudolph Becker, Treasurer
2608 Lakeview Parkway
Locust Grove, VA 22508

All correspondence should be sent to the address above. Thank you for your support of Prospect Hill.

Phone: 202-667-0676

Website: www.prospecthillcemetery.org



PROSPECT HILL CEMETERY

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