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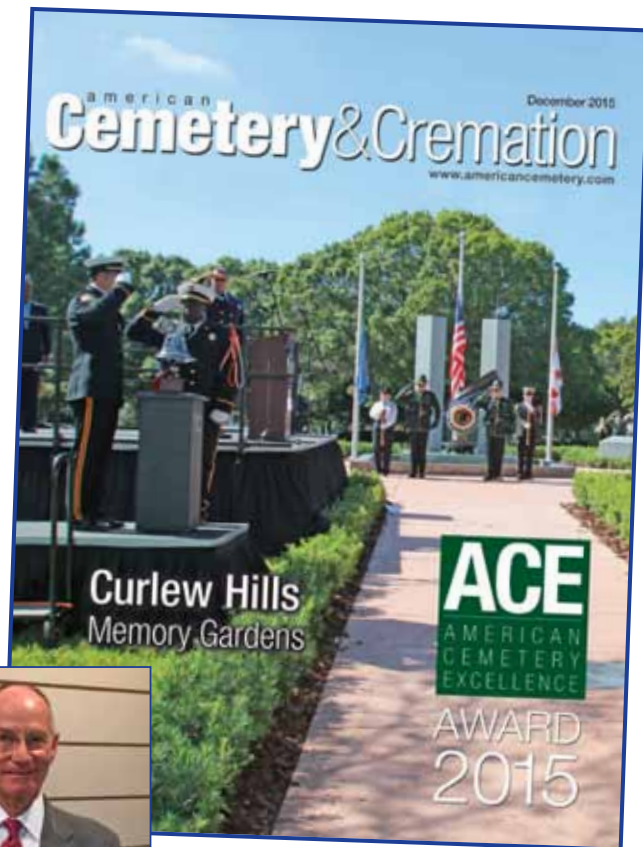
Have You Seen Our New Eagle?



We are very proud to have recently added a new masterpiece to our cemetery. The Cast Bronze American Bald Eagle is now magnificently perched beside our Circle of Valor. With a wing span of 58 inches, this beautiful solid bronze eagle weighs nearly 300 pounds and is almost 50 inches high.

The American Bald Eagle was adopted as the national bird symbol of the United States of America in 1782. It was chosen for its majestic beauty, great strength and long life. Please stop by the cemetery to see our new American Bronze Eagle soon.

Curlew Hills Wins Three Prestigious Awards



We are proud to announce that we have recently received three prestigious awards. We are humbled by these honors and pledge to continue to provide the highest quality service to our community.

Last month Curlew Hills received a great honor as we were selected to receive the ACE Award for Excellence. This is a prestigious national award presented by American Cemetery & Cremation Magazine to the best cemetery in America. The criteria for this award included our activity in the community, the maintenance of our grounds and our innovation.

"We received dozens of entries from cemeteries throughout the world – all of them doing great things to serve their communities. But Curlew Hills stood out in so many ways, and it truly exemplifies that cemeteries can be relevant, beautiful and an integral part of the community," commented Patti Barsch, Editor of Cemetery and Cremation Magazine.

We are proud to announce that Keenan Knopke, President & CEO of Curlew Hills, was given the Palm Harbor Fire Rescue Board of Fire Commissioners Award. He is the first recipient of this award and extremely proud to be selected for it. It was presented for his "significant and continuous selfless contributions toward the overall efforts of Palm Harbor Fire Rescue within the Community."

In October we were named Medium Sized Business of the Year by the Dunedin Chamber of Commerce. We were proud to be selected from a fine group of local businesses our size. Judges selected winners based on work ethic, integrity, community involvement and the financial success of the company.

A Note From Our President



Keenan Knopke

It's hard to believe another year has almost passed. This year has certainly gone by very quickly. For Curlew Hills, it's been a good year. As you can see from the articles here in the newsletter, we have had many events recently. Being a positive part of our community is something that we take great pride in and wholeheartedly believe in. As a cemetery, funeral home, crematory and pet cemetery, we are there when a family is in need to provide caring, high quality service. But, beyond that, we believe in being a part of the life of our community... working side by side to make it a better place for all.

All members of our team share the common vision to go beyond what is expected of them, not only by the families they serve but by the community as a whole. I believe this unique team spirit is evident in so many key ways and can be felt each and every time we serve a family in need.

5 Tips

for Dealing with Grief During the Holidays

Grief during the holidays can be extremely difficult. Whether a death was unexpected or the result of a long illness, it is painful. Below are some tips that we hope will help you with your grief during this holiday season.

Set realistic expectations for yourself.

Remind yourself that this year is different. Examine your holiday tasks and ask yourself if you want to continue them. Take others up on their offers to help.

Surround yourself with support.

Share your memories with others of holidays spent with your loved one by telling stories and looking at photo albums.

Try to avoid "canceling" the holiday despite the temptation.

It is OK to avoid some circumstances that you don't feel ready to handle, but don't isolate yourself. Allow yourself time for solitude, but balance it with activities with others.

Take care of yourself.

Writing in a journal can be a good outlet for your grief. Perhaps buy yourself something frivolous that you always wanted but never allowed yourself to indulge in.

Create a new tradition.

Some people find comfort in the old traditions. Others find them too painful. Consider starting a new tradition this year.

The most important thing to remember is there is no right or wrong way to celebrate the holiday season after the loss of a loved one. Just be kind to yourself and get support from those who love you.

Our Recent Events

We have been busy with our free community events the last few months here at Curlew Hills. Here's an overview of some wonderful events we have had. Thank you to all who attended! We hope you enjoyed them as much as we did.



9/11 Memorial Service

Approximately 2000 people attended our 4th Annual 9/11 Memorial Service to honor the victims and heroes of that tragic day in American history. Reginald Roundtree from News Channel 10 was once again our Master of Ceremonies. Keynote speaker Garrett Goodwin touched the hearts of many with his stories of rescue and recovery at the 9/11 site.



Dr. Alan Wolfelt Seminars

On October 29 & 30 we held our free grief seminars with renowned grief expert Dr. Alan Wolfelt. With a touching message of hope and healing, Dr. Wolfelt uplifted guests at our community seminar and the educational seminar. Mark your calendars for October 20 & 21, 2016 to hear Dr. Wolfelt's inspiring words at our seminars again.



Pet Blessing Ceremony

On October 3rd we held our 1st Annual Pet Blessing Ceremony in our newly renovated chapel. Dogs of all sizes, and even a pet squirrel, came to be individually blessed by our friend Reverend Danny McDonald. It was a heartwarming event with many smiles and lots of barking.



Veterans Day Service

Our 28th annual Veterans Day Service was a beautiful tribute to America's veterans! Sgt Maj. Stephen Houten was our special guest speaker. Palm Harbor United Methodist Church choirs entertained the crowd of more than 800 people with patriotic music. It was an honor to have the children from Westlake Christian School attend and participate in this service.