

2024 RI Historical Cemeteries Awareness and Preservation Weeks -

April – May

Events and Proposals listed by community as of 4/23/2024

BARRINGTON-

BLOCK ISLAND- Will participate

BRISTOL-

BURRILLVILLE- Volunteers Needed for Cemetery Clean-ups

Cemetery clean-up - Sat, April 6 – 8:00 – Noon at the Riverside Cemetery. Opposite the Harrisville Fire Station (corner of Callahan School Street and Sherman Farm Road – Rt. 98). Bring rakes, brush loppers, leaf blowers, (tarps or carts to haul leaves), chain saws, hand saws, gloves and water to drink. Gravestone cleaning and resetting demo, weather permitting. For info: 401-500-0433 bmencucci@verizon.net

Cemetery clean-up - Sat, April 13th – 8:00 – Noon at the Hopkins/Potter/Marsh Cemetery (intersection of Howard Ave and Charles St. in Pascoag. Bring rakes, brush loppers, leaf blowers, (tarps or carts to haul leaves), chain saws, hand saws, gloves and water to drink.

We need trucks to haul all the leaves to the Whipple Compost Facility. Even if you only have time to haul one load, it would be greatly appreciated. For info: 401-500-0433 bmencucci@verizon.net

CENTRAL FALLS- Will participate

CHARLESTOWN-

COVENTRY/WEST WARWICK-

GEOLOGY WALK- Sat - April 13th- 2pm (rain date April 13th 2pm)- Join a CCRI geology professor for a walk through the Woodland Cemetery in Coventry. Learn about the bedrock and glacial geology of the area and the granite and marble in the monuments. The meeting place is the cemetery entrance at the northwest corner of Washington Street and Knotty Oak Street (Routes 117 and 116). There are gravel roads in the cemetery so you can drive in and park. **NOTE:** *There are 3 cemeteries all at that intersection. Woodland is the one exactly at the light. It has 2 large pillars at the entrance. Byron Read very large headstone on the right, large obelisk for Carpenter on your left.* Tour guide—Emily Burns, sunfish23@mac.com Maps/directions available on request.

Stone re-setting & Clean-up- West Warwick: Saturday April 27th, 9 am - 12 pm. Clean-up and stone re-setting at the Old Phenix Cemetery/Atwood (WW #16) on Gosselin Ct. Please **register** at coventrycemeteries@gmail.com for parking details and to be notified of any weather postponements.

Continuation from Saturday- West Warwick: Sunday April 28th, 9 am - 12 pm. Continuation of any remaining work from Saturday at WW #16 will be carried over to Sunday. Please **register** at coventrycemeteries@gmail.com for parking details and to be notified of any weather postponements.

Monument Repair- Coventry: Saturday May 11, from 9 am to 12 pm. Continuation of monument repair at Maple Root Cemetery (CY #135) on Harkney Hill Rd. Please register at coventrycemeteries@gmail.com for parking instructions and to be notified of any weather postponements.

Flagging- Coventry: Saturday May 25, from 9 am to 10 am. Flagging at the Maple Root cemetery complex (CY #49, 50, and 135) on Hill Farm Rd./Harkney Hill Rd. Please register at coventrycemeteries@gmail.com for parking instructions and to be notified of any weather postponements.

CRANSTON-

Panel Discussion - Monday, April 8th, from **6:00 to 8 p.m.** - The Cranston Historical Society, the Public Archaeology Laboratory (PAL) and the Cranston Historical Cemeteries Commission will sponsor a panel discussion at the **Cranston Public Library** on the 2006 disturbance of the graves of residents who died at the state poorhouse in the early 1900s. A panelist from the historical society will talk about how the state poorhouse, asylum and prison came to be at Sockanossett Cross Road and PAL representatives will tell the story of the graves' disturbance in 2006 and the lab's efforts to identify the skeletal remains and rebury them. The event will be in the library's James Giles Community Room. Contact- David Guiot dwg1155@aol.com

The event is not sponsored or endorsed by the Cranston Public Library.

Presentation- Wednesday, April 24th- 6:30pm - Cranston Central Library- 140 Sockanosset Cross Rd, Cranston, RI 02920- "**Living with the Dead in Rhode Island: From Cemetery Destruction to Cemetery Preservation**" -State Archaeologist Charlotte Taylor presents a talk on Rhode Island cemetery law. Before 1990, it wasn't safe to be dead in Rhode Island. Although the destruction of graves has been a felony in Rhode Island since 1896, this did not stop property developers and road builders from destroying cemeteries that got in the way of their plans, including the burial places of Native Americans some thousands of years old. It did not stop antiquarians and curious property owners from digging up bodies. Explore this dark history and today's era of stronger laws and more engaged advocacy for Rhode Islanders who can no longer speak for themselves. Charlotte will present both atrocities and stories of successful, respectful preservation, drawing on her experiences as one of the first people who is called when (old) skeletal remains are found.

Clean-up- Saturday, April 27th, from 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM- Rhode Island Training School Cemetery Project located at 57 Power Road, Cranston. **Parking** is in their lot. Ask for John, John, or Theresa - We invite you to participate in our Spring 2024 Stakeholders/Community Clean Up Day. This will be an opportunity for our project supporters to come back together, bring a friend, enjoy light refreshments but, most importantly, to continue the work we started last year of removing debris and trash from the cemetery. Join us for the unveiling of the State Cemetery sign that is back home, come hear about the progress we've made since our gathering in Fall 2023 and our work around creating a digital curriculum resource/module about the cemetery which will be shared with students and interested parties throughout the State and the country. We will be in touch with additional logistics for the day. **Please RSVP** to John.Scott@dcyf.ri.gov

Spring Clean-up- Saturday, May 4th, 9am- 12noon- CR003 Oakland Cemetery located at 1569 Broad St Cranston, RI. The Cranston Historical Cemetery Commission is once again partnering with Gateway Pentecostal Fellowship to pick up winter debris and to cut, rake, and trim the landscape. Questions contact- Paul - mptog@protonmail.com

CUMBERLAND- Cemetery cleanup schedule 2024. Times each day: 10:00 AM-12:00N - 4:00 PM-6:00pm Participants are asked to meet fifteen minutes before each session at the first cemetery listed for that day. They will be assigned a location at that time and given paper leaf bags and yellow trash bags. Contact Joyce - jhindlekoutsogiane@gmail.com

-April 1, Monday-**CU 018** Nate Whipple Highway- The Pickering/Staples Family Lot-Near NCMS – **CU 017** Nate Whipple Highway- The Staples Family Lot-opposite Cumberland. Land Trust area- **CU 016** Nate Whipple Highway- The Weeden Family Lot---near Mendon Road

-April 2, Tuesday- **CU 013, CU 014, CU 015** Mendon Road-The Brown Bartlett and Carpenter Family Cemeteries- on CHS property-

CU 009 Mendon Road- The Ballou Cemetery-next to Veterinary Hospital - **CU 010** Mendon Road-St. John's Episcopal Cemetery-next to Veterinary Hospital

-April 3, Wednesday- **CU 027** Elder Ballou Meeting House Road-Elder Ballou Cemetery- **CU 028** Elder Ballou Meeting House Road-Whipple Smith Cemetery

April 4, Thursday- **CU 004** Dexter Street- Bates Family Plot- **CU 032** Angell Road-Wilkinson Cemetery- **CU 001** High Street- St. Patrick's Cemetery

April 5, Friday-**CU 029** Reservoir Road-Darling/Streeter Family Lot (inside Diamond Hill Cemetery).. **CU 008** Mendon Road- St. Joseph Cemetery- **CU 022** Nate Whipple Highway- Evergreen Cemetery- **CU 023** Nate Whipple Highway-Arnold Mills Cemetery

April 6, Saturday- **CU 038** Reservoir Road-Whipple/Long Family Plot- **CU 024** Reservoir Road-Old and New Diamond Hill Cemetery- **CU 025** Reservoir Road-Old and New Diamond Hill Cemetery

April 7, Sunday- **CU 019** Abbott Run Valley Road-The Peck Cemetery- **CU 020** Abbott Run Valley Road-Pierce Cemetery- **CU021** Abbott Run Valley Road- The Metcalf/Pierce Cemetery- **CU005** Curran Road-Cemetery of St. Basil the Great- **CU 006** Curran Road Mt. Calvary Cemetery-

If time permits: **CU 040** Teal Lane- Unknown Cemetery- **CU 011** Diamond Hill Road-Our Lady of Atonement Cemetery-Monastery Property- **CU 012** Diamond Hill Road –Nine Men's Misery Cairn-Monastery Property

If anyone is free to donate time, we would appreciate the help:

Clean-up- Saturday, April 13th 9:30 AM-11:30 AM- Arnold Mills Cemeteries **CU022 and CU023**, Nate Whipple Highway

Clean-up- Sunday, April 14th 9:30 AM-11:30 AM- Diamond Hill Cemeteries, **CU024 and CU025**, Reservoir Road

Clean-up- Tuesday, April 16th -9:30 AM-11:30 AM- The Staple Family Lot **CU017**, across from Cumberland. Land Trust on Nate Whipple Highway

Clean-up- Wednesday, April 17th -9:30 AM-11:30 AM- The Weeden Family Lot **CU016**-Nate Whipple Highway near intersection with Mendon Road

Weather has not been cooperating with our endeavors. We would love to get to all of our cemeteries before it gets too hot to do so.

EAST GREENWICH-

EAST PROVIDENCE-

Saturday -April 13th- from 10-12noon – EP003 Newman Cemetery - **Clean ups, Stone cleaning, and Self-guided tours** - located on Pawtucket Ave -Rumford, RI

Wednesday- April 17th - from 10-12noon – EP003 Newman Cemetery- **Clean ups, Stone cleaning, and Self-guided tours** - located on Pawtucket Ave -Rumford, RI

Saturday- May 18th - from 10-12noon- EP003 Newman Cemetery- **Clean ups, Stone cleaning, and Self-guided tours** - located on Pawtucket Ave -Rumford, RI

Wednesday- May 15th - from 10-12noon EP005 Ancient Littleneck Cemetery- **Clean ups, Stone cleaning, and Self-guided tours** – located off Read St – Riverside, RI 02915

– Contact Sandra - friendsofnewmancemetery@gmail.com

EXETER-

Clean-up - Sat. April 20th – 9am – Clean EX#39 Old Baptist Church Yard located at #195 Victory Highway (Route 102) behind Del Mar Kennel. Final resting place for many Revolutionary War Veterans and many Baptist Pastors. Bring rakes, clippers, hand saws, and gloves. Contact – Dory Wagner dorwagg@aol.com

HIKE – Sun - April 21st – 9am – Historic Cemetery hike to cemetery #93 John Gardner Lot. Use the parking lot at Pardon Joslin Rd, Exeter Fisherville Brook Wildlife refuge. We'll follow a 3.3-mile loop trail around the pond stopping at the cemetery for an hour of work. Bring small digging shovels. We will lift up headstones to their original height. Plan on 3 hours. Contact – Dory Wagner dorwagg@aol.com

FLAGGING – Sat. April 27th – 9am – Place flags on Veteran graves in cemeteries tucked off into the woods and forgotten. **Meet at** the Exeter Library for this very rewarding project. Plan on 3-4 hours. Contact Dory Wagner dorwagg@aol.com

FOSTER-

GLOSTER-

HOPKINTON-

JAMESTOWN-

JOHNSTON-

Clean-Up - Saturday, April 20th – 9am to 12pm - The Johnston Historical Society will be hosting a cemetery clean-up as part of the statewide “Historical Cemetery Awareness Event.” This event is sponsored by the State Historical Cemetery Commission in collaboration with the Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission. The Society will be cleaning Johnston Historical Cemetery #21, the Governor King / Borden Lot. The cemetery is located at the corner of Hartford Avenue and Winfield Road, in the vicinity of Winsor Hill School. Volunteers should take rakes and gloves. For any further information, please contact the Society at 401-231-3380

LINCOLN-

Walking Tour – Saturday, May 4th, 10am - Saylesville Meeting House and Friends Burial Ground – 374 Great Rd. Lincoln, RI 02865. The Saylesville Meeting House is one of the oldest sites for worship still standing in Rhode Island. Learn about the people who worshipped in this area and see a local landmark notable for its historical significance and architectural beauty. Program presented as a partnership between the Providence Friends Meeting and Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park. - **Parking is limited** near the Saylesville Meeting House. Additional parking at Gateway Park, next to Arnold House, 487 Great Road, Lincoln, RI. Contact: Allison Horrocks - Allison_Horrocks@nps.gov .

Walking Tour- Thursday, May 30th - 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. – ‘The Power of Nature’ - Take a power walk through Lincoln Woods with a park ranger. Visit the historic Olney Burial Ground and enjoy a guided hike during a late springtime evening. Duration: approximately two miles. **Use the Route 146/Twin River Road Entrance.** Free parking is available. Contact: Tyler Shepard – Tyler_Shepard@nps.gov -*Allison Horrocks* - *Park Ranger Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park*

LITTLE COMPTON- Will participate- Contact Kristine Aguiar

MIDDLETOWN-

Exhibit- April 10th to May 8th -Middletown Historical Society will have an exhibit regarding Middletown historical cemeteries at the Middletown Public Library from April 10th through May 8th. The library is located at 700 West Main Rd - (library hours- *Mon – Thurs 10 am – 7 pm; Fri – 10 am – 5 pm; Sat -10 am – 5 pm; Sun – 12 pm – 5 pm.*) Contact- Janice Hart- j.m.hart@cox.net

NARRAGANSETT-

NEWPORT-

Exhibit- Newport Historic Cemeteries Exhibit - April 2 - May 31 - Newport Public Library located at 300 Spring Street-Newport, RI is enhanced by many historic cemeteries. Posters highlighting seven of the sites will be on display in the Spring Street lobby of the Newport Library. A map of the city showing the location of all historic burial sites will also be on view. The posters are drafts of what will be interpretive signage that, once installed at each site, will provide information to visitors. The signs were created by the Newport Historic Cemetery Advisory Commission and are being funded by Discover Newport.

Presentation- Thursday – April 4th- 2:00-3:00- **Colonial Newport Burial Sites & Stones Presentation** - Edward King House - **reservations**- <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/8dsn2mg/lp/bc587806-62a3-4091-8292-49baa74041c9>

Newport was one of the five major cities in colonial America and is fortunate to have hundreds of buildings and sites that showcase the city’s history. Included in these sites are colonial-era burial grounds and gravestones. They are outdoor museums, enhancing the city and helping to tell the story of the people who lived here. This presentation will focus on burial sites that reflect the people and society of colonial Newport. Although Newport was a diverse community, burial practices were remarkable alike. Find out about the sites and the carvers who crafted the gravestones. The Stevens family of Newport were important stone carvers and will be a focus of the presentation. -Lew Keen has served on the state cemetery commission and is chair of the Newport Historic Cemetery Advisory Commission. He has documented graves in Newport for the state database and is the author of *A Guide to Historic Burial Grounds in Newport*, published by History Press in 2021. His website is ripnewport.com -This presentation is free of charge but **reservations are required.**

Tour- Saturday - April 20th 10 am - **Arnold Burying Ground Tour and Alice Brayton**
reservations- nphistoriccemeteries@gmail.com

Nestled in the heart of Newport is a family burial ground with a remarkable story. The final resting place for members of the Arnold family was obliterated and later restored thanks to the efforts of Alice Brayton. The tour will share the story and take a close look at some of the remarkable colonial gravestones in the site. The tour will be presented by Lew Keen who served as a state cemetery commissioner and chair of the Newport Historic Cemetery Advisory Commission. He has documented graves in Newport for the state database and is the author of *A Guide to Historic Burial Grounds in Newport*, published by History Press in 2021. His website is ripnewport.com

Tour- Saturday- April 27th- 10am- Common Burying Ground Tour

reservations- npthistoriccemeteries@gmail.com

Explore Newport's largest and most important colonial era burial site with a focus on gravestones and stone carvers. The tour will include an up-close look at work that has been done to preserve stones for future generations to enjoy. The tour will be presented by Lew Keen who has served as a state cemetery commissioner and chair of the Newport Historic Cemetery Advisory Commission. He has documented graves in Newport for the state database and is the author of *A Guide to Historic Burial Grounds in Newport*, published by History Press in 2021. His website is ripnewport.com

Presentation- Thursday- May 2nd- 2:00pm- 3:00pm - Gilded Age Graves in Newport Presentation

Edward King House -

reservations- <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/mavrqe/lp/d1f15b4a-3519-45d5-be59-62b62fbbe998>

The city of Newport was the playground of Gilded Age Americans who built the "cottages" that stand today and provide a glimpse of the places they lived. When death arrived, Island Cemetery became "the place" to be buried. The cemetery is the final resting place of ordinary people to world famous individuals. While many buried here were part of the year-round Newport community, a surprising number of summer visitors chose Newport as their place for eternal rest. Members of Mrs. Astors 400, explorers, civil rights leaders, architects, politicians and military heroes are among the people discussed in the presentation. The cemetery has a rich variety of sculptured monuments, some designed by noted architects. The presentation will include grave markers that reflect both the wealth and style of the time. -Lew Keen has served as a state cemetery commissioner and chair of the Newport Historic Cemetery Advisory Commission since 2016. He has documented graves in Newport for the state database and is a co-author of *Discover Island Cemetery: Notable People and Monuments from the Gilded Age to Modern Times*. His website is ripnewport.com

This presentation is free of charge but **reservations are required**.

<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/mavrqe/lp/d1f15b4a-3519-45d5-be59-62b62fbbe998>

Clean-up- Saturdays – May 4, 11, 18 – 10 am - Volunteer work at Newport's Common Burying Ground

Volunteers will help enhance this historic burial site. The main effort will be to paint rusting metal poles and gates. All materials will be provided and no experience is needed. Please **send an email** to npthistoriccemeteries@gmail.com to let us know you plan to participate as cancelation due to wet weather may be needed.

Walking Tour- Saturday – May 4th- 11:00 AM – Colonial Stone Carvers of Trinity Church Yard- 1 Queen Anne Sq, Newport- 02840 Attendance is limited to 10 people. **Reservations:** TrinityTours100@gmail.com - One hour guided walking tour with preservationist Jimmy Lappin, who will also share insights gained from having cleaned many of the gravestones in the churchyard. Most of Trinity's 250 graves date to the 18th century, representing the fine work of stone carvers from the John Stevens family, and John Bull.

Guided Walking Tour- Saturday – May 11th- 1 PM - Explore St. Mary's Cemetery, the final resting place of well over 1,000 Newporters of the mid-1800s through the early 1900s, including countless immigrants from Ireland and first-generation Irish Americans. This cemetery was established to serve R.I.'s first Catholic parish (est. 1828), which, in 1848-1852 constructed a new church in which to house its growing congregation, fueled by immigration from Ireland. That church, dedicated in 1852 to "*The Holy Name of Mary, Our Lady of the Isle*," stands today at the corner of Spring Street and Memorial Boulevard West. The St. Mary's Cemetery was in operation soon after the church was completed. Your tour guide is Steve Marino.

*Meet at the gate on Kingston Ave. near the intersection with Warner Street, shown in photo. We're pointing folks to the Museum's Historic Cemetery Tours webpage for details and to please **make a reservation**.*

<https://newportirishhistory.org/historic-cemetery-tours/> **Questions:** NewportIrishHistory@gmail.com

Clean-up- Saturday- May 11th- 10am - **Volunteer work at Newport's Common Burying Ground** see May 4 for more information

Clean-up – Saturday May 18th – 10am - **Volunteer work at Newport's Common Burying Ground** see May 4 for more information

Workshop - Saturday & Sunday – May 18 & 19 - 12:00 - 1:00 pm – 2-Day –Introduction to Gravestone Restoration. Trinity Church, Newport – 1 Queen Anne Sq, Newport- 02840 -Attendance is limited to 10 people. **Reservations:** TrinityTours100@gmail.com – **Saturday**, volunteers will work with preservationist Jimmy Lappin to create an inventory of graves that need the most attention and learn about the steps to complete each project. Work will continue on **Sunday** at Noon. Projects include cleaning and straightening stones, and making French drains. Tools and supplies provided.

Self-Guided Tours Ongoing- May 26th – June 14th (Flag Day) Tour Veterans' graves dated 1731-2022 at Trinity Church, Newport – 1 Queen Anne Sq, Newport- 02840 -Veterans from the Colonial Wars; British loyalists, Patriots and French officers from the Revolutionary War; and veterans who served our country more recently in the Navy and Marine Corps are honored for Memorial Day with historically accurate flags. Brochures are located at the Church Street entrance

Tour- Sunday – May 26th- 10 am- **Decoration Day at Island Cemetery Tour**
reservations- npthistoriccemeteries@gmail.com

Cemeteries have been important Memorial Day sites since the holiday was created. This tour honors a selected number of people who served our country in the military. Some died while in service, one received the Congressional Medal of Honor, and some fought in multiple wars. While many of the people on the tour served in the Spanish American and Civil Wars, veterans of other military campaigns will be included in the tour.

-The tour will be presented by Lew Keen, a state cemetery commissioner and chair of the Newport Historic Cemetery Advisory Commission. He has documented graves in Newport for the state database and is a co-author of *Discover Island Cemetery: Notable People and Monuments from the Gilded Age to Modern Times*. His website is ripnewport.com

NORTH KINGSTOWN-

Tours - Saturdays, May 18 and May 25 at 11:00 am. - Casey Farm in Saunderstown would like to offer free guided cemetery tours of the Silas Casey Cemetery (RI Historical Cemetery NK#65) on Saturdays, May 18 and May 25 at 11:00 am. Tours meet at the information booth of the Casey Farm Market, which runs from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – Contact- Jane Hennedy - jhennedy@historicnewengland.org

NORTH PROVIDENCE-

NORTH SMITHFIELD-

Walking Tours – SUN. April 21st – 1PM- Hotchkiss Cemetery NS36 - located on Smithfield Rd in North Smithfield, RI. For the first time since Hotchkiss Cemetery was re-discovered, cleaned, and repaired the public can take a one hour guided walking tour with some of the volunteers who made it happen. Folks can learn about the lives of some of the oldest inhabitants of North Smithfield and Smithfield. Guides will explain about the methods to repair the stones and reveal a few secreted lost stones. Highlights will include Veteran graves from past wars, discovery of the old town tomb and some sad stories from the

past. **Parking** in Union Cemetery. Please Park on the grass not on the pavement... *Tours will be at 9:00 am on Saturdays in April and May beginning April 20. Contact Eward Walker clockwalk@verizon.net*

Walking Tour – Sat. April 27 – 9am- Hotchkiss Cemetery NS36 – See April 20 for tour information

Walking Tour - Sat. May 4 – 9am- Hotchkiss Cemetery NS36 – See April 20 for tour information

Walking Tour - Sat. May 11 – 9am- Hotchkiss Cemetery NS36 – See April 20 for tour information

Walking Tour - Sat. May 18 – 9am- Hotchkiss Cemetery NS36 – See April 20 for tour information-

Walking Tour - Sat. May 25 – 9am- Hotchkiss Cemetery NS36 – See April 20 for tour information

Memorial Day Service- Sunday, May 26th -11am- The General Zenas R. Bliss Camp 12 -Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War - Memorial Day service being held at NS003 Slatersville cemetery located off of Green Street- Participants should **park** at the North Smithfield Town Hall (83 Green Street). Next door, a section of the Heritage Hall picket fence will be open to allow easy access to Heritage Hall grounds. The Heritage Hall downstairs restrooms will be available. --- Questions contact Michael Lannigan mlannigan@cox.net

Walking Tour- Sunday, May 26th -1 p.m. – 2 p.m. – Local Veteran’s Service Stories - Explore Slatersville Cemetery with a park ranger this Memorial Day Weekend. Learn the stories of local veterans who served in the Civil War. Presented in partnership with North Smithfield Heritage Association. **Meet** in front of Heritage Hall, located at 101 Green Street, Slatersville (North Smithfield), RI.
Contact: Mark Mello Mark_Mello@nps.gov - *Allison Horrocks - Park Ranger Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park*

PAWTUCKET-

Walking Tour- Sunday- April 28th- 10:30 to 12pm- The Heritage Alliance of Pawtucket will lead a walking tour of the Moshassuck Cemetery located at 978 Lonsdale Avenue, Central Falls. Central Falls has one cemetery, bearing a Native American name, and having no affiliation with any one church or culture. Walk with us through the Moshassuck Cemetery as we talk about how Central Falls emerged as a city, who made it happen, and the significance of the city’s cultural diversity. Central Falls might be geographically small, but its role in history has been enormous. **Parking** is available in the cemetery. **Attendance is limited to 20 people.** **RSVP** to contact@heritagepawtucket.org

PORTSMOUTH-

Walk - Birds & Burials - Wednesday- April 3rd- 9:30 am - The Norman Bird Sanctuary is happy to host two Birds & Burials walks again this year. Both walks will begin at 9:30 AM and should last 90 minutes. **Location:** Norman Bird Sanctuary, 583 Third Beach Road, Middletown, RI. - Take a walking tour of the three historical cemeteries found at the Norman Bird Sanctuary and learn about two more that about the property. We will also be observing some the early spring migrants as part of this ninety-minute program. Hiking boots are suggested as the trail could be muddy at this time of year. Jay Manning, P.E. - *Conservation Manager* -

583 Third Beach Road, Middletown, RI 02842 - P: 401-846-2577 x421

Clean Up- Saturday, April 20th at 10AM at Cemetery No. 39, The Joseph Fish Lot. There will be a spring cemetery cleanup and **Portsmouth** needs volunteers! **Parking** is available on Cul de Sac Way or at the Quaker Manor Office building. The cemetery is extremely overgrown; Volunteers should wear heavy duty clothes and gloves. Please bring your own clippers and rakes. Contact - **Lea Hitchen** Town Planner - lhitchen@portsmouthri.gov - www.portsmouthri.gov [\[portsmouthri.gov\]](http://portsmouthri.gov) We Need Volunteers

Walk - Birds & Burials – Tues – April 23rd- 9:30am - The Norman Bird Sanctuary. For more information see April 3rd emerged as a city, who made it happen, and the significance of the city's cultural diversity. Central Falls might be geographically small, but its role in history has been enormous. **Parking** is available in the cemetery. **Attendance is limited to 20 people.** **RSVP** to contact@heritagepawtucket.org

PROVIDENCE-

Clean-Up- Thursday, **April 18^h, at 3:30pm-** Tillinghast Burial Ground at 398 Benefit Street Providence, RI. This is the LAST of the many small family burial grounds that were along the ridge that became Benefit Street from early Roger Williams founding of "Providence" when there was no common burial ground. www.tillinghastsociety.org
Helpers need only bring a rake and gloves

Clean-Up and Data Collection- Saturday, April 27th, 10am – 3pm. North Burial Ground 5 Branch Ave Providence, RI 02904- Nature & Culture at NBG: Earth Day and Data Collection - We're celebrating Earth Day and our Historic Cemeteries on a big day in April. From 10 AM-12 PM join neighbors and friends to spruce up two of NBG's best natural areas, our pollinator garden and Ridgeside Lake. Bring your work boots, gloves, (and waders, if you're daring!) to get NBG ready for Spring. From 1 PM-3 PM join Brown University professor Dr. Jordi Rivera Prince to learn about NBG's new headstone data collection project and protocol, and get hands-on experience documenting the historic stones at NBG. Stay the whole day and bring a picnic or come for the part of the day that you're most excited about! Both events depart from the Rochambeau Gate. Contact – Annalisa Aheppner@providenceri.gov

Walking Tour- Sunday, April 28th, 11am- North Burial Ground 5 Branch Ave Providence, RI 02904- Come take a tour of a selection of NBG's "white bronze" monuments, or "zinkies" hosted by NBG docent, Lexie! Lexie has put together a tour highlighting the history and design of these monuments built by the Monumental Bronze Co. and the NBG families who chose to install these fascinating pieces. Contact- Annalisa Aheppner@providenceri.gov

Walking Tour - Sat. May 4th – 9am- North Burial Ground really comes alive in the spring with 30 kinds of birds, large and small mammals, 3 kinds of amphibians, at least 3 kinds of reptiles and a variety of insects as well as many plant species. Greg Gerritt has been filming the **wildlife** of the NBG since 2013 and his YouTube channel Moshassuckcritters has over 2000 videos of local wildlife. He will lead a tour of his favorite spots to spot wildlife in the NBG on Saturday May 4 2024 **Meet** at the Gate across from Pharmacy Herbs on Cemetery St at 9 AM. Contact Greg Gerritt gerritt@mindspring.com

Walking Tour- Sunday, May 5th, 11am – At Locust Grove- 442 Elmwood Ave Providence, RI 02907- Come take a tour of a selection of Locust Grove's "white bronze" monuments, or "zinkies" hosted by NBG docent, Lexie! Lexie has put together a tour highlighting the history and design of these monuments built by the Monumental Bronze Co. and the Locust Grove families who chose to install these fascinating pieces. Meet at the Elmwood Entrance Ave. under the Locust Grove Gate. Contact- Annalisa Aheppner@providenceri.gov

Walking Tour- Saturday, May 11th, 10am – NBG Notable Interments - North Burial Ground 5 Branch Ave Providence, RI 02904 - "Meet" some of the outstanding individuals who call NBG their final resting place. Led by NBG docent Chris! **Meet** at the Rochambeau Gate-there's **no need to RSVP!** Contact- Annalisa Aheppner@providenceri.gov

Headstone Cleaning Workshop, Saturday, May 18th, 1 PM- North Burial Ground 5 Branch Ave Providence, RI 02904- Learn the one way to clean headstones totally approved by NBG's caretakers! We'll demonstrate our headstone cleaning technique, talk about the different stones present at NBG, and then work together to clean a section of slate and marble stones! It'll be a fun way to try something new. We'll **meet** at the Rochambeau Gate, and there's **no need to RSVP!** Contact- Annalisa Aheppner@providenceri.gov

Memorial Day Tour-Thursday, May 23rd, TBD- Locust Grove- 442 Elmwood Ave Providence, RI 02907- Honor the memories of the Civil War veterans at Locust Grove, and learn about how the history of contemporary American mourning and funeral customs are rooted in this time period. Locust Grove is in the Elmwood neighborhood, and is a great example of a late 19th century suburban cemetery. We'll **meet** at the Elmwood Ave entrance at the new gate.

Memorial Day Tour- Sunday, May 26th, Time TBD- North Burial Ground 5 Branch Ave Providence, RI 02904- Honor the memories of veterans from the Revolutionary War to World War II with docent Sabrina. The tour will **leave from the Rochambeau Gate** and there's **no need to RSVP**. Contact- Annalisa Aheppner@providenceri.gov

RICHMOND-

Clean & Flag – Sat. April 6th– 9am - (clean) Isaac Collins Lot RD#25 – located on Woodville Rd, Richmond – Telephone pole #31. (flag) a Civil War Veteran grave. Bring rakes and clippers – Contact – Dory Wagner dorwagg@aol.com

Flagging – Sat. May 4th – 9am – Place flags on Veteran graves. Meet at Clark Library. Will take approximately 2-3 hours. Some hiking involved. Contact Dory Wagner dorwagg@aol.com

HIKE – Sat. May 11th – 9am – 1.5-hour hike to visit Richmond cemeteries RD#6 and RD#59. We will also see Cairns, old stonewall lined farm road, old cellar holes, huge boulders, rock bridges, old barn walls and a well. **Meet at** telephone pole #91 Hillsdale Rd. - Small parking lot. From Route 138, go North on Hillsdale Rd for 1.7 miles to parking on left. Contact- Dory Wagner dorwagg@aol.com

SCITUATE-

Clean-up- Sat. April 27th - 9:00 am -12:00 pm (rain date is Sunday, April 28 from 12:00 pm-3:00 pm). The location will be Scituate Cemetery #32 off of Darby Road, also known as the Nicholas Thomas lot. Volunteers will be clearing brush, vines, and other debris, stone cleanup, and tidying (possibly resetting) the stones if time allows. **Parking** is in the driveway of 145 Darby Road if space allows, or on the road if the driveway is full; carpooling would be helpful. Participants asked not to block or park in other driveways. Look for the red and white cemetery event signs marking the event access and driveway. Helpful items to bring include drinking water, sanitizer/alcohol gel (in case of poison ivy), snacks, gloves, knee pads, sunscreen/hat, and hand tools such as clippers, shovels, rakes, and saws (marked with initials).
Contact- Skye Pechie - tmbgambassador@gmail.com

SMITHFIELD-

Clean-up- Saturday, April 27th, 10am (Rain date May 4 if pouring rain!) – There will be a clean-up at the Mowry Lot SM007 hosted by Monica Ward and The Friends of Smithfield Cemeteries. This is one of the historic Bryant University cemeteries. *The Mowry Cemetery is located behind Chase Wellness Center (the gym) and we will meet*

there. Guests can **park** in any of the visitor parking which is fairly open on a Saturday morning. Here is a campus map. Contact- Monica Ward- 908 461 2640 and mward7@bryant.edu

https://campusmap.bryant.edu/?location=chace_center

SOUTH KINGSTOWN-

Discussion- Monday- May 6th- 4pm to 5:30pm- Location- OLLI at URI, 210 Flagg Road, Room 212, Kingston, RI 02881- Phone: 401.874.4197; Email-olli@uri.edu

Celebrate 2024 RI Historical Cemeteries Awareness and Preservation Weeks with a lively discussion about some of the Revolutionary War Patriots buried in Washington County. Historic Cemeteries. Washington County Commissioner Debbie Suggs will introduce you to the locales who helped secure American independence. Participants will learn how local volunteers have joined forces with the RI Historical Cemeteries Commission to restore the historical cemeteries and memorials for these almost-forgotten Rhode Islanders.

This program is sponsored by Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) and the Narragansett-Cooke-Gaspee Chapter of the Rhode Island Daughters of the American Revolution. The topic is suitable for all age levels. Deb Suggs

TIVERTON-

Walking Tour- Saturday, May 4th at 10:30 AM - Guided tour of the old Congregational Church Cemetery #11 on Lake Road (near East Road intersection), having 16 Revolutionary War veterans and 2 Civil War veterans, and the most slate gravestones of the 90 known Tiverton burial grounds. The public may **park** in the adjacent St Madeleine's Church lot on Lake Road, north of the cemetery. **RSVP** Contact - Sue Anderson gsriengr@yahoo.com

Gravestone Cleaning and Repair- Saturdays, May 11th and May 18th - 10am-3pm Gravestone cleaning and repair. The Tiverton Historical Cemeteries Commission welcomes volunteers to help clean and reset stones at the Daniel Dwelly Lot #39 on Windwood Drive (off of Stafford Road/Rte. 81). No experience or supplies needed. Come for an hour or more! **Parking** available on Windwood Drive. Contact Jim Spears jim.spears@cox.net

Gravestone Cleaning and Repair- Saturday, May 18th - 10am-3pm - See May 11th for cleaning and repair information

WARREN-

Walking Tour- Saturday- April 6th 2:00pm- (rain date Sunday April 7th) - Burr's Hill was an ancient Pokanoket Royal Burial Ground containing dozens of grave sites, including the Massasoit Ousamequin who occupied the area in the 1600s. Used as a sand and gravel source for a railroad that was constructed next to the site in 1853, many graves were looted. In 1913, in an effort to protect the remaining 42 graves, librarian and amateur archaeologist Charles Carr exhumed the contents and donated some of them to museums. Come and learn how those contents were returned to this site in Warren, RI in 2017 and the status and history of the tribe today. **Location:** Water Street across from the Warren Town Beach (use 530 Water Street for GPS) **Parking** is available in the lot on Water Street just beyond the Town Beach. Website: <https://sowamsheritagearea.org/wp/burrs-hill-burial-ground/> Contact: Please let me know if you plan to attend or have any questions at drweed@cox.net

WARWICK-

Clean-up- Saturday April 27th, 9am to 11:30am - Rain date April 28th, or May 4th if rain persists.

The Warwick Commission on Historical Cemeteries will be holding their biannual cleaning at Warwick cemetery #34, the Brayton cemetery, 3468 Post Rd. Anyone is welcome to help. Bring rakes and gloves if you have them. Community service hours will be given to anyone needing them. Snacks and water will be provided. Pegee - -- Contact- Sue Cabeceiras- susan.w.cabeceiras@warwickri.gov

WEST GREENWICH-

WESTERLY-

Clean-up - Sat, April 13th 10AM - WY31 Jonathon Foster Ground Westerly, RI, Clean-up hosted by RIACHC Commissioner Larry Hunter- Located on Wauwinnet Ave. just after passing Everett Ave. Parking is limited, you may have to park in Watch Hill and walk back up to the cemetery.

Bring gloves, bug spray, rakes, leaf blowers, loppers/clippers, weed whackers, etc.

For updated information or weather conditions follow @ <https://www.facebook.com/groups/648466672322227>

Clean-up - Sat, April 27th 10AM - WY7 Babcock Lot Westerly, RI, Hosted by RIACHC Commissioner Larry Hunter in conjunction with the Lion's Club and Phebe Green DAR Chapter, Spring Clean-up and Dedication of Flag holder for Col Nathaniel Babcock. Located adjacent to 42 Watch Hill Rd.

Bring gloves, bug spray, rakes, leaf blowers.

For updated information or weather conditions follow @ <https://www.facebook.com/groups/648466672322227>

Walking Tour- Sunday - April 28th - 2 pm – WY08 River Bend Cemetery - located at 117 Beach St, Westerly, RI 02891 - A Peaceable Kingdom - Join us for a walking tour of a small section of the cemetery *where the lions lie down with the lambs and angels watch over them*. Guides from the Babcock-Smith House Museum will introduce a variety of monuments, most of them made from local Westerly granite by talented craftsmen, and will share information about their design and construction. Tour will take about an hour. **Parking** will be inside the cemetery gate near the office. Donations gratefully accepted. Contact Ellen - ellenmadison1945@gmail.com

Clean-up - Sat, May 18th 10AM - WY30 Hall-Vars Ground Westerly, RI, Clean-up Hosted by RIACHC Commissioner Larry Hunter

Located adj to 181 Bradford Rd. Park at the lacrosse fields, Follow the path around the South/Eastern Lacross field to a path into the woods at the SE Corner. Bear right on the path for ¼ mile and the cemetery is on the hill on the right.

Bring gloves, bug spray, rakes, leaf blowers, loppers/clippers.

For updated information or weather conditions follow @ <https://www.facebook.com/groups/648466672322227>

WOONSOCKET-

Clean-up- Sunday- April 14th- 11am- Woodlawn Cemetery located on Bernon St off of Manville Rd in Woonsocket, RI 02895. The event will be sponsored by the Woonsocket Historical Society. **Park** on Bernon Street near the cemetery signs. Wear gloves. We will provide the trash bags. Questions contact Christine - cmacwilliams58@yahoo.com

Walking Tour – Sunday – April 28th – 1 pm – (rain date-May 5th-1pm) WO006 Precious Blood Cemetery located on Diamond Hill Road & Rathbun St. in Woonsocket, RI 02895. The tour is being sponsored by the Woonsocket

Historical Society. Your tour guide will be the very knowledgeable and friendly Irene Blaise, President of the WHS. The guided tour will take about an hour. Contact- Irene Blaise - Woonhistsoc@gmail.com