

Our Message



We are excited to announce that we are resuming our Cemetery Tours and plan to visit all of our cemeteries. Read more about our plans in this issue of our



newsletter and on our website, and please plan to join us at one or more of our tours.

Also in this issue of our newsletter, we present "before" and "after" photos of restorative work we funded at our Shaarey Tefiloh cemeteries in Perth Amboy and Woodbridge, and we present an inspiring message from Robert Shwedel about his successful search for his great-grandfather's grave at our Samptown Jewish cemeteries.

We remain very grateful to all of you who contributed to the extensive repairs at our Shaarey Tefiloh cemeteries (Bingle Street Cemetery and Hebrew Fraternity Cemetery). We are also grateful to the many families who paid for the repairs of the monuments and graves of their loved ones, recognizing that such repairs are the responsibility of the individual families. However, many toppled monuments and damaged foundations remained in need of repairs because the deceased had no surviving family members or their families were unknown. Thus, our organization funded the necessary repairs to these cemeteries, toppled monuments, and damaged foundations. We plan to undertake additional repairs—at these cemeteries and our other partner cemeteries—with your continued support.

Our cemeteries are the final resting places not only for our loved ones, but also for the communities represented by these cemeteries. The global COVID pandemic has presented enormous challenges to all of us, and we hope we are beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel. As we all adjust to new ways of living, working, socializing, traveling, and caring for others, I know that we all remain committed to preserving our cemeteries as a way of honoring and remembering our loved ones, our ancestors, and our communities. We remain very grateful for your past support, and we hope we can count on your continuing support in the future.

—Mona Shangold and Bennett Epstein

Please Join Me

I became an enthusiastic supporter of Friends of New Jersey Jewish Cemeteries because I value and share the organization's goals of honoring and preserving the final resting places of our loved ones. In particular, I had a very special interest in the Samptown Jewish cemetery, where I thought my grandmother and great-grandfather had been buried. My long desire to locate and visit their graves recently culminated in great success, and I was thrilled to see the excellent condition of their graves and their cemetery. Locating and visiting their graves was especially rewarding and satisfying and reinforced my commitment to supporting the preservation of our cemeteries. I hope you will join me in doing so, so that we can honor those interred there.

—Robert Shwedel



Thanking our Donors

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Joel Weiss
Saul Weissbard – in memory of his beloved grandparents
Jill Weitzen – in memory of the Weitzen Family
Beryl Toborowsky Wild – in memory of the Toborowsky and Sher Families
M. Jack Wilkenfeld – in memory of Esther and Norman Wilkenfeld, Leo Halm, and Dorothy Yahr
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Cemetery Tours

Following our pandemic hiatus, our Cemetery Tours will resume at all of our partner cemeteries and have been scheduled on the following Sundays at the locations indicated:

- **May 22** – Shaarey Tefiloh Cemeteries (in Perth Amboy and Woodbridge)
- **June 26** – Beth David Memorial Park (in Kenilworth)
- **July 24** – Samptown Jewish Cemeteries (in South Plainfield)
- **August 28** – North Arlington Jewish Cemeteries (in Kearny)
- **October 2** – Newark Jewish Cemeteries (joining the Community Relations Committee of Greater MetroWest NJ at its annual Newark Cemetery Visiting Day in Newark)

All tours will begin at noon and will last approximately 2 hours. All are welcome to attend these free tours, at which we will visit graves of interest to attendees, discuss the cemeteries' histories, and honor and remember those interred there.

Please register in advance (and as soon as possible) to let us know you plan to attend one or more of these tours and to give us the names of any graves you will want to visit. We will notify all registrants of the meeting location for each tour and any weather-related cancellations. To register for one or more tours, please contact us by email at FPMCJC@gmail.com, by phone at 856-222-1418, or through the "Contact Us" form on our website at <https://friendsofjewishcemeteries.org>.

Contact Information for all Cemeteries

Cemetery Office: 908-245-7100

The cemetery office (for all of our partner cemeteries) will provide information about these and other services at all of the cemeteries:

- Purchasing cemetery plots
- Planting grave covers
- Arranging for perpetual or annual care of plantings
- Constructing or repairing cemetery monuments and/or foundations
- Cleaning (acid-washing) discolored cemetery monuments
- Inquiring about individual cemetery plots



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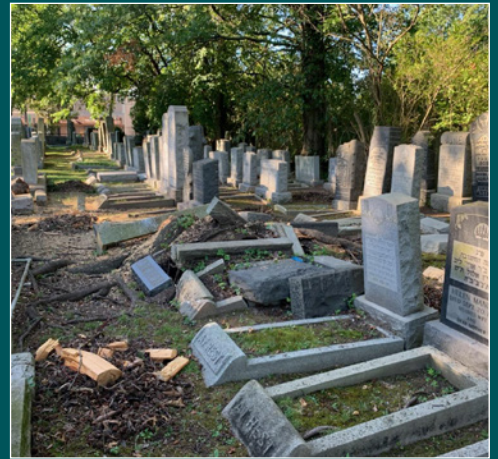
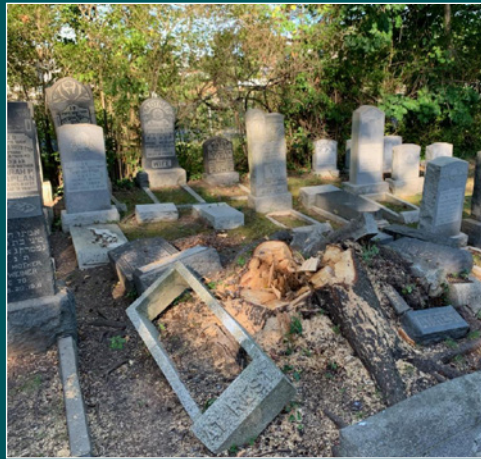
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"Before" photos (above) show the significant damage at Shaarey Tefilah's Hebrew Fraternity Cemetery in Hopelawn. "After" photos (below) show the restoration funded by donations to FNJJC.

