

THE BELL TOWER

BULLETIN

WEST LAUREL HILL • BRINGHURST FUNERAL HOME • TURNER FUNERAL HOME



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Words like “perpetual” and “trust” can never be taken lightly. In my first months here I have come to understand what it means to live these words each day and what it means to be a steward on behalf of our families. The concept and institution of a Permanent Fund “...for the preservation in good order and embellishment of the grounds for Interment...” was established

by our founder, John Jay Smith, in 1836, as the first of its kind in the nation. Today at Laurel Hill and West Laurel Cemeteries we still live those values. So long as we do so we will continue to earn the trust of the families who depend that we will honor our commitments – not for the next few years, or for a generation, but in perpetuity.

Like all who work here, I see this stewardship not as a burden but as a highly personally rewarding endeavor. I know we are giving families something of lasting value. When we help people during their most trying moments we know we are also helping to build lasting memories. When we carry out the personal family wishes for their service, those memories remain for all who witnessed the tribute. When we prepare a gravesite or monument we know we do so with the understanding that it must be done with high quality and with a commitment to perpetual care.

It is my pleasure to help carry on the legacy of Laurel Hill.

Alexander L. “Pete” Hoskins
President & CEO

LOCAL BOY SCOUTS HELP HAITI AND CEMETERY

West Laurel Hill wishes to thank our local Boys Scouts for participating in our post holiday Clean Sweep Project. Young men from Ardmore Troop 243, Merion Liberty Troop and Narberth Troop 176 recently spent over twenty hours removing holiday wreaths and decorations from throughout our 187 acres.

Boy Scouts are only able to raise money by delivering a product or providing a service, and by partnering with West Laurel Hill on our Clean Sweep Project the Scouts raised nearly \$1,500 which they will donate to the American Red Cross for the Haitian relief effort.

West Laurel Hill thanks you for your dedication to serving your community and beyond; we appreciate your willingness to help maintain the beauty and peacefulness of the Cemetery for our families and we commend you on your resolve to extend your generosity beyond the borders of your homes. Congratulations on a job very well done!



WINTER 2010

2010
WINTER
EVENTS

CHOCOLATE,
CANDY &
COUGH DROPS:
WEST LAUREL HILL'S
CONFECTIONERY
CONNECTIONS

FEBRUARY 21st

GENERAL MEADE
SOCIETY
HISTORY
SYMPOSIUM

FEBRUARY 21st

EASTER EGG HUNT

MARCH 27th

www.forever-care.com

215 Belmont Avenue
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004
610-664-1591

Visit Our Sister Cemetery
www.thelaurelhillemetery.org

COMING SOON...

**Titanic's Floaters:
Recovery, Preparation
& Disposition**

A Tour, Lecture & Dinner

Saturday, April 10th

www.thelaurelhillemetery.org

**Cynwyd Heritage Trail
Tree Planting**

Come see us at the

Go Green Expo!

April 16th -18th

Greater Philadelphia
Expo Center

www.gogreenexpo.com

**CEMETERY
HOURS**

Gates

7:00 AM – 6:00 PM
May 1st - October 15th

7:00 AM – 5:00 PM
October 16th-April 30th

Office

Monday - Friday
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

Saturday

9:30 AM – 3:30 PM

Chapel

Monday - Saturday
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Holidays and Sundays
9:00 AM - 4:30 PM

Bringhurst Funeral Home is
available by phone
24 hours a day
by calling toll-free
1-877-668-9900

West Laurel Hill Cemetery is
available by phone
24 hours a day
by calling toll-free
1-877-664-1591

WEST LAUREL HILL DIGS OUT!



*Rob Grassi, Arborist, and Joe Direso,
Operations Manager, headed up the
snow removal in December.*

Kudos to our dedicated grounds crew for a fantastic job of cleaning up after an early winter storm dropped nearly two feet of snow across the region! Bill, Dana, Cheo, Joe D., Joe G., Paul, Rob, Steve and Terry were charged with the seemingly insurmountable task of clearing our ten miles of roadway, parking lots and sidewalks. It took over thirty hours of plowing, shoveling and salting and a night in a local hotel to get the job done - and what a job they did! While the heavy snowfall was a beautiful sight to see in the Cemetery, it arrived at a time when the speedy removal of snow and ice is vital since so many families visit during the holidays. A special thank-you to each of you for an outstanding job!

**CELL PHONES
FOR SOLDIERS®**



Help Our Troops Call Home



Bringhurst Funeral Home is proud to announce its designation as a registered drop-off location for Cell Phones For Soldiers. As the number of soldiers abroad increases and their assignments become longer, the need for donations is increasingly important. Improved donations will also fund new programs such as providing video phones to help soldiers see their families while they talk.

Simply bring your unwanted cell phone to Bringhurst Funeral Home and we will forward it at no cost to you to ReCellular, a company which reimburses Cell Phones For Soldiers for each donated phone. Each phone is equivalent to one hour of talk time.

Bringhurst Funeral Home is a certified provider of Veterans & Family Memorial Care. In addition to our special Hero Walk section we offer free assistance with all veteran cemetery benefits as well as a patriot walk at the time of service.

Please contact us if you have any questions about how best to honor your beloved veteran or first responder or if we can help with any questions you have about veteran benefits.

Your unwanted cell phones can also be dropped off at our sister cemetery, Laurel Hill, located at 3822 Ridge Avenue.



*Al Richardson, Groundskeeper and
Crematory Operator, taking a break
from placing holiday wreaths at
graveside for a photo shoot.*

LONG-TIME EMPLOYEE RETIRES

Groundskeeper and Crematory Operator Al Richardson is looking forward to a well-deserved (partial) retirement after fifteen years of dedicated service to West Laurel Hill. Over the years Al has come to know our visitors to the Chapel of Peace by first name and his loving attention has created a welcoming atmosphere for our families to visit their loved ones. He is sure to be missed by many, but Al will still be helping out here occasionally. A luncheon was given in Al's honor at the Conservatory on the grounds of the Cemetery. Thank you, Al, for all your hard work! We wish you a long, happy and healthy retirement and we'll be glad to see when you're here!

