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Town of Shaftsbury

Municipal Offices

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Cemetery Department

Superintendent's Report - July /2025

Burials:

There have been 2 burials since our last meeting.

Lot Sales:

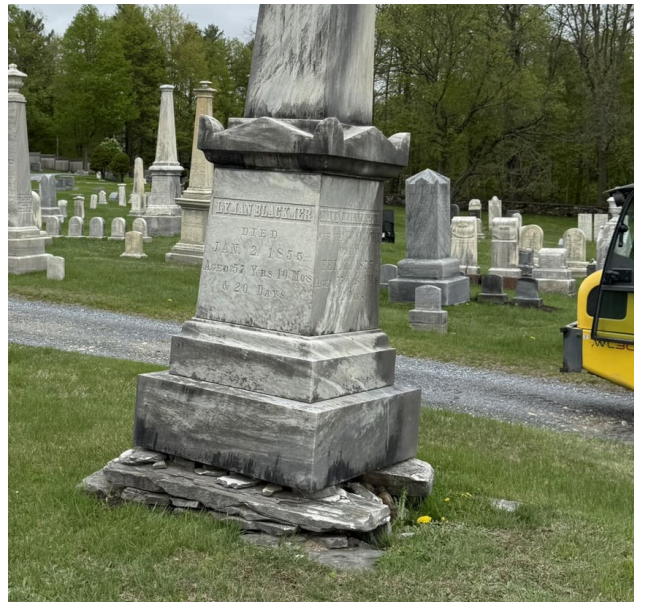
I have sold 1 lot in Center since the last meeting.

Gravestone Repairs & Maintenance:

Significant progress has been made in repairing headstones, in Center Cemetery, primarily focusing on Sections D, E, and F. These are the sections that need it the most and we are done with the work to be done there.

There is a monument that is at a concerning lean that will have to be dealt with sooner than later. The monument belongs to Lyman Blackmer (pictured below). It was built in 1855, located Section C, lot 36 A-C. It is on a piled rock foundation.

Division II in Grandview is now fully completed, with all stones straightened and numerous needed repairs made. The DPW crew and I dedicated several days of hard work, and the results speak for themselves — it looks fantastic.



4th Sunday Updates:



The 4th Sunday Program met on Sunday, May 25th at 9:00 a.m. at Village Cemetery. We completed the cleaning of all veterans headstones around 11:00am and cleaned a few more and worked until noon.

One down, four to go!

June 22nd we will move on to Center Cemetery. This work session went great.

Cemify Update:

Grandview - Division 2 was sent to Cemify and they uploaded our data. I will now have to go lot by lot and fill in the blanks. And prepare Division 1 for the same..



Historical Society / 250 Celebration Tour:

I added some Laminated Tour Link Maps to Center Cemetery for people to use and leave there. I have them hanging on the Rulebox posts in Section C. I have to come up with a better way to hang them. It is windy in Center.

Here is a Tour Link:

<https://shaftsburyvt.gov/rev-tour.php>

Here is a Tour Map:

<https://shaftsburyvt.gov/2025-tour/Rev-Tour-2025-walking.pdf>

Memorial Garden Update:

There will not be a memorial garden in Center. There is a bench at the parking area – that's it.

Reasons for no Memorial Garden:

- 1) I planned this garden for the 2 people's remains that were abandoned in one of our cemeteries. They deserved a final resting place. The committee approved this. I planned it, designed it, and bought benches for it. At the last minute the Committee – squashed it. Saying and I quote "This is not a place for remains!" Well it is a Cemetery – So, I disagree.

- During the time when there was No Committee...

- 2) DPW placed telephone poles at the end of the new turn around to prevent any vehicles from driving on the lots. Therefore, there was room for one bench to be placed in the middle of the two poles. I placed a bench there. I placed the other bench in front of the cemetery replacing the crumbling bench that was a dedication bench to former Superintendent, Fred Stacy.



Headstone Updates:

The local quote from Sean Devlin was min. \$750. If I did the installation. Sean sends all of his stone work to John Mahar.

I also spoke to Mark Barber from Shea Monuments, he was around \$800. If I did the installation. The stones would be thicker – 6” vs. 3” but they would also cost a lot more.

I will ask the committee to approve this design before I order. Again, the price is currently \$249. Each. Order total requesting to spend, \$498.00 for both stones.

