

Macroburst Still Imposing Tough Challenges

Nearly 30 months after a sudden macroburst uprooted 500 trees and devastated the pastoral setting of Allegheny Cemetery, the work to recover the loss is posing significant challenges to both the financial health and physical condition of the cemetery. "Everyone and every task is working to plan," noted President Tom Roberts, "but while we focus on monument

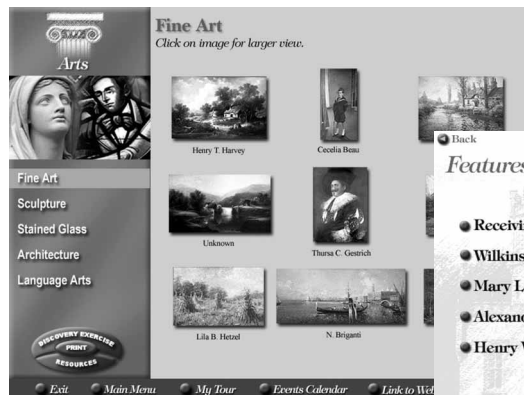


Knocked askew by the 2002 macroburst, the Schoenberger Memorial is realigned.

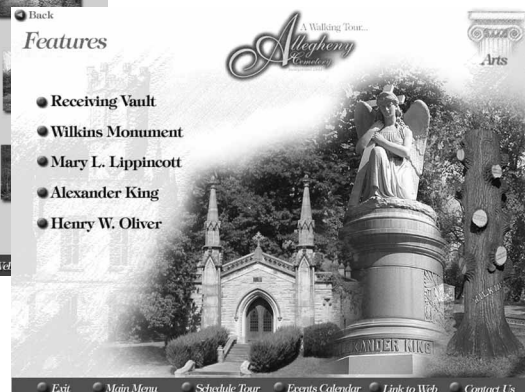
repairs, clearing tree stumps and recovering the flora and lawns, our roads are beginning to show evidence of wear. Because of the

Continued on page 8

Introducing The 300-Acre Classroom



Allegheny will introduce a new CD-Rom for schools, libraries and home use, designed to bring the Cemetery to students of all ages.



For the better part of a century, Allegheny Cemetery has served as so much more than the final destination of 130,000 departed souls; it has been a 300-acre classroom for more than seven generations of school students seeking the natural and historic treasures of our city's long past.

Available soon on CD-Rom is the history, people, art, architecture, wildlife and topography of our world-class pastoral cemetery.

Produced by Digital Pictures, Inc. in association with the Allegheny Cemetery Historical Association, the new CD-Rom is an interactive library of photographs, videos, biographies and interpretive exercises designed to bring the plentiful resources of the cemetery into the classroom.

"This is really something different," said Digital Pictures producer Bob Keller, "What we've created – in addition to digitizing much of the cemetery's invaluable archives – is a self-developing curriculum. It's not a one-focus program designed to relate Pittsburgh's history. It's a multi-level, multi-disciplinary tool for students to uncover what *they* want to know. Some students want to explore the symbolic meaning of an

upside-down torch, others want to know where the ducks go in winter; still other students might want to research famous abolitionists and what their headstones say about them. Our digital tool opens many doors."

The digital project began almost a year ago when Allegheny Cemetery President Tom Roberts had a need to film many of the cemetery's more significant mausoleums. "The cost of hiring a video crew is not insignificant," said Roberts. "At the same time, I knew well the expense of bringing school students on field trips. So I got to thinking about how our investment (for the video production) could play out to benefit the next generation of Pittsburghers."

Indeed, despite extraordinary efforts to restore the cemetery from the ravages of the 2002 macroburst, Roberts has maintained a deliberate schedule of advancing the cemetery into the digital age. The complete register of 130,000 interments at Allegheny Cemetery is now fully databased, and soon families will have the option to memorialize family members with a microchip capable of downloading a full biography and photograph at the grave site (*see story on page 5*).

Continued on page 4

INSIDE

Old Times, Modern	..2
Passages3
Molly's Family Tours	..4
Filling in the Dash	...5
Eben Byers6
Board of Corporators	..8



ALLEGHENY CEMETERY

ALLEGHENY CEMETERY HERITAGE

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The Association is based on a concept set forth by the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation. Established March 17, 1980, the Association is a non-profit educational and charitable organization which can accept foundation and other grants and provides tax-exempt status for gifts and bequests from organizations and individuals.

Through the PH&LF's efforts, the entire Allegheny Cemetery and its buildings were given Landmark status.

Individuals or organizations wishing information on funding or supporting specific restoration projects are invited to contact the Association's Treasurer and President of Allegheny Cemetery, Thomas G. Roberts.

A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania: **1-800-732-0999**.
Registration does not imply endorsement.

Allegheny Cemetery
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www.alleghenycemetery.com

Old Times, Modern



In the 1997 *Heritage*, Tod Hunt Sr. wrote that "A very wise man once said that each individual's death is like the burning of a library."

Tod was a man committed to preserving the past, yet committed to adapting every means modern to securing the integrity, character and significance of the history we celebrate in Allegheny Cemetery. Here was a man who helped protect, preserve and promote Allegheny Cemetery, with undying devotion, through principled introductions of more efficient systems, better communications, and more modern thinking. We will miss Tod greatly and we mourn with deep sincerity the loss of his incredible library of wisdom.

It is by no coincidence then that we inform you of the progress we have made in bringing our archives and resources into the digital age. As you will read, our interment records are all now fully databased. We will soon offer an interactive curriculum, on CD-ROM, for regional school teachers to introduce our abundant architectural, topographical and natural resources into the classroom. And last, but not finally, we will soon offer the means for families to memorialize their deceased with microchips. These clever medallions relate the biography and character of their loved ones. This is truly state-of-the-art technology, and Allegheny Cemetery will be one of the first in the country to offer it.

Of course, technology comes with a price. And while we work feverishly by hand to restore our pastoral setting, we must not overlook the plentiful and proactive opportunities to preserve the cemetery for generations to come.

Yet, good preservation requires substantial maintenance and – paramount to our current situation two years after the macroburst – extensive restoration. We need your support to do so much.

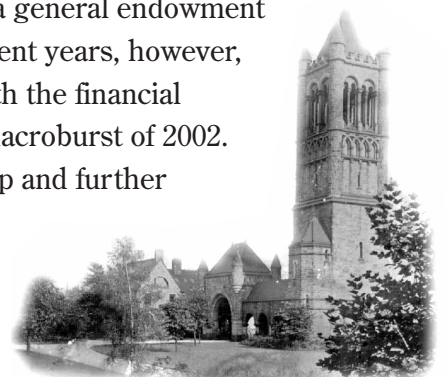
I invite you to consider a gift to the Allegheny Cemetery Historical Association, a very real and significant way in which you can honor your family, your friends and the community we love so dearly.

James C. McGough, *Chairman*

Careful Endowments

Since 1844, Allegheny Cemetery has offered programs to sustain in perpetuity endowments to care, protect and preserve a family's grave site, memorial or mausoleum. Because many ask, an endowment is a fund, large or small, created by a lot owner or family member, which is invested to produce sufficient income to carry out the owner's long term wishes. The principal of the investment is never used. Many families who have created endowments at Allegheny welcome the annual satisfaction of knowing their lot is tended with care, planted with healthy perennials or protected and maintained from the excessive ravages of time.

Likewise, the Board of Corporators manages a general endowment to maintain the natural beauty of Allegheny. In recent years, however, the interest derived from this fund has not met with the financial demands of a 300-acre cemetery ravaged by the macroburst of 2002. Your contribution to ACHA will help bridge the gap and further enhance the level of general care. To learn more about endowments or planned giving, please call Molly O'Connell, our Director of Development, at (412) 325-1300.



PASSAGES



Torrence M. Hunt Sr.
1921–2004

The Board of Trustees and Corporators of Allegheny Cemetery mark with great sorrow the death of Tod Hunt Sr. on February 8, 2004. For 42 years, Mr. Hunt served as a dedicated Trustee, Corporator and Vice President. In 1980, he became the first President of the Allegheny Cemetery Historical Association, having created the organization in cooperation with Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation. With tireless dedication, he led efforts to earn Historic Landmark status for both the Butler Street Gatehouse and Penn Avenue Entrance, forever protecting the integrity and character of Allegheny's architectural significance. As President of ACHA for more than fifteen years, he led the strategic planning and development efforts for each of two successive master plans, the first commencing in 1980 and a second in 1997. In his memory, the Board of Trustees, Corporators and Staff of Allegheny Cemetery contributed to the *Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation* and ACHA.

Robert Dickey III
1919–2004

Former Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Dravo Corporation, Bob Dickey's death in August was recorded as a great loss to the Corporators of Allegheny Cemetery on whose board he served enthusiastically for more than 34 years. Among his many contributions to the Board, Mr. Dickey was a staunch advocate for outreach. In addition to his



leadership at Dravo, Mr. Dickey will be remembered for serving as the founding chairman of the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust.

130,000 Interments Databased; Current

Since 1980, when computers first hummed in the offices at Butler Street, the Cemetery staff has sorted through each of dozens of ledger books to create a modern database of each body and soul interred in Allegheny Cemetery. In the past year, however, the staff has worked overtime to log the last 27,000 burials to complete this daunting task. Burial records are sorted by name, year of death or lot owner. The effort represents the first

major objective in realizing a fully accessible Internet resource. In the meantime, as always, the staff is eager to assist genealogists, researchers and family descendants in identifying all who rest here.

The PA 23rd Volunteers for Duty

On September 25, the 23rd Pennsylvania Volunteers Re-enacting Group dedicated a new headstone for Civil War veteran John Moffitt. The ceremony was a solemn one, typical of many honoring a fallen soldier who had fought hard for the unification of his war torn country. What made the event something out of the ordinary was the presence of 16 Civil War re-enactors, men dressed in authentic Union garb who represent the very same regiment whose bodies laid at their feet. The service was organized by Frank Marrone, an author and historian. Also in attendance were 22 members of Moffitt's family from New Hampshire, Connecticut and Missouri.



Captain Frank Marrone leads the 23rd PA Volunteer Reenactors in a tribute to John Moffitt for whom a new headstone was dedicated.

Five New Celebrity Profiles

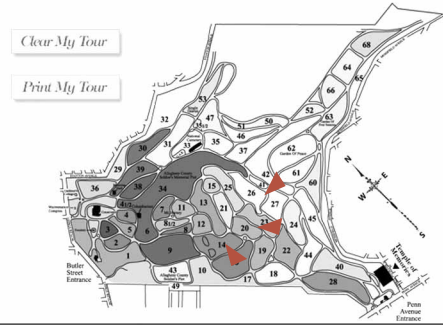
Allegheny boasts many celebrities who are interred in its hallowed grounds. To celebrate their gifts, talents and legends, ACHA has launched the first five of a new series of tour brochures. Come visit the cemetery and learn about Stanley Turrentine's prolific career, his early association



with Ray Charles, or the musical ceremony at his burial. Tour the final resting place of Harry Thaw and read about his scandalous love for one of Broadway's most beautiful girls as well as his hatred for one of America's greatest architects. The stories are well told with great images of Pittsburgh's most famous – and infamous – legends. Stop by the Administrative Offices at Butler Street for a free guide.

300-Acre Classroom (cont.)

The CD-Rom, which is titled *A Walking Tour of Allegheny Cemetery*, will also serve as an exceptionally helpful tool for visitors to Allegheny Cemetery. One feature of each



screen page is a clickable “button” which will automatically record the viewers’ interest in a printable touring map of the cemetery. Explained Roberts, “If I’m interested in seeing, say, each or several of the cemetery’s incredible sculptural angels, I can click on the tour button at the top of the screen and a virtual map will identify where each angel is located. I can then print out the map and walk from one angel to the next. This is an exceptional feature.” In fact, the cemetery plans on installing a kiosk in the administrative offices at Butler Street for visitors to access the CD-Rom and print out their own customized tour.

The CD-Rom will also serve as an invaluable tool for genealogists researching their family’s history. There are resources on the disk that help record individual members’ names four

generations deep, as well as other more advanced resources to help genealogists identify cultural histories or genealogical databases locally, nationally and internationally.

Also new, and unlike any other tour guides which most large cemeteries provide to visitors, is a comprehensive interpretation of the wildlife and natural topography of Allegheny Cemetery. “We fully recognize that many people come here just to enjoy the green space.

They’re here to smell the flowers in Spring or sit by the lakes in Fall. This is what a pastoral cemetery is all about – particularly one located within a large city,” noted Roberts. “There is a relationship between the topography here and the sometimes ornate, sometimes simple architecture built upon it that is clearly unique to a cemetery. Students want to understand this relationship.”

Keller, in describing the scope of the curriculum which teachers can bring into their classroom, added, “We wrote the CD-Rom to meet the typical interests of students in Grades Six to Eight, but that’s not to say it couldn’t be used by a CMU architecture student or that a Kindergarten class wouldn’t benefit from knowing what kinds of leaves fall here in Autumn.”

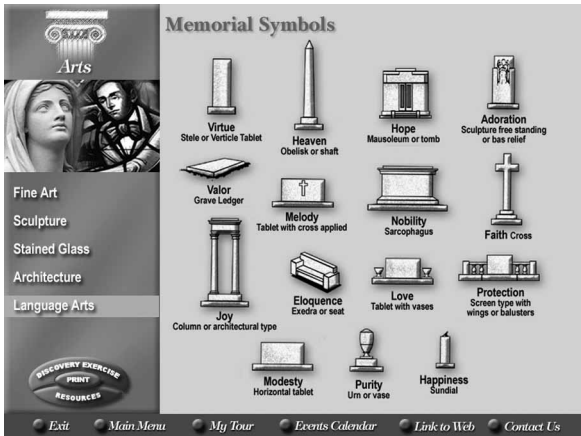
In fact, each of the CD-Rom’s four academic disciplines – Art, History, People and Nature – offers a clickable button called “Discovery Exercises.” The exercises suggest classroom projects for students to pursue, questions to discuss and common interdisciplinary relationships.

“Of course the CD doesn’t stand alone,” commented Keller, “Like

most digital tools in the classroom, ours offers hundreds of links to web sites and internet resources which allow the teacher or student to ‘drill down’ to greater

understanding of the subject.” Roberts added, “The lessons and digital archives are a great enhancement to what Allegheny offers on our web site, too.” In fact, the CD-Rom will connect by active web-browser to www.alleghenycemetery.com.

The CD-Rom will be available for distribution to schools, libraries and other cultural organizations before the end of the year. Individuals may contact Allegheny Cemetery at (412) 682-1624 for more information.



A Walking Tour of Allegheny Cemetery offers hundreds of academic resources and lessons, including, as above, the symbolism of various shaped memorial structures.

“Family Tours with Molly”

A familiar face to many who have helped support United Way or the Pittsburgh Zoo over the years, Molly O’Connell has joined the staff of the Allegheny Cemetery Historical Association to promote new and creative giving opportunities.

Born in Toledo, O’Connell is thrilled to be back in her husband’s native city after a brief sabbatical to her home state. “Mind you, I’ve got nothing against Cleveland, but, boy, is it great to be back,” she said recently. “My family is here. And I mean that in a much bigger sense than immediate relatives. All the people I’ve known through my twenty years in Development are part of my Pittsburgh family. And now I’m so happy to be part of Allegheny Cemetery’s family.”

In fact, preparing for her new role at Allegheny, O’Connell met many new industry associates. “Talking to people at other cemeteries, I’ve learned that very few get paid the attention we do here. Allegheny is recognized by so many as so much more than the family resting spot. Of course, we are an incredible historical resource, but Pittsburghers actually come here to enjoy the serenity, green space and incredible architecture. And more people are coming every month.”

That may be a result of O’Connell’s open invitation to tour the cemetery. She along with our tour guide extraordinaire Roger Galbraith offer free monthly tours. O’Connell welcomes anyone to call her at (412) 325-1300 to schedule a tour or just stop by for a visit.



Molly O’Connell invites your family to tour Allegheny Cemetery.

Filling in "The Dash" – *Digitally*

When ex-Marine and retired County Judge Glenn Toothman, Jr. returned home one Sunday afternoon, having come from visiting his family's grave site in nearby West Virginia, he was depressed. Noticeably so.

Evident that something was troubling the elder judge, his son, Glenn III, asked what was bothering him. The father replied, "I hate to think it all comes down to nothing more than just a dash on a headstone." His son was curious and asked what he meant. "My family may not have been world class people," the Judge replied, "but they deserve to be remembered with something more than a dash between the date they were born and the date they died."

Glenn Toothman III, then the District Attorney for Greene County, had an idea to solve the problem of the "dash." Always a capable fix-it guy – he confesses he was able to repair his mother's sewing machines at a very young age – he was sufficiently versed in the capability of digital communications to address most any challenge. And within several days, Glenn III created full working plans for the Memory Medallion.

About the size and shape of a large nickel cadmium camera battery, the Memory Medallion is a weather resistant, stainless steel encased silicon chip that can store multiple pages of text or digital images without the need for electrical current to preserve the information.

The Memory Medallion can be attached to any monument, headstone, public statue or memorial.

When a touch wand, connected by USB to most any PDA, laptop or handheld computer, is placed in contact with the Medallion, a full

screen of text and images will download automatically to tell the life story of the person, family or event memorialized.

Hyperlinks can also be incorporated into the Medallion to connect users to any designated web-based material in support of the story.

Now incorporated after several years of capital investment and market research, Memory Medallions, Inc. has approached Allegheny Cemetery to install a digital tour of the most popular grave sites and mausoleums. Over the next several months, researchers and archivists will assemble and design the biographies of many of the most famous "characters" interred in Allegheny and "burn" these stories and images onto Memory Medallions. Through the generosity of the company, ACHA will provide handheld computers to visitors wishing to tour these magnificent sites.

Allegheny will soon become one of the first cemetery's in the country to offer digital memorials.

In September of this year, 76 Medallions were placed on the headstones of firefighters who died rescuing victims of 9/11. The Medallions are in service at the cemetery of St. Michael's Episcopal Church in Queens, NY.

Noted Toothman, "I saw four and five year old kids, without a father or mother, wondering why their parent died in such a hopeless situation. These kids need to know that these firefighters were living their dreams – this was their calling. These kids need to have dreams, too. And they need to learn that firsthand from the person they love most."

The option to memorialize your family members digitally will soon be available at Allegheny Cemetery. To learn more about Memory Medallions, call the Cemetery at (412) 682-1624 or visit the company's web site at www.memorymedallions.com.



Eben M. Byers: The Effect of Gamma Rays on Amateur Golf, Modern Medicine and the FDA

by C. Prentiss Orr, Editor

One of the more colorful stories of the many celebrities, athletes and prominent industrialists interred at Allegheny Cemetery is that of Eben M. Byers. A one-time U.S. Amateur Golf Champion and son of Alexander



Byers whose steel manufactory produced much of the black pipe still warming many Pittsburgh homes, Eben's death in 1932 launched one of the country's largest investigations into medical quackery, promoted the responsibilities of the Federal Trade Commission and forever established the sure promise of nuclear medicine.

The story goes that, a graduate of St. Paul's School and Yale University, Eben Byers was known by his friends to be something of a "ladies man." In 1906, at the age of 27, he competed against George Lyon in the U.S. Mens Amateur and won by two strokes. Engaged in his father's business, he rose to the position of Chairman of the Girard Iron Works, of Girard, Ohio, to which he was returning by chartered train from the annual Yale Harvard game when a sudden lurch caused him to

fall from his berth and injure his arm. Byers complained of persistent pain and a Pittsburgh doctor, by the name of C.C. Moyer, suggested that he take Radithor, a patent medicine new to the market. Manufactured by William J. A. Bailey, a Harvard College dropout who falsely claimed to be a doctor of medicine, the new tonic, advertised as "Pure Sunshine in a Bottle," was made by dissolving radium in water to high concentrations, and which Bailey held could cure many ailments by stimulating the endocrine glands. He offered physicians a 17% rebate on the prescription of each dose of Radithor.

Byers was known to have consumed enormous doses of Radithor, as

much as three bottles a day, which in addition to restoring the mobility of his arm and shoulder, offered the added benefit of libidinous power. This, of course, is conjecture, but even the briefest of biographies always notes his "way with the women." By posthumous assessment, Byers likely subjected



Like many products available to the ill or infirm, the Cosmos Radioactive Pad (ca. 1928) was a quilted sack containing low-grade uranium ore.

Despite the intergalactic brand, the inventor's real name was Henry Cosmos.

himself to more than three times the lethal radiation dose.

When he stopped taking the remedy in 1930, he had accumulated significant amounts of radium in his bones, leading to fractures, lesions, and eventually the loss of most of his jaw, owing to the appearance of holes in his skull. He died in 1932.

Whether due to his industrial prominence or the horrific condition of his body, Byers' death received a lot of publicity. Were he a patient of lesser social status, the effects of Radithor may have been overlooked. Fortunately for many, Byers death incited immediate action to remedy the availability of Radium to the commercial trade.

Knowing what we do today about the effects of radiation, why would anyone in the early half of the 20th Century have thought to drink radioactive water?

The answer is quite simple: Hot Spring, Arkansas. In 1903, owing to ever-increasing transcontinental transportation, these popular "health

Eben M. Byers, the 1906 U.S. Men's Amateur, was the heir to A.M. Byers, a prominent manufacturer of pig iron and wrought iron pipe. Their rolling mills were located in Pittsburgh and Girard, Ohio. In 1925, the company acquired the Orient Coal & Coke Company and later merged into General Tire and Rubber Company in 1970.

springs” became the first nationally protected land, predating the National Park System. About the same time, the discoverer of the electron, J.J. Thompson, wrote a letter to the journal *Nature* in which he described another remarkable discovery of his, the presence of radioactivity in well water. Quickly, health-conscious Americans lauded the certainty that the curative properties of the Arkansas’ health springs were purely owed to radioactivity. Stated Surgeon General Dr. George H. Torney, in 1910, "Relief may be reasonably expected at the Hot Springs in . . . various forms of gout and rheumatism, neuralgia; metallic or malarial poisoning, chronic Brights disease, gastric dyspepsia, chronic diarrhea, chronic skin lesions, etc."

Further details were provided by Dr. C.G. Davis, who noted in the *American Journal of Clinical Medicine* that "Radioactivity prevents insanity, rouses noble emotions, retards old age, and creates a splendid youthful joyous life." Other noted professors exclaimed that radioactivity carried "electrical energy into the depths of the body and there subject[ed] the juices, protoplasm, and nuclei of the cells to an immediate bombardment by explosions of electrical atoms... causing the system to throw off waste products." In fact, before Marie Curie could captivate the world with her more scientific assessments, radioactivity was believed to be so important to water that, without it, water was dead. "Radium was to water what oxygen was to air."

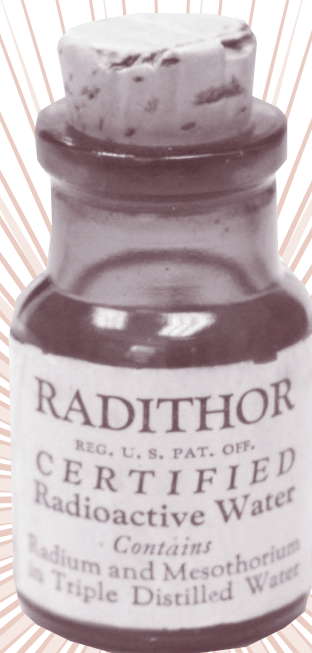
Radithor might have been produced in East Orange, New Jersey, but Pittsburgh must take some responsibility for its availability to the public domain. It was here that in 1921, Marie Curie, in fact, visited the Standard Chemical Corporation in Oakland which was one of only two facilities in the U.S. which had helped to establish empirical standards for the quality of Radium. By the way, to make a gram of Radium required up to 500 tons of milling ore, 500 tons of chemicals, 10,000 tons of purified and distilled water, and 100 tons of coal.

By 1921, Radium had increased in value to about \$125,000 per gram, and, as it was difficult to measure,

owing to its extraction from small trace elements, there was a serious problem with fraudulent suppliers. Thus, one of the chief responsibilities of the Bureau of Standards in Washington, D.C., in regulating the commercial use of Radium, was to assay purported radium preparations to assure buyers that samples contained "the stated amounts – and nothing less."

Bailey Radium Laboratories of East Orange, New Jersey, offered \$1,000 to anyone who could prove the product contained *less* than the stated amount. Apparently, no one ever did.

A Los Angeles company, Zimmer Laboratories, manufactured the Zimmer Radium Emanator, a bell shaped device which, when submerged in a gallon bucket of water,



created "radio-active" water for "safe consumption." In 1928, the Danville Virginia Bee published an article promoting the Emanator. "Declaring that radium will add fifteen years to anybody's life,' Capt. H.R. Zimmer, Los Angeles inventor, declared that 'Radio-active' water makes old men feel young – peps em up,' said Zimmer. 'It tones up the system, reduces high blood pressure, and softens harding [sic] arteries.'"

For whatever reason, Los Angeles was the main breeding ground for companies producing radium-containing cure-alls. In fact, the large number of such companies in its jurisdiction prompted the Los Angeles County Health Department



In 1921, refusing to patent her clinical findings, Madame Curie visited Pittsburgh en route to Washington D.C. to receive a gift of one gram of Radium, then valued at more than \$125,000.

to first investigate the matter when the shock wave from Eben Byers' death reached the west coast.

Coincidentally – or perhaps, serendipitously – a graduate candidate of CalTech had advanced a recent study to understand the means by which radium might be leached from human bones. His name was Evan Robley and, while not a household name today, his early investigations into the radioactive death of Eben Byers led him to understand the safe tolerance levels of radium exposure. Robley set the standard for radium dial painters, aided the U.S. military in WWII deployment of atomic energy and became one of the founding fathers of nuclear medicine.

William Bailey was never tried for Byers's death, but his business was shut down by the Federal Trade Commission. Their findings empowered the Federal Food & Drug Administration (once primarily an agricultural regulatory commission) greater authority to investigate quackery and claims of cure-all health benefits in all matters of marketing. Henceforth, the FDA assumed sweeping powers to regulate the drug industry and pharmacological practices.

Eben Byers is interred in a lead-lined coffin in the Byer Mausoleum, Section 13, Lot 67. Several years ago his body was exhumed temporarily by the Federal government for radioactive testing.

ALLEGHENY CEMETERY



A PUBLICATION OF THE
ALLEGHENY CEMETERY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

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Macroburst Challenge

extraordinary hours our staff has committed these two difficult years, we have not been able to attend to normal maintenance of the roads.”

On May 31, 2002, winds clocked at 105 miles per hour violently ripped through the cemetery’s 300 acres, creating the single biggest catastrophe ever recorded in Allegheny Cemetery’s 160 year history. While work began immediately on June 1 to clear tons of fallen trees, limbs and vegetation, the necessary everyday workload to cut the grass, remove leaves, prepare for burials, and maintain facilities has increased by more than 30% of the hours budgeted for normal operations.

Of the approximately 500 trees that fell, 70 excavated stumps remain and must still be removed while another 200 stumps must be ground-out in place. Still, more than 1,000

monuments require some level of restoration. Noted Roberts, “Although monuments are technically the responsibility of the family, we have more than a passing obligation to help.”



Allegheny Cemetery’s groundskeepers work overtime to restore a toppled obelisk in the Rippey family lot.

Road repairs alone are estimated to exceed \$400,000, a not-too-surprising figure considering the Cemetery includes 15 miles of paved surface.

As of the last account, clean-up costs have far exceeded \$700,000. “But that’s just the tip of the iceberg,” added Roberts. “We must attend to the roads much sooner than later. We must remove the remaining tree stumps and then landscape the ground. We will then restore our beloved 1937 Soldier’s Memorial – a duty we owe to our country and to our community, but which is yet wholly unfunded. And then, and only then, work quickly to rebuild, replant and reforest what we have lost.”

If all repairs and restorations adhere to plans, the Cemetery staff may be able to return to “normal” operations in about two years. “That’s if we continue to succeed in garnering the support of our many concerned benefactors,” commented Roberts. “As loyal as we are to those who rest here, we are indebted to those who so generously have come to our rescue.”

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