



2020
Spring Newsletter

CMS Spring Bi-Annual Meeting

Sunday, May 3, 2020

1 - 3 pm

East Shore Unitarian Universalist Church
10848 Chillicothe Rd., Willoughby, OH 44094

Potluck Nosh!

*Information, Questions, Answers, Discussions,
Friends and Neighbors!*

The Memorial Society is continuing its efforts to bring more knowledge to the hands of its members and their interested guests. We're introducing our new model of two meetings per year: one in the Fall with a featured speaker, the other in the Spring with an assortment of professionals with whom to speak, discuss issues and ideas, and ply with questions. We plan to present representatives from the funeral industry, medical field, hospice/palliative care, and a death doula in a panel discussion Q & A format.

To sweeten the pot and lighten the mood, this is a potluck of tasty treats from each of you! Use your imagination to create a dish to share (bring copies of the recipe if you're particularly proud!) or simply let the local market create for you. Finger sandwiches, baked goods, fresh fruit or crudités, whatever you'd like to contribute. Beverages will be provided.

CMS Fall Bi-Annual Meeting

Please watch for information about the Fall meeting on our website and in the late-summer newsletter. As usual, we will have a member meeting with CMS updates, a keynote speaker, and light refreshments.

www.clevememorialsociety.org

NEW CREMATION AND BURIAL PRICES FOR OUR MEMBERS

We are in the final stages of new contracts with our Funeral Directors, increasing our Memorial Society prices to \$795 for Direct Cremation and \$975 for Immediate Burial, effective March 1, 2020. These prices are a modest increase from the prices that have been in effect for over six years. The new contract is binding for a minimum of two years.

Should Safety Take Priority Over Independence for Older Adults? Who gets to decide? Here are 5 tips to help work out disagreements

Adapted from an article by Debbie Reslock, www.nextavenue.org

Do you lie awake at night in a cold sweat, worried about your dad living alone? What if he falls and can't get to a phone to call for help? Yet - he maintains he's fine.

When the goals of safety and longevity clash with those of autonomy and independence, you'll find the basis of most conflicts between older adults and their children. It's easy to appreciate both viewpoints. But disputes like these can fracture families. Despite the road being lined with good intentions, often older adults are treated as incapable and their children feel the weight of responsibility for their parents who seem to refuse to listen.

If there aren't signs of cognitive issues, or indications of a lack of capacity, and there haven't been any red flags, the older person has the right to make their own decisions — even if they make others uncomfortable.

Why do we see the world from such different perspectives? Ageism, the stereotyping of a group of people based solely on their age, plays a big role. It's the preconceived view of what it means to be old that often leads to the assumption an older parent is at risk for being taken advantage of or should no longer live alone. "We don't value aging," says Penny Cook, president/CEO of Pioneer Network, an organization supporting changing attitudes toward aging and elders. "Our negative perception helps marginalize older adults. They become 'less than' because that helps us cope and then we take on the parental model."

This situation is admittedly complicated for grown kids. Cook says one of the hardest things to feel is helpless. But fear and anxiety may unknowingly force parents into keeping secrets because of what a conversation may trigger. And at other times, children don't understand what's really happening. They may feel a neighbor is taking advantage of their mom for free child care, but what they don't comprehend is that she's really enjoying feeling useful again and enjoying the company of small children.

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5 Suggestions for Bridging the Gap:

1. Go online and explore the Pioneer Network at www.pioneernetwork.net. It states a number of principles to shift assumptions about aging that include being entitled to self-determination and recognizing that risk-taking is a normal part of life.
2. Talk to each other.
3. Address what's happening. Be honest and share your concerns.
4. Ask how you can help your parent keep his or her quality of life. Listen from the heart. And if there's a crisis, try not to make decisions then.
5. Be prepared for a bumpy road. Logical arguments often fail to convince people with whom we have emotional relationships, since we're not always rational about issues that stir up certain emotions like our identity, self-worth and autonomy.



For the first time ever, CMS is a
Community Partner
with the

Cleveland International Film Festival.

The Festival runs from March 25 to April 5.

CMS will be sponsoring an Irish comedy-drama called *The Last Right*. When the airplane passenger next to Daniel Murphy dies suddenly, Daniel is left in charge of a corpse he never knew. His good intentions are motivated by trying to patch up a relationship with his own brother. During the challenge of getting a coffin from West Cork to Rathlin Island, both romance and family secrets emerge.

The Last Right will be screened at Tower City Cinemas. The showings are Thursday, March 26, 2020 at 11:50 AM, Saturday, March 28, 2020 at 6:00 PM, and Sunday, March 29, 2020 at 11:05 AM.

As a Memorial Society member, you can get a discount by using the code REMEMBER when you purchase your tickets. Tickets go on sale beginning Friday, March 13 and can be purchased at <https://www.clevelandfilm.org/tickets>



New website



Our web site crashed in January. We were able to get it back up in a few days, but many pages were formatted incorrectly. We decided to use this "opportunity" to build a new website, which went up on February 2. As of this writing there are still some little things here and there we are working on, but if you get a chance, check out our new site!

It's the same web address: clevememorialsociety.org.

.....*Since you mentioned our new website.....*

Price survey

One of the features of our website is the price comparison survey. We have not actively gathered price data in over a year, so some of the data is getting stale. If you'd like to help collect price lists (this can often be done by email or a phone call), please let me know and I can send you a few funeral homes to contact. don.stimpert@gmail.com.

....*Speaking of Social Media.....*

Remember, we have a new and improved means to help you stay informed! Visit our Facebook page, click "LIKE", and offer your own comments and insights or peruse ours! Simply put *Cleveland Memorial Society* into the Facebook search box and watch the magic unfold!

Don't forget our own independent website:
clevememorialsociety.org



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Bernice Jefferis
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Thomas Jones
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Carole Kass
Marianne Kay
Doreen Kelleher
Frederick & Patricia Kelly
Stuart & Anne Klein
Grant & Ellen Kloppman
Judith Koltas
Regina Komar
J. Rogers & Joan K. Kossler
Barbara Kotsan
Sue Krivok
Dolores Lang
Brian Larson & L. Albright
James Larue
Kenneth J. Laskey
Kenneth E. Lentz
Stephen & Lillian Levine
Edward L. Long Jr.
Donald W. Loranger
Allen Luikart
James W. Mais
Flo T. Marcinko
Glenn D. Marek
Thomas C. Marsh
Marianne Martin
Mona Mathewson
Cecile & Elizabeth Maynard
Mildred McCarty
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Lois Mitchell
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Paul Moore
Princess F. K. Muhammad
Rachel Nelson
Evelyn Newell
Rose Norman
Elizabeth Orr
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In memory of
Carol G. Petersen:
Pam Boytim
Denise Manly
Lisa Seckler
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Flora Sorna
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Ronald Soukup
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Susan R. Stevens

Mary E. Stone
Kathleen Strain
Hedy M. Szekely
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Phillip Ungerer
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Don Van Dyke
Martha Van Horn
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Howard & Mary Vormelker
Grace P. Wagner
Randall E. Wagner
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Robert & Rita Wetherbee
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Cleveland Memorial Society
21600 Shaker Boulevard
Cleveland, OH 44122

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www.clevememorialsociety.org

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15809 Madison Road
Middlefield, OH 44062
(440) 632-0818

**Busch-Boswell-Jones-Deck
Mortuary**
4334 Pearl Road
Cleveland, OH 44109
216-459-2660

Corrigan Funeral Services
27099 Miles Road
Orange Village, OH 44022
440-349-1900

**Cummings & Davis Funeral
Home**
13201 Euclid Avenue
East Cleveland, OH 44112
216-541-1111

Dicken Funeral Home
323 Middle Avenue
Elyria, OH 44035
440-322-3224

Fioritto Funeral Home
5236 Mayfield Road
Lyndhurst, OH 44124
440-442-5900

**Maher-Melbourne Funeral
Home**
5236 Mayfield Road
Lyndhurst, OH 44124
216-382-4500

Malloy Memorial Service
1575 W. 117th Street
Cleveland, OH 44107
216-221-3380

Shapiro Funeral Services
27099 Miles Road
Orange Village, OH
44022-2130
440-498-1993

**Thompson, Smith,
Nesbitt Funeral Home**
345 Main Street
Conneaut, OH 44030
440-599-8106

**Vitantonio & Son Funeral
Home**
6330 Center Street
Mentor, OH 44060
440-255-1655