



Majority Caucus, Louisville Metro Council, June 12, 2009

For More Information Contact:
Tony Hyatt: 574-4137 / 526-3622

For Immediate Release:

Council members join local Vietnam Veterans to clean up Eastern Cemetery

Groups to meet at Historic grounds on Saturday June 27th

Louisville – Throughout its 168 year history, the Eastern Cemetery has been the final resting place for those who served their country from the Civil War to World War II and those who lived and worked in Louisville and Jefferson County.

On Saturday, June 27th, the Eastern Cemetery will again be a gathering place for those who will pay honor to men and women who have long since left family and friends. This time, Vietnam Veterans and local volunteers will clear trash, repair headstones, trim grass in an effort to restore the sacred grounds to a place of honor for those who are there.

“We owe a great deal of thanks to the people who continued to remind us of the condition of Eastern Cemetery,” says Councilman Tom Owen (D-8). “Now it is time for action and to do what is right in turning neglect into respect.”

Owen, Metro Council President David Tandy (D-4) and Councilwoman Tina Ward-Pugh (D-9) are sponsors of the Cleanup which will get underway on Saturday, June 27th. They are putting out the call for volunteers. Volunteers will meet at Cemetery located at Baxter Avenue and Payne Street at 9:00 am and then break into various groups.

“Eastern Cemetery is almost the point where our three districts come together,” says Ward-Pugh. “When you consider the historic and unique nature of this area, it is only fitting that we respond to the needs of this Cemetery and honor their memory.”

Joining the Council members in the effort are Dismas Charities, Highland Commerce Guild, Vietnam Veterans # 454 Louisville and Operation Brightside.

“A special note of thanks should be given to the Vietnam Veterans who have made this a priority,” says Tandy. “Those veterans have done what they could to help restore and honor this place. Now it is our turn as a community to help them out.”

During the cleanup, Keith Monument Company will also be on hand repairing a vandalized statue on one of tombstones. The work will be done free of charge.

All volunteers will be treated to lunch and a t-shirt after the cleanup which should conclude around 12:00pm.

For more information about the Eastern Cemetery Cleanup, contact Councilmember offices, David Tandy at 574-1104, Tom Owen at 574-1108 and Tina Ward-Pugh at 574-1109.