



The New Mexico Department of Veterans Services

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NEWS RELEASE

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Volunteers Needed for Cleanup of the Albuquerque Historic Fairview Cemetery

Saturday, May 7 (9am-noon)

Historic Fairview Cemetery (700 Yale Blvd. SE/north of Cesar Chavez Blvd.)

(ALBUQUERQUE)— The New Mexico Department of Veterans Services (DVS) and the Albuquerque Historic Fairview Cemetery are looking for volunteers to help with another monthly clean up the cemetery grounds tomorrow (Saturday, May 7) from 9am-noon.

The cemetery is located at 700 Yale Boulevard SE. Volunteers are encouraged to bring shovels/rakes/hoes, weed whackers, wheelbarrows, water, a hat, sturdy work gloves, sunglasses or goggles/protective eyewear, and sunscreen. Pickup trucks or towed utility trailers would also be appreciated to help spread mulch and haul gathered debris to an on-site dumpster.

Volunteers are asked to park outside the cemetery in order to keep the roadways clear for front-loader tractors brought by DVS, and solid waste trucks supplied by the city of Albuquerque.

DVS has joined a multi-agency effort to restore the historic 17.5 acre historical cemetery, which is maintained by a volunteer nonprofit organization. Nearly 500

veterans—some who served in the Civil War and Spanish-American War--are buried in gravesites that, along with the rest of cemetery's 12,000 plots, have eroded to the point of needing major repairs.

The cemetery, which closed a decade ago for burials, traces its roots to 1881, as an informal unsupervised burial ground for many in the growing Albuquerque area. In 1934, a new burial ground was built adjacent to the south side of the existing cemetery. This new area is known today as Fairview Memorial Park, an independently operated public cemetery serving families throughout the Albuquerque metro area.

For more information, contact Gail Rubin at (505) 363-7514

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The New Mexico Department of Veterans Services

The New Mexico Department of Veterans Services (DVS) provides support and services to New Mexico's veterans and their families. DVS treats every veteran, regardless of their rank achieved during military service, with the respect and gratitude befitting someone who has honorably served our country. We strive every day to live up to our agency's official motto: *Serving Those Who Served.*