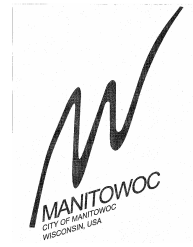


1 May 28, 2007

3 MINUTES WITH The Mayor



## “Columbarium”

On this Memorial Day, also known as Decoration Day in its initial iteration, we pause and reflect on the lives of those who have paid the ultimate price for our freedom. All sorts of people from all walks of life have died and are now heroes, some better known than others, but all the same in regard to courage, dedication and altruism.

Memorial Day gives us all a chance, too, to remember others who have died. Family members, close and not so close, friends, acquaintances, professional relationships...all the bonds we form are ultimately, if only temporarily, severed by death. This certainly makes a person wonder why some seem to revel in a life that is only “half empty” as opposed to “half full”.

Thank you, veterans, for your struggles and triumphs, and some for your lives. You are appreciated today and every day.

If you visited Evergreen Cemetery this weekend, you may have noted some new structure and signage regarding them in place.

These new structure are “columbarium” and they are designed to house the “cremains” of the deceased. With more and more individuals choosing cremation as part of their final disposition, our city’s Cemetery Commission studied the concept of above ground interment, and recommended the installation of columbarium.

The Commission also recommended that a section of Evergreen Cemetery be set aside for individuals who want to be interred in a columbarium along, not only with other members of their family, with the cremains of their pet(s). This service has proven popular in other communities and we’re sure it will be here, as well.

On a closing note, this week brings us “Thunder on the Lakeshore”, our amazing Airshow. Wednesday kicks off the show with “Thunder in the Alley”, an Airshow celebration with music, food and refreshments at the Rahr-West Art Museum.

Thursday, you can meet the pilots for free at the airport and hear the Manitowoc Marine Band’s first summer concert while you’re at it.

After we thank the financial sponsors on Friday, we get the Airshow itself on both Saturday and Sunday.

Don’t forget the spectacular Balloon Glow Saturday evening on the waterfront east of the 8<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge.

*Manitowoc Mayor Kevin Crawford may be reached at 920-686-6980.*