



New retaining wall one of many improvements to Harlan Cemetery

HARLAN - An expansive and sturdy new block retaining wall system is going in along the northern edge of the Harlan Cemetery. In 2013 new gates were installed at each entrance and fencing continues to be expanded along 12th Street and Cyclone Avenue -- just a few of the many improvements over the past several years at the Harlan Cemetery.

Also this year the Harlan Cemetery Association purchased a cemetery database management software from Des Moines-based NewCom Technologies. The new system, once completed and records updated, will feature a web-based cemetery burial lot locator to allow visitors to use their smart phone, tablet or iPad to find their loved ones in the cemetery online.

In 2011 over 600' of new concrete replaced torn up asphalt.

In 2011 and 2013, donations to the Cemetery Foundation by former Harlanites Dick and Barb Nelson helped pay for gates at each of the three Cemetery entrances. The two final gates were completed the summer of 2013 by Jim Keane, Panama Welding.

While fencing by Klein Fence Co., Earling, along 12th Street was completed last year, new fencing can be seen above along portions of Cyclone Avenue. The eventual goal is have the cemetery protected by fencing all along Cyclone Avenue.

The Harlan Cemetery Assoc. (est. 1872) is run by a volunteer five-member board, and it is not owned by the City of Harlan. Donations to the tax-deductible Harlan Cemetery Foundation can be made by sending them to P O Box 543, Harlan IA 51537.