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June

2025

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June 5 is World Environment Day—a day meant to raise environmental awareness across the globe.

June 14 is Flag Day (U.S.). Be sure to raise the flag!

June 15 is Father's Day this year. Find activity ideas and learn about the history of Father's Day.

June 19 is Juneteenth (also known as Freedom Day or Emancipation Day). On this day in 1865, Union General Gordon Granger read the Emancipation Proclamation aloud in Galveston, Texas, effectively liberating enslaved people in the state, which had thus far been beyond control of the Union Army.

June 20 is the summer solstice, which heralds the start of summer in the Northern Hemisphere. It's the day with the most hours of daylight. In the Southern Hemisphere, winter begins at this time.

June 24 brings Midsummer Day, also St. John the Baptist's Feast Day. Traditionally, this was the midpoint of the growing season, halfway between planting and harvesting.

June 28 is the anniversary of the 1969 Stonewall Riots—a watershed moment for LGBT rights in the United States.

The Full Strawberry Moon

June's full Moon, the full Strawberry Moon, occurs on Wednesday, June 11. It reaches peak illumination at 11:41 P.M. (EDT) that evening.



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From The Board Room

LEGACY AND FIRST GENERATION

(We need to work together to survive
a business of death)

They say the expert in anything was once a beginner. When I was in Mortuary School there was a high percentage of students that were raised in funeral businesses. My current practicum students have informed me that these students are referred to as “Legacy” students, and that I am called a “First Gen”. First Gen just means I was new to the business with no family experience. So I definitely had some catching up to do.

I have been lucky in my career to work for a few funeral homes, and be mentored by many amazing funeral directors. I will never stop learning and asking questions. Unfortunately some aren't as lucky as me. The Legacy and Older generations have some pretty cool tricks of the trade, advice, experiences, stories, they know the rights and wrongs, traditions, and just how to be a good director. First and Younger Generations bring a new perspective to the business, new energy, and fresh ideas to the table. They introduce new technologies, new burial and cremation practices, and have a deep desire to serve others.

When I joined the ACFDA in 2018, I have to admit I was scared. The board was mostly comprised of Legacy and experienced directors, and I had no clue where to start. Most of them even had their parents serve at some point on the board. It was great to learn from them all. Our current ACFDA board members are mostly First Gen, with a little Legacy experience sprinkled in. Therefore we constantly work hard to learn and encourage you to guide us, advise us, teach us, and let us know if we are doing something wrong. We would even love for you to join the board with us.

From The Board Room

The future of funeral service, ACFDA, PFDA, Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science, etc. is not about choosing between old and new. It lies in honoring both.

Together, their combined strengths can ensure that we serve our families properly, provide mentorship to all, and keep our profession strong and unified.

Albert Einstein once said, "The only source of knowledge is experience." So let us recognize each other not by how we came to the profession, but what we can bring to it and how we can move forward together.

Peace and Love,

LeeAnn Sherman
ACFDA Board Secretary



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Resources for the Journey of Grief is a series of informational brochures that focuses on educating and supporting families and community professionals on the needs of grieving children and families. The purpose of the brochures is to help parents, as well as teachers and other professionals who work with children, to be better equipped when interacting with grieving children. These user-friendly brochures, brief and easy-to-read, and available without cost, capture the essence of the issues and provide guidance in supporting a grieving child or adult.

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Pennsylvania Funeral
Directors Association

2025

CONVENTION
& EXPO

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JUNE 8TH - 11TH, 2025

MEMBER REGISTRATION

**The Allegheny County Funeral Directors Association
Continuing Education Opportunity**

Date: October 15th, 2025

Location: : *The Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science
5808 Baum Blvd, Pittsburgh, PA 15206*

Course: "Pennsylvania State Police – Ceremonial Unit: Its role in
Department Ceremonies, Funeral Protocol & Etiquette"

Course Start Time: 4:30 pm

Presenter: Tpr. Gregory L. Brown

Credit Hours: 1

Course: " Succession Planning: Ready, Set, Go"

Course Start Time: 5:30 pm

Presenter: Frank Perman

Credit Hours: 1

Light refreshments and an open bar will be available beginning at
4:00pm.

The State Board of Funeral Directors has approved each program for 1
PACE credit. The entire meeting must be attended to receive your
certificate for this CEU. ACFDA members are free. Non-members
will be charged \$100.00.

Please register with Ashley at acfda2020@gmail.com or call
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For more details about the program to honor fallen heroes in your community, contact your local Wilbert representative or visit www.wilbert.com.

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Amy Vanella
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Any ACFDA member that is planning to attend the PFDA convention in June may be designated as a “delegate” if they so desire. Our association is entitled to have 5 delegates. You would have voting privileges if there were issues to be considered. You would be obligated to attend the meeting on Tuesday June 10th, 2025 from 9:00am -9:30am. Anyone interested should contact Harry Readshaw by phone or text at 412-759-9546 before May 15th, 2025. Thank you

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Grapevine

Shout out to our Board of Trustees member, Anna Nesbit, CFSP for her Presentation, Real Talk: Relationships, Self Care, and Growth with Worsham College President, Leili McMurrough at this year's National Funeral Directors Association Professional Women's Conference. The conference welcomed over 200 attendees to Santa Ana Pueblo, NM. Congrats to Anna on her first conference presentation and we are looking forward to her next opportunity to speak in Chicago at the NFDA Convention and Expo, October 26-29, 2025.





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