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November

2025

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Dates to Remember:

November 1 is All Saints' Day.

November 2 at 2 A.M. is the end of Daylight Saving Time. Set your clocks back one hour on Saturday night at bedtime.

November 4 is Election Day (U.S.). Don't forget to vote in state and federal elections! Every vote counts.

November 11 is Veterans Day .

November 19 is Discovery of Puerto Rico Day.

November 27 is Thanksgiving Day (U.S.)

The day after Thanksgiving, November 28 this year, is known as Black Friday.

November 30 is the First Sunday of Advent, marking the beginning of the Advent season.

THE FULL BEAVER MOON

NOVEMBER'S FULL MOON IS TRADITIONALLY CALLED THE BEAVER MOON. WHY THIS NAME? IN THE COLONIAL ERA, THIS WAS THE MONTH TO SET ONE'S BEAVER TRAPS BEFORE THE SWAMPS FROZE AND BEAVERS RETIRED TO THEIR LODGES, TO ENSURE A SUPPLY OF WARM WINTER FURS.

IN 2025, NOVEMBER'S FULL MOON OCCURS ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5.



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From the Board Room



As the year comes to an end, we look forward to making changes. For me, many changes lie ahead. I am leaving the ACFDA board after 4 years, I am getting married, and lastly, I am leaving my job at Bekavac Funeral Home after eight and a half wonderful years.

To anyone I have ever served on the board with: it has been a pleasure to get to know you all on a professional and personal level. I never saw myself as someone who would serve my profession on a board, let alone as a president but thank you to everyone for making it an enjoyable and tolerable experience. Working with you all has made me better at my job and really gave me a real sense of community.

To the Bekavac Family: Thank you for everything you have done for me and my career. I consider you not only my friends, but my family. You hired a scared and unconfident 19-year-old girl and turned her into a funeral director. I will be forever grateful that you took a chance on me. I could not have asked for a better employer and coworkers.

To all the hardworking funeral service professionals in the ACFDA: I enjoyed meeting each of you. I am truly sad to be leaving Allegheny County after 10 years, but I am looking forward to whatever my new life holds. I wish you all the best.

*Maria L Koontz
ACFDA Immediate Past President*

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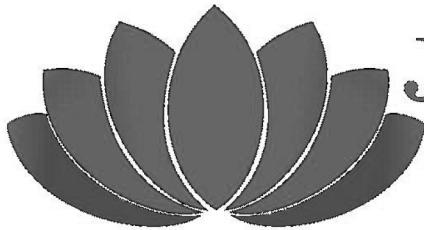
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CHILDREN'S GRIEF



AWARENESS WALK

RAIN OR SHINE

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 16TH 3:30-4:30PM

KOBACKER HOUSE - 800 MCCONNELL DRIVE - COLUMBUS, OHIO 43214

**WALK TO
HONOR | REMEMBER | RAISE AWARENESS**

Join us to walk the 1 mile path along Kobacker House to support Children's Grief Awareness. Participants may choose to bring photos or wear shirts in memory of someone who has died.

Registration is required for this free event. Call 614-566-1728 or email youthgrief@ohiohealth.com

An OhioHealth Loss and Healing Services Family Engagement Event

 OhioHealth

VIRTUAL YOUNG ADULT GRIEF SUPPORT

Grief is challenging under any circumstance. As a young adult, experiencing the death of someone close to you can be especially challenging. By providing a safe, caring, and confidential setting, this NO COST group will help empower and equip young adults ages 18-30 with tools that will help them on their grief journeys.

This virtual setting is designed to be an 8 week support group where young adults will be able to hear from peers who are grieving, gaining an understanding that they're not alone.

For additional information, e-mail contactus@highmark.com or use the QR Code to the left.

**An intake process is required for entry into this support group.*





*The Allegheny County
Funeral Directors Association
Holiday Social*

Thursday December 4th, 2025 @ 6:00pm

The Rivers Casino



777 Casino Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15212



Please join us in honoring George & Kathleen
Entenmann with the Career of Excellence Awards

**RSVP to Ashley
by November 20th**



THE ALLEGHENY COUNTY FUNERAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION CONTINUING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY

Date: January 21st, 2026

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

Course: "Technology-Providing a More Convenient Experience to the Funeral Consumer"

Course Start Time: 5:00 pm

Presenter: Adam Shaffer

Credit Hours: 1.5

Course: " Funeral Director Burnout"

Course Start Time: 6:30 pm

Presenter: Shelby Ogozaly

Credit Hours: 1.5

Light refreshments and an open bar will be available beginning at 4:00pm. The courses will begin after a short memorial service with **Bishop Eckman** followed by the installation of oncoming board members.

The State Board of Funeral Directors has approved each program for 1.5 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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Stainless Steel Triune® Urn. Wilbert stainless steel vaults and urn vaults provide a way to honor fallen heroes. Personalized with a Wilbert Legacy Series print depicting the hero's profession (if available) or a Legacy II print.

Commemorating First Responders provides families of firefighters, law enforcement officers and emergency medical personnel who have died in the line of duty with a tribute worthy of their valor and sacrifice.

At no charge to the family, Wilbert will donate

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For cremation families, we offer a choice of any urn from our Cremation Choices catalog, and a Stainless Steel Triune® urn vault with personalization for memorial tribute. Urn engraving and shipping are also provided at no cost to the family.

For more details about the program to honor fallen heroes in your community, contact your local Wilbert representative or visit www.wilbert.com.

A message from our
October General
Membership Meeting
Sponsor Kevin Gordan

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Hello ACFDA,

It was a pleasure meeting many of you at the October gathering at PIMS. I truly appreciated the opportunity to attend your sessions and gain insight into the latest developments in your field.

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- Acknowledgement on our members only website
- One full page ad in our monthly publication “the Bulletin”
- Signage recognition at the Holiday Social
- 10 minute pitch/table set up at one general membership meeting
- Opportunity for 3-minute speech at holiday social or Emcee shout-out during event

Drink Sponsorship: \$500

- Acknowledgement on our members only website
- One half page ad in our monthly publication “the Bulletin”
- Signage recognition at the holiday social
- Emcee shout-out during event

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- Signage recognition during the holiday social
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Jeffrey Fugh
Dionna M. Kost
Edward P. Kanai
Sarah McAlee
James O. Pinkerton
Gregory P Rohanna
R. D. Schellhaas, Jr
Timothy K. Slater
Janice Miller Stein
Joseph Strednak
John W. Taylor
David G. Williams
Donald Vey

November 13, 2025

12:00PM - 5:00PM

Pittsburgh Wrap Up Session

Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science

Pittsburgh
Wrap Up Session

Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science (PIMS)

5808 Baum Boulevard
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Time: 12pm - 5pm

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Registration Price:

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Non-Members \$200 per course

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