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PCGF NEWS | SPRING 2017



PCGF Welcomes Judge David Spurgeon

In June, the Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation will welcome **The Honorable David Spurgeon** as he begins a three-year term on the Board of Trustees. The Duquesne University School of Law graduate currently serves as adjunct faculty at Point Park University's School of Criminal Justice and as an adjunct law professor at Duquesne University.

Mr. Spurgeon began his career in public service in 1998 when he joined the Allegheny County District Attorney's Office as an assistant district attorney. In 2001, he became the first prosecutor

to appear in the Family Division to prosecute violations of Protection from Abuse Orders. In 2009, Mr. Spurgeon became the youngest person promoted to Deputy District Attorney.

In June 2016, Governor Tom Wolf nominated Mr. Spurgeon to fill a vacancy on the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas. He was unanimously confirmed by the Pennsylvania State Senate and sworn in on August 1, 2016. Judge Spurgeon has been assigned to the Family Division of the Court, where he hears delinquency, dependency and PFA cases. ■

May is National Mental Health Month

Mental Health Month, observed each May since 1949, educates people about habits or behaviors that increase the risk of developing or exacerbating mental illness. This year's focus is on "Risky Business" such as risky sex, prescription drug misuse, excessive spending, marijuana use and troublesome exercise patterns. Mental Health America has produced tools kits for both individuals and organizations.

Visit MentalHealthAmerica.net for more information. ■



**Use the hashtag
#riskybusiness
in May to speak up,
to educate and to
share your point
of view or story.**

PITTSBURGH CHILD GUIDANCE FOUNDATION 2017 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Kudos to...

PCGF Executive Director **Pamela Golden**, who has been appointed to the board of the Allegheny County Library Association. Founded in 1994, the ACLA provides a countywide inter-library lending system, countywide funding, technical assistance, programming and professional development to the 46 library systems, including the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh and its 19 locations. Ms. Golden is an Allegheny Regional Asset District (RAD) Advisory Committee member and serves as the RAD appointee to the ACLA board.



Congratulations to PCGF Board member **Sister Janice Vanderneck**, who was recognized for her important contribution to the community at the 44th annual Art Rooney Award Dinner and Auction. In April, 500 guests gathered at the Westin Convention Center Hotel for the gala that benefits the Catholic Youth Association of Pittsburgh. Sister Janice, who established Casa San Jose in Pittsburgh's Brookline neighborhood as an outreach to the Latino community, received the John E. McGrady Award, named for the respected civic and political leader. ■

Sister Janice Vanderneck surrounded by fellow award recipients (left to right) Pittsburgh Penguins President David Morehouse, KDKA-TV sports anchor Bob Pompeani, and former Pitt running back James Conner.

Grantmakers Focus on Needs of Immigrants

Thanks to Grantmakers of Western PA for organizing two days of site visits to educate nearly 30 grantmakers about issues facing the immigrant community and strategies to support and integrate them in our community for mutual benefits.

The Community Blueprint is a cross sector, community design countywide strategic plan to support immigrants and Latinos in Allegheny County. It was created in collaboration with 173 local residents, including 88 immigrant community members. The interactive session explored challenges and focused on how philanthropy can play a role in addressing services gaps and supporting solutions. The two-day session included several panel discussions and artist presentations. Participants visited several agencies: South Hills Interfaith Movement in the Brentwood-Whitehall area, where many Bhutanese have been resettled; City of Asylum, where writers persecuted in their own countries find safety and support to continue developing their works; the Latino Family Center; and the Islamic Center of Pittsburgh.

More details are available at: alleghenycounty.usDHS/immigrantcommunityblueprint ■

BigBurgh Translated to Spanish

The Homeless Children's Education Fund has successfully released its Spanish translation for BigBurgh.com, a mobile-friendly website that provides easy access for homeless individuals and outreach workers to locate food, shelter and other

nearby basic services. The translated version provides the same functionality and resources in accessible language for Spanish-speaking individuals. Thanks to **Sister Janice Vanderneck** and PCGF Advisory Committee member **Cathy Bazán-Arias** for their assistance with this project. ■

To download the free app to an iPhone, Android or desktop, simply type "BigBurgh.com" in the browser.

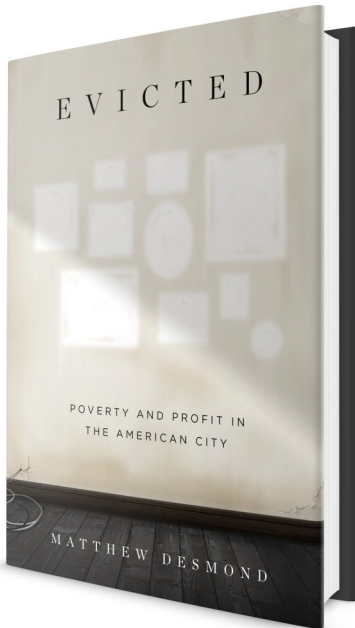


Recommended Reading

“Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City”

by Matthew Desmond

WINNER OF THE 2017 PULITZER PRIZE FOR GENERAL NON-FICTION



From Harvard sociologist and MacArthur “Genius” Matthew Desmond, this landmark work of scholarship and reportage will forever change the way we look at poverty in America.

In this brilliant, heartbreaking book, Mr. Desmond takes us into the poorest neighborhoods of Milwaukee to tell the story of eight families on the edge. Arleen is a single mother trying to raise her two sons on the \$20 a month she has left after paying for their rundown apartment. Scott is a gentle nurse consumed by a heroin addiction. Lamar, a man with no legs and a neighborhood full of boys to look after, tries to work his way out of debt. Vanetta participates in a botched stickup after her hours are cut. All are spending almost everything they have on rent, and all have fallen behind.

In most American cities, evictions used to be rare. But today, most poor renting families are spending more than half of their income on housing, and eviction has become much more commonplace, especially for single mothers. In vivid, intimate prose, Mr. Desmond provides a ground-level view of one of the most urgent issues facing America today. As we see families forced into shelters, squalid apartments or more dangerous neighborhoods, we bear witness to the human cost of America’s vast inequality — and to people’s determination and intelligence in the face of hardship.

Based on years of embedded fieldwork and painstakingly gathered data, this masterful New York Times bestseller transforms our understanding of extreme poverty and economic exploitation while providing fresh ideas for solving a devastating, uniquely American problem. Its unforgettable scenes of hope and loss remind us of the centrality of home without which nothing is possible. ■

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Mark Your Calendars

We ask Trustees to make every effort to attend these meetings:

Board Meeting

Wednesday, June 7, 2017
4 – 5:30 p.m.

Board Meeting

Tuesday, Sept. 19, 2017
4 – 5:30 p.m.

Board Meeting/Annual Meeting

Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2017
4 – 5 p.m. meeting
5 p.m. reception

All meetings will be held at the Foundation Office.