



MURRYSVILLE
COMMUNITY
LIBRARY
Endless Possibilities.

December Branch Meeting

How the Murrysville Community Library Is Following a Bigger Vision with Storytime STEM-Packs™

Thursday, December 14, 2017 9:30 AM
Murrysville Community Library Meeting Room

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This month we are pleased to welcome a team of guest speakers: Jamie Faló, Library Director, and Carol Siefken, Youth Services Coordinator, of the Murrysville Community Library (MCL); Gabriela Rose, the Science Coordinator of the AIU Math and Science Collaborative (MSC); and Chuck Greenberg, MCL Trustee, Board Director of the Westmoreland Library Network (WLNTM), and consulting Mentor and co-PI for the MSC.

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) learning is seen as critical for the future. Libraries can fill a role as providers of early STEM learning experiences, and Murrysville Community Library is one of the leaders through Storytime STEM-pack product development and pilot librarian Professional Development. The speakers will describe their specific roles in this ongoing process of expanding the programming of the library, and with an eye towards influencing libraries in general, and for being the "bridge" for student learning during the summer and throughout the school year.

For additional background on STEM at MCL, see the article on page 4.

December's meeting is also a kickoff to the holiday season, so festive cookies, coffee and tea will be served.



Like us at
AAUW-Murrysville Branch



Snow Policy

If Franklin Regional Schools are cancelled, AAUW meetings are cancelled.

If Franklin Regional Schools are delayed, AAUW meetings will be held as scheduled.

President's Letter

Last month, in collaboration with the Murrysville Community Library, we held our annual Book Sale. Over half of our membership plus other volunteers worked diligently to make it happen. Proceeds totaled approximately \$5,000, half of which we typically donate to the Library. Thank you to Chair Marsha Wong and everyone who helped!

This month, we have the opportunity to learn more about our library, its staff and its programs. Holiday sweets and beverages will be offered. Do join us!



Susan Petrie



Thank
you



Book Sale

at Murrysville Community Library

Certainly we need books for a successful book sale, but the other crucial part of a successful book sale are the volunteers. My sincere thanks to all of you who were able to help with our annual book sale in a multitude of ways. From working with the staff at MCL, the collecting of books, daily culling through them, sorting, pricing, packing, lifting boxes, driving to the liquor store to pick up certain type of boxes, writing articles for publication, making signs, placing signs, phone calls, working with the sign company and the municipality to have our AAUW banner hung up on Tarr Hollow Road, arranging gift baskets, dragging supplies from Dr. Graham's basement, unpacking the boxes, collecting of funds, trips to the bank, trips to Half Price Book Store, selling raffle tickets, encouraging others to pitch in and especially, the purchasing of books all helped to make this a wonderful opportunity to contribute to our community. A huge thank you and my deep appreciation for all of you that went the extra mile. The Murrysville Community Library is already being booked for the next AAUW/Murrysville Community Book Sale to be held on November 8, 9, and 10th, 2018. More details to follow.

Marsha Wong
Chair, Book Sale Committee



Great Decisions 2018



It's time to be thinking about our spring GREAT DECISIONS 2018. Sign up now, order books, and volunteer to lead a discussion. Email Annie or

sign up at the December AAUW Branch Meeting to indicate interest in ordering a book and leading a discussion on one of the topics listed below. The GREAT DECISIONS 2018 Books are \$30.00 each and are sent out in January.

Once again we will be meeting in the Library Meeting Room on Wednesday mornings with a viewing of the official Foreign Policy Association DVD on the topic at 9:30 AM (optional) and then the 10:00 AM discussion of the topic, led by a volunteer Discussion Leader. The following eight dates are tentatively scheduled as our discussion dates: February 14, 21, 28, March 7, 14, 21, April 4 and 11, 2018. The order of the topic discussions will depend on the preferences and schedules (travel, etc.) of the Discussion Leaders. In collaboration with the Murrysville Community Library, the public is invited to participate in all the discussion meetings. Spouses, friends and guests are welcome.

This year's topics are as follows:

- The Waning of Pax Americana?**
- Russia's Foreign Policy**
- China and America: the New Geopolitical Equation**
- Media and Foreign Policy**
- Turkey: a Partner in Crisis**
- U.S. Global Engagement and the Military**
- South Africa's Fragile Democracy**
- Global Health: Progress and Challenges**

For detailed summaries of the topics, see the **Foreign Policy Association** web page at:

http://www.fpa.org/news/index.cfm?act=show_announcement&announcement_id=418

Annie S. Rivers

EIGHTY ACRES

KITCHEN & BAR

Wine & Food Tasting A Holiday Celebration

Eighty Acres

Thursday, December 21, 4:00 - 6:30 PM

Cost \$39 per person

Eighty Acres will once again be our destination for a wine and food pairing in December. Last year was such fun we wanted to do it again. Keep in mind this is a tasting. The four courses will include 2-ounce pours and small servings.

Menu

Stella Pinot Grigio
Herb Ricotta Crostini, Candied Olives,
Lemon, Mint

Concannon Pinot Noir 2015
Seared Rare Ahi Tuna, Roasted
Wild Mushroom Risotto, Mushroom Broth

Ficus Merlot 2015
Serenity Hills Farm Rack of Lamb,
Autumn Cous Cous Salad, Roasted Apples,
Pomegranate Yogurt, Pepita Seeds

Apple Bread Pudding

There is space for thirty people. The cost of \$39 includes tax and tip. Of course, guests are welcome to attend with members.

Reservations will be accepted based on the first thirty people to pay. There will be a waiting list.

Make checks payable to Carol Gezon and mail to me at 3309 Hermar Court, Murrysville, 15668. I will also accept them at the December branch meeting. If you have questions, feel free to call or email me at murrysvilleaauw@gmail.com.

Carol Gezon,
Party Organizer

Reading for Pleasure

When, in 1922, the thirty-year-old Count Rostov is deemed an unrepentant aristocrat by a Bolshevik tribunal, he is sentenced to house arrest in the Metropol, a grand hotel across the street from the Kremlin. An indomitable man of erudition and wit, Rostov must now live in an attic room while some of the most tumultuous decades in Russian history are unfolding outside the hotel's doors.

Unexpectedly, the Count's reduced circumstances provide him entry to a much larger world of emotional discovery as he forges friendships with the hotel's other denizens.

Brimming with humor, a glittering cast of characters, and one beautifully rendered scene after another,

A Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towles casts a spell as it relates the Count's endeavor to gain a deeper understanding of what it means to be a man of purpose.



Please join us for our discussion at 10:00 on November 30 at the home of Nancy Pottmeyer. Please RSVP to Nancy.

Because of the holidays, Reading for Pleasure will not be meeting in December. Our next meeting will be on January 25, 2018 when we will be discussing News of the World by Paulette Jiles. I will notify you in the January FOCUS about the availability of the book at the library. At that time I will also give you a synopsis of the book and the particulars of the meeting. Have a great holiday season!

Sally Haleen

Problem Solvers Update

Window/sliding door glass replacement:
Residential Glass 724-771-3052 (In Mook)

William Huey at 724-420-4008 is currently doing restoration work of historical homes (In Mook)

STEM at MCL Background

As articulated by the AIU Math and Science Collaborative and its partners, "increasingly policy makers and educators are calling for earlier beginnings and informal opportunities in STEM. As one of the oldest and only free public spaces for learning, libraries are poised to fill a role as providers of early STEM learning experiences."

Storytime STEM-pack product development and pilot Professional Development for librarians has been funded primarily by four agencies, three of which are headquartered in the Pittsburgh region: The Community Foundation of Westmoreland County (The Pittsburgh Foundation), the Eden Hall Foundation, and the PPG Foundation. However, the NSF I-CORPS™ for Learning project was instrumental to Storytime STEM-packs' present form as a library tool.

The pilot collaborators and the Collaborative for Evaluation and Assessment Capacity in the School of Education, University of Pittsburgh, "learned that the building of early childhood STEM understanding through effective professional development is an ongoing process. The challenge is to learn how to institutionalize integration of STEM programming into librarians' work, making STEM a "part of the DNA" of library staff. The further task is to learn how to better reach children AND their families."

Susan Greenberg



December 2017

11/30	Thurs.	10:00 AM	Reading for Pleasure - at the home of Nancy Pottmeyer, 3104 Deerfield Ct. Please RSVP to Nancy at 724-327-2973 or npottmeyer@gmail.com if you plan to attend.
1	Fri.	10:00 AM	Duplicate Bridge - at the home of Annie Rivers, 3002 Edgewood Ct. Please RSVP Annie if you cannot attend at 724-327-8712 or anniesrivers@yahoo.com.
7	Thurs.	9:30 AM	Board Meeting - Murrysville Community Library Meeting Room†
12	Tues.		
14	Thurs.	9:30 AM	Branch Meeting - Murrysville Community Library Meeting Room†
18	Mon.		Focus deadline for article to be sent to Donna Beard at djbeard2@gmail.com
21	Thurs.	4:00 PM	Food and Wine Tasting at the Eighty Acres Restaurant
25	Mon.		

† The Murrysville Community Library Meeting Room is located at the entrance to the Murrysville Community Library, 4100 Sardis Road.



Check out our Facebook page at **AAUW-Murrysville Branch**

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