



February Branch Meeting

Supporting Refugees in Pittsburgh

Wiam Younes

Thursday, February 8, 2018 9:30 AM
Murrysville Community Library Meeting Room

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Murrysville Area AAUW, in partnership with the Murrysville Community Library, is very pleased to have as its guest speaker Dr. Wiam Younes, Executive Director of "Ansar of Pittsburgh."

"Ansar" (meaning "supporters" in Arabic), a fledgling year-old grass roots volunteer organization, has as its goal to assist refugees as they arrive in the community. Because it depends upon donations for its activities, the group meets in homes and public centers "so that they can spend every penny on refugees," stated Dr. Younes. "It is our goal to help them feel welcome as they make their home in the United States."



Dr. Wiam Younes, Jordanian by birth, moved to Saudi Arabia with her family because of her father's job. There, she received her B.A. in Education in the field of English as a Second Language (ESL). In Pittsburgh, she subsequently received her M.S. in "Science Education in Technology Management" from Carnegie Mellon University, and her Ph.D. from Robert Morris University in "Instructional Management and Leadership with a Research Focus in Cyber Security Education." Dr. Younes teaches a course at the University of Pittsburgh in Information Security Policy and Compliance; and works at the University of Pennsylvania as an Information Training Officer.

The public is welcome to attend. There is no registration required.



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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

What a great turn-out for our January meeting! Thirty-nine members and guests enjoyed quilter Patty Kennedy-Zafred's excellent presentation. Her innovative techniques and many awards were impressive, and the stories told through her quilts were fascinating.

Great Decisions begins this month. If you have never come before, do give it a try. The discussions are stimulating and thought provoking. You do not need to have purchased the book to attend. And, you may attend as many or as few sessions as you like.

Hope everyone is keeping warm and cozy, enjoying a good book, and staying well!

See you at the Branch Meeting on February 8,

Susan

AAUW Volunteers

At the December Branch Meeting, several of our members volunteered to help the Allegheny Intermediate Unit, located at The Waterfront, assemble 200 Storytime STEM-packs that will be distributed to Westmoreland Libraries, Allegheny Head Start and some area schools. In order to fulfill this commitment we will need a total of six helpers on the morning of March 22, at 9:30 AM.

I hope to compile a list of six with additional people to serve as substitutes.

Please let me know if you would like to join in the fun. Of course we will car pool and plan to include lunch.

Carol Gezon
cwgezon@windstream.net
724-325-1758

Great Decisions 2018

FRIDAYS

DVD at 9:30 AM (optional)

Discussions at 10:00 AM

Murrysville Community Library



Our GREAT DECISIONS Discussion Group Meetings begin FRIDAY, February 16th, in the Library Meeting Room. Once again we will be showing the GREAT DECISIONS DVD produced by the Foreign Policy Association thirty minutes before the start of the discussion meeting. The discussion meeting will begin at 10:00 AM.

In February, on FRIDAY, the 16th, the topic to be discussed will be "The Waning of Pax Americana?". To quote the Foreign Policy Association: "The past 70 years has been the era of "Pax Americana", a period of relative stability thanks to the influence and ballast provided by the United States. But with Russian expansion and a rising China, how long can it last?"

On FRIDAY, February 23rd, the topic will "Turkey: A Partner in Crisis". The Foreign Policy Association points out: "Once seen as a model of democracy, Turkey may be slipping toward autocratic. Great Decisions producers traveled to Turkey to examine the relationship with this key U.S. ally."

Join the discussion on these current topics and developments. In March and April, the topics will cover "Russian Foreign Policy"; "China's Geopolitics"; "Media and Foreign Policy"; "U.S. Global Engagement & the Military"; "South Africa's Fragile Democracy"; and "Global Health Issues". All meetings will be on FRIDAYS in the morning. All are welcome to come whether one has the briefing book or not.

Annie S. Rivers
GREAT DECISIONS Coordinator

Reading for Pleasure



Monsieur Perdu is a literary apothecary. From his floating bookstore in a barge on the Seine, he prescribes novels for the hardships of life.

Using his intuitive feel for the exact book a reader needs,

Perdu mends broken hearts and souls. The only person he can't seem to heal is himself: he's still haunted by heartbreak after his great love disappeared. She left him with only a letter that he has never opened.

After Perdu is finally tempted to read the letter, he hauls anchor and departs on a mission to the South of France, hoping to make peace with his loss and discover the end of the story. He dispenses his books and his wisdom along the way, showing that the literary world can take the human soul on a journey to heal itself.

And international bestseller filled with warmth and adventure, ***The Little Paris Bookshop*** by Nina George is a love letter to books, meant for anyone who believes in the power of stories to shape people's lives.

Please join us on February 22 at 10:00 at the home of Bjoerg Granger, 4021 Benden Circle to discuss this wonderful book. RSVP by calling Bjoerg at 724-733-4806 or emailing her at bjoerg1@comcast.net.

Sally Haleen

EIGHTY ACRES KITCHEN & BAR

A great time was had by all at the December 21st Wine and Food Tasting event held at Eighty Acres.

Thank you, Carol Gezon, for organizing a fun gathering.



February 2018

1	Thurs.	9:30 AM	Board Meeting - Murrysville Community Library Meeting Room† Board members, please let Susan know if you cannot attend.
8	Thurs.	9:30AM	Branch Meeting - Murrysville Community Library Meeting Room†
12	Mon.		Focus Deadline for articles to be sent to Donna Beard at djbeard2@gmail.com
14	Wed.		
16	Fri.	9:30 AM	Great Decisions - The Waning of Pax Americana? at the Murrysville Community Library Meeting Room†
22	Thurs.	10:00 AM	Reading for Pleasure at the home of Bjoerg Granger, 4021 Benden Circle. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Bjoerg at bjoerg1@comcast.net or 724-733-4806.
23	Fri	9:30 AM	Great Decisions - Turkey: A Partner in Crisis at the Murrysville Community Library Meeting Room†
23	Fri.	12:00 PM	Duplicate Bridge at the home of Dodie Hagan, 3667 Blue Sage Court. Please let Dodie know if you cannot play at dodiehagan@gmail.com or 724-325-3263.

† 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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