



April Branch Meeting Human Rights in International Relations

Dr. Roni Kay M. O'Dell

Thursday, April 11, 2019 9:30 AM

Murrysville Community Library Meeting Room
4100 Sardis Road, Murrysville, PA

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Our guest speaker for April is Dr. Roni Kay M. O'Dell. She will speak on the topic of Human Rights in International Relations.

Dr. O'Dell is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Seton Hill University. She teaches courses in international relations, human rights, and political science. Her research is centered on topics such as international poverty, inequality, and political participation. She has been published in the peer-reviewed journals "International Studies Perspectives" and "Global Governances" among others.

Dr. O'Dell earned her BA at the University of Washington, her MA at the Monterey Institute of International Studies, and her doctorate at the University of Denver. She has been at Seton Hill since 2016.

This program is offered in cooperation with the Murrysville Community Library and is open to the public. No advanced registration is required.



Like us at AAUW-Murrysville Branch

Presidents' Letter

There was a good turnout for our March meeting. Attendees had time to socialize while enjoying coffee donated by Starbucks and nibbling on homemade shamrock cookies.



Program speaker and photographer Chris Ruane held the audience captive describing his unique art

work and how his career developed. Chris is a Murrysville resident and owner of Rooz Brews in the Giant Eagle plaza.



If you are interested in serving next year in one of the appointed positions on the Board, such as Bylaws, Directory, FOCUS, Hospitality, Publicity, etc, do let us know! We'd love to have some new faces.



Spring is just around the corner!

See you at the April 11th Branch meeting,

Susan and Janet
Co-Presidents



Will we hold a 2019 Book Sale? A show of hands at the Branch meeting indicated moderate interest. This is our only fundraising activity and it enables us to bring quality speakers to the community. We are looking into ways to shorten and streamline preparations. However, we need a chair! We have excellent instructions already written. Please contact Janet or me if you are interested in this important job.



We also presented the slate of Executive Offices up for election this year:

VP Programs, Diane Conway;
Finance Officer, Carol Gezon;
VP Membership – open.

The Membership VP registers new members and welcomes guests at Branch meetings. Please contact us if this fun and easy position appeals to you. Training will be provided. We must have a nominee by the April Branch meeting, when we will vote on the slate.

Great Decisions Spring 2019



GREAT DECISIONS 2019 is coming to an end. The first and second Fridays in April will be our last two GREAT DECISIONS Discussion Group Meetings. Once again we will be meeting in the Community Library Meeting Room starting at 9:30 AM for the DVD presentation, which is optional but highly recommended, and then the Discussion Meeting will begin at 10:00 AM. The last two topics to be discussed are as follows:

"The State of the State Department and Diplomacy" on April 5, and

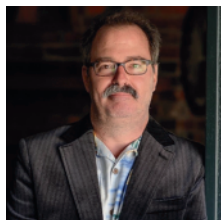
"The Rise of Populism in Europe" on April 12.

Offered in association with the Murrysville Community Library, the meetings are open to the public. Feel free to bring a friend to any discussion.

Annie S. Rivers
GREAT DECISIONS Coordinator

Chris Rodell, Local Author

Due to weather, our January pop-up was rescheduled for April 5. It's at the Tin Lizzie Restaurant in Youngstown, PA, near Latrobe



where Chris Rodell lives. Chris is the author of *Arnold Palmer* ("... a book not about golf; a book about life ..."). He also gives motivational keynotes based on his self-improvement

book, *Use All the Crayons*. "It's a colorful guide to human happiness", says Chris. His career began as a free lance writer, and he has written for several magazines. His debut novel, *The Last Baby Boomer: The Story of the Ultimate Ghoul Pool*, was released in 2017. In his presentation, Chris will highlight all of these endeavors. Chris Rodell's books will be available for \$15 each.

Note, the Tin Lizzie Restaurant is also "infamous" because it's haunted. Check it out online!



The lunch and presentation is 1:00 PM, April 5, at the Tin Lizzy Restaurant. We will meet for car pooling at the Delmont AMC Movie Theater parking lot, on the north end near Rite Aid, at noon. The schedule was set to allow participation in the Great Decisions discussion in the morning. The tour is limited to 12 guests.

RSVP to Celine Kandala at ckedupgh@gmail.com.



PITTSBURGH HISTORY & LANDMARKS FOUNDATION



Mexican War Streets Tour

On Thursday April 18, we will tour the Mexican War Streets with Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation docents. Charge for the tour is \$10. A sign up sheet will be available at the April Branch Meeting. If you signed up already at the March meeting, be sure to pay Betty Hollingsworth at the April meeting, or mail her a check (payable to Betty Hollingsworth) at 1003 Arlington Avenue, Export 15632. You must have a PAID reservation to go on the tour.

Thursday, April 18, meet at the Pat Catan's sign at 9 AM to carpool to Pittsburgh. The tour will be followed by lunch at Brugge on North. Call Betty with any questions 724-733-8064 or sdhollings@aol.com.

Reading for Pleasure

Join us at 10 AM April 25 at the home of Marge Hanes, 3395 Evergreen Drive, where we will discuss *Reading Lolita in Tehran* by Azar Nafisi. Copies will be available at the library at the end of March/early April. Annie Augustine will be our discussion leader. Please let Marge know if you plan to attend at 724-325-2047 or momobarn@comcast.net.



Calendar for Primary Election

April 22, 2019 Last day to register to vote

May 10, 2019 AAUW Candidate Night

May 14, 2019 Last day for absentee ballot applications to be received

May 17, 2019 Last day for voted absentee ballots to be received

May 21, 2019 Primary Election

If you will not be in your municipality on Election day, or cannot go to the polls due to illness or physical disability, you may get an application for an absentee ballot at the County website at:

<https://www.co.westmoreland.pa.us/251/Elections>

If you have any questions, contact the Westmoreland County Election Bureau at

724-830-3150 or
2 N Main Street, Suite #109
Greensburg, PA 15601.

Public Policy News from AAUW-PA

On Monday, April 8, 2019, AAUW-PA, along with the Business and Professional Women-PA, the Pennsylvania Commission for Women, Women's Law Project, Moms Rising and state legislators will meet at the Pennsylvania State Capital Rotunda for the planned "Equal Pay Day Rally."

Pennsylvania has not updated the state Equal Pay Act since 1959. Meanwhile, Pennsylvania women earn 80% of what men earn in equivalent jobs, with women of color facing much wider pay gaps than white women. Without a policy fix, Pennsylvania women are not on track to achieve pay equity until 2068.

AAUW-PA is urging citizens of the Commonwealth to contact their legislators to address this long overdue update to our state equal pay law.

Susan Greenberg,
Public Policy chair

AAUW Candidate Night

We have received approval from the Municipality of Murrysville to hold our AAUW Candidate Night; and we know who the candidates will be in the coming Primary Election on May 21. There are 14 candidates who have filed for 6 seats open on the School Board (one open seat is for 2 years; the other 5 are for 4 year terms), and 3 candidates have filed for the 3 seats up for re-election for Murrysville Council. One candidate, Regis Synan, current Mayor, is running for re-election unopposed.

Calling all volunteers! Let me know if you will be able to help us coordinate us this important event (which is very likely to be approved.)

What I also need are

questions that you think we should ask the

candidates. I would like to

have at least 20 questions in hand before the event begins. From past experience, turnout hasn't been robust, partly because it is televised; and those who attend don't always hand in any questions. This year, because of the proposed school reconstruction project, I suspect the crowd will be larger, but the questions may be more narrow and overlapping.

Let me hear from you!



Susan Greenberg
Public Policy Chair



Check it out!

April			
4	Thurs.	9:30 AM	Board Meeting – MCL Meeting Room† Board members please let Susan and Janet know if unable to attend.
5	Fri.	9:30 AM 10:00 AM	Great Decisions – The State of the State Department and Diplomacy. DVD at 9:30, discussion starting at 10:00 in the MCL Meeting Room.†
5	Fri.	Noon	Pop-up tour to hear Chris Rodell. Meet at the Delmont AMC to carpool.
11	Thurs.	9:30 AM	Branch Meeting – MCL Meeting Room†
12	Fri.	9:30 AM 10:00 AM	Great Decisions – The Rise of Populism in Europe. DVD at 9:30, discussion starting at 10:00 in the MCL Meeting Room.†
15	Mon		Deadline to email Focus articles to Donna Beard at djbeard2@gmail.com
18	Thurs.	9:00 AM	Mexican War Streets Tour – Meet by the Pat Catan's sign to car pool into Pittsburgh.
23	Tue.	11:00 AM 9:00 PM	MCL Dining to Donate in collaboration with Applebee's.
25	Thurs.	10:00 AM	Reading for Pleasure at the home of Marge Hanes, 3395 Evergreen Drive. Please RSVP Marge at 724-325-2047 or momobarn@comcast.net if you plan to attend.
26	Fri.	9:30 AM	Duplicate Bridge at the home of Diane Conway, 6162 Farm Road. Please RSVP Diane at 724-325-3555 or dianeconway52@gmail.com if you cannot attend.

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

The FOCUS is published monthly, except in July and August, by the Murrysville Area Branch of the American Association of University Women. Co-Presidents: Susan Petrie and Janet Sutton, Editor: Donna Beard, Email: MurrysvilleAAUW@gmail.com. The American Association of University Women, founded in 1881, is open to all graduates who hold an associate degree or equivalent, or baccalaureate or higher degree from a college or university or academically accredited institution. In principle and practice AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class. Membership is not by invitation. AAUW advances equity for all women and girls through advocacy, education and research. The Murrysville Area AAUW has an affiliate membership available to anyone who does not hold an associate or baccalaureate degree.