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Thank you Sponsors

It is always a risk for causing unintended offense when giving a few special mention or praise, even being told this will be the first of more to come. Nevertheless, on behalf of the Murrysville Community Library (MCL) Foundation and the Library that it serves, and because I know of these sponsors' efforts personally, I am going to do that anyway, and hope that it is more inspiration than risk.

The Murrysville Area American Association of University Women (AAUW) held its first book sale in fiscal year 1971-72, the year it was founded locally. Its significant contributions from book-sale proceeds to the MCL thereafter were featured previously in this column (see archive at <https://www.murrysvillelibrary.org/about-us/the-magic-library-card-series/>). To appreciation for the dollars contributed should be added appreciation for all the member and enlisted volunteer hours dedicated to collecting many thousands of used books, sorting them (first in storage), moving them from storage to site of sale, fair-price selling, and then finding minimally profitable homes for the leftovers, which often required self-delivery from car trunks. A lot of physical work and commitment, especially as everyone "grayed," beyond making the annual big dollar donations to the library, both of which are so important and so valued. Thank you all, and thanks also to those AAUW members who have served on the MCL or Foundation Board!

Design 3 Architecture of Monroeville did the design for our two significant capital projects dating from 2013, one being the expansion/renovation of the Children's Room to what you and your children enjoy today; the other is the newly opened TechNook area for both live and streamed programming. Much of recently announced programming in this newspaper is taking place in the TechNook little theater. In both cases construction was also overseen by Design 3 Architecture, that too as in-kind donation. Mr. William A. Snyder, Senior Principal Architect, was the lead person who both times guided the Board through otherwise uncharted waters. During this whole period of time, Bill has also been a valued member of the MCL Foundation Board of Directors. Thank you Bill and Design 3 Architecture for all that you, too, have done!

This newspaper, the Penn-Franklin News, circulates to all or part of multiple WLN communities, including those that are home to the MCL, Delmont Public Library, Penn Area Library, Manor Public Library, Trafford Public Library, Greensburg Hempfield Area Library, and Jeannette Public Library. In past years Directors of these libraries took turns telling you about their libraries in a regularly published column. They continue to do so now on an ad hoc basis; everything that they have to say gets space in the Penn-Franklin News, and so does this author of the now weekly published The Magic Library Card! For that sustained support of public libraries everywhere locally, and their communities, thank you Georgia Boring and staff, and all who came before.

With all kudos, there must be a pitch. With mine this time, is a reminder that for libraries to function well they need dedicated, volunteer Board Trustees/Directors.

Speaking just for Murrysville, where I spend my time, both the MCL Board of Trustees and the MCL Foundation Board of Directors need qualified applicants to join in the fun of oversight, policy-making, and fundraising. Our dedicated serving Board volunteers need company. Applications for the former go to the Municipality of Murrysville (MOM) for consideration; an application form is at the MOM web site. Applications for the Foundation go to the Foundation

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itself at 4130 Sardis Road, or foundation@murrysvillelibrary.org, where the Governance Committee weighs in.

Both Boards are very much in need of fresh applicants, so please do not be hesitant at all about applying. Like our three honorees today, who have given so much of their time over many years, you too can feel the goodness of that.

Charles B. Greenberg
Board Director, Murrysville Community Library Foundation