The Library Times

Avon, Connecticut *Newsletter of the Friends of the Library & the Board of Trustees* *September 2007*

President's Letter

Summer is almost over, so that means it is time for the ***Friends of the Library*** Membership Drive. Since memberships are annual, it is time to renew your Friendship. Your membership is important to the Library as your contributions support and enhance the special programs and services that otherwise would not be possible. Additionally, only ***Friends*** receive the newsletter, *The Library Times*, which is published about every other month. This timely publication keeps you current on exciting programs and activities at the Library as well as new book, CD, and DVD acquisitions. As a member of the ***Friends of the Avon Library***, you will be among the first to sign up for any ***Friends***-sponsored programs requiring registration. You also will be admitted free of charge to the annual Book Sale on preview night. With the expansion of the library on the horizon, your support is especially important so that we can make this much needed improvement become reality. Take a moment to join the ***Friends of the Library***. Over 650 of your friends and neighbors renewed their friendships last year, and we want you to help support of one of Avon's finest assets, our Library. Become a ***Friend*** today.

Barbara Leonard
President, Friends of Avon Library

Sorting Space for the Book Sale

The Friends of the Library want to give a huge thank you to John Carmon and his family for providing space for our book sorting activity. Without a space to sort the book donations that are the basis of the annual Book Sale, the ***Friends*** would have a very difficult time holding the sale in May. Book Sale 2007 made over $17,000 and all the profits were given back to the Library in the form of programs, and various gifts to enhance the library experience. The Carmon family's generous support of the Friends and the Library is greatly appreciated.

With a sorting space secured, the ***Friends*** are now able to accept your donations of very gently used hardcover and paperbacks. As always, we cannot accept badly worn books, encyclopedias, magazines (including National Geographic) or any books that have been stored in damp cellars or garages, causing them to smell musty. The ***Friends*** welcome your donations any time the Library is open. For large donations (5 boxes or more) please call Barbara Leonard at 673-3327.

Expansion Update

This November, the library will celebrate its twenty-fifth year in the current location. We in Avon are very fortunate to have a wonderful library with an excellent staff and a beautiful building.

The town has grown significantly in the past quarter century. So, too, has the demand for library services. The library is very busy and very crowded whenever it is open. In the past year alone, we have experienced a 3% increase in circulation. We need a larger building, with more areas designated for books, computers and other materials, more space and seating for patrons of all ages, and more rooms for meetings, programs and collaborative study. The library parking lot also is too small for current usage. The Board of Directors and staff continue to make progress in planning for the library expansion. We are very pleased that the initial planning costs were included in this year's financial plan and that Avon citizens soundly approved the town's budget.

The next step is for the Town Council to appoint a building committee which will begin the process of selecting an architect. We are looking forward to the challenges and the rewards of working on the library expansion, which is a very important project for the town and all its residents.

Mary LaBelle Suter, President
Avon Library Board of Directors

Award Winning Website

The Avon Public Library website was recently awarded the Connecticut Library Association's top honors for website design. If you haven't checked it out yet, please log on to **www.avonctlibrary.info.** You'll learn what the library has purchased for books, music and dvds as well as what children's and adult programs are scheduled.

New Service!

Want to save on overdue fines?

On August 8, the library began offering patrons "nearly due" notices. These emails will arrive two days before items are due, with a direct link to the library's catalog. Eligible items can be renewed, eliminating overdue fines! Please call the Circulation Department at 673-9712 to have your email address entered on your account. This service is a complement to receiving overdue notices by email.

New Library Cards!

September marks the arrival of newly designed library cards which include a keytag. On your next visit to the library, ask for a newly redesigned card (no charge!). We'll update your account information and send you on your way with a stylish new card sporting the library's new colors and logo.

Summer Intern

Meet Katy Varner! This summer's intern, sponsored by the ***Friends of the Avon Library***, is Katy Varner, a psychology major at the University of Maryland. An Avon resident, Katy has energetically worked in the Children's, Circulation, and Technical Processing departments throughout the summer. We will miss her when she returns to school!

AVON DAY—September 29, 2007

Look for the Avon Library and the Friends of the Avon Library booth at Avon Day. Have the children create a craft and learn about the library's expansion plans. Great giveaways! See you there.

Attention Avon High School Students

We're here for you. While the AHS Media Center is under construction this coming year, remember that you are always welcome at the library for help with all your research needs. Also, staff from the Avon Library will be visiting the school to give out our new library cards to all students.

Fall Music Series

All concerts begin at 7:30 pm.

Friday, October 5 Duo Asiana. Yu-Chen Shih and Pi-Hsun Shih. Four hands, one piano. Both pianists have performed separately at the Avon Library; this is their debut as a duo.

Friday, October 12 Chamber Music for flute. Michelle L. Davis, flute, Brunilda Myftaraj, violin, Bridget de Moura Castro, piano. Including works by Ibert and Martinu, and "the Country Mouse and the City Mouse Suite" by Erik Whitehill. Tom Kawiecki, special guest narrator.

Friday, October 26 Tamila Azadaliyeva, piano; Neal Humphreys, cello. A delightful mix of Chopin's Sonata for cello and piano and Polonaise Brillante and South American and Spanish pieces by Ginastera, Granados, Albeniz and Piazzaola.

Friday, November 2 Noteworthy Ensemble. Piano, viola and clarinet Connecticut. Featured will be a World Premier of Duo for Clarinet and Piano by Zeke Hecker.

Co-sponsored by the Friends of the Avon Library and the Mitnick Trust of the Avon Library Board of Directors. All concerts are free. A reception will follow each concert.

Fall 2007

Join us this fall for a Connecticut Humanities Council program:

Soldiers and Writers:
The Vietnam War from the Front Line

Mark Schenker of Yale University will lead this four-part discussion held on the following Thursday evenings.

September 20, 2007
A Rumor of War by Philip Caputo

October 25, 2007
Dispatches by Michael Herr

November 15, 2007
We Were Soldiers Once . . . and Young
by Harold Moore and Joseph Galloway

December 6, 2007
The Things They Carried by Tim O'Brien

This series revisits the Vietnam War as an event chronicled by combatants and journalists. The books range from memoir to oral history to impressionistic fiction and contribute to the long and rich tradition of war literature as written by those who were there.

The book discussions begin at 7 p.m. Copies of the books are available at the Avon Public Library. For more information call 673-9712 or visit our website at www.avonctlibrary.info

Calling All Poets!

Saturday, October 20, 2007
10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Joan Gleckler and Faith Vicinanza of Creative Beginnings return!

What is a chapbook? According to Webster's, a chapbook is "a small book or pamphlet containing poems, ballads, stories, or religious tracts." In this workshop you will learn book binding techniques, book production options, distinction in weight and quality of text and cover stock papers, and what it means to establish your own imprint (publisher's name) for your chapbook. Please register. For high school and up.

Manic Mondays at the Library this Summer!

The days of a "quiet summer" at the library are long gone.

June 25, 2007:	1,490 checkouts, 1,314 returns, and 944 people visited the library
July 9, 2007:	1,824 checkouts, 1,577 returns, and 974 people visited the library
July 16, 2007:	1,775 checkouts, 1,914 returns, and 1,122 people visited the library
Aug 6, 2007:	1,900 checkouts, 1,801 returns, and 1,159 people visited the library

Ancestry.com

Coming this fall: New Genealogy database. Call the reference department for more information, 673-9712.

Researching Your Italian Ancestors

Saturday, November 3,
10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

This workshop will highlight the steps and sources for tracing your Italian heritage. You might be surprised to learn just how much of your research can be done right here in Connecticut (especially with the help of the Internet). Come prepared with family names and place names, as we'll use on-the-spot examples as we explore our common ties to Italia.

Speaker Dan Lynch is a 4th generation American of Irish and Italian descent. Dan has done extensive research into his Italian ancestors from the Abruzzo/Molise region of southern Italy who settled in/around Waterbury in the early 1900s. Co-sponsored by the Library and the Avon Historical Society.

Staff Favorites from Summer Reading:

The Alexandria Link by Steve Berry
The Yiddish Policemen's Union by Michael Chabon
Eat, Pray, Love by Elizabeth Gilbert
Water for Elephants by Sara Gruen
North River by Pete Hamill
A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini
Gertrude Bell, Queen of the Desert by Georgina Howell
Peculiar Grace by Jeffrey Lent
On Chesil Beach by Ian McEwan
Divisadero by Michael Ondaatje
Exile by Richard North Patterson
Me and Mr. Darcy by Alexandra Potter
A Day at the Beach by Helen Schulman
Body Surfing by Anita Shreve
How to Talk to a Widower by Jonathan Tropper

And of course, *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*.

New Unattended Children Policy

As of June, children under the age of 12 may no longer be left alone at the library. Parents should accompany children under 12 in the building at all times. Children 12 and over should have firm transportation arrangements made with adults that reflect awareness of the library's hours.

Skateboards

Skateboards are not allowed on the premises due to sidewalk accidents and lack of a storage area. Bikes must be placed on the bike rack, where they should be locked.

TO ALL OUR FRIENDS, NAMED BELOW, THANK YOU FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN THE FRIENDS OF THE AVON PUBLIC LIBRARY!

With this issue of the newsletter our new membership year begins. Your donations of time and money make the Avon Public

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MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Supporting your Library is just one benefit of being a Friend.
There are more reasons:

Individual/Senior - $10.00
Basic membership: *Library Times* newsletter, one free admission to preview night of annual Book Sale, one Friends discount price on bus trips, early notification of Friends events and e-mail reminders of upcoming Friends events.

Senior Couple - $15.00
All the above benefits for two adults.

Family Bookworms - $25.00
All the basic membership benefits for two adults and children in family under age of 16, plus two free regular priced adult and two children's books of your choice at the annual book sale.

Book Lover - $50.00-$99.00
All the basic membership benefits, plus a gift pack of Library note cards.*

Bibliophile - $100.00-$199.00
All the basic membership benefits, plus a Library Miniature.*

Book Collector - $200.00 & up
All the basic membership benefits, plus a Library Miniature and Library note cards.*

All memberships are for one year.
** Pick up these special Thank You gifts at the Library.*

JOIN NOW!

Friends of the Avon Free Public Library
281 Country Club Road, Avon, CT 06001

AVON FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Individual / Senior	$10
Senior couple	$15
Family Bookworms	$25
Booklover	$50-$99
Bibliophile	$100-$199
Book Collector	$200 & up

❑ New member ❑ Renewal

Please make checks payable to the Friends of the Library. Include this form with your tax-deductible contribution and matching gift form if your company participates.

Name:_____

Street:_____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____
*(Please print **clearly**)*

I would like to help with:

❑ Annual Book Sale (May) ❑ Special Projects Volunteer
❑ Friends Board Member ❑ Garden Swat Team
❑ Baked Goods Donation

Fall 2007

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

Sept. 4 – 22: Preschool storytime registration for the Oct/Nov session, followed by a lottery & notifications on Sept. 24/25 with programs beginning Oct. 1 and ending Nov.19. An attending adult must be on-site during storytimes.

Tuesdays until December: Gingersnaps Play Group for ages 1 and up meets in the Community Room (no librarian) from 10:00 am – Noon. Parents clean up the room & toys when they leave. This is an ongoing drop-in program.

Tues. Sept. 11: Prof. Furfur (author Michael Isaacs) reads his book "Fuzzy Escape Artists" in which Mr. Peters finds trouble when he adopts 2 puppies. Ages 4 + 5 sign up for 11:00 – 11:45 a.m. Kids sit alone with librarian and author, adults remain in children's room, please. The author's books will be for sale.

Tues. Sept. 11: Mrs. DeLuca's BookMates book group: grades 1 – 3 sign up. 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Tues. Sept. 18: Prof. Furfur returns to read "The Great Goat Getaway" for children NOT attending his Sept. 11 program. Animals teach Rebecca about life's meaning. Ages 4 + 5 sign up for 11:00 – 11:45 a.m. Kids sit alone with librarian and author, adults remain in children's room, please. The author's books will be for sale.

Wed. Sept. 19: Musician Janet Brown returns for ages 2 – 4 at 11:00 a.m. Drop in for a great early childhood sing along session and marching. Adults must sit with children.

Thur. Sept. 20: Mrs. Pasquenza, newly retired from Christ Church Nursery School, holds storytime for 3 year olds by registration. 11:00 – 11:45 a.m. Kids sit alone, parents remain in children's room. Please ask your child if he/ she can sit alone before signing up.

Tues. Sept. 25: Teen Nutmeg Book Group, 3:30 – 4:15: "Down The Rabbit Hole," sign up with Mrs. McNulty or e-mail: kmcnulty@avonctlibrary.info. Grades 7 & 8.

Tues. Sept. 25: Mrs. Randolph's Nutmeg Group, gr. 4 – 6, sign up for "Shredderman," 4:30 – 5:20 p.m.

Tues. Sept. 25: Mrs. St. Jean's PJ storytime for ages 3 – 6, sign up. 6:30 – 7:15 p.m.

Mon. Oct. 1: New storytime session begins. Parents, please pick up the new Unattended Children's Policy!

Tues. Oct. 2 & 9: CHESS CLUB for ages 7 and up will meet the first two Tuesdays of each month, except December, beginning Oct. 2.Time: Drop in between 3:30 – 5:00 p.m., parents MUST remain in library. Ends promptly at 5:00 p.m., plan accordingly, please.

Sat. Oct. 13: Amy Rogell presents her Halloween music show for ages 3 and up from 3 p.m. until 3:45. Kids drop in, must sit with adult. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Fri. Oct. 19: Scott Kalustian's crowd pleasing card magic. Ages 4 - 8 drop in at 4:00 p.m.

Sat. Oct. 20: It's "LOL" or LAUGH OUT LOUD, the theme for National Teen Read week. Grades 7 – 12 sign up for an IMPROV workshop facilitated by a comedy team. 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. Sign up in the YA area or e-mail to: kmcnulty@avonctlibrary.info.

Tues. Oct 23: Teen Nutmeg Book Group, 3:30 – 4:15: "Revenge of The Witch," sign up with Mrs. McNulty or e-mail: kmcnulty@avonctlibrary.info. Grades 7 & 8.

Tues. Oct. 23: Mrs. Randolph's Nutmeg Group, gr. 4 – 6, sign up for "Project Mulberry." Meets from 4:30 – 5:20 p.m.

Tues. Oct. 23: Mrs. St. Jean's PJ storytime, ages 3 – 6, sign up. 6:30 – 7:15 p.m.

Thurs. Oct. 25: Avon teacher and author Jan Brennan presents "Amazing Connecticut" for grades 3 and up from 4:00 – 5:00 pm, please register. Space limited. Her book will be for sale.

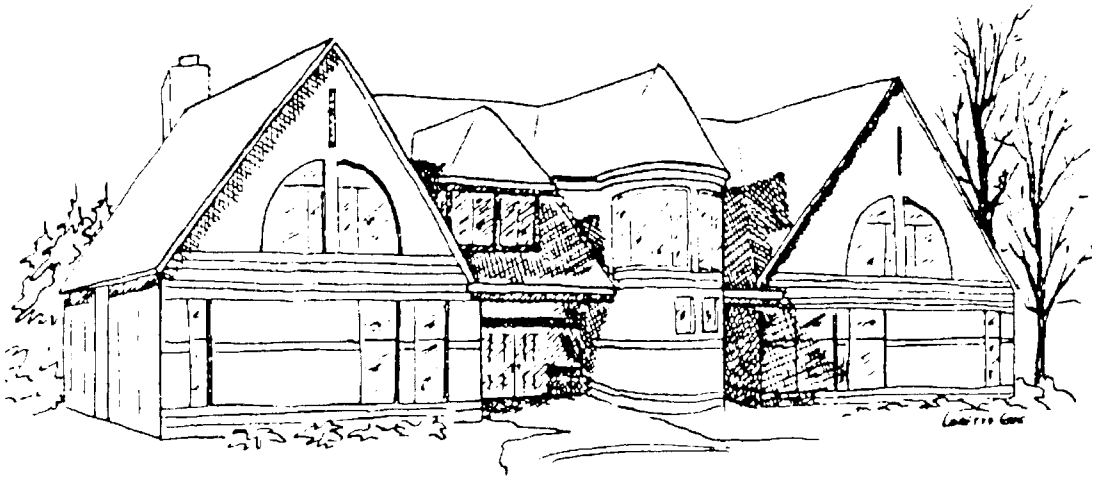
Sat.Oct. 27: Scary stories and craft for grades 1 – 4 from 2:30 – 3:30 p.m., please sign up.

Tues. Oct. 30: Mrs. DeLuca's BookMates book group, grades 1 – 3, sign up . 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

SAVE NOV. 10 For Casey Carle's Bubble Show and the Annual Birthday Party! 3:00 p.m.! 25 years!

Week of NOV. 13: National Children's Book Week! Special programs will be held.

Friends of the
Avon Free Public Library
281 Country Club Road
Avon, CT 06001



FICTION BOOKS ON CD

North River – Pete Hamill
Double Agents – W.E.B. Griffin
Justice Denied – J.A. Jance
Blaze – Richard Bachman
Falling Man – Don DeLillo
Good Guy – Dean Koontz
On Chesil Beach – Ian McEwan
Overlook – Michael Connelly
Peony in Love – Lisa See
Sleeping Doll – Jeffrey Deaver

NEW ADULT MUSIC CDs

5th Gear – Brad Paisley
Call Me Irresponsible – Michael Buble
Courage – Paula Cole
Curtains – Broadway cast
Hey Eugene – Pink Martini
Memory Almost Full – Paul McCartney
Spring Awakening – Broadway cast
Surrender – Jane Monheit

NON-FICTION BOOKS ON CD

Canon – Natalie Angier
Empire of Blue Water – Stephan Talty
God is Not Great – Christopher Hitchens
Presidential Courage – Michael Beschloss

PLAYAWAYS

Atonement – Ian McEwan
Kite Runner – Khaled Hosseini
The Glass Castle – Jeannette Walls
On Chesil Beach – Ian McEwan
Dreams of My Father – Barack Obama
The Number –Lee Eisenberg
The Tipping Point – Malcolm Gladwell

NEW YOUNG ADULT MUSIC CDs

Easy Tiger – Ryan Adams
Favourite Worst Nightmare – Arctic Monkeys
Icky Thump – White Stripes
It Won't Be Soon Before Long – Maroon 5
Minutes to Midnight – Linkin Park
My December – Kelly Clarkson
Now 25
Who We Are - Lifehouse

This is a sample of the new items available at the Library. Any of these items can be put on hold from home at *www.avonctlibrary.info,* at the Library using the online catalog, or by calling us at 673-9712. We'll do it for you or walk you through the steps.