

The Library Times

Avon, Connecticut

Newsletter of the Friends of the Library & the Board of Trustees

September 2009

VOTE YES FOR THE LIBRARY ON OCTOBER 22!



Expansion Update

At their September meeting, The Avon Town Council voted to bring the Library's Expansion Project to referendum, setting the date for Thursday, October 22, 2009. We are excited that at long last, we can ask you to vote YES and support your public library's desperately needed expansion and renovation. The Town Manager's Office has sent out a detailed description of the project to all Avon residents. There will be a town meeting on September 21 to review the project plans and cost estimates and to answer questions from voters about the project. You may also view architectural schematics and other project information at the library or on our website.

A Political Action Committee (PAC) has been formed in order to communicate with residents about the library project and to encourage people to vote in the referendum. Herb Pandiscio, former Superintendent of Avon Schools, has graciously agreed to head the PAC, which has chosen the name Library Expansion Action Plan (LEAP). Dick Brigham, a former Library Board member and active volunteer, is the PAC's Treasurer. Many others have volunteered to serve on the LEAP committee and we are very appreciative of the contributions of all of these individuals to help assure that the referendum is a success.

After the referendum, the Board of Directors will launch a fundraising campaign to contribute toward the costs of the library expansion and renovation. We expect to draw on the talents, skills and experience of a wide range of Avon people to assist us with the fundraising and communications plans.

We are finally embarking on a long awaited vision for a larger, first-rate library which will have many attractive features and amenities for everyone in Avon. Please note the October 22 referendum on your calendar and vote YES. Thank you.

*Mary LaBelle Suter, President
Avon Library Board of Directors*

President's Letter

Fall is just around the corner, so that means it is time for the *Friends of the Library* Membership Drive. Since memberships are annual, it's 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 referendum to approve the long awaited library expansion scheduled for October 22, your support is especially important so that we can make this much needed improvement become reality.

Since September is our membership renewal month, why not take a moment to join the *Friends of the Library*. Over 700 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 where there is *something for everyone*.

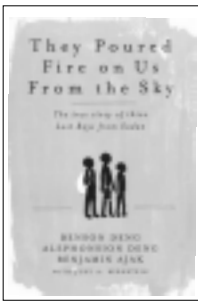
Become a Friend today.

*Barbara Leonard
President, Friends of Avon Library*

LEAP! Library Expansion Action Plan

A committee has been formed to advocate for the passage of a referendum to fund the renovations, additions, and improvement of our public library. Composed of your friends and neighbors who support a YES vote, they need funds and your help to accomplish this purpose. There are restrictions on the expenditure of non-profit funds, like the Friends funds and Library Board, for political advocacy, so your individual (not tax-deductible) contributions are needed.

Mail your contribution of \$25, \$50, \$75, \$100 or more to: L.E.A.P., Richard Brigham, Treasurer, 26 Oakridge Drive, Avon, CT. 06001. If you would like to work on the committee, contact Herb Pandiscio, chair, at 673-5827. Take a positive LEAP and vote YES on October 22!



A Story about the Lost Boys of Sudan

Benjamin Ajak and Alephonsion Deng,

two authors of the book, *They Poured Fire on Us From the Sky: The True Story of Three Lost Boys from Sudan* will speak at the Avon High School Auditorium,

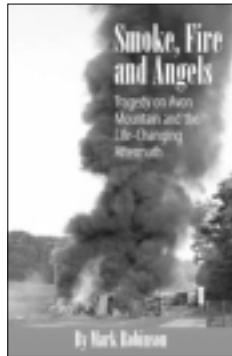
Thursday, October 8, at 7:00 pm. Ajak and Deng, along with 20,000 other refugees, fled the civil war and genocide of the Sudan in 1987. They will share their message of hope and triumph of the human spirit despite the desperate conditions surrounding their lives as young boys.

AUTHOR TALK

Smoke, Fire and Angels

by Mark Robinson • 7 p.m.

On Tuesday, October 13, Mark Robinson, author of *Smoke, Fire and Angels* and victim of the Avon Mountain crash on July 29, 2005, will talk about the dramatic story of that day and how he came to write the book. Copies of Mr. Robinson's book will be for sale; all proceeds will be donated to a fund for crash victims and their families.



– SAVE THE DATE –

October 16

Author Chris Bohjalian
in Avon

The Friends of the Avon Public Library are pleased to announce that

bestselling author **Chris Bohjalian** will be the speaker at the **Second Annual Friends of the Avon Library Author Luncheon** on Friday, October 16 at 11:00 am at the Golf Club of Avon.

Mr. Bohjalian, the popular author of such bestsellers as *The Double Bind* and *Midwives*, will speak and read from his latest book *Skeletons at the Feast*. Please plan to reserve a seat for the luncheon, which also includes music and teacup and silent auctions. All proceeds will go to fund future *Friends* projects for the benefit of the library.

Tickets are on sale now for \$50.00 each. For reservation information, contact Janet Stokesbury at 675-7961.

If you are interested in making a donation to the auctions, purchasing an ad in the program, or becoming an event sponsor, please contact Irene Herrera at 673-6623. Should you have any other questions about the event or be interested in assisting the *Friends of the Library* with the event, please contact Suzanne Hard at 675-5380.

FALL MUSIC SERIES



Friday evening series. All programs will begin at 7:30 pm with a reception following.

Funded by the Library's Mitnick Trust

October 2 Kelet Duo: Pi-Hsun Shih, piano and Katalin Vizsmeg, violin

October 16 Beatriz Magalhaes-Castro, flute; Bridget deMaura Castro, piano

October 23 Russian Duo: Terry Boyarsky, piano and Oleg Kruglyakov, balalaika

OCTOBER IS MYSTERY AUTHOR MONTH!

Meet a Connecticut mystery author! The authors will read from their latest book and talk about the writing process. Copies of the authors' books will be available for sale and signing. All programs are on Thursdays and will begin at 7:00 pm.

October 1 James Benn, author of the Billy Boyle WWII Mystery series *Billy Boyle*, *First Wave*, *Blood Alone* and the latest *Evil for Evil*.

October 15 Carole Shmurak, creator of Dr. Susan Lombardi, a professor of education at a state university in Connecticut, who solves the crimes in *Deadmistress*, *Death by Committee*, and her most recent *Death at Hilliard High* (Avon High School is the model for the school in the book.)

October 29 Chris Knopf, Avon resident, and author of the Hampton Mystery Series featuring Sam Acquillo *The Last Refuge*, *Two Time*, *Head Wounds*, and his latest, *Hard Stop*.

SUNDAY HOURS REDUCED TO JANUARY – MARCH

Due to mandated budget reductions, the Library was forced to eliminate two months, November and December, of Sunday openings this year. Sunday hours will begin on January 3 and the last Sunday opening will be March 28. Hours 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

Fall storytime registration for ages 12 months and up continues until deadline: Monday, September 21. Session: September 29 – November 13, acceptance by lottery. Call Children's Room at 673-9712 for form or view online at www.avonctlibrary.info.

Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays in September, starting Sept. 9 at 11:00 a.m.: Storytimes for ages 2 & 3 or 3, 4, & 5. Call 673-9712 to register for guest storytellers Dennis Bianchi (Fire Dept); Dana Rau (author), Janet Brown (music) or Kari Ann St. Jean (staff).

Gingersnaps: drop-in playgroup (no librarian) meets Tuesdays from 10 am to noon in the Community Room.

September 22: Mrs. DeLuca's BookMates Discussion for grades 1 – 3, from 4:00 – 5:00 pm, sign up.

September 26: See you at Avon Day!

September 29: Mrs. Randolph's Nutmeg Book Group, grades 4 – 6, register please for 4:30 pm, and pick up "Drita, My HomeGirl."

Chess Club for ages 8 and up resumes October 6: first two Tuesdays each month at 3:30 pm. Contract required.

October 13: Mrs. DeLuca's BookMates Discussion for grades 1 – 3, from 4:00 – 5:00 pm, sign up.

October 24: Emperor's New Clothes: a puppet show by LIONHEART puppetry for ages 4 and up from 3:00 – 4:00 pm. No babies or toddlers, bring a cushion to sit on. Drop in by 3:00 pm sharp.

October 27: Mrs. Randolph's Nutmeg Book Group, grades 4 – 6, register please for 4:30, and pick up "Ghost's Grave."

November 3: Election Day fun, call us for a schedule.

November 14: Annual Friends Birthday Party: Robert Rivest Mime performs "Laughter Is The Best Medicine" at 3:00 pm, with refreshments following. Ages 3 and up drop in.



TEEN CORNER



Welcome Back Party! Wii games and pizza! - Friday, September 18th - 3:00-4:30

Teen Crafters Club - Tuesday, October 6th - 3:00-5:00

TEEN READ WEEK! "Read Beyond Reality" OCTOBER 18th - 24th

After School Movie - Monday, September 19th - 3:00-4:30

Unreal Cupcake Creations - Tuesday, October 20th - 3:00-4:00

High School Book Discussion, Book TBA - Friday, October 23rd - 5:00-7:00

TAB Meeting – Tuesday, October 27th - 6:30-8:00

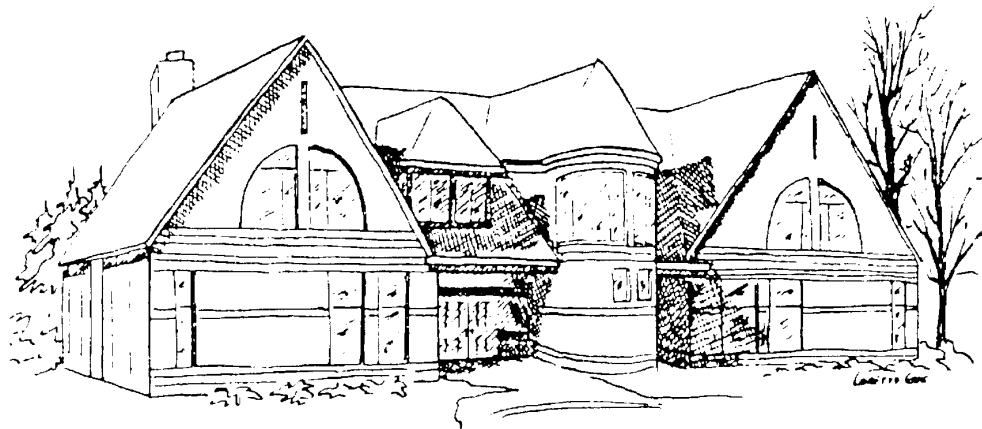
After School Gaming/ Halloween Celebration- Friday, October 30th - 3:00-4:30

Teen Crafters Club - Tuesday, November 3rd - 3:00-5:00

Note: All programs: register at alansing@avonctlibrary.info



*Avon Public Library is on Facebook.
Become a fan!*



Friends of the Library

gift to the DVD collection:

- *The Art and Practice of Gardening*
- *The Best of Suze Orman Collection*
- *The Brain Fitness Program and The Brain Fitness 2: Sight and Sound*
- *The Complete Gardener*
- *Dare to Repair: A Do-It-Yourself Guide to Home Improvement*
- *Darfur Now*
- *Floors & Ceilings: How To*
- *Frontline—On Our Watch*
- *Fun-to-Know: Using Digital Cameras*
- *Fun-to-Know: Cooking With Kids*
- *History Channel: The Founding of America: Founding Fathers/Founding Brothers*
- *History Channel: The Universe*
- *How Do I? Plumbing & Bath*
- *Mayo Clinic: Wellness Solutions for Back Pain*
- *Nova: The Bible's Buried Secrets*
- *Positive Home Solutions – Plumbing and Electricity*
- *Rules of the Road*
- *Shakespeare's An Age of Kings*
- *Wall Treatments*
- *WGBH Boston Specials: Health Matters: What You Need to Know About Cancer, Heart Disease, Depression and Obesity*
- *Yoga to the Rescue: Back Pain with Desiree Rumbaugh*

Coming soon:

Many of your favorite authors have books coming out soon. Here's a partial list.
Check the library catalog for titles and availability.

Mitch Albom, Margaret Atwood, David Baldacci, Dan Brown, Michael Chabon, Michael Connelly, Patricia Cornwell, Clive Cussler, Anita Diamant, E.L. Doctorow, Dave Eggers, Barbara Ehrenreich, Diana Galbadon, John Grisham, Tami Hoag, Nick Hornby, John Irving, Kazuo Ishiguro, Iris Johansen, Stephen King, Barbara Kingsolver, Jonathan Lethem, Alice Munro, Audrey Niffenegger, Orhan Pamuk, Sara Paretsky, Robert Parker, Richard North Patterson, Kathy Reichs, Ruth Rendell, Alexander McCall Smith, and Stuart Woods.