

The Library Times

Avon, Connecticut

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

November 2007

Shopping Alert!

Dates for the Holiday Boutique:

Thursday	November 29	12:00 noon- 8:00 p.m.
Friday	November 30	10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Saturday	December 1	10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday	December 2	1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Expansion Update

At the October 4, 2007 meeting, the Avon Town Council appointed the Library Building Committee to begin the process of selecting an architect and planning for the library expansion. The Board of Directors is very grateful to the Town Council, the Town Manager and many others who have supported this project while successfully balancing other priorities for the town. The Board of Directors and the library staff have completed several key documents which will be instrumental in the building committee's work. They include the Avon Free Public Library Strategic Plan, the Technology Plan, the Library Building Program and the Statement of Need. Each of these documents serves a specific purpose in planning for a municipal project of this nature. They are available at the library for anyone who wishes to examine them. In addition, we have reviewed and revised, where necessary, several Board policies relating to finance and investments, insurance and operating procedures in order to ensure that we are well prepared for the challenges of the expansion and fundraising.

The Board expects to appoint several ad-hoc committees over the next year to support the library expansion and related communications and fundraising efforts. We want to bring together the best resources in town to assure that Avon residents are involved and well-informed on the library's expansion priorities and construction progress as the larger building takes shape. We appreciate all the interest and support you have demonstrated, which will assure that our future library is a great asset for all Avon people.

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

President's Letter

Although it may seem a bit early to think about the holidays, the **Friends of the Library** already are planning for the third annual Holiday Boutique. This event was a huge success last year, with many people finding items even for those "hard to shop for" folks. If you are searching for a unique but affordable gift, you might want to stop in and browse through some of the remarkable items we have collected. Looking for a beautifully illustrated gardening book or cookbook? We have it. Great children's books? Yes, we have a large selection, all in wonderful condition. For that hard to please bibliophile, how about an item from our first edition or rare book collection? Our Boutique is right after Thanksgiving so you can get some of those presents out of the way and checked off your list. Do mark your calendars now to bring a friend and stop in to the **Friends'** Holiday Boutique, have some refreshments and browse as long as you wish for that perfect gift. We look forward to seeing you there.

— Barbara Leonard
President, Friends of Avon Library



Shop the Perfect Toy and Support the Friends

On Thursday evening, November 29, the Perfect Toy store in Avon is offering a great opportunity for some holiday shopping. If you stop between 5 and 8 p.m., the store will donate 15 % of any purchases you make to the **Friends of the Avon Library**. While you find that special gift for your special child, you will be helping the **Friends of the Library**.

Light refreshments will be served. See you there!

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

Unattended Children's Policy Review: most people are aware that as of June, 2007, no child under 12 may be left at the library for any reason, unless permission is given by a librarian.

Tuesdays: Gingersnaps Drop-In playgroup is held in the Community Room from 10:00 – 12:00.

*Chess Club is held the first two Tuesdays of each month (except December) for ages 7 & up, from 3:15 or later until 5:00. Parents and kids must have a signed contract on file. This is play for fun!

NOVEMBER

*Saturday Nov. 10: Annual Birthday Party for ages 3 & up, sponsored by the Friends of the Library. 3 pm Casey Carle's Amazing Bubble Show, refreshments. Adults sit with children.

Tuesday Nov. 13: PJ Storytime with Mrs. St. Jean at 6:30 pm for ages 3 and up. Please sign up.

Saturday Nov. 17: Mrs. McNulty dumps lots of Legos on the floor for a building contest. Ages 5 – 8 compete for 2 top Lego prizes by assembling & naming a creation from SIMPLE Lego blocks and parts. 3:00 – 3:45 pm Sign up required.

Tuesday Nov. 27: Two book discussion groups: Mrs. DeLuca's BOOKMATES for grades 1 – 3 from 4 – 5, sign up required; *Mrs. McNulty's "Teen" Nutmeg Group for grades 7 & 8 from 4:00 – 4:45 pm, sign up required to: kmcnulty@avonctlibrary.info.

Tuesday Nov. 27: Teen Advisory Board Meeting (high school) from 7:00 – 8:00 pm with dessert. Sign up with Miss Amber in person or to: alansing@avonctlibrary.info.

*Wednesday Nov. 28: Mrs. Randolph's Nutmeg Book Group, at 4:30 pm for grades 4 – 6, sign up required.

DECEMBER

Saturday Dec. 1: Opening of the Winter Reading Club. Pick up reading logs and chances for prizes during December. Ends March 1, participants eligible for party in March.

Tuesday Dec. 4: Doreen Hampton of Litchfield reads (and sells) her wonderful kooky book, "I LIKE GUM!" Storytime is by sign-up for ages 3 & up at 11:00 am with an adult, no obligation to buy.

Thursday Dec. 6: Elizabeth Faragher of Avon reads (and sells) her nostalgic pony story "OFF TO THE FAIR!" Storytime is at 4:00 pm for grades 1 & up (adults invited). This book is illustrated by beloved local artist Robert Noreika. No obligation to buy, but at \$15, a great gift.

Thursday Dec. 6: PJ Storytime with Mrs. St. Jean at 6:30 pm for ages 3 and up. Please sign up.

*Friday Dec. 7: Janet Brown's Drop-In Music Time for ages 2 – 5 at 11:00 am. with a sitting adult.

Saturday Dec. 8: Miss Amber's annual Princess Party for

DECEMBER *cont'd.*

*Wednesday Dec. 12: Mrs. McNulty's annual Tea Party for ages 7 – 9 from 4:00 – 5:00 pm, sign up, space very limited. Avon residents only. Dress up and bring a doll.

Thursday Dec. 13: Crafts & Holiday Concoctions for teens with Miss Amber. 4:00 – 6:00 pm, ages 12+ sign up.

Monday Dec. 17: Mrs. Deluca's "Cookie Exchange" story-time at 7:00 pm for grades 1 – 3. Registration is required. You will be asked to bring a dozen homemade cookies. Info, see Mrs. Deluca.

Thursday Dec. 27: Celebrate school break with live band music from Sam Pasco and his cronies! Sam comes for FREE every year to fill the room with joy. All ages, families just drop in at 11:00 am.

JANUARY

January 2 – 19: registration for the February/March winter storytime session, in person or by phone. Avon residents only. Form available on library's website at 10:00

TEEN CORNER

Our first official Teen Advisory Board met in September. The Teen Advisory Board (TAB) is a group of fifteen high school students that provides a great service to librarians by advising them on young adult issues and by giving a youth perspective on current books. They meet with advisors Amber Lansing, Library Specialist and Karen McNulty, Children's Librarian to plan and promote programs such as Teen Read Week in October.

This is our new official logo designed by Nami, one of our teens.



Some recent TAB events:

Drop-In Scary Movie

Improv Live Comedy Workshop

Teen Nutmeg Book Discussion

Youtube Hoax Photo Contest

Our Myspace page: www.myspace.com/tab

Our Facebook page: www.facebook.com

(search Teen Advisory Board)

The next TAB meeting is November 27 from 7:00 to 8:00 pm. For those in grades 9-12 who are interested in joining, you can attend a meeting or request information from alansing@avonctlibrary.info.

Teens Crazy Crafts and Concoctions for the Holidays on Thursday, Dec.13 from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. Ages 12+.

Email sign up: alansing@avonctlibrary.info

Welcome Priyanka Koppula, our new library page and a member of TAB.

*= **programs sponsored by the Friends of the Avon Free Public Library**

Nutmeg Book Award Nominees and Selection Committee



Please congratulate
7th grader
Hannah Lerner
when you see her!

And also one of
our own:

Avon Public Librarian
Carol Randolph has just
finished a three year
term with the adult
Connecticut Nutmeg
Selection Committee,
along with Avon student

Hannah Lerner as one of only two statewide designated student representatives. Both read over 120 books in one year, to narrow the choices to a mere ten nominees for grades 4 – 6, which will be revealed to the public in March 2008 for voting in January 2009. Carol is the first Avon staff member to commit to this huge task, and Hannah is the third fortunate student from Avon to serve in six years, along with Gabriella Paiella and Daniel Sheiner.

The Nutmeg Book Award encourages children in grades 4-8 to read quality literature and to choose their favorite from a list of ten nominated titles.

Ancestry.com

Trying to fill in gaps in your family tree? Looking to complete your family history? Genealogy research has just become easier with the library's purchase of the number one online genealogy database Ancestry.com. Only accessible from the library, so stop in and discover your

Playaways

This is what people are saying about our new Playaways:
"Love 'em" "So easy!" "Great for doing the housework."
"Great for walking the dog." "Are you going to get more?"

Haven't tried one yet? Stop in and ask about them.

Library Homebound Program

Has it been awhile since you've visited the library? Is it because you no longer can drive or get a ride here? If so, that is no reason to miss out on reading a great book or watching a wonderful movie. The library has many volunteers signed up to deliver items to Avon residents who are homebound, either permanently or temporarily. We are just a phone call away. 673-9712. A staff member will help select some titles and have them delivered directly to you. Some homebound requests include classic films, large print books, mysteries, books on crafts and hobbies, biographies and popular books on CD. Let us know what you've been missing. Let the library come to you.

If you would like to be one of our volunteers who deliver to the homebound, please call and ask for Alice Pentz.

Music at the Library Series



Catalina Vigurs and Samba Brasil will kick off the Sunday afternoon music series sponsored by the Friends on January 13 with an exciting mix of Brazilian music and jazz. Watch for the announcement for the remainder of the series. These free programs will begin at 3:00 pm.

Library Fine Increase

An increase in the fine rate for overdue library materials went into effect November 1 as voted on by the Avon Library Board of Directors. Library users will be charged 15 cents per day per overdue item; the fine rate used to be 10 cents per day and had not been changed since 1995. Fine rates for videos and DVDs continue to be \$1.00 per day and \$10.00 per day for overdue museum passes. Overdue fines are levied by most public libraries as an incentive to return library materials. Collected fines are turned over to the Town of Avon Collector of Revenue, with the exception of videos and DVD revenue, which is used to purchase more DVDs.

– Virginia Vocelli, Library Director

Winter Adult Programs

Tuesday, Jan. 15, 2008 at 7:00 pm

"Ask the Organizer" panel

January is GET ORGANIZED month! Bring your biggest clutter conundrums to this panel from the National Association of Professional Organizers who will present tips, take questions, and help make 2008 your most organized year yet!

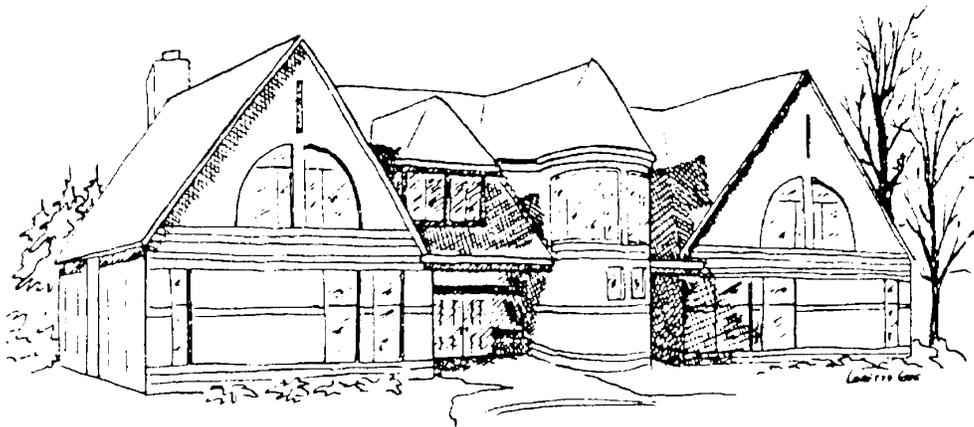
Wednesday, Feb. 6, 2008 at 1:00 pm

"Love Letters"

Set in the WWII era, A.R. Gurney's "Love Letters" is a poignant and humorous look at life and love told through the reading of letters. Join us as Richard Clarke, who has performed as Shakespeare and Mark Twain, returns.

D&B Million Dollar Database Now Available at Avon Public Library

The Avon Public Library now offers its patrons access to the Dun and Bradstreet Million Dollar Database, which provides profiles of 14 million companies, including all U.S. and the most significant segment of Canadian businesses. The database can be used for job searches, lead generation, and simple company look-ups. Avon residents can access this database from home by entering their valid library card number at the password prompt.



NEW YOUNG ADULT MUSIC

High School Musical 2
Good Girls Gone Bad – Rihanna
Curtis – 50 Cent
Graduation – Kanye West
Sean Kingston – Sean Kingston
Wild Hope – Mandy Moore
Libertad – Velvet Revolver
Planet Earth - Prince

NEW BOOKS ON CD - Fiction

Shoot Him If He Runs – Stuart Woods
Songs Without Words – Ann Packer
Sweet Revenge – Diane Mott Davidson
Careful Use of Compliments – Alexander McCall Smith
Playing For Pizza – John Grisham
Pillars of the Earth – Ken Follett
World Without End – Ken Follett

NEW ADULT MUSIC

Echoes Silence Patience & Grace – Foo Fighters
Lifeline – Ben Harper
Magic – Bruce Springsteen
The War soundtrack
Exile on Mainstream – Matchbox 20
Hits – Faith Hill
Italia – Chris Botti
Just Who I Am – Kenny Chesney
One Chance – Paul Potts
Relentless – Jason Aldean
Drastic Fantastic – KT Tunstall

NEW BOOKS ON CD - Nonfiction

Age of Turbulence – Alan Greenspan
Animal, Vegetable, Miracle – Barbara Kingsolver
Rings, Swords and Monsters: Exploring Fantasy
Literature – Michael Drought (Modern Scholar)

This is only a sample of the new items we have 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. We'll do it for you or walk you through the steps.