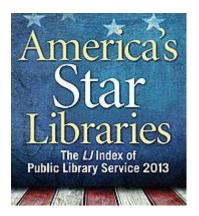
October's circulation (9452) decreased by 7% from September (10168), and increased by 1% from this time last year (9317). By the end of September, the library circulated 133,383 items year-to-date, a 8% decrease from the same period last year (145,063).



Visits to the library in October (6139) decreased by 17% from September (7400) and increased by 1% from this time last year (6051). By the end of October, there were 85,362 visits year-to-date which was a 6% decline from this period last year (90,616).



The library has once again received 5-Status as reported in the 2013 Library Journal Star Report. Other libraries in New Jersey to receive this recognition are Bernardsville Public Library (5-Stars), Somerset County Library (3-Stars), Mercer County Library (5-Stars), Ocean City Free Public Library (4-Stars) and Princeton Public Library (3-Stars). This year 263 libraries that received "Star" status. This is the 5th year that Avalon has received this recognition.

Trustees of the Avalon Free Public Library have free access to a series of webinars related to their role in the development of library services. Topics include: Trustees Basics I & II; Working Effectively with the Library Director; the Library's Budget; Advocating for Your Library; Evaluating the Library Director; and two classes for New Jersey trustees on Per Capita State Aid and New Jersey Library Law. The Trustee Academy features this series of online webinars for trustees developed by United for Libraries and the Association of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends, and Foundations, a division of the American Library Association. Access is available through 7/31/14. Contact the director for login procedures.

Taimi Kelley replaces Celine Hohenstein as Story Time Library Assistant. Ms. Hohenstein, who was hired in September, resigned just prior to her first story time. The scheduled story times were presented by library staff and Deborah Devitt, a former AVPL employee, who volunteered to conduct 2 of the sessions. Subsequently, Taimi Kelley, who had originally applied for the job, accepted the position. Ms. Kelley has an MLIS from Rutgers and undergraduate degree in special education. She has state certification as a library/media specialist, elementary school teacher and teacher of the handicapped.



Veneer separated from end panel of circulation desk. Staff noticed that the veneer was separating from a panel of the circulation desk. Schiavone Construction was contacted and, withing a matter days, repaired the panel. An inspection of the desk did not reveal any other problems.

Atomic Training replaces Universal Class for online training. Atomic training is a video-based how-to technology training resource which provides access to thousands of short videos covering more than 300 of today's most popular software applications on both PCs and Macs. You can watch a series of instructional videos to make it a course, or you can watch individual short videos to cover what you need to know now. The link for Atomic Training is available on the Education and Careers page in the eResources section of our website

Library selects facilitators for new reading groups. The library will launch 2 reading programs in January. Ms. Dottie Pearson will lead a general literature book group. She is retired librarian from Princeton University, and has significant experience with book groups. Michelle Devine will facilitate a romance reading group. Ms. Devine, who is responsible for collection development of romance fiction, is extremely knowledgeable in this genre. The library is currently looking for a facilitator for a military book discussion group.

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Library advertisement in AVFD centennial book

Photo used by Cape May County Herald Online Edition taken by library staff.



The library partners with Lions Club to bolster food donations to the Holy Redeemer Food Pantry. Lions Club members are being encourage to drop off dry and canned food at the library for distribution at the Holy Redeemer Food Pantry. Recently, the organization voted to donate 300 turkeys to the Food Pantry. The library in the past has partnered with the Lions Club in providing audiobooks for the Helen Diller Vacation Home for Blind Children. Lions have also supplied ushers for the Bay-Atlantic Symphony concerts. The library serves as a collection pointfor the used eye glasses program of the Lions Club.

The library is a collection point for Toys for Tots sponsored by the United States Marine Corps Reserves.



Friends of the Library were recognized by the Avalon Elementary School Junior Honor Society on October 23, 2013.

Library staff met with Reverend Dr. David J. Montanye of the First United Methodist Church of Avalon to explore the possibilities of collaboration, or at the very least, coordination of our programming efforts for next summer.

The major points that were covered:

- the need to develop a PR infrastructure that would make information on cultural events available to residents and visitors (information pamphlets, events website, use of public access television, etc.
- coordinate program dates to reduce conflicts and maximize audience attendance.
- collaborate on themes or series.
- joint programming where expenses are shared.

Rev Montayne suggested some speakers which Linda will look into for library programming.