

AVON FREE LIBRARY



YOUR BRIDGE TO DISCOVERY

COMMUNITY IMPACT REPORT



2023
IN REVIEW

OUR MISSION

Enriching the community by promoting an environment for discovery, creativity, inclusivity, and lifelong learning.

From the Director

Greetings,

It's been a little over a year since Scooter the Axolotl and I joined this incredible library community. We (and by "we" I truly mean all of us - staff, trustees, volunteers, patrons, and more) accomplished so much in 2023. Throughout the spring and summer, we undertook the renovation of the front yard and entrance to improve safety and accessibility, and went on to achieve the highest engagement with Summer Reading to date in the midst of major construction. Over the course of the year, the Board of Trustees and I created our new Long-Range Plan using input from the community, which will guide our way forward for years to come. And countless new and exciting connections were made within and outside of the physical space that is the Avon Free Library.

Everything we do here - lending out books, sharing stories and songs with families, providing free tax forms - all the stuff we do, in short, to further our mission - it all comes down to connection. The library connects us to each other, to the right stories and resources, and often to ourselves.

I take the role of the library in a community very seriously - even when that role involves being a silly goose - because I see every day how tough it is to live and work in this highly disconnected world, and every day I see libraries on the frontline fighting to provide a network of support for their communities.



We are here at the Avon Free Library to make your lives better, easier, and more fun, in a lot of different ways. I'm so grateful to be here, and I couldn't ask for better colleagues to serve with, nor a more supportive and diligent Board of Trustees.

I am pleased to present the Avon Free Library's 2023 Community Impact Report. The following tells an important story, but it's not the whole story. The rest of it happens when you connect with us: laugh with a staff member, recommend a movie, help feed Scooter - the possibilities are endless. I invite all of you to witness the everyday magic of the Avon Free Library - impossible to include in an infographic, but no less important to share.

Thank you,

Grace Frenzel, Director

2023 Highlights



Safety and accessibility were the focus of the front entrance renovation. The project replaced the crumbling stairs and walkway, created a regraded ADA-compliant ramp with easier turns, lowered the book drop so that it is accessible to all, and established a shaded seating area. This thoughtfully designed front yard and entrance ensures that all members of our community can enjoy the benefits of our beautiful and historic library.



Late fees were eliminated for print and audiobooks in 2021. In 2023 we extended the policy to include DVDs, park passes, and all other materials, making Avon Free Library 100% fine free and expanding access to materials, services, and resources.

Mobile hotspots are now available to be checked out, allowing access to the internet from anywhere and helping to decrease the digital literacy divide.

The library hosted the Avon Corn Festival's first ever Sensory Break Space, allowing individuals with Sensory Processing Disorder a calming and inclusive space so that they could fully enjoy the event.



75,339

**Items in
Collection**

Physical and Digital



42,295

Physical Items Borrowed

50,816



Digital Items Borrowed

26,722



In-person Visits



2,718

Library Card Holders



3,871

Program Attendees



1,328

Wifi Uses

1,325



**Computer
Uses**

267



Meeting & Study Room Uses

by outside groups and individuals

Your Bridge to Discovery

Physical Offerings

- Books
- Large Print Books
- CD Audio Books
- Empire Pass
- RMSC Pass
- NY Museum of Transportation Pass
- Mobile Hotspots
- DVDs
- Puzzles
- Magazines
- Local History Collection
- Local & Regional Newspapers
- Medication Mail Back Kits
- Gun Safety Kits



Extend your learning and fun to outside of the library's walls - community members can visit the Rochester Museum and Science Center and over a hundred New York State Parks for free when they check out the RMSC and Empire Passes. (RMSC pass provides free admission for 2 adults and children under the age of 18; Empire Pass allows for one free vehicle entry to participating NYS parks.)

Unable to access the library due to disability, long-term or chronic illness, lack of transportation, or other difficulty? You can have your books, CDs, DVDs, and puzzles delivered directly to you through Books by Mail.



Books to Go also provides bulk lending to adults living in a nursing home, assisted living facility, or senior apartment.

Services

- WiFi throughout Building & Parking Lot
- Printing, Copying, Scanning & Faxing
- Meeting Room, Study Room, & Study Loft
- Programming for all Ages
- Take & Make Kits for Kids
- Scavenger Hunts for Kids
- 10 Public Computers
- Laptop Loan within Building
- RUBY 10 Video Magnifier
- Adopt-an-Author Program
- Books by Mail
- Books to Go

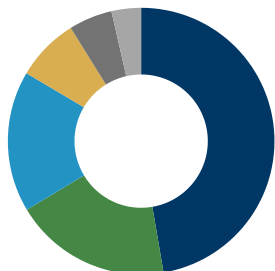
Digital Offerings

- eBooks
- Audiobooks
- Mango Languages
- ASL Inside (*new in 2024*)
- Consumer Reports
- Ancestry Inside / Local History
- Kanopy (*movie streaming*)
- Ground News (*news comparison site*)
- Law Depot (*digital library of legal resources*)



Libby is your source for ebooks and audiobooks, allowing you to read across devices, listen in your car, send to your Kindle or tablet, and even access offline. Just download the free Libby app on your device and login with your Avon library card!

Funding Sources



■ Avon School District Taxes	\$143,800
■ Town of Avon Taxes	\$58,000
■ Village of Avon Taxes	\$52,000
■ Donations, Gifts & Endowments	\$23,219
■ Grants	\$16,022
■ Other	\$10,901
TOTAL	\$303,942

Total Revenue \$303,942

Total Operating Expense \$259,144

Unused funds are put into reserve for future capital projects including a roof replacement and upgrades to accessibility and safety

Library patrons saved \$1,116,805 in 2023 by using the Avon Free Library

*Savings based on cost of physical and digital materials if purchased instead of borrowed
Does not account for programs or other library offerings*

Thank you to our Donors and Sponsors

Your support allows the library to expand our programming, grow our collections, and provide essential services that further enrich our community. Your investment keeps the library a safe, accessible, and meaningful part of our community.

Bruce Amey | Avon Lions Club | Avon Rotary Club | Kathy Barsz | M Beckmann | David Bergner Sr.
Ken Bernhardt | Robert Campo | Josh Cirri | Marilyn Cirri | Hilda & Michael Collins | Joseph Cope
Noreen Craven | Mary Cullinan | David & Kelley Cushing | Judy Davies | Jenna Gonillo Davis
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Women of the Zion Episcopal Church

Gifts made in Memory or Honor of: Kathy Bernhardt | Frank Barsz | Sally Campo | Dr. Richard &
Mary Collins | Barbara Dolgos | Donato & Rosemary Gonillo | Pamela & Richard Leonard
Mary Mayoue | Dorothy (Damon) Murphy | Betsy Gillard Murphy | Erin Schmerbeck
Shirley Strassenberg | Peggy Tirrell | Barb & Steve Vanderbilt

Your 2024 Library Team



Grace Frenzel
Director



Colleen
Senior Clerk



Kasey
*Youth Services
Coordinator*



Pamela
Clerk



Carrienne
Clerk



Cathy
Clerk



Anne
Clerk



Mary
*Substitute
Clerk*



Sara
*Substitute
Clerk*



Scooter

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 avonfreelibrary.org

 @avonfreelibrary



The Avon Free Library is a member of the OWWL Library System, a New York State chartered, cooperative public library system created to enhance shared services and cooperation among member libraries.

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More.



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Avon, NY 14414