

Highlights

- Personnel – Continued coordination of staffing efforts within the Circulation Department.
- Building Project – Architects have been redirected to evaluate a new option for addressing various facility needs identified during strategic planning efforts.
- Capital Projects – Circulation Desk installation scheduled for December 2025.

Areas of Focus

- Personnel
 - Posted opening for a PT On Call Assistant.
 - Completed application review process and interviewing for open PT Library Assistant and On Call Assistant positions, recommendations pending November Board meeting.
 - Coordinated facility coverage and scheduling.
- 2026 Budget and Capital Planning – Ongoing preparation of 2026 budgets and continued refinement of 2026–2028 capital projects, anticipated for Board review, December 2025.
- Building Project – Architects and the ad hoc Building Committee met via zoom to review location concept. Led to a potential revised plan for this effort, to be addressed further in November 2025.

Strategic Goals

Strengthening Community Connection (Library & History Center use and facilities, Collections, and Digital Resources)

- Anniversary – The Library facility celebrates its 20th anniversary on November 19.
- Book Vendor Updates – Industry changes for library book vendors were announced in October and staff are identifying ways to best maintain current fulfillment.
- Venue Evaluation – Staff are looking into possible solutions to expand options for event venues in Avalon.
- YTD Library & HC Use 2025 vs. 2024 - use remains similar to patterns seen in previous months, with steady borrowing and digital engagement offsetting decline in onsite visits.
 - Borrowing and patron registration continue to trend upward compared with the same period in 2024.
 - Nearly the same number of physical items were borrowed in October 2025 as in October 2024, while total borrowing rose due to increased digital use.
 - Library visits were down by approximately 800 compared to last year, but the number of physical materials borrowed was very similar.
- HC Updates
 - Decorating for the holiday season commenced, thanks to the efforts of AHS Board Member Al Haring.
 - HC staff visited SHES on 10/17 to conclude the time capsule project with the kindergarten class.
 - Phase 1 of new Children's section anticipated for completion next week - open by Thanksgiving weekend.
 - Developing new brochure, *7 Blocks from the AFPL to AHC*, highlighting historic sites and events.
 - Curator to attend the Cape Coalition meeting to share input for CMC's 250th Anniversary magazine.
 - HC back garden clean up completed.
- HC Collections Committee
 - Carol Singer – 8/15/2025
 - Borough of Avalon Progress report for May 1967 – May 1969
 - Postcard (no pic) addressed to Mrs. Geo W Wakefield of 7th St. Avalon. Postmarked 07/14/1942
 - 1 x B&W photograph shows woman behind long line of dead flounder fish – location unknown
 - Thomas Sayen – 08/22/2025
 - Brian's Waffle House menu
 - Hugh & Annetta Schultz – 10/1/2025
 - Mrs. Ruth Sofroney's 26th St. school bell, given by Mrs. Sofroney to Charlotte & Frank Schultz
 - Peggy Whelan – 10/06/25/2025
 - Golden Inn matchbook
 - 2 x "Greetings from Avalon" color photographic postcards

AVALON LIBRARY & HISTORY CENTER REPORT – October 2025

- 1 x Concord Motor Inn color photographic postcard
- 1 x Concord Moror Inn at night color photographic postcard
- 13 x color photographs of 1976 Avalon boat parade
- Lorna Robertson – 10/14/2025
 - 2 x “An Evening with Bill Cosby” on 06/24/2006 at AVES
- Fran Niermann – 10/15/2025
 - 2 x Sears Roebuck cottage doors, from 21st St. house
- Carole Bell – 10/20/2025
 - “Great Storms of the Jersey Shore”

Cultivating Culture in the Community (Marketing, Community & Staff Engagement, and Events)

- Local Business Survey – A staff strategic subcommittee worked with the Chamber of Commerce to distribute a survey to Avalon businesses with the effort of increasing engagement. Attempting to identify how the library might serve the business community and other ways to partner with them.
- Community Outreach – Engagement included staff presence at Arts & Seafood Fest, Trunk or Treat, and Dune Grass Planting.