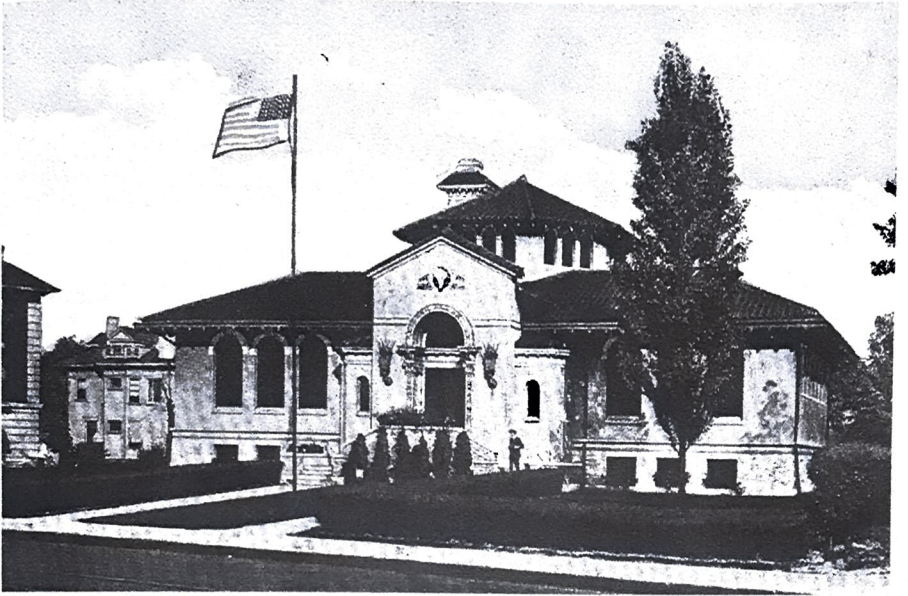


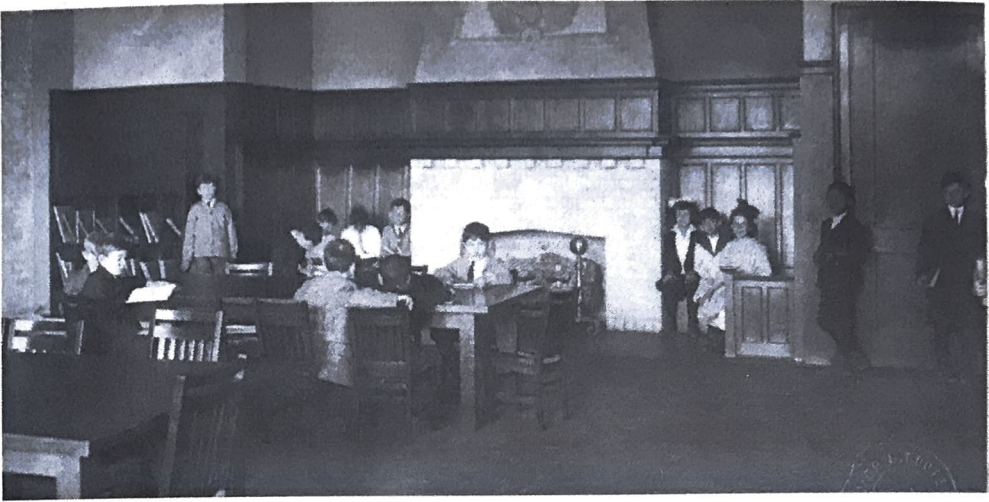
1913-2013



Saturday, March 9, 2013

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*Celebrating 100 Years of Library Service  
to the Community!*



## History of Library Service to the Avondale Community

Library service in Avondale began in 1899 in E.F. Hollenbeck's drug store, which served as a delivery station for books and materials from the Library downtown. With Andrew Carnegie's financial help, nine new library buildings were constructed in Cincinnati between 1906 and 1915. Of the \$280,000 he contributed, \$45,292 was allocated for construction of the Avondale Library; the community donated the land. Carnegie's feeling was that a library should be the center of a community and to that end insisted that each building have a lecture hall. He favored projects to improve society over outright charitable relief and considered libraries an important means for the education of all.

Designed by the architectural firm Garber and Woodward, the Spanish Colonial style structure features a Rookwood tile entry, decorative iron work, and a domed ceiling. A Rookwood drinking fountain was presented to the branch by the Avondale Improvement Association to mark its dedication on March 1, 1913.

Since its opening 100 years ago, the Avondale Branch Library has remained true to Carnegie's ideals. A wide range of resources and programs are available for all ages. The Library remains an important community center that provides a safe and nurturing environment for children after school and during the summer, assembles teacher collections for area classrooms, helps answer questions ranging from legal forms to car repair, offers meeting room space, gives access to technology, presents informative and entertaining programs for all ages, and connects the community it serves to the world of ideas and information.

# Schedule of Events

**1:00 p.m.**

## *Anniversary program:*

- Welcome by Board President William J. Moran
- Musical performance by Zion Temple Christian Academy students
- History of Library service in the Avondale community by Kim Fender, The Eva Jane Romaine Coombe Director
- Special announcement by William J. Moran
- Remarks by elected officials and community leaders
- Introduction of branch staff by Angela Farmer, Service Operations Manager, Central Region

**1:30-3:00 p.m.**

## *Musical entertainment, refreshments, activities for all ages, including music & games provided by Radio One*

Throughout the day (10:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.), you may also pick up a commemorative postcard and bookmark, enjoy a display of historic photos about the branch, and the Avondale community, and shop at the Friends of the Public Library used book sale on the lower level.

Special thanks to Kroger, United Dairy Farmers, and The Friends of the Public Library for all their support of today's celebration.

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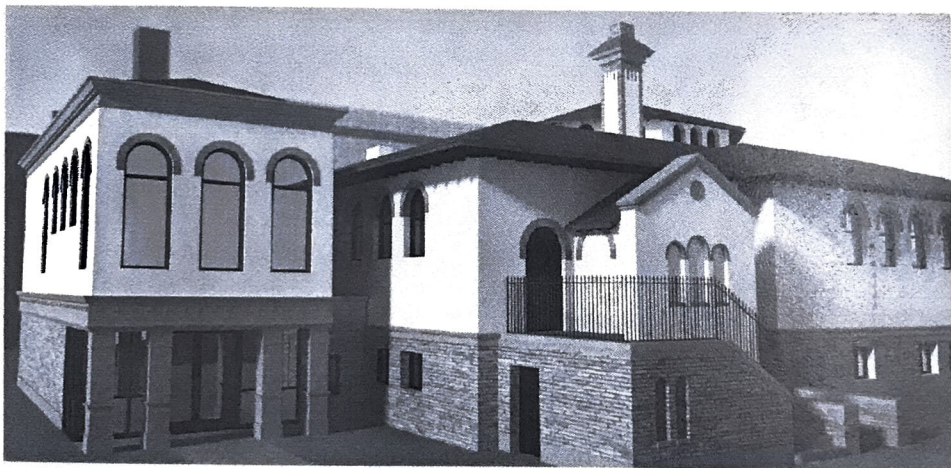
## **The Avondale Branch Library is needed more than ever!**

### *In 2012:*

- The branch circulated nearly 100,000 books & materials
- It presented 354 programs that were enjoyed by 6,523 children, teens & adults—a 54% increase over program attendance in 2011
- A total of 118,867 visits were made to the branch
- The number of computer sessions used in 2012 (42,398) was 35% higher than in 2011 (31,466). The Library remains a key access point for information and new online media

# Investing in Improved Library Service to the Avondale Community

In honor of the Avondale Branch Library's 100th anniversary, the Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County will launch an accessibility project. This construction project will open the Avondale Branch Library's doors to everyone by adding an alternative entrance, elevator, and two new bathrooms that will remove physical barriers to library service. Additional enhancements will include new carpeting and lighting, an upgraded heating, air conditioning and ventilation system, improved Internet connectivity, reconfigured service desk, and self-check. Estimated completion for the project is early 2014.



**THE  
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LIBRARY**  
of Cincinnati  
and  
Hamilton County

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