



CLINTON COMMUNITY LIBRARY

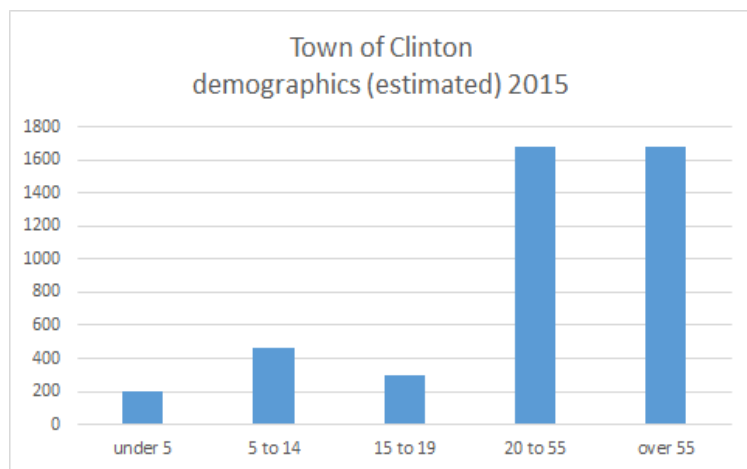
BOARD OF TRUSTEES QUARTERLY REPORT TO THE TOWN OF CLINTON

October 1 – December 31, 2016

A Library For All Ages

Clinton Community Library serves everyone in the Town of Clinton. Towards this end we continuously review our town population. Seems we are a mesh of disparate ages, family and household configurations, weekenders and summer visitors, readers and non-readers. Whether you fall into only one of these categories or straddle several, the library is striving to be your personal resource for continued learning as well as the friendly lively local place

to gather. For convenience let's look at how the Library has been busy serving **all ages living in our town.**



Did you know that nearly half of Clinton's residents are Seniors? No problem! The Library looked long at the research (Getting older certainly has its challenges!) and then designed and found funding for a new program called **Optimistic Aging**. It's a good fit for the Library because learning, once thought to be age-based, is now proven a critical lifelong thread. Equally important for Seniors is keeping active and in touch. Less inclined to drive, more comfortable in the safety of their own homes, Seniors become vulnerable to loneliness and cognitive slide. Largely not the internet generation, they

do have good feelings about libraries in general. In fact, it was our Seniors who, while busy raising their families, helped start Clinton Community Library. The *Optimistic Aging* series, with gratitude for their energy back then, aims to meet them where they are now.

The *Optimistic Aging* program is unique. No other library in the county has set this focus. We are currently offering our Clinton Seniors **Lunch and Learn Lectures** with an ever diversifying focus of topics and stiffness-lessening mind-calming classes in the form of age appropriate **Tai Chi** and **Gentle Chair Yoga**. Previously we held classes on aromatherapy, drumming, nutrition and memory enhancement. We schedule these activities so they dovetail with the Seniors' *Settled and Serving In Place – Taconic* (SSIP) meetings.

At the other end of the age spectrum are **our Clinton children**. For these we pledge that our Library will always be a safe, stimulating place, in person and on line. **Story Hour** is jumping with early literacy experiences shaped in music and crafts and held in our colorful children's downstairs space. Whole families can reserve and use a free general admission pass to the **Mid-Hudson Children's Museum**. For fun and community building, we gathered this holiday month to design beautiful and delicious **Gingerbread Houses** and we threw a **Happy Noon Year's Eve** party. **Family Movie Night** continues each month, often featuring just-released flicks. We now also have an online equivalent of the actual children's section at our Library. Called **Kid's eReading Room**, children can browse for eBooks and downloadable audio books, categorized by subject, interest and reading level, kindergarten through grade 8. As if that isn't enough, we offer **DayByDayNY**, a virtual calendar with activities and stories that change every day; **Kids' Port @ your library** with fun games and great resources; and **Tumble Books**, electronic versions of favorite picture books with added animation, sound, music and narration. Previously we offered our young Clinton teens a **Babysitter Training & Certification** class and five **Tween Mornings** of interesting, fun and creative activities. Our **Battle of the Books** Team, the Novel Ninjas, continues to duel with neighboring libraries and make us proud.

Which brings us to [Adults](#), the other hefty segment of Clinton's population. For them our **Open Mic** Friday nights have strong appeal, as did our **Concerts on the Library Lawn** during the Summer. In this quarter we offered a **Women's Self-Defense** class and in January we will start **all-level Yoga** classes on Saturdays. We also held an **Energy Savings Workshop** and we collaborated with the **Clinton Historical Society** to support *Vito Petrocchio Sings* and *Ride The Day Line in 1949*. We are still proud of our **Farm to Table Programs** last Spring and our **Wine Tasting** educational seminar in the Summer. At the library there is opportunity to join our **Book Club**, attend our **Chess** classes, read today's **Newspapers**, check out the **latest titles in fiction and nonfiction**, relax with **Coloring** or our **Community Puzzle** and join our **Bird Watching Walks** along the town's Nature Trail. On line you can **Learn A Language** quickly, read more than **100 Magazines** at your leisure and get timely **Job and Career Help**. We continue to hold our **Tech Classes** on Saturday mornings and our **Family Crafts** and **Needlework** evenings. We invite you to use our quiet **Office Space** downstairs. To keep track of our library activity, please visit our **Website** calendar and **Facebook** page and continue to read our mail and online newsletters. To keep track of your library activity, use **Library Elf**.

We are happy to serve the community by **collecting used eyeglasses for the Lions Club** and accepting **food donations for the Pleasant Plains Church food bank**. Every Thursday morning we also have on site a NED Corps representative who can offer immediate support with food, rent, utilities and clothing and help set up health care, counseling and housing services. As we close out the year we want again to thank the **Town of Clinton**, the **Elizabeth C. Davis Memorial Fund**, the **Agnes Varis Charitable Trust**, the **Northeast Dutchess Fund of the Berkshire Taconic Foundation**, the **Friendship Garden Club** and the many Clinton residents who have contributed funds and time to the Library.

The Community is the heart of the Library. Our mission in 2017 is to continue to be [A Library for All Ages](#).

Barbara Burns, President
Board of Trustees