

## SPOTLIGHT ON:

CLINTON SCHOOL LIBRARIAN  
**JENNIFER LATIMER**

*Courier* Correspondent **Elizabeth Aaron** sat down with Clinton School Librarian **Jennifer Latimer** to ask her about how she became a librarian, her favorite books, and much more.

### Have you always been a librarian?

No, I actually had several jobs before becoming a librarian. After graduating from Penn State I worked for Ford Motor Company. It was a great place to work and I got to travel a lot over my nine years there. I then took time to raise my son Cole before ultimately working at the Hilton library.

### What is your first memory of being in a library?

My mom was a schoolteacher and she used to take my brothers and me to the library. If we ever said we were bored, she would put us in the car and off we went to the library to explore. When I got older I got my own library card and she let me ride my bike to the library. I felt very grown-up.

### What was your favorite book to read to your son (Cole, a Clinton fourth-grader) when he was little?

One of our favorites was *Go, Dog, Go*. I would try to use funny voices when asking “Do you like my hat?” and he always laughed at my humor. My advice is read to your child every day.

### What books are the most popular in the Clinton library?

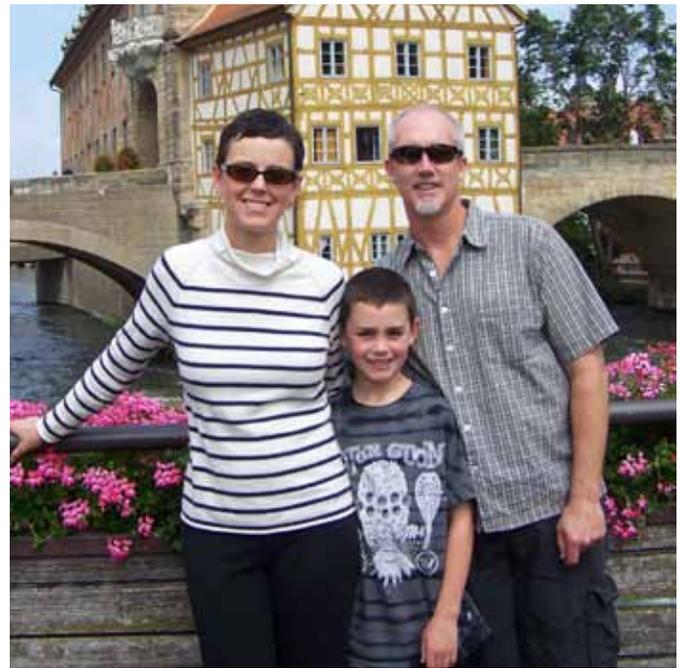
Superhero, Lego, and princess books tend to go first. That being said, Clinton students are incredibly diverse in their book preferences. Some days I cannot have enough rocks and minerals books and the next it is Franny K. Stein. One of the things I love most about our library is the diversity of books.

### What’s your favorite book?

This is a tough question since I read a lot. In a year I might read 100+ books. I have always loved *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis and my students know I love fantasy. This year I read *Wonder* by RJ Palacio and it was incredibly moving. I also love the authors Lauren Oliver and Rebecca Stead.

### What are you reading right now?

I just went to the Hilton library at the start of vacation and got four books to read. The book I am most looking forward to reading is called *The Shoemaker’s Wife*. It is a historical fiction novel by Adriana Trigiani.



Clinton School Librarian Jennifer Latimer with her husband Patrick and son Cole in front of the Bamberg, Germany, town hall, which was built in 1467. They were visiting Mrs. Latimer’s brother, who is stationed there in the Army.

### My favorite food is ...

This should be an easy question, but it depends on where I am. In the summer I love to visit my parents in Ocean City, NJ and there is an amazing coffee shop that sells homemade scones. My favorite flavor scone is Mexican chocolate. My favorite food I never get to eat much is from Spain and it is *calamari en su tinta*. I lived in Spain while in college and have very good memories of food!

### My favorite hobby is ...

Reading! I love to get lost in a good book. I also love to watch sports with my family. I am a big Philadelphia sports fan and remain faithful to the Phillies, Eagles and 76ers. My husband is a Dallas Cowboy fan and Cole likes the Miami Heat. We all agree though on the Penn State Nittany Lion football team for college sports.

### One thing Clinton children would be surprised to know about me is ...

I am in charge of my family genealogy and my grandmother’s maiden name is Bacon.

### My perfect day would consist of ...

Going to the beach with my family and friends. I would have my favorite beach chair and a great book, and Cole would be surfing.

### My pets are...

I have a yellow lab named Sparky who many kids see me walk around the neighborhood and a new adopted fish named Coco. Coco is a bilingual fish (he “speaks” Spanish and English) and he is the newest Clinton library pet.

— Elizabeth Aaron