

Office for the Aging Advisory Council Report
On the 17 November 2017 Meeting
To the December 2017 Taghkanic Town Board

The Advisory Council of the Office for the Aging met on Friday, 17 November 2017. It was the third of three scheduled fall meetings.

Agency News:

◆ **OFA:**

OFA Administrator, Kevin McDonald reported that the County is working on a way to address the severe shortage of Home Health Aides.

He also reported that attendance at the Nutrition Sites has increased and continues to grow month to month.

◆ **NY Connects**

Lynda Scheer reported that the new schedule for NY Connects on-site work at DSS, Canaan Town Hall and Copake Town Hall continues to go well. The goal is to help people navigate through Medicaid, Medicare, SNAP and other applications.

As was reported last month, the success of this program will trigger the addition this service in other towns in 2018.

◆ **Department of Health**

Administrator Jack Mabb reported that a recall of Kidde fire extinguishers is in progress because of the possibility of the handles breaking.

Council Reports:

- ◆ Judith Zimmer-Sabri from new Lebanon spoke about connecting residents to seniors who need help with errands and light home maintenance. Currently, a small group of volunteers are working with several neighbors to address short-term issues.
- ◆ The KISS shredding program is serving the towns and many seniors find it extremely helpful.
- ◆ Joyce Thompson shared information about the meeting earlier that day between the OFA Safe At Home Committee and Town Supervisors. Of particular interest was that a recent Columbia County Demographic Profile done by Cornell University shows that by 2040 the largest age group in Columbia County will be between 45 and 80 years of age. This is a shift from 2010 when the largest segment was from 40 – 65. This prompted a discussion focused on understanding the future needs of Columbia County residents. See the attached graphic for more details.

The next Advisory Council meeting will be 20 April 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

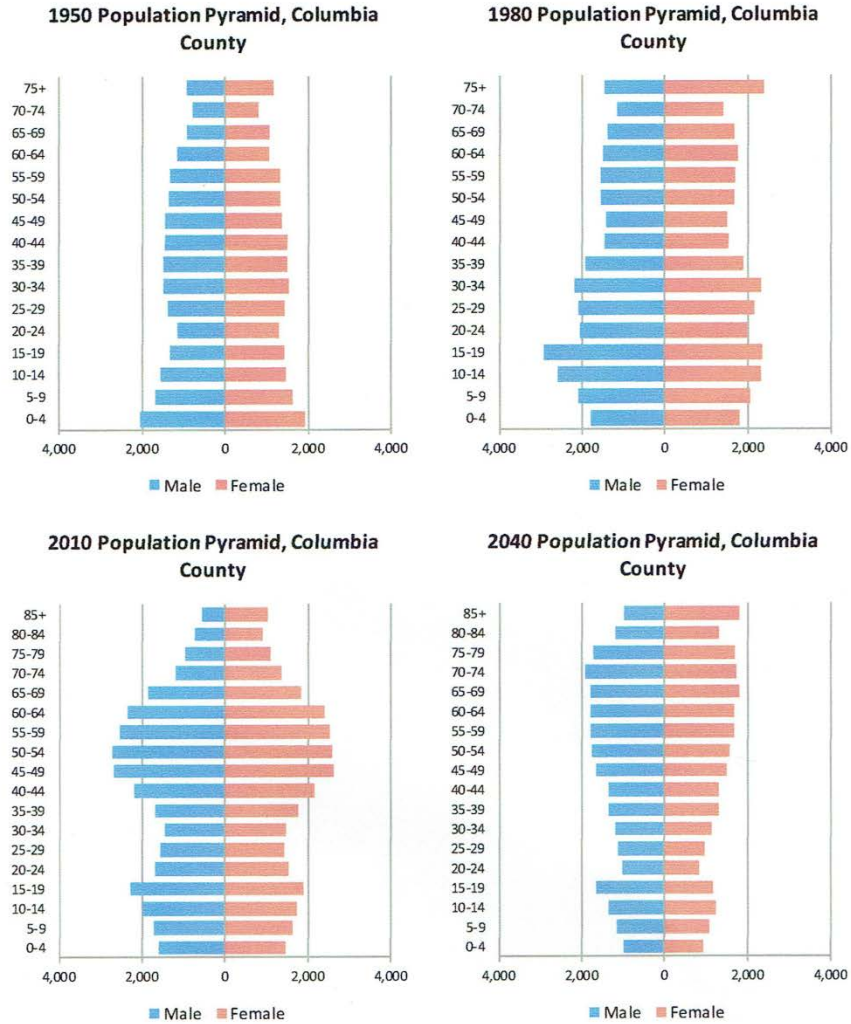
Joyce Thompson

Town Representative to the Office for the Aging Advisory Council

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5 Population by age

5.1 Historic and projected population pyramids



Source: 1950, 1980, 2010 Decennial Census and projections by Cornell Program on Applied Demographics