



DeWitt Daily News.com



FROM THE BIG RED BARN!

2980 US Highway 51, PO Box 497, Clinton, IL 61727-0497 217-935-9590

WHOW (AM) 1520
and
W222BG 92.3 FM

FOURTH QUARTER 2015
ISSUES/PROGRAMS
LIST

Quarterly Issues/Program List

There follows a list of significant issues responded to by WHOW, Clinton, IL, along with significant programming treatment of those issues for the period of 10/1/15 to 12/31/15. The listing is by no means exhaustive. The order in which these stories appear does not reflect any priority or significance.

<u>Descrip. Of Issue</u>	<u>Prog/Seg Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Duration</u>	<u>Description of Program Segment</u>
City Government	10-20-15	7:15a	3:30	City Continues To Discuss Yard Brush Pick Up System
City Government	10-27-15	8:15a	3:30	Clinton Leaf Clean Up Program To Open Up Next Week
City Government	11-19-15	7:15a	3:45	City Adjusts Liquor Codes, Again
City Government	12-19-15	8:15a	2:20	City Parks Renovation Underway
City Government	12-31-15	12:15p	3:00	2015 Year in Review: New City Council Members

10-20-15 City Continues To Discuss Yard Brush Pick Up System

10-20-15 sl

6a

>>City Continues To Discuss Yard Brush Pick Up System

As the City of Clinton continues their discussion and decision making on the future of the yard waste clean up service offered by the Streets Department, City officials seem to be leaning to keeping it in place but tighter regulation.

Clinton Mayor Roger Cyrulik indicated Monday night at the Clinton City Council meeting, something needs to be done. He explains they are balancing keeping the service in place but finding tighter regulations to make things more efficient.

Cut 1: yardwaste1 :49 CUE: and stuff

According to Commissioner John Wise, the new rules are coming together to prevent able bodied residents from who have the resources to properly remove their own brush, however, choose to leave an over-abundance of brush for city crews.

Cut 2: yardwaste2 :57 CUE: a little bit

Wise points to the City getting out of the trash collecting business because of the abuse they started to see from residents in that service. He believes a system is needed.

Other business from the Monday night meeting...

>>The Council approved a minor subdivision at 400 East Johnson for a cell tower.

>>The Council approved a contract for the sale of the Spurgeon's building.

>>The Clinton Fire Department had a purchase approved for fire gear at a cost of \$1715.

>>The Clinton Fire Department had a purchase approved for tires from Walker Tire at a cost of just over \$1070.

10-27-15 Clinton Leaf Clean Up Program To Open Up Next Week

10-27-15 sl 6a

>>Clinton Leaf Clean Up Program To Open Up Next Week

The leaves are flying in central Illinois and the Clinton Public Works leaf cleanup crews are going to be hitting city streets starting next week.

Steve Lobb is Public Works Director for the City of Clinton. He indicates to Regional Radio News, the Clinton Streets Department will begin a prolonged dedication to leaf pick up across the community.

Cut 1: leafclean1 :56 CUE: every month

According to Lobb, the City is broken down into five zones and then each one is in theory, taken on per day. Lobb indicates there may be days where more than one zone can be cleaned in a day.

Cut 2: leafclean2 1:20 CUE: picked up

Lobb explains leaf piles don't have to be a certain size. He encourages raked leaves to be pushed as close to the curb line as possible.

Cut 3: leafclean3 :54 CUE: pretty easily

A copy of the zones can be seen today at dewittdailynews.com.

Lobb encourages residents to keep as much alternate debris out of the leaf piles as possible. He recognizes there are going to be things that residents cannot prevent, but he asks the piles be leaves only.

11-19-15 City Adjusts Liquor Codes, Again

11-19-15 sl 6a

>>City Adjusts Liquor Codes, Again

The liquor codes in Clinton are being adjusted once again.

Clinton City Administrator Tim Followell indicates they are rolling out a few changes dealing with alcohol being allowed on the square. He says it aims to better utilize the renovations over the past several years.

Cut 1: alcoholchange1 :48 CUE: the requirements

The changes also will reflect the elimination of limitations on bars or taverns in the community and will expand the ability of a hotel/motel owner to allow for liquor in their facility.

Cut 2: alcoholchange2 :41 CUE: in the past

Mayor Roger Cyrulik points out there will be restrictions in allowing patrons to carry alcohol onto the square and feels the measure will give businesses more opportunities when there are events on the square.

Cut 3: alcoholchanges3 :28 CUE: revenue stream

Gaming machines have become increasingly popular and are allowed to be placed in establishments that serve alcohol in Illinois. The Mayor says he is not against the machines but does want to address their presence in Clinton.

Cut 4: alcoholchanges4 :57 CUE: follow the code

The Mayor explains the changes come at the suggestion of owners of businesses in Clinton.

The Mayor serves as the Liquor Commissioner in Clinton.

12-22-15 City Parks Renovation Underway; Leaders Seek Community Input

12-22-15 sl 6a

>>City Parks Renovation Underway; Leaders Seek Community Input

A tax approved about a year ago is starting to pay dividends for the community.

Clinton City Administrator Tim Followell Monday night at the Clinton City Council meeting, updated the Council on progress at community parks thanks to a tax the Council approved roughly a year ago.

[audio:12221583108-122215parksreno1.mp3] [/audio]

As City leaders try to plan out ways to make local parks more functional, they are seeking feedback. Followell indicates the goals set won't happen overnight, so they hope to have the community provide what they'd like to see in their local parks.

[audio:12221583110-122215parksreno2.mp3] [/audio]

Ideas for the various community parks include multi-use surfaces, challenge and fitness courses for young adults, walking paths around and through the parks, and to turn Kiwanis Park's material into longer lasting, more durable materials to ensure a longer life expectancy.

12-30-15 2015 Year in Review New City Council Members, New Ideas

12-30-15 sl 6a

>>2015 Year in Review: New City Council Members, New Ideas

Two familiar faces returned to the Clinton City Council this spring after the 2015 spring elections and once City official says the transition has been smooth.

Mayor Roger Cyrulik and Commissioner Dan Ballenger returned to the Clinton City this spring and City Administrator Tim Followell indicates the transition of welcoming and integrating the two into City operations has been smooth.

Cut 1: cityreview1 :31 CUE: recreating

Upon the arrival of the two back to the Board, there were sweeping changes that took place right off the bat according to Followell.

Cut 2: cityreview2 :26 CUE: at that time

According to Followell, one of the first items for the newly elected Mayor was to adjust the outdated liquor codes. He explains Mayor Cyrulik recognized the codes allowed for just one bar establishment, and he has since adjusted that.

Cut 3: cityreview3 1:18 CUE: might be interested

More changes were made as it relates to the liquor codes. Followell indicates there is now an ordinance that allows for liquor to be had on the downtown square for special events. He feels it should allow for more opportunities to utilize the new stage and overhangs on Mr. Lincoln Square.

Cut 4: cityreview4 :50 CUE: liquor license

Followell says the two new Council members' passion for their respective areas, public safety for Ballenger and the hospital for the Mayor, are now running very well.

Quarterly Issues/Program List

There follows a list of significant issues responded to by WHOW, Clinton, IL, along with significant programming treatment of those issues for the period of 10/1/15 to 12/31/15. The listing is by no means exhaustive. The order in which these stories appear does not reflect any priority or significance.

<u>Descrip. Of Issue</u>	<u>Prog/Seg Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Duration</u>	<u>Description of Program Segment</u>
County Government	10-26-15	7:20a	4:00	DeWitt County Puts Budget On File
County Government	10-29-15	8:15a	2:30	County Moving Closer to Opening New Animal Shelter
County Government	11-4-15	7:20a	3:45	Clinton, DeWitt County Officials Talk Withholding of Motor Fuel Tax Funds
County Government	12-1-15	12:15p	4:30	County Board Sets Agreement To Expand Animal Control Role
County Government	12-28-15	7:10a	3:15	County Leaders Look Back on 2015

10-26-15 DeWitt County Puts Budget On File

10-26-15 sl 6a

>>DeWitt County Puts Budget On File

The DeWitt County Board Thursday night put this upcoming fiscal year's budget on file.

Compared to last year, this budget looks much better. That's according to Board Chair David Newberg. He explains this year's budget is balanced and they've been able to restore their cash reserves to about a month and a half.

Cut 1: countybudget1 :23 CUE: and a half

Newberg says there is a lot of positive aspects to this year's budget. He indicates there will be no cuts and they plan on reducing the tax rate.

Cut 2: countybudget2 :54 CUE: 7-9

For the County, a majority of the budget comes from levies. Newberg explains there are several different levies in place, but they also get funds from the state and federal governments.

Cut 3: countybudget3 :33 CUE: areas

Newberg credits the dedication and hard work of the department heads and County Board members. He says their hard work is allowing the County to "get the fiscal house back in order".

Cut 4: countybudget4 1:10 CUE: run smoother

Newberg believes the budget for this year that is now on file was one of several positive happenings at the latest County Board meeting. He feels the meeting last Thursday was as good of a meeting as they have had under the new Board.

10-29-15 DeWitt County Moving Closer to Opening New Animal Shelter

10-29-15 sl 6a

>>DeWitt County Moving Closer to Opening New Animal Shelter

Renovations on what has become known as the "East Annex" in DeWitt County will soon be the home for Animal Control of DeWitt County.

County Board Chair David Newberg explains they have purchased a stainless steel operating table as well as kennels to be put in place.

Cut 1: countyupdate1 :43 CUE: want to do

The marina project at Clinton Lake is nearing completion. At the start of the year, the County faced a daunting task to bring the marina up to compliance with the American Disabilities Act, and Newberg indicates, next month, all those will be completed.

Cut 2: countyupdate2 :53 CUE: the marina

Newberg indicates there is not a firm timeline for a move in date for the Animal Control office to the new building but remains hopeful that will happen prior to the new year.

11-4-15 Clinton, DeWitt County Officials Talk Withholding of Motor Fuel Tax Funds

11-4-15 sl 6a

>>Clinton, DeWitt County Officials Talk Withholding of Motor Fuel Tax Funds

The respective leaders of Clinton and DeWitt County roads departments say the state's announcement to withhold their motor fuel tax funds is not going to have a great deal of impact initially, though that's not to say things won't change

Mark Mathon is the DeWitt County Highway Engineer and Steve Lobb is the Clinton Public Works Director. Both say the announcement by the State won't have an impact in the short term, but Lobb says, that may effect them going into next year.

Cut 1: nomft1 :34 CUE: be flowing

Mathon says they are a fortunate the County has built up a fund balance to match funds on a federal project, however, if motor fuel tax moneys don't begin to come in starting next year, they may be looking at drawing from that fund to make up the difference.

Cut 2: nomft2 :38 CUE: snow plowing

The lack of a budget and the uncertainty of those funds is making future budgeting and planning very difficult. According to Mathon, they will soon begin their planning for next year and he says without knowing what the status of that money is, they are just going to budget as usual and hope to receive that money in a timely fashion.

Cut 3: nomft3 :52 CUE: coat work

Lobb indicates they will budget for next year like they are getting those funds as usual. However, he says if for some reason they don't receive that money, there will be projects that get put on hold.

Cut 4: nomft4 :32 CUE: those projects

Mathon indicates the motor fuel tax money from a County standpoint gets used for general maintenance work. He says for townships, if they don't have money for targeted projects by February or March, they won't be taking those on.

Lobb explains the motor fuel tax funds for Clinton tend to be used for secondary streets projects.

Mathon also adds, motor fuel tax funds have significantly decreased over the last several years, greatly effecting the amount of work and projects they are able to give to community roads.

12-1-15 County Board Sets Agreement To Expand Animal Control Role

12-1-15 sl 6a

>>County Board Sets Agreement To Expand Animal Control Role

The stray cat or loose dog is something that one DeWitt County entity has always taken care of, but has actually not had the legal authority to do.

DeWitt County Board Chair David Newberg indicates DeWitt County is working towards getting the authority to take care of calls of loose animals in several parts of the county through to an intergovernmental agreement discussed at the latest County Board meeting.

Cut 1: animalcontrol1 :61 CUE: sent to them

The County engaged into a cost-analysis study a few months ago and according to Newberg, this is agreement is a part of the findings from that.

Cut 2: animalcontrol2 :36 CUE: which would help

Newberg explains it was discovered animal control didn't have the legal authority to deal with animals in the city and he wants to see the appropriate measures taken so everything becomes legal.

He says they will still work alongside law enforcement of the community when they are called up until the agreement goes into effect.

12-28-15 County Leaders Look Back on 2015

12-28-15 sl 6a

>>County Leaders Look Back on 2015

December 1 marked the one year anniversary of a new DeWitt County Board and the leader of said board is looking back fondly.

Newberg credits a lot of people for their hard work in turning the County around, and says Vice-Chair of the Board, Camille Redman worked very hard for a balanced budget this past year.

Cut 1: countyboard151 1:13 CUE: need to do here

A big reason for a balanced budget is an agreement with the Clinton Landfill. Newberg says the agreement took a lot work to get figured out.

Cut 2: countyboard152 :

Redman feels the re-introduction of the committee system and Newberg says the committees allowed the County work through some major issues they faced this year.

Cut 3: countyboard153 1:12 CUE: big deal

Redman says the State's financial impasse has also had its impacts on the budget in DeWitt County but Redman feels they are going to be just fine despite that.

Quarterly Issues/Program List

There follows a list of significant issues responded to by WHOW, Clinton, IL, along with significant programming treatment of those issues for the period of 10/1/15 to 12/31/15. The listing is by no means exhaustive. The order in which these stories appear does not reflect any priority or significance.

<u>Descrip. Of Issue</u>	<u>Prog/Seg Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Duration</u>	<u>Description of Program Segment</u>
Economic Dev.	11-16-15	7:20a	4:30	DCDC Active in Comprehensive Plan Update
Economic Dev.	11-17-15	8:15a	3:30	Chamber Christmas Parade Saturday
Economic Dev.	11-19-15	7:20a	2:30	Local Business Owner Named Grand Marshal of Christmas Parade
Economic Dev.	12-5-15	8:10a	4:30	Local Business Owner Nominated For State Board Position
Economic Dev.	12-16-15	12:15p	3:30	Clinton Buzzing With Christmas Activities

11-16-15 DeWitt County Development Council Assisting with Comprehensive Plan
11-16-15 DeWitt County Development Council Active in Comprehensive Plan Update

The DeWitt County Development Council is lending a voice to the county's update of its comprehensive plan.

DCDC Executive Director Ruth Stauffer says the plan has not been updated in about seven years. She says the plan helps county leaders handle projected growth:

11-16-15 Ruth Stauffer 1

Stauffer says the plan has to have specifics, but it can't be too limiting:

11-16-15 Ruth Stauffer 2

Stauffer says the DeWitt County Development Council with the help of Exelon is holding its next Leaders Breakfast on Tuesday from 8 a.m. until 9:30 a.m. at the Clinton Country Club:

11-16-16 Ruth Stauffer 3

Cost of the breakfast is \$10 and the event is limited to 50 participants. Contact the DCDC at 217-935-0500.

11-17-15 Chamber Xmas

11-27-15 Clinton Chamber Prepares for Christmas Parade gh

>>Chamber Christmas Parade Saturday

Santa and dozens of entries are highlighting the Clinton Christmas Parade tomorrow afternoon in Clinton.

Clinton Area Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau Director Marian Brisard says the parade has a record number of 60 entries:

11-17-15 Brisard Xmas Parade 1 "as well"

The parade's highlight is the arrival of Old Saint Nick, who will make additional appearances in downtown Clinton next month:

11-17-15 Brisard Santa Appearances 2

Brisard says the Clinton Chamber is also hosting four holiday movies at the Clintonia Eagle Theater:

11-17-15 Brisard Holiday Movies 3 "Xmas Vacation"

For times and dates, visit the Clintonia Eagle Theater or Clinton Chamber websites or Facebook pages.

11-19-15 Local Business Owner Named Grand Marshal of Christmas Parade

11-19-15 sl 6a

>>Local Business Owner Named Grand Marshal of Christmas Parade

The Chamber of Commerce would like to announce that the Grand Marshal selected for this year's Christmas parade will be Lance Schmid. His nomination letters read:

"Lance Schmid has been a huge supporter of Clinton, serving the community as a business leader and generous resident. Lance is civic-minded, and has served on the Clinton Chamber's board of directors, and held the office of Chamber President. He has volunteered his auction services for various community organizations' fundraisers for many years.

Lance is co-owner of Clinton Auto Auction. The business opened in 2003. The new building was almost totally destroyed in the May 2003 tornado, but didn't stop him - He rebuilt! Clinton Auto Auction has been a growing business in the Clinton area ever since. Lance expanded his auction operations with The Drive-In Auction Center in 2013, where he continues to hold auctions through Lance Schmid Auctions. Lance is a hometown Clinton resident and it would be great to honor him with the title of Grand Marshal for this year's Christmas Parade."

Congratulations from the Clinton Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism Bureau to Mr. Lance Schmid on being selected Grand Marshal of the 2015 Clinton Christmas Parade. A special entry will be included in the line-up for the 2015 Christmas Parade for the Parade Grand Marshal.

The Clinton Christmas Parade, themed "Songs of Christmas" will be held on Saturday afternoon, November 28th at 2:00pm. The parade route begins in the 500 block of East Main Street at DeWitt Manor, traveling West to Mr. Lincoln's Square and ends at the corner of Adams & Center Street near Calvert Funeral Home. Please contact the Chamber office at 217-935-3364 with any questions regarding the parade.

12-5-15 Local Business Owner Nominated For State Board Position

12-5-15 sl 6a

>>Local Business Owner Nominated For State Board Position

Local business owner Jay Peterson, of Peterson Insurance in Clinton, has been nominated to the Independent Insurance Agents Regional Board.

Peterson says the board serves a liason between the board and it's members. He was selected by his peers in a roughly 13 county area.

Cut 1: petersonbaord1 :39 CUE: our behalf

Peterson says it means a lot to be selected by his peers in central Illinois.

Cut 2: petersonboard2 :25 CUE: their behalf

The term is a two year term for Peterson and indicates he's undecided if he'll seek another term after the expiration of this one.

12-16-15 Clinton Buzzing With Christmas Activities

12-16-15 sl 6a

>>Clinton Buzzing With Christmas Activities

The holiday season is in full swing and there's still plenty of things to do in Clinton this year.

Marian Brisard is the Executive Director of the Clinton Chamber of Commerce and indicates their community calendar is full of things for kids and adults to take advantage of. Brisard indicates there's been plenty of happenings already in the first few weeks of December.

Cut 1: christmashappen1 :55 CUE: dec. 8

The Clinton Chamber of Commerce is one of many groups and businesses to have a tree at Liberty Village for their "Walk Through the Village". If you're seeking a way to give back or volunteer, Brisard adds there are several non-profit groups in the community seeking help this holiday season.

Cut 2: christmashappen2 :47 CUE: in need

There's plenty more activities and ways to get involved and all those can be found at the Clinton Chamber website, clintonilchamber.com or you can call 217-935-3364 for further details on any events or volunteer opportunities.

Quarterly Issues/Program List

There follows a list of significant issues responded to by WHOW, Clinton, IL, along with significant programming treatment of those issues for the period of 10/1/15 to 12/31/15. The listing is by no means exhaustive. The order in which these stories appear does not reflect any priority or significance.

<u>Descrip. Of Issue</u>	<u>Prog/Seg Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Duration</u>	<u>Description of Program Segment</u>
Education	12-14-15	7:15a	3:30	CHS Principal Reflects on First Semester
Education	12-18-15	8:15a	4:30	Clinton Schools Issues Working Cash Bonds
Education	12-23-15	7:15a	3:00	Clinton School Teachers Eager For 2015-16 Classroom Grants
Education	12-24-15	8:10a	4:30	Clinton Schools Leader Says District Report Reflects New Illinois Learning Standards
Education	12-29-15	12:10p	4:30	Clinton BOE Highlights 2015, Changes

12-14-15 Clinton High School Principal Reflects on First Semester

12-14-15 sl 6a

>>Clinton High School Principal Reflects on First Semester

It's finals week at Clinton High School and their leader is reflecting on the first semester.

Principal Jerry Wayne says they have tried some new things this year for their students. Wayne explains the rearranging of their various hallways is giving students access to things they need.

Cut 1: chsfinals1 :37 CUE: fairly well

The Clinton High School football team's first playoff appearance in over a decade has increased the excitement around the sports programs and Wayne says it is evident that the student support has increased.

Cut 2: chsfinals2 :19 CUE: continuing it

As the two-day finals period approaches, Wayne hopes his students will keep their heads down and stay focused on finishing the semester strong.

Cut 3: chsfinals3 :35 CUE: achieve that goal

As the semester concludes, Wayne encourages his students to take some time during their break to reflect and evaluate what they have done and look ahead to next semester.

Cut 4: chsfinals4 :57 CUE: had set

As Wayne reflects on the positive aspects of the first semester, he also says there have been some challenges, most notably trying to find suitable options for his students to take the ACTs.

12-18-15 Clinton Schools Issues Working Cash Bonds

12-18-15 sl 6a

>>Clinton Schools Issues Working Cash Bonds

In reaction to a potential property tax freeze, Clinton schools are issuing just short of \$3-million in working cash bonds.

Superintendent of Clinton Schools, Curt Nettles explains this serves three purposes. The first is the bonds keep the tax rate steady and the second purpose, is allowing the district access to consistent cash. He notes, this is in response to the property tax freeze legislation proposal.

Cut 1: bonds1 :57 CUE: come about

According to Nettles, the \$2.9-million of bonds issued is not much debt when you consider the district operates on a roughly \$25-million budget. He says their aim is to pay off the bond in around three years.

Cut 2: bonds2 :46 CUE: property tax levies

Nettles indicates the State of Illinois formulates their capacities for bonds and right now, Clinton is nowhere near that capacity. He says they are in great shape.

Cut 3: bonds3 :43 CUE: very favorably

Nettles explains the property tax freeze legislation comes in to play as it relates to working cash bonds. He notes the working cash bond rates will be frozen and can only be issued or raised through a referendum.

12-23-15 Clinton School Teachers Eager For 2015-16 Classroom Grants

12-23-15 sl 6a

>>Clinton School Teachers Eager For 2015-16 Classroom Grants

Teachers in the Clinton school system will be finalizing, if they haven't already, applications for this year's round of classroom grants provided through the Clinton Community Educational Foundation, CCEF.

Ruth Lowers is one of the Board members of the CCEF, and explains the Foundation has kicked off their mailing fundraising effort for this year. According to Lowers, funds raised go back into the school system through their classroom grants and scholarships for graduating seniors.

Cut 1: ccefcampaign1 :48 CUE: in february

Lowers says a teacher can receive up to \$1-thousand for their classrooms and in the past those grants have covered a variety of things from supplies for a particular subject to simple enrichment tools for learning.

Cut 2: ccefcampaign2 :42 CUE: award more

For the Foundation and the committee that reviews the applications, Lowers says they are seeking applications that have creativity and enhance the learning experience for the students of the district. She indicates they have awarded grants across all levels of the school system.

Cut 3: ccefcampaign3 :41 CUE: does not cover

According to Lowers, the administrators at each building must sign off on the grants so the applications match the curriculum of the school.

Lowers indicates the teacher grant applications are due January 8.

The Foundation's campaign will continue to allow students to receive scholarships and will provide other opportunities in the district that the normal school's budget does not provide.

12-24-15 Clinton Schools Leader Says District Report Reflects New Illinois Learning Standards
12-24-15 sl 6a

>>Clinton Schools Leader Says District Report Reflects New Illinois Learning Standards

If you want to know the most meticulous details of any district in Illinois, the district report card is a place to go.

The report details some of the most particular aspects of every district in the state and Clinton Schools Superintendent Curt Nettles says one thing about this year's report cards that will be true almost across the board will be the low assessment scores of last year. He says those scores reflect the new learning standards.

Cut 1: clintonreportcard1 :60 CUE: in those scores

Nettles has seen three different assessments in his time in education and he says the low scores initially are nothing new. He says while it is concerning, he predicts the scores balancing out over time as students become more familiar with the new standards.

Cut 2: clintonreportcard2 :27 CUE: with that

One issue Nettles takes with the report card is the accuracy of the information. He says a mistake on Clinton School's report card was never corrected and he feels accountability needs to be addressed.

Cut 3: clintonreportcard3 :66 CUE: is accurate

The report card informs the public on demographics of the school, the education level of their staff, attendance rates and much more.

12-29-15 Clinton Board of Education Highlights 2015, Changes

12-29-15 sl 6a

>>Clinton Board of Education Highlights 2015, Changes

As we get set to turn the page on 2015, one local leader is looking back on the calendar year as it relates to the Clinton school system.

John Blythe is the President of the Clinton Board of Education and indicates there's been a lot of change at a Board level this year between the introduction of new board members and a new Superintendent. He feels first year Superintendent Curt Nettles has been a great fit for the district.

Cut 1: schoolrecap1 :43 CUE: to the table

For Blythe, the change at the school board level wasn't the only highlights to the 2015 year. Despite the new elementary building being a year and a half old, he points out there were a few projects that were completed after they welcomed students in the new facility.

Cut 2: schoolrecap2 :28 CUE: that commitment

Financially, Blythe feels the Board made a big decision in hiring a district maintenance director. He says the hiring of Ryan Black as the maintenance director and the hiring of Jeff Harrold will, in the long run, save the district. In fact, he points out he's already seen the benefit of having the two on staff.

Cut 3: schoolrecap3 :

In the next calendar year, the district is going to pursue a one-cent sales tax measure for facility and maintenance purposes.

Blythe says they will begin to work on that along with continuing to update a 5-year district plan.

He hopes to continue to get to know his fellow board members and working alongside them.

He calls this past year positive and believes there is a positive attitude around the district as well.

Quarterly Issues/Program List

There follows a list of significant issues responded to by WHOW, Clinton, IL, along with significant programming treatment of those issues for the period of 10/1/15 to 12/31/15. The listing is by no means exhaustive. The order in which these stories appear does not reflect any priority or significance.

<u>Descrip. Of Issue</u>	<u>Prog/Seg Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Duration</u>	<u>Description of Program Segment</u>
Public Health	10-6-15	8:15a	3:30	Exelon, Clinton Police Department Announce Partnership For K-9 Unit
Public Health	10-9-15	12:15p	:30	81-Year Old Clinton Woman Killed in House Fire
Public Health	10-13-15	7:15a	2:00	Clinton Fire Department Battles Three Fires in Less Than 24 Hours
Public Health	11-16-15	12:15p	2:30	Fire at Clinton Business
Public Health	12-14-15	8:15a	4:30	Clinton Police Department Unveils New Vehicles

10-6-15 Exelon, Clinton Police Department Announce Partnership For K-9 Unit

10-6-15 sl 6a

>>Exelon, Clinton Police Department Announce Partnership For K-9 Unit

The Clinton Police Department and the Exelon Clinton Nuclear Power Station officially announced a partnership in assisting the Department to acquire their K-9 unit, Charlie.

Charlie is a female black lab and according to Clinton Police Chief Ben Lowers, following the retirement of their former K-9 Lasko, the department wanted to continue their program, but needed the help of community partners. He notes, that is where Exelon stepped up to assist.

Cut 1: exelonintro1 :56 CUE: lab breeder

The Chief explains Charlie will not be an aggressive K-9, and will be used for what the department calls 'soft tracking'. Chief Lowers explains she is now patrolling and will be used in the schools for outreach purposes.

Cut 2: exelonintro2 :53 CUE: gentlement right here

Ted Stoner is the Clinton Exelon Nuclear Power Station Plant Manager. He says it is a privilege to help out the department and believes that is what Exelon's role is in the community.

Cut 3: exelonintro3 :22 CUE: help out

Other business from the Monday night Clinton City Council meeting...

>>The Council approved a contract with the Clinton Fire Department.

>>Sale of surplus property was approved at 310 North Madison Street.

>>A service agreement was approved for the Clinton Police and Fire Commissions.

10-9-15 81-Year Old Clinton Woman Killed in House Fire

10-9-15 sl

6a

>>81-Year Old Clinton Woman Killed in House Fire

DeWitt County Coroner, Randall J. Rice, Clinton Police Dept. and fire Dept. and the State Fire Marshall are investigating the death of Annie Lucille Bolan age 81 of Clinton, Il.

At approximately 1:39 AM October 9, 2015 a medical assist alert was dispatched to CenCom. Upon arriving to the home officers saw the home was on fire. They located the victim and brought her outside of the home but she could not be revived.

An autopsy will be scheduled.

10-13-15 Clinton Fire Department Battles Three Fires in Less Than 24 Hours

10-13-15 sl 6a

>>Clinton Fire Department Battles Three Fires in Less Than 24 Hours

It was a wild weekend for the Clinton Fire Department those who aided in the chaos.

Things started early Saturday afternoon with a controlled burn east of Clinton. Clinton Fire Chief David Dallas indicates less than 30 minutes into that call, they received the call of an unrelated structure fire a few miles away.

Cut 1: weekendfires1 :42 CUE in that one

According to Chief Dallas, the field fire was a controlled burn that had gotten out of hand because of the fire. He says the weather that afternoon made things a little bit of a challenge, on top of having to split their crews to tend to the structure fire.

Cut 2: weekendfires2 :35 CUE: the fire

Crews contained the field fire within an hour, however, crews would not leave the structure fire until approximately 7 pm. Chief Dallas indicates it was a total loss. He says a cause of the fire remains under investigation.

Mutual aid was called in from Maroa, Wapella, Kenney, Randolph Township, Farmer City, Weldon, Argenta, Oreana, Hickory Point, among others and Waynesville manned the Clinton Fire station while they were out.

Chief Dallas says the day was very busy and thanks the help of the outside departments for their assistance and appreciates the work of his crew for their dedication to community this weekend. He says many guys worked on short rest but says most fire fighters that were called, were able to respond.

11-16-15 Fire At The Loft In Clinton

11-16-15

10a

JW

A popular downtown Clinton business was struck by fire Sunday night.

The Loft, located on Mr. Lincoln's Square in Clinton, will be closed for the foreseeable future after fire damaged much of the coffee shop. Interim Clinton Fire Chief David Dallas indicates fire crews were alerted to the blaze around 6:30 Sunday evening.

CUT: Loftfire1

:32

OC: thru the floor

No one was injured in the blaze. Dallas reports the fire was contained to The Loft, however a few other neighboring buildings were effected by the smoke. He says crews were on scene for about two and a half hours.

CUT: Loftfire2

:22

OC: few buildings

Fire crews from Wapella, Kenney, Maroa, Weldon, Hickory Point, and Heyworth also responded to Sunday's fire at The Loft. Dallas says the State Fire Marshall's Office will not be called in to investigate. He says it was evident the fire was electrical in nature.

In a Sunday night Facebook post, owners of The Loft said they were "thankful for the speedy response" of area fire departments, and they "will rebuild and be back up and running before you know it."

12-14-15 Clinton Police Department Unveils New Vehicles

12-14-15 sl 6a

>>Clinton Police Department Unveils New Vehicles

The Clinton Police Department has rolled out a pair of new vehicles.

The new Ford Interceptors are custom made for the department and Police Chief Ben Lowers indicates the vehicles were planned purchases as they try to keep their fleet as up to date as possible.

Cut 1: newcar1 :66 CUE: k9 car

The Interceptor is going to be a welcome addition to the updated equipment law enforcement officials use in today's world. Chief Lowers says the bigger vehicle is welcome with computers, video equipment and the usual guns and radar equipment inside as well.

Cut 2: newcar2 :58 CUE: ten years ago

Chief Lowers says because of the versatility of the sport utility like vehicles, he believes they could become more trendy in the law enforcement world

Cut 3: newcar3 :57 CUE: squad cars

Check out dewittdailynews.com today for pictures of the new vehicles the department will have on the road starting this week.