

## QUARTERLY ISSUES/PROGRAMS LIST

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

<i>Description of program segment</i>	<i>Program or segment date</i>	<i>Time aired</i>	<i>Duration</i>	<i>Description of issue</i>
City Government	Jan. 17, 2022	7:13 am	1:30	'Welcome to Clinton' Signage Expected to be Updated in 2022
City Government	Feb. 8, 2022	4:15 pm	3:00	City Council Approves Brush Grinding Contract
City Government	Feb. 10, 2022	8:13 am	4:30	Friday is National 2-1-1 Day
City Government	Feb. 22, 2022	12:13 pm	1:00	Sales Tax Up Year Over Year Thanks to Online Sales Taxes
City Government	March 8, 2021	7:15 am	3:00	Clinton City Manager Resigns

## >>'Welcome to Clinton' Signage Expected to be Updated in 2022

The Clinton Chamber of Commerce is teaming up with the City of Clinton's new administrator to update signage as people enter the community.

Executive Director Marian Brisard indicates they are going to work with Daren Girdler to update the 'Welcome to Clinton' signs that she says need to be refreshed.

Cut: welcometoclinton :42 CUE: better days

Brisard anticipates those signs being updated this year.

## >>City Council Approves Brush Grinding Contract, Streets Commissioner Would Like to Find Money-Saving Alternatives

Monday night the Clinton City Council approved a brush grinding and leaf disposal contract for the City's yard waste facility on Cain Street.

Commissioner of Streets and Public Improvements Ken Buchanan says he would still be interested in finding an area outside of the community and burning as much as they could. He has brought this up before however, it has not gained much steam but the nearly \$30,000 cost prompted the discussion from Buchanan.

Cut: burnyardwaste1                      :53                      CUE: lot of money

Getting the proper permits could be a challenge. Public Works Director Steve Lobb noted the permit process isn't a guarantee and while he wouldn't speculate on if other communities that burn their brush get the proper permits, he says that is something the City of Clinton should do and noted getting the permits isn't a guarantee.

Cut: burnyardwaste2                      1:35                      CUE: that's the stopping point

For this year, the City approved the nearly \$30,000 expense.

>>Friday is National 2-1-1 Day

This Friday, February 11 is 2-1-1 Day.

It's fitting given the numerical date and Ryan Huffer with the United Way of Decatur and Mid-Illinois says it's a chance to promote the fact 2-1-1 is a great resource for anyone in need to get connected to a non-profit or local agency that can help them.

Cut: 211day1 :57 CUE: do need that help

2-1-1 Day is a good time to remind the community of that service that is available any time. Huffer says they promoted it heavily during the pandemic when a lot of people found themselves who may not have ever been in need in a situation where they were seeking assistance.

Cut: 211day2 :41 CUE: in dewitt county

Huffer says 2-1-1 recently added the feature to text with someone about services. He indicates often times 2-1-1 is utilized by first-time help-seekers or those seeking help on behalf of someone else, which he says is perfectly acceptable.

Cut: 211day3 1:21 CUE: somebody as well

DeWitt County residents inquired more frequently with 2-1-1 than any other area in the United Way's service area besides Macon County. Huffer indicates a lot of calls came in regarding home maintenance and minor repair service which they found to be an unmet need in the area.

Cut: 211day4 :68 CUE:

Huffer encourages anyone who may have a friend or family member that needs a little help to inform them of 2-1-1.

## >>Sales Tax Up Year Over Year Thanks to Online Sales Taxes

Sales taxes for the City of Clinton are up and it's thanks to a new law in effect that taxes sales on the world wide web.

At the Monday night Clinton City Council meeting, Commissioner of Finance Tom Edmunds told the Council the online sales tax is benefiting the City to the tune of nearly \$30,000 better than last year at this time.

Cut: onlinesales :26 CUE: very good news

The Monday meeting was roughly ten minutes. Clinton Police Chief Ben Lowers thanked those on snow routes in the community for complying with the request of authorities that vehicles parked on the road of those streets be moved. He noted the City is not issuing citations, but like in the case of many other city ordinances, they are simply asking for voluntary compliance.

Commissioner Ken Buchanan applauded City crews for the job they've done during the two snow events of February and a smaller snow event is forecasted for later this week.

The Council Monday night put on file a resolution to use American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds into capital improvements as well as an ordinance amending the gaming license fees.

## >>Clinton City Manager Resigns, City Council Discusses Expansion of Golf Cart Ordinance

Regional Radio News has learned new Clinton City Manager Darin Girdler has resigned.

Mayor Roger Cyrulik confirmed to Regional Radio of the resigning Monday night without an exact date of his resignation nor a reason.

The Mayor says the Council will move forward to find a replacement.

Monday night the Council during regular business discussed expanding the golf cart ordinance in the community. Commissioners Dan Ballenger and Ken Buchanan say they have heard from several residents they would like to be able to ride the carts later into the evening.

Cut: expandgolfcarts1 :07 CUE:

Clinton Police Chief Ben Lowers weighed in on the situation and left it up to the Council. He feels the ordinance was crafted conservatively and that would be his preference with the ordinance.

Cut: expandgolfcarts2 :50 CUE: whatever you decide

Chief Lowers says the golf cart ordinance has overall been a good thing for the community. He indicates there have been a few that have re-registered their carts and others that have not.

Cut: expandgolfcarts3 1:10 CUE: no major issues

Commissioner Ballenger put the call out to his fellow Council members to consider the change and plan to be ready to discuss at the first meeting in April.

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County Government	Jan. 31, 2022	7:09 am	3:00	More Marina Discussion at Latest DeWitt County Board Meeting
County Government	Feb. 15, 2022	8:10 am	2:30	DeWitt County Board Approves Hazard Pay for County Clerk Staff
County Government	Feb. 26, 2022	12:09 pm	2:00	County Board Chair Reacts to RPC Not Changing Industrial Zone Designation for Solar Energy
County Government	March 1, 2022	4:18 pm	10:00	DeWitt County Board Discusses Marina Purchases
County Government	March. 4, 2022	7:15 am	4:00	DeWitt County State's Attorney Running in Christian County

## >>More Marina Discussion at Latest DeWitt County Board Meeting

The ongoing saga of selling property at the Clinton Lake Marina continued a few weeks ago at the latest DeWitt County Board meeting.

Board Chair Terry Ferguson says selling roughly 75 acres of property that isn't developed could help the County make improvements at the Marina. He says Exelon had some conditions they wanted to be put in the sale of the property and so those were approved.

Cut: marinasale1 :53 CUE: partner in the community

According to Ferguson, development of the property is unlikely as early interest seems to be around it being used for recreational purposes, mainly hunting. He also points out the value of recreational property at this time is rather significant.

Cut: marinasale2 1:12 CUE: need to make out there

The Marina has been a focal point in 2021 for the County Board with docks needing improvement and breakwaters still needing to be replaced. Ferguson says like a few other things happening at the county government level, there are people that feel passionately about this and want things done right.

## >>DeWitt County Board Approves Hazard Pay for County Clerk Staff

The DeWitt County Board has approved hazard pay for the County Clerk's office staff.

Almost every other department within the County received COVID pay for its efforts during the pandemic but Dana Smith and her staff were left out. Board Chair Terry Ferguson says in January, they approved the pay for her office.

Cut: danastaffpay1 :37 CUE: dealing with that

Additionally, Ferguson notes the County Board also approved funding for the Clerk's office to digitize its records. He points out this will allow the public access to the Clerk's records without having to come to the County building.

Cut: danastaffpay2 :39 CUE:

Smith had requested her staff receive some sort of extra money for their efforts during the pandemic when they did not have the luxury of working from home like many in other offices.

Solar developers looking to install solar panels in DeWitt County currently have no place to develop.

It was part of the latest ordinance updates from the Regional Planning Commission of DeWitt County and Board Chair Terry Ferguson indicates the issue is going to have to be taken up by the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Cut: nozones1                    1:33                    CUE:

Ferguson says the intent could be to box developers into a place that isn't available to prevent development but he also could see them thinking they are an industrial development and would need to develop in an industrial zone.

## >>DeWitt County Board Discusses Marina Purchases

Efforts to shore up issues that have plagued the DeWitt County Marina were approved last Thursday night but not without some serious discussion of the money that is getting poured into the infrastructure of the operation.

Marina Committee Chairman Dan Matthews as part of his report Thursday night for service and barge work for up to \$40,000. The estimate was questioned and Matthews explains that is their estimate based on bids they've received so far. The Board decided they would reduce the action to \$28,000 since that was the cost they knew they had.

Cut: moremarinataalk1 :65 CUE:

The action by the board calls to remove the old gas dock, secure the wooden breakwater, reset dock seven and connect a new ramp for that dock. Matthews says it will create over a dozen slips that could create \$20,000 in slip renter revenue.

Cut: moremarinataalk2 :53 CUE: for that dock

Melonie Tilley wanted clarity about what exactly was taking place at the Marina. Matthews indicates they want to get things started now so they can begin renting the slips in time for the boating season.

Cut: moremarinataalk3 :63 CUE: boating season starts

The Board Thursday night also took up a proposal to declare the installation of a breakwater system for the marina an emergency status for \$350,000. Board Chair Terry Ferguson explains this winter has been particularly harsh on the existing breakwater and the search for something durable has spanned the country.

Cut: moremarinataalk4 :61 CUE: part is

Breakwater issues at the marina have been on and off the radar of the Marina Committee for a few years now. When pressed about taking the project out to bid, Ferguson explains the current bid is specific to Marina's need, and bidding it out would likely delay the work getting done.

Cut: moremarinataalk5 :56 CUE: very sturdy system

Tilley wondered about how much more money would need to be poured into the breakwater issues. She says did not like the idea the Board 'hopes' this would work and

was also concerned it wasn't a US-based company.

Cut: moremarinatalc6            1:31            CUE: cable broke

Matthews believes the Marina Committee has done its homework on the breakwater they are proposing. He says there have been pros and cons considered with the options they've explored and he feels this is going to be the durable option they need.

Cut: moremarinatalc7            1:44            CUE: never been in ice before

Funding for durable breakwater could be problematic. There's no sure source of funding and the County could end up borrowing money if all else fails.

Cut: moremarinatalc8            :21            CUE: be a loan

All the motions for work on the Marina passed the Board.

## >>DeWitt County State's Attorney Running in Christian County

A chance to serve the people I grew up with is how the DeWitt County State's Attorney describes his pursuit of the same post in Christian County.

Dan Markwell is running in the upcoming election for the State's Attorney's position in Christian County this summer. A Taylorville native, Markwell's family is there and he characterizes the timing as perfect.

Cut: markwellchristian1            1:24            CUE: comes to pass

For Markwell, Christian County faces similar legal challenges as DeWitt County like upticks in drug use that can trickle down into other areas of the community.

Cut: markwellchristian2            :45            CUE: deal with

Markwell believes there's been a lot of successful prosecutions of crimes in the County as well as successful negotiations that he's overseen as the State's Attorney.

Cut: markwellchristian3            :54            CUE: in the community

Markwell indicates an Assistant State's Attorney could be appointed to his office soon with the potential that individual takes over if he wins the Christian County election. He was not able to disclose who that individual is.

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Healthcare	Jan. 10, 2022	4:13 pm	5:30	Mental Health First Aid for Ag Community Being Offered by University of Illinois Extension
Healthcare	Jan. 31, 2022	4:13 pm	3:00	Warner Hospital CEO: Latest Covid Surge Dissipating; Continue Precautions
Healthcare	Feb 22, 2022	7:15 am	2:30	Piatt County Mental Health Center Administering 'Illinois Youth Survey' This Month
Healthcare	March 22, 2022	8:13 am	4:35	Warner Hospital Foundation Director Aims to Increase Donations, Visibility
Healthcare	March 22, 2022	12:13 pm	1:05	DeWitt/Piatt Bi-County Health Department Director Announces Retirement

## >>Warner Hospital CEO: Latest Covid Surge Dissipating; Continue Precautions

The latest surge of local Covid-19 infections seems to be dissipating

Paul Skowron, CEO of Warner Hospital & Health Services in Clinton, appeared on the WHOW Morning Show Monday morning. Over the past month, he says the hospital has been dealing with not only increased amounts of patients, but also staff shortages due to illness. However, Skowron says things are looking up...

CUT: 1-31-22 paulcovid1 :65 OC: comes next

Skowron is thankful for the normalcy. He notes the past month has stretched both staff and resources...

CUT: 1-31-22 paulcovid2 :53 OC: go there

Despite the local covid surge slowing down, Skowron cautions the public not to let their guard down. He encourages people to continue to take proper precautions....

CUT: 1-31-22 paulcovid3 :32 OC: behind us

Skowron appreciates the public's support of the hospital over the past several months, and reminds residents that covid testing is available at the hospital with a doctor's order. Learn more at [WarnerHospital.org](http://WarnerHospital.org).

## >>Piatt County Mental Health Center Administering 'Illinois Youth Survey' This Month

The next several weeks will be immensely instrumental in a Piatt County non-profit's future direction for the community's youth.

The Illinois Youth Survey is a biennial self-reporting assessment given to youth in DeWitt and Piatt Counties and Tony Kirkman at the Piatt County Mental Health Center says this year's survey is hugely important for them and the communities they serve.

Cut: kidssurvey1 :68 CUE: how they scored

Kirkman is so happy to have each district in Piatt and DeWitt Counties participating this year. He explains there is going to be a lot of interest in the results of this survey that encompass everything from drug and alcohol usage to issues of mental and emotional wellness.

Cut: kidsssvey2 :54 CUE: obvious stress and strains

Kirkman indicates the results of this survey will return in the early summer months and he is very anxious to see what, if any, results from the pandemic may have had in some of the data points since the last survey that was in 2020 for some Piatt County students, but 2018 for most DeWitt County students.

## >>Warner Hospital Foundation Director Aims to Increase Donations, Visibility

The new Director of a Clinton non-profit has a few goals in a newly created role.

Many in the community likely know Curt Homann from his recent appointment as the Director of the DeWitt County Development Council. Around the same time as taking that role, Homann was named the Director of the Warner Hospital Foundation. On the WHOW Morning Show Monday, Homann told Regional Radio he is hoping to increase awareness.

Cut: homannfoundation1 :34 CUE: big part of it

Homann indicates objective number one will be to increase the number of donation dollars coming to the Foundation. He explains there's already a head start in that effort because the reputation of the Hospital is on the rise.

Cut: homannfoundation2 1:15 CUE: events and fundraising

Why does a hospital that is doing as well financially as Warner Hospital need a fundraising arm for things that it may not be able to budget for? Homann indicates he gets that question often and calls it a legitimate question. He explains a thriving and healthy healthcare facility like Warner Hospital can mean a lot to a community.

Cut: homannfoundation3 :54 CUE: growth of the hospital

While you may not realize it, Homann indicates there is a lot of overlap in his part-time role as Director of the DeWitt County Development Council and as the Director of the Warner Hospital Foundation.

Cut: homannfoundation4 :61 CUE: is critical

Homann indicates the Foundation will be active on the fundraising trail under his watch and looks forward to hosting events the public can plan on enjoying and having fun at. Things kick off with a glow bingo night in Lincoln in June.

## >>DeWitt/Piatt Bi-County Health Department Director Announces Retirement

The head of the DeWitt/Piatt Bi-County Health Department has announced his retirement.

President of the Health Department Board, Dr. Aaron Blakely in a release Monday morning indicates Dave Remmert has announced his retirement effective at the end of May.

Remmert has been the leader of the Health Department for 17 years and has been in public health for over 30-consecutive years.

In addition to leading the two-county area through the COVID pandemic since March of 2020, Remmert oversaw fundraising efforts and securing grant funding for the Department's facility in Clinton for DeWitt County.

The Health Department will begin a search for Remmert's replacement.

Remmert is a resident of Monticello and is currently taking extended time off with accrued time earned according to the release issued Monday.

## >>Mental Health First Aid for Ag Community Being Offered by University of Illinois Extension

Mental health in the agriculture community is a growing concern and in a few weeks, there is a special program being offered by the University of Illinois Extension Office that will address this.

Terri Miller-Casey is the Extension Director for the U of I Extension in Logan, Menard, and Sangamon Counties and explains as the challenges in agriculture continue to mount, so do the mental health issues and this will be a program to equip anyone close to someone in agriculture.

Cut: agfirstaid1 :64 CUE: who are really struggling

Death by suicide and forms of self-medication is on the rise among farmers and the general public. Miller-Casey says the one thing about farmers is they are very proud individuals who may have a hard time seeking out help and they want to be a resource for those that need help in this time.

Cut: agfirstaid2 1:21 CUE: those resources

While an ag-based organization like Extension, Miller-Casey believes anyone can benefit from this program and come away with the skills and resources to help themselves or others around them.

Cut: agfirstaid3 :62 CUE: speak up

Miller-Casey says this is something the University of Illinois Extension has reached out to many organizations to help coordinate with. She believes it is going to be a powerful resource.

Again this is a free program on January 19 from 8 am to 3:30 pm all online. Visit [extension.illinois.edu](http://extension.illinois.edu) for more on this program and many others.

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Education	Feb. 7, 2022	8:10 am	1:00	Clinton Schools Go Mask-Optional Beginning Monday
Education	Feb. 17, 2022	8:15 am	2:00	Clinton Schools Superintendent Discusses Process for Deciding on School With Winter Storm Coming
Education	Feb. 17, 2022	4:15 pm	4:15	Clinton Schools Superintendent Encouraged By JCAR Ruling, Sangamon County Judge Determination
Education	March 16, 2022	7:15 am	8:45	Could Clinton Schools Lead Third Attempt for Education Sales Tax?
Education	March 24, 2022	12:10 pm	4:15	Clinton Schools to Revisit Directives from Board of Education from Pre-COVID

## >>Clinton Schools Go Mask-Optional Beginning Monday

Clinton schools students and their families can choose to send students to school with a mask or without a mask as they chose.

A judge's ruling in Sangamon County to put in place a temporary restraining order on the mask mandates has allowed Illinois schools the autonomy to decide for themselves a mask policy in regards to COVID.

Clinton Schools Superintendent Curt Nettles sent a letter to district parents Sunday night informing them the district would be returning to its opening day COVID mask policy beginning Monday, February 7.

In the letter to parents, Nettles stressed there could be a time stricter mitigations could be necessary however those would be announced and outlined at that time.

## >>Clinton Schools Superintendent Discusses Process for Deciding on School With Winter Storm Coming

A second significant winter storm is set to hit central Illinois early Thursday morning and Clinton Schools Superintendent Curt Nettles Wednesday morning outlined for the community what his process will be for deciding on school Thursday.

The storm is not anticipated to be significantly impactful until after school would be in session Thursday, so rather than call school off ahead of time, Nettles told Regional Radio on the WHOW Morning Show Wednesday, he will probably wait to see how the storm plays out emphasizing the safety of students, staff and families.

Cut: nettleswxdecision1 :34 CUE: 3 o'clock so

Nettles explains they get very accurate and up-to-the-hour information from the DeWitt County EMA office and the National Weather Service in Lincoln to help them make the most informed decisions they can.

Cut: nettleswxdecision2 :56 CUE: in the morning

Nettles says only once in his 15-year career as a superintendent has he called off school before a storm had arrived but generally does not make that a habit.

## >>Clinton Schools Superintendent Encouraged By JCAR Ruling, Sangamon County

## Judge Determination

Illinoisans that have been fighting for unmasking kids in school for the last two years are feeling a momentum that they have been wanting for some time.

Two weeks ago, a Sangamon County judge ruled in favor of a lawsuit of numerous Illinois School districts to overturn the mask mandate in Illinois schools. That ruling came as a great relief to Clinton Schools Superintendent Curt Nettles who says the district's attorney told him this was the chance to go mask-optional.

Cut: maskdecisions1                      1:26                      CUE: pushing it that way

The decision was predictably challenged by the Illinois Attorney General at the direction of Illinois Governor JB Pritzker. At the Tuesday night Clinton Board of Education meeting, Nettles made it clear he has no intention to reverse course at this point.

Cut: maskdecisions2                      :58                      CUE: change that

Tuesday, the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules issued a 9-0-2 vote to block the Governor from imposing a further mask mandate on Illinois schools. Nettles says it feels like there is finally momentum on their side.

Cut: maskdecisions3                      :55                      CUE: very telling

If COVID trends remain the way they did the last few years, Nettles does not foresee a scenario where kids are masked heading into the next school year nor does he foresee a vaccine mandate for kids to attend school next year.

>>Could Clinton Schools Lead Third Attempt for Education Sales Tax?

Could a third attempt be coming to DeWitt County to try for a one-cent sales tax for DeWitt County Schools?

Tuesday night at the Clinton Board of Education meeting, Superintendent Curt Nettles offered strictly informational comments to the board regarding this tax. It's been tried twice before in DeWitt County and failed both times.

Cut: salestaxagain1 :31 CUE: wouldn't be on this

Nettles stressed his information was not a presentation for moving forward with an initiative to get a referendum on the ballot, he strictly wanted to offer information. He offered what the tax would apply to for area shoppers.

Cut: salestaxagain2 :42 CUE: mental health costs

According to Nettles, the tax can be used for things like facility improvements or tax abatements. He notes it doesn't go to things like salaries.

Cut: salestaxagain3 1:37 CUE: levying taxes

According to Nettles, the money from this tax follows students. So whichever district in a County has the most students would receive the majority of the funding and it's broken down into percentages. Estimates are around \$870,000 per year for Clinton schools from this tax.

Cut: salestaxagain4 2:09 CUE: follows the student

Nettles recognizes this isn't the ideal time to be offering something like this to the public due to things like record gas prices and record inflation. He encouraged if this is something the Board would want to pursue, to commit to an education plan for the public.

Cut: salestaxagain5 1:11 CUE: property taxes

The first attempt in DeWitt County was nearly a decade ago and failed and then when Nettles came to the district in 2015. He indicates it is a lot of work to commit to an educational campaign and would ask the Board to be dedicated to doing that as he was leading the effort in his first year.

He also pointed out the referendums failed both times by roughly 300 votes.

## >>Clinton Schools to Revisit Directives from Board of Education from Pre-COVID

As schools are quickly returning to normal routines and practices that were in place before COVID, Clinton Schools administrators will revisit a directive from the Board of Education in 2019.

At the most recent Clinton Board of Education meeting, Superintendent Curt Nettles spoke with the leadership of the district that was in attendance about a trio of areas of focus the Board of Education set in motion in 2019 just before the pandemic interrupted learning.

Cut: areasoffocus1 :66 CUE: third was culture

According to Nettles, the culture component of this focus has been something the district has been working on for a while now, and feels the culture of the district is improving. He indicates with COVID responsibilities behind him and the regular duties of a Superintendent able to be done again, he wants this focus renewed.

Cut: areasoffocus2 :65 CUE: with these things

Nettles indicates things will begin again next month and wants these to be three-year outlooks. He believes each focus is integral in the success of the others and the success of the district as a whole.

Cut: areasoffocus3 :69 CUE: if we do that

With a few members of the Board of Education new to the discussion, Nettles indicated last week he would refresh the Board on the initiative and the purpose behind it.

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Economic Development	Jan. 12, 2022	7:13 am	4:45	New DCDC Executive Director Calls 2022 'Important Year'
Economic Development	Feb. 10, 2022	4:15 pm	2:30	Scooter's Coffee in Clinton Holds Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
Economic Development	March 2, 2022	8:13 am	2:45	Clinton Chamber Welcomes "The Cutting Edge & More"
Economic Development	March 18, 2022	2:03 pm	5:40	Central Illinois CEO Students Learning Life Lessons Through Adversity
Economic Development	March 2, 2022	7:15 am	6:30	Clinton Chamber Business Expo Thursday

## >>New DCDC Executive Director Calls 2022 'Important Year'

2022 is here and a local economic development entity is gearing up for a big year.

In 2021, the DeWitt County Development Council named Curt Homann it's new Executive Director and he is readying for big things from the organization in 2022. A continued effort this year will be more grant opportunities for local businesses.

Cut: dcdc20221 :39 CUE: round of grants is

In 2022, the DCDC will also be promoting its revolving loan fund. Homann indicates this is available at a low-interest rate and is often used as gap funding for start-ups or existing businesses.

Cut: dcdc20222 :65 CUE: could help out

In his short time serving as the Executive Director of the DCDC, Homann has been making the rounds to City Council, County Board, and other meetings to meet with local leaders. He feels those early interactions have already proven to be productive and looks forward to working with local leaders going forward.

Cut: dcdc20223 1:29 CUE: in that regard

Homann indicates in 2022, watch for business spotlights on social media and is looking forward to bringing back the leaders' breakfasts that were a staple of the organization before COVID.

## >>Scooter's Coffee in Clinton Holds Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

December 31, Scooter's Coffee opened its drive-thru to the community and Wednesday morning they held a ribbon-cutting ceremony in conjunction with the Clinton Chamber of Commerce.

Scooter's Coffee District Manager Rebecca Flores says Scooter's is an operation that has over 400 locations from California to Florida and in addition to coffee they have breakfast food items and smoothies along with tea.

Cut: scootersribbon1 :43 CUE: they are very good

Scooter's employs around 20 individuals and Flores says they target those that have good personalities and good people skills.

Cut: scootersribbon2 :37 CUE: humility and courage

Scooter's Coffee is opening Monday through Friday 6 am to 8 pm and then Saturday and Sunday from 6:30 am to 8 pm. They are located at 614 West Van Buren Street in Clinton.

## >>Clinton Chamber Welcomes "The Cutting Edge & More"

There's a new option for a haircut in Clinton's downtown.

Tuesday the Clinton Chamber of Commerce & Tourism Bureau welcomed "The Cutting Edge & More" with a ribbon cutting ceremony. The new beauty salon is located just north of Mr. Lincoln's Square on Center Street in the former "Darwin's Barbershop."

Owners Savannah McGee and Marissa Smith are excited to be a part of the Clinton business community. McGee brings three years of cosmetology experience to the venture, while Smith adds nearly six.

CUT: CuttingEdge1 :36 OC:boss

Smith explains they'll be offering services for both men and women; with eyes of expanding services in the near future. She adds that the shop itself has undergone major renovations.

CUT: CuttingEdge2 :23 OC: brand new

Both McGee & Smith are thankful for the support they've received from the community thus far, and invite folks to stop by.

CUT: CuttingEdge3 :23 OC: journey

You can learn more about "The Cutting Edge & More" by following them on Facebook.

## >>Central Illinois CEO Students Learning Life Lessons Through Adversity

High school students in an entrepreneurship program in DeWitt and Macon Counties are learning life lessons through adversity.

Students in the Central Illinois CEO program this semester are creating their businesses and the program's facilitator, Melanie Brown told Regional Radio News on the WHOW Morning Show Thursday this is one of her favorite parts of the program when her students, as she describes, it get to experience life real world.

CUE: ceoudate1            1:49            CUE: what they have accomplished

As the school year begins to wind down, students from Blue Ridge, Clinton, Maroa-Forsyth, and Warrensburg-Latham are developing their businesses and Brown says it is a real business with real customers, services, or goods.

Cut: ceoudate2            1:30            CUE: shark tank event

Along the way, students are gaining skills to help them in the development of their group business and personal business. Brown says the transformation in the students is fun to watch especially when they can see their growth.

Cut: ceoudate3            :55            CUE: studnets lives

Brown indicates a lot of life lessons are learned when the students are putting together their group businesses or their businesses and things are not going their way and she steps back and allows them to problem-solve on their own.

Cut: ceoudate4            1:19            CUE: process as well

For Brown, when the students approach her about a problem hoping for a solution, she asks "what do you think?" and says that can lead them to unlock the gifts they have. She calls it an exciting process and program to be a part of.

You can learn more about the Central Illinois CEO program by visiting [centralillinoisceo.com](http://centralillinoisceo.com) or by finding them on Facebook and Instagram.

## >>Clinton Chamber Business Expo Thursday

The Clinton Chamber of Commerce is returning to its annual business expo to its traditional springtime date and organizers are excited.

This Thursday, businesses and non-profits will converge on Clinton High School for the annual Chamber of Commerce Business Expo from 4 pm to 7 pm. Chamber Executive Director Marian Brisard indicates before COVID the annual expo was during spring break at the high school and they are returning to the traditional calendar date.

Cut: bizzexpo1 :55 CUE: as well

The expo is a great opportunity for the community to come out and get to know area businesses and non-profits as well as for those businesses to increase their exposure. Brisard says it shows the value of being a Chamber member.

Cut: bizzexpo2 :38 CUE: that name out there

The annual expo has featured some exciting demonstrations, exhibits, and other happenings in the past and Brisard says they have a great lineup of entertainment options this year.

Cut: bizzexpo3 4:30 CUE: getaway

The Chamber Business Expo is from 4 pm to 7 pm at Clinton High School. You can hear live coverage of the Business Expo on The Big 1520 AM/92.3 FM/106.5 FM WHOW and the WHOW digital platforms from 3 pm to 5 pm and then get live updates from the Expo on 95.9 FM WEZC from 5 pm to 7 pm.