

The Clinton Courier

June 7, 2022 ■ Volume 13, Number 11 ■ Clinton, Mississippi

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SEE OUR GRADUATION COVERAGE ON PAGES 3, 6, 7, 8, 15, 18 and 19

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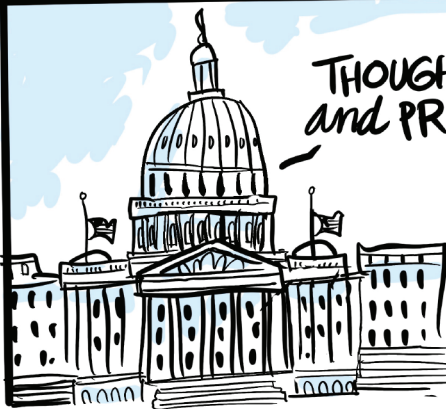
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HINDS CC GRADUATES OVER 1,300 STUDENTS

Hinds Community College recently graduated more than 1,300 students in four graduation ceremonies over two days at the Muse Center on the Rankin Campus and a fifth ceremony at J.D. Boyd Gymnasium on the Utica Campus. Hinds awarded 1,671 certificates and degrees, with some students receiving more than one credential.

Of those graduating, 252 graduated cum laude with a grade point average of 3.2 to 3.59; 199 graduated magna cum laude with a grade point average of 3.6 to 3.99; and 209 graduated summa cum laude with a grade point average of 4.0.

"Every graduation ceremony is special to the college, as we celebrate the success of each student," said Hinds President Dr. Stephen Vacik.



Semaj Brown of Clinton, who received her degree in physical therapy assisting, celebrated with her family.



Hinds Community College graduates in the Health Care Assisting program gathered together with their instructor at the ceremony. Pictured (l to r) are, front row: Elena Richardson of Laurel, instructor Jacqueline Sisk, Jessica Thompson of Jackson, Ebony Ransom of Jackson and Jadyn Nash of Clinton; and back row: Sarah Malone of Brandon, Britney Lawhorn of Clinton and Shanequa Swinney of Jackson.



Josh Hill of Clinton expresses his excitement about graduating from Hinds Community College with a degree in physical therapy assisting.



Grant Heath of Clinton received an Associate Degree in Nursing from Hinds Community College. He is pictured with mom Glynda Heath.

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Fresh at Five summer markets back on Tuesdays

By Sherry Lucas

With frost a distant memory and temps climbing faster than pole beans, it's time again for the buffet of garden bounty that is Fresh at Five in Olde Towne Clinton.

The farmers' market starts its summer run, 5-7 p.m. Tuesdays, on June 7, with a weekly presence through August 16.

"We're always ready for them to come around," says Main Street Clinton Director Tara Lytal.

At least a dozen vendors had pre-registered by press time, with an average of eighteen expected throughout the market's summer run, dependent on what farmers are able to produce. Market peaks typically hit around the end of June and a

couple of weeks in July.

The Fresh at Five market concentrates on consumables, with fresh produce a given, but also baked goods, jams and jellies. There should be a festive element, too. Lytal is putting the call out for buskers, so "hopefully, we will have some local entertainment" at the event, she says.

This year marks a return of the City Cookoff on the first night of Fresh at Five, with an expanded reach and, organizers hope, a fun and friendly competition among City of Clinton departments. What began years back as a competition between the police and fire departments now wraps in other City departments in a test of culinary prowess.

Five competing departments



— police, fire, public works, parks and recreation and City Hall administration — will go grill to grill at the market, ready to rib each other and talk tasters into voting. Greater participa-

tion makes the event more competitive and fun.

A win is determined by people's choice, and tallied via an old-fashioned straw poll.

"They put the straw in a bucket for whatever team they think is the best, and we'll award a trophy," Lytal says.

Teams will be cooking pulled pork and some kind of slaw.

"Because it's the farmer's market, we've got to have a vegetable represented," Lytal says.

The cookoff has another bonus besides colleagues in spirited competition and tasty bites for the public: "It's great to show that our City employees have great camaraderie, and let the public see everybody in a casual, relaxed atmosphere. It's fun."

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CLASS OF 2022 GRADUATES AT MT. SALUS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Mt. Salus Christian School held its commencement ceremony for the 2021-2022 school year on Friday evening, May 13. Graduates, family, friends, students and staff heard Rev. Bryce Davis give an encouraging and challenging message as the commencement keynote speaker. Those in attendance also enjoyed addresses from Mt. Salus Class of 2022 Sa-

lutorian John Michael Turner, as well as Valedictorian Wright Whitney. All seven graduates will be attending college in the fall and have received over \$40,000 in scholarships to date. One of the graduates, Walker Oswald, has attended Mt. Salus his entire educational career, beginning his time as an Eagle in kindergarten.



MSCS Valedictorian Wright Whitney



MSCS Salutatorian John Michael Turner giving his speech



MSCS Salutatorian John Michael Turner and MSCS Valedictorian Wright Whitney



The Mt. Salus Christian School Class of 2022: John Michael Turner, Casidee Sanders, Caitlynn Wiegand, Wright Whitney, Walker Oswald, Bobby Watts and Levi Black

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CLINTON CHRISTIAN ACADEMY HOLDS HISTORICAL GRADUATION

By Randy Bledsoe

Clinton Christian Academy's (CCA) senior graduation was held on May 13, 2022, in the school's new Performing Arts and Athletic Center. Ceremonies began at 7 p.m. with an opening welcome by Headmaster Dr. Phillip H. Broome. The Class of 2022 makes CCA history as both the first graduating class to have completed all grades at the school and the first to graduate in ceremonies at the new multi-million-dollar facility.

To the sounds of "Pomp and Circumstance," twenty-six seniors marched in to take seats on stage and to receive their diplomas. The invocation was given by Student Body President Robin Neblett, also a graduating senior, and Jes-

sica Prevost performed the song, "I Will Remember You." Salutatorian Connor Patrick Tatum and Valedictorian Alyssa Gabrielle Cornelius spoke on the Christian foundation, education and life preparation they and other seniors had received during their years at CCA. Both stated that the Senior

Class was ready for the next steps in their lives and had been well prepared by the school to meet the challenges ahead.

Dr. Richard Wells, director of advancement at CCA

and instructor in Bible and world history, gave the keynote address. Dr. Wells spoke on the challenges these seniors would be facing in college and the next steps of their lives. Dr. Wells said the seniors have "a firm foundation to be successful," and he was confident



Dr. Richard Wells gave the commencement address

they would achieve their goals.

Sam Bryson, CCA Board Chairman, and Dr. Broome conducted the award of diplomas to the graduates. Dr. Broome commented how proud he was of the fine ladies and gentlemen and for what they had achieved.

"I know they will be successful in life as they have been at CCA."

Sadie Strickland, Student Government Association representative, gave the benediction at the conclusion of the ceremony.

Seniors received \$716,000 scholarships, and twenty-five of the twenty-six graduates will be attending college this fall. Scholarships ranged from academic excellence, athletic and leadership from various colleges in the South. Valedictorian Alyssa Cornelius will be attending either Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona, Florida, or Mississippi State to prepare for a degree in aeronau-

tical engineering. Salutatorian Connor Patrick Tatum will be attending Mississippi College to begin preparation for a degree in engineering.

2022 CCA seniors receiving diplomas included: Christopher Allen Albritton, Meghan Elizabeth Bruner, Audrey Leigh Bryson, Tessau Rodriguez Carson, Alyssa Gabrielle Cornelius, Anne Marie Crechale, Judith Avery Davis, Katherine Bobbie Lynn Jimenez, Armon J'Sean Johnson, Jr., Timothy Christian Love, Robin Renee Neblett, Ally Kate Noone, Joshua Trevor Pope, Emily Grace Redditt, Cynthia Nicole Shafer, Bryden Deondre Simmons, Ryan Clayton Spears, Sadie Grace Strickland, Connor Patrick Tatum, Joseph Jakar Thomas, Natalie Anne Toups, Laney Ray Walters, Davarius Rashaun White, Ja'Zerius Malik James Whitehead and Kaymen Makalab Wilson.



CCA Class of 2022



Meghan Elizabeth Bruner

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MC HOLDS COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIES

Mississippi College's 2022 Central Commencement Ceremony took place Thursday, May 5. The ceremony, which included more than five hundred graduates, began in the Quad, but a thunder shower that appeared midway through the ceremony forced the event to be completed indoors in Swor Auditorium in Nelson Hall. After the ceremony, the showers had passed, so the students were able to take their traditional walk through the gates and pose for a group photo on the front steps. The following day, degree ceremonies took place in the A.E. Wood Coliseum, where the graduates received their diplomas. There were three ceremonies: the Schools of Business, Christian Studies and the Arts, and Humanities and Social Sciences had their ceremony at 10 a.m., the Schools of Nursing, Science and Mathematics, and Interdisciplinary Studies had their ceremony at 1 p.m., and the School of Education had its ceremony at 4 p.m.



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Children's Business Fair showcases young entrepreneurs

The first Made in Mississippi Children's Business Fair was held alongside the Main Street Clinton May Makers Market. The event offered young entrepreneurs the opportunity to create a product or service, develop a brand, build a marketing strategy, and then open for customers at the one-day marketplace. The children were responsible for the setup, sales and interaction with customers.

All photos by Susan Rodriguez.



Allie and Stacey Thornton



Pictured are (front) Henry Montgomery and (back) Todd and Catherine Montgomery and Malli Donald.



Katie (front), Will, Mackenzie and Jamie Pittman



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Clinton aldermen asked to move forward on lynching marker

By Randy Bell

Clinton could soon take a step to acknowledge one of the darker moments in the city's past. A Mississippi College history professor is asking the aldermen to place a marker near the spot where two Black men arrested on robbery charges were taken from jail and later lynched in 1894. Dr. Otis W. Pickett said an investigation he's done, along with research by MC student Jeremy Watkins and a colleague, Dr. Patrick Connelly, produced more than enough evidence to substantiate the murders of Will James and Henry Smith at the hands of a Clinton mob.

"It's something the City ought to pursue," Pickett said after speaking to the aldermen during a Board work session in early May. "We know the names. We know where it happened."

Pickett said it's important for the City to address the lynchings.

"We're showing the rest of the state and the nation that we're really wrestling with this history. We're not sweeping it under a rug. We're really trying to walk through it and be open and honest about it."

Pickett said the actions of the mob angered many people who were living in the city at the time.

"A lot of Clinton citizens were outraged that this happened. We have a resolution from Mississippi College faculty and alumni that absolutely denounced this, asking the governor to seek a reward" for apprehending those involved.

James and Smith had been arrested for robbing a store and were in the jail, known as the Clinton Calaboose, when the mob took them and left the men hanging from persimmon trees about a mile from town along Clinton-Raymond Road. Pickett believes the jail site in Olde Towne would be an appropriate place for the marker.

"That's where the men were taken [from]. That would be a place where people could walk by and see [the marker]. A prominent place."

Pickett said Clinton would become the second city in Mississippi to erect a lynching marker. Oxford has already done so.

"I think it can bring us together and make us stronger."

Pickett will be leaving his position at MC at the end of June.

"I wanted to make sure before I left that these documents were disseminated to the aldermen, so that someone else wouldn't have to go back and do the research again."

He said Alderwoman Ricki Garrett has been an advocate for the

project and helped to arrange his appearance before the Board.

The City's ad hoc History Committee has been working in recent years to tell the story of race relations in Clinton.

"Some of it would make you really proud, and some of it would make you just flinch," said committee member Martha Hudson. "Lynching is another part of that story. We cannot pick and choose. It might be something we would rather not explore - but we must - for the sake of telling the history as it happened." There's already a marker in Olde Towne commemorating the assassination of Senator Charles Caldwell, who was ambushed a few weeks after encouraging fellow Blacks to vote in an 1875 election.

Hudson said she appreciates the work of the professor and his associates in providing the documentation about the lynchings.

Clinton's only Black alderman would like to see the marker installed.

Ward 6 Alderman James Lott said, "It's a great opportunity for the city to come to terms with its past." He said having a marker at the actual location where the incident began would be "invaluable."

Pickett said the Equal Justice Initiative (EJI) is willing to fund the

project, so the marker could be erected at no cost to the City. EJI, based in Montgomery, Alabama, promotes Community Remembrance Projects, which include historical markers. EJI partners with community coalitions in identifying marker sites, drafting the text for the markers and planning meaningful unveiling ceremonies. The organization pays the cost of fabricating the markers and having them shipped to the communities. A statement on its website says, "EJI believes historical markers change our national landscape; they publicly claim the truth in necessary ways."

And while the marker could serve as an official acknowledgement of what happened to these two men 128 years ago, Will James and Henry Smith weren't the only victims of mob violence in Clinton. It's believed that Ellis Young met a similar fate in 1888. Pickett has been trying to document that incident, but he said more research needs to be done. Eventually, the names of all three men could be added to a lynching memorial at the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum in Jackson, which now lists the Clinton victims as "unknown black males." The museum is doing its own research to confirm Pickett's findings.

Wood Activity Center plans summer events and celebrations

The Clinton Courier

This month, the Wood Activity Center's Living Young program will again host its infamous Wood Center Swap, giving participants not only the opportunity to get rid of things lying around their houses that they aren't using, but pick up some new items that they might be interested in having, as well.

Organizers say they want to top last year in participation and in the number of items that are collected for the swap. Participants are encouraged to clear out closets, attics and cupboards and bring in gently used and clean items such as jewelry, clothing, books, knick knacks, home décor and other household items. For each item brought in for the swap, a participant will get a ticket to swap for other items at the sale. The number of items brought in will determine the number of tickets that each participant receives, and tickets are used as a form of payment towards items that a participant wants to "purchase" from the swap.

Those interested in bringing in items need to make an appointment for item drop off. For questions or

to schedule a drop off time, call 601-924-6387.

The swap will be open for browsing and purchases beginning June 14 at 9 a.m. and will conclude on June 16 at 4:30 p.m.

On June 23 at 11:45 a.m., the Wood Center will be the place to be to celebrate those who have birthdays during the months of April, May or June. Refreshments and activities will be provided. Those planning to attend are asked to RSVP by June 16.

Also in June, the Wood Center will host a Living Young Sundae Fun Day, set for June 30 at 1 p.m. The afternoon event will combine one of America's favorite game shows, *The Price is Right*, with an ice cream social. Those interested are asked to RSVP by June 23.

The Living Young program for ages 50+ at the Wood Activity Center offers year-round activities, almost daily during the week. For more information about their programs, visit them on Facebook or call 601-924-6387 to be added to the distribution for their calendar of events. The Wood Activity Center is located at 111 Clinton Boulevard.

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A Father's Day reminder for everyone

By Guest Columnist William Twiner

Father's Day is not a great day of celebration for everyone. For many, Father's Day will be a reminder of pain, shame, or inferiority.

This does not mean that you should love or celebrate your father any less - actually the exact opposite. If you still have your dad and have a great relationship with him, then, by all means, celebrate that; but, while you celebrate, reach out to those you know who do not have their fathers - especially if this is their first Father's Day without their dad - or to those who do not have a great relationship with their father, or to fathers who cannot see their kids.

To the ones who have great fathers, I see you and celebrate with you.

To the ones who are finally fathers and this is your first Father's Day, I see you and rejoice with you.

To the ones with dads who did not show up or who quit showing up or who left you, I see you and



mourn with you.
To the ones who have lost their fathers and it still hurts, I see you and weep with you.
To the ones who lost their father, but they had a complicated relationship and now do not know how to feel on Father's Day, I see you and lament with you.
To the ones who are experiencing their first Father's Day with-

out your dad, I see you and will remember your father with you.
To the ones who desperately want to be fathers but cannot be, I see you and am hopeful for you.
To the fathers who cannot be with their children, I see you and pray for you to be reunited.
To the fathers of special needs children who are truly more tired and spent from advocating and

just surviving, I see you and I cannot pretend to understand - but I will listen.
To the fathers of adopted children, I see you and pray for unity and patience.
To the fathers who quit showing up or quit trying, I see you, and I pray you realize it is not too late.
To the ones who let anger or resentment separate them from their father, I see you and pray you have the courage to make the first move towards reconciliation.
And a special thanks to all those Bonus Dads or Father Figures, those special men who have chosen to father children who are not their own, to the men who invest in their kids' friends without dads, to the men who take the time to mentor, I see you, and I thank you from the bottom of my heart!
If you can, hug your dad today! If you can, call your dad today!
And, as a Christian, I want to tell everyone that our great and glorious God is also your Father. He is the Good Good Father. He is the Father who will never leave you nor forsake you.

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Romeo and Juliet presented by Brick Street Players

The Brick Street Players recently took to the streets of Olde Towne to present their inaugural production, *Romeo and Juliet*. The production, directed by Clay Kirkland, involved twenty cast members and attracted close to three hundred audience

members over their four-day performance period. The group performed on a stage made by Clinton High School carpentry students. For more information about the Brick Street Players, visit them on Facebook.

All photos by Susan Rodriguez.



Cade Tripp and Ethan McCombs (front) and Ariel Farmer and Ryder Osmundson (back)



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Civic Corner: Board of Aldermen Recap

By Ricki Garrett, PhD, Alderwoman at Large



Since our May 17 Board of Aldermen meeting was probably the shortest in recent history, I will take this opportunity to share some information from our Board of Aldermen Work Session, as well as other updates.

Two items came before the Board during the Work Session. The first was a report by one of our citizens regarding chronic flooding at her home and neighborhood. She provided the Board with pictures and video, as well as an engineering report with recommendations on possible solutions. The Board often hears about flooding problems in Clinton, and that is the reason that we have moved forward with requesting assistance from the Corps of Engineers on a city-wide study of the various streams in the city. The City is hampered in its assistance to individual homeowners, but we hope this study will give us a roadmap for work we can do that will provide the most assistance, without increasing problems in other areas of the city. The Board is also looking at ways to enhance regular maintenance of City-owned ditches and other infrastructure in order to assist with flooding problems.

The other issue before the Board at the Work Session was a change in our zoning laws that would allow for short-term rentals in the Olde Towne area of Clinton and the regulations that would govern that change in zoning. Many citizens do not know that Clinton does not allow Airbnb and other short-term rentals currently in the city. This issue arose out of a requested development of railroad cabooses in Olde Towne that would serve as short-term rentals. Director of Community Development Roy Edwards presented the draft regulations to the Board, and the Board Members spent hours making recommended changes, in the event the zoning change to allow short-term rentals passes. The Board will take up the zoning change and regulations first before addressing the request for the caboose development. Citizens are encouraged, as always, to let the Planning and Zoning Board and the Board of Aldermen know how they feel about any of these proposals.

In the Board Meeting Tuesday night, the Board heard an update from Main Street Director Tara Lytal about past and upcoming Main Street events. Fresh at Five begins on June 7, operating every Tuesday through August 16. Red Brick Roads, hosted jointly with the Chamber of Commerce, will be held Friday and Saturday, August 26-27.

The Board also approved an additional police office recruit and hires for the Parks and Recreation Department.

Finally, the City of Clinton is also welcoming *Thacker Mountain Radio Show* back on Saturday, June 18, at 6 p.m. at Alumni Hall at Mississippi College, hosted by the Arts Council of Clinton.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Space will be provided in each issue of The Clinton Courier to the Board of Aldermen for a recap of each meeting. Aldermen are asked to volunteer to provide this recap for the Courier.



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Champion named 2022 Valedictorian



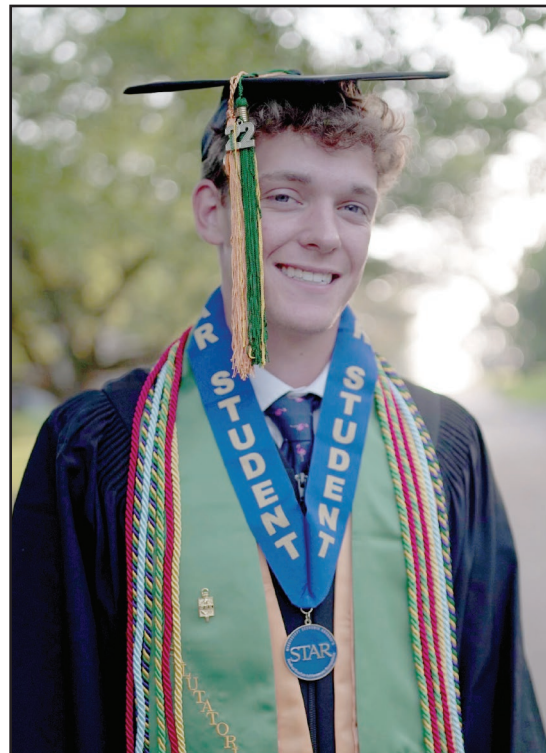
Clinton resident Carrie Ann Champion was named Valedictorian of the 2022 graduating class of Hartfield Academy. Champion has been accepted to the Presidential Honors Program at William Carey University and will begin classes in the fall.

Anderson delivers Hinds invocation



Eboni Anderson, of Clinton, delivered the invocation at the graduation ceremony at Hinds Community College, held at the Muse Center on the Rankin Campus. She earned an associate degree toward a career in communication disorders and broadcast journalism.

Cronin graduates with honors, awards



Liam Cronin of Clinton recently graduated from Central Hinds Academy. He wrapped up his high school career with academic, athletic and character awards. In addition to being the salutatorian and STAR Student of his graduating class, his recognitions also included chess team founder and captain, South State Golf Championship team member, highest averages in government and economics, memorial award, Hall of Fame, Top 10 Cougar, Mu Alpha Theta math honor society, National Honor Society, Honor Society officer, student body representative, Cougar Award for both golf and basketball, MVP for tennis, and lettered in track, cross country and soccer. Cronin has been accepted into Phi Theta Kappa, received highest honors, participated in quiz bowl, competed with the catapult team and was voted Most Dependable and Most Likely to Succeed. He has made a commitment to serve a two-year Spanish-speaking mission in Toronto, Canada, for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, beginning this summer.



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June 17 Milepost 89 to feature the Jeanes



Hal and Connie Jeanes will perform at 6:30 p.m. on June 17 at the Clinton Visitor Center.

Special to The Clinton Courier

Friday Nights at Milepost 89 is the third Friday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Clinton Visitor Center. Admission to each performance is at least “89” cents.

The Friday, June 17, music offering will feature Hal and Connie Jeanes, a husband-and-wife duo that have been singing and playing together for the past twenty-eight years. Their music is a variety of folk, old-time string bands, classic country, bluegrass, and swing. They will feature songs from Wade Mainer, the Blue Sky Boys, and the Carter Family, as they take turns on lead and harmony vocals. Their instrumentation includes mandolin,

guitar and fiddle. Hal and Connie are also members of the Vernon Brothers and the D’lo Trio.

The music event will be held inside the Clinton Visitor Center. Guests who are exhibiting any symptoms of illness are asked to forgo the event.

The Weekend Music Scene at the Clinton Visitor Center offers entertainment and fun year-round with many genres of music. Weekend music is held on the first and fourth Sunday of the month from 2 to 4 p.m. The community is invited to come and listen to the musicians. The Visitor Center is located at 1300 Pinehaven Road, at Milepost 89 on the Natchez Trace Parkway. For more details, call 601-924-2221.

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CHS CLASS OF 2022 GRADUATES ON ARROW FIELD

All photos by Susan Rodriguez.



Valedictorian Abhay Cheruku



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TheClintonCourier.net



Clinton High School's graduating class of 2022 closed out their senior year under the lights of Arrow Field.

This year's senior class of 335 saw 104 seniors accept scholarships to 28 different colleges and universities, with a total of \$4.3 million in scholarships awarded to the class of 2022.

Abhay Cheruku served as this year's Valedictorian and Abigail Vargheese as Salutatorian.

Others listed in the academic top ten were, in ascending order, Julia Moller, Tabitha Hewitt-Rafferty, Jared Miller, Amber Amis, Gracie Roberts, Mallory Morris, Anna Grace Brister and Nathan Heard.

With the weather cooperating on Friday night, May 27, the CHS Class of 2022 celebrated together to close out their time as high school students.

Clinton Public School District's Superintendent Dr. Andy Schoggin applauded the graduating class of 2022.

"These students have demonstrated resilience and perseverance throughout their high school experience," Dr. Schoggin said. "Through all the uncertainties and challenges, they chose to press on and pursue excellence. They have represented our district with pride and class, and I expect they will continue to do so in whatever endeavors they choose."



Sarah Carlisle, Marilyn Lamb, Kate Crisler, Will Crisler, Braden Crisler (graduate), Kristi Crisler, Candice Parker, Jessica Lamb, Rochelle Bishop, David Bishop and Kim Ezelle



Nathaniel Dixon, TaLoria Webster, George Dixon, Vanessa Dixon, Coretta Jackson, Christine Dixon, Xavier Dixon, Jazmine Harris (graduate), Akeylah Harris, Johnaleka Stacker, Rimaya Robinson, Juwan James and Dempsey Harris





Josie, Kenya and Andrew Rafferty, Tabitha Hewitt-Rafferty and Roz Strong



CHS CLASS OF 2022
BY THE NUMBERS:

- 18 seniors scored 30 or higher on the ACT
- 2 seniors scored a perfect 36 on the ACT
- 4 seniors were named National Merit Finalists
- 12 seniors were members of the Phi Theta Kappa, Beta Psi Upsilon chapter
- 3 seniors were named STAR Students
- Abigail Vargheese was named Mississippi's TOP ALL STAR Student
- 89 seniors were members of the National Honor Society
- 60 seniors earned the President's Award for Educational Excellence
- 27 student athletes signed letters of intent to 14 different schools.
- Kimani Hamilton was named MS Gatorade Player of the Year for Boys Basketball
- 3 MHSAA 6A Championships, Boys Basketball, Boys Track & Field and Girls Track & Field
- 16 seniors earned band scholarships to 6 different schools



Vanessa Sharp, Cade Campbell and Lillian Vincent



Melinda Van, Thu Phan, Jason Van, Joey Dang, Daniel Van and Melissa Van



Aniya Howard, MaKayla Drummond and Bryce Spann



Hope Baldree and Jeremiah McDonald



Nelly, Britley, Bridget and David Santos

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Public Service Commission to review City of Clinton case

Special to The Clinton Courier

In an action that could impact one hundred thirty-eight other municipalities, the City of Clinton filed a Formal Billing and Services Complaint against Entergy Mississippi, LLC in 2020. In the filing, City officials were asking the Public Service Commission (PSC) to investigate and determine if Entergy's charges in regards to street lighting are unreasonable in accordance with Mississippi Code §77-3-41.

The City of Clinton has been attempting to have the streetlight rates, paid by Clinton taxpayers, examined for appropriateness for over two years. Entergy Mississippi has consistently fought that examination requested by the City of Clinton. By Entergy Mississippi's own admission, they cannot produce the work papers necessary to provide a complete analysis and justification of the rate components that Clinton has challenged.

As an example, one billing item the City of Clinton has questioned is a group of three hundred thirty-one concrete poles that were installed in 1979. These are estimated to have cost approximately \$100,000 at the time of installation. However, the City of

Clinton has paid over \$1,100,000 for these poles to date, with payments ongoing every month.

During the May 2022 Public Service Commission meeting, PSC Chairman Dane Maxwell stated, "I will request the Mississippi Public Utilities Staff to review the regulatory framework associated with municipal street lighting in the state and prepare a report for the Commission; particularly addressing the manner in which the rates are designed for this service."

The review and report regarding municipal street lighting could possibly benefit Clinton and one hundred thirty-eight other municipal customers that also pay for street lighting from Entergy Mississippi.

"These charges are unconscionable on its face, particularly given the City's position as a guardian of taxpayer dollars," said Mayor Phil Fisher. "We sincerely appreciate and commend the leadership and actions of Chairman Dane Maxwell for being willing to take a fresh look at this matter and bring clarity to the City of Clinton and the other one hundred thirty-eight municipalities across the Entergy Mississippi service area."

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Rees named female State Farm Athlete of the Month



Olivia Rees (right) was recently named State Farm Student Athlete of the Month for February. Rees is a member of the softball team at Clinton High School. Rees is pictured with Tim Bruss of State Farm (left).



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A photograph of an elderly couple smiling. The woman is on the left, wearing a blue shirt and a red vest. The man is on the right, wearing a plaid shirt and glasses. They are standing outdoors with trees in the background.

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Free summer lunches available for children at YMCA

Special to The Clinton Courier

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), one in seven children in the U.S. is fighting hunger. When schools are closed for the summer break, these children are even more at risk of food insecurity.

The Metropolitan YMCAs, including the Clinton YMCA, in partnership with the USDA, local churches and community leaders, will provide free meals this summer to children ages 18 and under to ensure all children have access to healthy and nutritious foods.

Families can stop by the Clinton Family YMCA at 400 Lindale Drive in Clinton to receive a free healthy lunch. Lunches will be served from noon until 1 p.m. Monday through Friday, except for July 4. The program will continue through August 5.

“During the summer months, families can count on the Y to provide healthy meals for the

community,” says Jami Ferrell, Food Program Director, Metropolitan YMCAs of MS.

The Y’s Food Program is part of a year-round effort to address child hunger.

Last year, The Metropolitan YMCAs of MS served over 102,000 meals and snacks to children and teens in the City of Jackson and surrounding areas.

For more information, call the Clinton Y at 601-924-5812.

EDITOR’S NOTE: The Clinton Public School District is also offering free summer lunch to all children through age 18, Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. through June 30, at Northside/Eastside Elementary at 451/453 Arrow Drive, at Lovett Elementary at 2002 West Northside Drive, and at Clinton Junior High School at 711 West Northside Drive. Meals at the schools are offered on a first-come, first-serve basis, and they must be consumed on site.

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Powell named male State Farm Athlete of the Month



Jackson Powell (left) was recently named State Farm Student Athlete of the Month for February. Powell is a member of the archery team at Clinton High School. Powell is pictured with Tim Bruss of State Farm (right).

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Library’s Summer Program filled with fun activities

By Carole Kelly

Informative and imaginative times are in store for young patrons participating in the annual Summer Reading Program at the Clinton-Quisenberry Library. Details for the two-month program celebrating the theme of “Oceans of Possibilities” have been released by Jami Pittman, who coordinates the activities that will bring an array of storytime presenters and subjects to the library.

“Our story hours are featuring presenters from different agencies and

play at a booth manned by Pittman at the Fresh at Five Market on June 7 from 5 to 7 p.m. Pittman will also have registration forms for the summer program and cards for new library patrons. Books from the Friends of the Library sale shelves on topics of wellness, nutrition, gardening and other subjects will be available.

The Oceans of Possibilities theme will officially begin June 8, followed by a June 9 storytime, with violinist Emily Williams performing at noon.

The program on June 10 at 10 a.m. will resound musically with presenters Stacy and Kristen from the Opera of Mississippi.



organizations with stories to read and information to share,” said Pittman. He welcomed story tellers from the Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation June 6 at 10 a.m. for the first program, which, in addition to having stories read, included details of how people are assisted through the department.

The summer schedule will be on dis-

interesting possibilities offered at the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce, and storytimes will feature Myrtle the Turtle and Diane the Dental Hygienist. Also, readers will be treated to a two-program special day with the Bayou Town Puppet Show and a Mississippi Aquarium presentation on June 17.

cont. on page 29

Quisenberry Summer Reading Program highlights

- | | |
|--|--|
| June 8
Program kickoff | June 27
1 p.m. - Diane the Dental Hygienist storytime |
| June 9
Storytime
Noon - violinist Emily Williams | July 1
2 p.m. - Professor Universe Science Show |
| June 10
10 a.m. - Opera of Mississippi presenters | July 7
Party at the Beach |
| June 15
10 a.m. - Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce presenters | July 12
10 a.m. - Sammy Soil Show |
| June 17
10 a.m. - Bayou Town Puppet Show
2 p.m. - Mississippi Aquarium presentation | July 20
Luau Day |
| June 22
1 p.m. - Myrtle the Turtle story and show | July 21
Summer Reading Program 2022 Grand Finale Party |
- Also, Tuesdays from 4-5 p.m., the Anime Club Live continues in the storytime room for kids, with teen time each Thursday from 4 to 5 p.m. Attendees will watch anime shows, read manga, and discuss the stories and art style.

Enroll at Clinton Christian Academy

Tours for prospective students are offered Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays between 8am and 12pm

Please call the office at 601-910-5990 to schedule you tour.



CJHS STUDENTS ENJOY SPRING DANCE

Clinton Junior High School held a spring dance right before school ended for the year. This was the first dance most of the students had been able to attend, due to COVID-19 cancellations in

previous school years. *The Clinton Courier* sponsored a photo opportunity for students ahead of the dance, with *Courier* photographer Tammie Stephens.

All photos by Tammie Stephens



Maddy Breaux, Rivers Russell, Ethan Dotson, Saige Fuller, Jonah Barnette, Carly Jones, Jack Bruce and Nidhyati Trehan



Caroline Allen, Haddie Heindl and Kaytlin Brooks



Dotson and Rivers Russell



Gabriel Benson and Kimberlee Barnes



Riley Moore, Chloe Dickinson, Meghan Brown and Kate Gilliam



Front row: Lauren Kimbrell, Madelyn Rives, Hannah Webb and AnnaBelle Mansell; and back row: Hayden Rogers, Caroline Allen, Haddie Heindl, Kaytlin Brooks, Mary Evins Wardlaw and Caroline Gibbs



Isaiah Schellang, Katy Powell, Macy Rivers, Jackson Hardy, Cort Bennett and Mary Culipher Stephens



Swayzie Vaught and Memphis Starkey



Grayson Wells and Keelyn Constancio

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PICS ONLINE
TheClintonCourier.net

CHS holds Mother-Daughter Tea for seniors

The Clinton High School Student Council recently hosted a Mother-Daughter Tea for graduating senior girls and their mothers. Refreshments were provided by the CHS Culinary Arts Program, and the guest

speaker was former Clinton Public School District Superintendent Dr. Tommye Henderson, who is currently serving as the Superintendent Search Manager for the Mississippi School Boards Association.

All photos by Katie Tracy



Susan and Mallory Morris, Lori and Emma Prather, Elaine and Madeline Manuel, and Andi and Kim Price



Kate Brunson, Brielle and Emily Morgan, Malissa and Amber Robinson, Karina and Kristy Trejo, and Faison Brunson



Asia Washington and Alice Lee



Rayne Lewis, Aaliyah Keys, Princess Hayes, and Carmen and Angela Harris

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Dr. Tommye Henderson

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Challenger League softball concludes season

The Challenger League recently concluded its 2022 softball season at Traceway Park. Clinton’s Challenger League includes the sports of softball, bowling and basketball. For more information about Challenger League programs, contact the Department of Therapeutic Recreation at 601-924-6387.

All photos by Susan Rodriguez



Pictured (l to r) are, front row: Micheal Maeze, Henry Osborne, Timothy Miller, Jack Collins, Tyler Archambault, Ester Williams (wheelchair), DJ Folse, Kate Dickens, Alexandria Alexander, Jared Giles and Emory Dubose; and back row: Seth Sledge, Danny Waldrop, Warren Gibson, Ricky Gibs, Rece Gilder, Hunter Smylie and Aiden Lee.



Greg Holly, Chandra Broomfield and Elizabeth Winder



Danny Waldrop and Geraldine Sledge

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cont. from page 24

Library’s Summer Program filled with fun activities

“We are encouraging participants to take part in every program, of course,” commented Pittman. “But the June 17 puppet show and the aquarium presentation are really big, not-to-be-missed days.”

July begins with the Professor Universe Science Show on July 1, followed by the July 7 Party at the Beach theme.

“This is imagination day for everyone to celebrate the beach and ocean,” Pittman said, suggesting participants wear sunglasses and sandals and bring beach balls, towels, shells and any beach items. Picnic snack fare will be served for the occasion.

The Sammy Soil Show at 10 a.m. July 12 will focus on the science of water, earth, geology and other related topics.

July 20 is Luau Day at the library, as participants come and go wearing colorful clothes and leis, with the focus to be on Hawaiian and Samoan culture.

The next day, July 21, is the grand finale, with a party to close Summer Reading Program 2022. Area companies and businesses are invited to donate items for prize bags that will be presented to participants at the close of the program.

“Prizes such as gift cards, coupons, stress balls or hats will be great for the boys and girls participating in this summer’s program. Any number of items will be welcomed,” he added, pointing out that some 6,000 young people take part in the program through the fourteen libraries in the Jackson-Hinds Library System.

Pittman said that area food trucks are invited to be a part of the summer, offering their menus to families participating in the activities at the library located at 605 East Northside Drive.

The Anime Club Live continues each week in the story hour room, Tuesday for the younger set, from 4 to 5 p.m., and teen time on Thursdays, also 4 to 5 p.m.

“Anime shows, reading manga from the library and discussing anime and manga stories as well as the art style will be engaging sessions,” said Pittman.

He continues work on a proposed garden grant and says he hopes to release news about the grant in the near future.

For more information on donations, volunteering, or program details, contact Pittman at 601-924-5684.

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Short-term rental ordinance proposed for Clinton's Olde Towne

By Randy Bell

Clinton aldermen are considering an ordinance to regulate short-term rentals in Olde Towne after a developer proposed moving five railroad cabooses to a vacant lot near the north end of Jefferson Street to offer “unique” accommodations for people visiting the city.

Brian Biernat said the cabooses would be painted and retrofitted with modern conveniences, including TVs and queen beds.

“The goal would be to put them in and make it a nice, attractive place for people to come in and stay,” Biernat said. His company has twenty-one other short-term rentals in the Jackson metro, but this would be the first time he’d be using cabooses for that purpose. The company caters to corporate clients, but he says it’s also family-friendly. His Clinton

development, called Project Tyco, is aimed at “filling a void” in the city’s short-term rental market. He envisions people staying in one of his cabooses for anywhere from four days to a month—maybe longer. But the ordinance the Board is considering would limit stays to fewer than thirty days.

Nearby residents have voiced opposition to the project.

Sara Wolfe said the idea of renting out cabooses could be “pie in the sky.” She said, “I don’t know that it’s a proven concept.” And she’s worried about the possible impact on the quality of life in the neighborhood.

“In this particular case, that five of them are grouped together, I think is a little concerning from a security standpoint.” She said there would be a constant turnover of people moving in and out

of those accommodations.

Wolfe has gotten more than fifty signatures on a petition expressing concerns about Project Tyco.

Ward 2 Alderman Jim Martin said the most important part of a zoning ordinance is “to protect the next-door neighbor.”

“I’m not going to vote in favor of anything that I would not want to be next door to me,” Martin said. “I think we need to be careful with short-term rentals, that we really do have support of the neighbors where something like that is going in, rather than opening up the city, or even an area of the city, without making sure that the citizens who own property or live next door to it think that’s compatible with where they live.”

There’s also concern among Board members about what seems to be a prevalence of Airbnb-type accommoda-

tions that are available all across Clinton, even though they’re not authorized under the current City ordinance.

“Airbnb is a short-term rental,” said Martin. “There are some folks getting away with that. If we want to permit Airbnb rentals citywide, then we need to look at that, too. What’s being proposed now are just short-term rentals in the Olde Towne district.”

Alderwoman-at-Large Ricki Garrett said it’s hard to determine the location of those Airbnb offerings in Clinton.

“When you look on an Airbnb site, it doesn’t tell you the address of the property. So, unless you know that particular house, you’d have to really go looking for it.”

The Board took a close look at the proposed ordinance at its work session on May 16 and suggested a number of changes.



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Thacker Mountain Radio returns to Clinton June 18

Special to The Clinton Courier

One of Mississippi Public Broadcasting's longest-running musical variety shows is returning to Clinton this summer.

The Arts Council of Clinton (ACC) will present the *Thacker Mountain Radio Hour (TMR)* on Saturday, June 18, at 6 p.m., as part of a "Father's Day Eve" performance for MPB listeners in Mississippi, Alabama, and western Tennessee. While this will be the fifth year that *Thacker* has started their summer season in Clinton, it will mark the first time MC has hosted the show, which has traveled to Clinton for Father's Day Weekend broadcasts annually from 2016-19.

"We're really excited about *Thacker* returning to Clinton and very excited about having the show performed on the Mississippi College campus," said Arts Council of Clinton President, Bob Blanton. "Hopefully, this will be the beginning of more projects between the Arts Council and MC."

Hosted since 2000 by Jim Dees, author of *The Statue and the Fury*, recipient of the 2017 Independent Publishers Association's Bronze Award for best non-fiction in the South, the weekly program consists of author readings sandwiched between a pair of musical guest performances. It gets its name from a fire observation tower that resembles a radio tower on Thacker Mountain in Lafayette County.

Thacker Mountain Radio Hour received the Mississippi Governor's Award for Broadcast Excellence in 2005 and a Citation of Merit from the Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters in 2017.

A performance by Southern singer, songwriter and "community cultivator" Beth McKee will open the broadcast. The Orlando musician and former member of bayou-country band Evangeline has recorded several solo albums and is the founding principal of Swamp Sistas, a group of more than 2,700 Southern women artists who collaborate, mentor, and perform in the Swamp Sistas Songwriter Circle to support their home communities.



The story of how Jones County resident Tom Landrum, an MC graduate, infiltrated the Ku Klux Klan in the 1960s on behalf of the FBI is the topic of Mississippi author Curtis Wilke's latest novel, *When Evil Lived in Laurel*. Wilke will discuss his true-crime tale of Civil Rights-era Mississippi during the broadcast.

The Shotgun Jazz Band, a seven-piece ensemble from New Orleans, will round out the broadcast with its original brand of bluesy, Crescent City-style music.

Marla Dixon, one of the city's strongest vocalists, leads the band's particular flavor of fun, no-nonsense New Orleans jazz.

Thacker Mountain Radio Hour's house band, Yalobush-whackers, fronted by Paul Tate with bassist Slade Lewis, pianist Mark Yacovone, and drummer Ricky Burkhead, also will perform during the broadcast.

Ricky Nations, a local insurance agent and past-president of the Arts Council of Clinton, has been instrumental in establishing and continuing the city's relationship with the *Thacker Mountain Radio Show*.

"MC is a great place for this show," said Nations, himself an MC graduate.

For the third year, the Arts Council of Clinton will have an After Party on the Brick Streets in Olde Towne Clinton from 7:45 until 9:30 p.m.

"If you have a ticket to *Thacker*, then you have a ticket to the After-Party. It should be a lot of fun," said Blanton.

Thacker is an hour-long show recorded live and broadcast on Mississippi Public Broadcasting and Alabama Public Broadcasting at 7 p.m. each Saturday. The show is generally recorded in Oxford, Mississippi.

"We are fortunate to have *Thacker* back again. They only have four or five live shows per year outside of Oxford, and it is an entertaining and fun event," said ACC Past-President Ricky Nations.

Tickets for the event are \$20 and can be purchased online at ticketpeak.co/artsCouncilofclinton/events or at the door. Proceeds from the event will be used for scholarship awards to students, teacher grants to local teachers, art exhibits and contests and additional education and entertainment events.



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atmosenergy.com/HireMississippi

Max Lyall chosen as new Attaché Show Choir director

Special to The Clinton Courier

Max Lyall has been named as the new director of Clinton High School’s nationally acclaimed Attaché Show Choir.

Lyall, a 1994 graduate of Clinton High School, has a long history with show choir, including being a former member of Attaché, where he spent time under the direction of Winona Costello, as well as David and Mary Fehr. He served as the Attaché pit director in 2009.

For the past twelve years, Lyall has served as the director of choral activities for Madison Central and Rosa Scott in Madison County, where he directed two show choirs, concert choir, renaissance madrigal ensembles, musicals and the show choir's band. He has been married to his wife, Carie, for twenty-five years, and the couple have three grown sons: Gavin, Brenden and Caleb.

“It is difficult to convey just how honored I feel to be stepping into this role,” Lyall said. “Attaché has become synonymous with excellence at the highest level. With the team that Mr. and Mrs. Fehr have put in place here, as well as the support system that Dr. Schoggin has helped to establish district-wide, we are positioned to continue that legacy well into the future.”

“Max Lyall is an incredibly talented singer, instrumentalist and musician,” David Fehr



Max Lyall

said. “I look forward to working with him this year.”

Clinton Public School District's Superintendent Dr. Andy Schoogin said skillset and cultural fit for the program were two key requirements in selecting the next director for Attaché.

“Max has a very clear, well-defined understanding of the culture and expectations of the program,” Dr. Schoggin said. “Additionally, he also has established relationships within the Clinton show choir community, which will assist in accelerating his transition.”

President of the Attaché Booster Club Dr. John Goolsby Jr. said having an Attaché alum at the helm will benefit the program as a whole.

“Max sits in a perfect position to deliver the consistency and innovation needed to be the top show choir in the nation, since he knows firsthand the history and expectations of the program,” Goolsby said. “I believe he will be a great leader and director and will be a great fit working with the Fehrs on a daily basis continuing the legacy of success that Clinton has become known for in the show choir community.”

Lyall said, “The folks at Clinton should be excited about the future of Attaché. I know I am, and I’m happy to be home.”

Lyall will officially begin as Attaché’s new director on July 1.

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The Clinton Public School District is one of four school districts in the state to have a passing rate above ninety percent on the initial administration of the 2021-2022 Mississippi Academic Assessment Program Third Grade Reading Summative Assessment.

Mandy Ambrose, principal at Clinton’s Northside Elementary, the district’s second- and third-grade school, said she is exceptionally proud of the resilience shown by the teachers and students in accomplishing this goal.

“Instead of allowing the changes and challenges that have taken place over the past two years to overcome them, they have pushed through and came out stronger than they could have imagined,” Ambrose said.

She said teachers started preparing for these students long before the August 2021 start date.

“The teachers knew that these particular students missed out on pieces of their most critical years of instruction due to the pandemic. They knew there would most likely be deficits when the year started.”

“I am incredibly proud of our students and teachers for their diligence and focused work this year,” said CPSD Superintendent Dr. Andy Schoggin.

“A tremendous amount of credit is due to our dedicated teachers, who have worked closely and intentionally with each student over the course of this school year, and to our parents, who have supported them so well,” added Schoggin.

Ambrose also praised the teachers’ intentional preparation and their ability to make adjustments in order to meet the specific needs of this year’s third-grade class.

“They did all that they could to stand in the gap for their kids,” Ambrose said, “and these scores allow them to see the fruits of their labor.”

Along with Choctaw County School District, Ocean Springs School District and Webster County School District, Clinton scored above ninety percent, well above the state average of 73.9 percent.

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Keys vs. Strings plays to crowds at park

Main Street Clinton and the City of Clinton’s 2022 Spring Concert Series featured a performance by Keys vs Strings at Lions Club Park. The Spring Concert Series came to a close at the end of May, but organizers plan to have more events lined up for a Fall Series, to be announced at a later date.

All photos by Susan Rodriguez.



Amanda and Drew Burchfield



Andrea Davenport and Anna Renegar



Barbara Lewis, Blinky and Spencer Ritchey



Buck and Jo Jones and Mary Clark



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Cyndi Mooney and Roxie



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Questions may be directed by email to Floyd Council, Executive Director, at fcouncil@jhlibrary.org.
All questions and answers about the bid proposal and this announcement are on www.jhlibrary.org. **Bid Open:** June 1, 2022 **Bid Closed:** June 30, 2022 (10:00am)

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MAIN STREET CLINTON HOSTS SECOND ANNUAL MOTHER’S DAY PARADE

The second annual Mother's Day Parade was held Saturday, May 14, on the brick streets in Olde Towne, in celebration of mothers everywhere. Lindsay Pardue was named the 2022 "Mother Like No Other."

All photos by Susan Rodriguez.



Lindsay Pardue was named the 2022 Mother Like No Other.



CHECK OUT MORE
PICS ONLINE
TheClintonCourier.net



Ink-Slingers resume in person meetings

The Clinton Ink-Slingers resumed in person meetings May 21, for the first time since the COVID pandemic began in March 2020. The non-profit writers group was founded in 2007 by Juanita Walker to be a support group for local writers. The Clinton Ink-Slingers’ goal is to encourage and support local writers in the literary fields of fiction, non-fiction, poetry and plays. The group is composed of published and unpublished writers. Meetings are held on the third Saturday of each month at 9:30 a.m., at the Clinton Visitor Center at 1300 Pinehaven Drive. Members and visitors are encouraged to bring writing samples to share. The next meeting will be June 18, and anyone interested is invited. Pictured (l to r) are Johnny Lowe, Jeanette Latimer, Joedda Gore, Diane Pleasant and Gloria Wright.



Photo by Fred Schmidt.



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OBITUARY

Dr. Katherine Ann Andersen

A life that touched many with the gifts of kindness, caring, and love!

Katherine Ann Andersen, known as Katie to all of her friends and family, 36, passed away May10, 2022, at her residence in New York City. A Celebration of Life Service was held at Celebrate Church on Sunday, June 5, 2022, at 3 p.m.

Katie was born



on December 7, 1985, in Seoul, Korea, and came home to her Clinton, Mississippi, family – Steve and Kathie Andersen, and brother, Chris – on March 4, 1986. October 15, 1986, was the date of her Final Adoption, with several close family members in attendance. She, along with her brother, Chris, became U.S. citizens through the process of naturalization, and they were granted certificates of citizenship in New Orleans on November 13, 1987.

Katie's education began at First Baptist preschool, and then the Clinton Public Schools, where she excelled in honors and advanced academic courses. She also played on the high school soccer team, having been on rec and traveling soccer teams since age five. She left high school at the completion of her junior year to pursue her lifelong dream of becoming a doctor - one year at Millsaps, three years at Mississippi College.

Her post graduate studies were at University of Mississippi Medical Center, where she graduated with honors in 2012 as a Doctor of Medicine. Upon completion of residency training in anesthesiology, then a fellowship in pain management, she achieved board certification in both areas. Having more than ten years of diverse expe-

riences, Katie was affiliated with Elmhurst Hospital Center in Elmhurst, New York.

From her anesthesiology department director, Katie was described as intelligent, hardworking, caring and an all-around wonderful doctor and human being. Many surgeons trusted her work ethic, quality of care and her ability to give great care to patients from different cultures and little education.

Described as a world traveler, Katie visited places that others only dream of touring - Europe, Asia, Africa,

South America, Mexico and various places in the United States. Enjoying the challenge, she jumped out of airplanes, bungee jumped, snowboarded, and wake surfed. She was deeply drawn to any place that included a beach where she could relax and reflect during sunrises and sunsets.

Katie is survived by her two brothers, Chris Andersen of Flowood and Jordy Andersen (Michelle) of Flora; and her nephews and niece, Troy, Evan and Mallory Andersen.

Her parents, Steve and Kathie Andersen of Clinton, wish to express their gratitude towards all who have reached out to them from all over the United States. They have all been part of their healing process as they have related their stories of Katie's life's story and how she touched their lives.

All of her friends and family knew that Katie was obsessed with the love of dogs - especially Annie Mae, the Boxer. Because of her love of animals, if anyone would care to donate to a worthwhile charity on her behalf, we would love for you to consider donations to CARA or Jackson Friends of the Animal Shelter.

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OBITUARY

William George "Bill" Nettles

William George "Bill" Nettles departed from this life on Wednesday, June 1, 2022, at the age of 68, at home in the company of his family.

He was born to the late Joseph Henry and Ellen Clyde (East) Nettles on February 22, 1954. Growing up in Brandon, Mississippi, he graduated from Brandon High School. He attended Mississippi College and went on to complete a PhD in Nuclear Physics at Vanderbilt University.

He began his career in the U.S. Navy, serving under Admiral Rickover as part of the nuclear navy. He then returned to Mississippi to raise his children near their grandparents. He was a respected Professor of Physics for twenty-three years at Mississippi College and sixteen years

at Union University, where he served as Department Chair and Associate Dean for the College of Arts and Sciences. He recently retired and was named Professor Emeritus. Many students recall fondly his reading of Psalms and prayer to begin each class.

Some referred to Bill as a modern Renaissance Man. He had many interests, including growing prize-winning roses, woodworking and working on classic cars. He also enjoyed riding his motorcycle and playing croquet. He participated in university sports as part of the football statistics team at MC and as the shotclock operator at Union. Perhaps his favorite



hobby was playing his bass guitar. He enjoyed attending camps at Wooten Woods, being in the Jackson Hubtet and the Jackson Swing Orchestra, and leading worship with the praise band at Cornerstone Community Church, where he was an active member and deacon.

He was committed to serving Christ and spreading the Gospel. He did this through many mission trips and through opening his home to college students and others in need. He was a college Sunday School teacher at Morrison Heights Baptist Church for many years and encouraged the use of

inductive Bible study.

He is survived by Alice, his wife of 46 years; daughter, Claire Gilliam (David) of Clinton, Mississippi; son, Philip Nettles (Kenna) of Madison, Mississippi; siblings, Jo Ellen Austin (Tony), Tom Nettles (Margaret), and Sylvia Dickson (Tom); and six grandchildren, Kate, Caleb, Eleanor and Maggie Gilliam, Abigail and Wesley Nettles.

A Memorial Service was held on Saturday, June 11, at 11a.m. at Morrison Heights Baptist Church. Visitation was from 10 a.m. until the time of the service.

Memorial contributions are suggested to MHBC Missions Fund, 3000 Hampstead Blvd, Clinton, MS 39056 or MC Physics Department Special Fund, PO Box 4005, Clinton, MS 39058.



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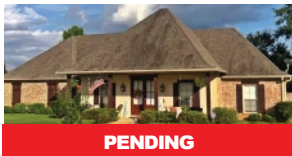
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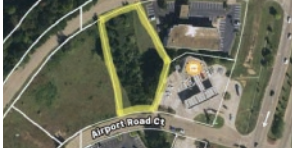
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June 7, 20

THE *Bolton* NEWS

Gibbs wins election run-off



Bolton's recently-elected Alderman-at-Large Alberta Gibbs

Bolton News

An election to fill the vacant position of Alderman-at-Large resulted in the need for a run-off, which was held on May 24. The seat was vacant due to the resignation of William Woods as Alderman-at-Large. The run-off was between Alberta Gibbs and Brady Holder.

Gibbs won the run-off with sixty percent of the votes in her favor. Gibbs graduated from Hinds County Agricultural High School in 1970, from Utica Junior College in 1972, from Alcorn State University in 1974, and from Lewis University in 1981.

Her platform included fighting to refurbish abandoned homes to expand the community, working to fix the streets and roads so guests and citizens of Bolton can ride smoothly around town, bringing awareness to underserved African-American youth, pushing the need for academic programs to help the children to excel, providing resources to single parents and building a sports platform for the youth.

Honor Society inductees named



Recent Central Hinds Academy National Honor Society inductees include (l to r), front row: Chloe Dyar, Piper Lloyd, Laurel Freeman, Sam McCoy, Nobile Germany, Brayden Bullock, Tucker Gray, Rivers Johns, Alli Beth Scott, Brady Clark, Dalton Barnes, Raymond Vickers and Luke Smith; middle row: Kolton Price, Ryan Etheridge, Keith Purvis and Christian Saums; and back row: Dawson Oakes and Justin Cook.



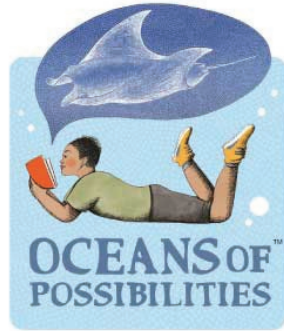
Recent Central Hinds Academy Science National Honor Society inductees include (l to r), front row: Samantha McWilliams, Bella Saums and Carter Smith; and back row: Kolton Price, Ryan Etheridge, Keith Purvis and Christian Saums.

Special programs planned for library's Summer Reading Program

Bolton News

The Annie T. Jeffers Library's annual Summer Reading Program is back with in-person programs for 2022. For those looking for exciting activities and programs to help their preschooler, child or teen keep reading and learning this summer, the 2022 Summer Reading Program is only a click away. Adults are welcome to sign up and participate, as well.

On June 8, children can join Ms. Keidra Hooks and Mr. Rex McAllister of Mississippi Public Broadcasting as they read *Sammy the Seal* by Syd Hoof, a book about a seal who lives in a zoo, but wants to see what's outside the zoo. Mr. Johnson, the zookeeper, lets Sammy the Seal out of his cage so he can explore the city. He wanders the streets and observes people, jumps into a man's bathtub, and eventually ends up in an elementary school classroom.



After the story, participants can enjoy interactive ocean activities, including brown bag puppets of seals, hippos, and elephants for children to make and take home to enjoy. Prizes will be awarded!

On June 9, from 10 until 11 a.m., children can enjoy learning along with Myrtle the Turtle, as she discovers the harm plastic pollution causes to sea life and the importance of recycling. Fun coloring sheets and activities will be given to everyone in attendance.

On June 13, from 10 until 11 a.m., The Helmet Program will be presented by the Mississippi Department of Transportation. This program is intended to teach young children the importance of wearing a helmet while riding bikes, as well as skating and riding scooters. Children will learn the importance of using a helmet when riding in the street, along the ocean, riverfront, ponds, or on the playground.

On June 16, from 10 until 10:40

a.m., the Bayou Town Mobile Classroom will be in Bolton. This event will be held at City Hall

activities, games and prizes for all in attendance.

On July 6, from 10 until 11



rather than the library. The Environmental Education and Outreach Mobile Classroom K-2 is a 42-minute mobile classroom that introduces water quality stewardship to kindergarten through second grade audiences through puppetry, participation, music and theater. The Environmental Education and Outreach Mobile Classroom 3-5 is a 40-minute mobile classroom that engages third through fifth grade students in an interactive water quality unit study demonstrating how the properties of water cause it to be the most powerful force for spreading non-point source pollution. Students learn how pollution impacts their local waterways while learning better habits to improve water quality. These programs are sponsored by the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality.

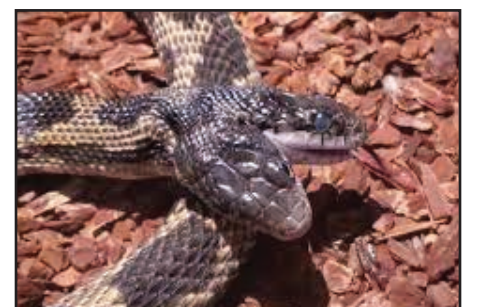
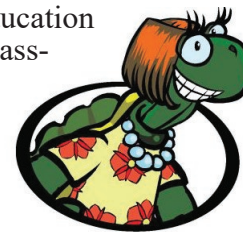
On June 21, from 10 until 11 a.m., children and come out and meet Sammy Soil. Can plants grow on other planets? Come meet Sammy Soil and find out! Children can join Mrs. Wyvette from Hinds County Soil and Water Conservation and Sammy Soil to learn about fruits and vegetables, as well as get seeds to plant and enjoy.

On June 22, from 10 until 11 a.m., the Teeth of the Sea Dental Program will be presented, and attendees can enjoy summer treats at the beach. Children can learn about protecting their smile this summer with Ms. Lenita Simpson of the Mississippi State Department of Health. She will read *Clark the Shark: Tooth Trouble* by Bruce Hale and provide interactive

a.m., Storytime with Senator John Horhn will be held. He will read two stories and act out the stories by changing his voice to match the story. He went to some acting classes before he became a senator, and he will tell the students about the Capitol and his job.

On July 14, from 10 until 11 a.m., for the final activity of the summer, Charles "Mr. Smarty Pants" King will present "Oceans of Possibilities" with his elephant mascots and tell children about drugs, education, school and obedience. Afterward, there will be an awards program at the park, with snacks provided by The Friends of the Library.

On July 26, at 10 a.m., patrons will be treated to an extra bonus. Mrs. Nicole Smith from the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science will bring reptiles and small animals from the museum. She will



talk to children about the animals, as well as bring pictures of turtles and all types of reptiles. Young and old alike are encouraged to attend.

For additional information on any of the programs, contact the Annie T. Jeffers Library at 601-866-4247. The library is located 111 West Madison Street in Bolton.

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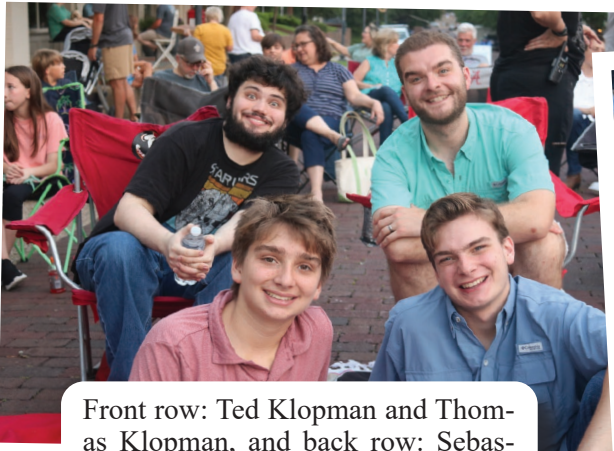
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DINNER AND A MOVIE CLOSSES OUT SPRING SEASON

All photos by Susan Rodriguez.



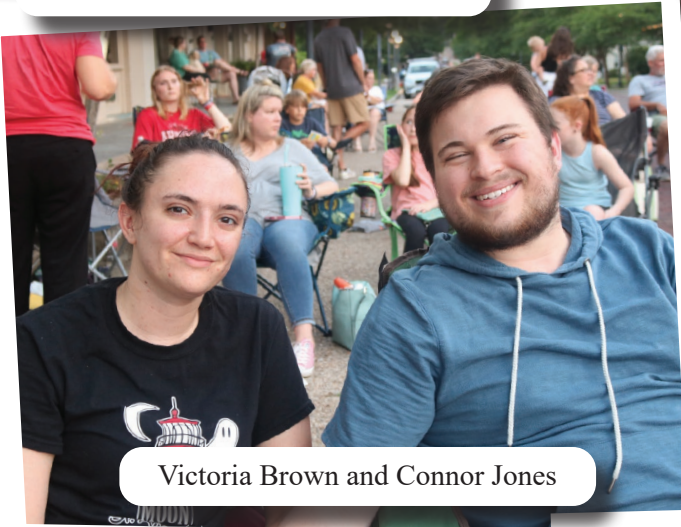
Front row: Ted Klopman and Thomas Klopman, and back row: Sebastian Pettry and Zach Klopman



Ersula and Marcus Pollard



Morgan and Liam Browning

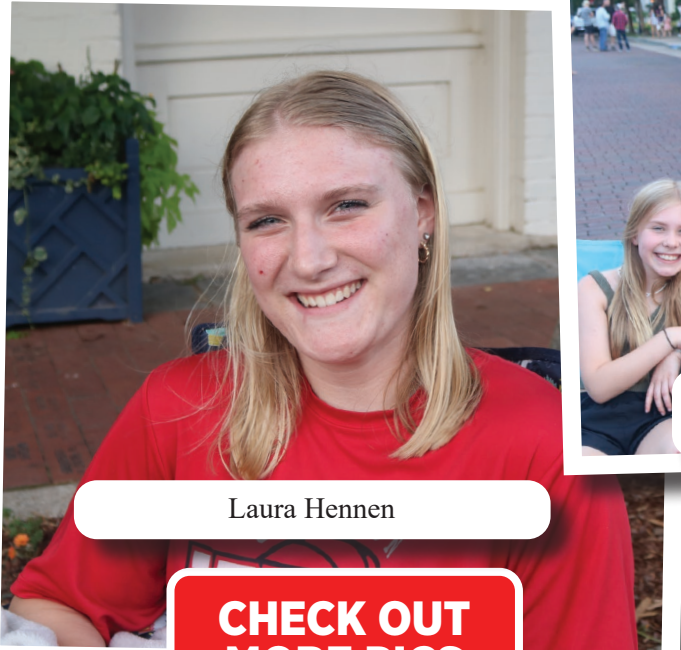


Victoria Brown and Connor Jones

Main Street Clinton's Dinner and a Movie spring series ended their season with a showing of *Ferris Bueller's Day Off* on the brick streets of Olde Towne. The series will return in the fall. For more information about Main Street Clinton events, call 601-924-5477



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Calling all readers! Share your love of reading with others with a book review

By Carole Kelly

The next best thing to reading a spellbinding or a fair-to-middling book for me is discussing the book with a friend or fellow-reader enthusiast. Presented with the opportunity to write a book review by *The Clinton Courier*, several future reviewers are waiting in the wings to write a review of their books of choice. We want to hear from you!

Speaking of or reviewing a favorite book, one doesn't want to – and shouldn't – share too much, but I love to draw a prospective reader into the possibility of giving a favored book or author a try and finding it as intriguing as I did. Then we can talk about it.

Tastes and opinions vary, of course, and what I rave about as favorites no doubt elicit responses of either "Oh, yes" or "Wouldn't think of reading that" or "What are you thinking?"

Looking over my list of titles in past days, Delia Owens' *Where the Crawdads Sing* is a stunning story, for me a different but "quick, turn-the-page" story. The beginning was startling but had me hooked from the first, and I didn't want to put the book down. A friend shared that it was a turnoff right off the bat for her. I was intrigued as to where Delia Owens was going with the story of a family in a different environment from anything I was familiar with.

I've often remembered a long-ago response from a reader who stated after finishing Anya Seton's historical mystery *Green Darkness*, "Reading anything after *Green Darkness* will be like eating melba toast after having pizza." A fine review sentence.

The absolute top title for me and many other readers recently has been *A Gentleman in Moscow*, by Amor Towles. I got the book from my therapist, who gave it a hearty recommendation. He did not want the book back; it took him some time to finish it, with a vacation helping the process. I happily added it to my home library, not hesitating to loan it to friends, of course. Joining Count Alexander Rostov in his life at the grand hotel Metropol, I found the allusions to Russian history depicted in the story even more interesting than I did when I was enjoying *Anastasia*, movie or play. Meet and get to know and admire Count Rostov, a young man caught up in history and sentenced to life in the hotel. Feel like you are there with him and the many interesting people who become a part of his life. Feel sad when you finish wandering through the hotel with

the Count. Next on my must-read list is A. Towles' 2021 release, *The Lincoln Highway*.

Phaedra Patrick's *The Curious Charms of Arthur Pepper* is a charming story about an English widower's adventures as he unravels an intriguing mystery. Lee Strobel's *The Case for a Creator* was a challenging read for me but a wonderful affirmation about Creation.

A fellow reader in a North Mississippi book club that chose Joseph J. Ellis's *Revolutionary Summer* was not impressed with the story of *The Birth of American Independence* (subtitle). I got into the trials and tribulations of the revolutionary summer: reading about how Washington and his straggling, struggling army facing the mighty British fleet were so beaten in New York made me catch my breath at the thought of what a miracle this country is.

Favorite authors taking me to different parts of the country and the world with their vivid characters include Elin Hilderbrand, Ann Tyler, Irish writer-journalist Maeve Binchy, and Florida journalist-novelist Carl Hiaassen.

Back to home territory, with a need to read and need to know: Jerry Mitchell's *Race Against Time* is a must read, as he details the background and results of his intensive investigative reporting about painful civil rights times in Mississippi history.

Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet is a book that I've begun and plan to finish, partly because Caroline Hoff recommended it. The plot concerns the forced evacuation of Japanese Americans to camps in World War II.

Good mystery stories to keep me viable in the "Hour to Kill" Book Club naturally include the Agatha Christie perennial favorites and those by Joanne Fluke, who stirs in a murder or two intertwined with recipes, as in *The Twelve Desserts of Christmas*. Read a book, bake some cookies.

Joedda Gore, a writer/playwright herself, is an avid reader who will be sharing her thoughts about another local author in an upcoming review.

Book club members or independent readers: Are you reading a book that you want to share your thoughts about? Write a review of 300-450 words, and email it to me, Carole Kelly, at Submissions@TheClintonCourier.net.

If your review is selected to run in a future print issue of *The Clinton Courier*, you'll be rewarded with a prize from your hometown paper! All ages are welcome and encouraged to submit reviews, just please keep them family-friendly!

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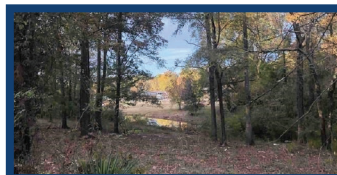
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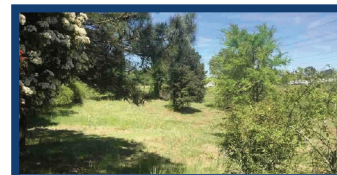
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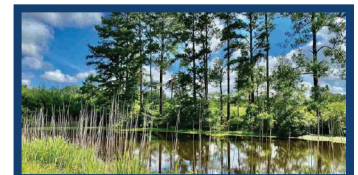
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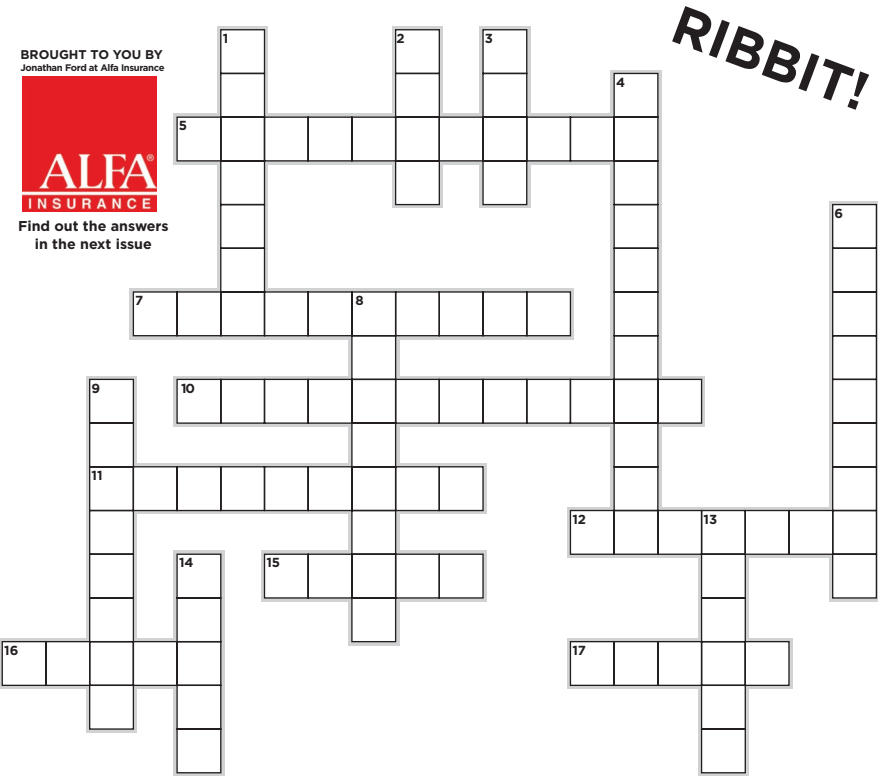
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All questions relate to Clinton, test your Clinton knowledge.

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