

February 2012

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Tourism News

Tractorcade Coming to Clinton

by Marsha Smith

The Great Eastern Iowa Tractorcade is set to come to Clinton for its 2012 summer event from June 11-13. The event involves 300-500 farmers riding and showing their tractors, and is put on by Cedar Rapids radio station 600 WMT AM. The Tractorcade will arrive in DeWitt on June 10, leave the morning of June 11 for Clinton, where they will remain for the day and overnight before leaving for Maquoketa on June 12 and returning to DeWitt for the last day of the event, June 13.

The tractors will line up along Riverview Drive, as they did when they were here in 2005. It is a beautiful venue for any event. Planning meetings will begin shortly, with CVB staff, officials from WMT Radio, area law enforcement officials, safety "experts," CVB Board Members and other volunteers. The CVB is looking forward to hosting this special event, showing Clinton's exceptional hospitality and customer service!



Winter Concert

The Clinton Symphony Orchestra presents "The Magic of Youth" on Saturday, February 25, 2012, 7:30 p.m. at the Morrison High School Auditorium. It's always magic time when the Symphony can present an area high school musician as their featured soloist. This year's honoree is Alexandria Weets, a saxophonist and senior at Morrison High School.

The Symphony presents the overture to Mozart's opera "The Magic Flute," "The Sorcerer's Apprentice" by Dukas, a suite from Rimsky-Korsakov's mysterious "Tale of Tsar Saltan," and music from "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince," composed by Nicholas Hooper. It's magic time!

Remember, you can take the bus from Clinton to the Winter Concert in Morrison. Convenient boarding points along the route make it an easy, comfortable and affordable ride, in partnership with Community State Bank. Make your reservation early. Call 563-243-5958.

Mardi Gras '12

Gather your friends and join Big Brothers Big Sisters for their Third Annual Mardi Gras Open on Thursday and Friday, February 2-3, 2012 at the Wild Rose Casino & Resort.. Play an 18-hole miniature golf course custom-designed by local sponsors. People are encouraged to recruit teams of 4 golfers and collect pledges. Cost is \$25.00 per golfer, which includes golf and food. Tee times are 5:30 and 7 p.m. Putters will be available, but feel free to bring your own.

Silent Auction items include: Southwest Airline Tickets, Computer Printer, Wisconsin Dells Great Wolf Lodge Getaway, Cubs and white Sox Items, Golf Packages and Grand Harbor Resort Getaway. Prizes include: 32" LG Flatscreen TV and Sporting Event Tickets. Contact: director@bbbsclinton.org or 563-243-4223 or fax a registration to 563-243-0806.



Big Brothers Big Sisters





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B-rrry Scurry

The B-rrry Scurry is the greatest little race in the Midwest. Clinton Community College will celebrate the 31st Annual B-rrry Scurry 4-mile race on Saturday, February 4, 2012. This is one of the area's favorite winter events and all runner and walkers are invited to join the fun! The race begins at noon at Clinton Community College, 1000 Lincoln Blvd., Clinton. All registered participants receive the official, originally-designed TECH race shirt, have their names listed in the Clinton Herald, are eligible for some great door prizes, free refreshments after the race and entry into the post-race party at a local establishment.



Special medallions bearing the image of B-rrry Bear, the official race mascot, are presented in 13 age divisions for both men and women. For more information about the B-rrry Scurry, contact Race Director Ann Eisenmann at 563-244-7040 or a Eisenman@eicc.edu.

Showboat Has New Director

Patrick Stinson, producing artistic director of the Clinton Area Showboat Theatre for the past three seasons, submitted his resignation to the Showboat Board of Directors. Stinson had been connected with the Showboat for the past 15 years, beginning with playing Charlie Brown in the musical "Snoopy" and continuing as a show director, director of the intern program and associate director. Tommy Iafrate, who was the associate artistic director in 2011, took over the role of producing artistic director. Iafrate is getting his master of fine arts degree in theater from Western Illinois University. He was introduced at the end of the past season as the company's artistic director, while



Stinson assumed a new role as executive director. Iafrate is looking forward to the upcoming season, which should be an exciting one.

The 2012 lineup at the Showboat includes: "Little Shop of Horrors," May 31-June 10; "Into the Woods," June 14-24; "Bye Bye Birdie," June 28 to July 15; "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee," July 19-29; and "Love Letters," alternating with "Hate Mail," August 1-12.

Coupe DeVille Concert

Coupe DeVille, "The Cadillac of Rock & Roll," will present a concert benefitting The Miss Clinton County Scholarship Program on Saturday, February 25, 2012. It will be held at 7 p.m. at the Central Performing Arts Center, 519 E. 11th St. in

DeWitt, Iowa. Tickets are \$10.00 adults and \$8.00 for students. They are available at Clinton Printing or from MCC Board Members. For more information, call 563-593-2393 or e-mail missclintoncounty@live.com.

Hand Stamped Greeting Cards

The Bickelhaupt Arboretum presents Saturday at the Arb on February 12, 2012 from 10-11 a.m. Come to this class and learn how to create your own stamped note cards. You'll learn about different papers to use and how to make your own envelope. These will be one of a kind unique cards created only by you! You

will get to take home your own creations! Call the Bickelhaupt Arboretum at 563-242-4771 to make your reservation today. Class size is limited and pre-registration is required. Suggested donation is \$10.00. Instructors are Kathy Byers and Margo Hansen.

YWCA Events

YW Get Fit starts February 6 at the YWCA. Look better, feel better, live better! This is an individualized wellness program created by the YWCA to help participants achieve their fitness goals. A wellness coach will help motivate and guide participants on their journey to improved health. The program costs \$60 for YWCA members. Call the YW at 242-2110 for complete details or visit their website at www.ywcaclinton.org.

YWisE Seniors Program – “Cooking Heart Healthy,” 12:30 p.m. at the YWCA on February 10. Learn to commit to a heart-healthy lifestyle and reduce the risk for heart disease by learning about powerful heart-healthy foods and how to cook them. Members will have hands-on

Horticulture in the Heartland

Horticulture in the Heartland will be held on March 3, 2012 at Clinton Community College, 1000 Lincoln Blvd. in Clinton. Registration begins at 7:30



a.m., followed by a Keynote Speaker at 8 a.m. Dr. Elwynn Taylor, Extension Climatologist at Iowa State University, will speak on “Our

Changing Climate.” Dr. Taylor approaches this international issue from the side of the plants.

Session 1A (beginning at 9 a.m.) – The American Bald Eagle, An American Icon, presented by Pam Steinhaus from the US Fish and Wildlife Service, currently the Visitor Services Manager for the Savanna District of the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge in Thomson IL. **Session 1B** – More Than the Morel, by Mitch Gravert, Jackson County Master Gardner, who says he is living proof that eating wild mushrooms don’t kill you. **Session 1C** – What’s Hot and what’s Not by Bud LeFevre, one of the owners of Distinctive Gardens in Dixon IL and has worked in the horticulture industry for 30 years.

Session 2A (beginning at 10 a.m.) – How Plants Adapt to the Climate by Dr.

experience and then sit down to a mouth-watering, heart-healthy lunch. For more information, call Senior Services Coordinator Jeanne McKenzie at the YWCA, 563-242-2110.

A Time for Justice – Join the YWCA to view this Academy Award winning documentary, depicting the battle for civil rights as told by its foot soldiers at 6:30 p.m. on February 21st at Clinton Community College. All are welcome to attend this moving documentary, with discussion to follow as part of Black History Month and the YWCA’s Discussion on Racism. For more information, call Shannon Sander-Welzien at 563-242-2110 or visit the YWCA website at www.ywcaclinton.org.

Elwynn Taylor, who was a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Alabama before moving to Iowa in 1979. **Session 2B** – Bountiful Berries for Home Gardens by Patrick O’Malley, who has over 30 years experience in the field of horticulture. **Session 2C** – Trees for Today by Mark Vitosh, DNR District Forester, who will talk about the diseases, insects and environmental problems our trees experienced and what to expect for next summer.

Session 3A (beginning at 11 a.m.) – Birds of Prey by Pam Steinhaus. **Session 3B** – Perennial of the Year by Martha Smith, Horticulture Educator serving Henry, Mercer, Rock Island and Stark Counties. **Session 3C** – Growing Healthy Trees by Mark Vitosh.

Session 4A (beginning at 12:50 p.m.) – Brambles, Not always a Thorny Issue by Patrick O’Malley. **Session 4B** – Roof Gardens by Jennifer Bouselot. **Session 4C** – Perennial Garden Maintenance by Martha Smith.

Registration fee for the day is \$30.00 (due 2/24/12). Lunch is included. For more information, call 563-242-4771. Checks should be made out to Clinton Trees Forever and should be mailed to Horticulture in the Heartland, Clinton Community College, 1000 Lincoln Blvd., Clinton IA 52732. Sponsors of the program are Clinton Trees Forever, Bickelhaupt Arboretum, Clinton Community College and Clinton Co. Master Gardeners.

Tourism News

Clinton County Conservation Events in February

2nd ~ Music in the Loft ~ 7 PM ~ Soaring Eagle ~ Local talents will provide entertaining instrumental and vocal offerings of a wide variety of music. Participants with musical talents are invited to bring their instruments along and all are encouraged to sing, tap their toe, slap their knee or just listen. Refreshments are available and the entire family is welcome. This is a free event, although donations to support the center are always welcomed.

7th ~ Full Moon Winter Sports Night ~ 6 PM ~ Rock Creek ~ Come explore the wilderness of the Upper Mississippi Fish & Wildlife Refuge on a pair of cross-country skis or snowshoes provided free, on a first-come, first-served basis, by your Clinton County Conservation Department. A naturalist will lead a trail ski or individuals may enjoy the park’s trail system on their own. The camp store will be heated and we may even build a warming fire outdoors if the weather allows.

17th ~ Funny Feathers ~ 10 AM ~ Children’s Discovery Center, Clinton ~ This nature program is for children ages three to five with a hands-on presentation about feathers. With activities we will discover the ins and outs of feathers using real feathers, craft, game and story. This event is free of charge.

25th ~ Winter Sports Day ~ 1-4 PM ~ Rock Creek ~ Next year, the new *Mississippi River Eco Tourism Center* will be open year-round and folks will be able to check out our snowshoes, cross country skis and ice skates from the Camp Store anytime it is open. To get a jump start on that tradition, we will have all our equipment available for use in the park free of charge. We will have ski trails groomed and have a Geocache course set up so you can explore via our snowshoes and GPS units. We also will have a small skating area cleared in front of the center with skates to loan. We will even have free hot cocoa, a warming fire and marshmallows. This will be the first official event held in the new Center!

Things to do...
with a river view!



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Calendar of Events

February

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|--------------|---|----|--|
| 1-April 2012 | Exploring Trees Exhibit, Sawmill Museum, 2231 Grant St., Clinton | 11 | "Hand Stamped Greeting Cards," Bickelhaupt Arboretum, 10 a.m. |
| 2 | Music in the Loft, Soaring Eagle Nature Center, 7 p.m. | 12 | Chocolate Lovers Delight, Curtis Mansion, 1-4 p.m., \$10 per person |
| 2 & 3 | Big Brothers Big Sisters Mardi Gras Putt, Wild Rose Casino & Resort | 17 | Funny Feathers, Children's Discovery Center, 10 a.m. |
| 3 | "S-M-I-L-E" with Miss Elizabeth, Children's Discovery Center, 10 a.m. | 21 | "A Time for Justice" (the battle for civil rights) Clinton Community College, 6:30 p.m. |
| 3 | Family Date Night, Children's Discovery Center, 5-7:30 p.m. | 24 | "Friendship" with Area Education Agency, Children's Discovery Center, 10 a.m. |
| 4 | B-rrry Scurry 4-Mile Run, Clinton Community College, Noon | 25 | Barn Quilts Presentation by Cheryl Lennox, Sawmill Museum, 1 p.m. |
| 4 | Early Valentine's Day Event, Live Music with Travis Hosette | 25 | Winter Sports Day, Rock Creek, 1-4 p.m. |
| 6 | YW Get Fit Wellness Program (10 weeks), Clinton YWCA | 25 | Coupe DeVille Concert for Miss Clinton County Scholarship Program, Central Performing Arts Center, DeWitt IA 7 p.m. |
| 7 | Full Moon Winter Sports Night, Rock Creek, 6 p.m. | 25 | Clinton Symphony Winter Concert, Morrison High School Auditorium, 7:30 p.m. |
| 10 | "Anybody Home" with Miss Elizabeth, Children's Discovery Center, 10 a.m. | | <i>Coming March 3rd</i>
Horticulture in the Heartland
Clinton Community College • 7:30 a.m.-1:45 p.m. |
| 10 | YWisdom Seniors Program - "Cooking Heart Healthy," Clinton YWCA, 12:30 p.m. | | |

Things to do... with a river view!