

## “Back to Business Bow” program begins

*Special to The Clinton Courier*

Clinton residents will soon have a bright visual to help them identify some of the businesses who have re-opened in town. The Clinton Chamber of Commerce has launched a “Back to Business Bow” program for the Clinton community.

With a nod to their tradition of host-

ing ribbon cuttings for the openings of new Clinton Chamber businesses, this program offers a green bow for member businesses to display to signify that they are once again open for business.

The bows are green, because “green represents growth and renewal.”

Member businesses can contact the Chamber with their opening information, and a Chamber representative will stop by the business with a big



green bow to display on the business entrance to let the community know that business is “back to business.”

In addition, the Chamber will take a photo and help the business to promote the “reopening” on social media.

The organization is encouraging its members to let Chamber representatives know about your reopening plans – even if it’s just to let them know the business is once again working/open

For more information about the Clinton Chamber of Commerce or to register for the “Back to Business Bow” program, call 601-924-5912.

## CPD encourages residents to lock cars to prevent summer thefts

*Special to The Clinton Courier*

As the summer begins, Clinton Police are encouraging residents to lock their cars and secure their valuables in order to prevent thefts.

Chief Ford Hayman and Mayor Phil Fisher continue to identify locked vehicles and secured valuables as the key to prevention of property crimes in Clinton. If all residents of Clinton made the locking of cars and carports a habit, property crime would be nearly eliminated in Clinton.

In fact, recent reports suggest that cutting property crime in half would place Clinton ahead of Madison for safest city in Mississippi. Currently, Clinton rates as the third safest city in Mississippi.

“Most vehicle break-ins and residential burglaries are crimes of opportuni-

ties; and, if a vehicle or building is locked, a criminal will usually

move on,” Hayman noted. “Locking car doors will substantially decrease the likelihood of being victimized. Of the forty-eight auto burglaries in the city in 2018, only a couple of the crimes involved forced entry through broken windows.”

Additionally, removing valuables like computers, purses, sunglasses, and firearms from a vehicle at night would deter theft. Unattended firearms are not only a popular target for criminals, but they exhibit an irresponsibility of the owner in protecting themselves and their property.

“Every day, the hard-working men and women of the Clinton Police Department are out there in force doing their best to keep crime down,” Hayman noted. “Oftentimes, though, it is the partnership with the public that helps get us the results.”

Hayman said that if residents actively participate in the

Lock it or Lose it campaign,

the community could potentially eliminate

property crimes.

Recent crime stats show significant reductions in burglaries from over 180 in 2013 to just over forty-eight in 2018, then a jump up to eighty-eight in 2020. Of those eighty-eight burglaries, only three involved forced entry into the vehicle; all others were unlocked doors with valuables left in plain sight.



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