The Clinton Courier

Chamber holds networking luncheon



Tea-time shopping spree and Mad Hatter tea party coming to Olde Towne

By Janet S. Lee

With spring fever running rampant amidst warming temps and longer daylight hours, Main Street Clinton leaders say they have just the cure: a shopping spree among Olde Towne merchants and a very special tea party.

A new event on the Main Street Clinton calendar, the Tea Time Shopping Spree will combine extended shopping hours at Olde Towne merchants on Thursday, March 22, from 6 until 8 p.m. with a scavenger hunt that runs for three days through Saturday, March 24. An allthings-Alice-in-Wonderland-themed tea party is scheduled on West Leake Street Saturday morning at 10:30 a.m.

Thirteen Olde Towne merchants are participating in the Tea Time Shopping Spree. Each will have a map and an item to be found in their store, with a clever rhyme as the clue for eager hunters. The seekers can visit each business over the three-day period and have their map checked at each location to complete the search. Shoppers who visit all

the businesses and complete the checkoffs will be entered to win a gift basket from Main Street Clinton. The basket will feature a t-shirt, gift cards to local merchants, and an assortment of goodies for the winner.

Coordinators say that, though the scavenger clues should be easy to deduce, a review of *Alice's Adventures In Wonderland* couldn't hurt!

Participating businesses in the scavenger hunt and extended shopping hours on Thursday are Acorn Studio, The Bank by Pizza Shack, Brick Street Pops, The Cupboard, Ellie's of Olde Towne, Good Citizen, James & Leigh, Meme's Brick Street Bakery, Ollie + Rae, Paxton Peak, Posh Design Shoppe, Sii

Bello Boutique, and Winstead Clothing Store.

The Mad Hatter Tea Party on the brick streets Saturday morning will feature Alice herself, the March Hare, and the Mad Hatter, all creations from the fertile mind of Lewis Carroll. The background story of a girl named Alice falling through a rabbit hole and meeting up with fantastical creatures holds enduring appeal to both grown-ups and children.

Tickets for this most fun of tea parties are \$5, with hats fit for a tea party encouraged. There will even be an award for the Best Hat, as tea-goers sip their tea, water or lemonade and sample cookies and sweets from Meme's Bakery.

For those who want to remember the event with a t-shirt, those can be pre-ordered from Main Street Clinton. A child's t-shirt is \$15 and includes the ticket price of the tea party. The screen-print shirt will include the date March 24, 2018, and a drawing of a tea cup designed by Meme's granddaughter, Avery Crowe. An adult-sized tshirt is \$15.

Tea party attendees are encouraged to dress up as their favorite *Alice in Wonderland* character and have their picture made to remember the event. Acorn Studio will sponsor a photo booth to capture the magical memory of Clinton's tea party on the brick streets.

For further information, contact Main Street Clinton at 601-924-5472.

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