

Caterpillar Parade and market set for April 13

The Clinton Courier

The event that Clinton youngsters eagerly await as spring arrives, the city's annual Caterpillar Parade, is set for Saturday, April 13.

A Main Street Clinton signature event, Calliope, a 50-foot-long caterpillar, will lead the parade participants from what is to be the Lions Club Park area through the streets of Olde Towne. The annual event delights children of all ages, and the celebration offers something for everyone.

Children can ride in wagons or strollers or bike along. Businesses, organizations or clubs are encouraged to decorate golf cart floats and participate. Goodies may be handed out. Storefronts, homes, parade-watchers and even pets are invited to sport a caterpillar theme. The twelfth annual parade will be the highlight of the Spring into Green Market, which will run from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. that Saturday.

"The beautiful, quaint brick streets of Olde Towne are the perfect place to welcome spring," said Main Street Clinton Director Tara Lytal. "The Spring into Green Market and Caterpillar Parade are the highlights



Special to The Clinton Courier
Main Street Clinton's annual Spring into Green market and Caterpillar parade will take place on Saturday, April 13. Events begin at 9 a.m.

of the year. Signature events like these add charm and character to a community, and these two events give us a chance to showcase the unique place that is Clinton."

Children and parents are invited to gather at in the green space next to the bridge overpass on Leake Street with decorated strollers, bikes, wagons, etc. at 9:30 a.m. that day for parade fun. A reading of Eric Carle's *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* will kick off the event about 9:45 a.m., with a 10

a.m. parade start. Children will receive balloons or noisemakers as they line up to follow Calliope through Olde Towne, led by Grand Marshal Bernard Kines and the 2019 Caterpillar Queen.

"The criteria to be the Caterpillar Queen are that the queen must be a mature female, preferably over 40, and she must have made contributions to the community in some important way," Lytal said.

The Caterpillar Queen will be joined by the young girls in her Butterfly Court. The Butterfly Court will march together in the parade wearing wings and sashes and will be recognized alongside the Queen at the crowning ceremony.

The parade ends at the intersection of Jefferson Street and West Leake Street, where the 2019 Caterpillar

Queen will be crowned by the outgoing 2018 Queen Theresa Smith ("Meme"). Past Caterpillar Queens will also be recognized. Following the parade, children are invited to enjoy a magic show with Inky the Clown while parents stroll through the Spring into Green market.

The market will be bounded by the intersection of Main and Jefferson Streets and will continue to Leake Street, with vendors along Leake.

For more information or to become a vendor, call the Main Street Clinton office at 601-924-5472.

Spring into Green
Saturday, April 13

Olde Towne Market
9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

The Very Hungry Caterpillar
reading
9:45 a.m.

Caterpillar Parade
10 a.m.

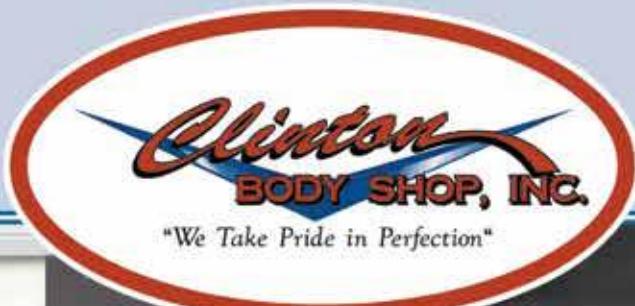
Other events:

- Crowning of the 2019 Caterpillar Queen
- Magic show
- Food trucks

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