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## Save the date for Olde Towne Market, Caterpillar Parade

Special to The Clinton Courier

The Olde Towne Market and Caterpillar Parade, Clinton's festive welcome to the spring season, is set for Saturday, April 11.

A Main Street signature event, the annual Caterpillar Parade will kick off the spring season in Olde Towne Clinton. Calliope, a fifty-foot-long caterpillar, will lead parade participants from the new Lions Club Park location through the brick streets of Olde Towne.

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 thirteenth annual parade will be the highlight of the Spring into Green Market, which will take place from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. that day.

Children and parents are invited to gather at the new Lions Club Park location with decorated strollers, bikes, wagons, etc. at 9:30 a.m. that day for parade fun. James Anderson's 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 fun goodies as they line up to follow Calliope through Olde Towne, led by Grand Marshal George Ew-

ing and the 2020 Caterpillar Queen.

Main Street Clinton Director Tara Lytal said, "The Caterpillar Parade is one of the highlights of the Main Street Clinton event calendar! In a day and time when towns are homogeneous, this event helps set us apart. I hope that the community will come out and support us as new children and adults experience this uniquely Clinton event."

The parade ends at the intersection of Jefferson Street and West Leake Street, where the 2020 Caterpillar Queen will be announced and crowned by outgoing 2019 Queen Fran Nixon. Following the parade, children are invited to enjoy a magic show with Inky the Clown while parents stroll through the spring into Green market Olde Towne Market.

The Caterpillar Queen invites any young girl to join 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. Butterflies will be asked to wear their best butterfly costume. Free butterfly wings will be given away to the first twenty girls who sign up to serve in the Queen's Court.

All are invited to join Calliope at the Olde Towne Depot after the parade for photos.

For more information, call the Main Street Clinton office at 601-924-5472.

The residents and staff of Brookdale wish the Clinton Community a Happy St. Patrick's Day!



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