

# Music on Main treats crowds to variety of entertainers



For a schedule of locations for Music on Main, see the advertisement on Page 22. Visit the Music on Main Facebook page for information and updates.

Live music enthusiasts are in for a treat again this year with the return of Sparta's popular monthly Music on Main series. The annual summer music series takes place on the first Friday of each month.

A section of Sparta's Main Street is closed to traffic for the evening, with crowds using the street to travel from business to business and enjoy the music. Parking is available at municipal lots on N.C. 18 just south of Main, N.C. 18 north of Main around Crouse Park, and at multiple other locations around town.

Music on Main will begin June 7 with the headliner John King. The event continues July 5

with the headliner Mountain Heart, Aug. 2 with the headliner Runaway Train and Sept. 6 with the headliner Big Daddy Love.

While returning visitors may notice a few changes, including the focus being on the 8 p.m. performance on the courthouse lawn with the headlining acts, the event will retain most of its small-town charms. Local businesses will showcase area musicians from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. all along the U.S. 21 (Main Street) area downtown and extending to some nearby businesses in town. Music on Main Spokesperson Garrison Wagoner said the organizers have encouraged Main Street venues to book local talent to complement the headlining act. Many local musicians have been booked at restaurants and businesses like Becca's Backwoods Bean, Main Street Pizzeria, Muddy Creek Cafe, Laconia

Ale Works, Ofelia's on Main, Blue Ridge Grill/Backroom Bar, Horizon Bistro and others.

"We expect the venue list to continue to grow," Wagoner said.

Genres can include diverse offerings, including rock, country, bluegrass, Americana and more. Impromptu sidewalk performances are allowed, but those participating are asked to remain acoustic (without amplification equipment) in order to not make it difficult for visitors to enjoy the other venues.

"We're really excited about this year," Wagoner said. "Our emphasis is on being free, fun and family-friendly."

As in previous years, Music on Main is put on to promote tour-

ism and encourage locals and visitors alike to explore Sparta's downtown and visit local businesses.

"We put this on for the benefit of local merchants," Wagoner said. "It's the Sparta Revitalization Committee's mission to help downtown businesses. Anyone who wants to be promoted can be. We want to help them and benefit the local economy." Not to mention helping to make Sparta a destination for live music throughout the summer—if you've not been, give it a try! If you've enjoyed it before, look for more of the same great atmosphere, live music, food and family-friendly enjoyment.

**Facebook @musiconmainsparta**

*enjoy:*

- Saturday Brunch
- Breakfast
- Lunch
- Bakery Treats
- Smoothies
- Salads
- Coffee
- Tea
- Beer
- Wine

**Becca's**  
21 N. Main St | Sparta  
336.372.7888

**Pizza Night**  
Thursday nights  
Come try our  
custom pies!