



Coyote Moon plays country music — from the old tried-and-true classics to the most recent hits. The group will perform at Music on Main at 6 p.m. Friday.

SPECIAL TO THE JOURNAL

Music on Main to kick off Friday

BY STEPHANIE JADRNICEK
THE JOURNAL

WESTMINSTER — Spring has sprung, and Music on Main will kick off in Westminster from 6-9 p.m. Friday.

The free, family-friendly event invites the community to plop down a lawn chair, listen to some live tunes and enjoy the festivities.

Coyote Moon, a local country band, will entertain the crowd. The musicians play everything from the old tried-and-true classics to the most recent hits — and they love taking requests from the audience.

"We try to please the crowd," guitar player Jeff Simpson said. "We entertain everyone from 5-year-olds to 90-year-olds."

Influenced by country icons such as George Jones, Waylon Jennings, Vern Gosdin, Johnny Cash, Travis Tritt and Hank Williams, Coyote Moon does its best to play other artists' songs the way they were intended to be heard.

"We try to stay versatile," Simpson said. "We want to see the people smiling and having a good time — whether they're dancing or tapping their fingers on the table, that lets me know they like what they're hearing."

Most of Music on Main will remain the same from previous years. The classic car cruise-in will still take place in the parking lot across from the stage. But some behind-the-scenes faces have changed. The Westminster Music Centre is in charge of events this year, formerly a task performed by the Westminster Chamber of Commerce. And the venue's executive director, B.J. Callahan, is looking forward to running the show.

"In the past, the band had to bring their own sound system and run it," he said. "Part of my background is sound engineering, so I'm excited we now have control over the quality of the sound, which will make the sound more consistent and top-notch."

He said what's great about this year's line-up is that every month Music on Main will feature different styles of music — this month it's country, next month it'll be blues and rock, then bluegrass, classic rock and an Americana band.

"We're mixing it up month to month," he said. "So every time you come, it will be a different experience and offer a little something for everybody throughout the summer."