



“My job is to make sure that everybody has a good time.

First and foremost, I work to get the crowd warmed up before the band even strikes their first note. By the time the band comes on, I’ve already got everybody so charged up that when I introduce them, oh man, everybody’s ready.

I also make sure the sponsors get their due recognition for helping us put on the event and then the one thing that I always say that I bring to the table as the Florence After 5 emcee, and I bring it with a vengeance, is making sure that people know to go frequent the local businesses in Downtown Florence.

In an indirect way, we’re warming people up to have a good time for the rest of the night because when we’re done with our street party, the party’s not really over. There’s usually live music in the Renaissance Dining Courtyard and there are great restaurants, bars, and other businesses that are open through the rest of the evening.

It’s almost crazy to think that it’s been over a year and a half since we’ve had a Florence After 5 and the indication that I’ve gotten from folks around the Pee Dee area is that everybody has been sitting on go. It’s been like being at the start line and just waiting for somebody to wave the green flag. I’ve done some other festivals in the Pee Dee recently and the most predominant questions I’ve gotten have been ‘When is Florence After 5 coming back’ and ‘Who’s going to be the band’.

We have Hip Pocket, a band I’ve known for many years, as the band coming in with their high-energy, charging-style music, that’s not just beach music, but party music. It’s music that is going to have everybody wanting to get up and dance or at least claps their hands. And I’ll be dancing because I love to dance even though I’m not a great dancer.

I’ve always been involved with Florence After 5 in some capacity, but I’ve been the emcee for eight or ten years now. Watching it grow over the years...it’s just been phenomenal.

I believe in these community events and Florence After 5 is one of the best in the Southeast as far as I’m concerned because it brings everybody together.

Regardless of what their music tastes are, everybody has a good time.

And I’m just so proud to be a part of it.”

- Dan E. Lockemy, Florence After 5 Emcee, iHeartMedia personality, and the Carolina’s Part-Time, Party-Time Man