

Copperhead...from Page 1A

However, Berry will have one tough act to follow as Jones opens the show at 8 p.m.

The rising country star should be a familiar face to many locals, considering that he was born in Blairsville, and has close ties to Union County through a multitude of family and friends in the North Georgia Mountains.

As a child, Jones moved to Jackson County where he graduated from Commerce High School.

It was in those early years where he felt a fire for music, and his passion for being an entertainer was molded by family, faith, and FM Radio.

"I've been playing mu-



John Berry

sic all my life, since I was a kid," Jones said. "I grew up singing in church and have always dreamed of being on stage singing country music. I have always been a huge fan and grew up going to concerts. My first concert that blew me away as a kid was Little Texas. That's when I knew that I wanted to be an entertainer. My mom took me to that show. My biggest influences from the past are Garth Brooks, Hal Ketchum, Billy Dean, mainly artists of the 90s. When country was simple and pure."

Jones' simple and pure style can be felt on his latest album, *Who I Am*. A very appropriate album title that includes such tracks as *Double Wide*, an upbeat guitar-driven tune that epitomizes simple and pure by hammering home

the notion that as long as you have love, "life would be just fine, living in a double-wide."

"My main sources of inspiration would be real life stories," Jones said. "I'm definitely inspired by the simple country life I've always been fortunate enough to be a part of."

The second track, entitled, *Garth*, a homage to Country Music icon Garth Brooks, where Jones is found reminiscing back to a simpler time. Back to being a teenager in the 90s, when Garth was king, our troops were home, and living the American Dream didn't seem so far-fetched to our nation's youth.

Other tracks that describe Jones are *Sugar*, which carries an up-tempo shuffle feel, the ballad *Like the Night*, and *Green Nova*, another simple and pure styling about looking for love in an old Chevy.

When asked how he would describe his brand of Country Music, Jones' answer sounded like a song verse from another Georgia boy, Zac Brown.

"It's a blend of acoustic driven songs that make you want to be on a lake somewhere chillin' it," Jones said. "My style of country is a mixture of late 1980s Judds meets 1990s Diamond Rio."

At the moment Jones is doing around 150 shows a year and has worked with the likes of award-winning producer Jason Hoard and Mac Powell.

Powell, the lead singer from Third Day – a four-time Grammy Award winning Christian Rock band, who are also members of the Georgia Music Hall of Fame.

For now Jones' focus is delivering an electrifying performance at Copperhead on Friday, in front of family, friends, and Berry, another 1990s Country Music icon.

"I have a lot of friends and family coming to the show on Friday," Jones said.

"It's really a cool gig for me to be on tour with a 90s star like John Berry. It's opening up many doors for me musically. I'm getting a lot of great exposure and many new fans. I love connecting with country fans. They are loyal and very supportive. Country audiences always make you feel at home, like you're part of their family, and that's what I like," Jones said with a smile.

Jones' album, *Who I Am* is available for download on iTunes. For more details, visit www.britjones.com, or check out YouTube at www.youtube.com/user/jonescreek722.

Bluegrass music, southern style at Brasstown Community Center July 27th

"Nation & Blackwell" will be performing at the Brasstown Community Civic Center Saturday, July 27. The door opens at 6 PM; music begins at 7 PM.

Nation & Blackwell is an award winning bluegrass music band consisting of renowned performers who deliver toe-tapping music that engages and entertains an audience from the moment they take the stage until the rousing applause at the end! Close harmony vocals and superb instrumentals are their trademark. "One of the most talented groups to rise out of the hills of Appalachia!" The Foxfire Magazine- Fall, 2012 Edition, Foxfire Fund, Inc.

Multi-instrumentalist Chuck Nation plays fiddle, mandolin, guitar, banjo, and bass equally well. He has won numerous awards and contests throughout the South with all instruments, including the Louisiana State Fiddle Championship and the 2012 Georgia State Mandolin Championship. Chuck was a member of Louisville, Kentucky's legendary contemporary bluegrass group, The Bluegrass Alliance.

After more than 40 years of playing bluegrass music, Curtis Blackwell still captivates audiences with his high, powerful voice and the sincerity expressed in his singing. Curtis Blackwell is a member of the



(L-R): Chuck Nation, Jim Pankey, Curtis Blackwell, Susan Nation

Atlanta Country & Bluegrass Music Hall of Fame and a former member of Bill Monroe's Bluegrass Boys.

A Georgia and Tennessee State Banjo Champion, Jim Pankey is a member of the Tennessee-based bluegrass group, Lone Mountain Band. He toured Ireland with Nation & Blackwell in summer of 2012 and has recorded with many groups throughout the Southeast. In addition to a great, hard-driving banjo style, Jim is well known for his old-time clawhammer style of banjo playing.

Susan Nation grew up in a musical family, learning to sing and play the acoustic upright bass by playing music with her dad and brother, Denny Blount, who played banjo with the legendary Jim & Jesse

McReynolds and later married Chuck Nation. Her solid timing on bass coupled with her high tenor and lead vocals helps to balance out this talented group. For more on the band go to www.nationblackwell.com

Hot dog plates, homemade cobbler, ice cream and refreshments available. Admission is \$5. The community center is located in Brasstown at 255 Settawig Road across from the Brasstown Post Office. Brasstown Community Center is a non-profit organization and all proceeds from the concert are for maintenance and upkeep of the community center. The fundraiser concerts are held the second and fourth Saturday May through August. For more information contact Clay Logan 828-8737-3797

Hemlock Facts and Fiction

By Donna Shearer,
Save Georgia's Hemlocks

Part 2 in a series of 4

Part 1 in this series presented the crisis facing the hemlocks and their owners. This part describes options for getting trees treated.

Fiction: Treating hemlocks is complicated and difficult, so you must hire a professional.

Fact: The process is neither technically complicated nor physically demanding, and many property owners choose to do it themselves; step-by-step instructions are on the Resources page of our web site below. However, you might choose to hire a professional because of difficult terrain, limited physical ability or time, or personal preference; you'll find some properly licensed companies on our Contacts page.

Fiction: Any off-the-shelf insecticide will work to treat hemlocks.

Fact: First, the product must be labeled for treating adelgids. Second, even with

products so labeled, many are of such low concentration (about 1% active ingredient) that they are not very effective or for very long. The recommended systemic products are Imidacloprid (75% water soluble powder or 21.4% liquid) for lightly to moderately infested trees and Dinotefuran (sold as Safari 20 SG) for heavy infestations. Places that carry these products are on our Contacts page.

Fiction: Insecticidal soaps or horticultural oils work just as well as systemic materials and are cheaper.

Fact: Non-systemic sprays kill only the exposed insects they fall directly on, so bugs still in their egg sacs, hiding on the underside of branches, or too high to reach are not affected. These products provide no residual protection and must be repeated frequently, which costs more time and money. Systemic products are much more effective and economical and give protection for 1 – 2 years with Dinotefuran or 5 – 6 years with Imidacloprid.

Fiction: You need special equipment to treat hemlocks.

Fact: For soil application a soil injector is helpful, but if you don't have access to one, you can use a piece of rebar to make shallow holes in the soil and a bucket to dispense either of the above products. Places that lend injectors for free are on the Contacts page of our web site. If you want to spray Safari onto the lower tree trunk, a hand-pump sprayer is all you need. The tree absorbs the material through its roots or bark and spreads it throughout the plant.

Part 3 will deal with the cost of treatment and making informed consumer choices.

Save Georgia's Hemlocks is a 100% volunteer, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization of concerned citizens dedicated to preserving, conserving, and restoring endangered hemlocks through education and charitable service. To learn more, please visit our web site www.savegeorgiashemlocks.org or call the Hemlock Help LineSM 706-429-8010.