

## Green Bean...from Page 1A

items sold out quickly.

Freddy Collins' booth was a huge hit as Collins went back his farm to pull some more corn, along with beans, which sold out before noon.

"It's been a good festival and we're here every Tuesday and Saturday," said Freddy's wife, Julie Collins. "We always enjoy coming to the Farmers Market. We always get a lot of repeat customers. They tell their friends, and then, they tell their friends. We've sold out of corn, squash, and beans."

Other vendors said that things were going a little slow for them, but a slow day at the Green Bean Festival, is better than a good day just about anywhere else.

"It's been a little more slow than we are used to, but still, not a bad day," said Blairsville Maid's Dot Patterson, who specializes in jellies and jams. "I'm always here on Saturdays and plan on being here all day, because I know things will pick up."

Nearly all the vendors at the festival were regulars of the Market and first time vendors were hard to come by. But with business booming, you can't blame anyone for leaving their booth empty for someone else to jump in and take advantage of the Farmers Market phenomenon.

"Business has been pretty good, we're staying really busy, said Jason Derreberry of Derreberry's Farms. "I'm here every Tuesday and Saturday and was at last year's festival. Business



Above, the frenzy at the Green Bean Festival was constant. Below, the Kazoo Band performs before an appreciative audience. Photos/Lowell Nicholson

is definitely a lot better than it was last year."

As you can see, it was hard to find anyone with anything negative to say about the

Farmers Market or the Green Bean Festival.

So mark your calendars for next summer and come by the Market, say hello to Mr.

Green Bean, and pick up some fresh Blairsville produce, crafts, and just about anything else that'll suit your fancy.

## School...from Page 1A

This exciting event happens from 3 p.m. until 6 p.m. at all of the schools – Primary, Elementary, Middle, High and Woody Gap School.

The High School's "Meet Your Teacher" event will be a drop-in occasion also, but only for the incoming 9th grade students.

Students and parents will need to go by the high school lunchroom to pick-up their schedules and then proceed to the classrooms to meet their teachers.

At four of the county's five schools, students will be greeted by new principals and

assistant principals.

At Union County High School, Principal John Hill and Assistant Principal C.T. Hussion are at the helm.

Union County Middle School also has a new principal, Gwen Stone, and a new assistant principal, Jerry Bavero.

At the Primary School, Millie Owenby is the new principal, and Connie Coker is the new assistant principal.

At Woody Gap School, Sheila Collins and David Murphy will share the title of principal.

The moves were neces-

sary because of retirements, requests to return to the classroom and in one case, the principal moved.

Longtime UCHS Principal Ed Rohrbaugh requested a transfer back to the classroom for the 2013-2014 school year, as did Woody Gap School Principal Jinjer Taylor.

UCHS Assistant Principal Angie Burns retired, as did Primary School Principal Troy Collins.

Middle School Principal Donnie Kelley moved to Memphis, Tenn.

Union County Elementary School Principal Patricia

Cook is the only returning Union County School System incumbent principal in the 2013-2014 school year.

The shake up means it figures to be yet another exciting school year and teachers and administrators are looking forward to seeing all of the students at "Meet Your Teacher" Day on Aug. 5th from 3 p.m. until 6 p.m.

The season's first football game is Aug. 30th, at 7:30 p.m. at Mike Colwell Memorial Stadium. The opponent: the Towns County Indians.

## Jones and Berry thrill the natives

By Todd Forrest  
North Georgia News  
Staff Writer

Mother Nature couldn't deter John Berry and Blairsville native Brit Jones from putting on a memorable performance at Copperhead Lodge on Friday night.

Just one hour before Jones hit the stage, heavy rains hit western Union County, delaying the concert by about 20 minutes, but from the moment Jones opened the show with a cover of the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band's hit *Fishing in the Dark*, he had the audience in the palm of his hand.

"About one third of the



Brit Jones is welcomed home in style at Copperhead Lodge on Friday evening in Western Union County. Photo/Todd Forrest

audience was Brit's family,"

Berry said. "That Brit Jones guy is one tough act to fol-

low."

During Jones' hour-long show, he mixed in covers, originals from his new album, *Who I Am*. Between songs, he told stories involving family members, noting that a lot of the songs he wrote were inspired by them, most of which were in attendance.

"It was cool to look out there and see about 100 people who are kin to me," Jones said afterwards. "I've never played in front of this many family and friends."

After performing a cover of the Little Texas hit, *God Blessed Texas*, one enthusiastic member of the audience shouted, "God Blessed Brit Jones," proving that the up-and-coming singer-songwriter already has a large and very dedicated fan base.

He also mixed in some gospel tunes such as *I Saw the Light*, along with Alabama's *Dixieland Delight*, Ben E. King's *Stand By Me*, and even Billy Ray Cyrus' *Could've Been Me*, requested by cousin Angel (Jones) King.

One of the biggest crowd pleasers was his song, *Bulldog Saturday*, which was played before a University of Georgia football game last fall.

Mike Steele, Berry's bass player joined Jones on stage for a cover of *Grandpa (Tell Me 'Bout the Good Ole Days)* the Judds' No. 1 hit from 1986.

The rain held off just long enough for Jones to finish his show, but stopped just in time for Berry to take the stage.

Jones later remarked

that this was his first show ever in Blairsville.

Now with one more stop on the tour, Jones will be headed back to Nashville.

"Next week I'll be playing two Nashville dates. I'll be moving to Nashville in June and I did an interview with XM Radio and one of my singles is about to go nationwide. I don't know which one but I hope it's *Sugar*."

Berry, a Watkinsville resident, opened with his hits, *What's In it For Me*, *You and Only You*, *She's Taken a Shine*, and *Standing on the Edge of Goodbye*.

It wasn't long before someone requested *O' Holy Night*, which Berry's powerful tenor voice belted out a moving a cappella performance of one of the most popular covers of the classic Christmas tune.

"You don't have to ask me twice to do that song," Berry said.

Berry then turned to a few cover songs that he grew up listening to in his dad's garage while living in Decatur.

He pulled out his harmonica for Neil Young's *Heart of Gold* before doing Willie Nelson's *City of New Orleans*.

Later Berry did a song from his Christian Album entitled, *It's Hard to Get the Blues When You Have Jesus in Your Heart*.

Finally he closed the show with two of his biggest hits, *Your Love Amazes Me* and *Kiss Me in the Car*.

Afterwards, Jones and Berry hung around to sign autographs, pose for pictures, and chat with fans until everyone had left the amphitheater.

"This is my first time in Blairsville but I wish I could have stayed longer," Berry said after the show. "I've got a show in Perry tomorrow, so unfortunately I won't be able to stick around."

"It's a beautiful town," he said. "We had a great audience tonight. I'm sure the rain kept some from coming but we had a great time with a great crowd."