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'The crowds love them'

Carter, Stevenson set to bring music to Brew & 'Que

BY NORM CANNADA
THE JOURNAL

SENECA — The Corey Stevenson Band and Adam Carter are scheduled to bring their brands of Southern rock to Brew & 'Que on Sept. 1, and Seneca events coordinator Riley Johnson said both performers are crowd favorites.

"They are very talented musicians — the crowds love them," Johnson said. "It should be a great show and lots of fun. It's a variety for the whole family."

Carter and Stevenson have known each other for many years and both have played at SenecaFest and other Upstate venues. But they have made it

SEE MUSIC, PAGE A3

OUR VIEW

TO READ A RELATED EDITORIAL, TURN TO PAGE A4.



Corey Stevenson, left, and Adam Carter will bring their bands to the third annual Brew & 'Que at Gignilliat Field on Sept. 1.

PHOTOS SPECIAL TO THE JOURNAL



MUSIC: Third Brew & 'Que set for Sept. 1

FROM PAGE A1

to where they are in their careers on two different paths.

A graduate of Walhalla High School who lives in Westminster, Carter had musical influence from his father, who played music and was a DJ. He got his first guitar from his parents when he was 4 years old.

"My dad played — that's how I got started," Carter said Friday afternoon. "It's something I've always done. I grew up around different kinds of music. There were tons of different styles of music around the house."

Stevenson's love for music and the guitar started as a result of a diagnosis of Legg-Calve-Perthes Disease, which he said cut off blood flow to his hip socket. He was diagnosed at age 8 and spent much of his time on bed rest, unable to do much physical activity.

"I couldn't play sports or anything, so I just started playing guitar," Stevenson said. "It was kind of a relief to have something to do when I didn't have anything to do but just lay there. I played the guitar off and on for four years straight."

By the time he was 13, Stevenson was singing and playing for

audiences. He later moved from West Virginia to South Carolina and attended Newberry College on a music scholarship. He now lives in Greenville.

He said he is glad to be coming back to Seneca.

"It's some of my favorite people I've ever played for," Stevenson said of Seneca audiences. "They really enjoy music."

While his music is considered country/Southern rock, he said those coming to Brew & 'Que should expect a "good rock 'n' roll guitar show."

"My shows are based around the guitar," he said. "I think they'll appreciate that."

Carter, 25, said he is looking forward to playing in Oconee County.

"Obviously, I always love playing at home," he said.

He said different labels have been placed on his music over the years.

"To start off with when we got promoted we were country," Carter said. "My roots are blues, really — Eric Clapton, the Rolling Stones, and the older artists like Howlin' Wolf and Muddy Waters — that's what really got me in music. That's what made me want to play."

"Now the best way to sum it up, you can just call it Southern rock,"

he added. "It's kind of a blend between country and blues with a kind of rock flair to it. I think that's how a lot of country (music) can be categorized now. It's not Hank Williams Sr. kind of country. "It is rock 'n' roll guitars and big drums."

Carter plans to move to Nashville, Tenn., after Christmas to begin the next step in his career.

"There's an old saying that if you want to play ball, you've got to go to the ballfield," Carter said of Nashville. "That's the ballfield. We're going to go ahead and give it a shot."

Brew & 'Que, sponsored by the city of Seneca and The Journal, is scheduled for 6-10 p.m. Sept. 1 at Gignilliat Field. A ticket includes unlimited samples of more than 40 craft beers, as well as unlimited barbecue samples. There will also be a free kids zone for children 12 and under.

Tickets can be purchased at upstatetoday.com, by texting BREW to 71441 or at The Journal office at 210 W. North 1st St. in Seneca from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For a limited time, people who buy tickets can get a free T-shirt by using the coupon code SHIRT.

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