



Photos submitted

Katlin Gentry and Sidney Jones, members of the Macy's Great American Marching Band, will participate in the world's largest parade Thanksgiving Day. In the meantime, the two Green County High School seniors are enjoying every moment of free time. The parade will air on NBC Thursday morning at 8 a.m. CT.



Macy's Marching Band

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Photo by Walt Gorin

Shelby Haines

Rotary member Shelby Haines shares her story

DALE CURRY
STAFF WRITER

Shelby Haines, a member of the local Rotary Club, shared her story with the other club members recently.

All club members are encouraged to tell about themselves during one of the meetings so that they get to know each other better.

Haines, an employee at Limestone Bank in Greensburg, is originally from Taylor County.

Growing up on a dairy farm outside Campbellsville gave her opportunities to learn how to be self-sufficient and she has now turned that knowledge into various hobbies.

"I like to can, especially jams and jellies," Haines said. "During this last Summer I would look forward to getting off work and going home to can."

Haines estimates that she canned and sold 600-700 jars of jams and jellies last year and expects that to double next year.

She learned at an early age about canning home-grown produce. Her mother and grandparents taught her those skills.

"When I was growing up," she said, "my mom stayed home with us kids and almost everything we ate came from the farm."

Like most farm families, Haines knows the quality of home-grown food is much better than what you find at the store.

"Home grown green beans is one of my favorites," she said, "and I know the difference between good home-canned foods and store-bought foods."

Haines, who claims that canning is an easy task, describes herself as an 80-year-old woman stuck in a young woman's body.

"I'm an old soul," she said.

She also has branched out into other hobbies.

"I like to crochet and sew," she said. "I've made one quilt and it's not very pretty because I'm not very good at it. I haven't quilted very much."

But she added that she really enjoys piecing together quilt tops.

Haines learned a lot from her parents growing up and it's paying off now with great dividends—good food and even some extra money from selling her canned products.

Green County Band Director Nathan Willoughby is beyond excited for his students and this opportunity.

"It's a really great opportunity that not many students in our area get the chance to participate in," Willoughby said. "Sidney and Katlin both did all their audition materials on their own and were able to secure their place within the ensemble. The best part of the situation for me as their teacher is that they put everything together on their own and brought it up to me as a surprise when they were accepted."

"Just knowing the Green County Band Program is one of the few programs in the state represented in the group is such a

cool feeling! As they started talking about it a few weeks ago, I've already had a couple other kids come to me asking how to apply and audition for next year's parade!"

Willoughby recalls a memory from this youth that he still treasures, and hopes the same for his students.

"I've been fortunate enough to march in the Pegasus Parade in Louisville in high school, as well as to take a group to march in it as a director," he said. "Those experiences were lots of fun and something I will never forget. I can only imagine how much bigger the Macy's Parade is and the memories that they will make from this experience."

"I know both girls were bummed they didn't get to go last year due to the pandemic," Director Willoughby said. "It's really exciting to see all the cool things they are able to do because of the foundation they got from our band program. I'm really looking forward to watching them Thursday on national TV again this year."

Sidney Jones has looked forward to this huge, New York event each year, even as a young child watching on television.

"It's been so incredible to be back in one of my favorite places, and be in one of my favorite ensembles again, as well as being able to perform in the Thanksgiving Day Parade, some-

thing that has been a dream of mine since I was a kid," Jones said. "I'm also really excited to be able to reconnect with some of my friends from 2019, as well as make new ones."

Sidney said this entire experience is a dream come true.

"Most of all, I'm excited to march in the parade for everyone on the streets and everyone watching on TV, and be a part of such an iconic holiday tradition."

The Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade will air Thursday, Nov. 25 on NBC from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. CT. The parade can also be streamed on NBC.com and the NBC mobile app, or on the NBC channel via streaming subscription service.



Happy Thanksgiving

We thank you for the opportunity to work together and for making us feel at home in our community.



Becky Todd, AAMS®
Financial Advisor

2413 Ring Rd Suite 105
Elizabethtown, KY 42701
270-737-0249
<http://www.edwardjones.com/becky-todd>

edwardjones.com
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