

# Jones graduates from CU

From page 4A

"My time with the School of Music has been one of the best experiences of my life, especially being able to spend four seasons as part of the Tiger Marching Band," Jones said. "There's nothing that compares to spending a Saturday with my friends playing music at a football game or an exhibition performance for high schoolers. Being able almost every semester as a member of the Wind Ensemble has also been a cherished experience, as I've loved being able to play such fantastic repertoire and really feel challenged musically."

She has been up to the challenge, however. Her freshman year at CU, the flute section in which she plays, was Most Improved section in the marching band and was named the best section at the end of this year's marching band season.

"Class wise, I've had some really great professors and in-class experiences," Jones said. "Accounting emphasis students go through a lot of the same classes together, specifically spending a year taking Intermediate Accounting together, and I've loved being able to really get to know everyone that way."

One class this last semester provided dividends that most accounting majors will never experience.

"Taking the Sports and Fans in Society class this semester," Jones said, "which culminated in our trip to the NFL draft, has also been an unforgettable experience, both in the classroom and in Pittsburgh and I am so grateful for that."

There have been many other sports-related events that have allowed her to have a variety of experiences.

"About six months ago, I started getting involved in event operations for sports events," Jones said, "and I've been lucky to catch a few major events in the area! I got into it after speaking to one of my professors about trying to break into the sports industry and she recommended trying to volunteer at events. Between her recommendations and some career fairs I had been to, I got connected with the Nashville Sports Council and the Indiana Sport

Corps, and that's where a lot of my opportunities have come from."

Some of the places where she has worked includes the Welcome Party for the Music City Bowl in Nashville prior to the college football game between Illinois and Tennessee.

"The highlight there was getting to judge the hot chicken eating contest between players from the two schools," she joked.

Just last month, she was part of the Fan Fest at the NCAA men's basketball Final Four in Indianapolis and at the end of April, she was in Pittsburgh working as an NFL Teammate at the NFL Draft along with some of her CU classmates.

While the sports management aspect is fairly new to Jones, her involvement in music is something that has been an ongoing activity.

Even prior to enrolling at CU, Jones studied with some of the music instructors there. She mentioned Dr. Rose Carter, Ms. Courtney Carter and Dr. Lisa McArthur as being some of the prominent instructors who have helped to shape her life.

"Dr. Lisa McCarter has been such a constant presence and encouragement," Jones said. "I've known Dr. M since I was 13, and it's been such a joy to have her as my flute professor for the last four years. There is no one more supportive of her students than Dr. McArthur and I know I can always go to her for advice or encouragement."

Jones describes the two other instructors in glowing terms as well. She said that Dr. Rose Carter, her advisor and a primary accounting professor for the last four years, has served as a rock and encourager to Jones and she said that without Carter's help, Jones does not know if she would have made it this far.

The other instructor that Jones mentioned, Ms. Courtney Carter, is a professor that Jones had for only one semester but made a powerful impact on her.

"Through her class she truly challenged me to think and use my critical thinking skills," Jones said, "which I absolutely loved. She has been such a role model as a woman in sports and so encouraging as I work to pursue that

career path and I am forever thankful my path crossed with hers."

Jones also mentioned her family and friends who have been so encouraging to her through her college years.

"Especially my mom," Jones said, "who is always pushing me to chase my dreams and be the best I can be."

Life doesn't seem to slow down for the 2022 graduate of Green County High School, even after graduation from CU.

"Directly after graduation," Jones said, "I'll be spending a couple of weekends in Indianapolis working the Indianapolis 500 as part of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway College program, and as of right now, I'll be taking a trip after that to the United Kingdom, which I'm super excited about!"

Her music, however, doesn't seem to ever go away. In December, she is traveling with some of her friends to Hawaii for the 85th anniversary of Pearl Harbor Collegiate Mass Honor Band.

In addition to participating in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City, she also had the chance to be part of the 80th anniversary of D-Day Collegiate Mass Honor Band and travel to Normandy and Paris, France which she described as "a life-changing experience that I will never forget."

Jones has some big goals ahead of her as she prepares to graduate with her undergraduate degree.

"I'm hoping to work in the finance and accounting side of sports business operations," Jones said. "My goal would be to utilize my accounting degree while working for a professional sports organization, ideally in the Indianapolis or Cincinnati area, but I'm open to whatever the best fit is and where I'm meant to be."

Jones, who hopes to pursue licensure as a CPA not long after graduation, will no doubt continue to combine her interests after her college days. Perhaps she will work in the front office of the Cincinnati Bengals, run out on the field to play a flute solo during halftime and then negotiate contracts between some of the players she is representing. What an interesting career!

# 2027 Green County Distinguished Young Women Orientation Tea



Photo submitted

An orientation tea for the 2027 Green County Distinguished Young Women program was held at The Depot on April 26th. Those in attendance were Rreonna Noble, Jazlyn McKinney, Alayna Marcum, Sophia Santos, and Jody Mallory. Any 2027 senior girl living in Green County is eligible to compete. Applications are still being accepted.

# WKU to recognize class of 2026 during Commencement May 7

Western Kentucky University will celebrate more than 3,300 graduates and recognize top scholars during 2026 Commencement on May 7 at Houchens Industries-L.T. Smith Stadium.

WKU will confer 3,346 degrees and certificates to spring and summer 2026 graduates -- 98 associate, 1,988 bachelor's, 563 master's, 50 doctoral, 11 specialist degrees, 516 undergraduate certificates and 120 graduate certificates.

Commencement will begin at 6:30 p.m. with Topper Walk along the Avenue of Champions from the Charles Hardcastle Kentucky Building to the stadium. The ceremony will begin once all students have been seated on Feix Field. During the ceremony, each college will acknowledge its graduates, and President Timothy C. Caboni will present the graduates to the Board of Regents for the conferral of degrees.

The ceremony will include remarks from President Caboni; recognition of honor graduates and award winners

– Chaise Bethmann, an economics major from Thompson's Station, Tenn., as the Ogden Foundation Scholar (top undergraduate award) and Zoe Brown, a mathematics graduate student from London, as the John D. Minton Award recipient (top graduate award); and the of

WKU ROTC cadets. The ceremony will be broadcast by WKU PBS and will be streamed on WKU's YouTube and Facebook pages.

The Commencement celebration will conclude with The Big Red Bash on the South Lawn, featuring music, food vendors and fireworks.

"If you want to give your house, barn, shed or business roof a SECOND CHANCE at life, call my PaPaw at 2ND CHANCE ROOFING AND CONSTRUCTION He will treat you right!"

~ Bella Williams, 9



# 2nd Chance Roofing and Construction

We give your roof a second chance

270-789-8331

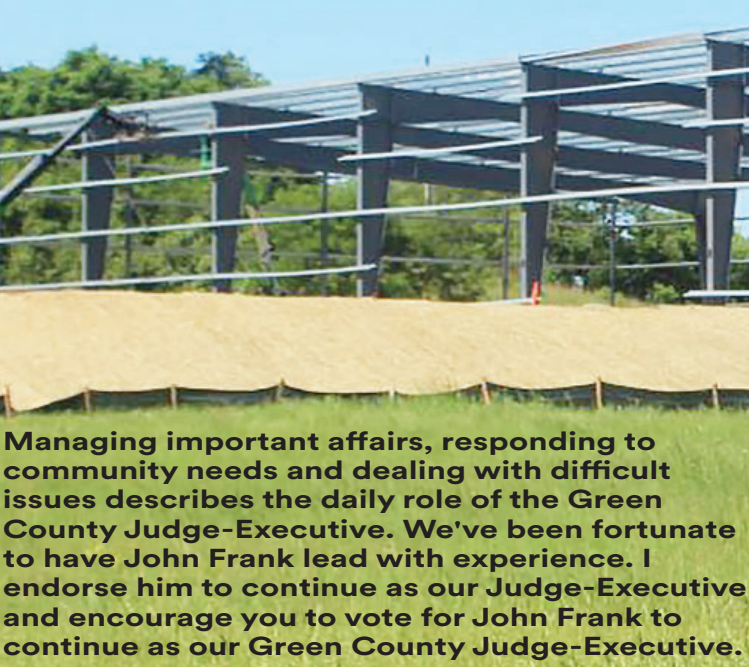
Call for a free estimate

~ All types of durable and affordable roofing ~

FULLY INSURED ~ FULLY LICENSED

49 Years Experience

# Givens endorses Frank



Managing important affairs, responding to community needs and dealing with difficult issues describes the daily role of the Green County Judge-Executive. We've been fortunate to have John Frank lead with experience. I endorse him to continue as our Judge-Executive and encourage you to vote for John Frank to continue as our Green County Judge-Executive.

RE-ELECT

# JOHN H. FRANK

GREEN COUNTY JUDGE/EXECUTIVE!!

PAID FOR BY JOHN FRANK, 544 GABE ROAD, GREENSBURG, KY 42743

