

Students Can Do Their Part To Combat Bullying

Students are bullied every day. Bullying can happen anywhere, but it is prevalent in school environments. Bullying is often under-reported because children and young adults may be scared of the consequences of outing their bullies.

In 2014, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the U.S. Department of Education released the first federal definition of bullying. The definition encompassed three elements: 1. Unwanted aggressive behavior; 2. Observed or perceived power imbalance; and 3. Repetition or high likelihood of repetition of bullying behaviors.

DoSomething.org says around 20 percent of students between the ages of 12 and 18 have been bullied during the school year, and more than 150,000 teens have skipped school because of bullying. The Pew Research Center reports that 35 percent of U.S. parents with children younger than 18 say they are extremely or very worried that their children might be bullied at some point. Those fears may be warranted, as the Monique Burr Foundation for Children reports a child is bullied on a playground every seven minutes and between 50 and 77 percent of students report having been bullied.

Bullying victims may feel they're in a helpless situation, but students can do their part to curtail bullying and report offenders. Here are some actions students can take, courtesy of Stop-Bullying.org.

- Treat others with respect. Students should stop and think before they do or say anything to another person that has the potential to be hurtful. Making it a point to be nicer to others and recognizing that everyone is different is a start.
- Apologize for past behaviors. Those who think they may have bullied someone in the past should own up to it and apologize with meaning.
- Talk to an adult. Students can talk to an adult they trust if they are being bullied or have witnessed another person being bullied. Telling someone can help a person feel less alone. This person may help develop a plan to stop the bullying.
- Stay in groups of friends. Most bullying happens when adults aren't around or when a person is isolated. Having a strong group of friends can deter bullying.
- Be aware of cyberbullying. Much bullying does not take place in person. Cyberbullying is prevalent and happens online or through text messages. Students should always think about what they post, and be aware that something said "in private" might be forwarded. Students should not share anything that could hurt or embarrass another person.
- Contact authorities, if applicable. According to the Anti-Bullying Alliance, most bullying incidents are not crimes, but there are certain types that are illegal and should be reported to the police. Bullying that involves violence or assault; theft; harassment and intimidation over a period of time, including calling someone names or threatening them; and/or perpetrating abusive phone calls, emails or texts, should be reported.
- Lock down privacy settings. Together with their parents, students should safeguard their devices by adjusting privacy settings. These settings control who sees what is posted on social media. If a person is bullying another through text or social media, the person being harassed can document what is said by taking screenshots and then block that person from contact.
- Let others know they aren't alone. Students can support others who are being bullied by letting them know they are not alone.

Bullying continues to be a concern in schools. Students can be proactive partners in stopping bullying at school and after hours.

Agricultural Cost-Share Programs Available For Webster County Producers, Youth

**By Vicki Shadrick
Extension Agent
for Agriculture
and Natural Resources**

The Green River Area Beef Improvement Group, a volunteer-led, non-profit organization, administers the County Agriculture Investment (CAIP) and Youth Agricultural Incentive (YAIP) Programs in Daviess, McLean, Webster, Hopkins, and Henderson Counties. The Webster County Agriculture Development council has been allocated \$20,700 for CAIP and \$10,000 specifically for our Youth Agricultural Incentive Program. This year marks a milestone for all of Kentucky with 25 years of cost-share funding programs which have helped farms improve and diversify.

Eligible items should be purchased between December 3, 2024, and November 30, 2025. All receipts, completed project pictures, proof of residency (utility bill), and copies of cancelled checks or credit card statements, as well as GRABIG funding request documentation, must be postmarked on or before November 30. A website discussing eligible items can be found at <https://www.kyagr.com/agpolicy/2025-Program-Guide-lines-and-Applications.html>. Only one application per home mailing address and USDA farm identification number is allowed. For more information contact Vicki Shadrick at the Webster County Extension Office.

House Bill 611 became law during the 2000 General Assembly. The purpose was to distribute 50 percent of the state monies received from a Master Settlement Agreement between the major cigarette manufacturers and Kentucky for the general purpose of agricultural development in the Commonwealth. The goal for these funds was to financially support innovative ideas for projects that could increase net farm income and agriculture across the state by stimulating markets for Kentucky farmers who previously relied on tobacco income. It was intended to encourage producers to find new ways to add value to Kentucky agricultural products and explore new opportunities for Kentucky farms. It has been a huge success and is the envy of the rest of the country. Only Kentucky and a couple of other states set some of these funds aside for agricultural development.

Another unique aspect of the agricultural development fund has been the educational contribution provided through the Cooperative Extension Service and Kentucky Beef Network. All agricultural development fund recipients have attended one or more education seminars, increasing their farming knowledge. Great strides have been made in the quality and yield of livestock and crop enterprises from the investment and education applied to the enterprises for which our farmers received cost share.

In addition to the agricultural development cost share, some of the master settlement agreement funds are provided to the Kentucky Agricultural Finance Corporation. The mission of KAFRC is to strengthen Kentucky agriculture by providing access to low-interest loan programs through joint partnerships with local lending institutions. KAFRC finances beginning farmers, farm families, and agribusinesses with capital to establish, maintain, or expand their agricultural operation.

For more information, or to request a CAIP application, call the Extension Office at 270-639-9011 or email me at vicki.shadrick@uky.edu

WC Retired Teachers Hold Meeting

The Webster County Retired Teachers met Monday, August 11, at Canaan Ridge Park. Seventeen members and one luncheon guest were present. President Nan Laughary opened the meeting. She welcomed the group, led the Pledge to the Flag, and gave the devotional and prayer. The picnic meal was pot luck sides with ordered fried chicken.

After the luncheon, Webster County School Superintendent Harrell came to tell members about the plan to allow WCRTA members to attend all regularly scheduled sports events of the high and middle schools free of charge. Members will be issued a badge that they will show at the entrance to the event for free attendance. He then explained how the infrastructure at the schools had been improved over the summer.

New roofs, lighting, HVAC, and repairs had been done to make schools a healthier space for learning.

President Laughary chaired the business meeting. Treasurer Marilyn Whitsell gave the financial report. She announced that WCRTA had given two \$1,500 scholarships sponsored by the United Community Bank, and one \$500 scholarship from WCRTA members. Lori Gonzalez volunteered to join the scholarship committee to help read applications for the 2026 scholarships. President Laughary urged members to take advantage of KRTA membership, such as the DNA testing for effectiveness of medicines and the fall alert lanyards.

The next WCRTA meeting will be October 14, at the UK Extension Center in Dixon.

Webster County Jailer's Report

Webster County Jailer Greg Sauls reports inmates worked a total of 1656 hours between August 10 and August 16, 2025. Hour worked include 520 hours at the detention center; 280 hours at the RCC; 80 hours mowing; 360 hours for Union County; 40 hours for the city of Clay; 40 hours for the city of Dixon; 80 hours for the city of Providence; 40 hours for recycling; 40 hours for the road department shop; 40 hours for the dog warden and 16 hours at Landon's Hope.

The total jail population is 178 with 52 county inmates; 31 Union County inmates and 95 state inmates.

Twenty-seven inmates participated in the Moral Recognition Therapy program with on graduating. Twenty-one attended Anger Management with one graduating and 16 attended Thinking for Good. Nineteen attended Untangling Relationships.

The GED program had 13 attendees.

Incarcerated during the same period were

Stephen Adamson	Kassie Martin
Jacob Andrews	Antonio McGuire
Timothy Arzate	Jeffery Meadows
Jason Ashby	Colten Piper
James Brantley	Tamara Rapier
Nicholas Coleman	Christina Riggs
Allondra Collins	Daniel Riley
Michael Delveau	Aaron Rosales
David Fruit	Inez Sherman
Ronald Garnett	Darren Stout
Daywon Gentry	Charles Walker
Pamela Hopkins	Kelsey Warren
Christopher Jackson	Roger Wesley
Allison Johnson	Christopher west
Tyrie Johnson	Michael Wicks
Jeffrey Jones	Amar Willis
John Kelley	Javon Wood
Steven Lane	Sarah Wring
Beth Martin	



God Knows You

By Dr. Bob Hardison

God Will Help Us Meet Our Needs

Q: I've just received a notice from the federal government that I must start making a monthly payment on my college student loan. As a family we are maxed out with a home mortgage loan, insurance payments, a car loan and medical bills. I feel like we are sinking financially. I need a miracle. I desperately need God's help. Will He help me?

A: God isn't a tyrant, a dictator, or simply unengaged. He's a compassionate heavenly Father, who works for the good of His children. Jesus made this perfectly clear. When He taught, "If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him" (Mt. 7:11)!

God willingly gets involved in our needs. He helps, but He isn't obligated to respond to our needs with a miracle. To receive God's help, follow these suggestions:

1. Ask for help. Lower your pride and raise your faith by asking God to help you in this time of your need. Make it a matter of consistent prayer.
2. Assess the true needs in your life. Distinguish between your wants and needs, then deny yourself some wants to make regular payments on your debt.
3. Let God use whatever resources you have. He can do what no one else can do.
4. Look for God's hand working in your circumstances. Then, respond in faith and

ACCEPTING RESUMES

The Webster County PVA Office is now accepting resumes to possibly fill a Full-Time and/or Part-Time Positions that have been allocated to this office.

Resumes can be dropped off on or before **August 29, 2025** at the Office of the Webster County PVA on the Ground Floor of the Courthouse in Dixon, KY.

Webster County PVA Office
PO Box 88
Dixon, KY 42409
Phone (270) 639-7016

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