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## 3 opportunities for local leaders

KUDOS: Praising positives in our community

10 hrs ago

**FIRST CLASS OF COHORTS.** When bias and bigotry kept many doors closed, careers in education provided women with opportunities to earn a living, mold generations and demonstrate their leadership skills.

To further enhance opportunities and help today's women excel in education careers, a network of support and guidance is being created. Two local educators were selected for the first cohort of the Kentucky Women in Education Leadership.

Althea Hurt, principal of Meadow View Elementary School in Radcliff and Christina Boone, instructional supervisor for LaRue County Schools, were selected for the opportunity along with 30 other educators.

The purpose was described as allowing women in public education entering or advancing their careers to benefit from a support system, leadership development, career advancement, networking, coaching, mentoring and recognition of women who are leaders.

"I want to be able to have a greater impact on education in our state and to help empower other women in our field," said Hurt, who is working on superintendency course work at Western Kentucky University.

This leadership program has the potential to produce confident and strong leaders for the state, which can never have too many.

**FELLOWSHIP OPENINGS.** A local developmental program is accepting applicants.

United Way of Central Kentucky is building its 2018 Fellowship class, a five-month program centered on the region's social service needs. It introduces participants to efforts being made to help individuals and families become self-sufficient.

Similar to a leadership course operated by local chambers of commerce, United Way focuses its monthly meetings on how the participants can be involved in ensuring the health, education and financial stability of every person in every community.

A limited number of fellowship applications will be accepted. The cost for those accepted to the program is \$50, which covers all meals and materials. To apply, go to [www.unitedwayck.org/unitedwayfellows](http://www.unitedwayck.org/unitedwayfellows) or call 270-737-6608. The application deadline is March 9.

**NEW VICAR GENERAL.** A final matter involving local leadership involves a new appointment for Father Martin Linebach, pastor of St. James Catholic Church. He has been appointed vicar general of the Archdiocese of Louisville and will add those duties to his role in Elizabethtown effective Thursday.

Linebach, a native of Louisville, will serve as the bishop's principal deputy and assist in his many roles, including principal advisor on the Priests' Council and the College of Consultors.

In characteristic fashion, Father Linebach responded with humility and by praising others.

"I certainly feel a sense of honor and support for the archbishop, that he would consider me for this role," he said. "I have a certain peace about it."

In announcing the appointment to parishioners at St. James, he also described it as a vote of confidence for the local parish.

"The archbishop wouldn't have asked me if he didn't have confidence in the parish, as well."

*This editorial represents a consensus of The News-Enterprise editorial board.*

