

# PRINCIPALS

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Those two schools contrast in the number of years the current principal has been there — April Mounce has been a long-time institution at Burnside, serving as principal since 1999, while Michael Childers had been in that role at Shopville since January 2025. Mounce is retiring, while Childers has taken a job as principal of Science Hill School, following Matt Cook, assistant superintendent of Pulaski County Schools who will be Science Hill's superintendent in 2026-27.

This week, Richardson revealed those two jobs had been filled — by Pulaski County High School assistant principals Stephen Godby at Burnside and Cody Wesley at Shopville.

As a lifelong Pulaski Countian, Godby said he's familiar with the Burnside community and is also happy to be working in the new school building that opened at the beginning of the present school year.

"Miss Mounce has done



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

**Stephen Godby, Tara Baugh, and Cody Wesley are all three new principals within the Pulaski County School System for the 2026-27 school year.**

a wonderful job," said Godby. "I wanted to have a lead role and work in an elementary school. I think the kids are wonderful at that age and excited to see you, and I've heard that the staff down there is great, and I just saw it to be a really good opportunity."

A 2003 graduate of Eastern Kentucky University with certifications in Biology and teaching high school grades 9-12, and a Rank II certification in Educational Leadership, Godby taught science at Pulaski County High

School and Northern Middle School before becoming assistant principal at PCHS in 2024.

For Godby, the goal is to make a difference in the lives of the children he'll be overseeing in the halls of Burnside Elementary.

"I've always worked with high school students and have helped make a difference in their lives, and I've just been led to work with the younger generation, to help make their lives better," he said. "... Me having the lead role in that will allow me to better do so."

Wesley likewise comes to Shopville from Pulaski County High School.

"I was just looking at some new opportunities, and was excited to work with the younger population," he said. "One of my favorite parts of my job currently is at the end of the day, I do the buses, and I always play some rock-paper-scissors with all the elementary kids on the bus, so (it's about) just being able to work with those younger kids to try to make a difference for them."

Wesley received an

Associates in Science from Somerset Community College and Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from Eastern Kentucky University. He earned a Master's in Special Education from the University of the Cumberland and another in School Leadership from EKU. He has taught special education at Pulaski County High School and has also been an assistant football coach. He became assistant principal at PCHS in 2022.

Wesley said that he and Childers have "very similar personalities" and thinks he can slide right in to that same role in Shopville.

"That type of community, I'm very familiar with, and I fell like I'll fit in well with them," he said.

As for Baugh, she's following the retiring Lisa Black, who has been in the principal role for 17 years. Baugh herself has been at Eubank Elementary in some capacity for 20 years, the last 10 as an instructional coach and curriculum specialist, working closely alongside

Black.

"I'm from the community of Eubank. I love my community," she said. "... I'm just excited to watch our students and staff grow even more. I think we have a lot of potential and we're going to tap into that and keep growing."

Baugh earned her Bachelor's of Arts in Elementary Education from Midway College, and Masters of Arts Degrees in Education for Instructional Leadership and Guidance Counseling from the University of the Cumberlands. She has been a Math Coach, third-grade teacher, and Math Intervention Teacher all at Eubank Elementary.

Having a strong working relationship with Black will likely help Baugh's transition into the principal's office go more smoothly than it might otherwise.

"I feel like lots of great things are in place, and I'm just going to continue those and then grow more," she said.

# KING

Continued from Page A4

Spirit and fire."

The savior is also the baptizer.

As John was immersing repentant people in water, Jesus would immerse the saved in the Holy Spirit.

Both ministries belong

exclusively to Jesus and no one else.

No wonder Jesus told His sorrowful disciples, "Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you."

The blood of Jesus cleans

our hearts so that the Holy Spirit can move in.

The greatest gift of our personal salvation is the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit. Both testimonies of John are vital to the Christian life. The Lamb of God is for our justification, and the Baptizer in the Holy Spirit is for our sanctification. We do great harm

by not proclaiming both as vitally important. During this celebration of Pentecost, let's rejoice in Jesus our Baptizer in the Holy Spirit. John's testimony was true about both. Then many came to Him and said, "John performed no sign, but all the things that John spoke about this Man were true."

# KERLEY

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ment about how valuable the various outcomes are."

To better understand the implications of deliberating on the value of each possible outcome and choosing the wager, Decision Theory is best illustrated through a simple example. Suppose that a person offers a \$100 bill if a coin flip turns up heads. If the coin flip turns up tails, however, the wagerer has to pay \$1,00. A person who always chooses to play could expect to win an average of \$49.50 on each flip over the course of a series of flips. In this decision matrix, the benefit of choosing to play is quite evident. Surely, however, wagering on whether God exists is much more complex than deciding whether to play a coin flip or not. Enter infinity!

Once the concept of infinity (eternity) comes into play regarding the value of the potential outcomes, the decision matrix becomes even more weighty. Specifically, it quickly becomes evident that the finite loss

or gain realized if God does not exist is dwarfed by the infinite potential gain that exists if God does.

Although the wager has been nuanced many times over the years, in its basic form, it is presented as follows: "It is rational to seek God and live a deeply Christian life because there is very much to gain and very little to lose." Now, words are always important, and it is in the presentation to the wager that many misconceptions, and thus many criticisms, are founded. George Schlesinger, for example, presents the wager as "I have nothing to lose and everything to gain by doing such and such [taking the wager]." This presentation is quite different in its premise in that it erroneously presents the wagerer as losing nothing. Nothing to lose cannot be the case. Choosing God does involve a cost, regardless of how small that cost may be. It really comes down to determining the probability of God's existence. In the case of the coin toss, the odds are 50 percent that the reward actually exists (turning up heads). The coin

will either turn up heads or tails. Unless it is a trick coin, everyone knows this to be a fact.

Additionally, in the given example, the value of \$100 has crystal clarity. Regarding Pascal's Wager, however, the precise probabilities of the outcomes are much more challenging to determine. Additionally, a low likelihood of a particular outcome does not necessarily diminish its attractiveness. For example, as a society in general, we often pursue medical treatments for cancers that have a less than 50 percent chance of achieving remission. This phenomenon is understandable given our survival instinct. In a sense, patients take a Pascaline-type wager to seek reward even when the probability of the desired outcome is very low. After all, life is at stake. A patient may, and often does, deductively formulate within their mind that there is very little to lose and everything to gain. Pascal asserts that all humans have one life and that one life is represented as a one-coin flip. The flip turns up only heads or only tails: God either

exists or He doesn't. At any rate, it cannot be overstated, whether a person takes the wager and flips the coin or not, whether he chooses to play or pass, everyone is already playing the game! Pascal argued that his wager was not in itself a proof of God but rather an argument based on probability that showed belief in God to be the best possible outcome. Now it seems to me, based upon the cumulative evidence for the existence of God presented here in article after article, the only safe and rational wager is to "choose God and live" (cf Deut 30:19-20).

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

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# PRINT

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entertainment with the Wednesday edition showcasing Wednesday,

Thursday and Friday; Saturday with Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. The Wednesday edition will also include the calendar of area events.

At \$1.75 per mailed home

delivered copy, the annual subscription rates will now be \$182 annually for 104 issues, \$91 for 52 issues and \$45.50 for 26 issues. Single copy will remain at \$2.00 per copy.

## PUBLIC NOTICE MASTER COMMISSIONER'S SALE

In order to comply with the orders of the Pulaski Circuit Court, the Commissioner will sell the property described in the following action on **WEDNESDAY, MAY 27** at the hour of **1:00 p.m.** This sale will be held at **207 S. RICHARDSON DRIVE, SOMERSET, KY 42501, (GODBY AUCTION CENTER BUILDING, PLEASE DO NOT CALL GODBY REALTY WITH QUESTIONS: THEY VOLUNTARILY AUCTIONER FOR THE MASTER COMMISSIONER).** Said property shall be sold to raise the amounts hereinafter set forth, together with interest and the costs of the action, and (unless otherwise indicated) upon the following terms and conditions:

(A) At the time of sale the successful bidder shall either pay cash or make a deposit of 10% of the purchase price with the balance on credit for thirty (30) days. **In the event the successful bidder desires or elects to credit the balance, he or she will be required to post bond and furnish an acceptable surety thereon.** Said bond shall be for the unpaid purchase price and **bear interest at the plaintiff's judgment rate per** annum from the date of sale until paid. **IN THE EVENT THAT THE PURCHASER IS NOT PAYING THE FULL AMOUNT OF THE PURCHASE PRICE OF THE PROPERTY ON THE DATE OF SALE, ANOTHER PERSON MUST BE PRESENT ON THE PURCHASER'S BEHALF TO SIGN AS SURETY FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE PURCHASE PRICE.**

(B) Risk of loss of improvements shall be on the purchaser from date of sale.

(C) The purchaser shall be required to assume and pay all taxes or assessments upon the property for the current tax year **(2026)** and all subsequent years. All other delinquent taxes or assessments upon the property for prior years shall be paid from the sale proceeds **if properly claimed in writing and the holder(s) thereof is a party to the foreclosure.** **The Master Commissioner warrants only such title as is referred by Court order and does not guarantee that all taxes are paid.**

(D) The property shall otherwise be sold free and clear of any right, title and interest of all parties to the action and of their liens and encumbrances thereon, excepting easements and restrictions of record in the Pulaski County Clerk's Office and such right of redemption as may exist in favor of the United States of America or the defendant(s).

**1—2955 RINGGOLD ROAD, SOMERSET, Amount to be raised, \$46,607.26, PVA # 048-2-0-18**

**2—207 MURPHY AVE., SOMERSET, Amount to be raised, \$38,709.66, PVA # 061-6-3-75**

**3—690 SHORELINE DR., SOMERSET, Amount to be raised, \$7,786.29, PVA # 040-7-1-66**

**4—468 ANTIOCH CHURCH RD., BURNSIDE, Amount to be raised, \$4,555.76, PVA # 079-2-0-10**

**5—171 MEADOW POINT DR., SOMERSET, Amount to be raised, \$276,713.09, PVA # 051-4-3-46**

**6—738 SLATE BRANCH SPUR, SOMERSET, Amount to be raised, \$51,010.79, PVA # 041-0-0-50**

(The Mobile Home has been converted to real estate and is included in this Sale!)

**7—1691 ANTIOCH CHURCH RD., BURNSIDE, Amount to be raised, \$6,662.07, PVA # 079-7-1-02**

**8—0 LAURA LANE, SOMERSET, Amount to be raised, \$5,662.73, PVA # 064-4-1-44**

**9—222 HIGH STREET, SOMERSET, Amount to be raised, \$5,580.86, PVA # 061-5-6-06**

**10-7395 HWY. 1643, SOMERSET, Amount to be raised, \$5,949.76, PVA # 105-9-0-30**

**11-101 N. RICHARDSON DR., SOMERSET, Amount to be raised, \$6,424.71, PVA # 061-4-5-42**

**12-100 N. RICHARDSON DR., SOMERSET, Amount to be raised, \$6,679.06, PVA # 061-4-5-48**

**13-0 GARLAND RD., BURNSIDE, Amount to be raised, \$2,836.44, PVA # 066-4-1-31**

Further information and appraisals are available online @www.pulaskipva.com, (Additional Resources/Master Commissioner Sales).

**JOHN T. MANDT, MASTER COMMISSIONER,  
PULASKI CIRCUIT COURT, 203 W. COLUMBIA ST.,  
SOMERSET, KY 42501, Phone 606-679-3504**