

Local Schools



[TOP](#)

Meet Kenny Carpenter, Middle School SRO

MARCH 20TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Meet Kenny Carpenter, Middle School SRO

Poplar Bluff, Missouri - Poplar Bluff R-I's newest school resource officer, Kenny Carpenter, completed his introductory presentations with the sixth grade last week at the Middle School.

Carpenter, who celebrated his 22nd anniversary with the Poplar Bluff Police Department on Monday, March 6, took the opportunity to further open the lines of communication with students.

"I depend on information from you," Carpenter said to instructor Kelly Moore's homeroom, the 16th class of his month-long tour. "Anything you know that protects safety—as far as faculty, staff and students are concerned—I expect you to come to me."

He cited two incidents that he has been able to prevent this school year upon receiving information. Two weeks ago Carpenter, along with other emergency responders – both current and former, reportedly were able to help save a life as they resuscitated a victim who suffered a heart attack in her vehicle after dropping a student off at school.

Last week the woman, now with a pacemaker, exited her vehicle and hugged Carpenter while he was on morning traffic duty. "It was a touching moment yesterday," Carpenter said to the students.

Carpenter, the father of two PBHS alumni and one current student, worked in the patrol

division his entire tenure until he transferred to the SRO post in November, when the school board approved his position. He graduated in 1994 from the Law Enforcement Academy at Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau.

He received 40 hours of training for his school certification, which included topics such as youth mental health first aid. Missouri is one of 13 states to require additional training for SROs, according to Carpenter’s presentation.

The district employs two other SROs: Officer Jason Courtney at Junior High and Cpl. Richard Knapp at the High School. In addition to law enforcement duties, their job is to serve as informal counselors/mentors for the student body. The first such school post in the United States was created in 1958 in Flint, Mich. According to a report from the National Center for Education Statistics, there were 28,550 SROs in 2015.

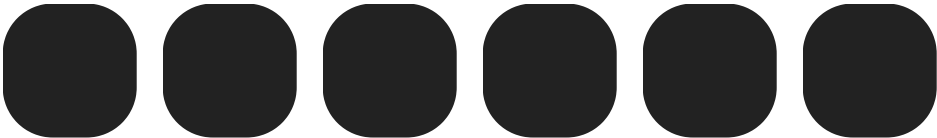
Pictured: Officer Kenny Carpenter is pictured in his centrally located office on the Middle School campus.

Article and photo submitted by Tim Krakowiak, Communications/Marketing Director, Poplar Bluff R-I School District

LAST UPDATED ON MARCH 20TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

<https://showmetimes.com/Blogpost/v70k/Meet-Kenny-Carpenter-Middle-School-SRO>

[Go to post](#)



More from ShowMe Times:

[TOP](#)

WWII Vet Visits American History Class

MARCH 20TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

WWII Vet Visits American History Class

Poplar Bluff, Missouri - World War II veteran Cloyd Cook, a recipient of four Bronze Star Medals, spoke to advanced American history students about some of his early involvement in helping to stop Nazi Germany and Japan over 70 years ago.

Among less than a million remaining who served the greatest generation, Cook was featured last month in the Daily American Republic in advance of his 95th birthday celebration. Poplar Bluff High School students read the article and inquired whether he can be a guest lecturer, since they were studying the Allies and the Axis powers. Social studies instructor Paul Conover was able to make the arrangements since he happens to attend Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church with Cook.

Cook was greeted on Thursday, March 9, by JROTC students, who stood at attention lining the hallway of the High School. "I wish I had a chance to go through school because what you miss, you miss all your life," said Cook, who did not enroll in high school because of the Great Depression.

Born in Stoddard County, Cook moved to Butler County when he was 9 years old. As a young man, he spent a couple years in Caledonia, Miss., serving the Civilian Conservation Corps as part of Pres. Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal. When work dried up, Cook decided he would join the U.S. Army, but failed to pass a physical in St. Louis, so he returned home.

Shortly thereafter, Cook said he heard about Japan bombing Pearl Harbor. The following day he went to a neighbor's house to listen to Roosevelt declare war over a dry cell radio, he said.

"It wasn't very long before I got a letter saying, 'We want you,'" Cook stated. "They drafted me, and put me in charge of 17 other men! I made some friends on that trip, but they didn't all come home."

Upon completing training—basic and advanced—Cook was assigned to the 94th Infantry Division. In 1944, he headed to the British Isles by way of New York aboard the Queen Elizabeth, along with 15,000 passengers and an 825-person crew to run the troopship, he said. He noted that it was an armored outfit with yet an additional 2,500 troops to protect from enemy attacks in the English Channel.

After zigzagging across the North Atlantic for several days, soldiers landed near Glasgow and headed to Southern England, some on a duty train while others walked, he recalled. Cook's first assignment was to guard 60,000 German prisoners of war. Later the 94th joined Gen. George Patton's Third Army when Cook first stepped foot on German soil.

Cook served a total of 209 days on the front lines before the war ended on Sept. 2, 1945, according to a letter signed by Pres. Harry S. Truman that he read to students. He said he passed on many of his military artifacts to his grandchildren, and sold other items when he later fell upon hard times in Rombauer. He showed students a scrapbook, which included a remaining set of dog tags, a letter of recommendation after being honorably discharged, along with various black and white photos. He generously gave a shoulder patch from the 94th Division to one of the students in attendance, freshman Gaelan White.

As a very small token of appreciation, students presented Cook a signed painting of an American flag, which he said he will display in his living room. "I'm no hero," said Cook, as the class gave him an ovation. "I just done what they asked me to do to the best of my knowledge."

Pictured: Social studies instructor Paul Conover holds a scrapbook, while Cloyd Cook explains some of the items from his time serving the country.

Photo and article submitted by Tim Krakowiak, Communications/Marketing Director, Poplar Bluff R-I School District

LAST UPDATED ON MARCH 20TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

<https://showmetimes.com/Blogpost/v70h/WWII-Vet-Visits-American-History-Class>

[Go to post](#)



More from ShowMe Times:

[TOP](#)

Spanish Classes Sample Tropical Fruit

MARCH 06TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Spanish Classes Sample Tropical Fruit

Poplar Bluff, Missouri - Approximately 400 Poplar Bluff High School students learned about tropical fruit common in Spanish speaking countries on Wednesday, Feb. 22, with over \$600 from a state grant.

R-I Health Coordinator Sheryl Talkington secured the prevention and management of chronic conditions in schools funding—which focuses on physical activity, nutrition, asthma and chronic illnesses—from the Missouri Department of Health in cooperation with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Chartwells School Dining Services procured the fruit—papaya, mango, pineapple and kiwi—and Chef Angie Barnett helped prepare and serve.

“We are excited to be able to share what is probably unknown to many students,” said teacher Charley Harper, noting that he was fortunate to have three mango trees growing up. “These are fruit common to many of the countries we teach about in Spanish class.”

Instructor Maria Acevedo shared that in her home country of Puerto Rico, vehicles can stop along the side of the road and pick mangos from surrounding trees “for free,” she exclaimed.

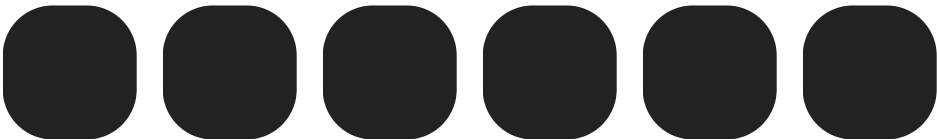
Shown in the submitted photo: Chartwells Chef Angie Barnett holds up a pineapple while teacher Charley Harper slices papaya for high school students to taste.

Photo and article submitted by Tim Krakowiak, Communications/Marketing Director, Poplar Bluff R-I School District

LAST UPDATED ON MARCH 06TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

<https://showmetimes.com/Blogpost/v6tr/Spanish-Classes-Sample-Tropical-Fruit>

[Go to post](#)



More from ShowMe Times:

TOP

A Thousand Cranes

MARCH 06TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

A Thousand Cranes

Poplar Bluff, Missouri - The Imaginary Theatre Company finished its play series Tuesday, Feb. 21, at Poplar Bluff Schools with a performance of “A Thousand Cranes” for fifth graders in the Tinnin Fine Arts Center, underwritten by the Bank of Missouri.

Imaginary, the professional touring ensemble of The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, previously performed “My Father’s Dragon” for Eugene Field and “A Gnome for Christmas” for Oak Grove. Last year they put on plays at the Kindergarten Center, Lake Road and Junior High. Tinnin Director Tim Thompson and R-I Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum Patty Robertson will continue planning the rotation next year.

“A Thousand Cranes” by Kathryn Schultz is about a Japanese girl who was diagnosed with Leukemia a decade after being exposed to radiation from the atomic bomb in Hiroshima during World War II. According to an Eastern legend, if a person folds 1,000 paper cranes, s/he will be cured of disease. The girl – Sadako Sasaki, made it to No. 644, and now has a monument built in her honor at Seattle Peace Park.

The plays were brought to the district as part of Three Rivers College’s Patrons of the Arts series. Beginning in the 2015/16 school year, the community college opted to deliver the plays directly to the schools within its service area, free of cost.

Shown in the photo: Actors (standing from left) Jeanitta Perkins, Aaron Orion Baker, Charlie Barron and Catherine Regan (seated) of the Imaginary Theatre Company pose after holding a Q&A with students about the play, “A Thousand Cranes.”

Photo and article submitted by Tim Krakowiak, Communications/Marketing Director, Poplar Bluff R-I School District

LAST UPDATED ON MARCH 06TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

<https://showmetimes.com/Blogpost/v6ts/A-Thousand-Cranes>

[Go to post](#)



More from ShowMe Times:

[TOP](#)

Student Safety Patrol Established at PB Middle School

FEBRUARY 16TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Student Safety Patrol Established at PB Middle School

Poplar Bluff, Missouri - A new group of student leaders has emerged at the Poplar Bluff Middle School this year with the relocation of the campus on Victory Lane.

A total of 25 sixth graders make up the Safety Patrol, an organization committed to directing walkers through Bacon Park before and after school.

“We never had walkers before, so we had to design an exit strategy,” said Principal Dr. Brad Owings, referring to the previous location of the school on Oak Grove Road. “It’s another way for students to show responsibility and leadership, and be role models.”

The teams of students work in shifts, from 6:50-7:20 in the morning and 2:20-2:45 p.m., lining the trail on the hill behind the school to the city park. Several students man a station, and there is one roamer with a cell phone in case of an emergency.

The students wear safety vests and are supplied with gear such as flashlights and hand warmers for the changing conditions. Following each shift, the Patrol debriefs with teacher sponsors, Kathy Pattillo and Kelly Lawson. They also meet as a group monthly, and have had guests including school Safety Resource Officer Kenny Carpenter.

“The students take the job very seriously, and it is an honor,” said Pattillo, noting that the group has a waiting list. Lawson added: “These are skills that can carry them through life.”

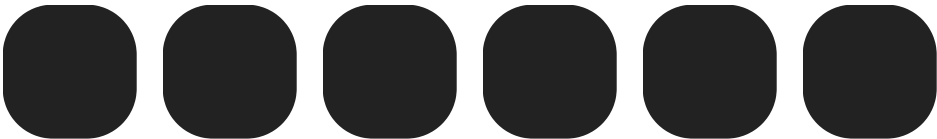
Shown in the photo: Lanie Robertson mans her station in the forefront, while Safety Patrol members line the asphalt trail behind her.

Photo and article submitted by Tim Krakowiak, Communications/Marketing Director,

LAST UPDATED ON FEBRUARY 16TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

<https://showmetimes.com/Blogpost/v6of/Student-Safety-Patrol-Established-at-PB-Middle-School>

[Go to post](#)



More from ShowMe Times:



SUBSCRIBE TO "LOCAL SCHOOLS"

ShowMe Gold Sponsors