Local Schools



Change of Command

JUNE 20TH 2019 BY DEE LOFLIN

Change of Command

Change of Command

Poplar Bluff High School junior Elizabeth Shirrell has been named commander of the Pvt. Billie Kanell JROTC Battalion for the upcoming school year.

JROTC instructor Maj. Gregory Crites promoted Shirrell to succeed Cadet Lt. Col. Skylar Zitnak during the annual Change of Command ceremony held Friday, May 10, in the auxiliary gym.

"The senior Army instructor has reposed special trust and confidence in the patriotism, fidelity and abilities of Elizabeth Shirrell," announced PBHS senior Josh Wicker, battalion operations officer. "In view of this special trust and confidence and demonstrated potential, she is hereby promoted to the rank of cadet lieutenant colonial effective 10 May 2019."

Prior to the passing of the organizational colors, a total of 20 awards were presented to student leaders who have excelled in academics, discipline, physical fitness and public service. Freshman Pvt. Jacob Crawford was named cadet of the year, and the best company honor went to Bravo Company commanded by Cadet Capt. Michael Russell.

Among the event's distinguished guests included R-I Superintendent Dr. Scott Dill, PBHS Principal Mike Owen, Terry Temples on behalf of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Eddy Justice representing the Sons of the American Revolution, Gary Scheel

of the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War, and U.S. Army Recruiting Command Sgt. 1st Class Jack Taylor.

As part of tradition, Elizabeth Shirrell's mother Amy joins Maj. Gregory Crites in the Change of Command ceremony.

Pictured: Maj. Gregory Crites applauds this school year's JROTC cadets following a successful event featuring friends of family of the students.

Submitted by Tim Krakowiak, Communications/Marketing Director, Poplar Bluff R-I School District

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Poplar Bluff Hosts New MSBE Members

JUNE 20TH 2019 BY DEE LOFLIN

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Most recent Missouri State Board of Education member, Mary Schrag of the 8th Congressional District, along with Kimberly Bailey of the greater Kansas City area, toured Poplar Bluff Schools on Wednesday, May 8, before participating in a luncheon with area superintendents.

Since Schrag received her appointment by Missouri Gov. Mike Parson in March, she has met with 75 superintendents prior to her Poplar Bluff visit, she reported. She is the owner and chief executive operator of Physical Therapy Specialists Clinic in West Plains. Bailey, who was appointed to the MSBE in August, is a licensed marriage counselor in the northwest portion of the state.

"The purpose of the visit was to allow us to take a deep dive into the current issues facing public education, and share what we as practitioners see on the horizon," R-I Superintendent Dr. Scott Dill explained. "They were engaged and authentic about their work."

Pictured: Mary Schrag, who represents the region as an MSBE member, introduces herself to area superintendents during a luncheon of the Missouri Association of School Administrators hosted last week in the Administrative Building.

Submitted by Tim Krakowiak, Communications/Marketing Director, Poplar Bluff R-I School District

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2019 Missouri Good Sports

JUNE 07TH 2019 BY DEE LOFLIN

2019 Missouri Good Sports

A female and male student-athlete from both Junior and Senior High has been nominated by the Poplar Bluff coaching staff to receive the annual Missouri Good Sports honor through MSHSAA.

This year's multi-sport athletes included Wyatt Lazalier of the PBHS Class of 2019, who played football and wrestled; incoming junior Sierra Sievers, who plays basketball, soccer and volleyball; incoming freshman River Rowland, who has competed in track and volleyball; and Jeridon Young, who was selected for being a basketball and football standout.

The Award of Excellence is issued to students through the Missouri State High School Activities Association for an exemplary display of sportsmanship, behavior and positive role modeling through participation in interscholastic activities.

Pictured: Athletic Director Kent Keith (center) awards Missouri Good Sports (left to right) Wyatt Lazalier, Sierra Sievers, River Rowland and Jeridon Young on Wednesday, May 22, at PBJHS.

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

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Designing Women Awards Over \$5K to Students

MAY 22ND 2019 BY DEE LOFLIN

Designing Women Awards Over \$5K to Students

The Designing Women Foundation awarded five \$1,000 scholarships to college-bound female seniors for their academic achievements on Monday, May 13, at the Bloodworth House.

Poplar Bluff High School recipients of the annual scholarships were: Cara Bubanovich, who plans to major in nursing at Missouri State University; Marina Johnston, who plans to major in nursing at Southeast Missouri State University; Katelyn Moeller, who also plans to major in nursing at Central Methodist University; Jillian Page, who plans to major in international finance at the University of Alabama; and Sophia Rowland, who plans to major in engineering at Missouri University of Science and Technology.

Winners of the nonprofit organization's Charlie Classic Reading Contest who read the most select literary works were: PBHS junior Caitlin Dollins, who won a \$300 bank card for reading 11 books; PBJHS eighth grader Charlee Deaton, who won a \$300 for reading 33 books; and eighth grader Emmalein Pendley, who won \$150 for reading 21 books.

The Designing Women Foundation is dedicated to the cultural and educational enrichment of deserving young people, primarily women. The Charlie Classic Reading Contest is open to all High School students who read at least 10 classics, and Junior High students who read a minimum of 20 books from the literature list.

Pictured with R-I Superintendent Dr. Scott Dill are (left to right) Jillian Page, Cara Bubanovich, Katelyn Moeller and Marina Johnston. Not present was Sophia Rowland.

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

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McDonald-Jordan Earns the \$1,000 Hoover Scholarship

MAY 08TH 2019 BY DEE LOFLIN

McDonald-Jordan Earns the \$1,000 Hoover Scholarship

Poplar Bluff High School senior Carlton McDonald-Jordan has been awarded the Thomas J. Hoover Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship, valued at \$1,000, was designated for a Mules Basketball player who also excels academically.

McDonald-Jordan plans to attend Saint Louis University, where he will pursue a degree in sports medicine. Among the top in his class, McDonald-Jordan is also a stand out Mules Basketball player, averaging 8.5 points, 5.5 rebounds, 2.8 assists and 2 steals per game. The team captain, he is a three-year letterman, and has been named to the Class 5, District 1 All-District Team as well as the Missouri Basketball Coaches Association Academic All-State Team. He is the Semoball Awards nominee for Scholar Athlete of the Year.

The Hoover Scholarship is named in honor of lifelong Mules supporter, Tom Hoover, who served the school district variously as a teacher, coach, principal and interim superintendent. While he was very involved in athletics, including being the official basketball scorekeeper in his retirement, his surviving wife Susan points out that Hoover's primary motivation was always the education of young people.

Pictured presenting Carlton McDonald-Jordan the Hoover Scholarship on Thursday, May 2, is Susan Hoover.

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

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