

## Local Schools



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# Ozark FCU Contributes Toward National Cheer Contest

FEBRUARY 12TH 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

## Ozark FCU Contributes Toward National Cheer Contest

**Poplar Bluff, Missouri** - Ozark Federal Credit Union made a \$100 donation to the Poplar Bluff High School Competition Cheer Squad toward their trip to compete over the weekend in the Universal Cheerleader Association's National High School Cheerleading Championship in Florida.

The cheerleaders ended up placing eighth out of 14 teams in the preliminary round of the Large Varsity Division II, missing out by a single place for advancement to the semi-finals. To watch the performance, visit: <http://goo.gl/GraV2b>.

**Pictured** accepting the check from Business Development Specialist Davine Conover [center] of Ozark Federal Credit Union on Wednesday, Feb. 4, are PBHS senior cheerleaders [from left] Jamie Hobbs, Mallory Dye, Leeza Edmundson and Rachael Taylor.

Submitted by Tim Krakowiak, Communications/Marketing Coordinator, Poplar Bluff R-1 School District.

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## Dental Arts Group Supports Poplar Bluff Robotics Club

FEBRUARY 12TH 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

[Dental Arts Group Supports Poplar Bluff Robotics Club](#)

**Poplar Bluff, Missouri** - Dental Arts Group donated \$100 to the Iron Mules—the Poplar Bluff High School Robotics Club—toward funding an encoder, a piece of equipment needed so the students could compete in the FIRST Tech Challenge state qualifier this past weekend at Ballwin.

Dr. Eric Blaich used to take a robotics class at PBHS under the instruction of retired teacher Bill Reeves, and the dentist is interested in supporting the program’s reinstatement, he said.

*Robotics Club members Diego Rivetti and Chang Chi accept a check from Dr. Eric Blaich while accompanied by science teachers Patti McCoy and Kathy Miller on Tuesday, Feb.*

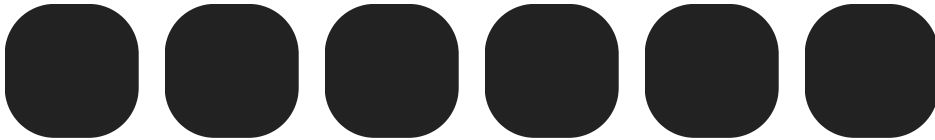
3, at the Kanell Boulevard facility.

Submitted by Tim Krakowiak, Communications/Marketing Coordinator at Poplar Bluff R-1 School District.

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## Rubik's Cube Whiz Kid

JANUARY 28TH 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

[Rubik's Cube Whiz Kid](#)

**Poplar Bluff, Missouri** - Fourth grader Ethan Hudlow of Oak Grove Elementary School received media attention last week when news broke that the 9-year-old was registering to vie in a World Cube Association sanctioned Rubik's Cube competition April 25 in Texas.

So far Ethan's record for solving the Rubik's Cube is 24 seconds, he says, and even more impressively, his SINGS (Serving the Individual Needs of Gifted Students) teacher Patty

Reed just peaked his curiosity in the puzzle a few months ago.

“This experience hasn’t just taught Ethan about solving the Rubik’s Cube, he has learned that he is capable of doing something very amazing,” Reed stated. “I’m anxious to see what problem he chooses to tackle next.”

Reed recalled how in September she had left out a classroom set of Rubik’s Cubes that her older students had used. When the fourth grade class had noticed the box, several students grew excited, so she allowed them to give it a try. After about a half-hour, all but three students remained interested, and Reed sent them each home with a set of instructions.

“For some reason, the Rubik’s Cube just clicked with Ethan,” said Reed, noting that the boy came into class the following week with his own cube. “Within a short time, he had memorized the steps, which is no small task.”

Shown in the photo: Gifted student Ethan Hudlow sets his timer in preparation to demonstrate how fast he can solve his favorite Rubik’s Cube in his collection, the standard 3x3x3 model.

**Photo and article provided by Tim Krakowiak.**

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# Poplar Bluff Junior High Cheerleaders Win National Championship

JANUARY 27TH 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

## Poplar Bluff Junior High Cheerleaders Win National Championship

**Poplar Bluff, Missouri** - The Junior High Cheerleaders won the National Cheerleaders Association High School Open National Championship in the large intermediate division on Sunday, Jan. 18, in St. Charles. This was another first for Poplar Bluff Schools, according to cheer coach Christy Young.

The victory comes on the heels of the Poplar Bluff High School Competition Cheer Squad's back-to-back state championship. The high school athletes will go on to compete at the National High School Cheerleading Championship on Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 7-8, at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Fla.

The Junior High Cheerleaders are: Braelin Aldridge, Destanee Barton, Eva Bedell, Cara Bubanovich, Libby Burdin, Bailey Edmundson, MacKenzie Garrett, Katlynn Hall, Taylor Hicks, Alexis Lady, Courtney McGee, Danni Raymer, Emma Steffan, Rachel Shock, Maddie Mae Shumate, Carly Wiseman and Emily Young.

***Photo provided by Tim Krakowiak.***

LAST UPDATED ON JANUARY 27TH 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

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