

Okaloosa County News Release



5/22/2013; NR13-73

Contact: Elaine Courtney, 689.5850, ecourtney@co.okaloosa.fl.us; Extension Agent IV—Family & Consumer Sciences

Local Financial Institutions & Schools Teaching Children to Save Early

Each year, April-July, area youth can participate in the “Teaching Children to Save” program orchestrated by the University of Florida, Okaloosa County Extension. **Youth are asked to set a savings goal and make a deposit into a savings account, which makes them Okaloosa Savers.** Once the Okaloosa Saves entry forms are collected from participating financial institutions, six winners will have \$50 deposited into their bank account. Now schools can compete in a similar program for a \$500 prize for to the school with the most votes and number of deposits. Youth who enter will have an opportunity to “vote” for their favorite school.

Make a deposit at these local banks and credit unions who support and are participating in Teaching Children to Save 2013:

- Beach Community Bank
- CCB Community Bank
- Eglin Federal Credit Union
- First City Bank
- First National Bank of Crestview
- Trustmark National Bank

Help our local schools win \$500!! When youth make a deposit they can vote for any of the participating schools:

- Antioch Elementary
- Davidson Middle School
- Destin Middle School
- Fort Walton Beach High School
- Northwood Elementary

Tips for Parents:

- Spread the message of the importance of money and budgeting.
- Make saving second nature
- Get them to a local financial institution; open a savings account or deposit into an existing account.
- Teach like a mom, think like a kid
- Curb their appetite for spending
- Teach the basics of investing
- Encourage them to be entrepreneurs
- Be a role model

For additional information or forms for the Teaching Children to Save program, follow this link: <http://okaloosa.ifas.ufl.edu/blog/2013/04/09/teaching-children-to-save/>. Call 689-5850 or contact Elaine Courtney, ecourtne@ufl.edu.

###

The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) is an Equal Opportunity-Affirmative Action Employer authorized to provide research, educational information and other services only to individuals and institutions that function with non-discrimination with respect to race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Cooperative Extension Service, University of Florida, IFAS, Florida A&M University Cooperative Extension Program and Boards of County Commissioners Cooperating.