



Date: April 7, 2014

SNBT Engages Children in Learning to Save

In observance of National Teach Children to Save Day on April 11, The Stephenson National Bank & Trust (SNBT) is encouraging local families to communicate the value of saving money to the young people in their lives. SNBT is doing its part to celebrate this occasion by visiting students in Marinette, Menominee, Peshtigo, and Oconto giving classroom presentations about saving money.

This year, SNBT bankers will give nearly 40 presentations, teaching over 650 children about positive money habits. Presentations focus on giving real-world examples to which students can relate. Through hands-on activities, students learn important concepts such as wants versus needs, rainy-day funds, and simple budgeting. One such lesson explains how a person can save money while saving the environment at the same time. The in-class demonstration shows students the cost savings of using a refillable water bottle instead of buying a disposable water bottle. Students can add up the cost savings while they learn how to reduce the environmental impact by making the switch.

“By equating everyday life experiences and hands-on activities to saving money, we can motivate students to become lifelong savers,” said Dan Peterson, SNBT President & CEO. “Every little step toward financial education, both in the classroom and at home, can have a critical impact on ensuring a new generation of smart money managers.”

Learning financial concepts early helps students form good money habits, plus it also prepares them for more complex lessons in the future such as compound interest, credit, and debt. Setting a solid foundation early on is important in today's fast-paced world. SNBT offers the following tips for raising money-smart kids:

- **Talk openly about money with your kids.** Communicate your values and experiences – both good and bad; encourage them to ask questions, and be prepared to answer them – even the tough ones.
- **Open a savings account** for your children and take them with you to make deposits, so they can learn how to be hands-on in their money management.
- **Set the example** by paying bills on time, being a conscientious spender, and an active saver. Children tend to emulate their parents' personal finance habits.
- **Explain the difference between needs and wants**, the value of saving and budgeting and the consequences of not doing so.



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- **Let friends and family know** about your child's savings goal. They'll be more likely to give cash for special occasions, which means more trips to the bank.

Learn more at the Teach Children to Save website: www.teachchildrentosave.com.

The Stephenson National Bank & Trust is a 139-year old independent community bank with \$800 million in Bank, Mortgage, and Trust & Investment assets under management. Offices are located in Marinette and Oconto, Wis. and Menominee, Mich. with a Trust & Investment Office in Marquette, Mich. For more information about The Stephenson National Bank & Trust visit www.snbt.com.

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