



Children to learn about the importance of saving

July 7, 2010

First County Bank and Stepping Stones Host Exhibit at Norwalk Branch

STAMFORD, CT - First County Bank in cooperation with Stepping Stones Museum for Children is hosting a mini exploration into real-world experiences with earning, spending and saving money at the bank's 660 Main Ave. branch in Norwalk starting on July 15.

Hands-on activities based on educational lesson plans will help children gain an understanding of money, support activities related to important financial concepts, and assist students in building the skills needed to play a role in their own financial future. The exhibit called "My Money Matters" is a financial literacy workshop for children in grades K through 5 and will be run by a Stepping Stones educator who will be on site at the branch for a total of six days.

My Money Matters participants will experience banking, budgeting and consumer choices in this fun, interactive program. Younger children will practice identifying, adding and subtracting money; while older students investigate their wants, needs and spending choices. Children will gain an introductory understanding of the economy, learn some terms associated with money and economics, and build a foundation to better understand the skills needed to properly manage their own financial future.

"This is a fabulous program for First County Bank customers and visitors," said First County Bank Executive Vice President Katherine A. Harris. "My Money Matters is just one of several initiatives under way at the bank where we are educating children about the importance of saving their money. With the proliferation of e-commerce and access to credit/debit cards, children and young adults need to learn how to manage their money at an early age."

The exhibit will be open Thursdays and Fridays, July 15-16 and July 22-23, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and on Saturdays, July 17 and July 24, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Branch visitors will be encouraged to visit throughout the program and enter to win prizes like a \$100 savings bond or a family four-pack to Stepping Stones Museum for Children. Other financial incentives will be offered throughout the promotion.

Stepping Stones Museum for Children, a 501(c)(3) private nonprofit organization, is an award winning children's museum committed to broadening and enriching the lives of children. With four main galleries, a toddlers-only gallery, a new outdoor play space and more than 100 hands-on activities, Stepping Stones offers children 10 and under unique

opportunities to explore and discover. Museum exhibits, educational programs and special events complement efforts in schools, childcare centers and homes.

In 2010, Stepping Stones is commemorating its 10th birthday with a year of celebrations, surprises and special events. Stepping Stones will celebrate the opening of its 22,000 square foot “green” expansion in November 2010, providing new exhibits and innovative programming. For more information, visit steppingstonesmuseum.org or call 203.899.0606.

First County Bank, headquartered in Stamford, Conn., is an independent mutual community bank with 15 branches in Stamford, Greenwich, Darien, New Canaan, Norwalk and Westport offering deposit products, mortgages, trust and investment services, business banking services and online banking. First County Bank has assets in excess of \$1.3 billion. For additional information, visit www.firstcountybank.com.

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