

75**YEARS STRONG****FIRST FEDERAL®****PRESS RELEASE: For Immediate Release****FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**Debbie S. George | 870.391.3427 | dgeorge@ffbh.com**FIRST FEDERAL'S TURTLE RACES WINNERS**

Harrison, Ark., July 2009 – Summer brings races of all kinds – including Turtle Races! **First Federal Bank's 27th Annual Turtle Races** were held on **Saturday, July 4**, on the Square in downtown Harrison. A total of 379 turtles belonging to children ages 12 and younger registered for the race.

Racers were from Harrison and cities all over Arkansas: Alpena, Batavia, Batesville, Bruno-Pyatt, Clinton, Compton, Dogpatch, Everton, Huntsville, Jasper, Jonesboro, Lavaca, Lead Hill, Little Rock, Marble Falls, Maumelle, Mt. Judea, Omaha, Sheridan, Springdale, St. Joe, Valley Springs, Western Grove, and Yellville. Registrants also came from all over the US: Arizona, California, Indiana, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Texas, and Washington.

"We had a great turnout and had a fun time with all the kids, families, and turtles," said Jeff Brandt, Executive Vice President/Eastern Division of First Federal, who manages the race each year and ran the heats. "The kids especially enjoyed the red, white, and blue sno-cones."

A total of 43 heats were held, with the top three finishers in each heat advancing to the next round – 33 first-round heats with 15 turtles in each one; six second-round heats; three semi-final heats; and one final heat.

The three winners:

- First Place: Logan Walden of Harrison and his turtle Super Squirt, #97.
- Second Place: Tyler Werner of Booneville (Ark.) and his turtle Winner, #252.
- Third Place: Avery Hensley of Harrison, and her turtle Liberty, #15.

The winners received trophies and had their picture taken with Chester T. Chipmunk, the president of Chester's Investor Club, First Federal's savings account for children.

Visit the Web site www.ffbh.com/turtle.html for the history of the races and photos of past events.

Photo, l to r: Chester T. Chipmunk, the President of Chester's Investor Club®, holds turtle Liberty; Avery Hensley (third place); Tyler Werner (second place); and Logan Walden (first place).

About First Federal Bank

First Federal is a community bank serving consumers and businesses in Northwest Arkansas with a full range of checking, savings, investment, and loan products and services. The Bank, founded in 1934, has \$803.4 million in assets as of March 31, 2009, and conducts business from 20 full-service branch locations, one stand-alone loan production office, and 31 ATMs. First Federal Bank is a wholly owned subsidiary of First Federal Bancshares of Arkansas, Inc., whose stock is traded on the NASDAQ Global Market under the symbol FFBH. For information on all the products and services we offer, visit us on the web at www.ffbh.com or contact our Account Information Center by phone toll free at 866-AIC-FFBH (870.365.8329 Harrison area) or by email at aic@ffbh.com.

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