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Building a Solid Foundation: Brokerage to Help Kids Excel in Mathematics

Coldwell Banker Gundaker's Town & Country Office Sponsors Community Math Program for K-6th Grade

Town & Country, MO (Jan 13, 2011) - Parents in the St. Louis West County area now have an opportunity to enroll their children in the new **MATH FACT SCHOLARS Community Mathematics Program** for kindergarten through 6th grade students. This low cost, weekly math testing program motivates students to develop quick recall of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division math facts...an essential life skill. Using simple math strategies and taking the time to practice at home, students master the basic facts and progress to advanced math testing levels - earning medals and trophies along the way. The programs advanced skill levels give students an opportunity to further develop computational efficiency, accuracy & flexibility and helps create a solid foundation for learning more demanding math concepts in middle school & high school.

The new **MATH FACT SCHOLARS Community Mathematics Program** is sponsored by the Coldwell Banker Gundaker, Town & Country office. Weekly math testing sessions will take place at CBC High School, in Town & Country, from 5:30 – 6:00 p.m. beginning February 1, 2011. Registration information at www.cbgundakerhomes.com

The **MATH FACT SCHOLARS** Community Mathematics Program was developed to provide all students, *regardless of grade level, skill level or financial limitations*, with an opportunity to:

- ✓ Achieve proficiency with fundamental math skills,
- ✓ Improve self-confidence in mathematics,
- ✓ Establish and achieve personal academic goals, and
- ✓ Nurture the "PRACTICE" habits required for academic success

"In our experience working with families as they search for a new home, education for children is consistently a top priority," said Dana Gundaker-Devers, broker of the Coldwell Banker Gundaker, Town & Country office. "We feel this program is an excellent way for us to give back to the community and contribute to the advancement of mathematics achievement for children in the area."

The **MATH FACT SCHOLARS** program has helped hundreds of students gain self confidence with mathematics and master math skills well beyond what is taught in their current grade level. At Mason Ridge Elementary School, 172 students are currently enrolled in the before school, extracurricular math testing program. During the last testing session in December 2010, Haseeb Malik, Mason Ridge second grader, was the first student in the school to complete the **MATH FACT SCHOLARS Olympian Series - Decimal Level**. In this sixth level of the program, students must complete timed tests covering skills with converting fractions to decimals, adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing decimals and much more. Haseeb completed the 25 tests in this level in just four testing sessions. Remarkably, Haseeb previously

completed the first four levels in the **MATH FACT SCHOLARS** program while in first grade, and on October 6, 2010, he completed the **MATH FACT SCHOLARS Olympian Series – Fractions Level** in just five testing sessions.

Brody Whalen, another second grader at Mason Ridge Elementary School, recently completed the testing requirements for the fourth level in the **MATH FACT SCHOLARS** program. To complete this level, Brody had to pass timed tests covering skills with multi-digit addition, subtraction, multiplication and long division, including mentally multiplying problems such as $3,576 \times 8$. On the day Brody earned the trophy for this level, his mother, father, grandmother, and four year old brother attended the testing session to cheer him on. "I never would have known what Brody was capable of if it wasn't for this program." says Brody's mother, Janet Whalen.

The **MATH FACT SCHOLARS Community Mathematics Program** creates an atmosphere where students experience positive energy, enthusiasm, and a sense of triumph and victory upon achieving their personal academic goals. It is this atmosphere that ignites a student's desire and motivation to make *and* achieve academic goals. As each academic goal is achieved, student self-confidence soars and so does their determination to pursue the next math challenge.

Valerie Fike, a parent at Valley Park Elementary School says, "**MATH FACT SCHOLARS** has allowed my child to learn her math facts at her pace and has proven to her that she can do not only math but many things, as long as she puts in the effort to practice those things. In first grade, she earned her bronze medal by passing all of her addition and subtraction facts from 1 to 12, and she went on to pass all of her multiplication facts from 1 to 12! This program encourages the children at every corner, from earning "Smarties" at the end of testing, to the cheering when others earn medals, to the announcements over the P.A. system! This method has proven extremely successful in my child's school- the teachers that I have spoken with have noticed an amazing difference when kids have been exposed to this program and seem to show more confidence in their classroom math experiences."

For Registration Information Visit: www.cb Gundakerhomes.com

Coldwell Banker Gundaker, the leading residential real estate brokerage company in St. Louis, operates 24 offices with nearly 2,000 sales associates serving metropolitan St. Louis and east-central Missouri. The company's Town & Country office is recognized as the no. one real estate office in Missouri. Coldwell Banker Gundaker is part of NRT LLC, the nation's largest residential real estate brokerage company. NRT, a subsidiary of Realogy Corporation, operates Realogy's company-owned real estate brokerage offices. For more information, please visit www.cb Gundaker.com.

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