



OKLAHOMA  
BANKERS  
ASSOCIATION

## **NEWS RELEASE**

*For Immediate Release – June 19, 2013*

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# **Community banks celebrate American Housing Month**

OKLAHOMA CITY — June is typically declared National Homeownership Month, a time to celebrate the benefits of homeownership and help consumers in the quest to buy a place of their own.

Oklahoma community banks in conjunction with the Oklahoma Bankers Association (OBA) and American Bankers Association (ABA) will celebrate the value of a variety of housing options – whether rented or owned – reframing our efforts as “American Housing Month.”

The decision to define this month as “American Housing Month” was driven by the growing number of individuals and families opting to rent. The share of Americans who own their own home dropped to 65 percent in the first quarter – the lowest level since 1995.

“Choosing the housing option that is best suited for your current lifestyle and financial situation is critical,” said Roger Beverage, OBA president and CEO. “Our community banks recognize the importance of quality housing and will be there to support their customers, whether they choose to rent or buy.”

Materials covering topics such as questions to ask when choosing a home; how to choose a lender and get a loan; tips for improving your credit score, tips for making your home more environmentally friendly; budgeting worksheets; and tips for when you move into your new home can be found on the OBA website at [www.oklabanks.info](http://www.oklabanks.info). Oklahomans should check with their local banks for additional resources.

The OBA conducts more than 70 educational programs and seminars each year, which reach more than 5,000 bankers across the state. The Association represents approximately 230 banks across the state and serves as the primary advocate for the banking industry. It’s also heavily involved in fraud

training and prevention as well as legal and compliance services and communications for its member banks.

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