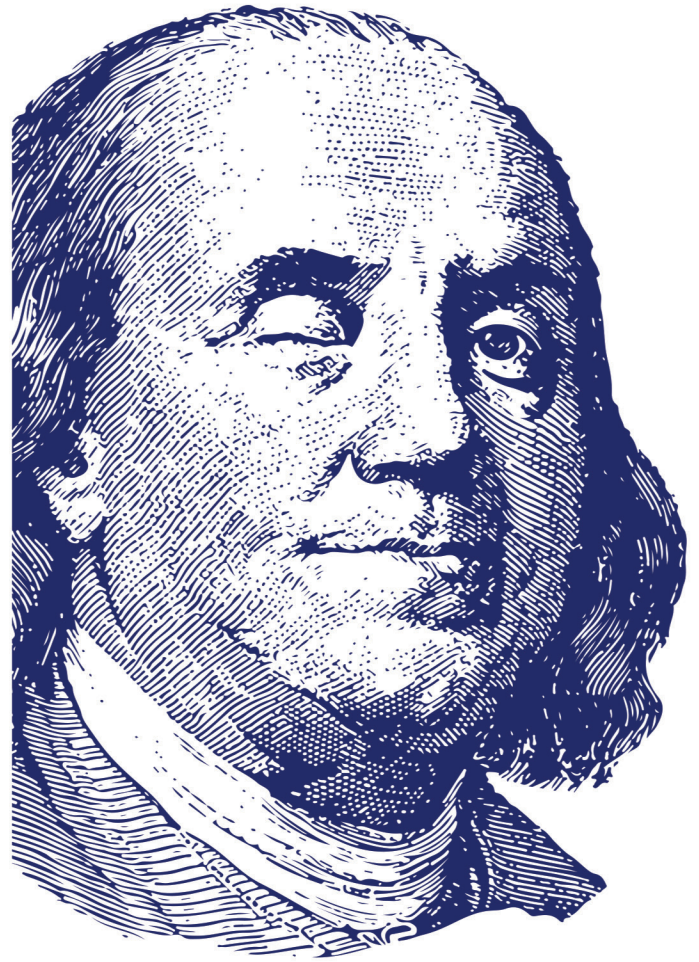


Get Smart About Your Money!



NORTHWESTERN ILLINOIS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **Carroll County**
- **Jo Daviess County**
- **Stephenson County**



MONEYSMARTWEEK.ORG

MONEY SMART WEEK®

APRIL 22-29, 2017

Facebook.com/MoneySmartWeekNational
Twitter.com/MoneySmartWeek



Money Smart Week 2017 in Northern Illinois

How money smart are you? You know what things cost, and you recognize a sale when we see one. But, how savvy are you about managing your day-to-day living expenses.

We all need help, and this is what Money Smart Week 2017 is all about. Hundreds of financial institutions, non-profits, schools, libraries and other partners around the state and here in your community have banded together to offer FREE seminars to help you better manage your finances and improve your way of life.

We invite you to preview this schedule of nearly 20 local activities taking place in Stephenson, Jo Daviess, and Carroll Counties the week of April 22-29, 2017. You will find topics for all ages, including budgeting, retirement planning, healthcare, fraud prevention, couponing tips, and home buying to name a few. A representative from the Illinois State Treasurer's office will also be in our area to help residents locate and recover unclaimed property.

For more information about free seminars being held in other parts of the state, or to view the most up-to-date calendar listing, visit MoneySmartWeek.org or the Northern Illinois' Money Smart Week Facebook page at [facebook/MoneySmartWeekNorthernIllinois](https://facebook.com/MoneySmartWeekNorthernIllinois).

Share this information with family and friends and invite them to join you at any of these free educational events.



Thousands of free financial education classes and seminars for consumers will be held across the United States during Money Smart Week®, April 22-29, with numerous seminars taking place locally in Stephenson and Jo Daviess counties.

SATURDAY, APRIL 22

Money Smart Week will kick off at 9:30 a.m. at the Freeport Public Library, 100 E. Douglas St., on Saturday, April 22, with a press conference. In addition to the press conference, 10 workshops will be offered throughout the day. All of the events are free and open to the public. The schedule is:

10 a.m.-2 p.m. I CASH PROGRAM

Through the Office of the Illinois State Treasurer Michael Frerichs, I Cash connects Illinois residents with their unclaimed property. This is money or assets that have been separated from their owner for at least five years.

10 a.m. TOP TECH TOOLS

These days it is harder than ever to plan your finances. Luckily, it is easier than ever to find the tools to help. We have compiled a great list of websites, apps, and mobile banking to get you back on track and stay there! Please join us as we help you navigate through the top tech tools for money management.

Presenter: Traci Walsh, Family Credit Management

10 a.m. BABY BOOMER'S GUIDE TO TURNING 65

Are you a Baby Boomer born in 1952 or later? This seminar will explain all the parts of Medicare and the insurance options, as well as arm you with you what you need to do and when. Plus, learn financial tips on preparing for retirement.

Presenter: Cornerstone Credit Union and Williams Manny Insurance

11 a.m. PLANNING FOR ADULT DAY CARE – WHAT TO KNOW

Does the thought of planning for Adult Day Care for your loved one seem overwhelming? You are not alone. Join us and learn how this transition can be an ideal option for you and your loved one.

Presenter: Audra Bastian, Presence St. Joseph Adult Day Center

11 a.m. OUTSMART THE SCAMMERS

Incidents of fraud are on the rise and scammers' tactics are becoming more complex. During the program, we will discuss how to spot certain red flags that may indicate a fraudulent encounter. Share resources individuals can turn to in the event they or their loved one is targeted, and the steps you can take to help protect yourself.

Presenter: Adam Breedlove, Edward Jones Investments

Noon END OF LIFE BENEFITS FOR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES

During this session, we will discuss the types of burial benefits available for veterans from federal, state and local agencies. Additionally veterans and their families will learn about spousal benefits after their loved one passes away.

Presenter: Tina Paggi, Illinois Dept. of Veterans' Affairs, Veteran Service Office

Noon TIPS ON BUYING A USED CAR

Looking to purchase a used car? Attend this seminar and learn what to look for and what questions to ask the seller before you make the purchase. This presentation outlines the following topics in detail: the overall condition of the exterior, inspecting under the hood, trunk or box area, starting the engine to listen for abnormal noises, looking under the vehicle, test driving the vehicle, condition of the interior, warning indicators, and safety equipment.

Presenter: Jim Palmer, Highland Community College

1 p.m. BASIC AUTOMOBILE MAINTENANCE

Did you know doing basic maintenance on your vehicle can increase its fuel economy and longevity? Basic automobile maintenance introduces participants

to the types of fluids needed and the service intervals recommended for vehicle longevity.

Presenter: Jim Palmer, Highland Community College

1 p.m. PROTECTING YOUR FINANCIAL ASSETS WHILE IN THE COURTHOUSE

Ending up in court can cost you more than just your time. During this session, learn how to reduce the financial exposures on civil judgements, such as credit card debt, foreclosure and installment contracts. In addition, we will discuss how you can avoid the financial pitfalls of a DUI and how to navigate child support and maintenance in family law cases.

Presenter: Glenn R. Schorsch, Stephenson County judge

2 p.m. COUPONING – CLIP & SAVE

Learn to save 25 percent to 50 percent on your weekly grocery bill by clipping coupons and downloading apps to save you money. Learn fun and easy tips to help you get on the road to savings.

Presenter: Lisa Miller and Julie Smith, Cornerstone Credit Union

2 p.m. CHOOSING THE RIGHT AUTO & HOME INSURANCE FOR YOU

Did you know having insurance could save you money? Are you just starting out on your own and have questions

about what kind of insurance and coverage you need? During this session, learn about how valuable auto, home and renter's insurance coverage is!

Presenter: Liberty Mutual Insurance

TUESDAY, APRIL 25

10 a.m.

THE BASICS OF MEDICARE AND SOCIAL SECURITY

Explore all parts of Medicare, Advantage Plans, supplements and drug plans. Also investigate other programs available to those turning 65 years old.

Location: Senior Resource Center 206 E. Stephenson Street, Freeport
Presenters: Ralph Norman and Laurie Broughton, Senior Resource Center volunteers

1 p.m.

SAVE MONEY:

EATING IN VS. EATING OUT

Learn helpful tips on how to save money by eating at home. Additional topics covered include the social and health benefits from eating meals together at home.

Location: York Township Public Library, 1005 W Main St Thomson, IL 61285
Presenter: Diane Reinhold, University of Illinois Extension

2 p.m.

COUPONING – CLIP & SAVE

Learn to save 25% to 50% on your weekly grocery bill with clipping coupons and downloading apps to save you money. Learn fun and easy tips to help you on the road to savings.

Location: York Township Public Library, 1005 W Main St Thomson, IL 61285
Presenter: Lisa Miller, Cornerstone Credit Union

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26

2:30 p.m.

ADVANCE DIRECTIVES FOR HEALTH & PROPERTY (POWER OF ATTORNEY)

Have you been thinking about having an advanced directive but do not know where to start? Join us as we discuss the benefits and purpose of having advanced directives. Learn why you should have a power of attorney for both your healthcare, and your property.

Location: Senior Activity Center 216 E. Stephenson Street, Freeport
Presenter: Emily Hardy, Prairie State Legal Services

SATURDAY, APRIL 29

10 a.m.

TIPS ON BUYING A USED CAR

Looking to purchase a used car? Attend this seminar and learn what to look for and what questions to ask the seller before you make the purchase. Topics covered include: the overall condition of the exterior, inspecting under the hood, trunk or box area, starting and listening to the engine for abnormal noises, looking under the vehicle, taking a test drive and assessing the condition of the interior, warning indicators, and safety equipment.

Location: Midwest Medical Center, Upstairs Meeting Room, 1 Medical Center Drive, Galena

Presenter: Jim Palmer, Highland Community College

10 a.m.

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DEBT

The Double-Edged Sword

The debt amount a person or entity owes to a creditor for funds borrowed is a four letter word capable of conjuring cold sweats in many Americans. However, taking on certain kinds of debt may actually be a shrewd, financially sound move.

"It is important for consumers to know the difference between good and bad kinds of debt, so they can take advantage of the good while avoiding the bad," said FPA member Diane Maloney, CFP®.

"GOOD" debt, said Maloney, is debt "that ultimately functions as a means to increase your net worth, that is used to yield an item with long-term appreciating value," such as real estate. It is also debt that is within one's means to repay.

Some forms of GOOD debt:

- Tax-deductible debt. Mortgage interest is tax-deductible. Essentially you are using the bank's money to finance the purchase of a long-term investment, a home, and getting a tax subsidy in the process.
- Debt used to finance education. Funds used to cover education costs are tax-favored in certain situations.
- Debt used to finance home improvements (new kitchen appliances, basement renovation, etc.) that increase the value of a home, as long as that increase in value is at least commensurate to the cost of carrying the extra debt. "With something like a home equity loan, you have to be reasonably confident you are not being overextended and can meet the terms to pay it off," Maloney

cautions.

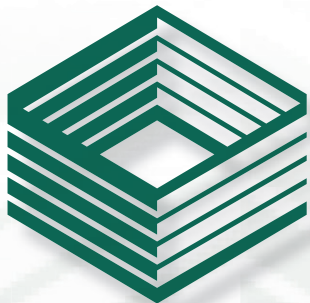
- Debt used to fund a business or enterprise. Taking on debt to grow a business becomes a worthwhile endeavor if it leads to greater profitability.

Many people rely upon a car to get to work and earn a living.

"BAD" debt, on the other hand, is debt "that is unlikely to yield anything of appreciating value and that you are unlikely to be able to repay in a reasonable amount of time," said Maloney, burdening the debtor with more interest/finance charges.

Some forms of BAD debt:

- Buying consumable goods including groceries, clothes, luxury items, etc. entirely on credit. While your credit card tab increases, the value of the goods you bought decreases or disappears altogether. It is better to use a debit card or cash for these kinds of purchases, said Maloney.
- Charges made on a high-interest credit card that cannot be paid off in full in the next billing cycle.
- Funding a real estate/home acquisition entirely, or almost entirely, with debt. Generally speaking, the less equity involved in such a purchase, the greater the risk to the debtor.
- Using debt to fund gambling/wagering activities is a losing proposition.
- Taking equity out of your home and investing that money in the stock market. The risks of doing so far outweigh the potential rewards, warned Maloney.



CORNERSTONE
CREDIT UNION

A proud partner of the Northern Illinois Money Smart Week financial literacy program.

We invite you to attend these free educational events at the
Stephenson County MSW Kickoff on Saturday, April 22nd
Freeport Public Library, 100 E. Douglas St.

BABY BOOMER'S GUIDE TO TURNING 65
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

This seminar will explain all the parts of Medicare and the insurance options.

Financial tips on preparing for retirement will also be offered.

PRESENTED BY: Williams Manny Insurance group & Cornerstone Credit Union

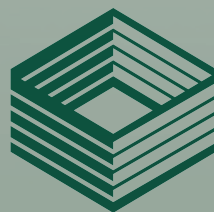
COUPONING: Clip and Save
2:00 PM - 2:50 PM

Learn to save 25% to 50% on your weekly grocery bill with clipping coupons and downloading apps to save you money. Get fun and easy tips to help you save!

PRESENTED BY: Cornerstone Credit Union

**THE STRUGGLE
IS REAL™**

We have real
Financial Solutions.



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