### Fall 2021 Volume 31, Issue 4

## What's Inside

FYI2
Cook's Corner3
Sudoku Puzzle3
Mortgage Q&A3
Have You Met?4
Community PRIDE5
WNB Financial Advisors6
Kurt's Korner7
Mark Your Calendar7
Special COUPON8

# Welcome to all of our newest Lion's Pride members!

All Lion's Pride Movie
Days have been postponed
until further notice as we
continue to monitor the
changes that come with the
COVID-19 Pandemic.

Questions about the Lion's Pride program?

Call 507-454-8800 or visit WNBFinancial.com







## News & Notes



Attention grandparents! Do you have grandchildren age 12 and under? Show off their coloring skills and they'll receive a Halloween Trick-or-Treat bag! Throughout October, we'll accept their coloring sheet at any WNB Financial Office, and in return they'll receive a bag filled with Halloween toys and treats. Here's how to participate:

- 1. Print the coloring sheet at www.WNBFinancial.com or visit any WNB Office to pick one up. Bring it home and have them do their best coloring! Be sure they write their first name on the front so they can find their masterpiece displayed in our lobbies.
- 2. Once complete, they can bring their sheet to any WNB Office where their artwork will be displayed for all to see! Please note, artwork will not be returned after the promotion.
- 3. First 500 participants age 12 and under will receive a Halloween Trick-or-Treat bag. Coloring sheets will be accepted from October 1-30.

\*No purchase necessary. Open to Bank customers and non-customers age 12 and younger. Limit one coloring sheet per person.

# For Your Information

# Beat Your Summer 'Revenge Shopping' Debt

#### Article provided by Sean Pyles, Nerd Wallet

The joy of shouting to your friends over the roar of a crowded bar, the giddiness of seeing the world rushing by below you from the seat of an airplane, the weirdly constricting sensation of wearing pants that aren't elastic — the summer of 2021 brought back many experiences we had forgone during the past year and a half of the pandemic. But this push to re-create a world that felt something like "normal" may have brought back another familiar feeling: the anxiety of racking up debt. If your summer of "revenge" spending has come for a payback of its own in the form of lingering debt, make a plan for paying it off. Then, think about how to prevent yourself from getting into more debt as you navigate progress and setbacks on the path to normalcy.

#### Take stock of your debt — and find your payoff path

Whether you're back to spending most of your time at home or killing time at an airport terminal before a flight, find time to sort out your debt and pick a payoff strategy. First, understand exactly how much you owe and to whom. If you don't know all the details, certified financial planner Pamela Rodriguez in Sacramento, California, suggests pulling your credit reports, which you can do for free. "Pulling your credit report is probably the fastest way to know what you owe because there's no hiding from your credit report," Rodriguez says. Using a spreadsheet, pencil and paper, or a debt payoff app, list your debts. Include the balance, interest rate and monthly minimum payment for each. Be sure to account for all forms of debt, like buy now, pay later loans. Then, dig into your income and expenses to see how much money you can put toward debt and where you can cut spending. If you're spending more on dining out than you were six months ago, for example, try cutting back on that to free up cash for debt payoff. Next, pick a strategy for paying it off. Here are a few common tactics:

**Debt snowball:** With the debt snowball, you channel your debt payoff energy toward the smallest balance first while making minimum payments on the rest. Once the smallest debt is knocked out, roll the amount you were paying on it to the next smallest debt. As you wipe out more debts, the payment amount keeps growing like a snowball until you're debt-free.

**Debt avalanche:** With this method, you pay off the debt with the highest interest rate first. Then, similar to the debt snowball method, once that is paid off, you cascade the payment onto your debt with the next highest interest rate.

Balance transfer credit card: If your credit score is high enough to qualify for one, a credit card with a 0% APR promotional period can help you pay off debt faster and cheaper than keeping it on the original credit card. Be sure to wipe out the balance before the 0% promotional period ends to avoid paying interest. No matter which payoff path you choose, it's important to decide on one and commit. Waffling between a few different options can cost you time and money as debts continue to accrue interest. "People have decision overload when figuring out how to pay off their debt," says Thomas Nitzsche, financial educator at the nonprofit credit counseling agency Money Management International. "Just come to terms with the fact that you're going to have to do something and figure out a way to overcome that emotional barrier." If you don't see a way to pay more than the minimums on your debts monthly, think about calling a nonprofit credit counseling agency for free budgeting and debt help.

#### Know your spending habits and triggers

If your summer debt was the result of revenge spending, dig into the triggers that led you to overspending so you can avoid sliding back into debt in the future. For many, that may have been the opportunity to experience something that they were deprived of during the first year of the pandemic. While travel and eating at restaurants may be safer for those who are vaccinated, these activities can wear down your budget. Rodriguez suggests finding more-affordable ways to enjoy activities you're seeking. "If you can think of the one thing you were deprived of, find a smaller scale of that," Rodriguez says. "So a smaller scale of travel would be going on a local adventure, and that is so much more manageable financially." The path forward in the pandemic seems likely to have a number of starts and stops, with accompanying opportunities to either spend or save money. Take advantage of moments where you can pull back your spending and direct more cash toward your debt. Having manageable debt — or no debt at all — equips you with more options whenever the world is ready to fully reopen.

https://www.nerdwallet.com/article/finance/beat-your-summer-revenge-shopping-debt?trk=hub\_latest\_content&trk\_channel=web&trk\_element=hyperlink&trk\_elementPosition=0&trk\_location=LatestPosts&trk\_sectionCategory=hub\_latest\_content&trk\_copy=Beat%20Your%20Summer%20%E2%80%98Revenge%20Shopping%E2%80%99%20Debt



## **Overnight Blueberry French Toast**

**Submitted by Judy Theis** Full-Time Teller

## Ingredients:

- 12 slices of Brioche bread, cut into 1-inch cubes
- 2 (8 ounce) packages cream cheese, cut into ½-inch cubes
- 1 cup fresh blueberries
- 12 eggs, beaten
- 2 cups milk
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1/3 cup maple syrup
- 2 T. cornstarch
- 1 cup water
- 1 cup fresh blueberries
- 1 T. butter

## **Directions**

- 1.) Lightly grease a 9x13 baking dish. Arrange half the bread cubes in the dish, and top with cream cheese cubes. Sprinkle 1 cup blueberries over the cream cheese, and top with remaining bread cubes.
- 2.) In a large bowl, mix the eggs, milk, vanilla, and syrup. Pour over the bread cubes. Press cubes into the egg mixture. Cover, and refrigerate overnight.
- 3.) Remove from the refrigerator about 30 minutes before baking. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees.
- 4.) Cover, and bake 30 minutes. Uncover, and continue baking 25-30 minutes, until center is firm and surface is lightly browned.
- 5.) In a medium saucepan, mix the sugar, cornstarch, and water. Bring to a boil. Stirring constantly, cook 3 to 4 minutes. Mix in the remaining 1 cup blueberries. Reduce heat, and simmer 10 minutes, until the blueberries burst. Stir in the butter, and pour over the baked French toast.

Total Time
12 hours

# Sudoku puzzle!

3		1			4			
	2							3
		6	5				4	1
	1	7	5 8		2			4
				6		2		
6							1	7
	5			9				
					5		6	
4								

# **Mortgage Q & A**

With WNB Mortgage Expert Kristin Foss

Q: Months ago, I heard about low mortgage rates. Is it too late to get a low rate?



A: It's not too late! Mortgage rates continue to remain historically low. View today's rates at www.WNBFinancial.com, or call me at 715-598-7741 and I'll share WNB Financial's rates over the phone. If you haven't investigated the possibility of refinancing your home loan, now's the time to consider it. It's hard to know when rates will rise in the future.

## Thanks for banking with us! Have you had the chance to meet...



Name: Ambrosia Harkins, Teller Supervisor, Winona West Office

Family: Significant other, Chuck; Daughters, Lilei and Cora

**Hobbies:** Reading, exploring new wineries, and driving my oldest to a plethora

of activities

**Community involvement:** Has been very limited the past two years but I am looking forward to getting back into Junior Achievement

**Ask me about:** My family or my favorite Internet Banking features

Name: Beca Brents, Universal Banker, Altoona Office

Family: Son, Lukas – he is 2!

**Hobbies:** Spending time with my family and kiddo, watching college football on Saturdays, and spending as much time outside as possible

**Community Involvement:** Looking forward to getting more involved in Bank-sponsored events.

Ask Me About: The time I spent as a police officer





Name: Suzanne Johnson, Investment Sales Assistant, Winona Downtown Office

**Family:** Husband, David; Parents, Dean and Marlene Hei; Brother, Jeff; Sisters, Jackie and Mary; Children, Shane (Amanda), Angela (Tim), Holland (Barry), and Brady; Grandchildren, Jeweleanna, Isabella, Trysten, Addilyne, Elynora, Jasper

Hobbies: Hiking, biking, kayaking, snowshoeing, quilting, and reading

**Community Involvement:** An active volunteer throughout the Winona community and at our church, Radiant

**Ask Me About:** My involvement as a host home for worldwide Christian travelers and missionaries visiting the Winona area



# Community PRIDE 2020 Totals

# **Getting involved**

66
local
organizations

1,393
Volunteer
Hours

36 employees



# Community giving

Total Donated: \$358,436

FINANCIAL BETWEEN THE September 2020 Wabasha Shred Day

24%
Community Service

**Education & Youth Programs** 

10%
Fine Arts & Culture

6%
Economic
Development

17%

Health & Wellness

# Taking action

### 2020 WNB Financial Community PRIDE Award Winners

First Quarter



Second Quarter Winner



Third Quarter Winner



Fourth Quarter Winner







"Our employees understand the importance of giving back. We have a deep commitment to the incredible causes and organizations that live out our Values and continue to enrich the communities that we serve."

- Jack Richter President, WNB Holding Company Prepared by Andrew Kieffer, Vice President, Financial Advisor



## How Do Your Insurance Needs Change After Retirement?

As you approach retirement, your financial needs and those who depend on you will likely change. This may require an update of your insurance needs as well. What you need before 40 is probably not what you need after 60. But this doesn't mean canceling policies and purchasing new ones.

#### Should You Hold onto Life Insurance?

Life insurance is there to replace lost income during your working years. An insurance payout can help ease the financial burden on those that depend on you. Once all of your children have moved out, it may only be you and your spouse. You may not need as much life insurance. However, some keep the same level of life insurance as a means for giving to charity, paying off debt, leaving as an inheritance or providing for a spouse.

#### Self-Financing Health Insurance

If you are no longer receiving health insurance through your employer, going without any health insurance shouldn't be an option. Yes, health insurance is certainly expensive. But when something goes wrong, and you need medical care, paying 100% out-of-pocket can potentially bankrupt you. To offset some of the high costs of health insurance, consider a high deductible health plan coupled with an HSA. The HSA will provide tax benefits and pay for qualified medical expenses.

#### Supplementing Medicare

Those on Medicare (65 and older) may think that's all the coverage they need. However, Medicare doesn't pay for 100% of medical needs. A costly medical bill, which isn't difficult to acquire, can put you into financial hardship. Medicare recipients should consider purchasing a supplemental plan. They are low cost and can take up the slack left behind by Medicare.

#### You've Paid Off Your Home. Do You Still Need Homeowners Insurance?

Once your home is paid off, you may decide that you can put all that money going toward homeowners insurance to better use. Unless you are willing to replace your home out-of-pocket, in the event something disastrous happens, it's better to keep your homeowners insurance. The value of your home has also probably risen since you purchased it, which only increases its replacement cost. Some homeowners' insurance policies will not cover jewelry or art. Consider supplemental insurance to cover them.

#### Long-Term Care Insurance

According to the American Council On Aging, the average daily cost for a shared nursing home room is \$255. A shared room is the only one Medicare will pay for. After 100 days, Medicare will no longer pay for the room. This makes having long-term care insurance a must-have.

#### What You Can Probably Live Without

To maintain disability insurance, you generally need to work 30 hours a week. Check if there are retirement benefits that have similar coverage. Of course, if the disability insurance is cheap and provides some additional coverage, it may be worth keeping. As always, please feel free to contact the office with any questions and we can discuss to ensure your insurance policies are covering your needs.

The cost and availability of life insurance depend on factors such as age, health, and the type and amount of insurance purchased. Before implementing a strategy involving life insurance, it would be prudent to make sure that you are insurable by having the policy approved. As with most financial decisions, there are expenses associated with the purchase of life insurance. Policies commonly have mortality and expense charges. In addition, if a policy is surrendered prematurely, there may be surrender charges and income tax implications.

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Located at 204 Main St, Winona, MN 55987 (507) 454-8800.

# Korner

Submitted by Kurt Olson J.D. CFP®, Vice President, Trust Officer, Downtown Winona Office



## National Estate Planning Awareness Week

With the leaves changing and the temperature dropping as we head into fall, you might be feeling excitement and anticipation for upcoming fall celebrations. The most anticipated of these celebrations just might be National Estate Planning Awareness Week,

which is October 18-24, 2021. Founded by the National Association of Estate Planners and Councils, it's meant to be a week dedicated to raising awareness about the importance of estate planning.

The best way to celebrate National Estate Planning Awareness Week is by reviewing your current estate plan and the documents you have to implement it. At a minimum, you should consider having (1) a Will or Trust; (2) a Power of Attorney; and (3) a Health Care Directive.

If you already have these documents, this would be a great time to review them. Circumstances change and it's always a good idea to review your estate planning documents to make sure they will be accomplishing what you intended.

If you have not yet taken the time to make arrangements and plan your estate, there is no better time than the present. By taking steps to plan ahead, you can make life easier for your beneficiaries, whomever they may be. If you would like to discuss your estate plan or if you have questions, you may contact me at 507-454-9238 or any of the other Trust Officers at 504-454-4320.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

(All bank events are subject to change due to the ever-changing situation with COVID-19)

October 1-30

Monday, October 11

**Thursday, November 25** 

Friday, December 24

Saturday, December 25

Friday, December 31

Saturday, January 1

WNB Halloween Coloring Activity

**Columbus Day, WNB is OPEN** 

Thanksgiving Day, WNB is CLOSED

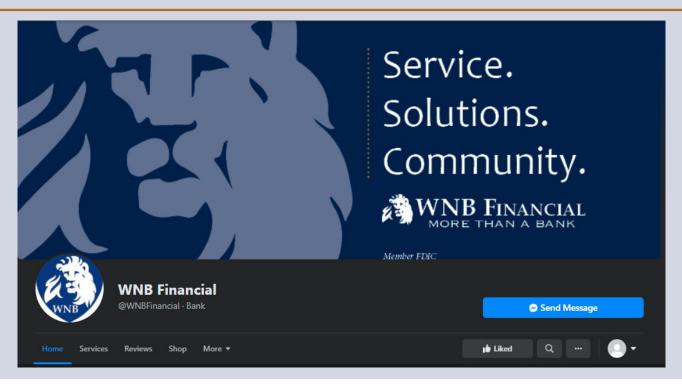
**Christmas Eve, WNB is OPEN until NOON** 

**Christmas Day, WNB is CLOSED** 

New Year's Eve, WNB is OPEN

New Year's Day, WNB is CLOSED

# Don't forget to like us on Facebook to stay up to date on all of the latest WNB news!



# **Questions?**

If you have any questions about any of the information within this newsletter, please reach out to our experts by calling 507-454-8800 or toll free at 1-800-546-4392.

Follow us on: fin











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