



Waukesha State Bank

PO BOX 648
WAUKESHA WI 53187
Member FDIC

FRIENDLY POST



A special note from Friendly the Eagle

October 2020



FUN THINGS TO DO WHEN YOU'RE STUCK AT HOME

- **Create a new board game** - Make up your own rules and design your own board and pieces.
- **Make a music video** - Crank up the music and rock out to your favorite songs.
- **Test your skills** - Challenge your family to minute-to-win-it games. You can even make a trophy that gets passed from winner to winner each time you play.
- **Pumpkin carving contest** - Get some pumpkins and have a carving contest with your family. Then post the pictures online and ask your friends and family to vote for their favorite.
- **Virtual game night** - Get together with your friends online and play games. You can get apps for games like Monopoly, Clue, Uno, and more with private multiplayer options.
- **Learn something new** - Search for videos online of something you've always wanted to learn. You can find anything from drawing to cooking or styling your hair.



One of the pumpkin carving ideas from www.housebeautiful.com/entertaining/holidays-celebrations/g2530/pumpkin-carving-ideas/

SPENDING WISELY: CASH, CHECK OR CREDIT?

Until now you may have used only cash to make purchases. Cash is great! But as you get older, sellers will give you other ways to spend money. Stores want to make buying easy for you after all!

CASH

The good thing about cash is that when you pay cash for purchases, you know you already have the money to buy the items. But, cash purchases can be harder to track. You can look in your wallet and have no idea where that \$20 bill went!

There are other ways to spend money that are much easier to track, like a checking account or credit card, which we'll talk about next.

Use it wisely: Cash is easy to use, but it can be difficult to track and it can't be replaced if you lose it. So be sure to keep it safe and keep your receipts so you know how you spent your money.



WHAT'S INSIDE THIS ISSUE?

Spending Wisely:
Cash, Check or Credit 1-2

Spending Tips 2

DIY: Chocolate Covered
Candy Cane Stir Sticks 3

Spend Wisely this
Holiday Season 3

Fun Things to Do When
You're Stuck At Home 4

Don't forget to go to the Friendly's Club page on our website, at the beginning of each month, to view the new monthly trivia question. Answer the question at any Waukesha State Bank office, and get a token that you can redeem for cool prizes.

SPENDING TIPS

BUDGET FOR SPENDING

Make spending part of your budget so you always set aside money for regular things, like going out to eat or to the movies.

PLAN FOR SPLURGES

If you can, set aside a little extra than your normal spending so when you see something extra you want, it's already been planned for.

CASH RULES EVERYTHING

At some point you'll need to use credit, but as a general rule it's best to use cash (or the money in your checking account) to buy things.

KEEP TRACK OF YOUR MONEY

Knowing where your money goes will help you budget for the future and avoid paying interest charges when you don't have to.

CHECK

As you get older, have more regular expenses, and get your first job, a checking account will become a convenient place to put some money. You'll need checks to pay bills (as you can't send cash through the mail), or a debit card to pay them online.

Most people today spend the money in their checking account by using a debit card. It's similar to a credit card, except you use the money in your checking account instead of buying on credit. This means you need to make sure you have enough money in your account to make your purchase. Plus, every transaction that comes in or goes out of your account gets recorded on your account statement, so it's easy to track where your money is going.



Use it wisely: Use your checkbook register to record every time you spend or deposit money, and reconcile it against your account statement every month so you always know what is in your account. If you don't, your purchase could be denied or your account could be overdrawn, and you may get charged a fee for spending money you don't have.



CREDIT

When you use a credit card, you're really taking out a loan. Credit card companies and banks are letting you borrow their money when you use their cards, and if you don't pay what you owe in full and on time every month, you'll have to pay interest on the balance you owe. That interest can add up month after month, so it's best to pay off your balance and avoid it when you can.

The good thing about credit cards is they help you establish a credit history, which you'll need to get a loan for larger items later, like a car or a house.

Use it wisely: Be responsible. Only use a credit card when you have to, and pay the balance off every month to avoid paying interest charges. Plus, as long as you are responsible with your credit card and pay it off every month, you'll create a good credit history and could have better financing options later when you need them.

Source: <https://www.themint.org/teens/cash-check-or-credit.html>

DIY: CHOCOLATE COVERED CANDY CANE STIR STICKS

The holidays will be here before you know it! Pair these chocolate covered candy cane stir sticks with a packet of hot chocolate to make the perfect gift!

You'll need:

- 1 cup of semisweet chocolate chips
- 12 candy canes, unwrapped
- Waxed paper
- Colored sugar or sprinkles for decorating

To make them:

- Microwave the chocolate chips for 30 seconds and stir until smooth. Add another 30 seconds if the chocolate doesn't melt completely.
- Dip the stem (or the hook) of the unwrapped candy cane into the chocolate and place on a piece of waxed paper.
- Sprinkle the chocolate with colored sugar or sprinkles and cool completely.

Once cooled, you can wrap each cane in plastic wrap, tie them with a bow and add a packet of hot chocolate to give to someone for Christmas.



<https://www.tasteofhome.com/recipes/chocolate-dipped-candy-canes/>

SPEND WISELY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!

Looking for the perfect gift? Here are some tips that can help you budget for the upcoming holiday season.

MAKE A LIST AND A BUDGET

The first thing you should do is make a list of everyone you're shopping for with ideas of what to get them and how much each gift costs. This will tell you how much money you need, and if it's too much, you can make adjustments before you even start shopping.

SHOP EARLY

If you can't find what you're looking for, shopping early gives you time to find something else. Otherwise you may be forced to buy whatever is left over, even if you don't want it.

LOOK FOR DEALS

When you find the perfect gift, shop around and see if you can find a coupon for that store, or if the item costs less somewhere else.

