THE PEOPLES PRESS

January 2022

All Branches Closed

All branches will be closed on Monday, January 17 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

- There will be no ACH files generated on January 17; therefore, payroll files must be submitted one day earlier than normal.
- All online banking transfers scheduled for January 17 will not be processed until January 18.
- All remote capture deposits and mobile check deposits submitted after 3 PM on Friday, January 14 will not be processed until Tuesday, January 18.

Meet Our Newest Team Members



Jeanne Krueger

Jeanne is a Retail Banking Representative in our Prairie du Chien Downtown office. Jeanne resides in Monona, IA, and has two kids. Jeanne is excited to be working with customers at Peoples State Bank



Kayla Peterson

Kayla is a Retail Banking Representative at our Fennimore office. Kayla recently moved to Fennimore with her husband and two kids. Kayla is excited about this new opportunity and to work with the Fennimore community.



Kerry Everson

Kerry is a Retail Banking Representative in our Prairie du Chien Downtown office. Kerry previously owned a business in Boscobel for over twenty years with her husband. Kerry has two kids and soon-to-be five grandchildren. Kerry is excited to start a new adventure at Peoples State Bank.



Jamie Horsfall

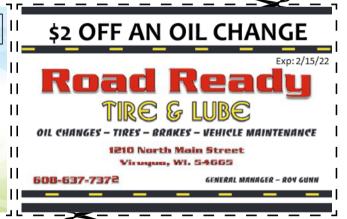
Jamie is an Agricultural Relationship Manager at our Fennimore office. Jamie resides in Fennimore with his wife and four kids. Jamie is looking forward to starting this new adventure with Peoples State Bank and working with customers.



Medical Clinic Dr. Scott Walker, MD 421 S. Beaumont Rd. Prairie du Chien, WI 53821 608-326-1997

For making our first vear a success.

We're glad to get to know you!







800-280-1074 www.peoplesfinancial.com

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How to Reduce Your Credit Card Debt

As of 2020, the average credit card balance has reached over \$6,200. It is not uncommon to see credit cards with interest rates as high as 24%, and the higher the rate, the more you will pay over time if only paying the minimum amount per month. As those who follow this advice can share, the balance never seems to go down. In fact, it often climbs much higher because of the interest and even late fees. So what can you do to pay down a high balance?

Step 1: Consolidate Debt There are several banks now offering 0% APR rates for consolidation. If you have good to excellent credit, see if you can qualify for one of these offers. Note that the 0% APR does not usually last forever. You may have roughly nine to 12 months to pay off the remaining balance before the bank begins to charge an interest rate again. There are two main ways to consolidate your account. You can take out a 0% interest card and transfer the balance. Ensure the lender allows this before you open it. Secondly, some lenders provide personal loans that you can use to consolidate credit cards and other types of debt.

Step 2: Make a Budget Get serious about paying off your debt as soon as possible. Take a look at your monthly budget. If you don't yet have a budget, it's time to make one. Many people are surprised to discover where their money goes when they start to track income and expenses. If you have trouble doing this manually, try using an app such as NerdWallet. Automating the process as much as possible is always best. What can you trim from your expenses to put toward paying down debt faster?

Step 3: Pay as Much as Possible You can use simple methods to either save or earn enough extra money to pay another \$50 to \$200 per month toward debt. Use this money to start paying the highest-interest rate card first and keep going. Here are some options to consider: • Ride your bike, walk, take the bus or ride the train a few days per week. • Use pay increases, bonuses and tax refunds to pay down debt. • Make your own lunch instead of eating out. • Bring your own coffee to work. • Start an easy side gig. • Get a roommate.

<u>Step 4: Delay Investing</u> Some financial professionals advise investing first and then paying off debt. There are pros and cons to both tactics, but paying off debt sooner can save you a lot of money you would otherwise waste on interest. The best way to decide is to consider interest rate versus earning potential.

Step 5: Try To Get a Lower Rate The good news is that you can ask the bank for a lower rate. Getting a lower interest rate is easiest if you have good to excellent credit, have had your account for at least a year and it is still in good standing. Be prepared to negotiate with your lenders as not all of them will jump at the idea of charging you lower interest rates on what you owe.



Call today to set up your appointment!

(608) 326-3540

Meet Face to Face, By Phone, or By Video Conferencing



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