

Dates to Remember:

December 6th – Extension Homemaker Council Meeting at 5:45PM at the Extension Office

Wednesdays in December - #WalletWellnessWednesday Programs (Virtual) from 12-1PM EST. For more information or to sign up please contact the Extension Office.

December 15th - Financial Views Across Generations: A Panel Discussion (Virtual) at 12PM EST: <https://bit.ly/WWW-Dec21>

December 22nd - Understanding Income Taxes Program (Virtual) at 12PM EST: <https://bit.ly/WWW-Dec21>

January 4th – Empower Me To Be Clutter Free at the Francesville-Salem Township Library at 5:30PM

January 20th – Money Conversations Program (Virtual) at 10:30AM EST: <https://purdue-edu.zoom.us/j/96718866140>

February 7th - Extension Homemaker Council Meeting at 5:45PM at the Extension Office

February 17th – Sleep On It: Why Sleep Matters Program (Virtual) at 10:30AM EST: <https://purdue-edu.zoom.us/j/92993533243>



Want to take control of your money, time, and resources? Learn how with Purdue Extension on **#WalletWellness Wednesdays**

Join us each Wednesday in 2021 for an ongoing program series by Purdue Extension. Each week a free virtual lunch-and-learn will be offered, covering topics related to managing and optimizing your money, time, and resources. Programming and registration details are released monthly, so keep an eye out and sign up to join.

Join us for #WalletWellness Wednesday every Wednesday from 12-1pm EST.

Purdue University is an equal opportunity/equal access/affirmative action institution.

Holiday Gift Giving

Give the Gift of an Experience

The pink bunny suit. If you've ever watched the movie "A Christmas Story," you know the scene well. Ralphie receives a gift from his great aunt Clara – the dreaded pink bunny costume. We've all experienced it – a gift that we don't really need (or want). Many of us have probably given a similar gift. Finding the perfect gift for family and friends is challenging and stressful, especially for those people in your life who have everything. So, how can you shake up your gift? Consider giving an experience.



Many studies have shown that material possessions do not equal happiness, and that experiences are much more intrinsically fulfilling than things. Researcher Thomas Gilovich at Cornell University has spent more than a decade trying to understand why experiences could contribute to happiness more than material purchases. Another researcher, Matthew Killingsworth, who published an article in the Journal of Psychological Science found that experiences provide more lasting happiness than material possessions. They concluded that people tend to be less happy with material purchases over time, and happier with experiences. They note that this is likely because we adapt to physical things, so even the nicest car or newest phone becomes commonplace after time, while we tend to grow fonder of memories over time."

To help create those memories, consider giving the gift of an experience. Maybe it's a golf lesson or a gym membership. Gifts could include cooking classes or a stained glass-making course. If the person you are buying for is adventurous, you might purchase a scuba diving class or whitewater trip. Perhaps you want to give a gift to new parents; consider a night of babysitting so that the couple can enjoy a night out. There are so many great options to consider. And, they will remember these gifts for years to come.



Gift Ideas

- Learn a new skill: Painting, stained glass-making, pottery, cooking, flower arranging, or dance classes
- Sports: Golf lessons, gym membership, tickets to a game, time at the batting cage
- Spa Day: Manicure/Pedicure, massage, hair treatment, wine and cheese tasting
- Music/Arts: Orchestra tickets, guitar/piano lesson, subscription to Pandora or iTunes
- Educational: Passes to art or history museums, science/nature center, trip to the zoo
- Family Fun: Tickets to an escape room, theatre, sporting event, local attractions or movie; night out bowling, ice skating, vacation
- Outdoor Adventure: Rock climbing, horseback riding, boating course, ski pass
- For Fun: Beer or wine making kit
- Adventure: Scuba Diving class, skydiving, mountain biking pass
- Memberships: Amazon Prime, gaming, or anything they like to do online (gaming)
- Gift of Help: Meal delivery service, house cleaning service, offer to babysit
- Gift Cards: Gas, groceries, a new restaurant, Amazon, Xbox

By Andrea Hoover, WVU Extension Service
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