



Hot Topic: INFLATION

BY Erin Carey, Warrenton Loan Officer

Inflation is defined as the rate of increase in prices over a given period of time. It is a broad measure of the overall increase in prices or the increase in the cost of living. Consumer prices have risen nearly 8% in the 12 months ending February 2022. This is a 40-year high and is far above the Federal Reserve's goal of 2%. The majority of inflation can be seen in the current costs of the three most basic necessities for the average American household: energy, food and housing.

The price increases coupled with the decrease in the supply chains is hitting American families hard. To ease the pain a little, take a look at spending habits, set up a budget and refer to these ideas for some tips.

The biggest expenses for most households are housing and transportation. The mortgage/rent payment, automobile payments, insurance and utilities should be the first to factor into your budget. In most cases, these are fixed costs that will be paid every month. Fuel is expensive but necessary for most of us who live in small communities, as we tend to not have the option of public transport. If you live or work near a club store such as Sam's Club or Costco, you can sometimes save as much as 10% at the pump. Other gas stations offer reward cards just for filling your tank and some offer discounts for paying with cash instead of a credit or debit card. Check out apps such as "GasBuddy" and "GetUpside" to search for the best fuel prices near you.

Grocery spending is another important expense. While not always easy, making a shopping list and sticking to it is a good way to save money. When creating your list, write it out as you would walk through the store, and if applicable, utilize an online store map to assist with this. You can compare prices from store to store, as well as the prices of items within the store. Consider generic over brand-name products as they are often made in the same factory, but just packaged differently. Also, ordering your groceries online and picking them up could reduce impulse buys and save you time. When doing your online order, see if the store app has coupons preloaded to help save more bucks.

Last but not least, boost your emergency savings. Pay yourself like you are a bill, decide how much you can afford to save and make it a priority to do it. The Federal Reserve's recent rate hike means that it will cost more to borrow short term funds. Variable interest rates for credit cards, lines of credit, and other products that are not fixed will be increased. Aside from the ability to purchase a new set of tires, or repair an appliance, having an extra \$500 in savings could mean the difference between paying high credit card interest or not.

The current economic situation has undoubtedly affected every American. The immediate future is unpredictable, but a little bit of personal awareness and preparedness could turn a potential catastrophe into a temporary setback.

Access It All On Our App!

BY MARY VOHSEN, IT

In our lobbies, on social media, and/or on our website, we are always mentioning the benefits of the CardValet app. CardValet allows the ability for you to turn your TMB debit card(s) off/on, set parameters for card usage, and/or set alert preferences. However, this month, you can now eliminate that additional app! No need for the CardValet app, as all of those options (AND MORE) will be available on our updated The Missouri Bank online banking app. With this new implementation - our app offers even more control, safety, and convenience in your hands without the need for an additional application!

The new features of the upgraded TMB app will include: Adding cards to mobile wallets, see reoccurring transactions, manage travel plans, view spending insights, report lost/stolen cards, and file disputes. The app also has enriched details available for pending and cleared transactions, which in turn, help identify each item easier. While in the app, you'll be able to instantly view the merchant's name, logo and amount for each transaction and for a more detailed view, just click on the item. You'll then see available information regarding the merchant's location, hours, contact information, and a street view of the business. While being provided this information, it will cut down on the time spent looking into any particular purchase. More importantly, this should help identify the legitimacy of each transaction and quickly notice if fraud is present, as well.

With this exciting news, we suggest enabling automatic updates on your phone/tablet, as well as having the most current version of our app on your device. This will ensure you continuously have the most up-to-date version, with all the added capabilities!

Financial Literacy: Parents As Teachers

BY PAM SCHROEDER, Warrenton Teller

From ABC's and numbers, to how to play sports and good sportsmanship, we teach our children many things as they grow up. One thing that many people overlook is the chance to teach kids the importance of financial responsibility.

With most things in life related to money, it is beneficial to start discussing things such as earning and saving, with your child. You can have these conversations as early as their piggy banks start filling up with birthday money, and coins they've earned from house chores. This is an easy way to introduce them to how valuable money is, especially when they can watch it grow (or disappear if they decide they want to spend it). Coaching them on different ways to earn money is a great idea, also. Allowing your child, the chance to earn money will be one of the best ways to teach them about handling money! A good example, if your little one wants to have a lemonade stand to raise money, encourage it. This is an easy way to strike up a conversation about the choices we make and how essential it is to develop good financial habits that will lead to a better future.

As our kids get older, we should introduce them to the bank. They can take their piggy bank money and place it into a savings account. Usually, these accounts are a great way to teach your child about monitoring their progress and the ability to gain more money through interest. A CD (certificate of deposit) might be a good route to take, as well. CD's basically hold your money for an allotted time and usually earn more interest than a regular savings account. They are a good option for some, however, not everyone. If you can go without touching this money, great, but if not - there is a fee if/when a withdrawal is made before the mature date. Once your child is a certain age, a student checking account is a great way for them to take a real-life approach to learn about debits/credits while paying bills, budgeting, and having money to spend on themselves.

It is important to teach your children why they should be cognitive of their money moves, as financial habits play a huge part in building credit. This is likely to happen when they purchase their first vehicle or try to take out a student loan. They should understand that borrowing money means you have to pay it back, and within a timely manner. If not, it could really hurt their credit score.

Teaching your children about money, at any stage, is going to take time on your part. But if you want your youngster to know how to successfully manage their money when they get older, taking the time now will be worth it.

"Back-To-School" Word Seek

- | | | |
|------------|--------------|------------|
| ART | HOMEWORK | SCHEDULE |
| CAMPUS | KINDERGARTEN | SCHOLASTIC |
| CHILDREN | LESSON | SCHOOL |
| CLASSROOM | LIBRARY | SEMESTER |
| COLLEGE | LUNCH | STUDENT |
| CURRICULUM | MARKER | SUMMER |
| EDUCATION | PAPER | TEACHER |
| ELEMENTARY | PENCIL | TEST |
| ENROLL | PRINCIPAL | TEXTBOOK |
| GRADUATION | PRIVATE | TUITION |
| GRAMMAR | PUBLIC | TUTOR |
| GYMNASIUM | READING | UNIVERSITY |
| HOMEROOM | RECESS | WRITING |

Back-To-School Hacks

BY MELANI MOORE, Marketing

The start of a new school year is an exciting time, as well as a daunting one...parents of school aged children understand this better than anyone. Below are a few "hacks" or "tips" to, hopefully, make the process a little smoother.

Look on social media for organizations that may do backpack giveaways. In the past, a local church has given away 55 backpacks, for free, to children in our community.

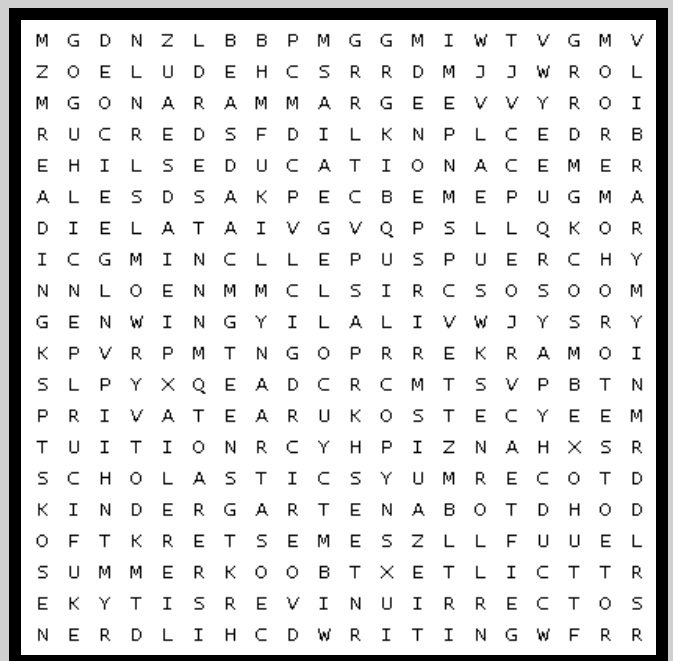
Make sure the whole family is on the same page by syncing your digital calendars. Update it regularly with holidays, school projects, sports, and/or teacher conferences.

In your child's lunchbox, replace an ice pack with a frozen juice box, fruit pouch, or yogurt. The item will thaw by lunchtime AND keep the other food fresh.

Some cities in Missouri participate in the tax-free weekend for back-to-school items. Tax-free items are not JUST pens, paper, and/or other generic school supplies...it includes computers, clothing (even undergarments) and also disposable diapers!

Implement the kids' back to school bedtime routine up to a week before school starts. Give their bodies some time to adjust to getting up early again.

Write a list of everything that your child needs to do before walking out the door in the mornings. Laminate it and let them check off each item as they've completed it every school day.



Customer Spotlight

BY JULIE NOAH, Foristell Teller

Hydro Clean is a hometown favorite for all your power washing, window washing, and cleaning needs. Tim Gruettmeyer is a local contractor who has owned and operated Hydro Clean in Foristell for 25 years. Tim's hard work shows clearly behind the success of this company as Hydro Clean has become very popular in this area.



Hydro Clean is an Eco-friendly company and a trusted name in the power washing industry. They offer a wide variety of professional power washing and window washing services for residential and commercial needs in the Greater St. Louis, St. Charles, Lincoln, and Warren County areas. Hydro Clean's restoration services are practical, professional, and driven by customer satisfaction to deliver consistent, and reliable results. Hydro Clean services include deck and fence cleaning, siding soft wash, roofs, gutters, driveways, and mold/mildew removal that is backed by an 18-month algae-free guarantee. Hydro Clean also offers wood and masonry sealing and staining.

As an owner of a small company, Tim's friendly and caring communication with each customer is reflected in their extraordinary performance of services. Everyone related to the company is sincere about their duties and responsibilities.

Our bank appreciates that dedication to their customers and the community and look forward to continuing our business relationship with Hydro Clean in the future.

We don't have JUST branches. We have ROOTS too.

BY ROB VOLKER, Western Market President
& DEBBIE DAVIS, Vice President



Many years before the Smithton location became The Missouri Bank, it was The Smithton Bank. The Smithton Bank was established 131 years ago in 1891, with its customers coming to the bank by horse and buggy. There was no electricity, bookkeeping was done by pencil and paper, and bank security was either a gun or a baseball bat. There were no telephones or hard roads, and radio was still undreamed of. The heat source was wood or coal, while the air conditioning was done by opening windows. At that time, there was no guarantee that your money that you placed in the bank would be available to you the next day.

Throughout the years, The Smithton Bank had seen many trials and tribulations, the worst being the great depression. During that time many banks did not survive, but the little community in and around Smithton worked together to see that the bank stayed open. In the midst of the turmoil from the depression, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), was created by the 1933 Banking Act, in hopes to restore the American Banking System. FDIC is what protects your money today.

Fast forward to 2022 – After a few name changes/owners, the branch still holds a place in the community. With your money secure, hard roads to travel on, and electricity to eliminate the need for pencil and paper, the Smithton branch still allows customers to make deposits or withdrawals without ever having to leave their home community.

In a small town such as Smithton, our business has grown right alongside our customers. The Missouri Bank has always considered our customers to be our partners in business and we appreciate the support they have shown us through our evolution. We look forward to continually grow with you and your families!

Thank you from The Missouri Bank, aka The Smithton Bank



[Warrenton](#)

636-456-3441

[Wentzville](#)

636-327-4900

[Sedalia](#)

660-827-5520

[Foristell](#)

636-673-1430

[Hermann](#)

573-486-3134

[Smithton](#)

660-343-5394

[Columbia](#)

573-777-1000

Important Dates

Monday, July 4

Independence Day - All Locations Closed

Friday, August 26

Women's Equality Day

Monday, September 5

Labor Day - All Locations Closed

Monday, September 11

Patriot Day

Saturday, September 17

Constitution Day (Citizenship Day)

Thursday, September 22

Autumn Begins

Tuesday, September 27

National Voter Registration Day

Bank Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

Janelle B, Warrenton, July 10
 Daphne R, Warrenton, July 17
 Jason V, Warrenton, July 17
 Mary V, Warrenton, July 18
 Haylee K, Sedalia, July 21
 Angela A, Sedalia, July 25
 Audrey H, Warrenton, July 30
 Patty S, Wentzville, July 30
 Mercedes G, Hermann, July 30
 Kathy B, Hermann, August 13
 Joyce C, Sedalia, August 15
 Kimber F, Sedalia, August 18
 Betty H, Warrenton, August 24
 Mary A, Warrenton, September 16
 Connie D, Warrenton, September 17
 Jodee F, Warrenton, September 25
 Paula B, Wentzville, September 25

Anniversaries

Rob V, Sedalia, July 1995
 Paula B, Wentzville, July 2002
 Julie N, Foristell, July 2009
 Lisa J, Wentzville, July 2019
 Leah M, Warrenton, July 2020
 Haylee K, Sedalia, July 2021
 Charlene T, Wentzville, August 1995
 Darlene B, Warrenton, August 2003
 Pam S, Warrenton, August 2016
 Audrey H, Warrenton, September 1975
 Daphne R, Warrenton, September 1990
 Terri S, Warrenton, September 2006
 Kimber F, Sedalia, September 2007
 Anna P, Warrenton, September 2007
 Kaylee S, Warrenton, September 2016
 Mary A, Warrenton, September 2018
 Carma G, Warrenton, September 2020
 Mercedes G, Hermann, September 2021



In the photo above (left to right): Charlene T (Wentzville Branch Manager) delivering the February denim proceeds to Our Lady's Inn representative, Denise.



In the photo above: The Sedalia team presenting the check to Gary Beckman (Executive Director) of the Boys and Girls Club of West Central Missouri.



In the photo above: Hermann ladies presented half of our April proceeds to the Rhineland Fire Department.



In the photo above: The other half of the April donations were given to the Hermann Area Fire Department.

The Missouri Bank Gives Back

BY MELANI MOORE, Marketing

Here we are, again! Another three successful donations in the books! As usual, we are still collecting money every Friday for the opportunity to wear denim to work! Each month, we rotate through the branches to decide where in our community we would like these raised funds to go!

In February, Wentzville and Foristell chose Our Lady's Inn, in Defiance, to get our donation for the month. The organization is a maternity home and takes in pregnant women (and their children) if they have no place else to go. Since 1982, Our Lady's Inn has served as a life-affirming alternative to abortion for almost 7,000 women who have chosen life for their unborn babies. We collected \$586.00 for the amazing organization!

Sedalia and Smithton decided that our March donations were going to go to the Boys and Girls Club of West Central Missouri. Our collection of \$688 went to the Boys & Girls Club that serves more than 1,000 children at 12 Club sites in seven communities. With a focus on Academic Success, Character and Leadership Development and Healthy Lifestyles, BGC does whatever it takes to ensure great futures start for all children in rural west central Missouri.

April's proceeds went to the Hermann Area and Rhineland Fire Departments. Both departments are solely ran on funds received from annual dues and donations. The cost of equipment is expensive, and the better equipped their departments are - the more lives they can save! We raised \$836, and was split between the two.

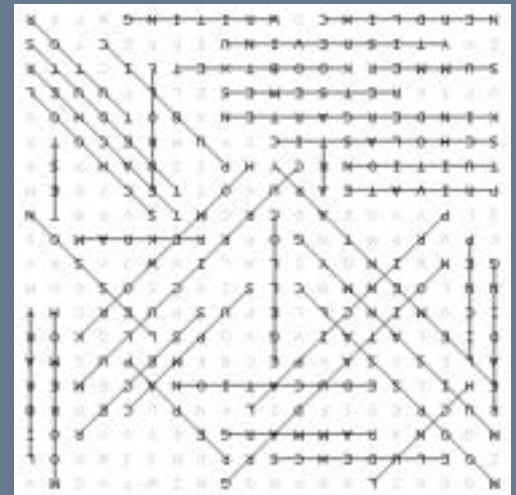
Doggie Drive-Up Days

BY MELANI MOORE, Marketing

What is one thing that almost all TMB employees have in common? WE LOVE DOGS! Just a reminder, next month we will be doing our 2nd Annual "Doggie Drive-Up Days Of Summer" promotion! Basically, in July, when you bring your pooch with you to do your banking, via the drive-up, you'll get the opportunity to see them featured on our Social Media! All you have to do is let us take a photo of your fur friend, fill out a short questionnaire, and that's it! Throughout the month, we will post each photo with a little bit of fun facts about the featured dog! This year, we are also offering the option to tag you in the post, if you desire! All puppy participants will receive a bandana! Bring on the dogs!



"Back To School" Word Seek Answers



We Think Someone Is Following Us...We Hope It Is You!



@TheMissouriBank

Do not have social media?
That is fine - visit our website

www.TheMissouriBank.com



Scan the QR Code with your phone to get quick access to our website!