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Sessions focus on good money habits

By Matt Conn
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Money management can be a matter of "habitudes," which financial advisors describe as a combination of attitudes and habits with money.

Ideally, this should develop early in life.

"It's a good place for people to start and think about where to go from there. Then, we talk about goal setting," said Georgette Frazer, a Marshfield financial and investment advisor. "How you establish financial goals helps put you in the driver's seat for your financial future." This is the message Frazer will bring to the Rotaract "Now what?" series, beginning Dec. 6 with a program at the University of Wisconsin-Marshfield/Wood County. She will demonstrate with Money Habitudes cards, developed for providing a balanced perspective of financial satisfaction, especially for younger people.

Rotaract, sponsored by Rotary International, is a service club for people ages 18 to 30. The clubs are designed for young adults to develop professional skills and address the needs of their communities through service projects.

"Career decisions make a big impact, financially, at that age," Frazer said. "This is a time when people have a lot of financial questions."

This is why 23-year-old Tina Kollmansberger of Chili helped organize the session. When she sat down with Frazer, who acts as her financial advisor, Kollmansberger said she was introduced to lofty financial concepts.

"It seems like that's something that concerns us all," she said. "Finances is one thing that is kind of new. You're out on your own. You got a new job or a new house."

Kollmansberger said she graduated from college last December and has her first "real job" as a marketing coordinator for Nelson-Jameson in Marshfield, and she's buying a house.

A plan begins with personal spending and savings habits, sometimes a problem for young people. However, Frazer said the "habitude" approach is respectful.

"There are no right or wrong ways to handle money," she said, describing the idea. "There are just different ways to handle money. It's all about understanding what your way is."

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