

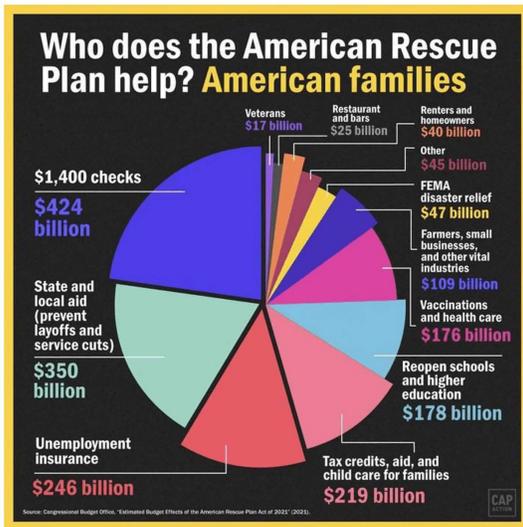


Team Time

Kevin O'Reardon and your Shakespeare Team wishes you:

**A pot of gold,
and all the joy your heart can hold!**

Recent Blogs | [View From The Lake](#)



The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021

On March 10, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act into law, his first major piece of legislation as president. There are a large number of provisions in this law. Below are the key provisions most likely to impact you: 2021 Recovery Rebates As with past COVID-relief bills, the American Rescue Plan Act provides [...]

[Read More](#)



Top Ten NON-Tax Estate Planning Tips

Historically, planning to avoid paying estate tax when you pass away was a top-priority discussion for many families. However, estate taxes currently apply only if you have an estate worth more than \$11.7 million (and twice that if you are married). Obviously, that means most people don't need to worry about estate

taxes today. [...]

[Read More](#)



Ryan's Tip of The Month:

FAFSA Changes Impacting Grandparents' 529 Accounts

The second COVID-19 Relief Bill was passed in December 2020. Of the over 5,000 pages contained in the bill, **157 pages were dedicated to changes in the FAFSA**. One of the biggest changes coming to the FAFSA is how grandparent contributions will be treated.

Currently, **money gifted to students by grandparents**, whether it be distributions from grandparent-owned 529 plans or direct tuition payments, **impacts the amount of financial aid they can receive**. Half of every dollar gifted by grandparents counts as untaxed income and reduces the amount of need-based aid the student is eligible for. For example, if a grandparent distributed \$10,000 from a 529 to help pay for a semester's tuition, they could reduce the student's aid by \$5,000. Because of this, it is common for grandparents to wait until the student's junior year in college to start gifting money since this is when the student will complete their last FAFSA.

With the new rule change, **grandparents' contributions will no longer count as untaxed income for students when completing the FAFSA**. Therefore, this will *not* have an impact on their need-based aid. This also means that the timing of the distributions won't matter either. In some instances, it may make sense to have the grandparents hold a majority of 529 assets since 5.64% of parents' assets can impact aid for students. Also, keep in mind that this rule change is not just for grandparents. This also applies to money gifted by an aunt, uncle, cousin, etc.

It's important to note that **these changes won't be taking effect until the 2023-24 school year**, which will be impacted by the FAFSA the student

completes in the Fall of 2022. That being said, if you have a child in high school or younger, these changes will likely have an impact at some point during college and it's important to start planning now.



Construction Update

We are almost completely done with our remodel -- only awaiting a few finishing touches. We love it! Let us know what you think.

Photos [here!](#)

Up Next

We enjoy spending days "away from work" with you, and hope you will consider joining us for the following events. In return, we are happy to participate in similar events that you may be interested in (or for a cause you are interested in).

Sign Up Now!

Saturday, May 22nd

American Lung Association's Fight for Air Climb at American Family Field (Miller Park).

Please join our team in climbing outside for the shared challenge, for the camaraderie, and for a world free of all lung disease (including COVID-19).

Shakespeare will pay entry fees for the first 20 team members to sign up [here](#).

Reach out to Colleen@ShakespeareWM.com or 262-814-1600 for the discount code.



Saturday, June 19th - 8:00 am

Hope Street Ministry's Hike for Hope at Nashotah Park.

We have once again formed a team for the 3rd annual Hike for Hope. We are hoping that many of you will join us in the fresh outdoors for this gentle hike.

At this year's hike, our team will get to hike with a Hope Street community member. You'll get a chance to hear their story, ask questions and begin to see the transformative nature of a place like Hope Street.

Family members, friends and dogs are welcome!

Please RSVP to Colleen@ShakespeareWM.com



Thursday, July 15th 3-6pm

Shakespeare's Blow-Out Summer Party and Shred Event at Pewaukee Yacht Club!

- Pontoon Boat Tours!
- Good Food!
- Good Drinks!
- Great Friends!

Please mark your calendars now! RSVP to Colleen@ShakespeareWM.com



We continue to work out the details for our new **Second-Opinion Program**. It will provide a free opportunity for your friends and loved ones to see if they are missing any financial planning opportunities, and to help identify any gaps that need to be filled.

Out and About



 **Hope Street Ministry**
March 9 at 11:49 AM - 🌐

We are still training for our May 16th Marathon. In the meantime we want to keep sharing stories of "donvestments" made around Hope Street.

This week read [Colleen Schill Schoenike's](#) story of how one interaction led to another, which has established some deep friendships and growth.

Check out this link for the full story:
<https://www.hopestreetministry.org/26-2-for-26th-capitol...> **See More**

 **26.2 MILES FOR**
26TH & CAPITOL
#BUILDINGSHECHEM

 **SHECHEM**
AT HOPE STREET
f i y t

"...And I PROMISE, I have gotten SO MUCH MORE from my being part of this community than I could ever even begin to give to it. So what have I gained? A deeper understanding, a look from the "inside," something to look forward to every week, the chance to watch a community blossom and grow TOGETHER, and some friendships that make my heart hurt (in a good way) to even think about."



COLLEEN SCHOENIKE
VOLUNTEER, DONOR & FRIEND

Brittany and **Colleen** attended Hope Street Ministry's 2021 Women's Luncheon again this year. This year focused on "Building Shechem: Where Kids Can Be Kids." Here are some of the sweet kids in their touching "[When I Grow Up](#)" video.

If you'd like to watch more of these beautiful kids, and all of the Luncheon action (it really is special), click [here](#)!



Kevin and **Chris** exploring the Caribbean on foot.



By boat this time, **Kevin** and **Chris** explore the Caribbean.

Speaking of Hope Street, look who made it on their Facebook page! You can read **Colleen's** full story [here](#).



Great news for Kevin's charity of choice! The demand for [Life's Connection](#) services has reached beyond their capacity at both of their centers. A miracle is allowing them to expand to meet those demands in Waukesha and Mukwonago!



Andrea's beautiful daughter **Clare** proudly showing off her Covid-19 vaccine card!

Health, Wealth & Happiness

Health, happiness and wealth depend on each other. To reach your goals of a happy retirement, do not overlook the value of a healthy retirement. More than 80% of today's retirees say health is the most important ingredient for a happy retirement (valuing good health even over financial security).

March's Tip for a Happy Retirement - 14 Things to Do When You're in a Funk

WebMD has posted a great slideshow with actions you can take when you are feeling in a bit of a rut. Of course, if feelings of anxiety or sadness regularly cause problems at work or home, talk to your doctor about them.

And here they are, in no particular order:

1. **Reach Out** - Meet a close friend for a walk, or make a call.
2. **Have a *Little* Dark Chocolate**
3. **Play Some Tunes**
4. **Laugh**
5. **Do a Good Deed**
6. **Hug Your Dog**
7. **Drink Water**
8. **Get Outside**
9. **Exercise**
10. **Eat Something Healthy**
11. **Have Sex** (yes, WebMD said that)
12. **Meditate**
13. **Sleep** - try for 7 to 9 hours a night
14. **Take a Vacation (well, okay!)**

To learn about *HOW* these 14 things help you climb out of your funk, head on over to [WebMD](#).

If you enjoyed our newsletter, don't keep it a secret! Share it below:



Click [here](#) to unsubscribe.

Until Next Time!

