



*Office of Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey
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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CONTACT INFORMATION:

**Andrea Hinrichs
Housing Rehabilitation Specialist**

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Phone: (815) 967-6766

E-mail: andrea.hinrichs@rockfordil.gov

City of Rockford Participates in Money Smart Week

The City of Rockford encourages everyone in the community to take advantage of the many free events promoting financial literacy through Rockford's 3rd annual Money Smart Week campaign taking place April 17th – 24th, 2010.

Coordinated by the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago and its Money Smart partners, Money Smart Week is designed to educate consumers about money management and create awareness of financial education programs on a wide range of topics such as budgeting, saving and using credit wisely.

The educational activities will be carried out by 85 local community groups, businesses, schools, and non-profit organizations.

Below is a list of events the City is directly participating in. There are over 90 more free classes, seminars and activities promoting financial education taking place throughout the community.

Event Title	Description	DATE	TIME	Location of Event
Housing Programs and Services – What's Right for you?	Want to buy a home? Get answers to questions like... What's my first step? What's an Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA), Federal Housing Administration (FHA) or Veteran Affairs (VA) loan? What homebuyer assistance is available?	Saturday, April 17	10 am to 12 pm	Rockford Area Realtors 6776 E. State Street

Am I OK?	This session helps determine if your current retirement assets will last.	Tuesday, April 20	9 am to 10:30 am	First Presbyterian Church 406 N. Main Street
Does Your Home Need to Be Modified Due to a Disability?	Find out how the City, Northwestern Illinois Area Agency on Aging (NIAAA) and RAMP Center for Independent Living may assist with modifications to your home and to ensure it meets the local code.	Tuesday, April 20	11 am to 12:30 pm	First Presbyterian Church 406 N. Main Street
Homeowner Housing Rehab	Find out how to qualify for the City's single family, owner occupied rehab program. (income limits & designated program areas apply)	Wednesday, April 21	1 pm to 2 pm	Ellis Heights United Neighborhood Center 1810 W. State Street
Become a Homeowner! Learn What Tools are Available to Assist you	Get your questions answered! Am I ready to buy? Is there any assistance available? What about financing? Info on homeowner assistance programs.	Wednesday, April 21	6 pm to 7 pm	MembersAlliance Credit Union 6951 Olde Creek Road

Also, on display in the City Hall lobby, located at 425 East State Street will be the Money Smart Week Kids Essay Contest winning essay. Cal Filkin, an 8th grade student attending Washington Academy answers the following questions: *What is a career you think you may be interested in pursuing? How would you prepare financially and educationally now, in order to achieve your career goals(s) later?* Therefore, please come to City Hall, read this amazing essay and pick up your Money Smart Week calendar!

Additional information and a calendar of events for this year's Money Smart Week are available at <http://www.moneysmartweek.org/illinois>.

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