

A NOTE FROM LEE

The summer months see many families pack up the station wagon and hit the road. Whether it's to the beach or to the mountains, traveling can have a profound impact on both mental and physical health. Exploring places near and far provides opportunities to relax, reduce stress, and maybe most importantly, connect with friends and family. Whether it's a short weekend getaway to Destin or an extended international adventure to the Galapagos, traveling offers numerous advantages for overall well-being.

One of my favorite things about travel is its positive impact on my overall health. Stepping away from my daily routine and familiar surroundings to immerse myself in a new environment can provide a much-needed escape. I find that travel allows me a chance to recharge and reset. It's also a natural way for me to get moving by encouraging activities that may not be in my normal exercise routine. Whether exploring new places or revisiting favorites, I often find myself walking more, engaging in outdoor adventures, and participating in recreational activities. This increased physical activity is very important to my health.

We talk about travel often at the office and work hard to ensure that our team members have the support and flexibility to go places. Some highlights from this year are Megan's trip to Germany with her family, Patrick visiting Italy for the wedding of one of his closest friends, and my trip to Canada where I was fortunate enough to hit my first hole-in-one! As a team, we love travel and hearing about your travel. In particular, one of the real treats is when we get a post card from someone, clients or teammate, from cool places. Don't be bashful and don't hesitate, drop us a line from wherever you go!



the basics

OF ESTATE PLANNING

It's no secret at HHG headquarters that we love a plan - from financial planning to vacation planning and everything in between. Topping our list of vital plans is a solid estate plan. While meeting with an estate planning attorney may seem daunting, we are here to make it easier for you. We can provide referrals, summarize your existing plan and you can use [Raymond James Vault](#) to securely store those documents and seamlessly share them with us. We'll also dive into detail about the flow of your Raymond James' assets - IRAs pass directly to your beneficiaries (not subject to your will) and depending on state law, you may be able to add the transfer on death feature to your taxable accounts held with us.

And it's important to remember that estate planning isn't just about what happens when you pass - it can affect you while you're living too! Although this list can vary state-to-state and you may have special circumstances that warrant a trust or additional planning, below is a breakdown of the basic estate planning components we recommend.

Last Will and Testament: The will directs the distribution of property owned in your individual name to your heirs at your death. The will names an executor or personal representative to administer your succession and can also name a guardian for your minor children.

General Durable Power of Attorney: A power of attorney gives someone you trust, your appointed "attorney in fact," the authority to handle your financial, legal and personal matters other than healthcare in the event that you cannot do so yourself. Most powers of attorney are durable, meaning they remain in effect, even if you become incapacitated. A power of attorney can be "springing" and only effective upon the occurrence of some event or condition (determination of incapacity, for example) or can be effective immediately.

Durable Power of Attorney for Healthcare: This document appoints another person to make healthcare decisions for you and consent to medical treatment on your behalf if you are unable to act or speak for yourself.

Living Will: This document expresses your desires for the withdrawal or continuation of life-prolonging treatment if you are unable to act or speak for yourself. It applies only to end-of-life conditions such as a terminal illness or a persistent vegetative state.

Raymond James does not provide legal advice.

TEAM BUSINESS PLANNING

To kick off the summer, the team traveled to Austin, TX to focus on our business and our professional development. Patrick, George, Lee and Erin kicked off the event with an investment committee deep-dive. Later joined by the rest of the team, we engaged an executive coach who led several sessions and provided a unique outside perspective. We came out with several ideas to enhance our existing services and even the addition of a few new ones we hope will improve your client experience. We managed to have a little fun as well; the team participated in a "Top Chef"-style competition. Megan is picture below with the winning cocktail: a spicy margarita!



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KUNGL

IN THE INVESTMENT JUNGLE



Patrick Kungl, CFA
Portfolio Strategist

“Better than expected” has been a common theme throughout the year. Markets have sure responded accordingly... especially after the roller coaster ride we took last year. We believe it’s due to a combination of low expectations for 2023 along with a handful of positive surprises along the way. The US economy grew at an annual rate of 2.4% last quarter – mostly driven by strong job creation and continued consumer spending. However, depending where one looks, there are mixed signals across the economic front. Travel, hospitality, and entertainment continue to point to a growing economy while manufacturing and spending on goods is pointing to an economic slowdown. We will proceed with caution until inflation and the fed are at tolerable levels.

The US debt downgrade by Fitch has received a lot of PR. At this point, there’s no reason to panic. The US treasury market remains the most reputable and liquid market in the world. Unless we see a couple more downgrades or a severe economic crisis, we do not view this as a major cause for concern. Both are low probability events in our view. Yields in fixed income continue to look attractive.

Earnings have declined in the first half of the year, but far from the significant drops many were calling for to begin the year. That’s a win in our book as earnings appear to resume growth in the second half of this year and throughout 2024. Valuations are varied – some pockets of the market look over-extended whereas other areas haven’t participated much this year. Our interest is focused on parts of the market that sat on the sidelines in the first half of the year yet have growth potential over the next 6-18 months.

COMMUNICATION POLICY

NO TEXTING!

Please note that **we cannot accept any business communications via Text Messaging or other Apps.**

*We **can** communicate via email, although any investment requests must be confirmed verbally.*

Likewise, to protect you we will always confirm any request for funds verbally.

WAYS TO GET IN TOUCH

While you can always email a teammate directly or use their direct office line (beginning in 504.375.xxxx), you can also contact the team as a whole via email info@hendersonhuttergroup.com or phone at 504.375.2120.

SUMMER VACATION EDIT



Lee in Banff Springs celebrating his 1st Hole-In-One! Did you know Lee’s dad was born and raised in Canada?



Megan traveled to Germany and got to stand where the Berlin Wall once stood which divided east and west Germany.



Christine spent a lot of her summer on the water. To the right is the bull red she caught while fishing out of Shell Beach, LA.



Brooke celebrated the Fourth in California with her family. Pictured below with her nephew, Rory.



To the left, Patrick exploring the Italian coast and the Colosseum. One of his highlights from the Colosseum was getting to walk through the Hypogeum – tunnels used by the gladiators. The gate is called “the Gate of Life” because only the survivors used it to exit.



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