

The Bulletin

 **Peck | Bulgin**
Wealth Management
of
RAYMOND JAMES®



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From the Desk

Your Credit Still Deserves Attention

Even for those with substantial wealth, credit scores matter. Lenders, insurers, and business partners often use them to assess reliability. A high net worth can open doors, but a weak score can quietly close others.

To keep your score strong, focus on these four areas:

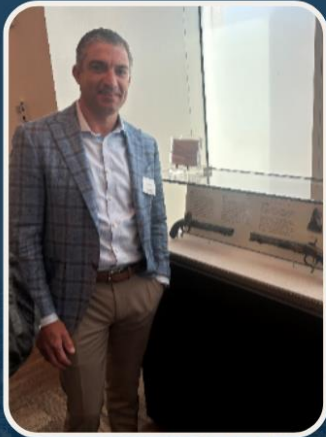
1. **Keep utilization low.** Credit scores don't care if you pay your card off in full – they care how much of your credit limit you're using when your statement posts. Aim to keep it under 10%. If you spend heavily, consider mid-cycle payments or spreading purchases across multiple cards.
2. **Maintain a credit mix.** A healthy score includes both revolving credit (like cards) and installment loans (like mortgages). Even if you could pay cash, a little strategic borrowing helps your credit profile.
3. **Be careful with closures and freezes.** Shutting down old accounts or freezing credit can unintentionally hurt your score or delay applications. Keep old accounts open with small auto-pay charges and set reminders before freezing.
4. **Monitor regularly.** Errors, fraud, or missed payments can slip through the cracks. Review your reports twice a year.

Your credit is a reflection of your financial discipline – treat it like the asset it is..

In the Spotlight

JPM Conference

New York City



JP Morgan chase Investment Conference in New York City

Casey attended an investment conference in New York City hosted by JP Morgan Chase where he was able to hear from several of the top equity and bond analysts on Wall Street. Here is a picture of Casey standing next to the actual pistols in the famous 1804 duel between Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr. Hamilton and Burr both worked together to establish JP Morgan Chase's earliest predecessor, The Manhattan Company.

July 4th Celebrations



Davis and Hayden Grace Bulgin in Amelia Island



Jesse, Trevor, and Cortland Peck in Wisconsin.



Congratulations!

Will's New House

Congratulations to Will and Shannon on the purchase of their new home.

Articles



Offer your employees a competitive benefits package

How to reevaluate your benefits offering - and maybe even improve it.

The "great resignation" has brought employee benefits to the fore in recent years. A recent Accenture survey says retirement benefits are a must-have to retain and attract talent – 68% of workers with pension/retirement plans said those benefits were a critical factor in deciding whether to accept a job and 62% said they were a critical factor in staying with a job.

[Read More](#)



Setting your team up for success in retirement

Offering a retirement plan to employees benefits both you and them.

For small businesses, offering an attractive retirement plan to employees can give you a competitive edge in the employment landscape. In fact, according to a US Bureau of Labor Statistics report, only 57% of private-sector firms with fewer than 100 employees offered a retirement plan in 2023.

[Read More](#)



A mid-retirement check-in

Evaluate your retirement beyond health and wealth.

As you move through retirement, it's important to set time aside to reflect on how you're doing. While most people often focus on their health and finances, it's equally as important to think about other areas of your life as you approach the midpoint of your retirement, which could be between the ages of 70 and 80, depending on your longevity.

[Read More](#)



Protecting your Social Security payout

To handle payments for a disabled senior, it's not enough to put powers of attorney, medical directives or guardianship arrangements in place.

One in three seniors will die with dementia.¹ It's a sobering statistic, and when you consider it alongside increasing longevity, it's easy to see why planning for the potential impact of diminished capacity on your or a loved one's future finances is critical.

[Read More](#)

Market Recap

	12/31/24 Close	06/30/2025* Close	Change Year to Date	% Gain/Loss Year to Date
DJIA	42,544.22	44,094.77	+1,550.55	+3.64%
NASDAQ	19,310.79	20,369.73	+1,058.94	+5.48%
S&P 500	5,881.63	6,204.95	+323.32	+5.50%
MSCI EAFE	2,259.60	2,653.71	+394.11	+17.44%
RUSSELL 2000	2,230.16	2,175.04	-55.12	-2.47%
BLOOMBERG AGGREGATE BOND	2,189.03	2,268.99	+79.96	+3.65%

*Performance reflects index values as of market close on June 30, 2025.

Equity markets found traction in June

The S&P 500 and NASDAQ closed the month with new all-time high marks.

Equity markets continued to march higher in June, seemingly unfazed by heightened Middle East tensions (which were short-lived) and the looming July 8 deadline for the administration's pause on reciprocal tariffs.

[See Full Market Update](#)

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Keep in mind that individuals cannot invest directly in any index, and index performance does not include transaction costs or other fees, which will affect actual investment performance. Individual investor's results may vary.

