## **SWK**

### FINANCIAL PLANNING ADVISORS

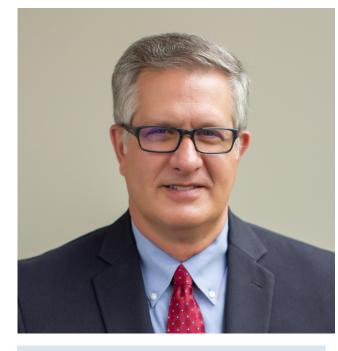
## RAYMOND JAMES®

#### **CHECK THAT OFF THE LIST**

Jim Ed Summers, CRPC, CFP Senior Vice President Wealth Management

The beginning of a new year brings about the common lists of things to do. This can range from health and wellness goals and other specific things to accomplish for the New Year. Many times our attention wanes and we're on to the next thing in our life. As we begin the year 2022, I'd like to turn your attention to some specific planning that is very important.

As we connect and learn more about clients as we begin a financial relationship, we find that the area of estate planning is something that has been neglected or "something we know we need to do". Estate planning is simply going through the steps of the best way to arrange your estate in the most effective manner that meets what is important to you. Some of the common areas to address are a will, possibly a trust, durable powers of attorney for financial and medical affairs and also reviewing a living will. It's very important to go through these steps to make sure your wishes are carried out as you see fit plus knowing the process is in effect. Other areas that may need addressed are specialized trusts (like special needs trusts, life insurance trusts or long term care planning), charitable giving and real estate asset planning. In addition, the responsibilities and liabilities of the trustee position will be addressed. The process of estate planning is coordinated with the services of a qualified attorney. There are many highly qualified estate planning attorneys in NW Arkansas that can be utilized and we're happy to provide contact information for attorneys that fit your situation.



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Estate and tax laws can change and it's important to have an attorney relationship to help guide through any adjustments of the future.

The process of estate planning is a very important factor in your overall financial plan. I like to say one of our jobs is to help clients "check things off the list". A well designed estate plan is certainly something we encourage you to check off the list for the year 2022. You and your family will be glad you did and know we're here to help.

#### Winter 2022 Market Closures

**January 17**: Martin Luther King Day

February 21: President's Day

#### **Raymond James Dates to Remember:**

Jan 31: Raymond James mails year end retirement tax forms for 1099-R and 5498, if applicable

Feb 15: Raymond James begins mailing 1099 tax statements Feb 28: Raymond James mails amended 1099s & those delayed due to specific holdings and/or income reallocation.

Cozy Up Safely: Heating causes 27% of structure fires during winter, so it's a key time to check the batteries in your smoke & carbon monoxide detectors - and call the chimney sweep for a fireplace cleaning!

Source: FEMA

#### **Things to Do:**

☐ Organize for tax time: Prepare for smooth filing: By early February, you should have tax forms in hand. Make sure to organize them in a dedicated spot, as well as any receipts if you itemize. To ensure all is in order, talk to your advisor about coordinating with your tax professional.
☐ <b>Get set for 65:</b> This is the age you become eligible for Medicare; a 10% premium penalty applies for each year you go without Part B coverage beyond this birthday in most cases. You have seven months to enroll, starting from three months before your birth month. Ask your advisor about healthcare planning resources that can guide you.
☐ Fine-tune your health spending: If you participate in a flexible spending account (FSA) or health savings account (HSA), review contribution levels to take full advantage — without exceeding limits, which are adjusted regularly for inflation. If you have an FSA, use available funds before your plan's use-it-or-lose-it deadline.
□ Pay yourself first: If you haven't automated retirement contributions, start now. It's also a good time to reconfirm your employer match and increase your contributions to allow more time to generate tax-deferred gains.

# Giving Back is more than a tradition, it's who we are!

As a community project, we are helping to support Asbell Elementary Teachers & Staff!

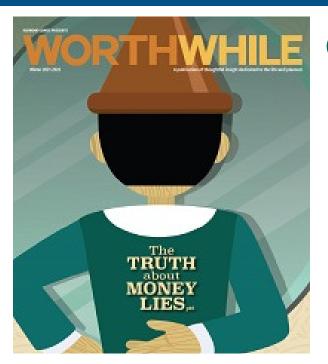




Above: Everyone received a jar full of candy corn & an encouraging note!

Left: Christmas mugs filled with Cocoa Bombs & gift cards for all teachers & staff





Check out the Winter Edition of the Worthwhile Magazine by clicking on the following link:

### **Worthwhile**

Read the cover story: Five Financial Lies We Tell Ourselves

Don't let uncertainty warp your decision making!

# **Goal Planning & Monitoring**

Goal Planning & Monitoring is designed to put you in control of your future. Along with your financial advisor, you can develop a plan that will help you visualize your future so you can enjoy the wealth you've worked hard to build.

Together, you and your advisor can create a customized goal plan, test adjustments in real time and predict your retirement readiness – making sure you're in the "green zone."

- 1. **GOAL CREATION** The planning process starts with a question: What does your ideal retirement look like?
- 2. **IDENTIFY RESOURCES** You'll get a better understanding of your overall financial picture with the ability to view your income and assets the foundation of your plan and the key to achieving your goals in one place.
- 3. **YOU AND THE MARKET** Understanding how the markets work and your comfort with taking risk is the key to a successful plan.
- 4. **GETTING RESULTS** The main goal of your plan is to get you into the "confidence zone" or "green zone," the optimal financial position for achieving your goals, and to keep you there over time.

#### To learn more, contact your advisor TODAY!

IMPORTANT: The projections or other information generated by Goal Planning & Monitoring regarding the likelihood of various investment outcomes are hypothetical in nature, do not reflect actual investment results and are not guarantees of future results. Results may vary with each use and over time.





out & about























#### **CLIENT ACCESS: PUT YOUR FINANCES IN FOCUS**

Connect to your account information, collaborate with your advisor and monitor progress toward your goals.

As we all look for ways to simplify our record keeping, we want to remind you that you can choose to receive your documents online through Client Access.

With online delivery, your documents are securely stored in one place, where you can find them whenever you need them. And we email you each time a new document is available, so you don't have to worry about missing important updates.

If you're already using Client Access, just log in and go to the Account Services screen to choose paperless delivery of your documents.

If you have already chosen paperless delivery and then start getting paper again, it may be because you have not logged into your account within 6 months!

Log in at <a href="https://www.SummersWrightKestner.com">www.SummersWrightKestner.com</a>.

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MONDAY - THURSDAY 8:30AM - 4:30PM

FRIDAY 8:30AM - 3:30PM