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Securities offered through
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Member FINRA/SIPC

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Investment Advisory Services offered through Raymond James Financial Services Advisors, Inc.

Financial focus

WHAT MATTERS MOST TO YOUR FAMILY, MATTERS MOST TO OURS.



Family Update

The Wigren/Christofferson family had a busy start to 2018! Matt started the Lacrosse season and is enjoying training his new puppy CJ. Scott and Nancy took a cruise to the Caribbean with old neighborhood friends to relax and get some sun. Laura's son, Elliott, started walking and is now running around the house. It has been so fun for the entire family to watch his progress, but also required lots of babyproofing. He loves art class as seen in this picture.

Market Volatility is Normal for Long-Term Investors

After a year or so of upward price momentum, exceptionally low volatility and record highs, February brought the domestic stock market slipping in and out of correction territory. At the same time, investors became concerned over the potential pace of wage growth, its impact on inflation and interest rates, and in turn its influence on future monetary policy. The concern was that rising inflationary pressures could cause the Federal Reserve to tighten too quickly, and potentially upset economic conditions. Some of this concern should be alleviated by the strong corporate earnings we've seen. The Tax Cut and Jobs Act, a strong global economy, and a weaker U.S. dollar are additional tailwinds for equities, according to Raymond James Chief Investment Strategist Jeff Saut.

The potential of increased tariffs has also generated concern among some investors despite strength in the underlying domestic economy and labor markets.

The pullback was the first real test of investors' resolve in recent memory. Long-term investors have seen this happen time and again. In fact, the broad market S&P 500 Index has experienced a pullback of 15% on average each year since 1980, according to Senior Equity Portfolio Analyst Joey Madere. Volatility is likely to return to more normal levels this year, he added. "One would expect either some kind of pause, or even better, some kind of pullback to rebuild the stock market's internal energy," Jeff Saut explained. "Plainly, the fundamentals remain excellent with earnings estimates continuing to ratchet up, revenues trending higher and a stronger economy. And while

interest rates have increased, they have done so in a very orderly fashion."

Bottom line:

- Inflation and interest rates remain low from a historical standpoint, but are likely to move higher over the course of the year, potentially causing additional bouts of volatility.
- Given the strong economic and earnings backdrop, pullbacks should be normal in nature and viewed opportunistically.
- In the meantime, a well-diversified portfolio geared toward achieving your long-term goals should allow you to participate in upside potential as well as serve as a ballast for any short-term volatility that may arise in the coming months.

Please let us know if you have any questions about current market events or your long-term financial plan. We look forward to speaking with you. Thank you for your trust in us.

SAVE THE DATE

Complimentary Shredding Happy Hour



Friday, April 20th
2 p.m. – 4 p.m.
at our office in Bellevue

Come visit our team for a drink and a snack after tax season, and drop off your old documents to shred.

If you can't make happy hour, you may still drop off documents
8 a.m. - 4 p.m.



There is no assurance that any investment strategy will be successful. Investing involves risk, and investors may incur a profit or a loss. Past performance is not an indication of future results. The S&P 500 is an unmanaged index of 500 widely held stocks. It is not possible to invest directly in an index. Asset allocation and diversification do not guarantee a profit nor protect against a loss.

Double-Check Your 2018 Tax Withholding

The IRS has released a new version of Form W-4 and a revised Withholding Calculator on irs.gov (IR-2018-36). These updated tools can help you check your 2018 tax withholding to determine if it's still appropriate following passage of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act in December 2017. The IRS urges taxpayers to use these tools to make sure they have the right amount of tax withheld from their paychecks, taking into account significant changes to the tax law for 2018.

Getting It Right If you have too much tax withheld, you will receive a refund when you file your tax return, but it might make more sense to reduce your withholding and receive more in your paycheck. If you have too little tax withheld, you will owe tax when you file your tax return, and you might owe a penalty. You can use a number of worksheets for the Form W-4 or the IRS Withholding Calculator to help you plan your tax withholding strategy.

The IRS notes that the following groups in particular should check their withholding:

- Two-income families
- People with more than one job at the same time
- People who work only for part of the year
- People with children who claim credits, such as the child tax credit
- People who itemized deductions in 2017
- People with high incomes and more complex returns

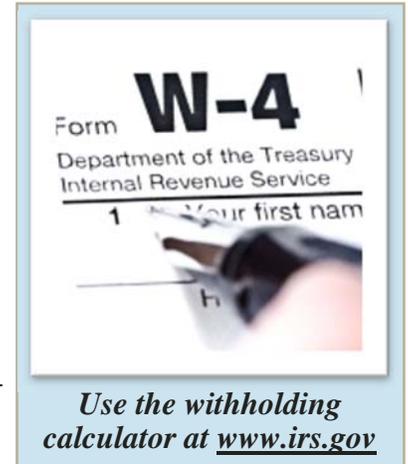
The revised Form W-4 and Withholding Calculator can be used to update your withholding in response to the new tax law provisions, or if you start a new job or have other changes in your personal circumstances.

Form W-4 If changes reduce the number of allowances you are allowed to claim, or your marital status changes from married to single, you must give your employer a new Form W-4 within 10 days. You can generally submit a new Form W-4 whenever you wish to change your withholding allowances for any other reason. See IRS Publication 505, Tax Withholding and Estimated Tax (a new version is expected to be available in early spring).

Your employer will withhold tax from your paycheck based on the information you provide on Form W-4 and the IRS withholding tables. On the W-4, you provide your withholding tax filing status, the number of withholding allowances you're claiming, any additional tax you want withheld from each paycheck, and whether you claim exemption from withholding.

After your Form W-4 takes effect, you can also use the IRS Withholding Calculator to check how the amount of tax being withheld compares to your projected tax.

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