

Good To Know!

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1st Qtr 2021 Newsletter

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Thinking of traveling again?



→ Do your liability, auto, and health insurance policies cover you there?
→ Are your health and financial powers of attorney current, accessible?

→ Are your beneficiaries up-to-date?
→ Put alerts on bank & credit card accounts in case of hackers.

My Missouri Society of CPAs committee is producing a financial literacy video for young professionals. I covered taxes and investments. Email if your firm, or you, would like details.



Let's Do The Numbers

In a nutshell in the 1st quarter stocks moved up while bonds lost money. U.S. large companies moved up 6%, but small company stocks zoomed 13%.

Even international stocks made 3%. Interest rates became volatile; bonds lost 4%. Click the above red video icon for more details.

Oh what a change we've seen in 3 months. Covid cases are down here, vaccinations are hoppin', resuscitating leisure and hospitality. (Airplane occupancy is 90% of pre-pandemic levels.) Not so for Europe where covid still rages and bureaucracy retards vaccinations. Our labor market is recovering; the unemployment rate dropped to 6%.

Over on Wall Street, the 10-year U.S. Treasury Note has bounced from .9% to 1.7%, a sign some see inflation ahead. The Federal Reserve Board expects a one-time uptick in prices. Most strategists agree but not all. The Fed still purchases \$120B of bonds monthly, adding liquidity; money supply has increased 30%.

Congress's \$1.9T March fiscal stimulus is increasing spending and savings. Various experts predict last quarter's corporate earnings will increase from 2020's 1st quarter by an amazing +20% to +30%. Ditto for next quarter.

There's been much roiling beneath the waves as large company stocks stalled while small companies surged. Your portfolios are diversified, investing in broad arrays in both stocks and in bonds, to better weather shifting winds.

No one knows what to expect with much certainty because we are in unprecedented waters. We hope the economic growth ahead is justifiably robust, expanding corporate earnings sufficiently to gently moderate the market's high valuation. We are in an "Apollo" re-entry phase; time to remain aware, and follow sound strategies.

Asset	2021
Large companies	+6%
Small companies	+13%
Bonds	-4%
International stocks	+3%

TAX TIME Is Now 5.17.21!

But pls remember to:

...send in your estimated tax payments for both federal and state. Those due dates remain 4.15.21!

You can contribute to your IRA or Roth IRA for '20 by 5.17.21.

You can still fund your Health Savings Account for '20 if you're using one. It's due 5.17.21.

IF the income shown on your 2019 tax return entitles you to a stimulus check, but your 2020 tax return does not, you can delay filing until May as permitted. The IRS is using what is on file.

In Missouri CPA Journal Can Your Clients Retire Early?

November—December 2020

THE ASSET

Official Publication of the Missouri Society of Certified Public Accountants

Read my advice to area CPAs [here](#) on how they can assist clients who want to retire early.

Resource Tip:

Q: Want to know what prominent market strategists think? **Consuelo Mack** interviews some smart pros.

A: Her show *WealthTrack* airs on public TV on weekends, with replays on [YouTube](#), and the show's website [here](#).

Unsubscribe

In-office or Zoom? Your call. See our in-office protocols [here](#).