

Financial FOCUS

The Porath Howard White Group

QUARTERLY COMMENTARY

≡ Providing focus and clarity to your financial picture.

Advanced Planning

≡ As the year comes to an end, we use various planning strategies to manage taxes and clean up portfolios. One such strategy is tax-loss harvesting where we look to offset capital gains realized during the current year by exiting positions that are at losses. This is often done in concert with a portfolio rebalance to ensure your sector/position weightings are in line with your objectives going into the next year. When we notice notable realized capital gains that cannot be offset with losses, we will reach out individually so you have the time available to work with your tax-preparer to determine if additional funds should be sent to the IRS prior to year-end to avoid under-withholding penalties.

For clients with an IRA and over the age of 73, if your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) has not yet been fully satisfied for this year, we will be in touch to ensure its completion. Also, depending on your specific circumstances, ordinary income taxes can be reduced by contributing to an HSA, traditional IRA, or possibly a charity. As always, feel free to reach out to your Financial Advisor with any questions or concerns regarding your planning needs!

- Greg

INVESTMENT CONSULTING

≡ With all of this year's economic challenges along with it being an election year, I think most of us would agree that the market has surpassed any reasonable expectations thus far. As of this writing, the S&P 500 index is up 22% and the Dow Jones index is up nearly 15% year to date.

It caused me to reflect back to when I began in this industry in June of 2000. The Dow Jones index was 10,652. The bursting of the dot com bubble was just beginning followed closely by the 9-11 terrorist attack. The global finance and housing bubble of '08 and '09, the world-wide Covid epidemic in the spring of '20 followed by the highest inflation in forty years. As challenging as it was to navigate through those events (and many others), that same index now stands slightly above 43,000 points. Put another way, that is slightly over a 300% return or 12.5% per year. The S&P index has very similar results.

Knowing that the next crisis is inevitable, it is helpful for us to remember the resiliency of the market and that sound investing principles and long-term views reward the patient investor.

- Dave

RELATIONSHIP MANAGEMENT

≡ Sector research

As we finish out the last quarter of the year, we find the economy more resilient than many anticipated. The tech sector was in the driver's seat for the better part of the year and appears as though it will end that way. While trying to maintain a diversified portfolio, where else should we look for value? We rely heavily on our partners at Strategas for insights in sector positioning. Their most recent update moved to a slightly more defensive allocation. For further details and their thoughts, please follow the link [HERE](#)

- Brian

ON THE HOME FRONT

≡ After almost 25 years as a financial advisor, Dave Porath will be retiring at the end of this year. I have been fortunate enough to be friends with and work with Dave for 18+ of those years and in that time, I have taken some insights from him; some spoken, but all personified. This list is hardly exhaustive, but worth sharing:

- Laugh....at yourself, with others....if you can still breathe you aren't laughing hard enough
- Everyone you serve deserves your best effort
- Life is short, take yourself less seriously than you might otherwise want to
- The tendency of the market over time is to go higher. Get involved and participate
- Eat dessert first
- You never give up on the people you love
- Politics can sometimes be considered a sport...a goofy, discombobulated sport
- Celebrate the highs and grind through the lows of life and the market...equilibrium will come back soon
- The memorization and subsequent sharing of movie lines can be an art form
- Watch the sunset and stare at the stars as often as possible
- Sometimes the "good guys" do win

For all the guidance for his clients, all the laughs with friends, and all the love for family over the years we hope that you will join us in saying, "Cheers, and God bless", to our good guy, Dave!

- Sam



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Each quarter our team strives to provide timely updates and actionable ideas in the areas of; **Advanced Planning, Investment Consulting, and Relationship Management** with the goal of helping clients grow their wealth.