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WEALTH MANAGEMENT & FINANCIAL PLANNING

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2018

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE NEW TAX LAW

HOW YOU MAY BE AFFECTED BY THE TAX CUTS AND JOBS ACT

plus

FINANCIAL TIPS FOR RETIREES

A TAX CREDIT FOR DAY CAMP

RETIREMENT ACCOUNT CONTRIBUTION LIMITS FOR 2018

7 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT PREFERRED STOCKS

RETIREMENT

RETIRING BEFORE AGE 65?
WHERE TO FIND HEALTH INSURANCE

There are a few ways for people who retire early to bridge the health insurance gap between retirement and age 65 when Medicare begins. Your options may include:

- **Retiree health insurance from your employer.**
- **COBRA continuation coverage from your employer's health plan.** Employers with health plans and 20 or more employees generally must give covered employees, their spouses, former spouses, and dependent children the option to continue their coverage for 18 months.
- **Coverage from the group health plan where your spouse works.**
- **Individual coverage purchased from an insurance company or marketplace.**

Please consult your financial advisor for advice on transitioning into retirement.

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A Tax Credit for Day Camp

If your child attends day camp this summer so that you can work, you may be able to claim a federal tax credit (and possibly a state tax credit also) for part of the cost.

The child and dependent care credit can generally be claimed for expenses you pay for the care of a qualifying person, such as your young child or disabled spouse, so you can work.

Here are a few things you should know about the credit. Your tax advisor can tell you more.

THE CHILD AND DEPENDENT CARE credit is designed to help partially defray the cost of child and dependent care for people who work.

The credit equals 20% to 35% of the first $3,000 of eligible care expenses you pay for one person, or the first $6,000 you pay for two or more persons. The percentage you use depends on your income. Taxpayers with adjusted gross incomes over $43,000 use 20%.

As with all tax credits, there are rules about who can claim the credit and which expenses are eligible. Here goes.

To claim the credit for your child, he or she must be under age 13 when the care is provided, be your dependent, and live with you for more than half the year—generally speaking, that is. Special rules apply to the children of divorced or separated parents or parents who live apart.

Expenses that are eligible for the credit include those for nursery school, preschool, before-school and after-school care, and the aforementioned day camp. They also generally include care provided in your home or in a day care center.

Several types of expenses cannot be used with the credit. Babysitting expenses so that you can go out to dinner do not count. Overnight camp does not count. Child support payments do not count. You cannot count the cost to attend kindergarten or higher grades or the cost of tutoring or summer school. And you cannot count care expenses that are not work-related. You can only count those expenses that are necessary because you (and your spouse if you file a joint tax return) work or are looking for work.

To claim the credit, you (and your spouse if filing jointly) must have earned income from wages or other taxable employment compensation. However, you can still claim the credit if your spouse does not have earned income because he or she is a full-time student or disabled.

Who provides the care also matters for credit purposes. You cannot count payments you make to your spouse, to the parent of your child, to someone you can claim as a dependent, or a child of yours who is age 18 or younger.

However, you can count payments to relatives who aren't your dependents, such as your parents and your child who is over age 18. And you can count payments to caregivers that are no relation to you.

This credit is not limited to care for your preteen child. If you have a spouse or a dependent living with you who is not physically or mentally able to care for himself or herself, expenses you pay for his or her care so that you can work can also generally be used for this credit.

There are more requirements so it's a good idea to check with your tax advisor to make certain you can claim this credit. You may discover that sending your child to day camp this summer will cut your tax bill by hundreds of dollars. ■

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7 Things to Know About Preferred Stocks

Many investors are familiar with common stock, the more widely held type of stock, but may not know nearly as much about preferred stock. Although both types of stock represent partial ownership in a company, there are big differences between the two. Here are a few things to know about preferred stocks.

1. Preferred stocks generally pay a fixed dividend. A fixed dividend gives investors a good idea of how much income to expect each period.

2. Although dividends are expected to be paid each period, they are not mandatory. If a company's board of directors decides to temporarily suspend dividend payments and your shares are 'cumulative', the unpaid dividends accrue and must be paid to you before any dividends can be paid to common stockholders. If your shares are 'non-cumulative', unpaid dividends will not be paid later on.

3. Many preferred stocks are rated by credit rating agencies. The ratings are designed to help investors assess a company's ability to pay dividends on time.

4. Some preferred stocks have a maturity date. On that date, which may be decades after the shares were issued, the company will generally redeem the shares at a predetermined price. In certain circumstances, the company may have the right to extend the maturity date.

5. Some preferred stocks are callable, which means the company has the option to redeem the stock at a set price after a specified date. One reason why companies make their stock callable is so that if interest rates decline, they can redeem preferred shares early and issue new securities that pay a lower interest rate.

6. Preferred stockholders generally cannot vote on corporate matters, such as the election of the company's board of directors or proposed mergers and acquisitions, but they may have limited voting rights in certain situations.

7. Preferred stock is senior to common stock. This means that if a company runs into financial trouble and has to liquidate its assets, preferred stockholders must be paid before any common stockholders are paid. However, bonds are senior to both types of stocks so a company's bondholders must be paid before any stockholders are paid. ■

PLEASE NOTE: All investing involves risk, including the possible loss of principal. Preferred securities are subject to interest rate risk. When interest rates rise, the price of preferred securities usually falls. The effect is usually more pronounced for longer-term securities. Preferred securities also carry inflation risk; credit and default risk for issuers and counterparties; call, reinvestment, and income risk; liquidity risk; special redemption rights and regulatory risk.

Please consult your financial advisor for help in developing and implementing an investment plan.

2018 Retirement Account Contribution Limits

You may be able to contribute up to $500 more to a 401(k) plan in 2018, thanks to an increase in the annual contribution limit to $18,500. The annual contribution limits for IRAs and catch-up contributions are unchanged from 2017.

2018 CONTRIBUTION LIMITS

	MAXIMUM CONTRIBUTION	MAXIMUM CATCH-UP CONTRIBUTION IF AGE 50 OR OLDER
Traditional and Roth IRAs	$5,500	$1,000
401(k), 403(b), and most 457 Plans	$18,500	$6,000
SIMPLE IRAs and SIMPLE 401(k)s	$12,500	$3,000

Other limitations may apply to the maximum amount you may contribute. Some workplace retirement plans may permit special contributions not listed here.

CATCHING UP AT AGE 50

- Beginning the year you reach age 50, you can generally contribute an extra amount each year, known as a catch-up contribution, to an IRA and most workplace retirement plans.
- For example, while an employee under age 50 can contribute up to $18,500 to a 401(k) plan in 2018, an employee who is age 50 or older can generally contribute up to an additional $6,000, for a total contribution of up to $24,500.
- Catch-up contributions can begin at any time during the year that you reach age 50, even if your birthday is not until December 31st.
- While traditional and Roth IRAs permit catch-up contributions, not all workplace retirement plans do. Please check with your retirement plan administrator.

OTHER 2018 LIMITS

SEP IRAs Employers may contribute up to 25% of each eligible employee's compensation, but not more than $55,000 (up from $54,000 in 2017).

401(k) Plans Total employee and employer contributions may not exceed $55,000 ($61,000 including catch-up contributions). That's $1,000 higher than in 2017.

Please consult your financial advisor for advice on saving for retirement.

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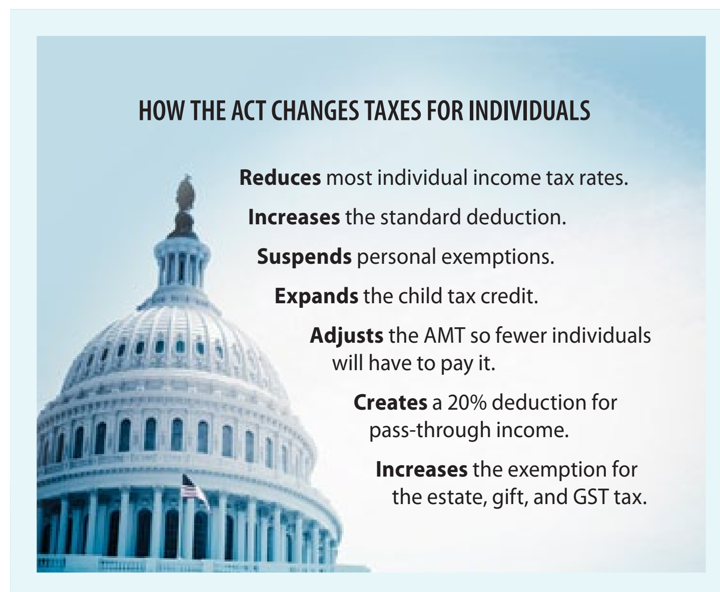
What You Need to Know About the New Tax Law

On December 22, 2017, the largest overhaul of the federal tax code in over 30 years was signed into law. Known as the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, the new law is expected to result in lower federal taxes for many businesses and individuals. Some of the changes that will affect individuals are summarized here. Keep in mind that most of the changes for individuals are temporary and are generally set to expire after 2025. Also keep in mind that Congress may issue technical corrections to the Act, resulting in changes to some of the changes described here. As always, your best move is to consult your tax advisor for specific advice.



Individual income tax rates are reduced.
Although there are still seven tax brackets for individuals, the Act lowers the tax rates and adjusts the income ranges for most of the brackets. For example, the top individual income tax rate is now 37%, down from 39.6% in prior years. And the top rate now only applies to income over $500,000 for single filers and $600,000 for married couples filing jointly, a bump up from $418,400 and $470,700 respectively in 2017.

The standard deduction has nearly doubled.
The basic standard deduction for 2018 will be $12,000 for single filers and $24,000 for joint filers, up from $6,350 and $12,700 respectively for 2017. This substantial increase may help taxpayers who normally claim the standard deduction to shelter more income from taxes beginning in 2018. It may also help simplify tax filing for many taxpayers who previously itemized deductions and may now get a larger deduction by claiming the standard deduction instead.

Personal exemptions are suspended.
Previously, taxpayers with incomes under certain limits could reduce the amount of income they were taxed on by deducting up to a $4,050 personal exemption (2017 amount) for each taxpayer and dependent included on their tax return. For example, a married couple with three dependent children could generally reduce their taxable income by $20,250 ($4,050 X 5) using personal exemptions.

The child tax credit is enhanced.
The Act doubles the child tax credit to $2,000 per qualifying child under the age of 17, makes up to $1,400 of it refundable, and provides a $500 nonrefundable credit for qualifying dependents other than qualifying children. The larger credit may help families offset the loss of their personal exemptions.

The child tax credit is available to more upper-income families.
Previously, the credit began to phase out for joint filers with adjusted gross incomes (AGIs) above $110,000 and single filers with AGIs above $75,000. Now, the credit does not begin to phase out until AGI exceeds $400,000 for joint filers and $200,000 for everyone else.

Fewer individuals will pay the AMT.
Instead of repealing the alternative minimum tax (AMT) for individuals as it did for corporations, the Act increases the exemption amounts and their phase-out thresholds so that fewer individuals will have to pay the AMT.

There's a new 20% deduction for pass-through income.
Owners of pass-through businesses, such as sole proprietorships, partnerships, LLCs, and S corporations, may now be able to deduct up to 20% of the qualified business income that flows through to their individual income tax returns. The Act sets limits on the deduction so it is a good idea to consult your CPA about how your pass-through income may be affected.

 FR2018-0215-0032/E

MOST INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX RATES HAVE BEEN REDUCED AND THE INCOME RANGES FOR THE TAX BRACKETS HAVE CHANGED.

2017

Rates	Single Taxable Income	Married Filing Jointly Taxable Income
10%	$0–$9,325	$0–$18,650
15%	$9,326–$37,950	$18,651–$75,900
25%	$37,951–$91,900	$75,901–$153,100
28%	$91,901–$191,650	$153,101–$233,350
33%	$191,651–$416,700	$233,351–$416,700
35%	$416,701–$418,400	$416,701–$470,700
39.6%	Over $418,400	Over $470,700

2018

Rates	Single Taxable Income	Married Filing Jointly Taxable Income
10%	$0–$9,525	$0–$19,050
12%	$9,526–$38,700	$19,051–$77,400
22%	$38,701–$82,500	$77,401–$165,000
24%	$82,501–$157,500	$165,001–$315,000
32%	$157,501–$200,000	$315,001–$400,000
35%	$200,001–$500,000	$400,001–$600,000
37%	Over $500,000	Over $600,000

THE STANDARD DEDUCTION NEARLY DOUBLES.

Filing Status	2017	2018
Married Filing Jointly	$12,700	**$24,000**
Head of Household	$9,350	**$18,000**
Single or Married Filing Separately	$6,350	**$12,000**

PERSONAL EXEMPTIONS ARE SUSPENDED.

2017	2018
$4,050 per person	**$0**

Prior to 2018, personal exemptions were subject to a phase-out based on income, which prevented upper-income taxpayers from deducting them.

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What are itemized deductions?

When filling out your tax return, you can either claim the standard deduction or you can itemize deductions by claiming all or part of the actual amounts you paid during the year for:

- Medical and dental care
- State and local taxes
- Mortgage interest
- Casualty losses incurred in a presidentially-declared disaster area
- Gifts to charity

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FOR PEOPLE WHO ITEMIZE DEDUCTIONS

Itemizing deductions remains the way to go if your itemized deductions total more than the new standard deduction amount ($12,000 for single filers, $24,000 for joint filers). Keep in mind, though, that the Act also tightens restrictions on certain itemized deductions beginning in 2018. So even if your itemized deductions last year totaled more than the new standard deduction amount, they may not this year.

The overall limitation on itemized deductions is suspended. This is great news for upper-income taxpayers who previously had their otherwise allowable deductions for taxes paid, home mortgage interest, charitable gifts, job expenses, and certain miscellaneous deductions reduced if their income exceeded certain limits ($261,500 for single filers, $313,800 for joint filers in 2017). With the overall limitation repealed, taxpayers now only have to contend with the restrictions on the specific deductions themselves.

The threshold for deducting medical expenses is lowered. The Act lowers the threshold for deducting medical and dental expenses from 10% to 7.5% of AGI, enabling taxpayers to deduct more of their unreimbursed expenses.

To give you an example of how this deduction works, let's say your AGI is $100,000 and you'll pay $20,000 in medical expenses this year that will not be reimbursed by insurance. With the threshold at 7.5%, you can deduct the portion of your expenses that exceed $7,500 (7.5% of $100,000), which in

this example would be $12,500. If the threshold was 10%, you'd be limited to deducting just $10,000 in this example.

This change is only for two years: 2017 and 2018. The threshold is set to pop back up to 10% in 2019.

The restrictions on deducting home mortgage interest have tightened.

Beginning in 2018, the deduction for home mortgage interest is limited to the interest on $750,000 of acquisition indebtedness ($375,000 for married couples filing separately).

This change only affects new mortgages. The earlier $1 million limit ($500,000 for married couples filing separately) still applies to mortgages incurred before December 15, 2017.

The deduction for state and local taxes is capped at $10,000.

Congress batted around the idea of eliminating the deduction for state and local income taxes, but settled instead on capping the deduction for all state and local taxes at $10,000. This means that you can deduct up to a combined total of $10,000 ($5,000 for married couples filing separately) for all the state and local income and property taxes you pay. (You can still deduct state and local sales taxes in lieu of deducting state and local income taxes.)

The deduction for personal casualty losses is limited.

Prior to 2018, if your property was damaged in a storm, fire, or other casualty, you could deduct the part of your loss that was not reimbursed by insurance or other means and that exceeded 10% of your AGI. It did not matter whether your property was damaged in a natural disaster or in an individual event, such as a fire caused by a faulty furnace. The Act changes that aspect of the deduction. As of 2018, only losses that are attributable to a Presidentially-declared disaster can generally be deducted.

The limit on cash contributions is increased.

The Act increases the maximum amount you can deduct in one year for cash gifts to public charities to 60% of your AGI. The limit used to be 50%. (Gifts that exceed the AGI limit can generally be carried forward and the excess deducted over the next five years.)

Deductions for seating rights at college athletic events are denied.

Taxpayers can no longer take an 80% deduction for gifts they make to a college that grants them in exchange for their gifts the right to purchase tickets or seating at a college sporting event.

All miscellaneous itemized deductions subject to a 2% floor are suspended.

Prior to 2018, individuals could deduct certain miscellaneous expenses to the extent that the combined expenses exceeded 2% of their AGI.

Beginning in 2018, the Act suspends all miscellaneous itemized deductions that are subject to the 2% floor. The group of suspended deductions includes deductions for tax preparation expenses, investment fees and expenses, unreimbursed employee expenses (e.g., subscriptions to professional journals and trade magazines, union dues and expenses, dues for professional societies, tools and supplies used in your work, and work-related education), as well as several other expenses.

The exemption for the gift and estate tax doubles.

UNDER THE OLD LAW 2018	UNDER THE NEW LAW 2018
$5.6 million	**$11.2 million**

The Act doubles the exemption amount from $5 million to $10 million. The $10 million amount is indexed for inflation occuring after 2011. The exemption for 2018 under the new law is expected to be approximately $11.2 million after adjusting for inflation.

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OTHER NOTABLE ITEMS

Fewer estates will pay estate tax.
The Act doubles the amount—from $5.6 million to approximately $11.2 million—that can be exempted from federal gift, estate, or generation-skipping transfer tax. Married couples can use both spouses' exemptions to jointly shelter about $22.4 million from transfer tax.

The higher exemption amount applies to the estates of decedents dying and gifts made after December 31, 2017 and before January 1, 2026.

So until 2026, only very large estates will be impacted by the federal estate tax. Keep in mind, however, that smaller estates may still be subject to state estate tax in some states.

The option to undo a Roth IRA conversion is eliminated permanently.
If you convert a traditional IRA to a Roth IRA after 2017, there is no turning back. Prior to the Act, if you changed your mind before the due date for your tax return (including extensions), you could undo the conversion by having the converted amount moved back into a traditional IRA. This option to "recharacterize" a conversion was handy if the Roth IRA dropped in value soon after the conversion because it allowed you to avoid paying tax on the original conversion and gave you the option to convert again at a later date, with only the lower amount being subject to tax.

Although Roth IRA conversions made after 2017 cannot be undone, recharacterization is still an option for regular IRA contributions. For example, if you make a regular contribution to your Roth IRA in 2018, you have until roughly October 15, 2019 to recharacterize your contribution as having been made to a traditional IRA.

Alimony will be taxable to the payor for divorces after 2018.

Currently, alimony payments are deductible by the person making the payments and included in the income of the person receiving the payments, who is generally in a lower tax bracket. If you are currently divorced or will be in 2018, payments will continue to be treated this way. But for divorces or separation instruments executed after 2018, the payor will no longer be able to deduct alimony or separate maintenance payments and the recipient will no longer include the payments in their income.

529 savings plans can be used for elementary and high school.

Prior to the Act, withdrawals from 529 plans were only exempt from federal tax if they were used for qualified higher education expenses, such as college tuition and fees. Now, families can also generally withdraw up to $10,000 per student per year free from federal taxes for elementary and high school tuition. The school can be public, private, or religious. Please consult your financial advisor for more information on 529 savings plans.

Savings can be rolled over from a 529 account to an ABLE account.

The Act makes it possible for savings in a 529 education savings account to be rolled over without penalty into an ABLE account, as long as the ABLE account is owned by the beneficiary of the 529 account or a member of the beneficiary's family.

ABLE accounts are a relatively new type of account designed to help eligible individuals with disabilities save for qualified expenses without losing their eligibility for means-tested federal benefits, such as Medicaid.

The individual mandate penalty tax will be eliminated after 2018.

The Act eliminates the penalty tax for not having adequate health insurance coverage for months beginning after 2018.

The deduction for moving expenses is suspended for most taxpayers.

Unless you are a member of the armed forces on active duty, you can no longer deduct moving expenses. Previously, anyone who moved a certain distance to be closer to a new work location could generally deduct their moving expenses.

The teachers' deduction is preserved.

If you are an educator in grades K–12, you can still generally deduct up to $250 of the amount you pay out of your own pocket for professional development expenses, as well as books, equipment, and supplies used in the classroom.

No change to the rates on long-term capital gains and qualified dividends.

The tax rates are still 0%, 15%, or 20%. But rather than using the new tax brackets to determine who pays which rate, the Act uses the previous tax brackets, indexed for inflation. For example, single filers with taxable incomes greater than $425,800 and joint filers with taxable incomes greater than $479,000 will use the 20% rate for 2018.

The credit for plug-in electric vehicles is preserved.

Although the House proposed eliminating the credit, their proposal did not make it into the final bill. So you can still claim up to $7,500 tax credit for purchasing a plug-in electric vehicle. Keep in mind that the credit will phase out at a different time for each manufacturer, beginning when the manufacturer sells 200,000 qualifying vehicles in the U.S. ■

Please consult your tax advisor about how the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act may affect you and whether there are any tax planning moves you should make as a result of the new law.

8 Reasons to Participate in a 401(k) Plan

At last count, 54 million workers were saving for retirement in 401(k) plans. These employer-sponsored retirement plans are popular for many reasons—including the eight described here.

1 Reduce your current income tax. Income that you contribute to a traditional 401(k) account is not subject to income tax until you withdraw it from the account. Let's say you contribute $18,500 to your traditional 401(k) account this year. Your contribution reduces your taxable income by $18,500, resulting in lower income taxes for the year. If you are in the 35% tax bracket, for example, an $18,500 reduction in taxable income reduces your federal income tax by $6,475. Plus, a lower taxable income may help you qualify for certain tax breaks that have income limits.

2 Defer tax on your investment earnings. The earnings generated in a traditional 401(k) account are not taxed until they are withdrawn from the account. As a result, your savings may grow faster in a 401(k) than in a taxable investment account.

3 Gain access to a Roth account. Some 401(k) plans offer Roth accounts, in addition to tax-deferred traditional accounts. With a Roth account, your contributions are made from income that has already been taxed, but it is tax-free sailing from then on. Your earnings grow tax-free. Your withdrawals are tax-free, as long as you follow the rules for this type of account. And unlike Roth IRAs, which have income limits on who can contribute, you can contribute to a Roth 401(k) account no matter how high your income.

4 Rake in your employer's matching contributions. If your employer offers to contribute a certain amount to your account for every dollar you contribute, it is generally a good idea to take them up on their offer—it's free money after all and can help you move toward your savings goal more rapidly.

5 Make saving automatic. When you participate in a 401(k) plan, your contributions are automatically deducted from each paycheck and deposited into your account. There is no need for you to lift a finger. Besides making a 401(k) plan an extremely convenient way to save, automatic payroll deductions add discipline to the saving process. Your contributions are made on a set schedule, and because they go straight into your account, there is less temptation to spend that money on other things.

6 High contribution limits. Another benefit of a 401(k) plan is that they allow sizable contributions to be made each year. The maximum amount that can be contributed in 2018 is $18,500 ($24,500 if age 50 or older). In contrast, the maximum amount that can be contributed to an IRA is $5,500 ($6,500 if age 50 or older). Of course, there is no reason to choose between the two types of accounts. Even if you contribute to a 401(k) plan at work, you can still contribute to an IRA on your own, although your IRA contributions may not be tax deductible.

7 Take your savings with you when you leave. The savings in a 401(k) account are portable, meaning that you have the option to take them with you when you change employers. (Employer matching contributions must be vested before you have the right to them.) When you leave an employer, you generally have the option to leave the savings in your old employer's plan, transfer them to your new employer's plan (provided the new employer's plan permits this), transfer them to an IRA, or cash them out. When done properly, the first three options preserve the tax benefits associated with your savings—tax-deferred savings can continue to grow tax-deferred and tax-free Roth savings can continue to grow tax-free for as long as they remain in a retirement account or an IRA.

8 Protect your retirement savings from creditors. The assets in your 401(k) account are generally protected from your creditors in the case of bankruptcy or a lawsuit. ■

Please consult your financial advisor about how to save for your retirement.

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Self-employed?
Own a business without employees?

Consider an individual 401(k).

401(k) plans are not just for large businesses.

The individual or solo 401(k) is designed specifically for self-employed individuals and owner-only businesses with no employees other than a spouse.

It is easy to set up and operate, and IRS filings are generally not required until the plan's assets exceed $250,000.

Through a combination of salary-deferral and profit-sharing contributions, you may be able to contribute as much as $55,000 ($61,000 if age 50 or older) to your 401(k) account in 2018.

Financial Tips for Retirees and Seniors

These nine tips can help you meet retirement's financial challenges.
Please seek advice from your financial advisor about your specific situation.

1. Create a retirement income plan.
Perhaps the greatest risk facing many retirees is that they will spend their savings and investments too quickly, leaving nothing but Social Security for support in the later years of retirement. To help minimize this risk, it is a good idea to create an income plan that estimates how much you can withdraw from savings annually and how your portfolio should be invested to help minimize the risk of depleting your savings too soon.

Your optimal withdrawal rate will depend on several factors, including your age, your investment mix (conservative, moderate, or aggressive), and your other income sources (pensions, annuities, etc.). Your best move is to consult your financial advisor who can tailor an income plan for you. If you already have a plan, it is a good idea to check in with your advisor from time to time to determine whether adjustments are needed.

2. Consider an income annuity.
If you've recently retired and have concerns about your retirement savings running dry prematurely, consider purchasing an income annuity with part of your savings. Income annuities pay a guaranteed stream of income for life, with payments beginning immediately or in your 80s, depending on the type of annuity you choose. The guarantee is based on the claims-paying ability of the insurance company that issues the annuity.

3. Make charitable contributions from your IRA.
If you are over age 70½ and do not need the money to live on that you are required to withdraw each year from your traditional IRA, consider making your gifts to charity from that IRA.

IRA owners who are age 70½ or older can make tax-free distributions of up to $100,000 per year directly from their IRAs to qualified charities. The distributions count toward their required minimum distributions (RMDs) and escape taxation because they are not added to their taxable income as RMDs normally would be.

Although you cannot claim a charitable deduction for your donation, a reduction in your taxable income is preferable if you do not itemize deductions and so cannot deduct donations anyway.

4. Don't shy away from stocks for your long-term needs.
Stocks have historically outperformed bonds and cash over the long-term, and you may need them in your portfolio to help your savings last. Your financial advisor can help you determine whether stocks are appropriate for your portfolio.
Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

5. Plan for the possibility you may need help managing your finances one day.
If you do not already have a durable power of attorney for finances, consider contacting an estate planning attorney to have one set up. This legal document gives someone you trust the authority to handle your financial affairs (banking, investing, bill paying, etc.) if you ever become incapacitated. A revocable living trust is another way to transfer management of your assets if you become incapacitated, but it only works for the assets held by the trust.

6. Read over your will and other estate documents every year.
Have you changed your mind about any aspect of them? Your estate planning attorney can update the documents for you. It is also a good idea to have a professional look over the documents every few years or when major changes occur in your life (births, deaths, marriages) or the law.

7. Consolidate your retirement accounts.
If you have multiple retirement accounts, consolidating them into one or two accounts may make it easier for you to evaluate and manage your savings, as well as take any minimum distributions required after age 70½.

8.
Review your health insurance coverage before traveling outside of the U.S.

Medicare generally does not cover care received outside of the United States and its territories, although some Medigap policies may.

If you are not covered, consider purchasing travel health insurance.

9. Protect your checks, credit cards, and financial records from people you hire to work in your home.
Lock up your checkbook, credit and debit cards, and financial statements while workers, such as caregivers, are in your home. Financial and legal documents that you do not use frequently can be stored in a safe deposit box at a local bank. Keep in mind that a safe deposit box is not always the best place to store your will and other estate planning documents because a court order may be needed in some states for someone other than the box owner to open the box, making it difficult for your family to access the documents when needed. Wherever you do store them, make certain that the executor of your will and your family know where to find them. ■

Please consult your financial advisor for advice on how to manage your finances during retirement.

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GRAPE EXPECTATIONS | Lake Geneva, Switzerland

BY BRIAN JOHNSTON

The Swiss shoreline of Lake Geneva stretches only 65 miles, but it might take you days to enjoy one of the world's most scenic driving routes and its many attractive towns.

FORGET THE ALPS with their knobby-kneed hikers, kitschy yodelers, and tourist hordes. If it's splendid Swiss scenery you're after, go west instead. Drive at your leisure through sun-dappled vineyards and rolling hills along the shores of Lake Geneva in Switzerland's French-speaking western corner, where outlooks eyeball the snow-capped French Alps across the water. This isn't the stereotypical Switzerland of Heidi and high mountains, but the scenery is still stunning, and a sense of history oozes from castles and chic lakeside suburbs.

Start off on the stretch between Geneva and Lausanne known simply as La Côte (the shore). Once you get past the Geneva suburbs—which sprawl as far as Coppet, just over seven miles out —the villages are pretty as a picture. At Coppet, visit the impressive château, former home of Madame de Staël and her literary salon once frequented by the likes of English poet Lord Byron. From here you can drive to Céligny, a small lakeside port and former home of Richard Burton, who is buried in the graveyard.

Further along is Nyon, whose old city walls are linked by promenades under the chestnut trees, providing wonderful views across the lake to Mont Blanc, western Europe's highest peak. A pair of Roman columns and a statue of Julius Caesar take pride of place on the ramparts, and other ancient remains are still being uncovered.

It was the Romans who introduced vineyards to this region; many Swiss wines have Latin names. Throughout the medieval period the steep flanks of Lake Geneva were gradually terraced and more vineyards planted, some of the most

Vineyards in the wine-producing Lavaux region of Switzerland (left) cascade down terraced hillsides to the shores of Lake Geneva. Chillon Castle (below) boasts fortified towers, patrol galleries, a drawbridge, and stunning views of the mountains surrounding Lake Geneva.

important under the control of monasteries. La Côte is still dense with vineyards that produce seductively fruity Chasselas and some fine reds such as Pinot Noir, Gamay, and the rare Plant Robert.

Abandon your car on occasion, since walking routes along La Côte are delightful, with yellow pedestrian signs signaling directions and approximate walking times. At Luins you can hike up through the vine terraces until you come to a tiny church dating from 1393. The path then passes through oak and chestnut forests and finally opens onto meadows high above the lake. Back down in the village, you can tuck into a malakoff, a mixture of egg and cheese served hot on a bread base. Some argue the neighboring village of Vinzel does this local specialty even better. You could take the taste test: both villages have local inns.

Back on the road, you can drop down to the lakefront at Morges, dominated by a medieval castle. Morges has long been a center of wine production, and on weekends a street market provides samples of the local vintage, which is generally lively and fruity. Put together a picnic lunch of cheese, sausage, and seasonal fruit to munch on at the waterfront, which has a flower-filled promenade stretching for miles.

Further along the lake, Lausanne provides Lake Geneva's urban experience. Start off at the magnificent Gothic cathedral, from which the old town spills down the hillside in a waterfall of steps and covered arcades. Aim for the Place de la Palud, with its Renaissance town hall and outdoor cafés, where locals tuck into hearty helpings of veal and sausages.

Head on downhill (keeping a sharp eye out for teenagers on skateboards) and you'll eventually end up on the lakefront. The Ouchy district was once a fishing village until wealthy citizens a century ago decided to build villas and hotels here. Now it's a well-established part of Lausanne and lively on sunny afternoons when townsfolk enjoy beers on bar terraces and watch the French Alps across the lake turn pink in the evening light. Ouchy is also home to the IOC's headquarters. The Olympic Museum is worth a visit, and its gardens have a fascinating collection of statues and modern sculptures on sports-related themes, set among clipped hedges.

From here, the lake flanks get steeper and vineyards spread all the way to Montreux. Known as Lavaux, this wine-producing region is dominated by the Dézaley vineyard, developed by Cistercian monks in the Middle Ages, and one

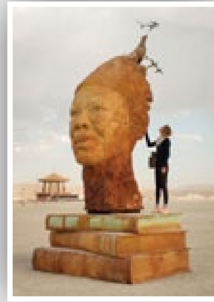
of the most famous in Switzerland. The Lavaux Vinorama introduces you to this World Heritage-listed wine region, and you can taste wines from a dozen cellar doors. Incidentally, the upmarket town of Vevey hosts one of the world's oldest-running wine festivals, with origins in the seventeenth century. The Fête des Vignerons, best known for its spectacular pageant, runs on a 22-year cycle and is next scheduled for summer 2019.

Even if wine isn't your interest, follow well-marked signs along the Route des Vignerons (Winemakers' Road) through villages teetering on increasingly spectacular hillsides. Dizzying terraces of vineyards tumble down to the water, while snowy mountains show off across the lake at every twisting corner. High at your back lie the meadows of Les Avants, carpeted in wild narcissi in springtime. Aim for a break at spectacularly-sited picnic tables as you leave the village of Chexbres: no better place for a baguette and hunk of cheese.

The last stretch of lakeshore is known as the Swiss Riviera, thanks to a mild micro-climate that sees palm and fig trees flourish, bringing a touch of the Mediterranean to Switzerland. In the nineteenth century, aristocratic Russians and British flocked here, and the lakeshore is lined by the villas of the rich and famous. Former residents Charlie Chaplin and Graham Greene are buried in the cemetery near Vevey. (Chaplin's villa has recently been opened as a museum celebrating his life and cinema career.) The local tourist office has a brilliant walking brochure called 'On the Trail of Hemingway' that leads around sites associated with Vevey's many famous residents or visitors.

Perhaps the most famous was Lord Byron, and any drive along Lake Geneva should finish at Chillon Castle, which he immortalized in a poem. Chillon is still the most famous building in Switzerland, and certainly the most stunning: the battlements stand out against lake and mountains to postcard perfection. The castle rises up like a medieval stereotype: fortified towers, patrol galleries, a drawbridge, beautiful casement windows, and flags fluttering from the rooftops.

If you need a leg stretch, you can get to Chillon from Vevey by simply following the lakeshore along four miles of promenades that are lined with palace-hotels and a riot of marigolds and geraniums. You'll pass the glass box of Nestlé's world headquarters, a statue of Charlie Chaplin twirling his cane, the luxury hotels of Montreux, and another statue of former resident Freddie Mercury strutting his stuff. Flowerbeds and cafés line the promenade the entire way, and panoramic views unfold. It's an idyllic walk among some of Switzerland's best scenery. Best of all, it's easy to relax, and there isn't a kitschy yodeler in sight. ■



One of the works in the exhibition 'No Spectators: The Art of Burning Man' at the Renwick Gallery in Washington, D.C.

Mischell Riley, *Maya's Mind*, 2017. Photo by Darrell Ansted.

Exhibitions to See This Summer

From the golden treasures of a boy king to the luminous canvases of Claude Monet, a wide array of special exhibitions awaits you at museums this summer.

BENTONVILLE, AR

Georgia O'Keeffe and Contemporary Art

Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art | May 26–Sept. 3, 2018

A selection of paintings by Georgia O'Keeffe is the centerpiece of this exhibition that also includes works by emerging contemporary artists that evoke, investigate, and expand on O'Keeffe's artistic legacy.

DALLAS

Ultimate Dinosaurs

Perot Museum | June 23, 2018–January 6, 2019

This special exhibition focuses on a new breed of dinosaurs discovered in the Southern Hemisphere (South America, Africa, and Madagascar) and explores how the break-up of the supercontinent Pangaea into today's continents affected the evolution of dinosaurs.

DENVER

New Territory: Landscape Photography Today

Denver Art Museum | June 24–September 16, 2018

The more than 80 photographs in this exhibition illustrate how photographers from around the world are stretching the boundaries of traditional landscape photography by manipulating their materials and processes to blur the distinction between observed and constructed imagery.

LONDON

Monet & Architecture

National Gallery, London | April 9–July 29, 2018

Featuring more than 75 paintings by Claude Monet (1840-1926), this exhibition focuses on his depictions of architecture, such as Rouen Cathedral and Gare Saint-Lazare, Paris. It also features a gathering of some of Monet's great 'series' paintings, such as paintings of Argenteuil, London, and Venice. More than a quarter of the paintings in the exhibition are from private collections and are rarely exhibited.

LOS ANGELES

King Tut: Treasures of the Golden Pharaoh

California Science Center | March 24, 2018–early January 2019

This new exhibition features more than 150 artifacts from Tutankhamun's tomb, including golden jewelry, elaborate carvings, sculptures, and ritual antiquities. Forty percent of the artifacts have never before travelled outside of Egypt, where they will return after a 10-city exhibition tour for permanent display at Egypt's new Grand Egyptian Museum.

MINNEAPOLIS

Excavating the Future City: Photographs by Naoya Hatakeyama

Minneapolis Institute of Art | March 4–July 22, 2018

Japanese artist Naoya Hatakeyama (b. 1958) uses photography to explore the growth and decline of cities in Japan. This survey of Hatakeyama's work features twelve of his photo series, representing nearly 100 works created over the past three decades.

PARIS

Delacroix

Musée du Louvre | March 29–July 23, 2018

This major exhibition brings together over 180 artworks by Eugène Delacroix (1798–1863). The works span the artist's career, from his early successes at the Salon of 1820 to his final religious and landscape compositions.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

No Spectators: The Art of Burning Man

The Renwick Gallery | March 30–September 16, 2018

If you can't make it to Burning Man (the annual week-long event held in the Nevada desert that features multistory experimental art installations), then swing by the Renwick Gallery instead where you can explore artworks and room-sized installations by several Burning Man artists. ■

QUIZ

America the Beautiful

1. If you are splashing through the creek in the Oneonta Gorge (photo 1) near the Columbia River, you are in:

A. Oregon
B. New York

2. If you are driving the Palouse Scenic Byway through rolling wheat fields (photo 2), you are in:

A. Washington
B. Iowa

3. If you are stargazing amidst Joshua trees (photo 3), you are in:

A. South Carolina
B. California

4. If you are watching the sunrise over the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve, you are in:

A. Kansas
B. Georgia

5. If you are driving among towering sandstone buttes in Monument Valley, you are in either:

A. Utah or Arizona
B. Colorado or New Mexico

6. If you are savoring the view from Hawksbill Crag (Whitaker Point) in the Ozark National Forest, you are in:

A. Maine
B. Arkansas

7. If you are visiting the state with the most covered bridges (200+), you are in:

A. Vermont
B. Pennsylvania

8. If you are awash in a sea of golden poppies in Antelope Valley, you are in:

A. Texas
B. California

9. If you are paddling among cypress and tupelo trees in the Atchafalaya Basin, you are in:

A. Louisiana
B. Florida

10. If you are watching a whale breach in the waters off the Kenai Peninsula, you are in:

A. Hawaii
B. Alaska

ANSWERS: 1-A, 2–A, 3–B, 4–A, 5–A, 6–B, 7–B, 8–B, 9–A, 10–B

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Our founder and Vice-President, Herb Shapiro, passed away in October 2016. His core values of providing personal service, maintaining market objectivity, and high standards of integrity and honesty with the clients he served, are deeply ingrained in the HMS philosophy.

Barbara Shapiro, President, is a Certified Financial Planner® and one of the first Certified Divorce Financial Analysts in Massachusetts. She holds a Master of Science in Finance from Suffolk University and is a Graduate of the Securities Industry Association Institute at the Wharton School. Additionally, she holds a Master of Education in Counseling from Boston University and a Master of Education in Moderate Special Needs from Northeastern University.

Among her many recognitions, Barbara has served as a National Board Member of the Securities Industry Foundation for Economic Education, past member of the Boston Jewish Community Women's Fund, and was the Treasurer of the Massachusetts Council of Economic Education. Barbara also co-authored a book, 'He Said: She Said:' a practical guide to finance and money during divorce, which was published in 2015. She is continually interviewed and quoted in all of the major financial publications.

Barbara is an active lecturer to diverse groups and educational institutions, and has written and teaches a course on financial planning, investments, and long-term care insurance.

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