



Asset Planning News!

We are pleased and excited to announce that Erin Nelsen, CFP® is now a partner/owner at Asset Planning, Inc. Erin has been with Asset Planning, Inc. since 2007. She has had been an integral member of our team and overall growth of our firm for the past 12 years. Our intention is to have all owners be active advisors to ensure the future and continued growth of API.

To accomplish this Diane Burch and Carol Patrick sold their shares to Erin and Carol. The ownership of Asset Planning, Inc. is now: Erin Nelsen =18%; Carol Somoano =30% and Sandra Field = 52%.

Volatility Returns But Markets Remain Resilient by Sandy

Markets were impressively resilient in the second quarter and registered gains despite deterioration in global economic activity and renewed uncertainty with U.S.-China trade. But, our years of experience have taught us not to become complacent just because markets have been resilient and to stay on guard for a market correction. As we start the third quarter, we face macroeconomic uncertainty on multiple fronts.

First, the U.S.-China trade situation remains delicate and very uncertain, and until there is a final agreement on a new U.S.-China trade pact, that lack of clarity will act as a headwind on economic growth and likely create temporary periods of volatility like we experienced in the second quarter.

Looking at the global economy, growth metrics underwhelmed in the second quarter, although the impact on global stocks was muted by rising market expectations of more stimulus from global central banks, including the Fed. There are many layoffs going on in the financial sectors, across all banks, mortgage lenders and trust and title companies. Ford announced layoffs of 9,000 workers. Chances of a recession now stand at 50/50.

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Five Wishes...by Carol

Everyone over age 18 should have a healthcare directive. The form is usually generic and might not convey all your wishes. I recently stumbled upon a private non-profit organization called Five Wishes. They provide a way for you to document exactly how you wish to be treated if you get seriously ill plus other details you want known by answering these 5 wishes:

Wish 1: The person I want to make care decisions for me when I can't.

Wish 2: The kind of medical treatment I want or don't want.

Wish 3: How comfortable I want to be.

Wish 4: How I want people to treat me.

Wish 5: What I want my loved ones to know.

California plus 41 other states accept this as a legal advance directive. The cost is \$5 and www.fivewishes.org is the website or contact me for the link or the form. We will be ordering 25 to have on hand for clients.

Volatility *continued*

Additionally, there are several unsettled geopolitical situations that must be monitored, including Brexit (the deadline is October 31st), North Korea (relations are still unsettled despite the recent Trump/Kim meeting) and Iran (the chances of a U.S.-Iran military conflict are as high as they've been in years). Who could have imagined (the first US) President Trump crossing the Demilitarized Zone between North Korea and South Korea at the invitation of dictator Kim Jong-un?

Money can't buy happiness but it can pay for the search *by Erin*

I feel very blessed to have just returned from a week in Cabo Mexico with my husband, son, daughter and daughter's boyfriend. This was a relaxing vacation filled mostly with eating and lounging by the pool. Being able to spend quality time with my young adult children is getting scarcer as their schedules are filled with jobs, college, and friends. Money can't buy



happiness, but it did afford me a great experience with the people that make me most happy. I hope all of you are putting your money to good use and enjoying your summer. We love to hear of our clients' travels so don't hesitate to email pictures and stories of your adventures.

Updates *by Melani*

We recently conducted an audit of our client files to make sure that everyone has a backup contact person on file with us. Many of you received a letter from me requesting a new backup contact information form be completed and mailed back to me. We want to assure you that your privacy is of utmost importance to us and we would never reach out to your backup contact person or give them any personal information. They would only be called if we are not able to reach you for a period of 60 days or if we had a true genuine concern for your wellbeing. Please get these forms out to me as soon as possible. If you did not receive a letter that means that we already have this information on file or you will be receiving a letter in the next batch of mailings.

Have you gone paperless yet? We give our clients the option to go paperless for quarterly reports and newsletters. If you are interested in going paperless please email Melani at melani@assetplanninginc.com. Great for the environment and less paperwork for you to keep track of!

"Never forget where you came from. Humility, gratitude, and recognition of your blessings keeps your success in proper perspective. You couldn't do what you have done without the help of countless other people" Jim Rohn

Market Review *by Carol*

The following are the market benchmarks for YTD and 1-year rolling (June 2018- June 2019). Most clients are in a 60/40 or 50/50 portfolio and that is the benchmark you should compare your portfolio performance to:

Benchmarks:	YTD
	June 2019
60% Equity/40% Fixed	10.99%
50% Equity/50% Fixed	9.85%
Barclays US Agg Bond	4.56%
S&P	17.35%
DOW	14.57%
iShares (EFA)Foreign	11.82%

Benchmarks:	June 2018- June 2019
60% Equity/40% Fixed	6.29%
50% Equity/50% Fixed	5.85%
Barclays US Agg Bond	4.73%
S&P	8.22%
DOW	10.11%
iShares (EFA)Foreign	-1.85%