



Newsletter

3rd Quarter 2013

Obamacare Enrollment Begins By Carol

On January 1, 2014, just about everyone must have medical insurance or face a tax penalty. Everyone must be able to get coverage, no matter how sick. To meet that goal, insurance exchanges opened on October 1 to start selling policies on-line. The website for California is www.coveredca.com. California's website had 5 million on-line hits and several glitches because the demand was so high. The website is the best resource to those that need insurance. Here are some highlights of the choices:

Plans are grouped by tiers: platinum, gold, silver and bronze. The finer the metal the higher the premium and coverage. There is a way to screen by doctors to see if they are in the plan. Currently, there are twelve insurance companies that offer policies in California.

If you are on Medicare you do not have to do anything. Obamacare will not affect Medicare or the supplement (Medigap) or Medicare advantage policies. Beware of phone scams or door to door sales targeting seniors. Medicare never contacts the public directly.

Medicare Enrollment Begins By Erin

Details on Medicare plans for 2014 will be published October 15th and you have until December 7th to select your coverage for the upcoming year. If you are currently on Medicare, you should have received a notice in September detailing changes to your part D and or Advantage plan. Average premiums for part D are expected to rise just one dollar per month. However, pay close attention to what you are getting for said premium. Most of the changes will be seen in co-payments, deductibles, co-insurance, and drug tiers. *Continued on pg 2*

Government Shutdown by Sandy

Our government shut down October 1 with both sides vowing to not bend and give in. My opinion is that this may last one week but it could be over by the time this reaches you. The last time we had an impasse was in 2008, during the passage of TARP, and the market reacted by falling 777 points. That was enough to get both sides negotiating a bit quicker. We also have the debt ceiling to deal with later this month. Failure to act would be very negative for the financial markets and the world economy. This is really the ordeal to watch- the debt-ceiling extension and our debt ceiling now stands at 16.7 trillion. If we reach an impasse, our debt will default. While the market has reacted in the past, I also believe it is becoming somewhat immune to the actions of our government.

"It easier to fool people than to convince them that they have been fooled" Mark Twain

Medicare continued...

Below is a list of resources available to help you evaluate part D, Medicare Advantage, & Medicare supplemental plans:

www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan

www.shiptalk.org

www.medicarenewswatch.com

www.Medicare.Allsup.com

www.ehealthMedicare.com

Gail Moreno Memorial Golf Tournament

October 19th is our 4th annual golf tournament that raises money for the Breast Cancer Angels. We thank everyone for their support by playing, sending in checks for sponsorship, and or buying golf balls. Please call or email if you would like to play. If you would like to participate in our Golf Ball draw, a \$10 donation will buy you a chance to win \$300 & help us raise funds for the Breast Cancer Angels. You can make your donation via Paypal by visiting www.gailmorenomemorial.com or sending a check to us made out to Breast Cancer Angels.

We are thankful to our wonderful sponsors who have donated money or gifts:

Eagle sponsors (\$1,000+): TD Ameritrade Institutional; Clint Davis of Crews & Associates and Ian D. Brodie, MD, Inc;

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In case you missed it, we attached a Money Makeover Carol did recently for The LA Times

*Bond Update
by Sandy*

The ten year treasury price and yield is the bell weather to watch. The yield was 1.69% at the beginning of the year, reached 3% within the past month and fell to 2.58% September 30th. Uncertainty over QE3, tapering, shutdown, government impasse and uncertainty impact the bond prices, which fall as the yield rises. I expect volatility in measured response to what can be agreed on within the next few weeks.

*Sweden & Norway
by Sandy*

I loved my vacation to Sweden and Norway- the scenery in Norway was some of the most beautiful I have ever seen. I hiked up a long path and then 470 steps to the top to take this photo and stayed on this island in Alesund, Norway. I had a full summer with ocean swims, travel and golf tournaments. I was fortunate to swim in Stockholm, Sweden where the FINA World Championships are held- amazing pools.

