

# The Bulletin

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 **Peck | Bulgin**  
Wealth Management  
of  
**RAYMOND JAMES®**

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# From the Desk

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## Market Volatility Perspective

If you're keeping up with the financial news lately, you've likely seen some alarming headlines such as "Stock Market Plummets" or "Stock Market Chaos."

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It's important to remember that news outlets often focus on grabbing attention with sensational and clickbait headlines. Keep this in mind as you read these stories.

Volatility is a normal part of investing. History shows that markets have always rebounded after periods of decline. Those with a well-thought-out plan, diversification, and patience have consistently seen rewards over the long run.

We understand that volatility can be unsettling, but staying focused on your long-term financial goals is vital. Our plans are designed to weather these fluctuations and keep your financial future on track.

Remember, we're here to navigate these times together. If you have any concerns or want to discuss your portfolio, please don't hesitate to reach out. Thank you for your trust and confidence in us.

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**A Powerful Week of Growth and Educational Conferences for the  
Peck Bulgin Wealth Management Team**

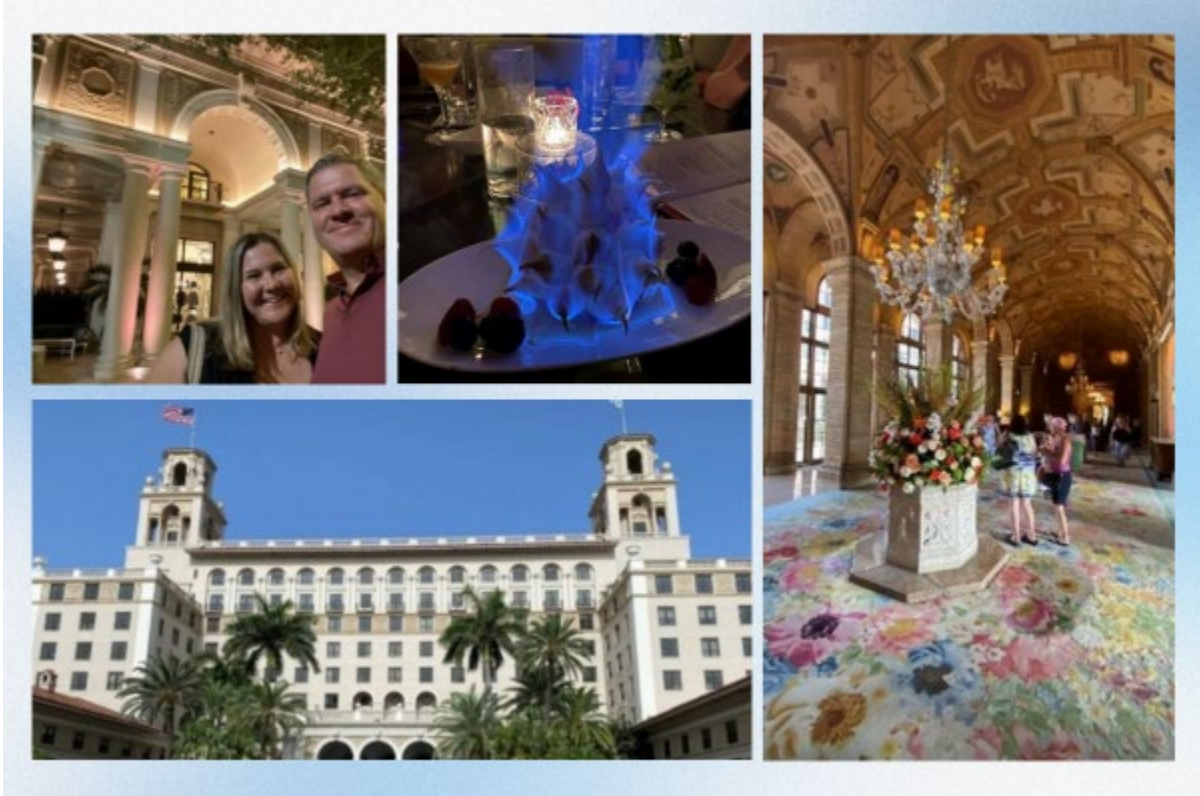




## **Raymond James Summer Development**

Casey, Jesse and Will attended the by invitation only Raymond James Summer Development conference at the Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Resort in Lake Buena Vista, Florida. The theme was Operation: Inspire – Unleashing the Power to Transform Lives. The speakers were inspirational and provided many ideas to better serve you! Raymond James President and CEO, Tash Elwyn, also presented at the conference. As a bonus, the financial advisors were able to spend some time at Disney with their families and came back to the office refreshed and ready to implement the new ideas they learned.

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### **American Institute of Architects, Florida Chapter Conference**

During the same week, Elizabeth attended the American Institute of Architects conference at the Breakers in Palm Beach, Florida with her husband Steve. If you have a chance, Elizabeth highly recommends a trip to this beautiful resort commissioned by Henry Flagler. While you're there, make sure to stop by HMF (Henry Morrison Flagler) for the Baked Alaska, pictured above. The exquisite architecture paired with the delicious food and beverages and gorgeous beach is quite the stimulation for the senses!

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# In the Spotlight

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### **Proud Uncle Jesse**

Congratulations to Jesse's brother Ben and his wife Stacy on the birth of their daughter, Abigail Ann Peck, born July 12th. She weighed 6 lbs 10 oz and was 20 inches long. Jesse is a very proud uncle and can't wait to meet Abigail later this month. Her older sisters Kenzie and Lauren (pictured above) are quite smitten!

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# Articles

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## **Preparing for Success: Back to School and Beyond**

As we bid farewell to the lazy days of summer, we warmly welcome the hustle and bustle of a new school year. Whether your child is embarking on their first day of kindergarten or gearing up for their final year of high school, this season marks a time of excitement and opportunity.

Back to school isn't just about buying new backpacks and sharpening pencils; it's also a poignant reminder of the importance of preparing for your child's educational journey, both academically and financially. No matter what stage your child is in, it's never too early to start planning and saving for their future educational endeavors.

If you need help exploring strategies for your child's education, we'd be happy to help. Together, let's empower our children with the tools they need to succeed in school and beyond.

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## Happy Labor Day!

As summer draws to a close, we're reminded of the dedication and perseverance that define our workforce. As we approach Labor Day, we enter a time of reflection and appreciation for the dedication and resilience of our workforce.

Labor Day originated as a tribute to the American labor movement and the social and economic achievements of workers. It's a moment to recognize the laborers whose efforts have shaped our communities and propelled our nation forward. From the builders constructing our cities to the healthcare professionals caring for our loved ones, and the educators shaping young minds, every sector of our workforce plays a vital role in our collective progress.

Join us in honoring this Labor Day as we pay tribute to the men and women whose labor has built and sustained our nation. Together, let's celebrate the achievements of our workforce and reaffirm our commitment to supporting a thriving and inclusive labor environment.

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## Enhance your corporate giving strategy with a donor advised fund

*Consider the benefits of an uncomplicated, tax-savvy way to give back.*

Giving can create positive change in people, institutions and communities. It sustains a multitude of worthwhile organizations, launches innovative new ideas and gives us a sense of fulfillment.

[Learn About Donor Advised Funds](#)





## The good business of saving for someone else's retirement

*As a growing number of state-facilitated retirement plans are implemented across the country, offering more robust employee benefits could benefit your business's bottom line.*

The auto-IRA. It started as the product of an unlikely collaboration between the Brookings Institution, a government think tank often described as liberal, and its conservative counterpart The Heritage Foundation.

### The Benefit of Benefits



## Crafting a retirement that evolves with you

*How high-net-worth individuals can make the most of retirement, from new ways of investing to preparing for the unexpected.*

You may be lucky enough to experience the gift of longevity, as many of today's retirees are expected to reach their 90th birthday and beyond. As you enjoy this exciting phase of your life, your

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financial and insurance plans should evolve with you. Below are some tips for the savvy high-net-worth individual to help ensure that you're making the most of your retirement.

## What to Review with Your Retirement



### **Tailor your taxes for retirement**

*From withdrawals to conversions, taxes in retirement can be a balancing act.*

After a fruitful career and plenty of practice paying taxes, you may feel prepared for the tax man in retirement. But a review of your post-retirement taxable income may yield some surprising insights. Examining your position can help you design ways to optimize your current investment strategy. Taking a new look at both fixed and flexible expenses provides the opportunity to ask questions and have discussions with your financial advisor about the tax implications of your total portfolio. When it comes to taxation, the more thorough the examination, the better.

## Optimise Your Current Retirement Investment Strategy

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## **Social Security's uncertain future?**

*It's an election year, which means you can expect to hear presidential candidates being asked about their plan for preventing Social Security from going bankrupt.*

While you may not hear a clear answer, you can rest assured that Social Security is not going bankrupt.

Social Security benefits are primarily funded by the payroll taxes collected from today's workers. Money goes into a pot called (believe it or not) the Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund, and benefits are dispersed from there. It's a pay-as-you-go system, so as long as workers are paying payroll taxes, Social Security benefits will be paid.

**[Social Security's Future](#)**

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# Market Recap

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	12/29/23 Close	07/31/24* Close	Change Year to Date	% Gain/Loss Year to Date
DJIA	37,689.54	40,842.79	+3,153.25	+8.37%
NASDAQ	15,011.35	17,599.40	+2,588.05	+17.24%
S&P 500	4,769.83	5,522.30	+752.47	+15.78%
MSCI EAFE	2,241.21	2,340.81	+99.60	+4.44%
RUSSELL 2000	2,027.07	2,254.48	+227.41	+11.22%
BLOOMBERG AGGREGATE BOND	2,162.21	2,184.96	+22.75	+1.05%

\*Performance reflects index values as of market close on July 31, 2024. Bloomberg Aggregate Bond and MSCI EAFE reflect July 30, 2024, closing values.

*While election news dominated July's headlines, small-cap stocks had their best monthly performance relative to large-cap stocks since December 2000.*

Election news dominated headlines through July and culminated in President Joe Biden declining to seek a second term, instead endorsing Vice President Kamala Harris as the Democratic Party's candidate. The markets don't particularly like uncertainty, but the turbulence that followed this commotion is not likely to linger as more fundamental market forces play out.

[See Full Market Update](#)

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## August Featured Cocktail

Elizabeth's favorite cocktail while at The Breakers, was "The Marilyn" from the HMF lounge. She attempted to recreate it at home. This is her version.



### *Ingredients & Directions:*

2.5 parts Mezcal  
2 parts Lychee  
1 part Lime juice  
1 part Coconut Water  
1/2 part Agave Nectar  
2 parts Toasted Coconut  
1 part Coconut Sugar

Blend toasted coconut and coconut sugar until medium fine and use to rim rocks glass. Fill cocktail shaker with ice and add first five ingredients. Shake thoroughly and strain into ice filled glass that is rimmed with the coconut sugar mixture.

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## Let's Connect!





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Keep in mind that individuals cannot invest directly in any index, and index performance does not include transaction costs or other fees, which will affect actual investment performance. Individual investor's results may vary.