

# The Bulletin

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

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# From the Desk

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## Keep Politics Out of Your Portfolio - 2024 Edition

The U.S. Presidential election is dominating news cycles, and as an investor, it's easy to let political fervor influence your investment decisions. However, maintaining a clear boundary between politics and your portfolio is crucial for long-term financial success. Here are several strategies to help you navigate election years without letting politics sway your thinking.

- **Markets Don't Pick Sides:** Growth is driven by the economy, tech, and global events – not who's in office.
- **Political Predictions Are Tricky:** Betting your investments on specific political outcomes is risky because the path from campaign promises to enacted policies is often unpredictable.
- **Stay Rational:** Emotionally charged choices aren't often based on sound financial principles.
- **The Power of Diversification:** Diversifying your investments reduces the impact of any single political event.
- **Embracing a Long-Term Perspective:** Staying focused on your long-term goals helps you ride out the temporary waves of election-related market movements.

Successfully navigating election years requires a disciplined approach that keeps politics out of your portfolio. Look at the bigger picture, set aside your political beliefs, and you'll make smarter decisions with your money.

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## October Raymond James Longevity Planning Partner Feature: Broadspire Care Management

**Broadspire**  
A CRAWFORD COMPANY

### Personalized care.

Raymond James has chosen to work with Broadspire to help ensure you or your loved one receive the very best care.

### Broadspire One Pager

Broadspire helps plan for the largest financial factors in retirement: housing and healthcare. In a market that is often confusing and fragmented, Broadspire care managers have the skills to assess quality care options from the most cost-effective sources. Broadspire assesses, recommends and facilitates aging-in-place strategies and care needs for older adults, from minor home modifications to finding the best memory care facility. All care managers are registered nurses, vocational counselors or social workers with extensive backgrounds in long-term and elder care.

Please visit the dedicated Raymond James [website](#) to learn more about Broadspire.

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# In the Spotlight

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## **Jumbo Shrimp Game**

What a great night at the Peck Bulgin Wealth Management annual Jumbo Shrimp Game! The weather was beautiful, and we had a good turnout. Thank you to all who attended, we enjoyed spending the evening with you!

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# Articles

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## **Your business deserves an "estate plan"**

*Drafting a succession plan now can help your business stand the test of time.*

As a business owner, you've invested so much into making your business successful - hard work, time, money, energy.

It's truly hard to imagine your business without you. But chances are there will come a day when someone else will take the reins. And a seamless succession plan, one carefully and thoughtfully devised well in advance, is essential to making sure your business enjoys continued success for generations to come.

**[How to Start Your Estate Plan](#)**

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## **A business owner's guide to year-end tax planning**

*Tax mitigation strategies can help the bottom line.*

While these are by no means exhaustive, these tax ideas can be a great starting point for year-end planning. With a complex and ever-changing tax code, it's a good idea to schedule a meeting with your financial advisor and tax professional as well.

### **Tips for Year-End Tax Planning**

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## **Wealth and taxes: The potential benefits of municipal bond investing**

*Explore fixed-income tools that generate income and infrastructure.*

"Once you reach a certain level of wealth, the conversation shifts. We aren't talking about accumulating anymore; we're talking about preserving."

This is how Nick Goetze, managing director of Fixed Income Solutions at Raymond James, frames things when he talks about bonds. And when it comes to preserving your wealth, some bonds are built differently.

**Learn If Municipal Bonds Are For You**



**Make your files findable when you leave them to your heirs**

*Living life and facing death can be liberating - and it doesn't have to be hard.*

Depending on the source, about half of Americans know they should have a will but don't. And a National Library of Medicine study found that in 2017 only a third of us had completed end-of-life forms that outline our wishes for comfort and care during that transition. Not surprising, maybe, since the process can be confusing and perhaps distressing when considering our own mortality. What may be surprising is the fact that the unpredictable pandemic may have shifted Americans' attitudes toward codifying our wishes in a very practical sense.

[Get Started on Your Estate Plan Organization](#)

# Market Recap

	12/29/23 Close	09/30/24* Close	Change Year to Date	% Gain/Loss Year to Date
DJIA	37,689.54	42,330.15	+4,640.61	+12.31%
NASDAQ	15,011.35	18,189.17	+3,177.82	+21.17%
S&P 500	4,769.83	5,762.48	+992.65	+20.81%
MSCI EAFE	2,241.21	2,447.79	+206.58	+9.22%
RUSSELL 2000	2,027.07	2,229.97	+202.90	+10.01%
BLOOMBERG AGGREGATE BOND	2,162.21	2,263.44	+101.23	+4.68%

\*Performance reflects index values as of market close on September 30, 2024. Bloomberg Aggregate Bond and MSCI EAFE reflect September 27, 2024, closing values.



*The S&P 500 notched its first positive performance in a September since 2019.*

September is typically the weakest month of the year for stocks, but thanks to the much-anticipated federal funds rate cut, the S&P 500 turned in its first positive performance in a September since 2019, achieving its 43rd record high of the year.

[See Full Market Update](#)

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**October Featured Cocktail**

**Fall Inspired Old Fashioned**



*Ingredients:*

2 oz. Woodford Reserve  
Double Oaked Bourbon  
1 tsp Maple Syrup  
2 dashes Orange Bitters  
2 dashes Aromatic Bitters  
1 pinch Cinnamon  
1 Luxardo Cherry  
Orange Peel, Cinnamon Stick  
for Garnish

*Instructions:*

Add first 5 ingredients to  
mixing glass and stir. Pour into  
lowball glass over sphere of  
ice and add Luxardo cherry.  
Garnish with orange peel and  
cinnamon stick. Cheers!



On this night of thrills and chills, may your celebrations be unforgettable. Happy Halloween!

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Let's Connect!



Caring Relationships Begin Here

## Let's Have a Conversation

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### **Our mailing addresses are:**

1416 Park Ave., Suite 202 Fernandina Beach, FL 32034

245 Riverside Ave., Suite 500 Jacksonville, FL 32202-4927

T: 904-348-5450 | TF: [800.363.9652](tel:800.363.9652) | F: [904.858.4086](tel:904.858.4086)

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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.