

NELSONCORPNEWS

APRIL
2022

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We talk about current narratives and why we need to be able to tune out some of these distractions. p6

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YOUR NELSONCORP TEAM



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RANDY RICHARDS



HAPPY EASTER!

It's springtime! Isn't this a great time of year?

Life is waking up. The weather is warming up. The pollen is stuffing some of us up. And things are starting to grow again. I saw a few industrious people braving the last vestige of winter to clean up their yards!

This time of year brings so many different holidays and traditions, but the most celebrated is Easter.

Easter is full of the symbols representing hope, life, and rebirth.

For example, the Easter Lily is the traditional flower of this holiday, and it represents joy, spirituality, hope, and life. It must spend 3 years in a dormant state before it can finally bloom.

The thing that I love about this holiday is that no matter how you celebrate Easter, whether it is an Orthodox tradition or a casual one, it is a holiday that represents new life, growth, and the chance to rise up.

I wish you and yours a very Happy Easter!

David Nelson

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Jeans for Charity supports Clinton County Resource Center

THINGS TO NOTE

Our new office on Utica Ridge Road in Davenport is now open and we are meeting with clients there. For details and the new address, see pages 14-15.

NelsonCorp Nuggets

There were 1.12 million housing starts in the US in calendar year 2021, the largest US total reported since 2006.

Source:
Census Bureau

Read NelsonCorp Nuggets every Tuesday and Saturday on the front page of the Clinton Herald.

EASTER IN UKRAINE



As you know, Easter is here. And while this is always a cause for celebration, right now most of the world continues to be transfixed by the awful war going on in Ukraine.

Recently, while reading about Ukraine, I learned that Easter is one of the country's most important holidays. In fact, it's both a major religious occasion and an ancient springtime festival dating back thousands of years. So, this year, I thought it would be interesting to explore some Ukrainian traditions. If you celebrate Easter, borrowing some of their ideas can be both a fun activity and a way to express support for the Ukrainian people.

Four Ukrainian Easter Traditions

Willow Branches

In much of the world, the Sunday before Easter – known as Palm Sunday – is observed by distributing palm branches in honor of Christ's entry into Jerusalem. For Ukrainians, it is Willow Sunday. Besides being more readily available than palm fronds, the willow is the national tree of Ukraine. Willow trees blossom in early spring and symbolize the beginning of new life. Accordingly, Ukrainians will decorate their homes with willow branches. They also tap their friends with the branches to bestow health, wealth, and happiness, saying, "Be as big as the willow, healthy as water, and rich as the earth."¹

Food Baskets

Like here in the United States, baskets play an important role during Easter. In Ukraine, people will fill their baskets with food for eating on Easter morning. Here are some common items you can find in these baskets, along with what each item symbolizes:

Paska (bread) – Christ, the Bread of Life

Eggs – New Life and the Resurrection of Christ

Horseradish – The Passion of Christ

Bacon – God's Mercy

Cheese – The moderation that people should show in all things

Salt – The duty of people to others

Ham – The great joy and abundance of Easter

Butter – The Goodness of Christ

Kielbasa – God's Favor and Generosity

Easter Bread

One of the items mentioned above was paska. This is a special bread made only for Easter. One popular variation is called a babka. Cylindrical in shape, it often contains a white glaze made from sugar and eggs. Flavorings may include ginger, saffron, vanilla, and rum. Sometimes people decorate the

bread with ornaments, like a cross. Traditionally, the entire house must be silent while the bread is made, and the baker should keep their thoughts as pure as possible.

If you want to try some of this special bread, you can find many recipes for all kinds of paska on the internet. Here is a link to one to get you started!

Easter Eggs

Ukrainians also color eggs for Easter, just as we do here. But it's fair to say that their designs are far more intricate and decorative. Known as pysanka, Ukrainians hand-paint raw eggs using a stylus dipped in hot wax. The eggs can be decorated with a variety of colors, symbols, patterns, and even words. Take a few minutes to look at pictures of pysanka on the internet. They are true works of art, and a veritable feast for your eyes!

I hope you've enjoyed this little glimpse into how Easter is celebrated in another part of the world. This year, I imagine it will be very difficult for Ukrainians to observe Easter, so we should remember how lucky we are to have the chance to do so in peace.

If you decide to try any of these traditions, please let me know – and even send me some pictures! However you celebrate the occasion, I wish you and your family a safe and happy Easter!

THE LESSONS OF OPPORTUNITY

We love reading stories about people achieving their goals. After all, that's what we help folks do every day! If you've been reading our letters, you know that whenever we find a good story, we tend to share it. Usually, the stories we find are fairly recent, but occasionally, we learn about something that happened some time ago. Such is the case with this story – one of the most unique tales about “achieving your goals” that we've ever come across.

Because it happened both some time ago...and on a planet far, far away.

The hill was only thirty centimeters high, but it was enough to keep some of the world's best scientists spinning their wheels. Literally.

On April 25, 2005, NASA's Opportunity rover – a mobile robot exploring the surface of Mars was traversing the tiniest speed bump imaginable when its wheels became stuck in a sand dune. The dune was less than a foot high, but try as it might, the rover just couldn't get over it. Opportunity's wheels continually slipped and spun, until finally they became buried hub-deep in the fine Martian sand.

For the scientists and engineers back on Earth, this tiny speed bump had become a serious obstacle. An obstacle to a dream that was several years – and \$400 million dollars – in the making. If NASA couldn't free it, the rover would never be able to complete its mission. But on a planet more than 208 million miles away, it's not like they could simply call a tow truck.

So, NASA set to work. After a lot of planning, they figured out

the best way to get Opportunity moving forward again so it could reach its goals. Right away, they determined that the worst thing they could do was simply throw more power into the problem. While it could have been possible to divert maximum power to the wheels, the engineers knew it was too risky. For one, it might not work. Or they might free the rover from one dune only to plow it into another. Worst of all, they knew they might burn up too much of Opportunity's power for the short term, leaving too little for the long term. In other words, simply “gunning it” and hoping for the best wasn't going to work. Neither would spinning the wheels – that had already been done, and we all know the definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over and expecting different results.

That left NASA with only one option. Since it was just a few centimeters that got Opportunity into this mess, it would require a few centimeters to get it out.

Over the next several weeks, the engineers directed the rover to turn its wheels back and forth, spinning just a few rotations at a time. Every turn was planned; every rotation monitored. To a casual observer, it might have seemed that nothing was happening. But bit by bit, the rover was able to move forward, even if the moment was interminable to the naked eye. Between May 13 and June 4, Opportunity's tires “churned 192 meters (629 feet) worth of wheel rotations before gaining enough traction to actually move one meter.”¹ In other words, it took about twenty days for the rover to move three feet!

It was a painstaking process of making simple adjustments. But it worked! On June 6, NASA proudly announced that the crisis had been averted and Opportuni-

ty was once again on the move. Furthermore, the scientists now had a better understanding of why it got stuck in the first place so they could make sure it never happened again. The result? The rover explored Mars for another thirteen years – when it had only been designed to serve for 90 days. That meant its lifespan was fifty-five times longer than expected. To this day, it's considered one of the most successful missions in NASA's entire history. And all it took was a few small adjustments.

Small...but powerful.

The reason we found this story so inspiring is because it shows two things:

1. Even small hurdles can seem like insurmountable obstacles.

Those hurdles may be due to unexpected life events, like losing a job or a loved one. They may be due to chronic hardships like a health condition. They may be due to the fact there are only so many hours in a day, that there

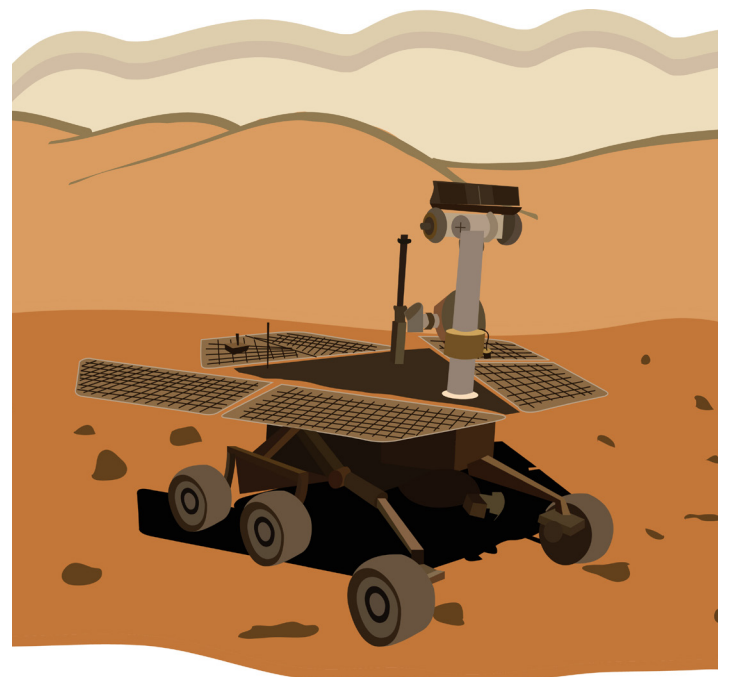
are too many expenses to deal with, or a hundred other things. Either way, there's no shame in feeling stuck. Like you're constantly spinning your wheels yet going nowhere. I mean, if some of the greatest minds in the world can feel that way, so can we!

2. Any obstacle, no matter how challenging, can be overcome.

That's because, when our wheels do start spinning, the answer is simple: Make small but meaningful adjustments until we're back on track. When it comes to reaching our goals, we don't have to be Superman. We don't have to look for magical solutions. Neither do we have to throw up our hands in despair. All we have to do is be patient and thorough. Day by day, bit by bit, turn by turn...we will get to where we want to be. And where others see obstacles?

We will see Opportunity.

Have a great month!



ACTIVE VS PASSIVE FUNDS



Last newsletter, we looked at the differences between stocks and bonds. But these days, most “regular” investors – i.e., non-professional – have neither the time or expertise to research and select individual stocks. (Or bonds, for that matter.) Furthermore, doing so can subject your portfolio to increased risk and unexpected tax consequences. That's why investors usually rely on a different method: Putting their money into some type of fund.

An investment fund is when a group of investors pool their money to invest in the same portfolio of stocks or other securities. There are two major advantages of funds: Cost and simplicity. By pooling your money with other investors, you can gain access to a diverse basket of stocks for less than if you bought each stock individually. Funds also make it simpler for investors to get started, since they don't have to research and select each individual company.

These days, most people invest either through an employer-sponsored retirement plan, like a 401(k), or an Individual Retirement Account (IRA). Either way, this usually involves selecting between one or more funds to invest in. But here lies the problem for many people, even the financially savvy: How do you know which funds to choose? And what's

the difference between them, anyway?

Both in this newsletter, and in the next, we're going to address that issue. We'll start with one of the most common questions we get, especially from beginning investors:

What's the Difference Between Passively Managed and Actively Managed Funds?

If you're investing in, say, an IRA, most of the fund choices you'll see will fall under one of two categories: Passive vs Active.

Let's start with the latter. An actively managed fund is exactly what it sounds like: A fund where a manager takes an active role in selecting which securities to buy or sell, and when.

Different managers have varying styles and philosophies. For example, some may specialize in finding companies they believe are undervalued, which means they can be bought at what is believed to be a good price.

Others may try to find companies they think are likely to grow by a significant amount. Some managers may specialize in certain industries or market sectors. You get the idea. Either way, with active management, you are paying for one of two things:

The possibility that the fund will “outperform” the market. This means the fund could do better over a specified period than a benchmark index – like the S&P 500 – that it measures against.

The possibility that the manager will be able to protect you against undue risk or limit losses during times of market volatility. (Note that this idea more generally fits the purpose of hedge funds than the standard mutual funds you'll usually see in your IRA or company 401(k). We'll cover these types of funds next month!)

The possibility of outperforming the market comes with some trade-offs, however:

Actively-managed funds often come with more – and higher – fees than passively managed funds. That's because the manager must charge for his or her services.

While it's possible for a manager to outperform, it's also possible to “underperform.” When that happens, you are essentially paying more for less.

Now, let's look at passively managed funds. Here, there is no “active” or research-based management decisions to the buying or selling of holdings. Instead, the fund invests in a specifically designed portfolio and then stays put. The fund may “rebalance” at some other set time frame, often quarterly or annually. This is to reset to its original objective or to match its index better. Otherwise, everything is held for the long-term.

These days, many passive funds are index funds. This is when the fund's portfolio is built to try to match a target index, like the S&P 500. So, if you essentially want to replicate a broader stock

market, again like the S&P 500, index funds could be the way to go.

Passive funds come with the following advantages:

Typically, much lower cost, especially with index funds. Because there's nobody actively picking stocks, the fund could come with fewer expenses, and thus, lower fees.

However, the target index performs, with occasional variances, that's how you're likely to perform, too. Given that indices like the S&P 500 have historically risen in value over the long-term, that could make index funds a good option for those who want to invest and forget it for a long period of time.

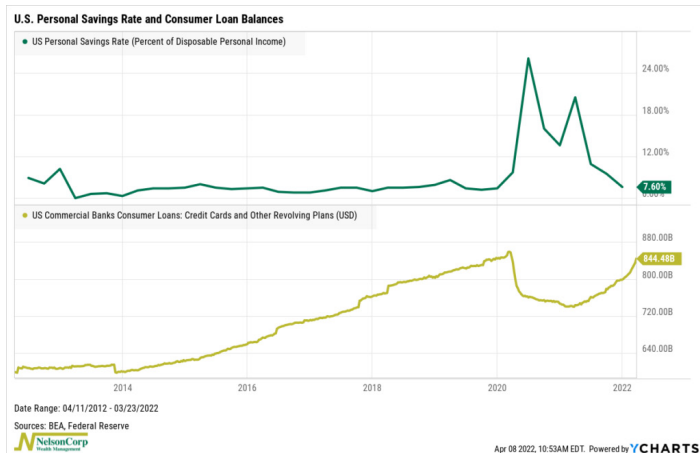
On the other hand...

There's little chance of outperforming the market. That's an issue if you need more aggressive returns. In addition, index funds come with no specific protection against extreme volatility. Note that when you make your selections in a 401(k) or IRA, you can tell whether a fund is active or passive by reading its summary. (More on that in a future letter.) I should also note that passive vs active doesn't have to be a binary choice. Many investors take advantage of both options in their portfolio!

While most funds are either active or passive, there are many types of funds within those two categories. Next month, we'll look at a few of those types, including mutual funds, hedge funds, and exchange-traded funds.

Have a great month!

BACK TO NORMAL



One of the weird things about the 2020 recession was that household balance sheets in the U.S. actually improved quite a bit. Not only did the personal savings rate skyrocket, but credit card debt plummeted as well.

A combination of fiscal and monetary support from the government and a drop in overall demand from consumers was the primary reason for this.

But, as our chart above shows, this era is coming to an end. The government is no longer providing much stimulus to consumers, while consumer demand has come roaring back as people are ready to spend down their savings.

The personal savings rate (green line, top clip) is back to 7.6%, in line with the historical average before the pandemic. Additionally, consumer loan debt (gold line, bottom clip) is nearly back to pre-pandemic levels.

It's interesting to see how the double peaks in the savings rate corresponded to the multiple rounds of stimulus checks that have gone out to consumers over the past two years. You can also see that after the last round of checks went out last year, the savings rate plummeted, and consumer loan debt (i.e., credit card debt) started rising again.

So essentially, we are back to where we started before the pandemic. And it appears that consumer spending habits are more or less back to normal.

NelsonCorp Nuggets

A "food price index" that measures the change in food prices internationally was up 19.6% on a year-over-year basis as of 1/31/2022.

Source:
Food & Agriculture Org. of the U.N.

Read NelsonCorp Nuggets every Tuesday and Saturday on the front page of the Clinton Herald.

NELSONCORP MEDIA APPEARANCES

Make sure to catch our weekly educational content featured on television, radio, and the local paper. If you missed any of it, it is available on our website at www.nelsoncorp.com.

On 4 Your Money in March we covered many topics. David Nelson talked about financial market performance around past crisis events in the wake of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. He also talked about recent IRS rule changes that incorporate longer life expectancies. John Nelson talked about the Federal Reserve rate policies and how they compare to previous rate hike cycles. Then David covered the performance differential seen in US vs. international stocks. Then he wrapped up the month discussing the dismal performance that bonds have experienced recently.



4 Your Money airs Tuesday mornings on FOX 18 News at 8am and on WHBF CBS Local 4 News at around 6:10pm.



Financial Focus airs every Wednesday at 9:00 am on KROS FM 105.9 and AM 1340.

CLINTON HERALD

On Financial Focus, David Nelson discussed the rate hike cycles and how different regimes impact financial markets in different ways. Nate Kreinbrink and James Nelson discussed the recent geopolitical events and how they impact markets. Nate and Andy Fergurson talked about this year's tax season and the forms that taxpayers should be paying attention to. Then Nate and James talked about the stock market volatility and the potential that could create for tax planning.

In the Clinton Herald recently David Nelson has written about inflation, interest rates, and bond performance. He dives into the drivers of the behavior of these and what the current state of things looks like.

David Nelson is a guest columnist every 1st and 3rd Saturday in the Clinton Herald.

TUNE OUT THE NOISE



Imagine you're an elite athlete. Maybe it's March Madness, and you're about to shoot the game-winning free throw. The crowd is screaming in your ears. Opposing fans are taunting you with homemade signs and foam fingers. The opposing team is trash-talking. And, when you look at the faces of your teammates, you can see they are silently imploring you to succeed.

In short, there is a lot of noise and distraction, at the precise moment when what you really need is a little quiet. Nevertheless, that's the nature of the game. The question is, what are you going to do about it? Let it affect you...or tune it out?

Few people will ever know quite what it's like to perform athletic feats under these conditions. But people like you and me do know something about pressure. About distraction. About noise. About how important it is to not let that noise deter us from executing our game plan. That's because we're investors!

Every few years, investors are confronted with our own "March Madness." A time when there's a lot of noise to contend with. We are going through just such a period right now. The markets have been volatile, the headlines have been scary, and it's extremely easy for investors to panic and abandon their game plan. That's especially true for folks who are nearing retirement. Because the noise may well increase over the next few weeks, I decided to pen this letter. Very briefly, I want to preview some of the noise you're likely to hear this spring. That way, you can be mentally prepared for it – and like an elite athlete, tune it out

entirely. Because whether you're shooting a free throw or saving money for your retirement, that's the best way to keep your nerve, trust yourself...and win.

So, without further ado, let's start with:

Oil

Soon after Russia invaded Ukraine, oil prices – which had already been rising for months – shot up to near-historic levels. There are many reasons for this, but the primary one is based on concern that western sanctions will block Russian oil from reaching global markets. Because traders and speculators expect oil to be less available – and thus more expensive – in the future, they are willing to pay more now for the right to buy it later.

After rising as high as \$127 a barrel, prices dropped back below \$100 towards the middle of March. A few days later, though, prices rose sharply again. It's safe to assume this volatility will continue.

But a lot depends on two factors. First, whether European nations place an embargo on Russian oil. Second, whether other countries – especially in the Middle East – are willing to boost their production to increase supply. The headlines on both issues seem to change daily. So, rather than try to guess – or stress – over which way the needle will land, let's remember this instead: it's that very uncertainty that causes markets to spasm and shudder. The best antidotes to uncertainty, in my experience, are time and patience. Time brings clarity and clarity brings

calm. As investors, we have time on our side...which means we can afford to be patient!

Russia

Russia is the major storyline right now. Militarily, economically... and financially.

The financial side doesn't get as much press, but it's certainly something Wall Street is keeping an eye on. You see, western sanctions have hit Russia hard. They've caused the value of the ruble – Russia's currency – to plummet. The Russian stock market has been closed for almost a month. And they've also contributed to the possibility of Russia defaulting on its debt.

Here's the situation in a nutshell. As of 2021, Russia owes around \$490 billion in debt to foreign countries/companies/funds, etc. 2 Of that number, \$20 billion is hard currency sovereign debt. (Debt that Russia must pay back in the creditor's own currency, like the dollar or Euro.) Of that number, \$4.7 billion was due to be paid in both interest and principal this year. 2 The problem is that sanctions have frozen much of Russia's foreign currency reserves. That means Russia can't access the dollars and Euros it

has in reserve to pay back these loans. Furthermore, trying to pay them back in rubles would trigger an automatic default.

For Russia, and Russia's creditors, this is definitely an issue. But for the average investor, it isn't something to lose sleep over. Most bonds – other than some specialty

emerging market funds – have little exposure to Russian debt. And even if Russia does default, which it has currently not yet done, there are other issues that affect us in the States to a far greater degree. Issues like...

Inflation

COVID-19 brought many changes when it burned its way across the world in 2020 and 2021. It prompted lockdowns, wreaked havoc on supply chains, and curtailed everything from watching a movie on the big screen to eating out at restaurants.

Slowly but surely, though, our economy has reopened. Unfortunately, while unemployment has dropped and consumer spending has risen, supply chains are still in recovery mode. That means the world's demand for goods and services has largely outpaced the world's supply. This has led to a general rise in price on everything from eggs to electricity.

Economists have a name for this, of course. They call it inflation.

As you know, inflation has skyrocketed over the last year. Initially, the Federal Reserve, which is tasked with keeping prices stable, believed inflation to be temporary. So, they focused instead on stimulating the economy to end the recession and decrease unemployment.

In recent months, though, the Fed has been forced to concede that inflation isn't going away on its own. You see, the current low interest rates prompt more spending and borrowing while

discouraging saving. Perfect for juicing the economy during a pandemic! Higher interest rates, on the other hand, encourage saving. This helps the economy cool off, thereby restraining inflation.

On March 17, the Fed raised interest rates for the first time since 2018. But the increase was small – just one-quarter of a percentage point. That's because the Fed doesn't want to raise rates too high, too quickly and derail the economy. But this is merely the first in a series of planned increases, all culminating in a level near 2% by the end of the year.³

The Fed has also signaled that if the current plan isn't enough to bring inflation to heel, more aggressive steps may be necessary. Either way, be prepared for volatile days in the markets leading up to any rise in interest rates. Should this happen, though, remember that rising interest rates have been our expectation all along. Then, proceed with your day – and maybe look at refinancing your home sooner rather than later, if that was ever in your plans.

COVID-19

I know, I know. We're all ready to never hear the word "Covid" again. And with cases dropping dramatically over the past few weeks, there's hope that the worst is behind us. Nevertheless, as long as the virus continues to fester on some part of the planet, it must continue to factor into our thinking.

As I write this, cases are skyrocketing again in China. Scientists have also reported the discovery of a new variant: BA.2, an offspring of the Omicron bug that hit us so hard in December and January. It's unknown what these twin developments mean for the rest of the world, but what my team and I are watching for is how COVID continues to affect

supply chains. The good news is the world is better prepared to deal with flareups due to the treatments we've developed and the lessons we've learned from previous variants. Hopefully, these lessons will help the economy continue to recover in the face of COVID rather than wilt under its onslaught.

When an elite athlete prepares to shoot a game-winning free throw, they are usually able to tune out all the noise. That's because they practiced their technique. They trained their mind. They learned to master their emotions. So, when they step up to the line and prepare to shoot, all that matters is the ball, the basket...and their ultimate goal. Everything else is just noise. That's what makes an elite athlete.

Over the next few weeks, you're going to hear a lot of noise from talking heads in the media. You'll see a lot of distractions when the daily headlines pop up on your phone. But now you know what to prepare for. Now you know what to expect. Which means you can tune out all that noise. All these issues are important, but as an investor, it's not necessary to stress or overreact to them. We have a game plan in place for all of this. One set in place long before any of it ever happened. Which means you need never wobble or waver. You can go about your day, confident in your preparations and direction.

That's what makes an elite investor.

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns. Our team sifts through the noise so you can tune it out, and we are always here for you. Now, go enjoy your Spring!

MILESTONE AGES

ON THE WAY TO RETIREMENT

As you progress on the road to retirement, there are certain "milestone ages" you will reach along the way. What makes these ages so important? Each has major implications for your finances and requires planning in advance. Here are three milestone ages to know:

Age 59.5

EARLY WITHDRAWAL PENALTY ENDS

When you turn 59.5, the early withdrawal penalty on your IRA and 401(k) will end. This means you can withdraw money from retirement accounts without facing a 10% penalty if you ever need an infusion of cash. But be careful, because any withdrawals will still be taxed as regular income! Generally, it's best to leave the money where it is if possible.



Age 66-67

FULL RETIREMENT AGE (FRA)

Depending on when you were born, at this age you can begin taking Social Security benefits without any reduction. The table below shows the FRA for every birth year starting with 1955.

Year of Birth	Full Retirement Age
1955	66 and 2 months
1956	66 and 4 months
1957	66 and 6 months
1958	66 and 8 months
1959	66 and 10 months
1960 & Up	67 years of age



Age 72

REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTRIBUTIONS

When you turn 72, you must begin taking annual withdrawals from any 401(k)s, 403(b)s, or traditional IRAs that you own. (Roth IRAs don't require withdrawals until after the death of the owner.) These withdrawals are called Required Minimum Distributions, or RMDs. Each RMD is taxed as ordinary income, but failure to take on each year results in a 50% penalty based on the amount you should have withdrawn.



ON A PERSONAL NOTE...

DAVID NELSON

My 17th year as a Varsity coach is in the books! We just finished a wonderful basketball season that ended in the 3rd round of post season play. A win in the 4th game would have sent us to the State Tournament. I had the privilege of once again coaching a group of talented, hard-working athletes. 4 players made all Conference Teams, and 1 player was named Conference MVP for the second straight year. We also had 3 players on the All-Area Team. It was an exciting year!

Sally has made the difficult decision to retire from teaching at the end of the school year. She loved her time as a teacher and will dearly miss her students. The timing is perfect though, as she will then move in to "Nana" mode to help our daughter, Catherine, with her 15-month-old son and the TWINS coming soon!



EUGENE KRUEGER

After going through 3+ months of Physical Therapy on my replaced right shoulder, I was fortunate to begin playing golf back in March. I understand that most surgeries of that type require a full year for a total recovery, but this is good enough for me.

Both of Aaron's and Libby's families were able to visit us in

Florida this winter and as always, leaving was not easy. Our electric bikes (Thank You Pat @ EVI) have become a favorite pastime for us and visitors alike.

I wish you all a warm Spring and as always, not only do I thank you for using our services but more importantly, for your friendship.



BRAD FRITZ

Wow! What a difference a year makes in one's life. This time last year Carol and I were doing our usual spring cleaning around our property, flower beds, garden and lawn, all of it a labor of love that we always enjoyed. This year, since our move to the condo we have nothing to do outside, and more free time to do new things we want to enjoy. Now that we have lived here for 7 months, I think I am starting to settle in, and it feels like home to me. We did spend a bit of time on the road this winter, a nice trip to Florida in February with friends is always a great respite for us. Our next travel will be to Washington D.C. for Bruce and Sarah's wedding in May, there will be lots of family there to help them celebrate their union in marriage. Very much looking forward to that trip, as we are taking a little extra time before the wedding to explore Washington D.C. and see some of the sights we haven't

been to in the past. Then home for the summer and hoping I can play a bit more golf since I now live across the street from the course. We'll see how that goes for me. Enjoy your spring and summer and I'm looking forward to seeing all my clients and friends this year.

KEN NELSON



I know I know. You were expecting more pictures of our beautiful granddaughters and you get me and my lovely leprechaun wife! Next newsletter there will be more pictures of the little girls, I promise! As for this picture, my wife and I were able to get away for a few days down to sunny Fort Myers Beach, Florida to hang out with my older brother Steve and his wife Deb and they recruited my wife and I to be in the St. Patrick's Day parade. What a blast. My wife and sister-in-law walked the route taking many a picture with the people lined up along the street, and my brother and I, along with a few of his friends drove the route in that decorated 6 passenger golf cart that you see in the background. Seeing the kids come up to my wife and my sister-in-law to get their pictures taken was simply priceless. This may have to become an annual event for my wife and I! The weather the entire trip was fantastic, and needless to say we both had a wonderful

time and can't wait to go back to visit. My best to one and all.

AMY CAVANAUGH

Welcome to Spring! I am enjoying the warmer temperatures and the long days. We have been staying healthy and safe and mostly staying home. We did take a trip to the Florida Keys in November and enjoyed the sunshine but missed spending Thanksgiving with the family. The three granddaughters are growing fast with the youngest, Nora, turning one in April and already walking. It's fun watching them grow and change. I worry about the state of things in the world and send my thoughts and prayers out to the people of Ukraine. We are truly blessed to live in this country. Wishing you a healthy and safe spring and summer.



NATE KREINBRINK

Spring is officially here, and the transition from winter to warmer temperatures is always a drawn-out process. Temperatures in the 50's-60's followed by 30's, sunshine followed by rain (and even snow) – you get the picture. This transition also means basketballs have been traded for bats, baseball gloves and golf clubs. I will be coaching Emerson's baseball team again

and look forward to getting the season started. Another school year is also winding down, with Alijah finishing up his freshman year at Hawkeye Community College, Emerson 7th grade, Braxtyn 2nd grade and Ashley another year of teaching. They are all anxiously counting down the days to summer break, and rightfully so. Enjoy the colors of spring and hope to see everyone at some of the wonderful events we have planned this summer.



JAMES NELSON



Happy Spring! I hope everyone has been able to get out and enjoy the beautiful weather. I am anxious to get out in the yard again. Mushroom hunting season is just around the corner as well! I am coaching soccer again this year for our two oldest girls. It has been great to be outdoors and active again. Our youngest, Amelia, is at a fun age and loves trying to keep up with her older sisters. We recently enjoyed a family vacation and made many

fond memories. Does anyone need any shells? I look forward to seeing you soon, either in the office, or at client events.

JOHN NELSON



Happy spring! I'm sure you are all looking forward to warmer weather as much as we are. Mercedes, Will, Isabelle and are ready for more mushroom hunting, golf, bike rides, and spending time in our yard working on landscape projects. We are now moved into our new Davenport office which has been functioning as well as we had hoped. We are still waiting on a few last items that have been on order for many, many months but that's not overly surprising in this environment.

I look forward to our upcoming client events this spring and summer and I hope to see many of you there.

JAKE WOODCOCK



Our family is looking forward to more outdoor time with the warmer spring weather on the way. We have been spending a lot of time with our rescued horses and cannot wait for our barn to be completed. We are also looking

forward to taking a few road trips over the summer. We bring our two small dogs along on our trips, so it's always an adventure. Our youngest, Claudia, will start preschool in the fall, joining her three big siblings who will be in kindergarten, third, and seventh grades. We hope you are all doing well and enjoying the spring weather!

VAL HILL

Alan and I, and some friends recently enjoyed a fabulous week on the island of St. Maarten. We had not been back to our place since IRMA hit in 2017. They had to completely re-build the entire resort as it was destroyed in the hurricane. Traveling internationally was a struggle at that time, but we had a wonderful vacation and our place looked great. Beautiful weather, delicious seafood, cold drinks, and wonderful memories made with friends. Elle is still enjoying her position at the Abbe Mental Health Center in Iowa City. Very rewarding, yet challenging career.

Take care and stay healthy!



JAMIE HUGUNIN

It's a boy! We welcomed our 2nd child, a couple of weeks sooner than expected. Everett James arrived on March 10th, and we couldn't be more in love. He sure loves his snuggles and so does mommy! Big brother, Miles is doing amazing with Everett and we couldn't be prouder of how well he has adjusted to not being the only "baby." We can't wait to see these two grow up together,

but for now stay little my boys, time goes all too quickly! Brian and I are looking forward to the warm weather and getting the boys, both (human and fur babies) outside to play and take walks. Pictured is Miles and Everett. You can really see the love in Miles' eyes for his "baby Everett." Happy Spring Everyone!



MICHELLE EVERSOLL

Spring, my favorite time of year! My husband and I have been busy helping our son with his first home. We have worked many hours painting and installing new flooring. It's coming together nicely, and we are very proud of him and his new purchase. As if buying a home wasn't exciting enough for him, he also got a puppy. Her name is Nova, and she is such a joy. I just love puppies when I don't have to raise them! Wishing all of you a spring filled with joy and happiness!



ON A PERSONAL NOTE...

MIKE STEIGERWALD



Hello everyone! I am Mike Steigerwald, and I am excited to be the newest member of the NelsonCorp team. I joined the team as a native of Oak Lawn, IL (south suburb of Chicago). Although my roots are in Chicagoland, I am familiar with the area as I spent four great years at St. Ambrose University. It was there that I met my wife, Catherine, and we recently moved back to Davenport. We have been married for three years and have a 17-month-old boy named William. Catherine and I are extremely excited that William is set to become a big brother, as we are expecting two baby boys to join our family in the next few months. That is right, twins! We cannot wait for the spring weather to arrive, as William loves spending time outside and going for walks. I am looking forward to meeting many of you in the coming days and am happy to be part of this wonderful team.

TRAVIS MOREHEAD

Happy spring everyone. I hope the white fluffy stuff is behind us for a while! I have kept busy during this time keeping up with college basketball and the start of golf season. I am looking forward to getting my clubs out and cleaning off the cobwebs. My brother and his family had a big move from Waterloo to Grayslake (suburb of Chicago) and I am looking forward to exploring

some courses in his new area. Looking forward, I have a friend's destination wedding coming up at the end of June in Cancun. It will be my first time out of the country! I'll be sure to pack extra sunscreen.



AMANDA SCHAUER



Two are better than one! I said that in my last personal note about my grand pups too. Since twins are a common thing at NelsonCorp Wealth Management, I thought I should show mine off. Pictured is me on the left and Miranda, aka Mir, on the right. Yes, we are twins! Even though we are nothing alike, we are truly blessed! Happy Spring to you and your family!

AUSTIN ECK

Hello all! The approach of Spring means warmer weather and birthday celebrations for us. In February, Lily turned three years old. She had a lot of fun celebrating with her cousins who came to visit from Iowa. And then our oldest, Emma, turned nine in March. She had a great time

celebrating at the trampoline park with a few of her close school friends. The two of them are just growing up so fast, but Christina and I have really enjoyed watching their close sister-bond form in the process.



BOB LEE



In retirement Joyce and I are frequent travelers. Being in Florida in January and February is a routine. Our favorite destination is Anna Maria Island which is 7 miles top to bottom and near Bradenton. Its buildings are all low-rise and the visitors are mostly Midwesterners.

We are able to walk, bike, swim, and visit the beach for strolls and sunsets. Sometimes we enjoy doing nothing. A day's highlight is when our car is not driven.

This year we had the privilege and honor to participate in our daughter's wedding on the Island's beach. Family and friends numbered forty. As you might expect, we had a wonderful time.

With family spread in multiple states we are able to visit Chicago, Austin, and Asheville. These are wonderful locations, but the real motivation is family.

We have returned to Bettendorf, still waiting for the spring warmup.

RICH PHELAN

One thing David Nelson and I share is a love of baseball. We don't root for the same teams but that doesn't matter. Dave grew up playing and watching baseball at what is now NelsonCorp Field, the home of the LumberKings now in the Prospect League.

I grew up on the South Side of Chicago and naturally I was a White Sox fan. In high school I started to become a Cardinals fan also.

Baseball has always been a rite of spring. A time when we knew that winter was finally over. Well, its spring in 2022 and baseball will be back, spring training is underway after the protracted lock-out. And remember when the season does begin get out and support the LumberKings. What a great asset for our community! And I'll still root hard for the White Sox and Cardinals and David for the Cubs. Baseball is about family, friends and rivalry.



STEVE GRIMES

My wife Jan I and recently took a little Road Trip to Potosi Wisconsin with my sister Cheryl and her husband Dave. Here's a picture of us standing in the ABA Beer Museum in Potosi Wisconsin. It's really quite a place with a ton of beer and

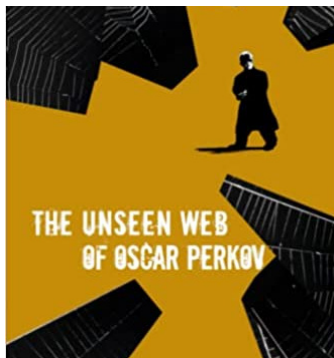
brewery memorabilia. They have a great restaurant attached and we had a great time! Potosi is only an hour and a half drive from the Quad Cities.

We have really enjoyed exploring all of the fantastic locations in our backyards that are so accessible, now that we are retired! I encourage all of you to get out and enjoy our local attractions.



RANDY RICHARDS

I just published my third novel, *The Unseen Web of Oscar Perkov*. It is a sequel to *The Unseen Hand of Peter Gyges*, although you do not have to have read the first to make sense of the latter. *The Unseen Web* is an international crime thriller based in the Balkans about a criminal syndicate trying to control and expand their smuggling operations along the southern smuggling route from Turkey to Germany and beyond into Columbia. The novel is a fast paced read of intrigue and plot twists. If you are interested in checking it out, it is available through Amazon.



ANDY FERGURSON

Happy Tax Season Everyone! It's been quite eventful and busy. We have learned a lot. It was

good to meet many of you face to face again and to see everyone at the gatherings. It feels good to get back to a more normal life after Covid. However, as fun as it has been, I do look forward to the Spring. Soccer games, Baseball, Prom, Graduation, vacations, and memories. This is a picture of my oldest Daughter and one of her youngest brothers after their opening night performing in the CHS play. It was fun to see them work together and build those memories with one another. Have a safe and enjoyable summer everyone!



MIKE VANZUIDEN

It seems like just yesterday, we were ushering in a new year. Now, the tax season is in full swing and the filing deadline, thankfully, is just a couple of weeks away. It is a blessing to be busy, but it is also exhausting. I am grateful to work with such an amazing group of people that have made this season such a successful one. My photo is one of my wife and I on New Year's Eve as we were about to head out to Circa 21 to ring in the New Year with a Neil Diamond Tribute Show. I look forward to more of these fun adventures with her as life returns to a normal pace. Have a blessed spring!!



THIS MONTH'S FEATURED CHARITY IS CLINTON COUNTY RESOURCE CENTER



The Clinton County Resource Center was created in collaboration with nonprofit organizations at the local and state level, to provide a central location to assist members of the community, by connecting them with the resources they need. These resource referrals include housing, mental health, substance abuse, transportation, employment, and access to computers, internet and telephones. By working together, agencies are able to reduce gaps in services to better serve the community. When a community member walks into the Resource Center, the Resource Center staff (primarily volunteers) link them with any resources they need to improve their lives.

Located inside the Courthouse
612 North 2nd Street, Suite 105,
Clinton, IA 52732

Phone Number: (563) 242-9211 Extension 4106.

Office Hours: 9 AM – 3 PM Monday thru Friday with the exception of when the Law Center/Courthouse is closed for holiday(s). Ap-
pointments are not required.

JEANS FOR CHARITY

Every Friday, the team at NelsonCorp Wealth Management wears "Jeans for Charity". In exchange for getting to wear jeans to work, we each pay a \$5 weekly fine. At the end of the month, the fines are donated to a charity. NelsonCorp will match the fines that are collected, up to \$250.

FINALLY DONE, OPEN NOW!

Construction is finally finished and we are enjoying meetings with our Quad Cities area clients in our new building.



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