



**PATRICIA M.
LAMPERT, CFP®**

The Retirement Specialist for
Working Couples & Empty Nesters

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

FALL, 2009 NEWSLETTER

Christina A. Haciski, Editor & Marketing Manager

Client Appreciation Nights & Open House

A special night to celebrate 16 years in business!

**Wednesday, November 18th
5:30pm to 8:30pm
Willow Restaurant
Pittsburgh, PA**

**Wednesday, December 9th
5:30pm to 8:30pm
Tre Famiglia Restaurant
Haddonfield, NJ**



**In honor of all our
loved ones affected
by breast cancer.**

This truly is a special night when I come face to face with the people who have confidence in my financial planning and investment advisory services. Together, we have successfully weathered the highs and lows of the market, and will continue to plan ahead prudently. My private practice of over 16 years has been evolving to what I believe is the best practice a financial planner could have—in that I have developed in most cases—great relationships.

We encourage you to bring someone who is truly interested in excellent financial planning and investment services. Your name will be entered to win a \$100 American Express gift certificate. The drawing will take place at the end of the celebration.

I hope you can join us at one of our Client Appreciation Nights! Thank you for helping me grow my business!

Respectfully,
Trish

Economy and Market Overview

Unemployment rate on a national level is expected to exceed 10% before any leveling off, but at same time, economists and Fed Chairman Bernanke believes the recession is slowing and the economy is starting to show signs of recovery.

As of September 30th, S&P index return for year-to-date 2009 is positive 19.3%, up 45% from a low of 26% on March 9th of this same year. All major indices show favorable positive returns across the board through September 30th, 2009.

What is a CFP®? What I can do for you beyond your current level of service?

A Certified Financial Planner (CFP®) is a professional that has completed six courses through the Institute of Financial Planning located in Denver, Colorado, in the field of financial planning including studies in retirement planning, estate planning, taxes, insurance, and general financial planning.

In addition to this designation, I have obtained my securities licenses including the Series 7, 65, 63 as well as a Health and Life Insurance License to allow me to accommodate your financial needs in every way.

My overall approach is to offer comprehensive financial planning for all those clients who have accounts through Allegheny Investments, Ltd.

Let me know how I can help you or your loved ones.



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Securities and investments advisory services offered through Allegheny Investments, Ltd. a registered broker/dealer, Member FINRA/SIPC.
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Trish's Tips: Tax Planning for Retirement

Tax diversification hedges against changes in future tax rates by spreading tax risk across diverse types of taxable and non-taxable vehicles, especially with regard to retirement income. It's best to have "different buckets of money to pull from after retirement."

Therefore, you should consider setting up a Roth IRA in addition to Traditional IRAs and 401ks, because your investments grow tax-free and you are not required to begin to withdraw those funds at 70 ½, which is true of Traditional IRAs and 401k plan Rollovers. Traditional IRA account holders must begin to withdraw a minimum required distribution in the year that they turn 70 ½ years old.

Many employer 401k plans are offering Roth options now. You may want to talk to your tax preparer/investment advisor at your workplace and start to set up a long term plan, which includes both types of contributions.

Lastly, in 2010, for those who have retired and are managing Traditional IRA assets, there will be no income limitations to preclude you from converting some of your assets over to a Roth IRA account. Taxation on converted amount will still apply.

Thank you for your referrals!

This year several clients referred our financial services. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you. This has been a great way to meet with people who are serious about preserving their financial future. We greatly appreciate your confidence to serve you and those close to you. Your referrals are always welcome!

Legally Speaking: The Importance of a Living Will

While every state in the country has different laws applicable to living wills, generally speaking, a living will is a document that specifically outlines your orders with respect to receiving (or not receiving) specific types of medical treatments in the event you are unable to express those wishes for yourself. A living will also assists in relieving your family's and/or friends' burden of making difficult medical decisions on your behalf. Most of us are well-aware of Terri Schiavo and the lengthy legal battle that ensued once she fell into a persistent vegetative state. What many fail to realize is that, in that case, a living will would have avoided most, if not all, of the questions and problems at issue.

A living will is called "living" because, unlike testamentary wills, the document takes effect before death. A living will is only used if you are unable to give informed consent or refusal due to incapacity. A living will, which is also referred to as an "Advance Directive to Physicians" or a "Health Care Directive," is typically made up of two main parts. First, it should contain a "Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care," which sets forth the individual who will make your health care-related decisions, in the event you are unable to communicate those decisions on your own.

Second, a living will should provide specific directives about the course of treatment that should be followed by health care providers and caregivers. For example, this portion may forbid the use of various kinds of burdensome medical treatment. It may address the use or foregoing of food and water, if supplied via tubes or other medical devices. A general statement oftentimes found in a living will is, "If I suffer an incurable, irreversible illness, disease, or condition and my attending physician determines that my condition is terminal, I direct that life-sustaining measures that would serve only to prolong my dying be withheld or discontinued." Read over your living will from time to time to see if you want to revise any of the instructions. Like any other type of will, your living will can be altered or amended if you follow the proper steps.

Any advance directive will not do you any good if no one knows about it. Make your wishes known to your doctor and your family, and memorialize that information in your living will. Remember, since every state's laws differ with regards to the statutory contents and legal reach of your living will, consult your State Department of Health, as well as your attorney, to ensure you receive proper guidance. Taking the time now will insure that your wishes regarding medical treatment are properly carried out, while sparing your loved ones from the emotional distress of being forced to make important decisions for you.

—**Rafael C. Haciski** is an attorney at the law firm of *Duane Morris, LLP* Email: RHaciski@duanemorris.com

The information provided above is not intended to create an attorney-client relationship and shall not be construed as legal advice. Consult your attorney for more information.