

ACORN

FINANCIAL SERVICES



From the Desk of James Gambaccini, CFP® | January 2018

***“You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream.” –
C.S. Lewis***

Why do we make New Year’s resolutions?

Some believe the overarching goal of implementing New Year’s resolutions is to live happier and more fulfilled lives. [Science says happier people have 9 things in common](#), one of which is seeking experiences over possessing “things.” Consider this - will buying that new computer, car, or tech gadget make you happy in the long run? Or instead, would saving money toward a more secure future help cut down on financial stress and maybe even give you the option to retire a little earlier and enjoy retirement a little more? If some of your resolutions are financial, remember, it’s never too late to start saving and investing more. Here are some [insightful tips](#) from four Nobel Prize-winning experts on how to consistently save more while sticking to a sound financial plan.

As we prepare for 2018, we reflect on the unparalleled combination of high returns and low volatility the US Stock market enjoyed in 2017. Last quarter, stocks continued their climb higher as generally upbeat economic data gave the green light to the Fed to raise rates again and the tax bill became reality. Looking forward, even the political opponents of the tax cuts are saying it will likely lift economic growth for at least the next couple of years. If you are interested in learning how the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act may affect you, please take a look at [Acorn Tax Planning’s summary of key changes](#).

Many months of stock market highs have led investors to ask, "How long is this going to last, and when should I get out?" Intuition tells us that after such a long period of sustained performance we might be due for a correction. This instinctive thinking also occurs in baseball, when a batter is "due" for a hit after a prolonged string of hitless at-bats. This Fallacy of the Maturity of Chances (also referred to as the Monte Carlo Fallacy) can result in faulty decision-making, which when left unchecked adversely impacts the likelihood of investors achieving their long-term goals. Despite what some may claim, no one can predict how long stock markets will remain high. Anyone lucky enough to pick the beginning of a bear market never knows exactly when to get back in. The better strategy for most investors is don't sell. Some sort of correction is inevitable but no one knows for sure when it will happen and few have the discipline to take advantage of the situation. Your advisory team understands your plan and your goals. We are alongside you each step of the way and are ready to support accordingly.

Here's to a happy, healthy, and prosperous 2018!

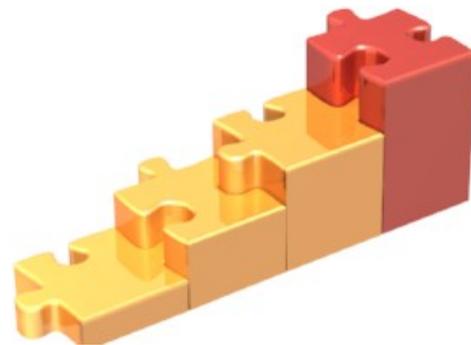
Kind Regards,
James Gambaccini & Your Acorn Team



[5 Steps to Make the Most of Your HSA \(Health Savings Account\)](#)

If you have a high deductible health plan, it really pays to know all the rules and benefits of your HSA.

[Four Steps to Financial Success](#) Our brains are often our own worst enemies when it comes to making savvy decisions about money. Learn insightful tips from four Nobel Prize-winning experts.



[Science Says Happier People Have These 5 Things in Common](#)

It's safe to say that everyone wants to be happy. So how much happiness is in our control?



Financial Planning offered through Acorn Financial Advisory Services, Inc., (AFAS), a Registered Investment Adviser. Securities offered through The Strategic Financial Alliance, Inc. (SFA), member FINRA/SIPC. Acorn Financial Services, Inc. and AFAS are unaffiliated with SFA. Supervisory office 703.293.3100.

Would you like to be removed from these mailings? [Unsubscribe here.](#)