

TIME WELL \$PENT

MAKE DECEMBER COUNT

Year-End Moves That Matter

As the year draws to a close, now is one of the best times to take a look at your investment accounts and make sure you are well-positioned for both taxes and long-term financial goals. Market volatility has created opportunities for strategic tax-loss harvesting. Realizing losses in a controlled way can offset current or future capital gains, reduce your tax burden, and allow you to reposition portfolios without altering your long-term allocation. If you've accumulated any under-performing positions this year, this is the moment to evaluate whether realizing losses makes sense within your overall plan.

Additionally, don't overlook the personal financial maintenance that often gets pushed to the side during the year. Confirm that automatic contributions and withdrawals reflect your current goals, revisit your tax-advantaged accounts—IRAs, Roth IRAs, HSAs, 529s—to ensure you're taking full advantage of annual limits, and review beneficiary designations. For clients with shifting income or upcoming life transitions, a year-end check-in can reveal timely opportunities, from portfolio rebalancing to Roth conversions.

Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) remain a non-negotiable part of retirement account management. If you are age-eligible or hold an inherited retirement account subject to annual RMDs, make sure these distributions are completed before year-end to avoid unnecessary penalties. Even if you don't rely on the withdrawals for spending needs, you can take advantage of planning opportunities—such as redirecting part of the distribution through a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). For individuals age 70½ or older, QCDs allow up to \$108,000 (2025 limit; indexed going forward) to be sent directly to qualifying charities, satisfying all or part of your RMD while excluding the distribution from taxable income.

Finally, this is also a good time to review your broader charitable giving strategy. Highly appreciated securities often make more sense to donate than cash: you avoid capital gains tax on the appreciation while still receiving a deduction—an efficient way to reduce concentrated positions and support the causes that matter to you. Donor-advised funds are also a powerful tool available through Schwab for those who want to front-load deductions in high-income years while distributing gifts to charities over time.

As always, thoughtful planning in December pays dividends in January. If you have questions about these strategies or would like a year-end review, we are here to help ensure your financial decisions align with both the current landscape and your long-term objectives.



Merry Christmas

May your season be peaceful,
your gatherings bright,

Your worries grow lighter
with each twinkling light.

May you find simple joy in
the moments that stay,

And hope in the promise of a
brand-new day.

We're grateful for you, for
your trust year to year,

And we wish you love,
warmth, and cheer that lasts
far past the New Year.



DID YOU KNOW?

The first artificial Christmas tree was made in Germany out of goose feathers dyed green. In the late 1800s, people wanted their trees to last longer and be less messy than real pine trees. So they took goose feathers and dyed them green to look like pine needles!



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THE AFI IMPACT

BE SURE TO FOLLOW US ON ALL OF OUR SOCIAL CHANNELS TO STAY CONNECTED WITH CURRENT EVENTS

As we celebrate this holiday season, we want to take a moment to thank you for your trust and support this year. Your partnership with us is not only about navigating the financial markets, it is also about strengthening our community. Because of your confidence in us, we were able to contribute more than ten thousand dollars this year to support the following organizations:

The Amelia the Wind Foundation
Art Market Gallery
East Tennessee State University
The Kingsport Ballet
Northeast State Community College
Petworks
The Sequoyah Council of Scouts
Kingsport Diabetes Association

Thank you for being a part of the impact we strive to create.

Happy
New Year



THE ULTIMATE CHRISTMAS BATTLE

It's the most wonderful debate of the year! In this special holiday episode of The Bull's Eye Podcast, Josh, Brian, and Peter go head-to-head in The Ultimate Christmas Battle, arguing over the things that truly define Christmas. There are bold picks, strong opinions, plenty of laughs, and just enough chaos to make it interesting.

*Cast your vote in the comments:
Who built the best Christmas lineup?*

Like, subscribe, and jump into the debate—because Christmas bragging rights are on the line.

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