



THE RETIREMENT FINGERPRINT[®]

MAY/JUNE 2020

NEWS YOU CAN USE

The SECURE Act Can Help Ensure Survivor Income

The Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement (SECURE) Act, which went into effect at the beginning of 2020, included a provision designed to encourage employers to add an annuity option to their 401(k) plans.¹ An annuity offers an insurer-guaranteed stream of retirement income in exchange for a premium. The employee can gradually pay that premium throughout time via payroll deductions.

Within the employer-sponsored retirement plan, the annuity may have the option to choose a joint and survivor payout. This means that guaranteed income payouts will continue for the life of the surviving spouse regardless of who passes away first. Note that the payout amount for the survivor may be reduced based on the terms of the contract.²

The annuity option within a 401(k) plan pairs two key benefits to help streamline a surviving spouse's retirement portfolio. First, a reliable stream of income. Second, the potential for growth opportunity through the plan's investment options.

Investing involves risk, including the potential loss of principal. Any references to guaranteed or reliable lifetime income generally refer to fixed insurance products, never securities or investment products. Annuities provide guarantees of principal and credited interest, subject to surrender charges.

¹ Stephen Miller. SHRM. Jan. 20, 2020. "SECURE Act Alters 401(k) Compliance Landscape." <https://www.shrm.org/resourcesandtools/hr-topics/benefits/pages/secure-act-alters-401k-compliance-landscape.aspx>. Accessed Jan. 27, 2020.

² Julia Kagan. Investopedia. March 14, 2018. "Joint and Survivor Annuity." <https://www.investopedia.com/terms/j/jointandsurvivorannuity.asp>. Accessed Jan. 27, 2020.

PROUD SPONSOR OF THE
UC IRVINE ANTEATERS



RADIO SHOW

THE RETIREMENT FINGERPRINT[®]
SATURDAYS 7:30A-8A
AS HEARD ON AM830 KLA

AM 830



THAT TIME OF YEAR

Mid-2020: How to Respond to the ‘Fear Index’

Established in the early 1990s, the Chicago Board Options Exchange (CBOE) Volatility Index was designed to monitor investor expectation of volatility over subsequent 30-day periods. The index is more commonly known by its ticker symbol, VIX, although it is frequently referred to as the “Fear Index.”¹

Needless to say, in recent months the VIX has posted some of its highest numbers in history.² The fact is, we don’t know how long the fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic will impact the global economy and investment markets. Therefore, any moves you make in response to the crisis should be aligned with your long-term financial goals. With this in mind, you may want to consider:

- Preserving cash reserves by delaying any large expenses, such as a home improvement project or buying a second home.
- Delaying retirement for another year or two to give your investments time to recover — and the opportunity to add to your cash reserves.
- Taking advantage of the market decline by converting tax-deferred retirement assets to a Roth IRA. The drop in market value means you could owe less taxes at the time of the conversion and stand to enjoy greater potential for tax-free growth as stock prices rebound in the future.

No doubt, the investment markets’ response to the COVID-19 virus has

been brutal. But long-term investors have been through these types of hard times before — and many will again. Market bounces provide a not-so-gentle reminder that what goes up does, inevitably, come back down.

A Roth Conversion is a taxable event and may have several tax-related consequences. Be sure to consult with a qualified tax advisor before making any decisions regarding your IRA.

Investing involves risk, including the potential loss of principal.

¹ Marc DeCambre. MarketWatch. March 16, 2020. “Wall Street’s ‘fear index’ surges to highest level in history as Dow plunges 3,000 points amid growing coronavirus panic.” <https://www.marketwatch.com/story/wall-streets-fear-index-surges-to-highest-level-in-history-as-dow-plunges-3000-points-amid-growing-coronavirus-panic-2020-03-16>. Accessed March 16, 2020.
² Ibid.

Investment Advisory services offered through Cooper Financial Group, an SEC Registered Investment Advisory firm. Cooper McManus is not affiliated with West Wealth Group, LLC.

Investment advisory services may also be offered through West Wealth Group, LLC, an SEC Registered Investment Adviser. Insurance Services are offered through BML Wealth & Insurance Services, California Insurance License #0M15550.

Content prepared by Kara Stefan Communications and Advisors Excel. We are an independent firm helping individuals create retirement strategies using a variety of insurance and investment products to custom suit their needs and objectives. This material is intended to provide general information to help you understand basic financial planning strategies and should not be construed as financial advice. All investments are subject to risk including the potential loss of principal. No investment strategy can guarantee a profit or protect against loss in periods of declining values. The information contained in this material is believed to be reliable, but accuracy and completeness cannot be guaranteed; it is not intended to be used as the sole basis for financial decisions. If you are unable to access any of the news articles and sources through the links provided in this text, please contact us to request a copy of the desired reference.

CENTER STAGE

BELOW: Shane and his family in Maui over Presidents weekend



ABOVE: Brian's kids enjoying their time at the Harlem Globetrotters show

RIGHT:

Jordan and Stephanie enjoying a beautiful spring day in our local Newport Beach harbor



BRAIN GAMES

ANSWER KEY:

1	7	8	9	2	6	4	5	3
3	9	5	4	8	7	2	6	1
4	2	6	1	5	3	9	7	8
5	4	1	3	6	8	7	2	9
8	6	9	2	7	4	3	1	5
7	3	2	5	1	9	8	4	6
6	1	7	8	9	2	5	3	4
9	5	3	7	4	1	6	8	2
2	8	4	6	3	5	1	9	7



RECIPE

cut here 

SALAD RAMEN

INGREDIENTS

- ¼ cup seasoned rice vinegar
- 2 Tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil
- 2 Tbsp. fresh lime juice
- 2 Tbsp. soy sauce
- 1 Tbsp. toasted sesame seeds

- ½ tsp. crushed red pepper flakes (preferably a seedless type, such as Aleppo-style or gochugaru)
- ½ tsp. toasted sesame oil
- 10 oz. fresh or 6 oz. dried ramen noodles

- Kosher salt
- 2-3 cups shredded or shaved vegetables, such as summer squash, radishes, carrots, scallions, cabbage, lettuce and/or cucumbers

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Stir vinegar, oil, lime juice, soy sauce, sesame seeds, red pepper flakes and sesame oil in a small bowl.
2. Cook noodles in a medium pot of boiling salted water, stirring occasionally, until just al dente. Drain and rinse under cold water to stop the cooking. Transfer to a medium bowl, then toss with half of dressing.
3. Divide noodles between bowls. Top with your choice of vegetables. Drizzle with remaining dressing.

2 Park Plaza
Suite 280
Irvine, CA 92614

BML | WEALTH
MANAGEMENT



VISIT US AT WWW.BMLWEALTH.NET

949.682.9105

UPCOMING DATES

IN LIGHT OF COVID-19 ALL ONSITE AND VENUE EVENTS HAVEN BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. PLEASE VISIT OUR SITE, BMLWEALTH.NET, FOR ONLINE WEBINARS. WE APPRECIATE YOUR UNDERSTANDING DURING THIS TIME. STAY SAFE AND HEALTHY!

BML

WEALTH
MANAGEMENT