



# NEWSLETTER APRIL 2016

Dear clients and friends,

Welcome to our April newsletter. In this issue we want to:

- invite you to several upcoming classes in May on College Planning and then in June on Social Security and IRA planning.
- share a market forecast for the rest of the year
- mention an AARP article on an important scam to avoid,
- provide contrasting articles on an investment (high-yield bonds) to give you an idea of how the media covers financial topics
- provide a link to a useful financial website and also a referral to a trusted provider



**David Treece**

Investment Advisor  
Representative

## Upcoming Classes at Brockway Memorial Library

We have had a great deal of success in providing a monthly series of financial planning classes on various topics at Brockway Memorial Library just north of our office. These classes are sponsored by us and the library, and we have been getting a nice turnout at each session. The next classes are on the important topic of **College Planning to be held from 6:00 to 7:00 pm on Tuesday May 10 and again on Thursday, May 12 at Brockway Memorial Library.** We are also scheduling classes in June and July on different topics.

I am finding that college debt is affecting retirement planning in many ways: younger people are not saving and people going into retirement have student loan debt—either for their own education or for having co-signed for their kids. This is becoming a major retirement planning concern, and we are going to tackle how to help cut college costs and get financial aid.



For more information and to RSVP, [CLICK HERE](#), or visit our website:

[www.treecefinancialgroup.com](http://www.treecefinancialgroup.com) and click on the “events” tab

## Rest of The Year Forecast

Kiplinger’s provides straightforward economic forecasts for the rest of the year. They are projecting GDP growth to accelerate in the second half of the year to 2.2%-2.4%, inflation to increase to 2.4% by the end of the year, unemployment to continue to decline to 4.6% from 5% now, and consumer confidence to trend up with job and wage gains. These are mostly very positive signs for the economy. The full forecast is available at [www.Kiplinger.com/outlooks](http://www.Kiplinger.com/outlooks)

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TREECE FINANCIAL  
GROUP

9999 NE 2nd Avenue, Suite 203  
Miami Shores, FL 33141

Phone: 305-751-8855  
Fax: 305-751-0068  
Email: info@davidtreece.com

We're on the web  
www.treecefinancialgroup.com

## Better Business Bureau Travel Scam Alert Targeting Seniors

Federal investigators say drug traffickers are preying on seniors by convincing them to travel abroad - often by covering travel expenses - and then tricking them into smuggling drugs across the border. In February the United States Senate Special Committee on Aging and the Department of Homeland Security hosted a hearing concerning such a scam. Here is a link to an article about this terrible scam.

[Drug trafficking scam targets traveling seniors](#)  
[Older Americans Targeted By Gangs in Smuggling Con](#)

## Media Coverage of Financial Topics

*The New York Times*

I often marvel at how the media will cover a topic and the reader ends up with two completely opposite and contradictory opinions. This happens all the time. A case in point is an article in this month's *AARP Bulletin* by Jane Bryant Quinn "[Steer Clear of Risky Bond Funds.](#)" referring to high yield bonds. The previous Sunday *New York Times* on April 10, 2016 had a feature article titled, "[Junk Bonds are Steadier than You Might Think.](#)" What is a consumer to believe? I find many of these opinions funny. Whenever you hear a blanket opinion about a topic—like "always do this, never do that, etc," the truth is probably somewhere in between. I tend to agree more with the *New York Times* article in this case. If you hear things in the media or from a friend about a financial topic, and you would like a second opinion, please feel free to call or email our office, and we will share with you our opinions and some source material to back it up. I sympathize with the consumer when there is so much contradictory information out there.



## Useful Financial Websites

I always like to share any useful websites. One I have long mentioned is [www.missingmoney.com](http://www.missingmoney.com) which is a governmental website of unclaimed assets. I frequently search this website for my clients, and on occasion we do find missing money that has been turned over to the government. Usually these are small things like an FPL deposit or some other refund, but often it is life insurance which could be a substantial amount. I encourage you to visit that site and check for yourself. If your name comes up, you can file a claim form. There is another service available if you suspect that you are a life insurance beneficiary, but it doesn't show up on the missing money website. Go to [www.lostlifeins.com](http://www.lostlifeins.com) and this company (for a fee of \$108.50) will search 420 life insurance companies to see if you are a beneficiary of an unclaimed benefit.

## Recommendation

We work with so many outstanding professionals, and I want to take this opportunity to recommend one to you. Ernest Olivas is the owner of Emerald Elite Home Health Care. Emerald Elite Senior Home Care provides home health aides and certified nurse assistants (CNAs) to individuals and families, either in their own homes or in a facility. They specialize in serving South Florida's LGBT senior community, but they do serve the whole community. I highly recommend Ernest and Emerald Elite Home Care. You can visit their website at [www.EmeraldEliteHomeHealth.com](http://www.EmeraldEliteHomeHealth.com) They will give a free consultation. I have known Ernest for years, and I recently had the pleasure of appearing on a panel with him on estate planning issues including health care and long term care.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you are looking for a referral. We have a great many contacts we can recommend to you.

As always, let us know if we can be of any help.

Best,

David