



HANSEN'S
ADVISORY SERVICES, INC.
Investing in companies that give a hoot

7067 East Genesee Street
 Fayetteville, NY 13066
 315.637.5153

info@hansensadvisory.com
 www.hansensadvisory.com

Securities offered through Cadaret, Grant & Co., Inc. Member FINRA, SIPC ~ Hansen's Advisory Services and Cadaret, Grant are separate entities.

Savings Resolutions

With 2018 quickly approaching, this a fantastic time to get your financial house in order. There are a number of things you could do, but a great place to start is at the beginning.

The basis for a financial plan is a budget. By creating a budget, you can implement a plan to generate a net savings every month. This savings can be used to fund the accounts for your future goals, such as college, a new house, or retirement.

When creating a budget, the first step is figuring out where your income goes every month. For a lot of clients, this can be very helpful. Many don't realize how much they're spending on coffee, entertainment, or going out to dinner. You can collect your receipts and enter the figures on a spreadsheet, or there are apps available.

Once you identify how much you're spending, and what you're spending it on, you are empowered. You can decide exactly how much you want to spend on each expenditure. If you want to increase the amount of savings every month, look at things that show spending beyond your needs and reduce the amount you've allocated to it.

For many of us, paying off credit card debt is an important goal. This can be integrated into the budget, so that you're paying more than minimum payments on your credit cards, as well as saving money for an emergency or for retirement.

If you're interested in learning more about this process and how to get yourself on track to save more money, reach out to us. We'd be happy to help you start 2018 off right!

Transparency in Giving

Saving money for gifts to others is also a gift to yourself. You spend what you have saved. What a relaxing way to face your bills since there will be no holiday holdover payments later in the year. And allowing yourself to relax is a wholesome path to physical wellness and energizing relationships.

Spending only what you have saved is a gift to your loved ones. It is a lesson in how to approach gift giving and transparent to those who know this is the way you plan your giving. Activities and conversations that are transparent, explainable, reasoned, and knowledgeable lend themselves to a feeling of trust and thoughtfulness.

As a present to your loved ones this season you may want to extend this premise to sharing your financial status with your family so they understand what to expect in the event of illness or death. Making sure your will, power of attorney, living will and health care proxy are up-to-date is another way of giving to your family.

Organizing these documents along with other information about your assets and wishes may create an enormous thankfulness when you can no longer communicate where things are and how you want to be treated when you are incapacitated.

There is a booklet that helps you provide this information called "The Five Wishes". You can access this guide by going to: agingwithdignity.org

Continued on page 2

Generosity is the Flower of Justice
 Nathaniel Hawthorne



Charitable Giving

It's a time of year for gift giving. In addition to gifts for friends and family, it can be a good time to support your favorite charities and organizations. Charitable contributions can also benefit you on your income tax return. They are reported on Form 1040 Personal Income Tax return, Schedule A Itemized Deductions. To be deductible for tax purposes contributions must be made to a qualified charity. Cash contributions must be documented with a bank record containing the name of the organization, the date of the contribution and the amount. Gifts of \$250 or more should be substantiated by payroll deduction records or an acknowledgement from the organization. Non-cash contributions are deducted at the fair market value of the item being contributed, not the original cost. For contributions of \$250 or less you must obtain and keep a receipt from the charitable organization showing the name of the organization, the date and location of the contribution and description of the property. As the amount of the donation increases additional documentation is required. You may also donate appreciated property (such as stock) and avoid paying tax on the capital gain. For people over 70 and a half, you may donate some or all of your required minimum distribution and avoid being taxed on it. Consult your tax preparer if you have questions about charitable giving.

HAS NEWS

The highlight of the fall for Gayle, Sharon and Sue was the participation in the [SRI Conference](#) (Sustainable, Responsible, Impact Investing).

Here are some highlights from our sessions:

- 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) have been crafted by several national and international businesses, foundations, and institutes in order to deliver a universal framework for a high functioning impact economy. 193 countries are involved in this project.
- From the photos and information presented by Ron Garan, astronaut and entrepreneur, we viewed the Earth at sunrise and viewed the difference between Earth in recent years to what it might look like in 2068. In light of the evolving climate changes, this was a call to be part of the voice for alternative energies and ways of living.
- AsYouSow.org (provides a screen for mutual funds with fossil fuel investments) is developing screens for gender equity and weapons.
- When equality rises, economic growth improves.
- Failure can be an orienting event
- We may want to strive for *Humbition* (a combination of humility and ambition).

Cont'd from page 1, Transparency

In the light of organizing, are there things you have around you that you haven't used in years, that create clutter of space and mind, and that someone else would appreciate having? Clearing some of that away may provide a place for more recent interests in your life and an opening for creating ideas for engaging that interest. In this way, you're not only giving something of value to others but also to yourself.

Many say the experience of having someone open or use your gift is more meaningful than the receiving of a gift. With some of these ideas perhaps there can be an equal quality to the giving as well as the receiving.

If you would like to share your financial profile and future expectations with your loved ones, we're pleased to have them join you at a financial review appointment.



Good Tidings to All, and to All a Good Year!