



New Perspectives, Inc.

FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS

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Do good things come to those who wait?

By Ryder Taff, CFA, CIPM

They say that good things come to those who wait. I've been waiting all month for inspiration to write this newsletter!

We trade off months writing the newsletter, hopefully giving you a peak into a different part of each of our lives. This time around the task fell to me. It has been a busy summer in the office, on top of which, everyone has taken at least a week for vacation.

In June, I went to Spain to watch a dear friend get married before adventuring around the former Yugoslav nations for a week. Susan, consistently the best vacationer in the office, met up with her siblings in South Carolina to catch the eclipse. (Jackie and I had to sneak out during lunch to catch the eclipse as Nancy "didn't see the big deal.") Jackie went to California to see her son, and Nancy explored Maine with her daughter Heather.

I considered adopting everyone else's tales as my own for this newsletter. I failed to find my own identity in any of these stories.

In a fit of insomnia, I found my voice doing what I do every day – working out the best possible solution for my clients.



Money On My Mind

In March of this year, Equifax suffered a breach of their computer systems. Hackers infiltrated their servers and made off with the immensely valuable personal information of 143,000,000 Americans. Through Equifax's ineptness, poor security and lack of controls, nearly all Americans who had ever accessed credit or opened a financial account have had their most valuable personal information stolen.

In June, when they noticed the breach, perhaps the executives at Equifax figured that good things would come to those who waited. They did practically nothing. I say practically because some of them took the time and care and thought to sell some of their holdings of company stock.

This incident, and Equifax executives' response to it, is surely one of the most shameful examples of corporate malfeasance as of late. Equifax has valuable, immutable personal information on almost every American who has ever accessed credit. The length of time it took to disclose the breach, the company's attempts to pass the blame and their weak initial consumer reaction were totally unacceptable.

Everyone is vulnerable here, but there are the best steps you can take to protect yourself:

- Equifax will soon be offering free, unlimited credit monitoring for life. We will be on the lookout for you and will update you with details as they become available.

- A credit freeze may be appropriate for you. Talk to us to see if it is in your best interest to place one.

- Keep an eye on other accounts you have for unauthorized access or unusual activity.

We take security of personal information very seriously. Give us a call to hear how we protect you.

**Nancy Lottridge Anderson,
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Fee-Only Financial Advice**



The Lighter Side

Q: What plant do chickens grow on?

A: Eggplants!