



**Your 2019 Financial To-Do List:
Month by Month—April through May**

by Philip Herzberg, CFP®

April: 1. Max out 2018 tax year retirement plan contributions of \$5,500 for Traditional IRA and Roth IRAs by April 15th. For 2019, the IRS increased contribution limits, subject to income phase-outs to adjust for inflation. Consider funding 2019 tax year Traditional IRA and Roth IRA contributions of \$6,000. Catch-up contributions, if you are age 50 or older, remain unchanged at \$1,000 for the IRAs.

2. April 15th is your tax-filing deadline. If you cannot file your federal tax return on time for any reason, you can file an extension before April 15th. Individuals also have to make quarterly estimated tax payments by this date.

3. Spring is around the corner. If you are a client and have documents that you need to shred, please bring them by the office. Our shredding service can safely dispose these sensitive papers. Don't ever throw away financial documents containing personal information without shredding them first.

May: 1. Confirm your Flexible Spending Account (FSA) balance. Verify your plan's rules for rolling over of unused funds. If you put money in a FSA at the beginning of the plan year, now's the time to track how many eligible medical expenses you have tallied and avoid foregoing your unused balance. Make the most of your 2019 FSA dollars by updating your eyeglasses earlier or scheduling dental work you've been putting off.

2. Plan to complete charitable and family member gifts, including opening accounts and charitable contributions, before December 31st. You can currently give \$15,000 every year to as many people as you like without paying a gift tax or \$11.4 million lifetime exclusion, as long as you do it before the end of each year.

3. If you are looking to build an emergency fund or park your money for an indefinite period of time, you should think about setting up a savings account. Look for key savings account features, such as no fees, safety (FDIC insurance through an established bank), and ease of transferring funds. In addition, you should consider opening up a higher yield savings account that provides a more attractive interest rate.

(cont on page 3)

My Money Life

It's that time of year! Are you e-mailing your tax returns to your CPA? Is your accountant sending you confidential tax information via e-mail?

Our My Money Life Client Portal enables a safe and easy way to send, save, and receive these documents in a more secure way.

www.LubitzFinancial.com > **My Money Life Log In**

Call **Madeline Jusino** to learn more about connecting outside accounts.

305.670.4440 [MyMoneyLife Client Log In](#)

Are you interested in having an LFG expert present to your office, study group or community group?

Topics include: Navigating through Today's Market Volatility, Blended Families with Baggage and Planning Ahead for a Secure Retirement.

Our advisors and professionals are dedicated to your financial education. Some presentations can also be delivered in Spanish. Let us know if you'd like to know more. **Nancy Mele 305 670 4440**
NancyM@LubitzFinancial.com

Are you on **LinkedIn**? If so, [connect](#) with **The Lubitz Financial Group** page for more articles!

What's Inside

Around the Office	2
Your 2019 Financial To-Do List (continued)	3
Six Word Memoir	3
Five Things to do Before Breakfast	3

AROUND THE OFFICE

In the News: Phil authored January's *Journal of Financial Planning* column, "Proactive IRA Planning Strategies After Tax Reform." You can read the article which is posted on our website under, "We're in the news" ([please click here to see article](#)).

Giving Back to the Community ... Phil presided over the Estate Planning Symposium (Linda and Phil attended), which is the largest one-day estate planning program in Florida. The Lubitz Financial Group proudly donated their Estate Planning Symposium sponsorship to a charity, The Women's Fund of Miami-Dade, a non-profit organization that for over 25 years



has provided more than \$4 million in funding to support almost 500 organizations serving over 75,000 women and girls in Miami

Furthering the Profession ... Linda hosted her Capstone Study Group in January - funny how the members from up north and the Midwest all want to come to Miami in the winter. We had an interactive dinner at Two Chefs so lots of good food and wine.

Education ... Phil had a very busy quarter on the educational front. On January 10th, Phil attended the Estate Planning Council of Greater Miami Dinner Event on "Divorce and Estate Planning" and

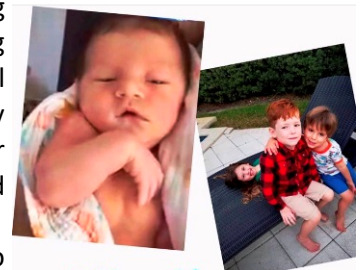


"What the Hack! CyberSecurity in 2019." On January 23rd he attended the FPA Miami Dinner Event (with **Jorge** and **Debbie**) on "The Evolution of Advisor's Alpha: From Portfolios to People" and "Incapacity Planning" ; January 31st he enjoyed the CFA Miami Annual Economic Forecast Event with presenter Howard Marks, CEO of Oaktree Capital. On February 12th he attended the Inside the ETF Conference (with

Jorge), which is the world's premiere thought-leadership conference on investing in Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs). He also attended the February 21st Estate Planning Council of Greater Miami Dinner Event on "The Future of Philanthropy" and "Artificial Intelligence, Real Lawyers, and Smart Machines. Legal Ethics Dilemmas and Technology Conundrums." **Phil, Jorge** and **Debbie** attended the February 27th FPA Miami Dinner Event on "Summary of Tax Reform and Taxation of Cryptocurrency" and "Current Fixed Income Strategies for Today's Higher Interest Rates"

Family & Personal Matters Linda and Norm are downsizing their home in Oakland to move to a condo overlooking Lake Merritt. Renovations and construction work are exciting. Update on the new grandbaby - last newsletter we thought it was a boy and learned it will be a girl! So 2 Boone grandgirls coming up. **Nancy** had the opportunity to

♥ welcome to our family ♥



and then there were four



spend a week with her fourth grandchild born to her daughter in Los Angeles. Her mom, at age 95, was there to enjoy the celebration with her!

Exotic Travel ... Plans are underway for **Linda** and **Norm's** river cruise from Moscow to St. Petersburg in July. Any tips from those of you who have been there would be appreciated.

Nercys reached new heights for the New Year, at Eagle Point in the Grand Canyon.

Office Happenings ... The rest of the team: We enjoyed our Annual Biltmore Holiday Luncheon as we closed out 2018.



Your 2019 Financial To-Do List: Month by Month - April through June ... (continued from page 1)

June: 1. Review your employee benefits, so you are not passing up any benefits or perks programs at work. Don't leave free money on the table. If your employer will match your 401(k) or 403(b) contributions, and you are making large enough contributions to get the full amount, you should boost your deferrals to maximize that benefit if at all possible. Also, take the time to review your health insurance plan, as well as your company's supplemental life and disability plan options, before your next open enrollment periods. Will these types of insurance appropriately protect you and your family financially in the event of a disaster?

2. If you are retired, review the LFG Spending Policy Statement to make sure you make adjustments, if needed, for your annual portfolio withdrawals. Our LFG Spending Policy Statement provides a framework for handling sustainable distributions from your portfolio investments while maintaining your long-term goals in perspective. To learn more, call us.

3. June 15th is the date for quarterly estimated tax payments.

Continue with strong financial footing by following this 2019 checklist! Call your LFG Advisors at 305.670.4440 for guidance on your planning.

Six Word Memoir

by Nancy Marie Mele

Have you heard of the "Six Word Memoir"? <https://www.sixwordmemoirs.com/about/#story-of-six-words>

There's a movement going on that challenges you to "describe your life in exactly six words". As shared in this article, hundreds of thousands of people have shared their own **short** life story on blogs, on websites, in classrooms and more. How about you? Some of my favorites include: **Inspirational:** From migrant worker to NASA astronaut * **Funny:** Married by Elvis, divorced by Friday. These are from some of my favorite people:

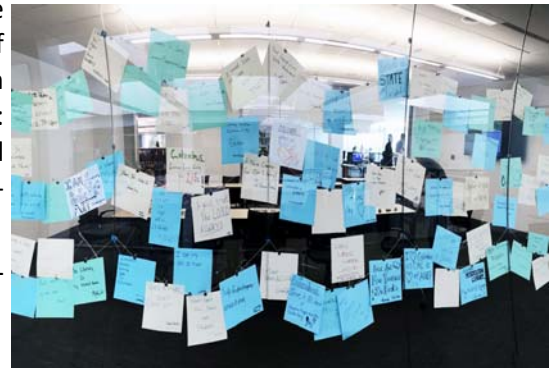
Debbie Badillo: Modern Day Renaissance Woman. Goal Enlightenment.

Linda Lubitz Boone: Bi-coastal babe who's been so lucky

Phil Herzberg: Old Soul, Young Spirit, Hopeful Heart

Nancy Marie Mele: Love Life! Family * Friends * Joy * Adventure

What's yours?



Five Things to do Before Breakfast ...

What???? Before Breakfast?

Yes, before breakfast. I recently read an article that was a bit more daunting entitled, "What the Most Successful People Do Before Breakfast" (by Laura Vanderkam) and thought, "this should be interesting!" We all know, in many homes, mornings are chaotic ... What to wear? Breakfast (for kids?) The ever-present "check my phone for texts and emails" and maybe, just maybe a cup of coffee. To go, of course.

So, want to know what **they** do?

1. **They exercise.** Vanderkam says "people who exercise in the morning are more consistent. Exercising helps clear their mind and tackle any anxiety providing a

clear head when starting work.

2. **They spend time with family.** If you're able, this is time you have control of. Take a minute and enjoy.
3. **They invest time networking.** Booking breakfast meetings is a favorite of many as it's usually available.
4. **They spend time on creative work.** Exercise that part of your brain in the morning—play the piano, journal, work on a fun project you may have going on.
5. **They ponder the big picture.** The quiet of morning can be a great time to engage in big-picture thinking. Where do you want to be and how can you get there?

Think about this little spot of time—do you want to roll over for 30 more minutes or think big?

We welcome the opportunity to help you, your family and friends achieve peace of mind related to wealth and life transition planning.

305-670-4440
www.LubitzFinancial.com
Miami, Florida 33156
9350 S. Dixie Hwy., Suite 1500
THE LUBITZ
FINANCIAL
GROUP



Spring Thoughts to Live By ...

“Spring: a lovely reminder of how beautiful change can truly be.”

~ goodmorningquote.com

“No winter lasts forever; no spring skips its turn.”

~ Hal Borland



“In winter, I plot and plan. In spring, I move.”

~ Henry Rollins

“Despite the forecast, live like it’s spring.”

~ Lilly Pulitzer