



JANUARY

4: Barely a month after the Dow Jones Industrial Average (Dow) reached 24,000 for the first time, it closed at 25,075 on optimism tax cuts would lift corporate earnings and the economy. The broader Standard & Poor 500 (S&P) closed at 2,723 and tech-heavy Nasdaq composite (Nasdaq) at 7,077.

10: Evan, and Kentucky Humane Society, rescued Princess, (chihuahua/ rat terrier with respiratory issues), and she quickly became queen of the Thurmond household.

17: The Dow rose 322 points to a record 26,115, just 13 calendar days after it topped 25,000, for the fastest 1,000-point climb in its history. In the first 11 trading days of 2018 the Dow rose nearly 1,400, or 5.6%.

25: Ivy Tech in Sellersburg, Indiana hosted Jeremy's Retirement Planning Today classes.

30-31: The Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) left the fed funds rate at 1.5% and announced it would allow \$12 billion of Treasury and \$8 billion of mortgage-backed securities to mature monthly without replacement, in Janet Yellen's last meeting as Fed Chair.

FEBRUARY

5: The Dow briefly dropped more than 1500 before closing at 24,345, for a slide of 1,175 points, or 4.6%, its biggest ever single day point decline, erasing all gains for 2018. Theories: interest rates might rise faster than expected triggered by U.S. jobs and wage growth creating inflation; the U.S. Treasury may take on more debt to pay for the tax cuts.

19: Marci Coats, ChFC® joined LWS as Client Experience Director, coordinating communications and focused on building a positive experience for our clients.

MARCH

12: We, guests, and students we sponsored, learned about gene splicing from Kentucky to the World speaker and nobel laureate Phillip A. Sharp and medical writer Jenni Ladman.

20-21: FOMC raised the rate to 1.75% in Jerome Powell's first meeting as Chair.

21: A late season snowstorm couldn't chill Bob and Judy McMillen's retirement celebration as we hosted 15 of their co-workers and friends at Lifetime Wealth Strategies.

28: Kasey Maier, executive Director of Waterfront Botanical Gardens provided an update on progress and Adam explained how Donor Advised Funds provide tax deductible positive impact on the charities of your choice at our hosted luncheon

29: End of 1st Quarter Dow 24,103 S&P 2605, Nasdaq 7063

QUARTER 1

Dow-2.5%, S&P -1.2%, Nasdaq 2.3%

APRIL

1: Despite robust global economy and strong corporate earnings, indices logged negative quarterly returns for the first time since 2015.

MAY

1-2: FOMC kept rate at 1.75% but, encouraged by good employment numbers and stable economic growth, continued to wind down \$4 trillion in holdings.

4: We danced as Stevie Wonder performed in support of the West End School at The Trifecta Gala.

22: We learned about horticulture from Vince Dooley at Lincliff, in support of Waterfront Botanical Gardens.

30: Adam and Evan attended Northwestern's Kellogg School of Management classes for LPL's top insurance producers.

JUNE

10: We joined the Waggin' Trail at Louisville Water Tower for Kentucky Humane Society.

12-13: FOMC raised the rate to 2%, encouraged by stable economic activity, strong labor conditions, and inflation near its 2% target.

13: Jessica Richards, Timmel Law, hosted Jeremy's presentation "Prepare for a Healthier Future." "1 out of every 2 people turning 65 today will need long-term care."

29: End of 2nd Quarter Dow 24,271 S&P 2718, Nasdaq 7510

QUARTER 2

Dow 0.7%, S&P 2.9%, Nasdaq 6.3%
YTD

Dow-1.8%, S&P 1.7%, Nasdaq 8.8%

JULY

1: In a volatile 2nd quarter, China-US trade posturing was no match for resilient economic and earnings data as S&P and Nasdaq techs rallied but Dow's industrials struggled to claw back 1st quarter losses.

10: We, and students we sponsored, explored what it takes to be an Olympic champion with Kentucky to the World speakers Mary T Meagher and Kelsi Worrell Dahlia and sports reporter Whitney Harding.

26: Evan presented first half market analysis, Adam explained Donor Advised Funds, and Scott introduced Pickleball at our 2018 Midstream Currents luncheon at Louisville Boat Club where everyone received a sustainable bag, a boat with his/her name, a reminder of 2018 Wrap Up, and worked together to forecast the



temperature on Dec 6 for the chance to be our guests at a charitable event in 2019.

28: We supported veterans at USA Cares 15th Anniversary Gala.

AUGUST

2: Apple became the world's first trillion dollar company.

22: The "bull market" became the longest in history, having risen 20% without a 20% decline since March 9, 2009, (low of the financial crisis and birthdate of current bull.) Over this time, S&P advanced 320%, Dow 290%, Nasdaq 520%. This year, S&P 500 closed higher in April, May, June and July, which has only happened in 10 other years since 1950.

SEPTEMBER

10: Newly hired intern and senior goalie, Greg Russell, introduced us to U of L Hockey.

14: Louisville Business First published 2 page spread on responsible impact investing with Evan's photo, quotes, and interview, "Good governance – such as diversity on its board, gender equality, no history of malfeasance and so on – theoretically creates a good culture, which makes for a profitable company. For a company to be a good long-term investment it has to be sustainable...You want me looking in the future when I'm driving your money."

20: Ivy Tech in Sellersburg, Indiana hosted Jeremy's Retirement Planning Today classes.

25-26: FOMC raised rate to 2.25% and indicated it expects to raise again in December, but a roughly equal number of members forecasted rate cuts as rate hikes in 2019, projecting economic growth will slow over the next 3 years from 3.1% in 2018 to 1.8% in 2021.

28: S&P rose for a 6th consecutive month. End of 3rd Quarter Dow 26,458 S&P 2914, Nasdaq 8046

QUARTER 3

Dow 9.0%, S&P 7.2%, Nasdaq 7.1%
YTD

Dow 7%, S&P 9%, Nasdaq 16.6%

OCTOBER

1: The large-cap S&P's quarterly gain was the largest in nearly 5 years. Stability returned with no daily swing over 1% in either direction for 3 months, (compared with 36 incidences in the prior 6 months.)

3: Dow closed at new all-time high for 15th time in 2018 at 26,828. S&P closed at 2,925 and Nasdaq at 8,025. Economic indicators pointed to continued strength as private sector employers added 230,000 more jobs in September.

4: October's "normal" volatility (no month has seen more 1% changes since 1950) returned as Dow dropped 1.3% in reaction to surge in government bond yields.

10-11: Dow sunk 1,377 in 2 days, settling at just over 25,000.

16: At the 2018 Power of 1 Breakfast, we joined Volunteers of America Mid-States to learn how we can empower those battling addiction, adapting to civilian life after military service, or struggling with homelessness, or lack of family support, rebuild their lives and pay it forward to other vulnerable members of our community.

24: We, guests, and students we sponsored, learned about media's expanding opportunities to create, present, and promote your brand with Kentucky to the World speaker and brand maker, Chuck Brymer, and community activist Maggie Harlow.

29: Dow swung 900 points between high and low to settle 1.2% down on

the day at 24,688. S&P fell 1.7% to close at 2,659 and Nasdaq declined 2.1% to 7,167.

30: Markets rebounded: Dow +1.8% at 24,875, S&P +1.6% at 2,683 and Nasdaq +1.6% at 7,162. In October, markets closed up or down more than 1% on 8 trading days, versus no such moves from late June through the end of September. Since 1950 an average year has had 50 days of such swings; 2018 appears to be in line with those historical averages.

NOVEMBER

1: Association for Retired Americans included article with info from Adam on Long-Term Care planning, "What is your focus in retirement? A well-prepared plan involves analyzing and understanding how you and your family members will provide for potential care needs, and both the financial, and emotional, impact that may have."

7-8: FMOC kept the rate at 2.25 percent, citing a strong economy.

24: Falling oil prices and escalating trade talk stoked uncertainty and all major indices had the worst Thanksgiving week since 2011.

26: Market numbers grew with retail sales figures as online shopping continued breaking sales records.

DECEMBER

3-7: We pledged matching donations to Kentucky Humane Society for the week to support all our furry friends.

6: Everyone gathered at LWS to Wrap Up 2018 by donating mittens, boots, coats and gifts to those in need of warmth, cuddled puppies in need of love, enjoyed free gift wrapping services, good food, drinks, and friends, and took home a 5 x 7 photo frame to help focus on building a positive impact in 2019.