

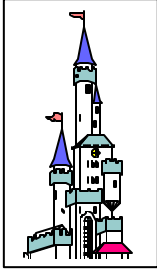


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ICG TIMELY TOPICS

FROM THE TOP



ENOUGH

It is time for greed to overcome fear!

Over the years exposure to the news press has made more and more of the investment public aware of the need to invest in something other than bank CD's, and that has been a good thing.

Today's news media is in love with publishing the negative news, and it is time that they back off. The investment world has unprecedented events happening all of the time, but they are only unprecedented once. Enron was unprecedented. The others that followed (World-Com, Global Crossing, etc.) were not.

We all hunger for normal times. Most analysis of the market suggests that the worst is over and late July was the "bottom" to the market. The media has yet to pick up on this and I have had enough!

Donald R. Stanforth, President
Certified Investment Management
Analyst

Connelly, Jim "I will never miss a recital or school play" Pensions & Investments September 2, 2002 p. 3

"Even if I have to work different hours, I will never miss a dance recital or school play." Quote from Jim Connelly. Mr. Connelly is vice chairman of Fred Alger Management that lost 35 of the firms 50 employees on September 11, 2001.

Adams, Nevin "What you don't know can hurt you" Plan Sponsor August, 2002 pp. 38, 40, 42

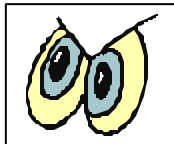
The program and/or fund choices you offer to your participants can make a significant difference in their retirement security. Funds, in a particular category, do not all have the same costs attached. Be aware of whether the fees you are paying are fair and reasonable.

Hoffman, David "The UGMA truth: 529's usually better for college savings" Investment News Vol. 6 No. 30 August 5, 2002 pp. 3, 20

The Uniform Gift to Minors Act was established in 1956 to set up irrevocable accounts that would be a tax efficient way to invest for children. If you are going to use the money for a child's college education, the new 529 plans offer a better way to save.

Helliker, Kevin; Merrick, Amy and Zuckerman, Gregory "Buffett Searches For Bargains Amid Distress" The Wall Street Journal August 2, 2002 pp. C1, C10

For Warren Buffett the market is "For Sale." The depth of distress in the energy and telecommunications markets have made those areas prime targets for Mr. Buffett and his company, Berkshire Hathaway. Mr. Buffett still believes the market is over priced. He contains his risk in the troubled companies by not buying stock, but bonds. Those who doubted Mr. Buffett when he showed an aversion to high flying technology stocks in the 1990's are now taking note when Mr. Buffett shows an interest in a particular company.



This issue of "Bits and Pieces" contains important news about a change to 401(k) regulations.

LOOK!

