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TAX PREPARATION & PLANNING

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"Time, it's on my side – yes it is....." the Rolling Stones.

Dear Clients:

With the end of the 2009 tax season, we experienced many extremes; from the snowy weather, the weary word "crisis", picture the many "perfect storms", to the "life saving financial bailouts". Our government is famous for taking credit for saving us from things that they created. The lessons to be garnered from these occurrences are, you are responsible for your own life experience! Do not look to the government to come to your rescue. Focus on TIME, as it truly is... on your side, if you choose to use it.

The Times are a changing. This year the tax law is up for grabs as the sunset provisions of the Bush tax law is set to expire this year. President Obama can get his tax increase just by doing nothing, but it leaves us in limbo. This effect's both income and estate taxes and planning can be difficult if you do not have the rules of the game. Congress must act promptly to allow the public to adjust to the situation. Beware of the changes! Taxes are going up.

Time to protect yourself. The world of SCAMS is growing, I repeat, that the IRS or Social Security will not contact you through the internet, your bank should not contact you through the internet and you should be very careful in putting any of your personal financial information on the internet. Healthcare will be another scam territory due to the government law changes. The great deals are never what they appear to be, so get real!

"Time is Money". This issue of our newsletter "Financial Insights" focuses on the best uses of money for yours and your families happiness. You need time to accumulate funds for: (#1) retirement , (#2) educate yourself and family, (#3) purchase and afford housing. The action of saving is greatest part, the return on investment or not is icing on the cake. Saving is the opposite of debt, you borrow money to allow you to use your future earnings in advance. Seek to avoid debt on consumables (credit card purchases). Stop refinancing to reorganize debt, it rarely succeeds as credit card debt always comes back. Get used to living on less and all things become possible.

Thank you for using our financial services and we encourage your calls on any and all financial situations. We do not charge for phone consultation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barry B. De Marr". The signature is stylized and fluid, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

Barry B. De Marr, CFP,EA