

MP McShane Partners

NOVEMBER 2023 INSIGHTS

INVESTMENT OVERVIEW

THE MCSHANE PARTNERS CORE CONTRARIAN EQUITY PORTFOLIO STRATEGY

After a robust first half of the year, the third quarter of 2023 (“3Q23”) brought a healthy correction in the broader U.S. equity market, with the S&P 500® Index (“S&P 500®”) returning **-3.27%**. Although declines in the stock market are never exhorted or enjoyed by investors, it is prudent to maintain perspective in the midst of short-term pullbacks. Entering calendar year 2023 (“CY2023”), economists unanimously expected the U.S. economy to enter a recession precipitated by the pace and magnitude of the rise in interest rates. After disregarding this now obviously incorrect prediction, the U.S. economy performed, and the S&P 500® has returned **+13.07%** year-to-date (“YTD”) through the end of 3Q23. Short-term corrections after periods of uninhibited gains are often normal and healthy, therefore the near-term pullback should be considered in relation to overall performance of risk assets over the past ±12 months.

September was a particularly difficult month for U.S. equities, with the technology-heavy NASDAQ Composite Index (“NASDAQ”) suffering outsized downside risk throughout the month; once again, however, perspective remains prudent, as the NASDAQ remains the largest absolute and relative outperformer YTD through the first nine months of CY2023, returning **+27.11%** YTD through the end of 3Q23. The euphoria surrounding the potential growth and long-term implications of artificial intelligence (“AI”), as typified by the popularization of ChatGPT, has propelled technology stocks to unsustainable levels, so the recent correction in this momentum-driven trade has been logical and normal. In fact, there could still be further downside

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WEALTH ADVISORY OVERVIEW

THE UNDERUTILIZED HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNT

A Health Savings Account (HSA) is a tax-advantaged personal savings account that helps those with HSA-qualified health plans save for out-of-pocket medical expenses like doctor visits, vision and dental care, as well as prescription drug costs. To be eligible to open and fund an HSA, the following requirements must be met:

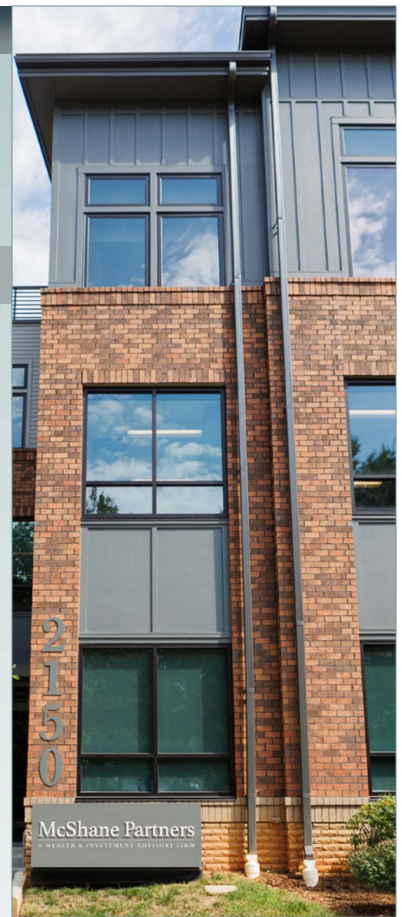
- You must be covered under a high deductible health plan (HDHP)
- You must not be enrolled in Medicare
- You must not be claimed as a dependent on someone else’s prior year income tax return

For each year you are enrolled in a high-deductible health insurance plan (HDHP), you are eligible to open and fund an HSA. For 2023, the IRS defines a HDHP for an individual as a plan with an out-of-pocket maximum of \$7,500 and a minimum deductible of \$1,500. For a family plan, the out-of-pocket maximum is \$15,000 and the minimum deductible is \$3,000.

Why a Health Savings Account?

Saving to an HSA occurs on a pre-tax basis, similar to a traditional IRA or 401(k) plan. However, while saving to an IRA or 401k requires earned income in order to make contributions, saving to an HSA does not have the same earned income requirement.

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POINTS OF INTEREST

- [Monthly Index Review](#)
- [Stock & Strategy Spotlight](#)
- [Around McShane Partners](#)

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THE MCSHANE PARTNERS CORE CONTRARIAN EQUITY PORTFOLIO STRATEGY

risk as the stock market continues to digest the enormous, concentrated gains enjoyed by a relatively select number of large-cap technology stocks over the past ±12 months.

PERFORMANCE REVIEW

As can be seen in Table I, below, the McShane Partners Core Contrarian Equity Portfolio Strategy (“the Strategy”) returned **-3.90%** in 3Q23 vs. comparable returns of **-3.27%**, **-4.09%**, and **-2.59%** for the S&P 500®, the S&P 500® Value Index (“Value”), and the S&P 500® Growth Index (“Growth”), respectively, for the quarter. While the Strategy did continue to benefit from dedicated exposure to Growth throughout the quarter, the absolute and relative underperformance of quality-biased, dividend-oriented factors - as represented by the S&P 500® Dividend Aristocrats Index (“Dividend Aristocrats”), which returned **-5.44%** in 3Q23 - did weigh on and marginally detract from overall portfolio-level performance this past quarter. The Strategy was not alone in this regard, however, as several of the more popular exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”) with high-dividend, low-volatility factor-based investment strategies that had delivered impressive relative downside protection throughout calendar year 2022 (“CY2022”) exhibited short-term relative underperformance in 3Q23.

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TABLE I: MP CORE CONTRARIAN STRATEGY - PEER COMPARISON & PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS
USD TOTAL RETURN - DATA AS OF SEPTEMBER 30TH 2023

NAME DESCRIPTION	TICKER	2022	1Q23	2Q23	3Q23	2023 YTD
MP CORE CONTRARIAN EQUITY PORTFOLIO STRATEGY*		-10.97%	4.76%	2.70%	-3.90%	3.39%
S&P 500® Index	SP50	-18.11%	7.50%	8.74%	-3.27%	13.07%
S&P 500® Value Index	SVXK	-5.22%	5.17%	6.64%	-4.09%	7.56%
S&P 500® Growth Index	SGX	-29.41%	9.63%	10.59%	-2.59%	18.11%
S&P 500® Dividend Aristocrats Index	SP50DIV	-6.21%	1.80%	3.98%	-5.44%	0.10%
iShares MSCI USA Quality Factor ETF	QUAL	-20.46%	9.19%	9.02%	-1.91%	16.75%
Invesco S&P 500 Quality ETF	SPHQ	-15.78%	8.00%	7.02%	-0.45%	15.03%
iShares Core S&P 500 ETF	IVV	-18.11%	7.42%	8.75%	-3.21%	13.06%
FlexShares U.S. Quality Large Cap ETF	QLC	-17.12%	6.96%	8.55%	-2.66%	13.00%
Parnassus Core Equity Fund	PRBLX	-18.51%	7.54%	7.47%	-3.29%	11.78%
FMI Large Cap Fund	FMIHX	-14.76%	3.95%	5.70%	-2.60%	7.03%
WisdomTree U.S. Quality Dividend Growth ETF	DGRW	-6.38%	3.70%	7.39%	-4.28%	6.61%
AMG Yacktman Fund	YACKX	-7.42%	2.60%	3.32%	-0.85%	5.11%
Vanguard Dividend Appreciation ETF	VIG	-9.86%	1.92%	5.97%	-3.87%	3.83%
FlexShares U.S. Quality Low Volatility ETF	QLV	-9.99%	2.50%	4.45%	-3.20%	3.64%
MFS Low Volatility Equity Fund	MLVAX	-10.83%	2.08%	4.85%	-4.02%	2.75%
iShares MSCI USA Min Vol Factor ETF	USMV	-9.43%	1.33%	2.57%	-2.10%	1.76%
iShares Core Dividend Growth ETF	DGRO	-7.94%	0.58%	3.60%	-3.13%	0.95%
ProShares S&P 500 Dividend Aristocrats ETF	NOBL	-6.57%	1.78%	3.84%	-5.52%	-0.11%
SPDR SSGA U.S. Large Cap Low Volatility ETF	LGLV	-8.22%	1.30%	3.24%	-4.55%	-0.14%
Fidelity U.S. Low Volatility Equity Fund	FULVX	-10.46%	0.00%	1.82%	-2.31%	-0.53%
Invesco S&P 500 Low Volatility ETF	SPLV	-4.93%	-1.79%	1.24%	-5.77%	-6.25%
Invesco S&P 500 High Dividend Low Volatility ETF	SPHD	0.56%	-2.70%	-0.96%	-4.02%	-7.41%

Source: McShane Partners - Envestnet | Tamarac, Inc. & FactSet Research Systems, Inc.

INVESTMENT OVERVIEW

THE MCSHANE PARTNERS CORE CONTRARIAN EQUITY PORTFOLIO STRATEGY

Following the nuanced relative underperformance of high-quality, dividend-paying stocks in the current market environment, the Investment Team remains committed to identifying stock-specific opportunities given the more attractive valuation points afforded to long-term investors at the current discounts to intrinsic values for those companies with durable, sustainable, and recession-resistant businesses.

PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

The largest contributors to absolute portfolio-level performance during the quarter were core positions in shares of AMGEN, INC. (“AMGN”) and ALPHABET, INC. CLASS A (“GOOGL”), which returned **+22.03%** and **+9.32%**, respectively, in 3Q23. While this was somewhat negated by short-term relative underperformance in several of the Strategy’s long-term holdings of high-quality, dividend-paying stocks, including positions in shares of WASTE MANAGEMENT, INC. (“WM”) and AMERICAN WATER WORKS, INC. (“AWK”), which returned **-11.69%** and **-12.76%**, respectively, in 3Q23, the recent repositioning of CASH & CASH EQUIVALENT allocations into high-quality money market funds (“MMFs”) did help to partially offset the marginal impact to portfolio-level performance and mitigate downside risk(s) throughout the quarter.

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“Part of the pursuit of excellence involves eliminating as many surprises as possible because life is full of the unexpected.”

- Sir Alex Ferguson

TABLE II: S&P 500® INDEX SECTOR HEAT MAP
USD TOTAL RETURN - DATA AS OF SEPTEMBER 30TH 2023

SECTOR-LEVEL INDEX	2021	2022	1Q23	2Q23	3Q23	2023 YTD
<u>DEFENSIVES</u>						
Utilities	+17.67%	+1.57%	-3.24%	-2.53%	-9.25%	-14.41%
Communication Services	+21.57%	-39.89%	+20.50%	+13.06%	+3.07%	+40.43%
Health Care	+26.13%	-1.95%	-4.31%	+2.95%	-2.65%	-4.09%
Consumer Staples	+18.63%	-0.62%	+0.83%	+0.45%	-5.97%	-4.76%
<u>NEAR CYCLICALS</u>						
Energy	+54.64%	+65.72%	-4.67%	-0.89%	+12.22%	+6.03%
Financials	+35.04%	-10.53%	-5.56%	+5.33%	-1.13%	-1.65%
Real Estate	+46.19%	-26.13%	+1.95%	+1.81%	-8.90%	-5.45%
<u>CYCLICALS</u>						
Information Technology	+34.53%	-28.19%	+21.82%	+17.20%	-5.64%	+34.72%
Consumer Discretionary	+24.43%	-37.03%	+16.13%	+14.58%	-4.80%	+26.67%
Industrials	+21.12%	-5.48%	+3.47%	+6.49%	-5.16%	+4.50%
Materials	+27.28%	-12.27%	+4.29%	+3.31%	-4.76%	+2.61%
S&P 500® INDEX	+28.71%	-18.11%	+7.50%	+8.74%	-3.27%	+13.07%

Source: McShane Partners - FactSet Research Systems, Inc.

* In accordance with Rule 206(4)-1(a)(2) of the Investment Adviser Act of 1940 (the “Advisers Act”), upon request by an individual or interested party, McShane Partners (the “Adviser”) will make available a list of applicable discretionary investment recommendations made by the Adviser with respect to the McShane Partners Core Contrarian Equity Portfolio Strategy (the “Strategy”) over the corresponding trailing 12-month period ended September 30th 2023.

INVESTMENT OVERVIEW**THE MCSHANE PARTNERS CORE CONTRARIAN EQUITY PORTFOLIO STRATEGY****PORTFOLIO POSITIONING: SHORT-TERM HEADWINDS VS. LONG-TERM OPPORTUNITIES**

Although the Investment Team remains cautious with respect to the mixed signals from risk assets and financial markets, we are optimistic with respect to our ability to earn predictable near-term yield for conservative investors without compromising optionality or portfolio-level positioning. Furthermore, the dominance of the technology sector YTD has created tactical opportunities in less-cyclical, interest-rate-sensitive sectors of the market (e.g., Utilities) where high-quality stocks with above-average dividend yields have traded down to increasingly attractive valuations. It is a tale of two markets with very limited leadership and numerous economic factors signaling caution.

STOCK & STRATEGY SPOTLIGHT

NAME	TICKER	OCTOBER 2023	2023 YTD
3M Co.	MMM	-2.85%	-20.41%

DESCRIPTION & INVESTMENT THESIS

Our recent purchase of Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing, known as 3M Co. ("MMM"), is forward-looking but also small and manageable. Today's negative stock market mood and rising interest rates have combined to punish shares of companies with anemic growth, debt and controversy. MMM has had plenty of controversy. We see potential that 2023 could be a washout low, resetting the share price to emerge as a future outperformer. Growth has been challenged by weak comparisons from COVID-related products, lack of new products over the past few years, and foreign currency headwinds. Looking ahead, COVID-related product sales have leveled out and become less meaningful. Growth is emerging within the organization in areas such as automotive products for electric vehicles, artificial intelligence and carbon capture. Currency has a chance to become a tailwind. Litigation issues appear to be on a path to settlement, and while costly, may already be reflected in the share price. Key valuation metrics are trading at 5- and 10-year lows. Despite these challenges and headwinds, operating and free cash flow margins remain around 20.0% and 15.0% respectively, supporting the current ±6.8% dividend yield. The successful spin-out of their \$8.5B healthcare business is a catalyst in 1H24 which is expected to pay a one-time cash dividend of around 5.0%, we see shares especially enticing here and we enjoy nearly 12% investment return over the next 12 months should we be early

MONTHLY INDEX REVIEW
USD TOTAL RETURN

DATA AS OF OCTOBER 31 ST 2023	OCTOBER 2023	2023 YTD	2022	2021
S&P 500® Index	-2.10%	+10.69%	-18.11%	+28.71%
Dow Jones Industrial Average	-1.26%	+1.44%	-6.86%	+20.95%
NASDAQ Composite	-2.76%	+23.61%	-32.54%	+22.18%
Russell 2000	-6.82%	-4.45%	-20.44%	+14.82%
MSCI Emerging Markets	-3.89%	-2.14%	-19.74%	-2.22%
MSCI EAFE	-4.05%	+2.74%	-14.01%	+11.78%
Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index	-1.58%	-2.77%	-13.01%	-1.54%

INVESTMENT OVERVIEW

THE MCSHANE PARTNERS CORE CONTRARIAN EQUITY PORTFOLIO STRATEGY

DISCLOSURES: THE MCSHANE PARTNERS CORE CONTRARIAN EQUITY PORTFOLIO STRATEGY

Performance data for the McShane Partners Core Contrarian Equity Portfolio Strategy reflect aggregated, asset-weighted returns of underlying account-level performance and is unaudited.

STRATEGY LIMITATIONS The Investment Strategy (the “Strategy”) performance shown reflects the asset-weighted performance of actual performance data and time-weighted returns for representative Investment Portfolios (the “Portfolios”) over the respective time frames in accordance with the objectives of the McShane Partners Core Contrarian Equity Portfolio Strategy (the “MP Core Contrarian Strategy”) managed by McShane Partners (the “Adviser”). While the performance of the Strategy is believed to have been calculated reliably and accurately, the Strategy performance data and returns have not been audited, and, as such, the results are subject to limitations inherent in the use of historical performance reporting and returns.

FEES & EXPENSES Strategy performance results shown are presented net of applicable management fees of and assumes the reinvestment of dividends and all other income. Because some investors may have different fee arrangements, and, depending on the timing of a specific investment, net performance for an individual investor may vary from the net performance as stated herein.

Net Strategy performance is presented gross of custodial fees but net of investment management fees and transaction costs. Net performance is calculated by using the actual fees charged to each Investment Portfolio throughout the Strategy for the performance period. Returns include the reinvestment of dividends and other earnings. Prospective investors should expect their rates of return to be reduced by investment management fees, along with other expenses incurred in the management of the account, which are fully described in the McShane Partners’ Brochure (Form ADV Part 2A). Because some investors may have different fee arrangements and, depending on the timing of a specific investment, net performance for an individual investor may vary from the net performance as stated herein.

OTHER INFORMATION Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future results. All investments are subject to risk, and investing in accordance with the strategy, like all investments, may lose money. The performance shown is representative of investment strategies and styles used by the Adviser and such style may not be suitable for each potential investor. The Strategy is representative of an investment strategy and style used by the Adviser and such style may not be suitable for each potential investor. All material presented is compiled from sources believed to be reliable and current, but accuracy cannot be guaranteed. This is not to be considered as an offer to buy or sell any financial instruments. Additional information regarding policies for calculating and reporting returns is available upon request.

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This disclosure is made pursuant to the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act and Regulation S-P (Privacy of Consumer Financial Information), as issued by the U.S. Securities & Exchange Commission. It is important to note that the relationship you have with the custodian where your assets are held is independent of that with McShane Partners. Each custodian has its own privacy disclosures and policies, as distributed to clients.

McShane Partners is a Registered Investment Advisor.

INFORMATION REGARDING BENCHMARKS & INDEXES

Information about indexes is provided to allow for comparison of the performance of the Adviser to that of certain well-known and widely recognized indexes. There is no representation that such index is an appropriate benchmark for such comparison. You cannot invest directly in an index, which also does not take into account trading commissions and costs. The volatility of indexes may be materially different from the performance of the Adviser. In addition, the Adviser’s recommendations may differ significantly from the securities that comprise the indexes.

BENCHMARK & INDEX DEFINITIONS The following benchmark and index definitions used by the Adviser for the Strategy have been sourced directly from the respective index provider’s website, and the data are considered to be widely-known, publicly-available information.

RETURN METHODOLOGY [S&P Dow Jones Indices](#) calculates multiple return types which vary based on the treatment of regular cash dividends. The classification of regular cash dividends is determined by S&P Dow Jones Indices: Gross Total Return (“TR”) versions reinvest regular cash dividends at the close on the ex-date without consideration for withholding taxes.

S&P 500® INDEX

The S&P 500® Index (“S&P 500®”) is widely regarded as the best single gauge of large-cap U.S. equities. There is over \$11.2 trillion indexed or benchmarked to the index, with indexed assets comprising approximately \$4.6 trillion of this total. The index includes 500 leading companies and captures approximately 80% coverage of available market capitalization.

S&P 500® VALUE INDEX | S&P 500® GROWTH INDEX

The S&P U.S. Style Indices measure the performance of U.S. equities fully or partially categorized as either growth or value stocks, as determined by Style Scores for each security. The Style series is weighted by float-adjusted market capitalization (“FMC”). The Style index series divides the complete market capitalization of each parent index approximately equally into growth and value indices based on three factors each used to measure growth and value.

S&P 500® DIVIDEND ARISTOCRATS INDEX

The S&P 500® Dividend Aristocrats Index measures the performance of S&P 500® companies that have increased dividends every year for the last 25 consecutive years. The Index treats each constituent as a distinct investment opportunity without regard to its size by equally weighting each company.

WEALTH ADVISORY OVERVIEW

THE UNDERUTILIZED HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNT

It is common for health insurance providers with high deductible plans to offer HSAs. In this case, the election to participate in the HSA through the employer's cafeteria plan allows the payroll provider to deduct the requested savings amount on a pre-tax basis from payroll, and deposit these funds into the individual's HSA account.

If the health provider does not offer an HSA option, an HSA can be opened at most financial institutions. Contributions can be made at any time during the year by writing a check and depositing these funds to the health savings account. In this case, a deduction from gross income would be taken on the individual's tax returns allowing these contributions to escape federal and state taxation.

It is important to note that while HSA contributions made individually will not be subject to federal and/or state income tax, these contributions are still subject to Social Security and Medicare tax. However, contributions that are made through an employer's cafeteria plan are deductible for federal, state, Social Security and Medicare taxes.

Maximum contribution amount and deadline

Each year, you may decide how much to contribute to your HSA, though you cannot exceed government-mandated maximums. In 2023, these limits are \$3,850 for an individual and \$7,750 for a family; adults over 55 can save an additional \$1,000 to their HSA. While contributions can be made all during the taxable year, the final deadline to make contributions for 2023 is April 15, 2024, the same as IRA contributions.

How do I use the dollars within my HSA to pay for medical expenses?

Funds that are withdrawn to pay for qualified medical expenses are tax-free. Withdrawals for nonqualified expenses are taxable and subject to a penalty if you are under the age of 65. Typically, you will receive a debit card or checks linked to your HSA and you can use either to pay for eligible medical expenses. This includes deductibles, copays and coinsurance, plus other qualified medical expenses not covered by your health insurance plan. Be aware that insurance premiums usually cannot be paid for with HSA funds.

Health Savings Account vs the Flexible Spending Account

Unlike a Flexible Spending Account (FSA), any funds remaining in your HSA may be rolled over from year to year, and continue to grow tax-free. This is a huge advantage over an FSA that requires that funds be spent each year or forfeited. However, if you are not covered by a HDHP, the FSA may be your only option to save for medical expenses on a pre-tax basis.

Health Savings Account and Medicare

Once you are over age 65 and enrolled in Medicare, you can no longer contribute to an HSA. However, even though you are no longer eligible to make HSA contributions, you can still use the money within your HSA to pay for out-of-pocket medical expenses. If you use the money on non-eligible medical expenses, you have to pay income tax on that amount (plus a penalty if you are under 65).

Can I invest my HSA account balance?

Another benefit of HSAs is they can be invested in a multitude of investment options to include mutual funds, stocks and other investment vehicles. All earnings including interest, dividends and capital gains are tax-deferred within the HSA and if used for qualifying medical expenses when withdrawn, escape permanent taxation.

SENIOR PLANNING: LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE AND CONTINUING CARE RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES



Lorri Tomlin, FPQP™
Partner | Wealth Advisor

Do you need long-term care insurance if you move to a continuing care retirement community (CCRC)? This is a question that is often asked by prospective residents of CCRCs. Both help cover the expense of healthcare needs in older adults and the answer basically depends on the type of contract options offered by the retirement community. If you are considering a move to a retirement community and have long-term care insurance, it is important to understand the types of contracts available and how your long-term care insurance policy works with the community.

There are basically 4 types of contracts:

Type A “Life Care/Life Plan” Contract—This type of contract requires an entrance fee and monthly service fees that provide you with lifetime access to independent living, assisted living, skilled nursing, and memory care. A “Life Care/Life Plan” community provides predictable monthly fees that are below market rates and will have little or no

increase if you move up to a higher level of care. Even if one spouse/partner requires a different level of care, you will still pay one monthly rate. Some, but not all, even guarantee lifetime residency if you run out of money.

Type B Modified Life Care Contract—This type of contract generally requires a lower entrance fee and lower monthly service fees than the Type A contract. They offer the same amenities but provide a limited stay at higher levels of care and you will be charged extra for additional healthcare services, although usually at a discounted rate. Your monthly fee will increase based on the additional services you need. If a spouse/partner requires a different level of care, you may be required to pay two monthly service fees for the two different levels of care.

Type C “Rental” or “Fee-for-Service” Contract— This type of contract usually requires the lowest entrance and monthly fees for independent living while providing the same services and amenities. However, if you require assisted living, memory care or skilled nursing, you are charged market rates increasing your monthly fee to cover the higher level of care.

Equity Model contract—There are a limited number of communities that offer an “equity” or purchase option. Instead of providing an entrance fee, you purchase your residence and pay the monthly service fees. When you require a higher level of care or upon your death, the residence is sold and the proceeds either fund your continued care or go to your estate.

Only a Type “A” or Life Plan/Life Care contract would possibly eliminate the need for long-term care insurance. Because the community monthly fees do not increase as you move up to higher levels of care, long-term care insurance may not be needed because your expenses will not increase. However, you may want to consider keeping your coverage if you already have long-term care insurance. Even though the monthly fee does not increase, the policy could offset a portion of the fee making the net monthly cost less than the cost of independent living. Some Life Plan/Life Care communities even offer modified contracts that have lower entrance fees than the basic contract and allow you to use your existing long-term care insurance to offset the cost if you move to a higher level of care.

Your McShane Partners Wealth Advisor can help with any questions you may have if you are looking at CCRCs in our area.

NEXT GEN: IS THE REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST THE NEW LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT



Ryan Vaudrin, CFP®, CDFA®
Partner | Wealth Advisor

In the past we have discussed the importance of establishing a proper Estate Plan. However, what strategy should be used to determine when you should utilize a Will or a Revocable Living Trust? Creating and utilizing a Revocable Living Trust can be a beneficial planning strategy due to the increased control managing assets and avoiding probate.

Probate is the legal process which passes through the court system to review and distribute a decedent's estate. During probate, the courts will review a Last Will & Testament to determine and validate the decedent's final wishes. While probate is necessary, it can be an expensive and time-consuming process. With this in mind, when does taking steps to avoid probate make sense?

As mentioned above, the probate process can be arduous. The cost to probate an estate with the help of an Estate Attorney can range from \$1,000 to \$10,000+ depending on the complexity of the estate while costs to establish a trust can range from \$3,000 to \$5,000+. If cost is the primary concern, individuals may determine that a simple small estate can be settled via probate and a Will, whereas larger and more complex situations can be managed by utilizing a Revocable Living Trust.

In addition to avoiding probate, Revocable Living Trusts may also provide flexibility for making trust updates, asset privacy, and incapacity planning. While a trust does not eliminate the need for a will, it can provide smoother succession planning by ensuring the estate is finalized in an efficient manner. To help determine your need between a Will or a Revocable Living Trust, contact your McShane Partners Team.

NEXTGEN: UTILIZING COLLEGE SAVINGS 529 PLANS FOR RETIREMENT



Daniel Hudspeth, CFP®
Wealth Associate

Qualified Tuition Programs (also known as 529 plans) have been in use since 1996. While the program itself isn't new, recent updates brought on by the Secure Act 2.0 have provided new planning opportunities for their future use. In this month's article, we will examine the option of rolling unused 529 Plan assets into a Roth IRA account.

529 Plans currently allow individuals to gift up to \$17,000 per year. Those who are married and file jointly can gift up to \$34,000 if electing to gift split. 529 Plan beneficiaries can then withdraw funds for Qualified Tuition Expenses tax free. However, a major drawback of these plans is centered around funds that go unused. While existing accounts can be transferred to qualifying family members, this isn't always an option if there are no other family members. Any funds withdrawn for non-qualified expenses may be subject to a 10% penalty in addition to federal income tax.

Beginning in January 2024, the Secure Act 2.0 allows these unused funds to now be transferred to a Roth IRA for the account beneficiary with the following stipulations:

- The 529 Plan must be open in the beneficiary's name for 15 years and the funds being transferred must have been in the account for at least 5 years.
- In addition, the converted Roth amount must not exceed the amount contributed to the 529 account.
- Annual transfers are limited to the Roth IRA contribution limit (currently \$6,500 per year) or the beneficiaries earned income amount.
- The lifetime limit for 529 Rollovers into a Roth IRA is currently \$35,000.

As always, please feel free to reach out to your McShane Partners advisor for any questions and further guidance as we continue to monitor future updates regarding 529 Plan transfers to Roth IRA Accounts.

AROUND McSHANE PARTNERS

McSHANE PARTNERS SPONSORS A



McShane Partners has joined forces with Greenhouse Scholars. Greenhouse Scholars was established in 2005. The organization prioritizes access to a good education and empowering historically marginalized individuals, including women. The focus is sustainable generational community change—especially in the lowest-resource communities. Our firm will be selecting a scholar from the newest class to support during their time at Greenhouse Scholars. The selection will be in February 2024.

COME BY SAY “HI” AND GRAB A PIE



As we get ready for the holiday season in our new home, we are reinstating “Come By Say Hi; Grab a Pie” If you would like an apple pie for Thanksgiving, please RSVP to tstrickler@mcshanepartners.com. Pick up your pie in our office on Wednesday, November 22nd between 10am – 3pm. Thank you for allowing us to serve your wealth and investment advisory needs!

HUMANE SOCIETY OF CHARLOTTE TIES & TAILS GALA

Sandy & Justin Carlson with Tracy Strickler and Chris Miles and friends of the firm attended the 15th Annual Ties and Tails Gala at The Revelry North End. The annual fund raising event raised over \$320,000 to support the Humane Society of Charlotte. The Humane Society is committed to animal welfare in our community. Their mission is to champion the wellbeing of companion animals and strengthen their bond with the people who know, love, and need them. The event included live and silent actions, dinner, live music, dancing and a “Mutt-Putt” golf challenge.



CARMEL COUNTRY CLUB 9 HOLE MEMBER-MEMBER TOURNAMENT



Sandy Carlson participated in a Halloween Themed golf tournament with fellow female club members. Sandy was a devil for a day.

ROSENWOOD, ROSE & LITWAK, PLLC 5TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY



Tracy, Ryan & Daniel supported Daniele’s husband Erik Rosenwood & his firm at their 5th Anniversary Party held at Mere’s on Park Road. Pictured is the entire Rosenwood, Rose & Litwak firm.

AROUND McSHANE PARTNERS

MORE BABY NEWS



The McShane Partners Family is growing again! Corey Meyer and his wife Kelly are having their first child that is due in April. They found out this month that they are having a girl. They celebrated the gender reveal at their home surrounded by close friends and family. Everyone is very excited for them and they will be great parents.

MARKET MAYHEM



Daniele, Jon Michael, and Elliott hosted a lunch with clients to discuss the fluctuations in the market and the surrounding geopolitical turmoil. We will be hosting another lunch in the near future if you were unable to attend. Please email tstrickler@mcshanepartners.com if you are interested in attending the next lunchtime market overview. The Lunch and Learn was catered by Gourmand Market in South Park.

BECKY ON SAFARI



Becky Hoover and her wife Heather Rice were on a 3 week safari in South Africa. Becky and Heather traveled with clients and friends of the firm David Gallagher and Dana Jodice. They are pictured in Pilanesburg at ChaZen Nature Conservation and Education Center. ChaZen is a family owned. The primary mission is wildlife conservation with careful restoration of the land by applying practical approaches and methodologies for its rehabilitation, followed by the addition of a multitude of different species, each carefully selected for the quality of their genetics.

*With Gratitude,
Your McShane Partners Team*



Our office will be closed on Nov. 23rd and 24th. We wish you a holiday filled with family, friends & gratitude.

McSHANE PARTNERS

Wealth management is our only business; therefore, our attention is undivided, and our intentions are transparent.

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