

## Fall 2024 Newsletter



## The Vista Group

at Morgan Stanley

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We are thrilled to announce the launch of our new team newsletter! Each edition will feature a market commentary written from the team, a few timely resources, and a special team member highlight so you can get to know us a bit more. Please reach out if you have any questions, concerns, or would like to schedule a meeting!

## Insights



## Tax Policy and Your Portfolio

As the 2024 U.S. election nears, potential tax-policy changes could affect your portfolio and finances. Here are key questions answered.

Learn More



## Required Minimum Distributions (RMD's) Reminder

It's that time of year again. Make sure to take your RMDs before the due date, or reach out to see how I can help you make this an automated process

Read More

## Comments &amp; Thoughts

Market reporters and analysts like to create unique catch phrases for certain themes, a common one these days is called the Magnificent 7. This grouping of stocks is a mix of technology and communication sector positions that have created outsized returns and innovations. But these sectors have not been the top performing this year, the utility sector has! If 2023 was the idea that AI companies will generate productivity gains, 2024 has been the year to focus on what will power AI technology. Over the past 10-15 years as the stock market has been on the rise so has the use of energy consumption. AI requires super computers and super large data centers, all running 24/7. Microsoft has recently funded and launched multi-billion dollar projects to build out data centers and the associated energy projects to fund these centers with cleaner energy.

What has also been interesting in the past few months is how the market has rotated. Since mid-June the Mag 7 stocks peaked and the last 493 stocks in the S&P 500 Index have led the market higher by about 6%<sup>1</sup>.

The Federal Reserve delivered an outsized rate reduction of 0.50% at their September meeting, all without spooking the markets, which was the first in ~4.5 years. The past 3 times the Fed has approached a rate reduction process the market has faced headwinds and produced negative returns over that period. On another note, as we look forward the average market analysis is expecting 13% plus in earnings growth over the next 6 quarters<sup>2</sup>, which is historically above average growth figures.

Overall, the MS investment committee feels these earnings projections are too optimistic considering historical rate reductions cycles and slowing macro data.

*Written by Mitch Vigil, Senior Vice President, Financial Advisor, The Vista Group at Morgan Stanley*

## Team Member Highlight

As our team changes and grows, we wanted to take the opportunity to have you get to know us all a little bit better on a personal basis. Each newsletter, we will feature a different team member and something personal about them. This quarter, John Rochester shares a bit about his love of cooking and passion for perfecting the perfect recipe.



## John Rochester, QPFC

Senior Vice President, Wealth Advisor,  
The Vista Group at Morgan Stanley

John has always loved being in the kitchen and has followed that passion since he was a child. One of his favorite things to do is to “perfect” a new recipe working with it until he feels like it is just right. Recently he has been obsessed with a recipe that combines an old time favorite cookie with a taste of Santa Fe and the trend of “salted” sweets. He shares it with us here.

Salted Oatmeal, Red Chile, Chocolate Chip Cookies

- 1 ½ c All Purpose Flour
- ½ c Bread Flour
- 3 tsp Red Chile Flakes
- 1 tsp Baking Soda
- 1 tsp Sea Salt
- 2 c Old Fashioned Rolled Oats
- Sea Salt for topping
- 2 sticks Unsalted Butter (1 cup)
- ½ c Sugar
- 1 c Packed Brown Sugar
- 2 tsp Vanilla Extract
- 2 Lg Eggs
- 1 pkg (1 ½ c) Semi-Sweet Chocolate Chips

*Preheat Oven to 350°. Combine flours, chile, soda and salt ingredients. Beat eggs, butter, sugars and vanilla in separate bowl until creamy/fluffy. Add dry ingredients. Mix flour mixture until just moist on medium speed. On low speed, add chocolate chips and oatmeal, mix quickly (take care not to over-mix to point where things break up).*

*Using a 2+ TBSP scoop or two spoons, scoop the cookie dough, and dip into a separate ramekin of flakey sea salt getting just a slight top “salted” for each ball. Place onto your prepared baking sheets, making sure to leave at least 1 inch of room around each cookie for baking. Bake for 9-12 minutes until the edges start to turn a light brown with a soft center (longer if you want a crunchy cookie). Remove to rack and let cool completely. (Makes 26 to 30 cookies)*

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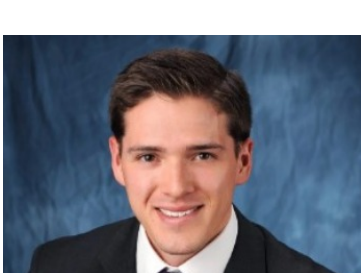


## John Rochester, QPFC

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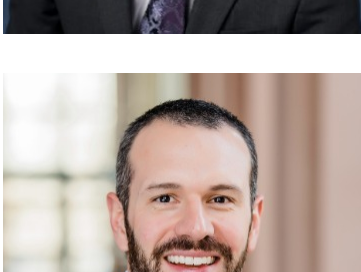


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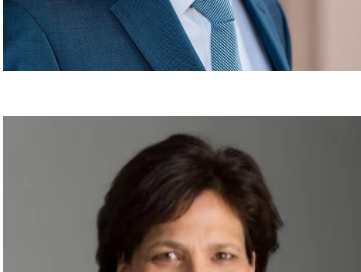


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1. MSWM Global Investment Office 2024
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