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Dear Investor,

The following is an excerpt from TIME Magazine:

"The U.S. economy remains almost comatose. The slump already ranks as the longest period of sustained weakness since the depression. The economy is staggering under many "structural" burdens, as opposed to familiar "cyclical" problems. The structural faults represent once in a lifetime dislocations that will take years to work out. Among them: the job drought; the debt hangover; the banking collapse; the real estate depression; healthcare cost explosion and the runaway federal deficit." After reading an economic description like this, you may ask yourself, "is there really any hope for the American economy to rebound and get back on track?"

Oh, one important thing I forgot to mention about the TIME article is that it was from September 1992. From September 1, 1992 through December 31, 1999, the S&P 500 Index[1] (a broad stock market index consisting of 500 diversified companies) gained a cumulative return of 316.19% and an average annual return of 21.48%[2].

The reason I am writing this note to you is to remind you that it can be dangerous to be overwhelmed with all the negative doom and gloom that exists for our economy at this time. As the common investment phrase goes, "the market climbs a wall of worry".

Over the summer, the market's sentiment was at lows that we haven't seen since March 2009. Many investors feared that September 2010 would be a repeat of September 2008. Instead, the S&P 500 Index produced a cumulative return of 8.9%, which is the best September result since 1939.

I am not predicting that we will see investment returns like we saw in the 1990s; I just want to encourage you to maintain a well grounded investment strategy. For most, that means investing to accumulate wealth for future financial goals or to generate income to maintain a certain lifestyle.

As always, I would appreciate the opportunity to work with you. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mike

Mike Ovshak, CFP®

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[1] All indices are unmanaged and investors cannot invest directly into an index. Past performance is not indicative of future results. The S&P 500 Index is a broad-based measurement of changes in stock market conditions based on the average performance of 500 widely held common stocks. Diversification does not assure a profit or protect against a loss in declining markets.

[2] The "Cumulative" figure represents the total percentage change between the initial value and the ending value of the index over the indicated periods in the illustration. The "Average Annual Return" figure represents the average annual change in value of the index, taking into account all subsequent additions to and subtractions from the initial index value. This illustration represents past performance of an index and should not be considered indicative of future results.