



Quick Links

www.firstbenefits.net

Join Our Mailing List!

What Keeps You Up at Night?

- Retirement
- Estate Planning
- Life Events
- Family Security
- Eldercare
- Financial Basics

"Statements without documentation are only opinions."

FBG
First Benefits Group, Inc.
Pioneers in Financial and Healthcare Strategies

Dear Terry,

Money - It's All About the Benefits.



April 2018

The Easter bunny has become a prominent symbol of Easter. The exact origins of this mythical mammal are unclear, but rabbits, known to be prolific pro-creators, are an ancient symbol of fertility and new life.

According to some sources, the Easter bunny first arrived in America in the 1700s with German immigrants who settled in Pennsylvania and transported their tradition of an egg-laying hare called "Osterhase" or "Oschter Haws." Their children made nests in which this creature could lay its colored eggs.

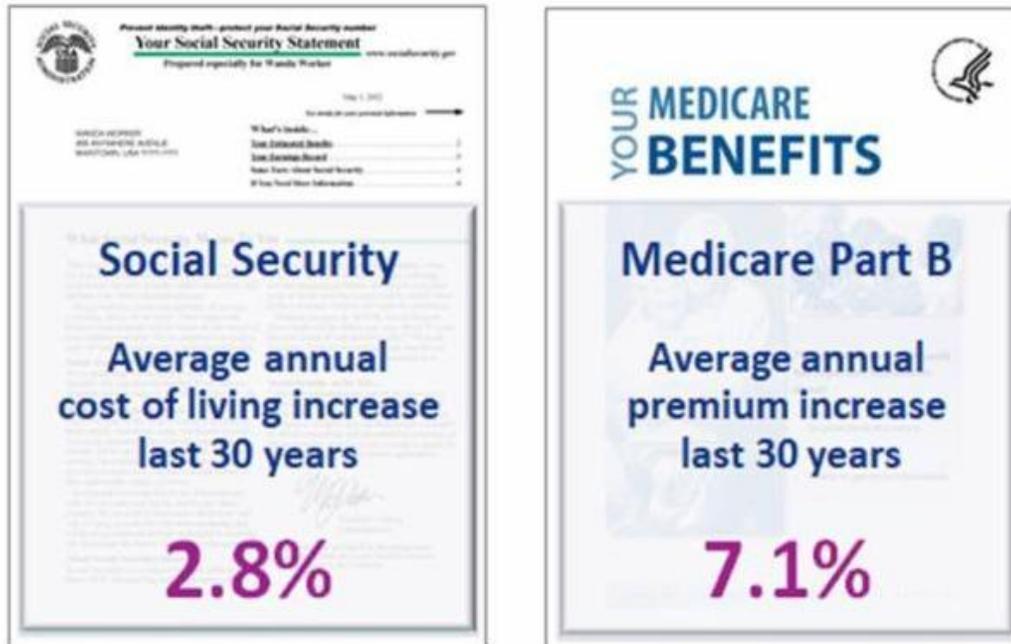
Eventually, the custom spread across the U.S. and the fabled rabbit's Easter morning deliveries expanded to include chocolate and other types of candy and gifts, while decorated baskets replaced nests. Additionally, children often left out carrots for the bunny in case he got hungry from all his hopping.

Enjoy our sweet thoughts about money below.

Innovative Thinking on a Very Popular Subject - Money

1. What is wrong with this picture? Are you planning for the steep increases in Medicare Part B?

Cost of living adjustments and inflation



Sources: Social Security Administration, cost-of-living adjustments, January 1986-January 2015.
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Part B Premiums January 1986-January 2015.

2. Be leery of the Danger Zone when it applies to your Money! This is the area in our lives that last about 12 years - 6 years before retirement and 6 years after retirement. You are transiting from accumulation to distribution. This is the zone where an Accelerated Loss of Capital (ALOC) could occur either through changes in the marketplace or some other unexpected financial event. It could force you to spend-down your money much sooner than anticipated.

3. It is important to know the decisions you make in the Danger Zone might last a lifetime. So get it right the first time. Secure an advisor that understands and can help you implement strategies for this crucial time.

4. Do you want to find out more about the tax changes? The IRS has new web resources. The new site is updated regularly. Visit www.irs.gov/newsroom/tax-reform for details.

5. The five most commonly asked questions on Social Security.

- When should I take Social Security?
- How important is it to consider my spouse and his or her Social Security benefits

when I make my decision on when to take my benefits?

- How will my Social Security be affected if I continue working when taking Social Security?
- Should I consider my other assets and income when making my decision on when to take Social Security?
- What are delayed credits and what do I need to know about the credits?

6. Are you thinking about traveling outside the country? It is important to read this before you make the trip. Most ACA plans limit international benefits to emergencies only, leaving travelers to pay great out-of-pocket expenses for most health concerns encountered on their travels. No matter their age, gender, socioeconomic status or citizenship, every U.S. resident traveling outside the United States needs a supplemental international major medical insurance policy.



7. Don't overlook the importance of including waiver of premium on your life insurance applications.

What is waiver of premium? The rider pays all life insurance premiums due if the insured person becomes disabled. A waiver of premium rider is an optional benefit on many life insurance policies. The waiver of premium rider will provide a benefit only if the insured person becomes totally disabled. If a total disability occurs, the remaining premium charges will no longer be required to be paid, but the policy will remain in force for the length of the policy. The waiver must be written at the time of application.

8. Always.

- Always have enough cash in a side account to handle any unexpected event in case these events happen.
- Always plan for the long term because you might be on this earth longer than you think.
- Always remember that investment markets are like bobble heads - they fluctuate in value. You will want to have options of alternative sources of income if the bobble head remains in the down position for any long period of time.

9. Are you thinking about retiring and relocating? You might want to consider moving to a state that has no state income tax. It could improve your cash flow. Alaska, Florida, Nevada, New Hampshire, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Washington and Wyoming have no income tax - for any residents. For retirees, in particular, that means no state income tax on Social Security benefits, withdrawals from IRAs and 401(k)s, and payouts from pensions. Federal income taxes still apply in all of these states.

10. Tax season is an excellent time to review your beneficiaries on your life insurance, annuities, retirement plans, and other plans that have beneficiary designations. You have a free hand in naming your beneficiaries, but you should review your decisions at least once every two years. Circumstances change. Both expected and

unexpected events happen. To make sure your money goes where it is intended, frequent reviews are recommended. Do your payable-on-death accounts match your estate plan?

First Benefits Group, Inc.

We are financial and insurance educators.

Our approach is unique and uncommon. We teach our clients how to be more efficient with their money. We can verify that being more efficient with your money is the safest method for building a solid foundation of protection and wealth.

There is more to be gained by avoiding losses than picking *apparent* winners.

We are experts in identifying threats to current and future lifestyles, and developing strategies to minimize or eliminate these threats.

To schedule a complimentary, no obligation appointment to discuss your personal circumstances, please call our office at 941.361.3057 x4.

Sincerely,

Terry O'Brien, Frances Lane, Gary Hickerson, BJ Mangrum

FBG
First Benefits Group, Inc.
Pioneers in Financial and Healthcare Strategies

306 N. Rhodes Avenue, Suite 111
Sarasota, FL 34237
941.361.3057

www.firstbenefits.net
tobrien@firstbenefits.net

© Copyright Terrance J. O'Brien 2018