

Thursday, January 23, 2020

Good Morning,

Stocks have paused on their month's long climb this week as focus turns to the Senate trial of President Trump. While the conclusion is seemingly predetermined along partisan lines, it has captured the nation's attention and headlines. In the meantime, corporate earnings season has started, and investors are getting feedback on what really moves stock markets – whether or not companies are profitable and growing. However, there is a new concern on the horizon in the form of a rapidly expanding mysterious illness.

Deaths from China's new flu-like virus rose to 17 on Wednesday with more than 540 cases confirmed, increasing fears of contagion from an infection suspected to originate from illegally traded wildlife, Reuters reports. Now it is understood that humans can transmit the virus. The previously unknown coronavirus strain is believed to have emerged in the central city of Wuhan, with cases now detected as far away as the United States. With no vaccine and little understanding of the virus, Chinese authorities are beginning to limit travel entering the busiest travel season for the world's most populated country – the Chinese New Year. We expect this to become a major story in the coming weeks with possible impact to markets.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson's Brexit deal cleared its final hurdles in Parliament, bringing the crisis that has paralyzed British politics since the country voted to leave the European Union almost four years ago to a close, Bloomberg reports. The passage of the law vindicates Johnson's gamble to call an election last month in which he asked voters to back his blueprint for leaving the bloc on Jan. 31. Nearly four years after the vote to leave the EU, it appears it will finally happen. Surprisingly, European markets are taking it all in stride, and that's a good sign.

Please visit our website at www.canfg.com or the link below for the last Market Update from Commonwealth Financial Network® – the broker/dealer that supports us in helping you manage your financial life.

http://www.commonwealth.com/RepSiteContent/weekly_comm/commentary_redirect.htm

As always, if you would like to discuss this or anything regarding current market conditions or your portfolio, feel free to contact me at any time.

Have a great week.

Wade

Wade A. Sarkis, CFP®, AIF®
Managing Partner
Canandaigua Financial Group
45 Ontario Street
Canandaigua, NY 14424
(585) 396-2720

Securities and Advisory Services offered through Commonwealth Financial Network, Member FINRA, SIPC, a Registered Investment Adviser
Note: Trade orders cannot be accepted via email or voicemail.