

Friday, February 15, 2019

Good Morning,

This week's news cycle has been just positive enough to keep stocks moving higher. The avoidance of Government Shutdown #2 and apparent progress with Chinese trade talks have boosted markets and reduced investor concerns. Corporate earnings continue to be solid despite worries of an "earnings recession." A sharp drop in consumer spending in December is likely attributed to the steep market declines and the government shutdown, and investors have accepted it as an anomaly.

How far can this rally extend? Nobody knows for sure. There are clearly signs of slowing global growth and it is likely the US economy will experience a recession within the next few years. However, in the near term we remain a nation of economic strength. There are some political headwinds growing as a new Congress gears up for battles with the Administration. This presents some level of economic risk which is difficult to measure.

Mother Nature has had a lot of fun at our expense this winter. But don't lose hope; spring training for Major League Baseball started this week. And the Cincinnati Reds are not out of the playoffs – yet.

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 weekend,

Wade

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