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When we wish you **joy** this holiday season, you likely know what we mean. But let us consider the definition anyway!

The dictionary by Merriam-Webster says, in part, that **joy** is “an emotion evoked by well-being, success, or good fortune ... a state of happiness ... a source or cause of delight.”

What are our sources and causes of delight during the holidays?

The beauty of a starlit night over blankets of snow. Spending time with our family and friends. Finding just the right present for someone we care for. Lighting candles. Baking goodies to share with our neighbors – or being the neighbors who are shared with. For many of us, it is being grateful for what we have been given from above.

But I think that what can bring us the most joy, and not just during the holidays, is offering our time, our talents, and ourselves to bring joy to others, especially those less fortunate than we are.

All of us here at Petra Financial Solutions wish you a happy holiday season and a Merry Christmas filled with joy.



Supply and Demand

– The price of oil closed at \$57.35 a barrel on Monday 11/06/17, its highest close since oil finished at \$59.01 a barrel on 6/30/15 or more that 28 months ago (source: NYMEX).

Standard of Living –

China’s economy is the 2nd largest in the world behind the United States, but China’s “GDP per person” is only \$9,377 while the USA’s “GDP per person” is \$61,687 (source: IMF).

A Lot to Mexico –

American exports of natural gas will exceed its imports of natural gas in 2017, the first year in which that has happened since 1958 or 59 years ago (source: Energy Information Administration).



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