Index

Symbols andNumerics

11th District Cost of Funds Index, as ARM interest rate index, 280
15-year/30-year mortgages, compared, 282–283
401(k) accounts, 216–217, 219, 231–234, 258, 430. See also retirement accounts
403(b) accounts, 216–217, 218, 231–234, 430. See also retirement accounts
457 plans, 218–219

• A •

absorbing operating expenses, moneymarket funds, 241-242 account application and asset transfer form 232 accountability of financial information, 13, 14–16, 17 accountants, 118, 141, 142, 376, 379 accumulation phase, annuity, 222 AccuQuote insurance agency quotation service, 333 acquisition debt, 279 active trading, 167, 169, 170, 372, 373 addictions, 45, 55, 119-120

add-on insurance policies, 313 adjustable-rate mortgages (ARMs), 271–273, 277-281, 291, 298-299, 423, 434 adjusted cost basis, 212, 423 adjusted gross income (AGI), 128, 134, 423 adjustment cap, ARM, 280 administration, financial, 52 adult education classes by financial advisors, 376 advanced healthcar directive, 360 advertising car. 108 credit card, 81 on financial tracking websites, 51 influence, 13, 17–18, 114 misleading, 1 online, 385–386 prices, affect on, 97 ubiquity, 34 advertorials, 13, 386 advice, financial, 1, 23 advisors, financial. See also tax advisors conflicts of interest, 22, 168–173, 185, 371–374, 382 cost, 379 described, 429 fee structures, 367-369. 371–375, 378–379, 382, 429 gurus, 14-16 hiring, 207, 369, 374–376, 377-382, 404

liability insurance, 380-381 marketing by, 171–172. 174, 185, 234, 376-377, 381, 400 professional associations, 375 registrations required, 378 saving money on, 118 services provided, 369-370, 374, 379 when divorcing, 413 when unnecessary, 371 AFBA (Armed Forces Benefit Association) credit card, 113 affiliate relationships, in online information, 13 affordability, rule for assessing, 32 after-tax contributions, 423 AGI (adjusted gross income), 128, 134, 423 aging parents, caring for, 411–412 Agnew, Spiro, 164 AICPA (American Institute of Certified Public Accountants), 376 alcohol addiction, 120 Alcoholics Anonymous, 120 alimony, eligibility requirement for IRA, 221 Alliance of Claims Assistance Professionals, 344 alternative health care, 119.340 alternative minimum tax (AMT), 126-127, 423

American Arbitration Association, 170 American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), 376 American Lung Association stop smoking programs, 119 American Opportunity (AO) tax credit, 139 Ameritas Direct cash value life insurance, 334 Amica insurance company, 354 amortizing a mortgage loan, 279 AMT (alternative minimum tax), 126-127, 423 annual income, calculating, 327 annual percentage rate (APR), 423 annual rate cap, ARM, 280 annual reports, mutual fund, 202, 206 annualcreditreport.com website, 29 annuities appropriate circumstances. 222–223, 225, 330 buying directly from company, 317 described, 194-195, 222, 248, 424 with failed insurers, 316 inside retirement accounts, 224 insurance company, 218 IRAs compared, 223 mutual funds compared. 218 recommended sources, 248 risks, 151 stock funds in, 248

tax-free exchanges into, tax-sheltered, 216–217, 218, 231-234, 430 **Anti-Phishing Working** Group (APWG), 418 AO (American Opportunity) tax credit, 139 application fees, mortgage, 275-276 appraisal, mortgage fees for property, 276 APR (annual percentage rate), 423 APWG (Anti-Phishing Working Group), 418 arbitration, 170 Armed Forces Benefit Association (AFBA) credit card, 113 ARMs (adjustable-rate mortgages) 271–273, 277–281, 291, 298–299, 423, 434 asset allegation, 160–162, 226, 228-231, 243, 424 asset allocation funds, 202. See also mutual funds, hybrid asset class funds, 209 assets, 24, 309, 320, 429 attorneys, 118, 170, 324, 413 audits, tax, 142–145, 424 auto insurance, 312, 318, 355-358 automatic exchange services, 165 autos. See cars

• B •

bad debt. *See* consumer debt balanced funds, 202, 227. *See also* mutual funds, hybrid

balloon mortgage loans, 276-277 bank accounts, 154, 178–179, 225, 240 bank certificates of deposit (CDs), 150, 163–164, 180, 199, 233, 247, 280, 426 bank prime rate, 435 Bankrate, 285 bankruptcy, 84-85, 87-92, 424 Bankruptcy Abuse and Prevention Act (2005), 84, 90 banks, 178, 372 Barrett, William P., 14, 15 BBB (Better Business Bureau), 99 Bear, John, 99 bear market, 424 behaviors, changing to avoid risk, 314 beneficiaries, 254, 255, 362, 407, 424 Better Business Bureau (BBB), 99 big purchases, 57, 62 bill paying, 30, 52, 388, 421 bond mutual funds, 160, 183, 199–201, 207, 211, 226, 244-246 bond rating, 433, 437 bondholders, 424 bonds. See also mutual funds, bond appropriate reasons for investing, 160, 161, 201 CDs compared, 247 default rate, 247 described, 150, 179, 180, 424 inefficiency of market, 201 inflation, effect of, 246, 431

interest rate, 431

past performance, 154, 159-160 risks, 151, 154 types, 136, 179–181, 224, 239, 246, 425, 429, 432-434, 437-438 yield, 179, 180, 425 books, financial, 185, 399-400 borrowing money. appropriate reasons, 34 Bortner, Deb. 16 Bowers, James, 9 brand names, value, 97 branding, 97 brokerages. See investment firms broker-dealer networks, 167 brokers, 425 Brown, Ray, 274, 282, 302 budgeting, 101-102 Built to Last: Successful Habits of Visionary Companies (Collins & Porras), 400 bull market, 425 businesses borrowing to pay for, 33, 35, 298 buying existing, 192 capitalization, 182, 201, 433 debit cards for, 84 estate tax payments, 332, 362 financial advisor conflicts of interest, 373 insurance needed, 309 as investment, 57, 152, 191-193, 249 planning, 411 saving for, 60, 61 starting new, 191-192, 410-411

BusinessWeek, online edition, 392 buyer's agents/brokers, 291, 293 buying a business, 192 bypass trusts, 362

• C •

callable bonds, 180–181, 425 caller ID, as fraud prevention tool, 418 cancer insurance, 313 capital gains on collectibles, 195 described, 136, 212, 425 distributions, 209–210, 211, 212, 425 on home sale, 300, 302 long-term, 59, 212, 248 on mutual funds, 209–210 short-term. 209, 212 taxes on, 212, 243, 423 capitalization of company, 182, 201, 433 car insurance, 312, 318, 355–358 CardTrak.com, 80 career, investing in, 158. 193 career counseling, deductibility, 133 cars Americans' expectations, 108 costs, 44, 108-111, 132-133 financing, 22, 32, 43, 109, 110 fuel, saving on, 110 insurance, 312, 318, 355-358 leasing, 109, 110 marketing, 34, 108 renting, 357

safety, 108, 116, 358 sales pitches, 43–44 saving for, 62 value, differences in. 96 - 97cash flow, analyzing, 45-46, 47 cash value life insurance, 79, 260, 318, 329–332, 334–335, 362, 426 catastrophes, 18, 23, 60-61, 309-310, 313-315, 352 CDs (bank certificates of deposit), 150, 163-164, 180, 199, 233, 247, 280, 426 cellphones, 115–116, 358 Center for Economic and **Entrepreneurial Literacy** (CEEL) survey, 9 Centers for Disease Control (Office on Smoking and Health), information on stopping smoking, 119 certified public accountants (CPAs), 118, 141, 142, 376, 379 CFA (chartered financial analyst) credential, 380 challenges, financial, 1-2 Chany, Kalman A., 400 Chapter 7/13 bankruptcy, 91. See also bankruptcy charge cards, 92 charge-offs, 89-90 charitable donations, 115, 132, 205 chartered financial analyst (CFA) credential, 380 checkbook balancing, 52, 83, 419 CheckFree, 389 checking accounts, 178, 240 checks, 241, 389, 420-421 Checks Tomorrow, 389

child-care tax benefits. 409-410 children advertising, influence on. cellphone use, 115, 116 financial effects of. 408-410 funds in accounts under name, 253-255 guardians, naming, 360 insurance needed. 356, 409 investing in, 260-261 Social Security benefits, 409 spending on, 117 teaching financial management, 10-12, 410 churning, 167, 169, 170, 372, 373 closed-end mutual funds, 426 CMA (comparable market analysis), 427 **CNET, 117** COBRA (Consolidated **Omnibus Budget** Reconciliation Act) 411, 426 code upgrade riders to homeowner's insurance, 350 Cohen, Bernard, 314 COLAs (cost-of-living adjustments), 338, 427 collectibles, investing in, 195 colleges, 33, 34, 252, 256, 376 Collins, Jim, 400 collision coverage, auto. 356-357 commercial paper, 426

commission-based financial planners, 367, 371–373, 374 commission-free mutualfund companies, 198, 218, 225, 244–246, 434 commodity futures, 153, 194, 380, 426, 430 common stock, 426-427 commuting, 110 companies. See businesses company stock, 227–228 comparable market analysis (CMA), 427 complaints, handling, 98, 99, 100 compounding investment returns, 154-155 comprehensive coverage auto, 356-357 computers, money management using, 383, 388–392. See also Internet software computers, protecting, 421 condominiums, 288, 350 conflicts of interest imancial advisors, 22, 168–173, 185, 371–374, 382 Internet, 12–13, 387 investment firms, 166, 167, 168-171 real-estate agents, 290-292 recognizing, 385 Consolidated Omnibus **Budget Reconciliation** Act (COBRA), 411, 426 consumer (term), 42 Consumer Cellular, 116 consumer credit, defined, 62 consumer debt avoiding, 112-113, 404 considered in mortgage lending, 266

danger, 34, 77, 101 decreasing credit costs, 80 described, 32-33, 34, 427 healthy/unhealthy, 33, 34 interest rates on, 62 paying down, 77–79, 131–132, 157–158, 238, 298 consumer items, as valueless assets, 24 Consumer Price Index (CPI), 427 Consumer Reports, 109, 117 Consumer Reports Travel newsletter, 114 consumer satisfaction/ dissatisfaction, 98, 99, 100 contact lens insurance, 312 contingency-based representation, 170 continued education, for career improvement, 193 Cook, Wade, 15, 16 cooperative homes (co-ops), 288 co-payments, health insurance, 340-341, 427 Cornfeld, Bernie, 203 corporate bonds, 180 corporate commercial paper, 199 Costco, 105 cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs), 338, 427 coupon rate, bond, 179 courier services, traveling via, 114 CPAs (certified public accountants), 118, 141, 142, 376, 379 CPI (Consumer Price Index), 427

credit, 29-30, 42, 419 credit cards benefits of paying with, 35, 36 carrying a balance, 22, 43, 80 credit limit, 92 debit cards compared, 83,84 fees, 112, 113 grace period, 36, 80 insurance, 43, 311–312 interest rate, decreasing, 30, 80 locating cost-effective, 80 managing if too tempting, 81-82 marketing, 33, 34, 81 need for, 82 paying balance each month, 33, 35-36, 42 payment restructuring, effect on credit reports, 85 profitability, 89 rewards, 112–113 risks of using, 36, 42-43, 113 secured, 89 sharing personal information by, 93 solicitations, reducing 93, 419 terms and conditions, 81 wise use, 30, 81–82, 92-93, 110 credit counseling agencies, 84–86, 90 credit disability policies, 311-312 credit freeze laws, 420 credit life insurance policies, 311–312 credit limit, 92 credit monitoring service, 29, 420

credit repair companies, avoiding, 31 credit report, 27–31, 85, 88–89, 276, 287, 420, 427 credit score, 27–30, 354, 420 credit unions, 178, 240 CreditCards.com, 80 creditors, defined, 89 credits, tax, 72, 128, 139, 410 custodial accounts, 253, 254, 410

• D •

DA (Debtors Anonymous), 93-94 damages, documenting for insurance, 320 Database of State Incentives for Renewables & Efficiency (website), 111 Davis, Leona, 84–85 day trading, 154 DCA (dollar-cost averaging), 165 death, 328, 359-362 debit cards, 82–84, 419, 421, 427 debt management programs (DMPs), 85, 86 debtor education, 90 Debtors Anonymous (DA), 93-94 debts, 27, 32. See also consumer debt; good debt decision-making, deterrents to good, 17–18, 23, 44-45, 55

310, 340, 353, 356–357, 427 deductions, tax, 115, 126. 129–134, 139, 269, 341, 406, 428 defined-benefit plans, 19, 24, 68–69, 88, 162, 220, 416, 435 defined-contribution plans. 69. See also 401(k) accounts: 403(b) accounts dental care with flexible spending accounts, 341 dental insurance, 121, 311 Department of Labor website, retirement plan information, 219 dependent care tax credits, 412 depreciation, 134, 137 derivatives, 153, 428 Direct Marketing Association, 93 direct trustee-to-trustee transfers, 232–233 disability insurance choosing, 338-339 circumstances needed. 335-337, 407, 409, 411 commissions, 318 on credit balance, 311–312 denial of coverage, 318-319 described, 309, 325, 335, 428 insurer failures, 338 resources for, 133, 336, 338 tax-deductibility, 133 taxes on benefits, 337 terms, 337-339 disasters, 18, 23, 60–61, 309-310, 313-315, 352

deductibles, insurance, 120,

discharge of debts, 87. See also bankruptcy discount investment brokers, 166-167, 178, 231, 391, 428 Discover Card, 112 distributions, capital gains, 209–210, 211, 212, 425 diversification of investments, 157. 158-160, 198, 359, 414, 428 dividends, stock, 59, 137–138, 211, 248, 428 divorce, financial changes, 407, 412–413 DJIA (Dow Jones Industrial Average), 428 DMPs (debt management programs), 85, 86 Dodge & Cox Income bond fund, 245 dollar-cost averaging (DCA), 165 donations to charity, 115, 132, 205 Donovan, Nancy, 11 Don't Miss Out: The Ambitious Student's Guide to Financial Aid (Leider & Leider), 400 D'Orleans, Charles, 56 Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA), 428 driving risks, 313, 314 drugs, 119, 120, 345, 348 dwelling coverage, 350

• E •

earthquakes, insuring against, 352–353, 428–429 EAs (enrolled agents), 141–142 economic recessions in America, 395–396 economics classes, 11 edifice complex, 188 Edmunds, 109 education, 90, 193, 256, 260-261, 376, 405 **Education Savings** Accounts (ESAs), 139, 253-254 educational expenses. See also financial aid amount, 251, 256, 257 funding options, 33, 35, 253-260 investing for, 259-260 planning for, 256–259 prioritizing retirement savings over, 62 saving for, 57, 62, 253 255, 256–257, 410 tax deductibility 133, 139 educational institutions, 33, 34, 252, 256, 376 efficient markets, 187 elderly parents, caring for, 411-412 11th District Cost of Funds Index, as ARM interest rate index, 280 Elias, Stephen R., 91 E-Loan, 285 e-mail fraud, 418 emergencies, 18, 23, 60-61, 309-310, 313-315, 352 emergency reserve funds, 27, 60-61, 78, 160, 240-243 emerging markets, investing in, 429 emotions and money, 17-18, 23, 44-45, 55, 64, 89.313 **Employee Retirement** Income Security Act (ERISA), 227

employer benefits, 127–128, 219-220, 234-235, 316-317, 335, 407 employer theft of 401(k) funds, 217 enrolled agents (EAs), 141-142 Enron, 227 entertainment, 113, 120 Equifax credit bureau. obtaining credit report from, 28-29 equities. See stock investments equity, defined, 67 equity funds. See stock mutual funds equity in home. See home eauity Erie Insurance, 354 ERISA (Employee Retirement Income Security Act), 227 errors and omissions insurance, 380-381 **ESAs** (Education Savings Accounts), 139, 253-254 escrow charges, mortgage, 276, 296 escrow companies, finding good, 296 estate planning, 359–362, 374, 412, 416, 429 estate planning specialists, 367, 374 estate taxes, 331, 334, 362 E*TRADE Financial, online trading, 391 excess liability insurance, 358-359 exchange-traded funds (ETFs), 183, 197-199, 204, 209 Expedia travel website, 114

Experian credit bureau, obtaining credit report from, 28–29 extended warranties, 311 E-Z Pass, 110

• F •

FAF (Financial Aid Form), 252 FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), 252 Fair Isaac and Company credit scores, 28 family, 10-12, 79, 136, 158, 260-261, 328 FDIC (Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation) insurance, 247 Federal National Mortgage Association (FNMA), 429, 433 Federal Reserve Bank. buying Treasuries from, 245 Federal Student Aid Information Center, 258 federal-tax-free bond funds, 245-246 federal-tax-free moneymarket funds, 242-243 fee-based financial planners, 368, 373, 375, 378, 379 fees, mutual fund/ETF, 198, 204 FEMA response to hurricane Katrina damage, 323 FICO credit scores, 28 Fidelity investment firm, 203, 230, 242–243, 245, 248 15-year mortgages, compared to 30-year.

282-283

financial advisors. See advisors, financial financial aid, 33, 252-253, 255, 257-259, 284 Financial Aid Form (FAF), 252 financial assets, 24, 309, 429 financial consultants, 167–171, 185. See also commission-based financial planners financial crises, American, 163, 164 financial documents, organizing, 328 financial habits, 17-18, 19-20, 23, 44-45, 55 Financial Industry Regulatory Author (FINRA), 234 financial liabilities, 24-25, 429 financial needs analysis, 252, 253, 255, 258 financial physical, 21, 23-27, 36-37 financial planners, 167-171 financial service representatives, 367, 371-373, 374 financial statements. reviewing, 419 financial tracking services, online, 388-389 FINRA (Financial Industry Regulatory Authority), 234 firewalls, computer, 421 first job, financial issues, 404-405 fixed-rate mortgages, 267, 271, 272–277, 430 flexible spending accounts, 341, 410, 412 flight insurance, 313

flood insurance, 352–353, FNMA (Federal National Mortgage Association). 429, 433 food, reducing costs, 103-105 Forbes magazine, 14-15, 392 foreign funds, 202-203 Form ADV (Uniform Application for Investment Adviser Registration), 378 Formulary Finder, Medicare, 348 457 plans, 218–219 401(k) accounts, 216–217, 219, 231-234, 258, 430. See also retirement accounts 403(b) accounts, 216-218, 231-234, 430. See also retirement accounts Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), 252 "free" financial seminars, 376-377 Freedom from Smoking clinics, 119 Freedom fund of funds. 203 friends, 79, 158 full-service brokers, 430 fully indexed rate, ARM, 278 fun, saving money for, 113 fund management, professional, 198, 209 futures, 153, 194, 380, 426, 430

• G •

Gamblers Anonymous, 120 gambling, 120, 152, 153, 154 garage sales, 112

gasoline, saving on, 110 GEICO insurance company, 354 general bonds, 180 get-rich-quick plans, 11, 15 GICs (guaranteedinvestment contracts), 226–227, 430 gifts, 114-115, 362 Ginnie Mae (GNMA) bonds. 180, 433 global funds, 202-203 global job competition, increasing, 19 goals, personal/financial, 27, 53-58, 60, 63, 149–150, 210, 264–265 going public, 181, 431 gold, investment in, 160, 194 good debt, 33, 34, 35, 77 Good to Great: Why Some Companies Make the Leap . . . and Others Don't (Collins), 400 grace period, credit card, 36,80 grants, educational, 258, 259 gratitude, sources, 19 Great Depression, 396 growth stocks, 201 guaranteed-investment contracts (GICs), 226-227, 430 "Guru Watch" online information, 15 gurus, financial, 14–16, 171, 172–174, 185. See also advisors, financial

• H •

H&R Block at Home tax preparation software, 390 happiness, 18, 19, 54 Harbor Bond fund, 245 health, personal, 64, 158 health care, 118–119, 138, 340, 341, 411–412 Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act. 343-345 health information, report on, 319, 343 health insurance buying advice, 119, 340, 342-343, 407 children, effects of, 409 claims, managing, 344 commissions, 318 denial of coverage, 318-319, 342, 343 employer-offered, 339, 241 extending coverage from previous employer, 411, 426 going without, 309, 339 importance, 309, 312, 313, 325 individual policies, 339, iong-term care, 346–348 Medicare, 47, 339, 345, 346, 347, 348 for new business owners. 411 preexisting conditions. 342, 343, 409, 411 terms, 339-342, 409, 427, 435 health insurance claims processing services, 344 Health Insurance Resource Center, 319 health maintenance organizations (HMOs), 340, 342 health savings accounts (HSAs), 119, 341

healthcare power of attorney, 360 healthcare reimbursement accounts, 341 hedge funds, 183 hedges against inflation, 160, 194, 205 HELOCs (home equity loans), 131, 274, 430 HMOs (health maintenance organizations), 340, 342 hobbies, as retirement income source, 72 Home Buying For Dummies Gyson & Brown), 282 home equity accessing via reverse mortgage, 67, 299-300, 436 as asset, 24, 255 borrowing against, 79, 258, 265, 298 described, 24, 186, 258, 429 including in retirement income, 67, 71-72 protecting in bankruptcy, 88, 91 in retirement, 270-271 home equity loans (HELOCs), 131, 274, 430 home ownership bankruptcy, protection from loss in, 88, 91 benefits, 186 costs, 267-268, 269-270 disaster preparation, 314-315 insurance, 318–319, 349-355, 431 as investment, 57 maintenance, 311 property taxes, 131 reducing expenses, 106-108 renting compared, 106

shared, 106, 107, 288 tax-deductibility, 126, 131, 269 home warranty insurance. 121, 311 homelessness, causes, 56 homeowner's associations, 288 homeowner's insurance, 318–319, 349–355, 431 homes, buying deductible expenses, 131 down payments, 59, 60, 61, 222, 281–282, 428 evaluating purchasing option, 263-265 financial changes, 407–408 incurring debt for, 33, 35 inspections, 291, 292, 295, 311 negotiating, 294 preparing for, 319, 408 price, determining, 289, 294, 427 real-estate agents, 290–293, 294, 301, 302, 425 selecting home, 288-291 transaction costs, 264 homes, renting, 67, 137, 188–189, 248, 302, 335 homes, selling, 300–303 homestead exemption in bankruptcy, 88, 91 hospitalization insurance, 312 hourly-based financial advisors, 368-369 House Selling For Dummies (Tyson & Brown), 302 housing cost calculation for mortgage loan, 265-266 How to File for Chapter 7 Bankruptcy (Elias et al.), 91

HSAs (health savings accounts), 119, 341
HSH Associates, 285
Hulbert Financial Digest, 172
Hummingbird Credit
Counseling, 86
100-percent joint and survivor pension option, 416
hybrid mortgage loans, 273–274
hybrid mutual funds, 202, 244

• 1 •

icons used in book, 3, 5–6 identity theft, 417-421 illiquid investments, 170, 189 in kind transfer of assets, 233 income, 18, 19 29 income shifting, 129 independent insurance agents, 319 index runds, 203-204, 209 indexes, market, 208, 423, 431 individual retirement accounts (IRAs), 128, 221–225, 231–234, 258, 431. See also specific types inflation, 154, 246, 431 inflation risk, 151 inflation-indexed government bonds, 246 inheritance, 73, 414-415 initial public offerings (IPOs), 181, 431 insolvency, 84-85, 87-92, 424 Institute for Financial Literacy, 86

insurance. See also specific types Americans carrying wrong kinds, 307 on assets, 349 buying advice, 120–121, 313-317 catastrophic events, 308-310, 313 claims, 310, 319-322, 324 credit score, effect on costs, 354 deductibles, 120, 310, 340, 353, 356–357, 427 denial of coverage, 318–319 divorce issues, 413 emotions leading to poor choices, 313 group plans, 316-317, 322 importance, 40 knowledge assessment, 39-40 policies, understanding, 320-321 through employer, 316-317, 335 unnecessary, 310-312 young workers, 405 insurance agency quotation services, 333 insurance agents/brokers, 315, 318–319, 322, 338-339, 342, 425 insurance companies, 309-310, 315, 316, 321-322, 323, 353 insurance company investments, 218, 226-227, 430 insurance riders, 312–313, 357 IntelliChoice, 109 interest, as taxable income,

126

interest rates bond, 431 inflation, link with, 431 market indexes, 208. 423, 431 mortgage, 266, 274-275, 278, 280 prime, 435 variable, 257 interest-only mortgage loans, 279 Internal Revenue Service (IRS), 123, 130, 135, 140, 221, 390 international investments, 162, 182, 202–203, 432 international stock markets, 432 Internet advertising content disclosure, 386 described, 384 financial information on, 12–13, 17, 51, 385–392 life insurance information. 392-393 message boards, 387 paying bills, 52, 388, 421 questionable information, 12-13, 386, 387, 398 real-time information sites, 387 referrals, fees for, 386 shopping, ease of, 398 trading securities, 391-392, 398 intestate deaths, 360 **Investing For Dummies** (Tyson), 232 investing online, 391–392 investment advisors, 171-174, 185, 400 investment brokers, 425 investment distributions, 239

investment expenses, deductibility, 133 investment firms, 83, 165-171, 178, 225, 230-231, 234, 391, 428 investment newsletters, 171-172, 174, 185, 400 investment real estate bad investments, 189-190 benefits, 187-188 cash required for purchase, 187 drawbacks, 187-188 financial advisors. conflicts of interest and, 373 investment trusts, 189, 436 other investments compared, 186–187, 188 past performance, 154 REITs, 189, 436 rental property, 67, 137. 188–189, 248, 302, 335 specialty funds investing in. 205 successful, keys to, 152, 155, 186–189 tax benefits, 137, 190 investment seminars, Wade Cook, 15 investments advice, 39, 174-175 asset allocation, 160–162, 226, 228-231, 243, 424 automatic, 165 beneficiaries, 407 borrowing for long-term, 112 commissions, 166, 167-169, 370 day trading, 154 defined, 256 diversification, 157,

158–160, 198, 359,

414, 428

dollar-cost averaging, 165 donations of, 132 education, importance, 238 of educational funds, 259-260 fees, 169, 175 knowledge assessment, 38-39 lending, 150-151 load/no-load, 168, 207 low-risk, high-return, 157–158 ownership, 151–152 predictions, inaccuracy of, 171–173 recent historical challenges, 163, 164 researching online, 390-391 returns, compounding, 58 returns, effect on retirement income, 72 risks, 149-150, 155-157 safe. 177–181 in savings calculations, 36 - 37selling to pay consumer debt, 79 setting goals, 149-150, 210 short-term, 15-16, 177-181 in taxable accounts, 237, 238, 239, 240–249 taxes on, 72-73, 136-138, 175, 239-240 timing, 163-164 IPOs (initial public offerings), 181, 431 IRAs (individual retirement accounts), 128, 221-225, 231-234, 258, 431. See also specific types IRS (Internal Revenue Service), 123, 129, 130, 135, 140, 221, 390

• 1 •

job, first, 404–405 job changes, financial issues, 405–406, 411 job expenses, deductibility, 133 job loss, 59, 405 job searches, tax deductibility, 133, 406 job security, decreasing occurrence, 19 jobs, 19, 55–56 junk bonds, 180, 432 junk mail, reducing, 93

• K •

Keogh accounts, 219, 220–221, 231–234, 432. See also retirement accounts

• [•

large cap companies, 182 large purchases, 57, 62 lawsuits, consequences of, 349 lawyers, 118, 170, 324, 413 learning about finances 10–14. See also online financial information leasing cars, 109, 110 legal document preparation, 92, 360, 361, 393. See also lawyers Leider, Anna & Robert, 400 lenders, loyalty to, 30 Leonard, Robin, 91 leverage, 187, 432 liabilities, financial, 24-25, 429

351–352, 355–356, 380-381, 415, 431 Liberty Mutual insurance company, 354 life changes, guidelines, 403-404. See also specific transitions life expectancy, 59, 68 life goals, balancing finances with, 54–55 life insurance annuities as, 222 beneficiaries, 407 borrowing against, 79 buying online, 392-393 cash value, 79, 260, 318, 329-332, 334-335, 362, 426 commissions, 318 costs, 260 denial of coverage, 318-319 described, 309 with failed insurers, 316 group plans, 317 individual policies, 317 medical exams, 312, 393 for mortgage, 299, 433 need for, 121, 313, 325, 326–328, 409, 413 preparing for job change, 411 in private pension plans, 220 quotation services, 392-393 recommendations, 260 remaining covered, 334 term, 328-333, 356, 437 types, 328-329 LifeStrategy fund of funds, 203, 230 lifetime cap on ARMs, 273, 281

liability insurance, 309,

Lifetime Learning (LL) tax credit, 139 limited partnerships (LPs), 170, 189–190, 224, 380, 432 list billing of disability insurance, 339 living trusts, 361, 393 living wills, 360 LL (Lifetime Learning) tax credit, 139 loads, investment, 168, 169, 198, 206–207 loans, 28, 30, 79, 423. See aiso home equity loans; mortgage loans long-term capital gains, 59, 212, 248 long-term care (LTC) insurance, 346-348 long-term investments, 243 lottery winnings, 414–415 loyalty, to creditors, 30 LPs (limited partnerships), 170, 189–190, 224, 380, 432 LTC (long-term care) insurance, 346-348 lump sum investing, 163-164 Lynch, Peter, 209

• M •

Madoff, Bernie, 15, 380 magazines, financial information in, 398–399. See also mass media financial information mail, protecting against identity theft, 421 mailing lists, removing name, 93 major medical insurance, 339

making money, as prerequisite for success, 39 Malkiel, Burton G., 400 managed-investment accounts, 169, 173, 183 managers, professional fund, 198, 209 managing money, 17–20, 22-23, 41-45, 55, 365-366 margin, ARM, 278, 423 margin borrowing, 187, 432 marginal tax rate, 125, 240, 432 market capitalization, 182, 201, 433 market indexes, 208, 423, 431 market timing, 172, 213, 225 marriage, financial issues, 406-407, 412-413 mass media financial information, 392, 395–396, 397–398 master of business administration (MBA) credential, 380 matching contributions to retirement accounts, 54 maternity benefits, 339, 409 maturity, 200 maximum monthly payment on ARM, 273 MBA (master of business administration) credential, 380 means testing for bankruptcy, 90 Medicaid, 346, 347, 348 medical care. See health care medical exams for life insurance, 312, 393 medical information report, 319, 343

medical insurance. See health insurance medical payments coverage, auto insurance, 357 medical power of attorney, 360 Medicare, 47, 58, 339, 345-348 medications, saving on, 119 Medigap coverage, 345–346 membership fees, deductibility, 133 mementos, preparing in case of death, 328 message boards, 387 Mint online service, 388 money managing, 17-20, 22-23 41–45, 55, 365–366 mistakes, 17–18, 21–23, 42–45, 55, 86, 97, 174-175 as part of life, 54–55, 56 money-market accounts offered by banks, 178 money-market funds bank, 178 check-writing services, 178, 179, 241 described, 178-179, 183, 199-200, 241 fees, 207 holdings, 199, 242, 426 operating expenses, 241 recommended, 242, 243 safety, 199-200 sales, 241–242 savings accounts compared, 179 selecting, 199, 241-243 taxes, 136, 179, 241, 242-243 when to invest, 225–226, 414 yield, 178, 241

monthly payment approach to sales, 43-44, 93 Moody's ratings, 433 Morgan Stanley EAFE index, Morningstar, online resources, 391 mortgage bankers, 285 mortgage brokers, 285–286, 287, 433 mortgage life insurance, 299, 433 mortgage loans adjustable-rate, 271–273, 277-281, 291, 298-299, 423, 434 amortization/negative amortization, 279, 434 amount, calculating, 265-266 applying, 286-288 fees, 275-276, 281 fixed-rate, 267, 271, 272-277, 430 incorporating consumer debt into, 131-132 interest rate, 266, 274-275 lenders, finding, 284–286, 291 monthly payment, 268 points, 274-275 prepaying, 238, 255, 277, 283-284 refinancing, 107, 132, 271, 297-299, 436 second, 131, 430 for self-employed, 266 tax benefits, 130, 274 term of loan, 282-284 types, 271–272, 273–274, 276-277, 279 mortgage-backed bonds, 180, 429, 433 mortgage-rate formula, 278, 280

Mortgages For Dummies (Tyson & Brown), 274 municipal bonds, 180, 224, 433-434 Muriel Siebert investment firm. 83 mutual funds. See also money-market funds; stock mutual funds American investmentfocused, 202 annual reports, 202, 206 annuities compared, 218 asset class, 209 balanced, 202, 227 bond, 160, 183, 199-201, 207, 211, 226, 244-246 capital gains on, 209–210 closed-end, 426 described, 434 diversification, 198 evaluating, 212–213 exchange-traded, 183, 197–199, 204, 209 failure of. 218 fees, 198, 204, 206–208 funds of, 203 holdings, 218 hybrid, 202, 244 load/no-load, 198, 206, 218, 225, 244-246, 432, 434 management, 198, 209 open-end, 434 operating expenses, 207, 208 performance, 208, 210-212 sector, 204-205 selecting, 202, 205-210, 225 selling opportunities, 213, 244 share price, 211, 212 target-maturity, 202 tax implications. 209–210, 212

total return, 211 transferring, 233 types, 183, 199–202 Mutual Funds For Dummies (Tyson), 213, 232 Myers, Dr. David G., 54, 56

• N •

NASDAO (National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Ouotation) system, 434 **National Association** of Enrolled Agents (NAEA), 142 National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC), 322, 355 National Association of Personal Financial Advisors (NAPFA), 375 National Cancer Institute, on stopping smoking, 119 National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information, on drug treatment, 120 National Highway Traffic Safety Administration safety guidelines, 108 National Substance Abuse Information and Treatment Hotline, on substance abuse, 120 Nationwide Mutual insurance company, 354 negative amortization, 279, 434 negative associations with money, learning, 10 net asset value (NAV), 434

net worth, 23-27, 36 networking, for career improvement, 193 The New Bankruptcy: Will It Work for You? (Elias), 91 New York Stock Exchange (NYSE), 434 newsletters, investment, 171-172, 174, 185, 400 newspapers, financial information in, 398-399. See also mass media financial information Nolo legal publishing Company, 393, 400 no-load investments, 168 no-load mutual funds, 198, 218, 225, 244-246, 434 nonprofit organizations, retirement options, 218-219. See also 403(b) accounts no-point loan sales pitches, 275 North American Securities Administrators Association, 378 nursing home insurance, 346-348 NYSE (New York Stock Exchange), 434



Obamacare, 343–345
Office on Smoking and
Health (Centers for
Disease Control), on
stopping smoking, 119
100-percent joint and
survivor pension
option, 416
online bill payment,
52, 388, 421

online financial information, 12–13, 17, 51, 385–386, 388 - 392online investment brokers. 391 - 392online shopping, 98 online trading, professional money managers compared, 398 open-end mutual funds, 434 opportunity cost of owning a home, 267 opting out of preapproved credit offers, 419 options, 153, 380, 434-435 Orman, Suze, 14–15 overage charges, cellphone, 115-116 overseas investments, 162, 182, 202-203, 432 overspending, 17-18, 22, 23, 42-45, 55 owner-occupied real estate, 263. See also home ownership owner's associations, 288 own-occupation disability policy, 337

• p •

packages, insuring, 120–121, 312 par, 424 paralegals, 92, 360, 361 Parent Loans for Undergraduate Students (PLUS), 258 parents, caring for, 411–412 password protection, computer, 421 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, 343–345 Paying for College without Going Broke (Chany), payroll businesses, 135 P/E (price/earnings) ratio, 181, 435 penalties, for early withdrawal from retirement accounts. 59, 60, 237 pensions, 19, 24, 68–69, 88, 162, 220, 416, 435 percentage-of-assets-undermanagement financial advisors, 368, 373, 375, 378, 379 performance, investment, 15, 186, 198–199, 210–211, 435 personal assets, 320 personal care, saving money on, 111-118 personal development, investing in, 158 Personal Finance For Dummies (Tyson), 2-6, 9personal finance, lack of understanding, 9–10 Personal Financial Specialist (PFS) program, 376, 380 personal property, 88, 320, 351, 431 phishing scams, 418 phone expenses, reducing, 115-116 physical, financial, 21, 23–27, 36–37 planning for business ownership, 411 for children, 408 for educational expenses, 256-259

estate, 359-362, 374, 412, 416, 429 goals, 27 lack of, 21-23 for retirement, 70, 389-390, 415-416 for self-employed, 135 playing the float on credit cards, 36 PLUS (Parent Loans for Undergraduate Students), 258 PMI (private mortgage insurance), 281–282 points on mortgage loans, 274–275 police reports, filing, 320 Porras, Jerry I., 400 postal insurance, 120-121, 312 poultry, organic, 104 PPOs (preferred provider organizations), 340 preapproval, mortgage, 287 precertification, health insurance coverage, 435 precious metals, investing in, 160, 194, 205 preexisting medical conditions, getting health insurance with, 342, 343, 409, 411 preferred provider organizations (PPOs), 340 preferred stock, 435 prepaid tuition plans, 260 prepayment penalties, mortgage, 277, 283 prequalification, mortgage, prescription medications, saving on, 119 price/earnings (P/E) ratio, 181, 435

priceline travel website, 114 prime rate, 435 principal, 150, 435 privacy concerns, 51, 388. See also identity theft private mortgage insurance (PMI), 281, 282 private pension plans, 220 privately held companies, 181 probate, 361 professional expenses, saving on, 118 PROFILE forms, 252 Progressive insurance company, 358 property damage, filing claims for, 321 property damage liability insurance, 355 property taxes, 107, 126, 131, 269 prospectuses, investment, 168, 169, 206, 436 psychological reasons for spending, 44–45, 55, 56, 93-94 public transportation, 108, 110 publications, financial. See also mass media financial information books, 185, 399-400 identifying bad sources, 17 Internal Revenue Service, 140 newsletters, 171-172, 174, 185, 400 online, 12-13, 17, 51, 385-386, 388-392 periodicals, 398-399 publicly held companies, 181

publishers of financial information, 399–400 purchases, increasing satisfaction with, 98–99

• Q •

qualified state tuition plans, 139, 254–255 Quicken software, 389, 393

• R •

radio, 397-398 A Random Walk Down Wall Street (Malkiel), 400 rate caps, ARM, 280-281, 423 real estate. See homes buying; investment real estate real-estate agents/brokers, 290-293, 294, 301, 302, 425 real-estate investment trusts (REITs), 189, 436 Realtor.com, 285 receipts, securing, 419 recessions, American economic, 395-396 recreation, saving money on. 113 references, business, 98 referral fees for online access, 386 referrals to financial advisors, 375 refinancing mortgage, 107, 132, 271, 297–299, 436 reinvestment plans, stock dividend, 186 REITs (real-estate investment trusts), 189, 436 relationship to money, understanding, 55

relationships, sacrificing for money, 55, 56 ReliaOuote insurance agency quotation service, 333 relocating, financial issues, 406 remodeling, home, 107 Renauer, Albin, 91 rent control, 269 rental property, 67, 137, 188-189, 248, 302, 335 renter's insurance, 350-352, 353-355 renting a home, 106, 267–268, 269–271 renting cars, collision coverage, 357 renting-to-own, 101 repair insurance, extended, 311 replacement cost guarantees. homeowner's insurance, 351 research, lack of financial, restaurants, cutting costs on, 103-104 retirement financial needs. calculating, 51, 63–65, 69-71, 415 financial transitions, 415-416 home equity, accessing, 67, 270–271, 299–300, 436 income sources, 66–69, 71-73, 195, 416 lifestyle, 57, 64, 67 medical expenses/ insurance, 415 planning, 51, 64, 67, 70,

389–390, 413, 415–416

retirement (continued) retirement savings during, savings for, 22, 62, 63, 71 - 73Social Security intended role, 58, 66, 68 spending savings, reluctance, 55 term. 63 timing, 63, 71 retirement accounts after retirement, deciding what to do, 416 asset allocation, 161-162, 223, 228, 229-230, 243 bankruptcy, protection from loss in, 88 borrowing against, 59, 61, 79, 227, 258 for business owners, 411 contributions, 60, 224–225, 423 coordinating with spouse, 407 divorce, effect on, 407 employer-sponsored, 58, 69, 127–128, 216–221, 224-228, 234-235 financial advisor conflicts of interest, 372 inappropriate investments, 224 individual responsibility for, 69 investment option limitations, 237 municipal bonds, 224 not funding, arguments for, 138 opening, 229 representatives. contacting, 233-234 rollovers, 234–235 saving money outside of. 60 savings priorities, 253

for self-employed, 135, 169, 219–221, 224, 228-234, 436 for small companies, 219 stock mutual funds in, 162 tax advantages, 58–59, 72, 102, 121, 127–128, 169, 188, 215 taxable investments compared, 237 taxes on contributions, 58 taxes on income from, 138 tax-free investments inside, 224 trading, avoiding, 162–163 transferring, 231–235 types, 216-220 withdrawals, 59, 60, 61, 222, 234, 237, 258 retirement communities, 348 retirement plan information, Department of Labor website 219 retirement planning soitware, 389–390 retirement-date funds, 202 return on investment (ROI), 436 return policies, 98 returning purchases, 98, 112 reverse mortgages, 67, 299-300, 436 riders, insurance, 312-313, 357 risk, 193, 198, 238, 314 ROI (return on investment), 436 rolling over employersponsored retirement accounts, 234-235 roommates, 106, 107 Roth 401(k) option, 216 Roth 403(b) option, 216-217

Roth IRA accounts, 58, 222–225, 231–234, 330 Roubini, Nouriel, 172–174 Russell 2000, 436



S&P (Standard & Poor's) ratings, 437 safety reserve, 27, 60-61, 78, 160, 240-243 sales loads, 168, 198, 206-207 sales pitches, 22, 97, 174-175 sales tax, reducing, 121 Sam's Club, 105 San Francisco Chronicle article on Suze Orman, 14 - 15savings analyzing, 36-37 automatic, 331 balancing with living. 54 - 55cash value life insurance as. 331 for college, 57, 62, 253-255, 256-257, 410 defined, 22, 36 emergency reserve, 27, 60-61, 78, 160, 240-243 excessive, 54-56 health care, 119, 341 importance to meeting goals, 57 outside retirement accounts, 60 paying down bad debt with, 78 as prerequisite for success, 39 retirement, 22, 55, 62, 63, 71-73, 223 short-term, locations, 62

strategies, 22, 37, 404

target rate, 38 tax-advantaged, 58 savings accounts, 154. 178-179, 225, 240 Savings Incentive Match Plan for Employees (SIMPLE), 219 Scheiber, Anne, 54-55 Schell, Jim, 72 scholarships, college, 252, 259 school expenses. See educational expenses Scottrade, online trading, 391 SEC (Securities and Exchange Commission), 234, 378, 391, 436 second homes as investments, 190 second mortgages, 131, 274, 430 Section 529 plans, 139, 254-255 sector funds. 204-205 secured credit cards, 89 Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), 234, 378, 391, 436 securities lawyers, 170 security concerns about financial website tracking, 51, 388. *See* also identity theft self-employed financial planning, 135 retirement funding, 135, 169, 219–221, 231–234, 436 taxes, 123, 134-136, 219 SEP-IRA (Simplified **Employee Pension** Individual Retirement Account), 220, 231-234, 436. See also retirement accounts

75-percent joint and survivor pension option, 416 share price, mutual fund, 211, 212 shifting deductible expenses, 130–131 shopping, 98, 112 short-term capital gains, 209, 212 short-term debt, 199 short-term savings, locations for, 62 shredders, paper, 419 signing over assets, avoiding, 232 silver, investment in, 160, 194 SIMPLE (Savings Incentive Match Plan for Employees), 219 Simplified Employee Pension Individual Retirement Account (SEP-IRA), 220, 231-234, 436. See also retirement accounts single life pension option, 416 single-family homes, 288 Small Business For Dummies (Tyson & Schell), 72 small cap companies, 182, 201 small companies, 192-193, 216, 219, 249 smoking, 119, 205, 314 Social Security as asset, 24 benefits, 66-67, 68, 221, 327 described, 437 disability coverage, 336 integration with Keogh plans, 221 intended role, 58, 66, 68

numbers, applying for children, 409 reliability, 66 survivors benefits. 327-328 taxes, 47, 58 Social Security Administration, 67, 327 socially responsible funds, 205 The Sociopath Next Door (Stout), 417 software, 140, 360-361, 383-384, 389-390, 393, 421 sound-bite-itis, 398 specialty funds, 204–205 Spectrum fund of funds, 203 speculation, 152–154 spending analyzing, 45-46, 47 on children, 410 compulsive, 44-45, 55, 56, 93 - 94considering total cost, 96 - 97credit cards, controlling, 92-93 reducing, 92–93, 100–105, 388 societal influence on, 42-43 successful, keys to, 95 - 101tracking, 46–52, 388–389 sponsored Internet content. 13, 386 spouse, managing money with, 406-407, 412-413 spread, mortgage, 285 Stafford Loans, 258 Standard & Poor's 500 Index, 208, 431, 437 Standard & Poor's (S&P) ratings, 437 start rate, ARM, 277

state colleges, 252 State Farm insurance company, 354 state high-risk health insurance pools, 319 state Section 529 plans, 139, 254 - 255state taxes, 125, 132-133, 242-243 state-focused tax-free money-market funds, 242 states disability programs, 336 high-risk health insurance pools, 343 insurance departments, 322, 323, 355 registration of financial advisors, 378 tax preparation software, 390 state-tax-free bonds/bond funds, 245, 433–434, 437 stock dividend reinvestment plans, 186 stock dividends, 59, 137-138, 211, 248, 428 stock exchanges, 181 stock investments. See also exchange-traded funds advantages, 154–155 described, 151–152, 181, 437 diversification, 157, 158 hedge funds, 183 in individual securities. 183, 184-186 international, 182 managed accounts, 169, 173, 183 past performance, 154, 159–160, 182 risks, 152, 154, 155, 182 strategies for, 155, 163, 164, 183 in taxable accounts, 248

stock mutual funds. See also exchange-traded funds analysis of, 199 benefits, 183, 197–199 described, 158, 183, 197 diversification, 198 dividends, 59, 137–138, 211, 248, 428 fees. 198, 204, 208 index, 203-204, 209 international, 162 load/no-load, 166, 168–169, 173 management, 198, 209 performance, 208 prospectuses, 198–199 recommended funds, 248 in retirement plans, 162 risk, 198, 199 selecting, 199 in taxable accounts, 248 types, 201 when to invest, 227 stockbrokers, 425. See also financial consultants store credit, 98 Stout, Dr. Martha, 417 "Street Smarts" column in San Francisco Chronicle, 14 - 15student aid, 33, 252-253, 255, 257, 258–259, 284 student loan programs, 33, 257, 258 substance abuse, resources for, 120 success, roadblocks to financial, 17–19 Supercuts, 117 superstores, shopping in, 105, 110 symbols used in book, 3, 5-6

• 7 •

T. Rowe Price investment firm, 70, 203, 231, 243, 248, 390-391 target-maturity funds, 202 tax advisors, for selfemployed, 134 tax attorneys, 141, 142 tax credits, 72, 128, 139, 410 tax deductions, 115, 126, 129–134, 139, 269, 341, 406, 428 tax forms, 123, 129, 130, 135, 221, 390 Tax Guide for Small Businesses (Publication 334), 140 tax preparation guides, 140 tax professionals, 141, 143 tax reform, expected, 127, 211 tax software, 140 taxable income, 126 taxable investments, 237. 238, 239, 240-249 TaxCut software, 140 tax-efficient investments, 137 taxes alternative minimum, 126-127, 423 audits, 142–145, 424 in calculating spending, 47 calculating total, 124 on cash value life insurance, 330, 334-335 child-care benefits. 409-410 on contributions to Section 529 plans, 254 credits, 72, 128, 139, 410

on custodial accounts, 253

deductions, 115, 126, 129-134, 139, 269, 341, 406, 428 on disability insurance benefits, 337 elderly parents, effects of, 412 on estate, 331, 334, 362 healthcare expenses. effect on, 341 on investment income, 136–138, 175 legal changes, 127, 211 mutual funds, effects of, 209-210 Obamacare, effect on, 344-345 organizing, 130 overpaying, 123 preparation software, 390 rates, 124-126, 195 reducing, 121 resources, 139-142 retirement accounts. effects on, 58–59, 72, 102, 121, 127–128, 169, 188 sales, 121 saving money on, 124, 127-129, 131-132 for self-employed, 123 134-136 on short-term trade profits, 15 state, 125, 132-133, 242-243 withholdings, 123 tax-free bonds, 136, 433-434 tax-free exchanges of investment property, 137, 302, 335 tax-free money-market funds, 136, 179, 241. 242-243

tax-free securities inside retirement accounts. tax-friendly investments, 137 tax-friendly stock funds, 248 tax-related expenses, deductibility, 133-134 tax-sheltered annuities. 216-217, 218, 231-234, 430 T-bills (U.S. Treasury bills), 150, 168–169, 199, 224, 242, 245–247, 280, 437 TD Ameritrade investment firm, 83, 231 teaser rate, ARM, 277 technology, saving money on, 116–117 technology stock crisis of early 2000, 163, 164 teenage drivers, insuring, 356 telephone giving out personal information, 418 telephone expenses, reducing, 115–116 television, 397–398 term life insurance. 328-333, 356, 437 Term4Sale insurance agency quotation service, 333 text messaging, 115, 116 therapy, mental, 119 30-year mortgages, 15-year compared, 282–283 time shares, 190 timing the market, 172, 213, 225 title fees, mortgage, 276 title insurance, 296

tobacco, avoiding investments in, 205 top producer real-estate agents, 293 total housing cost calculation, 265–266 total marginal tax rate, 125 total return, fund, 211 tour packages, 114 towing insurance, auto, 312 toxic waste, risks of, 314 TracFone, 116 Trader Joe's, 104 trading, short-term, 15–16, 177–181 transaction accounts, 178, 240 transaction costs, realestate, 264 transferring assets in kind, 233 transferring retirement account assets. 231-235 transitions, life, 403–404. See also specific transitions transportation expenses, reducing, 108-109 TransUnion credit bureau, obtaining credit report from, 28–29 trash collection, reducing costs, 108 travel, 57, 62, 114 travelocity travel website, 114 Treasuries, 150, 168–169, 199, 224, 242, 245–247, 280, 437 Treasury Direct program, 245 Trump, Donald, 188 TurboTax software, 140,

390

type of business, choosing business by, 99 Tyson, Eric publications, 2–6, 9, 72, 213, 232, 274, 282, 302 website, 15, 213, 232, 386, 392

• U •

umbrella liability insurance, 358–359
underinsured motorist liability coverage, 356
underwriting, insurance, 437
underwriting, mortgage, 275
unemployment compensation funds, tax-deductibility, 133
uninsured motorist liability coverage, 356
union dues, deductibility, 133

U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (website), 111

U.S. funds, 202

U.S. government securities, risks, 200

U.S. Treasury bills (T-bills), 150, 168–169, 199, 224, 242, 245–247, 280, 437

U.S. Treasury bond funds, 245

U.S. Treasury bonds, 180, 437

U.S. Treasury moneymarket funds, 242 U.S. Treasury notes, 437 U.S. Trustee website, 90 USAA, 113, 242–243, 245, 333, 334, 354 utilities, reducing costs, 108

• *U* •

vacations, 57, 62, 114
Value Line, 185
value stocks, 201
Vanguard investment firm, 83, 203–204, 229–231, 242–246, 248, 390–391
variable interest rates, 257
vesting, 69, 221
Veverka, Mark, 14–15
virus protection software, 421
vision care with fiexible spending accounts, 341
volunteering tax deductibility, 132



The Wall Street Journal, 392, 428
water, 103, 105, 108
wealth, 53, 54, 181
websites. See also online
financial information
author, 15, 392
tracking spending on, 50–51
white elephant parties, 115

wholesale shopping, 105 WillMaker Plus software, 393 wills, 328, 360, 393, 407, 409, 437 Wilshire 5000 Index, 208 windfalls, financial transitions after, 414-415 workers' compensation disability insurance, 336 world funds, 202-203 worldwide funds, 202-203 wrap accounts, 169, 173, 183



yield, bond, 179, 180, 425 You Need A Budget (YNAB) software, 51, 386 Your Federal Income Tax (Publication 17), 140



zero-coupon bonds, 438 zoning regulations, 187