SEVENS REPORT alpha

April 5, 2022

In Today's Issue

- Finding Opportunities in the New Energy Reality. The Russia/Ukraine war has fundamentally altered the flow of energy around the world, as European countries wean themselves off Russian energy imports. This transition will take time and create opportunities across the energy sector, and we want to identify the sectors and ETFs that stand to benefit from this seminal shift.
- Idea 1: Natural Gas. First Trust Natural Gas ETF
 (FCG). Europe has converted much of its power
 infrastructure to natural gas in an effort to reduce
 emissions, so demand for natural gas from stable
 countries (the U.S.) will rise. FCG has gained more
 than 90% over the past year and trades at 12.5X
 earnings, outperforming the more widely help XOP
 (up 65% over the past year).
- Idea 2: Uranium. Global X Uranium ETF (URA). 25% of EU power production comes from nuclear and it's likely to be a larger part of the new energy mix going forward. URA is the best comprehensive nuclear ETF in the market and 15% of the ETF has direct exposure to uranium. URA has returned more than 35% YTD.
- Idea 3: Global LNG Shipping. SonicShares Global Shipping ETF (BOAT), Cheniere Energy Inc. (LNG), Flex LNG Ltd (FLNG). Natural gas imports to Europe from the U.S. and the Middle East will increase demand for oil and gas tankers and export infrastructure. LNG is one of the biggest LNG exporters in the U.S., while FLNG operates a fleet of LNG tankers. BOAT is a comprehensive shipping ETF, although it does have a low AUM.

Finding Opportunities in the New Energy Reality

One of the major second-order effects from the Russia/Ukraine conflict is that energy importing nations are immediately facing a new reality. Much of the oil and natural gas that was exported from Russia is being universally banned by the Western world. The goal being to direct financial sanctions and initiate isolation measures on the Russian economy.

That penalty, while much deserved by the Russian aggressors, is going to create new challenges in operations for large-scale energy consumers throughout Europe. Think utilities, government entities, industrial manufacturers, and materials companies.

Just how big of a deal is the Russian energy sector and what will the impact be globally?

- Russia is the third-largest producer of oil in the world, behind the U.S. and Saudi Arabia.
- Of the approximately 5 million barrels of crude oil it exports each day, more than half of that goes to Europe.
- In 2021, the European Union imported 155 billion cubic meters of natural gas from Russia, accounting for around 45% of EU gas imports and close to 40% of its total gas consumption (source).

This means key energy supplies will have to be diverted from other regions to meet demand in Europe and North America.

Right on cue, President Biden and European leaders announced a major initiative to direct shipments of liquefied natural gas to Europe during his visit to Brussels, part of a broader effort to help reduce Europe's dependence on Russian energy.

That means turning to new sources of production from exporters such as the United States, Saudi Arabia, and South America. Energy transportation routes are also likely to be re-evaluated with shipping tankers being utilized to move liquid natural gas and crude oil supplies around the globe. Additionally, there will likely be a pivot to legacy energy production methods such as nuclear fuel as a temporary stop gap.

The goal for most developed nations is to bring on more clean energy-producing methods to mitigate climate change. However, the reality is that the technology and resources just aren't at the level needed to provide large-scale, continuous supply in such a short time.

It's also probable that this new energy reality has some staying power. Even if Russia bows out of its aggressive stance in the near term, they have ru-

ined their political reputation among European trading partners. It won't be back to business as usual any time soon.

Therein lies the opportunity for investors seeking out fresh trends to capitalize on as these shifting economic forces develop. Our research has uncovered some of the best-of-breed solu-

tions to take advantage of these energy dislocations and generate alpha-focused ideas for your client portfolios.

Investment Idea 1: Natural Gas

Europe's goal of reducing its fossil fuel emissions has been primarily led by shuttering legacy coal production in favor of cleaner burning natural gas. This hybrid solution gained significant traction as a method of upgrading aging utility infrastructure over the last several decades and has turned the continent into a major importer of this energy resource.

The main sticking point is that the natural gas manufacturing process is far more complex and costly. It's hard to find, difficult to transport, and largely a more complicated supply chain situation.

That structural paradigm should be viewed as an enticing investment proposition because Europe is "all in" on this course and must continue to source reliable natural gas supplies. Furthermore, natural gas prices are experiencing inflationary trends that make for a very healthy profit environment for the companies engaged in exploration and production.

One way to access this space is through a pure play ETF designed to select a broad basket of stocks engaged in the natural gas ecosphere. For that pur-

pose, we turn to the First Trust Natural Gas ETF (FCG). This fund is based on the ISE-Revere Natural Gas Index, which selects exchange-listed companies that derive a substantial portion of their revenue from the exploration and production of this vital resource.

• First Trust Natural Gas ETF Total Return

60.00%

Apr '21 Jul '21 Oct '21 Jan '22 Apr '22

Apr 03 2022, 8:36PM EDT. Powered by **CHARTS*

First Trust is known

for their inimitable smart-beta index funds and FCG is no exception. The index screening criteria starts with known companies in the natural gas world and filters out those that don't meet certain requirements for proven gas reserves. The remaining stocks must also meet minimum market capitalization, liquidity, and fundamental filters to be eligible for inclusion in the basket.

The result is a group of 44 high-quality U.S. stocks and master limited partnerships that are laser focused on this industry. Top holdings currently include ConocoPhillips, EOG Resources, Occidental Petroleum, Devon Energy, and DCP Midstream LP. The ETF uses a capped-weighting methodology

within the basket to ensure no single holding accounts for more than 5% of the total portfolio. This eliminates the issues of a conventional market-cap allocation structure that creates imbalances in capital distribution.

FCG has ridden the tailwind of energy price appreciation over the last year and has risen nearly 90% on a total return basis. The chart demonstrates a high degree of momentum relative to other market sectors as it hit new 52-week highs to close out the first quarter of 2022.

That's an impressive move, but one that still has far more room to the upside when you look back at the correlation between past periods of commodity price inflation. The fundamentals still indicate reasonable valuations as well with a stingy price-to -earnings ratio of just 12.5 at current levels.

XOP 1 Year Total Return SPDR® S&P Oil & Gas Explor & Prodtn ETF Total Return 0.00% Jul '21 Oct '21 Jan '22 Apr '22

This ETF has been in existence since 2007 and as amassed more than \$678 million in assets under management. The fund also trades more than 2.2 million shares daily on average and has proven to be liquid enough for larger trading strategies. Its expense ratio sits at 0.61%, which is in line with expectations for a smart-beta index fund in a niche market segment.

FCG can be best utilized to tilt a portion of your client portfolios towards the secular profit opportunities in the natural gas arena. The niche basket of stocks means that it is best suited as a tactical position that complements more diversified core holdings. This segment of the energy industry is apt to experience long-term benefits from the global demand for natural gas and continued transition to cleaner fuel sources.

Another energy opportunity to consider for heavy natural gas exposure is the SPDR S&P Oil & Gas Exploration & Production ETF (XOP). As a reminder, this fund is the fourth largest domestic energy ETF by asset size with over \$5.7 billion under management. The underlying index tracks a range of 60 multi-cap stocks that are engaged in the exploration, production, and refinement of oil and gas. It uses a modified equal-weighting index methodology to evenly spread assets over the entire basket and charges a modest 0.35% expense ratio.

This current environment shows just how beneficial

that well-balanced mix of assets is when viewing the returns on both a relative and absolute basis. Over the last year, XOP has gained 64.6% and continues to hit new 52-week highs throughout the first guarter of 2022.

What's even more impressive is that

Apr 03 2022, 8:44PM EDT. Powered by **YCHARTS** even with the rapid

price ascent, the fund's aggregate price-to-earnings ratio is still listed at an attractive 15.5. These stocks are clearly benefitting from the excess commodity appreciation on their financial statements, which is likely to propel these stocks even further over the near term. The combination of these factors gives us confidence that XOP is appropriate for diversified ETF growth portfolios that are looking to cultivate sustainable inflation-linked opportunities.

Investment Idea 2: Nuclear Energy

Nuclear energy production fell out of favor as a cleaner alternative to coal or petroleum burning facilities in 2011 when the Fukushima nuclear disaster hit Japan. However, when faced with the hard realities of energy security, there is going to be a renewed interest in keeping existing nuclear facilities active and possibly even expanding production

to accommodate the necessary demand. In 2019, one quarter of Europe's energy production came from nuclear power, and it is considered a "low carbon" solution like natural gas.

The interesting dynamic in play with nuclear energy is that the 27 EU member nations have split opinions about its efficacy. Countries such as France, Czech Republic, Netherlands, and Poland are actively engaging in new investment in this sector, while Austria, Denmark, Germany, Luxembourg, and Portugal oppose nuclear power solutions (source). Of course, that may change when faced with the "lesser of two evils" decision that nations will have to make when considering the tradeoff between energy supply and demand.

Research conducted by Mark Hibbs of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace concluded the following:

Without new investment to replace and extend the lifetime of Europe's existing power reactors, the EU will gradually lose a large share, perhaps half, of its nuclear power generation capacity by 2050. EU

states may focus more near-term attention on main-taining and building large power stations than on new mini reactors. Large-scale projects for new nuclear power plants incur high capital costs, long construction periods, and risks of potential delays.

At the minimum, the Russian conflict is going to bolster the

case for continuing nuclear energy output at current levels with existing facilities. There is also a better-than-even chance that several nations take additional steps to enhance their energy security using this established method. Those factors en-

hance the appeal of global stocks engaged in the discovery and production of nuclear components.

Our preferred vehicle to participate in this sector is via the **Global X Uranium ETF (URA)**. The goal of this diversified vehicle is to provide investors access to a broad range of companies involved in uranium mining and the production of nuclear components, including those in extraction, refining, exploration, or manufacturing of equipment for the uranium and nuclear industries.

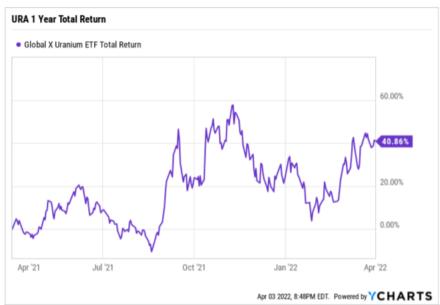
That translates to a basket of 57 global companies engaged in this industry with the largest being the well-known Cameco Corp. This multi-national nuclear conglomerate accounts for nearly one-quarter of the ETF's assets and as such will have an outsized influence on total performance. Furthermore, URA is truly a globally diversified ETF with most of its components traded on foreign exchanges. Canada makes up almost half of the country allocation, followed by Australia, South Korea, and Japan.

What also makes this ETF unique among its peers is that it holds a 15% allocation (second largest posi-

tion) in a Canadianbased fund that owns physical Uranium. Think of it like the Uranium version of GLD. In this manner, investors can conveniently participate in the performance of the commodity itself as it relates to the nuclear energy industry.

That unique mix of assets and the rap-

idly changing landscape of energy requirements has made a clear impact on the performance of URA since the Russia/Ukraine conflict broke out. The fund has risen more than 35% since the January lows and continues to demonstrate strong technical price patterns. Over the last 52 weeks, the fund has



gained 40.9% as compared to relatively flat returns in conventional international benchmarks.

The dislocation to the broader market is what makes this ETF so attractive as a true alphagenerator. URA is a niche energy industry investment vehicle with the potential for explosive growth as we see a resurgence in nuclear demand globally. It's best-use case is for growth portfolios that are looking for tactical allocations in industrial stocks outside the United States.

Another feather in the cap of URA is the fund has nearly \$2 billion in total assets and trades 3.6 million shares per day on average. That provides a deep well of liquidity that advisors can count on when trading in size. Furthermore, it sports a reasonable 0.69% expense ratio, which is in line with comparable ETFs of its kind.

<u>Investment Idea 3: Global Shipping & Logistics</u>

One important facet of the energy import trade in Europe that must be accounted for is the shift from

land to sea-based transportation platforms. Russian oil and gas are typically imported via land routes that now have been reduced or cut off entirely. Pivoting to secure supplies from the United States, the Middle East, or South America will require a heavy emphasis on shipping commodities over the ocean.

BOAT Since Inception

SonicShares[™] Global Shipping ETF Total Return

47.893
30.00%

Sep '21 Nov '21 Jan '22 Mar '22

This strengthens the case for the global shipping industry and the companies that support maritime logistics.

A new ETF makes it easy to own most of the shipping industry in one vehicle to capitalize on a surge in demand. The **SonicShares Global Shipping ETF** **(BOAT)** debuted in August 2021 and has already made a big splash in just a few short months.

BOAT is based on the Solactive Global Shipping Index, which consists of global shipping companies engaged in the maritime transportation of goods and raw materials, including consumer and industrial products, vehicles, dry bulk, crude oil and liquefied natural gas. Maritime shipping is considered the backbone of international trade and the global economy as around 90% of the world's trade is carried by sea.

The index consists of approximately 50 holdings with no single company making up more than 5% of the total basket. Top stocks include HAPAG-LLOYD AG, Orient Overseas Intl, Mitsui OSK Lines, and ZIM Integrated Shipping. The industry dispersion is tilted towards Container Deep Sea Shipping with 60% of the portfolio weight, followed by Dry Bulk Shipping (20%), Crude Transportation (10%), Multi-Type Deep Sea (5.2%), and LNG Transportation (2%).

As you can see in the chart, BOAT has rapidly climbed since the escalation of the Russia/Ukraine

conflict. This ETF has gained 42.6% since its debut in the middle of last year and continues to demonstrate an attractive, uncorrelated price pattern versus the broader market.

Investors in these global shipping stocks are clearly focused on the robust demand for deep sea transpor-

tation through all facets of the global economy. This is particularly true when it comes to supporting the new reality for energy importers.

Another attractive feature of shipping stocks is their robust dividend payout ratios. BOAT is currently sporting a 30-day SEC yield of 4.13% with income paid quarterly to shareholders. Like many international indexes, the dividends from this fund will be lumpy over the course of a year but have historically been above average when compared to other market sectors.

One note of caution in this ETF is that the total asset size of the fund is just \$29.65 million. That means daily trading liquidity might be more difficult to procure and limited orders are heavily encouraged on both sides of the trade. By its economically sensitive nature, BOAT will be more volatile than other comparable transportation stocks Cheniere Energy Inc Total Return

 One increase Energy Increase Ener

as well. Those factors should be considered when sizing portfolio allocations to mitigate undue risks.

Nevertheless, this sector has already demonstrated alpha-generating qualities through the teeth of the overseas conflict and should be on your radar as a barometer of global trade. It's likely that this fund will show instinctive characteristics of economic expansion and will thrive as additional shipping demand is required.

We also realize that there may be too many limiting factors to cohesively implement BOAT in client portfolios as well as recognize those investors that prefer holding individual stocks. We have that angle covered with two recommendations that fit into this theme and offer a fresh transportation dynamic to explore.

The first being **Cheniere Energy Inc. (LNG)**, which produces and exports liquid natural gas. The company has rapidly grown to be the largest LNG com-

pany in the United States and the second largest in the world. It operates liquification facilities in Texas and Louisiana as well as terminals to export the product globally.

Sales nearly doubled in 2021 to more than \$17.6 billion and it's likely that further U.S. commitments to Europe for this resource will be directed through Cheniere. In fact, during their last earnings an-

nouncement in February, Cheniere bolstered its full-year financial guidance in adjusted EBITDA and distributable cash flow. A sign of healthy profits on the horizon.

The company's share price also has doubled over the last year and currently sports a market cap of \$35 bil-

lion. The chart here shows a strong trend of technical support that has shown a consistent pattern trending above its short- and long-term moving averages.

This unique LNG logistics stock has a proven track record of growth and is one of the most established stocks in its segment. Two factors that make it hard to ignore for those that are bullish on the long-term supply dynamics shifting from Russia to the United States.

If you love the global energy shipping theme and want to participate in a pure-play stock, there is an excellent option to consider in **Flex LNG Ltd (FLNG)**. The company operates a fleet of 13 fuel-efficient, fifth-generation LNG carriers that transport liquid natural gas around the world. Originally domiciled in Bermuda, the company offered shares via the Oslo stock exchange in 2017 and was listed via the NYSE in June 2019 under the ticker FLNG.

In 2021, FLNG grew revenues to nearly \$3 billion with a prodigious net income of \$1.4 billion on the bottom line. That represented one of its strongest financial performance years and management reiterated expectations for robust distributable cash flow in 2022 according to its most-recent earnings release.

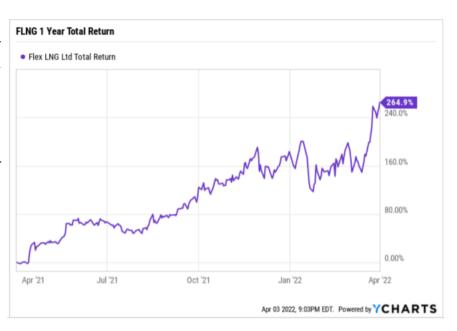
In fact, one of the reasons to love this stock is its outsized quarterly dividend, which was just raised in December 2021 to \$0.75 per share. That equates to a current yield of 7.85% at today's share prices.

ize on this opportunity and who believe that inflation will run hot for the next several years would be wise to consider these investment choices. They coincide well with the current economic environment, are showing a high degree of positive price divergence, and can provide tremendous upside if these commodity trends remain in place.

Best,

Tom

The share price of FLNG has risen nearly 265% over the last 52 -weeks on a total return basis, as strength throughout the energy transportation sector and successful business execution has acted as a strong tailwind. Even with that growth, the stock still trades at a wholesome P/E of 9.6 and a friendly market cap of \$1.56 billion.



This stock is represented in the BOAT ETF, but due to its smaller size, it won't have much impact on the overall performance of the fund. Investors that want to own more exposure to the natural gas segment of the maritime transportation sector may opt to utilize this company as a supplemental holding. Its strong financial performance, technical price appreciation, high yield, and unique positioning within the shipping industry make for a compelling investment proposition.

Conclusion

The speed with which the Russia/Ukraine conflict has escalated is shocking, but the ripple effects from the global trade fallout have the capability to spread far and wide. Investors who want to capital-

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Fund/Stock	<u>Strategy</u>	<u>Date</u>	Total Re- turn	Benchmark Perfor- mance Since Issue Date
Index Rebal KWEB (KraneShares CSI China Internet ETF)	KWEB is an index rebalance play based on major Chinese internet and ecommerce companies (China N-shares) being added to FTSE Emerging Market Indices between Sep 2017 and June 2018. KWEB is our conduit to front-run huge index funds that will be forced to buy its underlying holdings. What to do now: We closed KWEB on June 15th (last leg of rebal). It's still viable as a long-term holding.	Issue 1: 8/17/17 8/24/17	KWEB: 21.46% (closed)	ACWX: 6.93% (through KWEB close date)
Smart Beta Pioneer RSP (Invesco S&P 500 Equal Weight ETF)	From an index standpoint, S&P 500 Equal Weight has massively outperformed S&P 500 (cap weight) over the long term (392% vs. 158% over the last 18 years). RSP has lagged recently due to tech sector outperformance. That presents a short-term dislocation and opportunity to buy RSP at a discount to SPY. What to do now: Buy.	Issue 2: 9/7/17	RSP: 84.73%	SPY: 100.30%
Self-Driving Car Bas- ket SNSR (Global X Inter- net of Things ETF) ROBO (ROBO Global Robotics & Automa- tion Index ETF) AMBA (Ambarella) QCOM (Qualcomm)	Massive changes to the auto industry, including self-driving technology, are closer to the mainstream than most investors think. The foundational changes to the auto industry could be the next "Megatrend" in investing to provide outperformance for years to come. There is no pure play "self-driving" ETF yet, but SNSR and ROBO offer exposure to many tech companies that are best-positioned in the space. AMBA and QCOM are two of the better stocks with unique exposure to the growing self-driving car industry. What to do now: Buy the ETFs. We closed QCOM a month and a half after the Broadcom takeover announcement for a quick, sizable gain.	Issue 3: 9/21/17	SNSR: 83.38% ROBO: 55.67% AMBA: 127.10% QCOM: 23.20% (closed)	SPY: 97.10% SPY: 19.93% (through QCOM close date)
Electric Car Battery Plays LIT (Global X Lithium & Battery Tech ETF) ALB (Albemarle)	The trend towards the widespread adoption of electric cars is accelerating, with U.S. auto companies planning massive roll outs and several countries putting end dates on the internal combustion engine. From an investment angle, the key here is better technology, specifically lithium. LIT is a lithium ETF. ALB is one of the leading lithium plays in the market. What to do now: Long-term investors can buy now. But, as we said in the issue, LIT and ALB ran up big following China's electric car decision. Both have sold off since. The growth opportunity is years, if not decades, ahead.	Issue 3: 9/21/17	LIT: 128.20% ALB: 75.25%	SPY: 97.10%
Dividend Growth DIVY (Reality Shares DIVS ETF) REGL (ProShares S&P MidCap 400 Dividend Aristocrats ETF) SMDV (ProShares Russell 2000 Dividend Growers ETF)	Historically, dividends are responsible for half of the market's total return. They are an essential component of long-term outperformance. While most investors choose high-yielding dividend stocks, our research shows dividend growth stocks can generate better long-term returns. DIVY is the only ETF that isolates pure dividend growth. This ETF is a fixed income alternative that should provide steady single-digit returns with low volatility and true diversification. REGL and SMDV are ETFs that provide exposure to the "Dividend Aristocrats" of tomorrow. What to do now: Buy.	Issue 4: 10/4/17	REGL: 52.37% SMDV: 25.29%	AGG: 8.09% MDY: 57.78% IWM: 46.05%
Merger Arbitrage GABCX (Gabelli ABC Fund) MNA (IQ Merger Arbitrage ETF)	Merger arbitrage is a time-tested hedge fund strategy. It seeks to profit from the timely completion of mergers, takeovers and corporate re-orgs. The strategy has produced solid absolute returns with low correlations to stocks and bonds. GABCX and MNA are the two best-performing—and cheapest—options to invest in this space. What to do now: Buy.	Issue 5: 10/17/17	GABCX: 12.50% MNA: 6.20%	AGG: 7.83%

Fund/Stock	<u>Strategy</u>	<u>Date</u>	Total Re- turn	Benchmark Perfor- mance Since Issue Date
Special Dividends List of 24 stocks	Screened 17,070 stocks to arrive at 24 stocks that have consistently paid large special dividends. Investors can't see the true yields on these stocks because they're missing from financial websites. Our elite list has yields ranging from 50% to 600% higher than the S&P 500's yield. What to do now: Buy (multiple ways to implement in issue).	Issue 6: 10/31/17	Basket of stocks (avg.): 7.37%	50% SPY/50% AGG: 3.77%
Global Value GVAL (Cambria Glob- al Value ETF)	A fundamentally-focused deep value strategy that uses a cyclically-adjusted valuation composite to evaluate 45 global countries for investment. GVAL captures the cheapest countries and the cheapest stocks in those specific countries, too. What to do now: Buy.	Issue 9: 12/12/17	GVAL: -0.97%	ACWX: 20.58%
"Backdoor" Hedge Fund Investing List of 10 stocks	It's almost impossible for investors to access the world's best hedge fund managers. Either their funds are closed, the minimums are too steep (in the millions), or the fees are outrageously high ('2 & 20'). We found 10 little-known ways to access ace managers who have produced Buffett-like returns. What to do now: Buy (multiple ways to implement in issue).	Issue 10: 12/27/17	Basket of stocks (avg.): -5.09%	50% SPY/50% AGG: 1.30%
EM & FM Bonds EMB (iShares JPM USD Emerging Markets Bond ETF) EMLC (VanEck JPM EM Local Currency Bond ETF) EBND (SPDR Bloomberg Barclays Emerging Markets Local Bond ETF) AGEYX (American Beacon Global Evolution Frontier Markets Income Fund)	Most investors have no allocation to fixed income outside the U.S., but we think it's worth serious consideration. Emerging and frontier debt funds have yields 2X, 3X, and 4X the yields of traditional fixed income investments low correlations to major asset classes and healthier fundamentals (lower debt-to-GDP ratios, faster-growing economies, and better demographics) from a country perspective. EMB (emerging market debt hard currency), EMLC/EBND (emerging market debt local currency), and AGEYX (actively-managed frontier market debt) are all attractive options. What to do now: Buy.	Issue 11: 1/9/18	EMB: 2.28% EMLC: -10.47% EBND: -9.40% AGEYX: 11.02%	AGG: 8.38%
"Blockchain" Investing BLOK (Amplify Transformational Data Sharing ETF) BLCN (Reality Shares Nasdaq NexGen Economy ETF)	Blockchain, the technology behind cryptos, has the potential to change many industries. Having the right exposure to companies using or pioneering the use of blockchain, offers substantial long-term growth opportunities. Not only did we break the story on the first two blockchain ETFs (BLOK and BLCN) ahead of every financial media outlet, we also provided a sneak peek at their top holdings and a blockchain primer. What to do now: Buy (multiple ways to implement in issue).	Issue 12: 1/16/18	BLOK: 104.70% BLCN: 61.48%	SPY: 76.53%
"Active" Bond ETFs BOND (PIMCO Active Bond ETF) TOTL (SPDR Dou- bleLine Total Return Tactical ETF) FTSL (First Trust Sen- ior Loan Fund)	Studies show actively-managed fixed income funds have been much more successful at beating benchmarks than actively-managed equity funds. In addition, the "Agg" has changed for the worse over time: higher duration, lower yield, and less diversification. These three active bond ETFs—with better statistics and all-star portfolio management teams—stand a good chance at beating the Agg going forward. What to do now: Buy.	Issue 14: 2/20/18	BOND: 10.68% TOTL: 6.51% FTSL: 14.88%	AGG: 10.12%

Fund/Stock	<u>Strategy</u>	<u>Date</u>	Total Re- turn	Benchmark Perfor- mance Since Issue <u>Date</u>
Cash Alpha FPNIX (FPA New Income)	FPNIX has generated positive returns for 33 straight years. No other non-government bond fund can boast of an equivalent track record. We also featured "MaxMyInterest," which produces 140 to 150 basis points of alpha versus traditional cash vehicles (MMAs, MMFs, and CDs). Max also increases FDIC insurance and can give advisors visibility to held-away cash. What to do now: Buy (Max is also an excellent cash management solution).	Issue 15: 3/6/18	FPNIX: 7.42%	BIL: 3.89%
Index Rebal KBA (KraneShares Bosera MSCI China A Share ETF)	KBA is an index rebalance play based on the inclusion of Mainland Chinese equities (A-shares) into MSCI Global Standard Indexes. The first two steps will take place on June 1st and September 1st. KBA is our gateway to front-run massive index funds that will be forced to buy its underlying holdings. What to do now: Buy.	Issue 16: 3/20/18	KBA: 21.45%	ACWX: 17.70%
Anti-Trade War QABA (First Trust Nasdaq ABA Commu- nity Bank Index Fund)	QABA is a play to protect against trade war ramifications (97% of its sales are U.Ssourced). Additionally, it should also be a beneficiary of U.S. tax reform, in that, smaller U.S. companies should capture most of the 35% to 21% corporate tax cut. We also featured three more ETFs (AMCA, AIRR, KRE) and two exclusive stock screens—run through Cap IQ—for advisors to share with clients who have trade war concerns. What to do now: Buy.	Issue 18: 4/17/18	QABA: 13.91%	SPY: 80.33%
Foreign Small Caps VSS (Vanguard FTSE All-World ex-US Small -Cap ETF) DLS (WisdomTree International Small- Cap Dividend Fund)	Most advisors don't allocate to international small caps. But, we think they should reconsider. This hidden asset class holds several advantages over its U.S. equivalents: cheaper valuations, less volatility, lower correlations, higher dividend yields, and past outperformance. We highlight multiple individual ETFs, ETF combinations, and actively-managed mutual funds that do the trick. What to do now: Buy.	Issue 19: 5/1/18	VSS: 17.46% DLS: 4.02%	EFA: 19.00%
Disruptive Innovation ARKK (ARK Innovation ETF)	Investing in the "cornerstone themes of disruptive innovation" has resulted in huge profits over time (think Amazon, Apple, and Netflix). ARK sees current investment opportunities in innovation platforms, such as automation, energy storage, DNA sequencing, next generation internet, blockchain technology, etc. ARK's top innovation-based themes are all represented in ARKK. In 2017, ARKK was the #1 performing ETF (excluding leveraged and inverse ETFs) with a return of 87%! What to do now: Buy.	Issue 20: 5/15/18	ARKK: 78.42%	SPY: 79.69%
Buybacks PKW (Invesco Buy-Back Achievers ETF)	Companies with meaningful share count reduction have outperformed over the long term with lower volatility. Currently, U.S. companies are flush with cash due to tax cuts and repatriation. In turn, share repurchases broke a new record in Q1 2018 and they're on pace to set a new record for 2018. PKW is the premier ETF to profit from buybacks (largest asset base and longest history). We also featured four alternative ETFs (SPYB, TTFS, DIVB, SYLD) and some individual stock lists. What to do now: Buy.	Issue 21: 5/29/18	PKW: 69.53%	SPY: 81.02%
"FANG and Friends" of Emerging Markets EMQQ (Emerging Markets Internet & Ecommerce ETF)	"By 2025, annual consumption in emerging markets will reach \$30 trillion—the biggest growth opportunity in the history of capitalism."—McKinsey & Company. The combination of four major forces in emerging markets make this a great investment setup: favorable demographics, increasing smartphone availability, surging wireless broadband and Wifi access, and the globalization of the capital formation process. EMQQ is the best ETF to invest in this great confluence. We also featured three alternative ETFs (ECON, KWEB, KEMQ). What to do now: Buy.	Issue 23: 6/26/18	EMQQ: -1.21%	EEM: 16.80%

Fund/Stock	<u>Strategy</u>	<u>Date</u>	Total Return	Benchmark Perfor- mance Since Issue Date
Micro Caps IWC (I-Shares Micro-Cap ETF)	Small caps outperformed until this most recent pullback, but while allocations to that sector of the market are rising, micro-caps, a sub-set of small caps, remain generally overlooked. Micro caps remain an overlooked, under-researched, and under-allocated part of the small cap universe that can offer diversification and outperformance (micro caps are perennial takeover candidates).	7/10/18	IWC: 25.25%	IWM: 28.68%
The Future of Consumer Spending IBUY (Amplify Online Retail ETF) FINX (Global X FinTech ETF) IPAY (ETFMG Prime Mobile Payments ETF)	The way U.S. consumers purchase goods is changing— rapidly. And, getting "pure play" exposure to the rise to on- line retailers and to the growth of mobile payments could be similar to investing in credit cards back in the mid-80's. There are few other established corners of the market that offer this type of growth potential.	7/24/18	IBUY: 34.64% FINX: 26.77% IPAY: 32.19%	SPY: 72.18%
Floating Rate Funds FLOT (I-Shares Floating Rate Bond ETF USFR (Wisdom Tree Floating Rate Treas- ury Fund) SRLN (SPDR Black- stone / GSO Senior Loan ETF EFR (Eaton Vance Floating Rate Trust)	Despite stubbornly high bonds/low yields, bonds are still now in a longer term bear market, and there exist few non-inverse bond alternatives that can produce absolute gains in a falling bond environment. Floating rate ETFs rise as bond yields fall and offer absolute return potential in bond portfolios, and are an important tool in constructing client bond portfolios in a rising rate environment.	8/6/18	FLOT: 5.04% USFR: 3.58% SRLN: 14.64% EFR: 23.48%	AGG: 9.35%
Content Is King PBS (Invesco Dynamic Media ETF) IEME (Ishares Evolved U.S. Media & Entertainment ETF) XLC (Communications services SPDR) DIS (Disney)	How generational changes in the cable TV industry are presenting massive long-term growth potential (think NFLX's 4000% return since 2012). Industry Primer: How the cable industry is changing from a service-based business, to a content-based business.	8/20/18	PBS: 54.69% IEME: 30.93% XLC: 50.92% DIS: 26.29%	SPY: 69.74%
Momentum & Value PSCH (PowerShares S&P SmallCap Health Care Portfo- lio) SBIO (ALPS Medical Breakthroughs ETF) FXG (First Trust Con- sumer Staples Al- phaDex ETF)	In our first of a recurring series, each quarter we'll profile some of the best ETFs from a momentum and value standpoint. Most investors and prospects can be grouped into those two investing styles, and we want to provide consistent, valueadd idea generation for each type of investor, so you're always armed with compelling ideas and stories for clients and prospects, regardless of their investment style.	9/4/18	PSCH: 12.75% SBIO: -3.52% FXG: 42.88%	SPY: 67.47%

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<u>Fund/Stock</u>	<u>Strategy</u>	<u>Date</u>	Total Return	Benchmark Perfor- mance Since Issue Date
Commodities PDBC (Invesco Optimum Yield Diversified Commodity Strategy No K-1) GNR (SPDR S&P Global Natural Resources ETF) RLY (SPDR SSGA Multi-Asset Real Return ETF)	Commodities have typically outperformed during late expansion and early recession phases of the economic cycle. Many economic indicators imply we are entering (or are already in) the late expansion phase of the economic cycle. As such, commodities have outperformed so far this year, and we expect that to continue.	9/18/18	PDBC: 56.30% GNR: 45.88% RLY: 43.83%	DBC: 57.82%
Short Duration Bond ETFs MEAR (IShares Short Maturity Municipal Bond ETF) LDUR (PIMCO Enhanced Low Duration Active ETF) MINT (PIMCO Enhanced Short Maturity Active ETF)	The downtrend in bonds accelerated in September and October of 2018, and it was a reminder that advisors face challenges in the fixed income markets over the coming years. One of the best ways to protect investors in a bond bear market is by shortening duration of bond holdings, so we presented three short duration bond ETFs that have yields that are close to the 10 year Treasury, but that have much shorter average maturities.	10/16/18	MEAR: 2.96% LDUR: 5.27% MINT: 3.66%	BIL: 2.81%
Bear Market Strate- gies USMV (I-Shares Edge MSCI Minimum Vol- atility USA ETF) PTLC (Pacer Trendpi- lot US Large Cap ETF)	The October 2018 equity market decline sparked fears of an end to the multi-year bull market. So, we wanted to provide some suggestions on practical "bear market" strategies for advisors that wouldn't involve market timing or deviating from keeping clients in the markets over the longer term.	10/30/18	USMV: 52.26% PTLC: 40.52%	SH: -51.84%
Special Dividends List of 19 stocks	Screened 17,070 stocks to arrive at 19 stocks that have consistently paid large special dividends. Investors can't see the true yields on these stocks because they're missing from financial websites. Our elite list has yields ranging from 50% to 600% higher than the S&P 500's yield. What to do now: Buy (multiple ways to implement in issue).	11/6/18		
Momentum & Value 4th Quarter Edition WTMF (Wisdom Tree Managed Futures ETF) MLPA (Global X MLP ETF) DCP (DCP Midstream LP) SHLX (Shell Mid- stream Partners LP)	In our Q4 installment of our Momentum and Value series we focused on strategies for the volatile and difficult market. Our momentum strategies were focused on noncorrelated ETFs to provide diversification. Our value strategy focused on the MLP space, which had compelling yields in an environment where the oil price should stabilize.	12/4/18	WTMF: 9.56% MLPA: 9.00% DCP: 33.30% SHLX: 5.91%	SPY: 78.78% AMLP: 8.56%

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Fund/Stock	<u>Strategy</u>	<u>Date</u>	Total Return	Benchmark Perfor- mance Since Issue Date
Growth into Value Rotation RPV (Invesco S&P 500 Pure Value ETF) DVP (Deep Value ETF)	Recognizing the switch in outperformance from value to growth in 2014 was one of the easiest ways to help clients outperform. Now, there are signs markets might be switching back, to an era where value outperforms growth. The ETFs included in this report serve as a "one stop shop" to add quality value exposure to client portfolios.	12/18/18	RPV: 48.98%	VTV: 55.88%
Contrarian Ideas to Start 2019 IEMG/EEMV (Emerging Market ETFs) ITB/VNQ (Homebuilders/Real Estate ETFs) DFE (WisdomTree Europe SmallCap Dividend Fund)	The start of a new year means new money needs to be put to work, so we wanted to provide some unique and interesting contrarian ideas that can outperform in 2019.	1/2/19	IEMG/EEMV: 31.78%/20.33% ITB/VNQ: 102.2%/66.95% DFE: 41.06%	SPY: 91.83%
Identifying High Quality Stocks COWZ (Pacer U.S. Cash Cows 100 ETF)	Free Cash Flow Yield (FCFY) and Return On Equity (ROE) are two factors that produce long term outperformance. We complied a list of nearly two dozen large cap stocks that have a FCFY over 8%, along with another list of the top 10% companies with highest Return on Equity. We think the stocks on these lists present opportunities to buy quality names on market dips. We also identified an ETF that screens based on FCFY, and it provides outperformance with lower drawdowns.	1/15/19	COWZ: 94.43%	SPY: 84.36%
Preferred Stock ETFs PGF (Invesco Financial Preferred ETF) VRP (Invesco Variable Rate Preferred ETF) PFXF (VanEck Vectors Preferred Securities ex Financials ETF)	Preferred stocks have massively outperformed the S&P 500 during the October—December correction and barely lagged bonds. With yields of 5% and higher we think preferred stock ETFs present a unique long term opportunity to generate income and reduce volatility in portfolios, while keeping upside exposure.	1/29/19	PGF: 20.37% VRP: 23.90% PFXF: 32.00%	PFF: 25.38%
Utilities For Income VPU (Vanguard Utilities ETF) NRG (NRG Energy) CNP (CenterPoint Energy)	We continued our focus on safety and income as we show why "boring" utilities can offer substantial outperformance in a volatile market. Utilities outperformed during the Oct-Dec correction, and owning utilities hasn't meant giving up long term performance as XLU has the same five year total return as the S&P 500. If you think the markets will stay volatile, utilities are a good place for capital to weather the storm and keep upside exposure.	2/12/19	VPU: 43.97% NRG: -3.66% CNP: 11.33%	XLU: 48.32%

Fund/Stock	<u>Strategy</u>	<u>Date</u>	Total Return	Benchmark Perfor- mance Since Issue Date
Cybersecurity: Threats & Opportunities HACK (ETFMG Primce Cyber Security ETF) CIBR (First Trust NASDAQ Cybersecurity ETF) FTNT (Fortinet) CYBR (CyberArk)	Cyber security and privacy on-line are two clearly defined growth areas of tech, as tech adoption progresses towards consumer demanding security and convenience.	2/26/2019	HACK: 54.04% CIBR: 97.57% FTNT: 294.70% CYBR: 63.96%	QQQ: 116.10%
Cannabis Industry Investment. MJ (ETFMG Alternative Harvest ETF) ACB (Aurora Cannabis) CGC (Canopy Growth Corporation) APHA (Aphria)	Through March of 2019, the cannabis sector was the best performing sector in the market, as that performance reflected the growing adoption of medical cannabis, as well as the unrivaled growth potential. Investors and clients are asking about this industry, so we wanted to present a "Cannabis Primer" along with three different investment strategies to get responsible exposure to this market segment.	3/12/19	MJ: -68.19% ACB: -95.69% CGC: -83.34%	SPY: 71.66%
Socially Responsible Investing ESGV (Vanguard ESG US Stock ETF)	Studies and AUM trends have shown that while clients still care about the bottom line (returns) there is growing popularity among investors to not only generate a solid return, but also for their investments to reflect their core beliefs and values. So, we've updated our research to focus on a few core ESG areas that have seen AUM explode over the past two years. These stylistic ETFs can not only outperform, but also help strengthen the client/advisor bond, via directing some investments to issues important to your client.	3/26/19	ESGV: 74.42%	SPY: 70.15%
Hedged Equity ETFs DMRL (DeltaShares S&P 500 Managed Risk ETF) CCOR (Cambria Core Equity ETF) JHEQX (JP Morgan Hedged Equity Fund Class)	Stocks have started 2019 with a bang, rising sharply in Q1. But, major macro risks remain present and there is undeniable proof the economy is late cycle. Hedged equity ETFs can help advisors and investors maintain long exposure while also providing protection from another 2018 style correction.	4/9/19	DMRL: 38.06% CCOR: 16.62% JHEQX: 33.53%	SPY: 66.40%

Fund/Stock	Strategy	<u>Date</u>	Total Return	Benchmark Perfor- mance Since Issue Date
ARK Invest Family of ETFs ARKW (ARK Next Generation Internet ETF) ARKG (ARK Genomic Revolution ETF) XITK (SPDR Fact Set Innovative Tech ETF)	We are re-introducing the ARK Family of ETFs. Alpha recommendation ARKK is up 26% YTD and it's outperformed the S&P 500 since our recommendation. ARK ETFs offer "one-stop shopping" exposure to the disruptive technologies of tomorrow—technologies that can not only produce outsized long-term returns, but that also are compelling stories for clients and prospects.	4/23/19	ARKW: 77.76% ARKG: 53.60% XITK: 48.36%	QQQ: 96.98%
The Alpha Opportunity in Healthcare IHI (iShares Medical Device ETF) XBI/SBIO/ARKG (The Quality Bio-tech ETFs) IHF (iShares U.S. Healthcare Providers ETF)	The healthcare sector has badly lagged the S&P 500 thanks to political concerns (Medicare for all). But, future political risks aside, fundamentals for the healthcare industry are compelling. We covered this broadly in the Sevens Report two weeks ago, but in today's Alpha issue we wanted to do a "deep dive" into the space and provide a broader healthcare sector primer, as opportunities to invest in healthcare at the relative value to the market don't come along very often.	5/7/19	IHI: 65.94% XBI: 13.31% IHF: 73.78%	XLV: 62.90%
Minimum Volatility ETFs USMV (iShares Total Return MSCI USA Minimum Volatility ETF) SPLV (S&P 500 Low Volatility Index ETF) EEMV (iShares MSCI Minimum Volatility Emerging Markets ETF) EFAV (iShares Edge MSCI Minimum Volatility EAFE ETF)	Minimum volatility ETFs have proven effective alternatives for core market holdings over both the short and long term, and will help ensure investors don't give back YTD gains in the event of a correction while still maintaining upside exposure.	5/21/19	USMV: 37.07% SPLV: 32.26% EEMV: 18.49% EFAV: 9.98%	SPY: 66.88%
Ageing of America Primer WELL (Welltower Inc) OHI (Omega Healthcare Investors) SCI (Service Corp International)	There is a coming massive demographic shift in the U.S. as within the next 20 years one in every five Americans will reach retirement age, and that aging of Americans will have profound impacts on different market sectors.	6/4/19	WELL: 34.50% OHI: 7.19% SCI: 52.92%	SPY: 70.38%

<u>Fund/Stock</u>	<u>Strategy</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Total Return</u>	Benchmark Perfor- mance Since Issue Date
Rate Cut Playbook We wanted to provide both an asset class and stock market sector "playbook" so advisors will know what outperformed, and what underperformed during the last two rate cut cycles. The important part of our research is that we let the numbers, not our assumptions, do the talking and the results were surprising!	 major S&P 500 sectors over the last two rate cut cycles. (Returns 12 months following the first cut, and Returns from the first cut to the last cut). Return tables for the major bond market segments over the last two rate cut cycles. We identify the sectors and bond segments that lagged in both cutting cycles (again, the results were surprising) and the sectors that outright outperformed and that relatively outperformed. 	6/18/19		
How to Responsibly Allocate to Gold GLD (SPDR Gold Trust) SGOL (Aberdeen Standard Physical Gold ETF) GDX (VanEck Vectors Gold Miners ETF) KL (Kirkland Lake) FNV (Franco Nevada Corp)	Gold was one of the top performers in our "Rate Cut Playbook" and it recently just hit a six year high. So, in this issue, we wanted to focus on how advisors can responsibly allocate to gold, because again If this trend continues, gold will continue to outperform the S&P 500, and undoubtedly you will field questions from clients about owning gold. Beyond servicing clients, from an alpha standpoint, gold trends incredibly well, and if we are at the start of a multi-year uptrend, the returns can be substantial (gold returned more than 800% from 2001-2011 and outperformed stocks during the last two rate cutting cycles).	7/2/19	GLD: 35.11% SGOL: 35.99% GDX: 51.88% KL: 22.53% FNV: 89.58%	
Momentum Factor Investing MTUM (IShares Edge MSCI USA Momen- tum Factor ETF) SPMO (Invesco S&P 500 Momentum ETF) FDMO (Fidelity Mo- mentum Factor ETF)	Factor investing has proven to be an effective strategy for medium and long term investors. One of the strategic factors that consistently rises to the upper half of the performance matrix is "momentum" as a driver of outsized returns. Momentum factor ETFs have provided positive excess returns in seven of the last 11 years.	7/16/19	MTUM 39.04% SPMO: 46.73% FDMO: 40.95%	SPY: 51.89%

Fund/Stock	<u>Strategy</u>	<u>Date</u>	Total Return	Benchmark Perfor- mance Since Issue <u>Date</u>
Profit from the Sharing Economy MILN (The Global X Funds/Millennials Thematic ETF) GIGE (The SoFi Gig Economy ETF)	Inspiration for the issue came from this comment, which I believe is a profound statement on the next evolution of the economy. "Uber, the world's largest taxi company, owns no vehicles. Facebook, the world's most popular media owner, creates no content. Alibaba, the most valuable retailer, has no inventory. And Airbnb, the world's largest accommodation provider, owns no real estate. Something interesting is happening." Tim Goodwin The Batter Is For The Consumer Interface. Each of those companies are part of the new "sharing economy." In addition to profiling two ETFs, we also created our own "Watch List" of sharing economy companies that describes 1) What they do and 2) How they make money, so you have a clear view of the entire "Sharing Economy" universe.	7/30/19	MILN: 43.95% GIGE: 17.26%	SPY: 51.43%
The Case for REITS VNQ (Vanguard Real Estate ETF) VNQI (Vanguard Global ex-U.S. Real Estate ETF) REZ (iShares Residential Real Estate ETF) REM (Ishares Mortgage Real Estate ETF)	Over the past month, only one sector SPDR had a positive return, and it was Real Estate (XLRE) as it rose 1.75%. And, that underscores what has been a great year for the sector, as XLRE has gained more than 22% YTD and only trails tech (XLK) on a YTD performance basis. This strong performance shouldn't come as a surprise. The current environment is very positive for REITs, given we're likely looking at 1) More Fed rate cuts and 2) A potentially slowing economy. More directly, with greater than 3% yields, positive correlation to rising inflation, and a very solid historical track record through growth slowdowns (with one glaring exception), REITs remain an attractive destination for capital in the current environment.	8/16/19	VNQ: 19.85% VNQI: -7.82% REZ: 23.09% REM: -21.73%	SPY: 57.66%
Seizing Opportunity in the Defense Industry ITA (IShares U.S. Aerospace & Defense ETF) PPA (Invesco Aerospace & Defense ETF) UFO (The Procure Space ETF)	The defense sector has been one of the best performing market sectors for over a decade. Consider Over the past 10 years the defense stock sector has posted an 18.57% annualized return and a 446% cumulative return That compares to a 12.96% annualized return for the S&P 500 and a cumulative return of 238%. That's significant outperformance that should impress any client. But, right now, we think there's even more opportunity in this sector due to the presence of a potentially major growth catalyst—the space industry.	8/27/19	ITA: 3.03% PPA: 19.10% UFO: 7.37%	SPY: 58.70%

<u>Fund/Stock</u>	<u>Strategy</u>	<u>Date</u>	Total Return	Benchmark Perfor- mance Since Issue Date
Japanization Playbook PTCIX (PIMCO Long Term Credit Bond Fund) VYM (Vanguard High Dividend Yield ETF) PDI (PIMCO Dynamic Income Fund)	Given the slowing of the global economy, we are now at a fork in the road, where global economic stimulus will either work, like it did in 2016 and spur a big rally, or it will not, like what happened in Japan in the 1990s. We spent an entire <i>Alpha</i> issue detailing a what will outperform and underperform in that scenario, so that if it happens, we know what to do.	9/10/19	PTCIX: 1.92% VYM: 37.86% PDI: -3.01%	SPY: 59.59%
Reflation Playbook Reflation Strategy 1: A better tech ETF. Reflation Strategy 2: Momentum Factor. Reflation Strategy 3: The Consumer. Reflation Strategy 4: Emerging Markets. Reflation Strategy 5: Floating Rate Funds.	This issue is the final piece of our four-part series on the longer-term outcome for this market: Japanization or Reflation? Reflation issue goes deeper into the sectors and assets that will outperform if we get another successfully engineered economic reflation – driven in part by a weaker dollar – like we did in 2016-2018.	9/24/19	Various ETFs listed in the Issue	
Investing in Green Energy TAN (Invesco Solar ETF) FAN (First Trust Global Wind Energy ETF) ICLN (IShares Global Clean Energy ETF) PBW (Invesco Wilderhill Clean Energy ETF)	Advisors today need to know funds and ETFs that can help clients invest for a greener future, as doing so will align client investments with their interests and build more trust between the advisor and client. In this Alpha issue, we cover some of the best ETFs for direct alternative energy exposure, and the results may surprise you as some of the best alternative energy ETFs share a lot of characteristics with tech ETFs and multinational industrial ETFs.	10/8/19	TAN: 170.40% FAN: 58.91% ICLN: 106.70% PBW: 147.20%	SPY: 64.10%
Investing in the Water Industry PHO (Invesco Water Resources ETF) FIW (First Trust Water ETF) TBLU (Tortoise Global Water ESG Fund)	We are continuing the theme from the last issue of 1) Making money (generating alpha) and 2) Doing good (appealing to clients focused on the environment), and we're doing it by taking a deep dive into the water industry. The water industry remains a quasi-niche, but it shouldn't, as water industry investment can: Generate alpha as major water industry ETFs have outperformed the S&P 500 over the past several years and It can strengthen client relationships as water investment is closely tied to ESG investing, and water demand is a concept that clients can easily relate to.	10/22/19	PHO: 46.91% FIW: 50.99%	SPY: 58.40%

Fund/Stock	Strategy	<u>Date</u>	Total Return	Benchmark Perfor- mance Since Issue Date
Outperforming in A Declining Dollar Environment VGT (Vanguard Information Technology ETF) IHI (IShares U.S. Medical Devices ETF) EMLC (VanEck Vectors J.P. Morgan EM Local Currency Bond ETF) PDBC (Invesco Optimum Yield Diversified Commodity Strategy No K-1 ETF)	If there's going to be a global reflation, then it will likely come with a weaker U.S. Dollar. From early 2017 through early 2018 the dollar declined from over 100 to below 90 (so more than 10%) and that had a significant impact on stocks: The 2017 decline in the dollar resulted in a 31% gain for the S&P 500 from December 2016 through January 2018. But, the dollar decline also created opportunities for specific sectors and assets classes to handily outperform the S&P 500, and we want to identify those opportunities in three strategies: Targeted sector exposure via a focus on U.S. Exporters International ETF Exposure Commodities Allocations.	11/5/19	Various ETFs Listed in the Issue	
Closed End Funds ETG (EV Tax Adv. Global Dividend Inc) HTD (JH Tax-Advantaged Dividend Inc) PDI (PIMCO Dynamic Income) NZF (Nuveen Municipal Credit Income) FFC (Flaherty & Crumrine Preferred & Income Sec.) RQI (Cohen & Steers Quality Income)	Closed End Funds (CEFs) are under-utilized compared to ETFs (we explain why in the issue) but CEFs have advantages over ETFs both on a yield and tactical basis – and we think that CEFs can be an effective tool, when integrated into a broader portfolio strategy, that can boost yield and create opportunities to generate alpha.	12/3/19	ETG: 44.06% HTD: 13.73% PDI: -8.22% NZF: -0.57% FFC: 10.82% RQI: 35.27%	SPY: 52.90%
Cash Management FPNIX (FPA New Income Fund) MINT (PIMCO Enhanced Maturity Active ETF) BBBIX (BBH Limited Duration I)	In this issue, we identify three funds that provide market-beating returns on cash with very low duration and good liquidity, and we rank them depending on preference: More aggressive (and higher yield), Conservative, and "In Between."	12/17/19	BBBIX: 2.97%	BIL: 0.37%

Fund/Stock	<u>Strategy</u>	<u>Date</u>	Total Return	Benchmark Performance
Contrarian Ideas 2020 MJ (ETFMG Alternative Harvest ETF) XOP (SPDR S&P Oil & Gas Exploration and Production ETF) LQDH (iShares Interest Rate Hedged Corporate Bond ETF)	Contrarian Idea: Cannabis Sector. Cannabis stocks got crushed in 2019, but underlying demand for medical cannabis, along with public acceptance of the idea, continued to grow. Contrarian Idea: Energy. The energy sector lagged in 2019, but if there is a rebound in growth, combined with a protracted dollar decline, energy could handily outperform in 2020. Contrarian Idea: Rising Rates. Bonds surged in 2019 and	12/31/19	MJ: -34.80% XOP: 52.87% LQDH: 1.84%	SPY: 46.42%
20 2 ,	the broad consensus is for perma-low rates. But the Fed is now targeting higher inflation, and if growth rebounds, rates could easily move higher.			
International Exposure IQLT - iShares Edge MSCI International Quality Factor ETF. VIGI - Vanguard International Dividend Appreciation ETF GSIE - Goldman Sachs ActiveBeta International Equity ETF	We all know that proper diversification is essential to both risk management and long-term outperformance, and while the outlook for the U.S. markets remains strong, proper diversification must be maintained for investors with long-term time horizons. So, we've done a deep dive into the very overpopulated world of international ETFs and selected the few ETFs that we believe offer a superior combination of 1) Exposure to quality international companies, 2) Focus on developed economies (so this isn't about emerging markets) and 3) Are trading at an attractive valuation.	1/14/2020	IQLT: 19.05% VIGI: 19.95% GSIE: 13.90%	ACWX: 12.12%
Opportunities in Small Caps IJR: iShares Core S&P Small-Cap ETF VBK: Vanguard Small-Cap Growth ETF XSLV: Invesco S&P SmallCap Low Volatility ETF	The stock market has become extremely "top-heavy" with a few mega-cap tech stocks like AAPL, AMZN, MSFT, GOOGL largely driving market performance and being the difference maker in annual performance. While that's been a good thing for the last several years for many investors, the reality is that now they are also not as diversified as they should be on a market-cap basis. Proper diversification across multiple criteria (including market cap) is essential to long term outperformance and portfolio optimization, so it's always something we need to be focused on. But, to get a bit more tactical, after years of underperformance, there's a credible macro set up where small-caps can outperform in 2020.	1/28/2020	IJR: 34.72% VBK: 25.72% XSLV: 1.91%	IWM: 29.01%
Finding Actionable Op- portunities in the Bio- tech Sector IBB (iShares Biotechnol- ogy ETF) SBIO (ALPS Medical Breakthroughs ETF) XBI (SPDR S&P Biotech ETF)	What outperforms during a global health emergency like the Wuhan virus? Historically, the biotech sector does, which rose 40% compared to 25% for the SPY following SARS in the early 2000s. But, investing in biotech is tough for an advisor. So, our goal for this Alpha issue was clear: Find the best biotech ETFs that today's advisors can actually allocate to.	2/11/2020	IBB: 9.64% SBIO: -15.63% XBI: -1.18%	SPY: 35.69%

Fund/Stock	<u>Strategy</u>	<u>Date</u>	Total Return	Benchmark Perfor- mance Since Issue <u>Date</u>
Hedged Equity ETFs DMRL: DeltaShares S&P 500 Managed Risk ETF. CCOR: Cambria Core Equity ETF. JHEQX: JPMorgan Hedged Equity Fund Class I.	We want to highlight hedged ETF strategies that can help advisors protect gains if we are at the start of a 2018 style correction, or worse, our first bear market in over a decade, while at the same time maintaining long exposure if/when the correction ends. Hedged ETFs outperformed the S&P 500 in 2018, and if this current correction turns into a lengthy pullback, hedged ETFs will help preserve client gains.	3/10/2020	DMRL: 29.80% CCOR: 7.20% JHEQX: 27.30%	SPY: 57.80%
Sector Opportunities from the Coronavirus Decline Tech Sector (Three ETFs) Financials (Three ETFs) Energy (Three ETFs)	This will be the first part of a two-part series that addresses potential longer-term opportunities from this crisis. For today's issue, we selected three sectors: Tech, Financials and Energy, and we provided three ETF options in each sector depending on whether you are looking for broad-based exposure (and diversification) or want a more targeted strategy (higher risk/higher return).	3/24/2020	Multiple ETFs selected for each sector depending on risk toler- ance.	
Longer Term Industry Opportunities from the Coronavirus Health & Wellness (Three ETFs) Mobility As A Service (IBUY: Amplify Online Retail ETF) Cord Cutting (JHCS: John Hancock Multifactor Media and Communications ETF). Stay At Home (XITK: SPDR FactSet Innovative Technology ETF)	In this issue, we build on the theme of a return to optimism by identifying specific stocks, ETFs, and industries likely to experience long-term tailwinds from this historic coronavirus pandemic black swan. This trend will shift the spending and habits of millions of Americans over the course of the next decade.	4/7/2020	PTH: 61.57% IBUY: 61.66% JHCS: 44.01% XITK: 62.92%	SPY: 71.66%
Three Industries That Will Benefit from Changes in Corporate Behavior Cloud Computing (SKYY: First Trust Cloud Computing ETF) E-Commerce (SHOP: Shopify & GDDY (GoDaddy) Online Payment Processing (IPAY: ETFMG Prime Mobile Payments ETF)	Each part of our "What To Buy" series have become more granular, and that trend is continuing today with the final installment of the series. Part One focused on broad sectors. Part Two identified larger industries that should benefit over the longer term from changes in consumer behavior from the coronavirus experience. Now, Part Three will go even deeper and rely on our own anecdotal experiences to identify subindices that should benefit over the longer term from changes in business behavior in a post-coronavirus world.	4/21/2020	SKYY: 59.87% SHOP: 24.10% GDDY: 35.52% IPAY: 38.86%	SPY: 66.61%

Fund/Stock	<u>Strategy</u>	<u>Date</u>	Total Return	Benchmark Perfor- mance Since Issue Date
Three Strategies for a "U" Shaped Recovery Preferreds: PGF (Invesco Financial Preferred ETF) Dollar Stores/Fast Food: DG: (Dollar General), DLTR: (Dollar Tree), MCD: McDonalds Consumer Staples: RHS (Invesco S&P 500 Equal Weight Consumer Staples ETF).	Markets are pricing in a pretty high chance of a "V-shaped" economic recovery, but we think it's prudent to have a playbook for a less optimistic, "U-shaped" economic recovery that has the U.S. economy mired in slow growth for some time. So, in this issue, we wanted to identify proven sectors and stocks that are likely to thrive if the economic recovery is more restrained, i.e. U-shaped. The following research achieves that goal by identifying areas that have proven resilient under previous recessions and periods of slow growth, and are likely to continue to thrive in that environment.	5/5/2020	PGF: -5.97% DG: 29.15% DLTR: 105.40% MCD: 37.15% RHS: 29.86%	SPY: 59.06%
Finding the Sweet Spot of Yield, Duration and Quality in Today's Bond Market JPST (J.P. Morgan Ultra-Short Income ETF) FTSD (Franklin Liberty Short Duration U.S. Government ETF) IGSB (iShares ShortTerm Corporate Bond ETF)	Global bond yields have collapsed since the coronavirus crisis began in earnest in mid-February, and that leaves advisors with a difficult situation of where to find adequate yield without taking on too much duration risk. Case in point, the 10-year yield is yielding about 0.70%. A .70% annual coupon for locking up money for 10 years! Absolute yield levels are obviously historically low, but we've still got to do the best we can in this environment, and that means finding the best yield possible while limiting duration risk and credit quality risk.	5/19/2020	JPST: -0.34% FTSD: -3.71% IGSB: -4.33%	SHY: -4.05%
Finding Sustainable Dividends In An Uncertain Environment NOBL (ProShares S&P 500 Dividend Aristocrats ETF), DGRO (iShares Core Dividend Growth ETF). TDIV (First Trust NASDAQ Technology Dividend ETF).	This issue is all about finding sustainable dividends that income investors can count on in all market conditions, because the simple reality is that most bond yields just aren't high enough to generate the required income for clients. That means identifying companies that have sound balance sheets, track records of methodical dividend growth, and business models that are likely to survive even the worst pandemic scenarios.	6/2/2020	NOBL: 40.16% DGRO: 39.82% TDIV: 44.06%	SPY: 47.75%

Fund/Stock	<u>Strategy</u>	<u>Date</u>	Total Return	Benchmark Perfor- mance Since Issue <u>Date</u>
Three Strategies to Gain Exposure to 5G Strategy 1: The Chipmakers. QCOM (Qualcomm), MRVL (Marvel Technologies). Strategy 2: Radio Frequency Providers. QRVO (Qorvo). Strategy 3: The 5G ETF. FIVG (Defiance Next Gen Connectivity ETF).	The focus of today's issue came from a subscriber request: 5G . 5G is one of the biggest secular growth trends in the market, and by that, I mean trends that will continue in a positive direction regardless of what happens in the economy in the near term. Additionally, 5G is one of the most popular investing topics among regular investors, so we thought now would be a good time to do a "deep dive" in 5G and detail:	6/30/2020	QCOM: 72.91% MRVL: 107.80% QRVO: 12.11% FIVG: 41.92%	SPY: 51.23%
Finding Value in European Equities VGK (Vanguard Europe ETF). FEZ (SPDR Euro STOXX 50 ETF)	Coronavirus has finally <u>caused the Europeans to aggressively stimulate the economies</u> , and as long as that continues, that should provide a needed spark to help European equities outperform. Because of that positive change, we think European ETFs offer more attractive risk/reward than U.S. sectors that are considered "values," specifically financials, energy, and industrials. That's especially true given U.S. value styles have underperformed growth by as much as 66% over the past five years! We think a better choice is to look to Europe to fulfill the value component of a portfolio.	7/14/2020	VGK: 26.10% FEZ: 16.70%	VTV: 50.69%
Actionable Strate- gies to Own COVID 19 Vaccine Produc- ers PPH: The VanEck Pharmaceutical ETF. GERM: The ETFMG Treatments Testing and Advancements ETF.	In today's Alpha issue, we are going to go in-depth on actionable investment strategies to gain exposure to the companies that are leading the COVID-19 vaccine race. Specifically, in today's issue we take the broad research we covered in Thursday's webinar, enhance it, and get much more tactical (looking at investment strategies to get exposure to vaccine players). Specifically, we cover two actionable strategies that we think are appropriate for advisors and their clients: Strategy 1: Owning the Pharma Companies Leading the Vaccine Race. Strategy 2: Diversified Exposure via ETFs.	7/28/2020	PPH: 30.35% GERM: -11.78%	SPY: 45.13%

<u>Fund/Stock</u>	<u>Strategy</u>	<u>Date</u>	Total Return	Benchmark Perfor- mance Since Issue Date
What Outperforms in a Declining Dollar Environment Falling Dollar Strategy 1: International Stocks. XSOE (WisdomTree Emerging Markets ex-State-Owned Enterprises Fund). Falling Dollar Strategy 2: Currencies. FXE. (CurrencyShares Euro Trust). Falling Dollar Strategy 3: Gold Miners. GDX (VanEck Vectors Gold Miners ETF).	A sustained period of dollar weakness doesn't come along often (it last occurred in 2017) but when it does, it can create substantial outperformance in certain sectors and indices. We want to make sure you have a comprehensive "falling dollar" playbook for both general and tactical asset allocations, because the fundamentals for a sustained period of dollar weakness are as strong as they've been in years (surging U.S. debt/deficits and rebounding growth overseas).	8/11/2020	XSOE: 4.24% FXE: -7.99% GDX: 1.60%	SPY: 40.11%
Ideas for When There's a COVID Vaccine Annoucement JETS (U.S. Global JETS ETF) PEJ (Invesco Dynamic Leisure and Entertainment ETF) KBE (SPDR S&P Bank ETF) REZ (iShares Residential REITS ETF)	I believe today's issue demonstrates why Alpha is the perfect complement to the daily Sevens Report, because early last week in the regular Sevens Report, we discussed broad sectors that would benefit and outperform if there is a positive announcement on a COVID-19 vaccine. But, in today's Alpha issue, we follow up on that research and go much more in-depth to identify specific ETFs and stocks that: • Are outsized beneficiaries of a "return to normal" that likely will follow a successful vaccine • That are trading at historic discounts due to COVID 19 fallout and • Were good businesses before COVID 19, and likely will again be good businesses after the vaccine.	8/25/2020	JETS: 25.06% PEJ: 50.19% KBE: 66.29% REZ: 60.24%	SPY: 35.60%
Opportunities in the Electric Vehicle Battery Industry ALB (Albemarle) SQM (Sociedad Quimica y Minera De Chile S.A. ADR) LIT (Global X Lithium & Battery Tech ETF)	So, given this event, the anticipated media coverage of it, and the recent focus on TSLA, Nikola (the EV truck company), and other EV companies, we wanted to revisit the EV space and specifically the battery market, because it is undeniable the growth potential here is still very, very substantial. We explored the EV market three years ago when we first launched Alpha but much has changed in the industry since then, and with Battery Day looming, we wanted to revisit the industry, again with a specific focus on battery technology and the companies and ETFs associated with battery advancement – because battery capacity remains the key to the growth of the EV market.	9/9/2020	ALB: 1.82% SQM: 7.91% LIT: 10.21%	SPY: 0.43%

<u>Fund/Stock</u>	<u>Strategy</u>	<u>Date</u>	Total Return	Benchmark Perfor- mance Since Issue Date
Election Preview Trump Wins Biden Wins No Clear Winner (Multiple ETFs Listed)	We had long planned to release our Alpha Election Preview issue this week, as we knew that with the first debate a week away, investors focus would turn to- wards politics and we wanted to ensure you had a post-election roadmap, along with specific ETF ideas, for any election-related discussions with clients. But, that interest in the election will now be turbo- charged with the surprise passing of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg. So, with six weeks to go until the election, we wanted to explore the three possible scenarios (Trump wins/ Biden wins/No one wins right away) and provide a tactical roadmap and identify ETFs that should outper- form in each scenario.	9/22/2020	N/A	N/A
Finding Sustainable Growth in the Wellness Sector PTON (Peloton) LULU (Lululemon) BRBR (BellRing Brands) BFIT (Global X Health & Wellness Thematic ETF) MILN (Global X Millenials Thematic ETF)	Today's issue explores one of the sectors that we think will benefit from long-term changes in behavior from the pandemic: The wellness sector. Hopefully (and the data and history back this up) we are now closer to the end of the COVID-19 pandemic than we are the beginning, and once the pandemic ends, we believe life will return mostly to a precoronavirus normal. And we think that return to normal will disappoint very optimistic projections on some of the sectors that have outperformed due to COVID, like telemedicine, videoconferencing, widespread delivery, etc. But one sector we think can continue to see growth long after the world return to normal is the wellness sector, because this sector was experiencing substantial growth before the pandemic hit. And, the pandemic has just turbocharged that growth.	10/6/2020	PTON: -75.50% LULU: 14.52% BRBR: 17.54% BFIT: 8.66% MILN: 18.62%	SPY: 38.73%
SPACS PSTH (Pershing Square Tontine Holdings) CCIV (Churchill Capital IV) SPAQ (Spartain Energy Acquisition Corp) SPAK (Defiance NextGen SPAC ETF)	This issue was partially driven by client demand, as we've started to field an increasing number of questions about SPACs from friends and colleagues (who are all clients of advisors), and given that, we believe that soon you may be asked by your clients about how to invest in a SPACs.	11/3/2020	N/A	N/A

Fund/Stock	<u>Strategy</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Total Return</u>	Benchmark Perfor- mance Since Issue Date
Cyclical Rotation to Value RSP (Invesco S&P 500 Equal Weight ETF) VTV (Vanguard Value ETF) RPV (Invesco S&P 500 Pure Value ETF)	We scoured the universe of value ETFs and mutual funds to identify those that we think are "best of breed" and represent a cost-effective, alpha generating solution for any advisors who wants to rotate to value after the election. And, we were surprised by our findings – namely that higher fee, actively managed ETFs and mutual funds lagged the more traditional, passive value ETFs – and that keeping it simple in the value space yielded the best returns over the past several years.	11/3/2020	RSP: 40.83% VTV: 38.70% RPV: 62.02%	SPY: 35.36%
Four Post Election Tactical Strategies Idea #1: Electric Vehicles & Clean Energy (LIT/ICLN/ESGV) Idea #2: Industrials & Infrastructure Spending (VIS/PAVE) Idea #3: Healthcare & Marijuana (VHT/MJ) Idea #4: Emerging Markets & China (XSOE)	What Specific Sectors and ETFs Can Outperform in a Biden Presidency/Divided U.S. Government? That question was the inspiration for today's Alpha issue, because while election results have not been certified yet (that will start to happen in states later this week) the likelihood is that we will have a Biden Presidency and divided government in 2021 (with Republicans holding a small majority in the Senate). Reflecting that fact, I've been asked multiple times over the past week what would outperform in this political environment, so I imagine this topic has been coming up in client conversations — and I want to make sure that you have the strategies and talking points you need to turn those conversations into opportunities to strengthen relationships.	11/17/2020	Eight Differ- ent ETFs Listed.	
Bitcoin GBTC (Greyscale Bitcoin Trust) BLOK (Amplify Transforma- tional Data Sharing ETF) ARKW (ARK Next Genera- tion ETF)	This Alpha issue is focused on a suddenly popular topic: Bitcoin. Our goal with this issue isn't to sway you one way or the other to invest in Bitcoin. Instead, we want to help you guide responsible conversations about: 1. What it is and 2. Who it's for, and 3. How you can potentially own it within a conventional portfolio. Put more frankly, many of us "know" about bitcoin – but are we prepared to really discuss the inner workings of the cryptocurrency and thoroughly list and explain the responsible ways clients can gain exposure to it? The point of this Alpha issue is to make sure we are all ready to do just that, so you can turn any bitcoin conversation into an opportunity to strengthen client relationships and grow your business.	12/1/2020	GBTC: 33.53% BLOK: 13.51% ARKW: -31.62%	SPY: 24.28%

<u>Fund/Stock</u>	<u>Strategy</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Total Return</u>	Benchmark Perfor- mance Since Issue Date
Four Strategies That Outperformed in 2020 and Can Do It Again in 2021 Long Term Pandemic Tech Opportunities (IBUY/XITK) New Wave of Online Payments/E-Commerce (IPAY) 5G Revolution (FIVG) EV Batteries (LIT)	2020 has created fantastic growth in certain sectors and industries, and stocks and ETFs linked to them have produced huge YTD returns. But, while looking back on what worked is helpful, especially at year-end, we wanted to identify those sectors that not only have outperformed, but that can continue to outperform in 2021. So, in this Alpha issue, we highlight four Alpha strategies that have massively outperformed, but that we believe have long-term staying power and can continue to outperform in 2021 and beyond.	12/15/2020	IBUY: -37.87% XITK: -22.64% IPAY: -16.42% FIVG: 14.16% LIT: 41.67%	SPY: 23.09%
Two Playbooks for 2021	As our focus now turns from 2020 and towards 2021, I believe we <u>always</u> must be prepared for two outcomes — the expected, and the unexpected. So, in this Alpha issue, we wanted to provide two ETF playbooks: The expected "Return to Normal" trade, and the Contrarian Scenario. Playbook 1. What's Expected: The "Return To Normal" Trade. The perfect storm being high economic confidence, vaccines rolling out to vulnerable groups, lowinterest rates, and further government stimulus in the first quarter. That paints the perfect picture for capitalizing on beaten-down areas of the economy that are ripe for further expansion. Playbook 2: The Unexpected: A Contrarian Scenario. A scenario where things just don't work as planned. Perhaps inflation exceeds all norms, Treasury yields shoot up unexpectedly, geopolitical disruption intercedes, or the economic recovery just simply falls short of expectations.	12/29/2020	Multiple ETFs across both strategies	
Energy Transmission (The Picks and Shovels of the EV Gold Rush) First Trust NASDAQ Clean Edge Smart Grind Infrastructure Index Fund (GRID) NextEra Energy (NEE) EV Charging Basket: Tesla (TSLA), ABB Ltd (ABB), Eaton Corp (ETN), Blink Charging (BLNK)	Energy (and the transmission of energy) are the proverbial "picks and shovels" of this modern-day EV gold rush. Electricity demand is likely going to skyrocket for households that will be transitioning to electric and hybrid vehicles in the next decade. More advanced battery systems constantly needing to be plugged in and recharged are going to tax the current electric utility network capacity while growth in EV sales will also propel a nationwide surge in charging stations, similar to the rollout of gas stations in the early 20th century.	1/12/2021	GRID: 9.63% NEE: 10.18%	SPY: 21.56%

<u>Fund/Stock</u>	<u>Strategy</u>	<u>Date</u>	Total Return	Benchmark Perfor- mance Since Issue Date
How the "Old Economy" Can Help Us Outperform Invescro Dow Jones Industrial Average Dividend ETF (DJD) First Trust Morningstar Dividend Leaders Index Fund (FDL) Invesco S&P 500 Pure Value ETF (RPV)	Looking for value in "Old Economy" stocks is a strategy that prioritizes stocks that are still well off their alltime highs, have proven and sustainable business models, and many of which pay hefty dividends. Additionally, these industries are as familiar and comfortable as a warm blanket to your mature, high net worth client base and these investment ideas are perfect for the tech skeptics that prioritize value characteristics, low leverage, and high dividends.	1/26/2021	DJD: 22.09% FDL: 31.09% RPV: 34.41%	SPY: 19.97%
Market Myth Busting	 Investment Myth 1: Investing and Politics Go Hand in Hand. Investment Myth 2: Modern Monetary Theory Is A Reason to Get Out Now. Investment Myth 3: Getting Out Because the Market is in a Bubble. Investment Myth 4: Rising Rates Are Going to Wreck My Portfolio. Investment Myth 5: The Falling U.S. Dollar Is Eroding My Purchasing Power. 	2/9/2021		
Inflation Playbook Core Inflation Plays (SGOL/PDBC/GNR/RLY) U.S. Sector Opportunities (RTM/RGI) Income Opportunities (BKLN/JAAA/STIP)	Today's issue is focused on inflation because suddenly accelerating inflation could be a game-changer for many investors and advisors, and we want to arm you with the best-in-class tools to combat inflationary effects in your portfolios. Point being, higher inflation is almost certainly coming in the future, and I wanted to take this Alpha issue to provide a clear, decisive "Inflation Playbook" that we can keep and reference for when statistical inflation starts to accelerate.	2/23/2021	PDBC: 1.53% GNR: 1.41% RTM: 2.54% JAAA: 0.03%	SPY: -0.50%
ARK Invest ETFs ARKK (ARK Innovation ETF) ARKG (ARK Genomic Revolution ETF) ARKW (ARK Next Generation Internet) ARKF (ARK Fintech Innovation ETF) ARKQ (ARK Autonomous Technology & Robotics ETF).	I wanted this Alpha issue to provide an updated "deep dive' into the ARK Invest ETF offerings, because even considering their huge returns over the past few years, I still believe now what I believed when we first recommended them: That these ETFs are "one-stop shopping" for investors get targeted exposure to the leading edge of the technology growth curve, and that investors should have exposure to the technologies in which ARK ETFs invest because the long term return potential is extreme.	3/9/2021	ARKK: 2.47% ARKG: 5.01% ARKW: 2.13% ARKF: 2.91% ARKQ: 2.98%	QQQ: 2.44%

<u>Fund/Stock</u>	<u>Strategy</u>	<u>Date</u>	Total Return	Benchmark Perfor- mance Since Issue Date
What Should I Buy on This Tech Decline? Invesco S&P 500 Equal Weight Technology ETF (RYT). VanEck Vectors Semiconductor ETF (SMH). First Trust NASDAQ Technology Dividend Index Fund (TDIV).	If a client comes to you and asks, "What Should I Buy on this Tech Decline?" we want to make sure you have a set of ETFs that provide exposure to solid, proven tech companies that aren't trading at skyhigh valuations because for the last several decades buying core, large cap tech stocks on any sustained underperformance has been a very profitable long-term strategy.	3/23/2021	RYT: 5.55% SMH: 8.79% TDIV: 4.16%	SPY: 2.84%
Sector Winners and Losers from the Democratic Policy Agenda Global X Millennials Thematic ETF (MILN) Vanguard Tax-Exempt Bond ETF (VTEB) Global X U.S. Infrastructure Development ETF (PAVE) First Trust NASDAQ Clean Edge Green Energy Index Fund (QCLN)	Throughout most of the first quarter, markets embraced Democrat control of the government because it meant massive stimulus, and that expectation has been met. However, now the focus is turning to less growth-friendly policies, including potentially higher taxes and increased regulation. While these policies will impact the markets broadly, they'll also impact specific sectors even more than the broad markets. So, we want to arm you with the tools for identifying and deploying to areas of the market that should experience positive effects during this political environment, and know which sectors stand to get hurt given potential policies from Washington.	4/6/2021	MILN: 1.08% VTEB: 0.77% PAVE: 0.67% QCLN: -6.88%	SPY: 2.08%
Four Small Cap ETFs for the Economic Recovery Invesco S&P Small Cap Consumer Discretionary ETF (PSCD) First Trust Consumer Staples AlphaDex Fund (FXG) Invesco S&P SmallCap 600 Revenue ETF (RWJ) iShares Morningstar Small-Cap Value ETF (ISCV)	Much of the "economic reopening trade" has been focused on large travel and leisure companies, and many of those names have seen huge gains over the past year. But they are now saddled with massive debts and ballooning capital structures that could be headwinds on investor returns going forward. Many smaller stocks, however, were able to utilize government programs (PPP and others) to recapitalize healthily over the past year and those that have survived to this point are now in an extremely favorable position to capture future opportunities as the economy reopens. So, we want to make sure you know which ETFs can give you exposure to quality small-cap companies that are 1) Financially sound, 2) Exited the pandemic with their business intact, 3) Stand to benefit from an acceleration in the economy, and 4) Could see earnings surge as the economic reopening continues.	4/20/2021	PSCD: 6.43% FXG: -0.23% RWJ: 6.18% ISCV: 5.29%	IWM: 3.44%

Sevens Report Alpha Fund & Stock Ideas				
Fund/Stock	<u>Strategy</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Total Return</u>	Benchmark Perfor- mance Since Issue <u>Date</u>
The Crypto Craze Updated Grayscale Bitcoin Trust (GBTC) Grayscale Ethereum Trust (ETHE) Coinbase Global (COIN) Voyager Digital (VYGVF)	If you are like me, you have seen interest in the entire crypto space increase over the past several months. So, we wanted to take this Alpha issue to provide an updated primer on the crypto industry and ensure you have got the advisor-focused research you need to turn any crypto-related client or prospect conversations into opportunities to grow your business.	5/18/2021	GBTC: -7.33% ETHE: -13.73% COIN: -20.01% VYGVF: -69.43%	SPY: 11.85%
Fixed Income Playbook in Today's Environment Strategy 1: Inflation Protection. Quadratic Interest Rate Volatility and Inflation Hedge ETF. (IVOL). Strategy 2: Variable Rate Preferreds (VRP). Strategy 3: Floating Rate Notes (Two ETFs). Strategy 4: Shorten Duration (Four ETFs).	How do clients, especially elderly clients, achieve safety and modest real returns in an environment where yields and inflation are rising and most real bond returns over the coming years will be negative? We want to tackle this problem and provide ETF solutions that can help clients achieve the dual goals of 1) Safety and 2) Real returns over the coming years. To do that, we've divided this Alpha issue into two parts. Part One (today's issue) is focused solely on solutions in the fixed income markets.	6/2/2021	IVOL: -12.24% VRP: -6.26%	SPY: 8.23%
Equity Playbook in Today's Environment Strategy 1: "One-Stop Shop" Inflation Hedge. Horizon Kinetics Inflation Beneficiaries ETF (INFL). Strategy 2: Focus on Dividend Growth. Proshares S&P 500 Dividend Aristocrats ETF (NOBL). iShares Core Dividend Growth ETF (DGRO). Strategy 3: Commodities and Natural Resources. Global X MLP ETF (MLPA). SPDR SSGA Multi-Asset Real Return ETF (RLY).	Today's Alpha issue is part two of our two-part series on how elderly clients can achieve safety and modest real returns in an environment where yields and inflation are rising and most real bond returns over the coming years will be negative. Today's issue provides ETF solutions for the equity portion of elderly clients' portfolios – ideas that are designed to provide income and ensure positive correlation to rising inflation	6/15/2021	INFL: 10.34% NOBL: 3.11% DGRO: 5.50% MLPA: -1.56% RLY: 5.46%	SPY: 7.17%
Cybersecurity ETFMG Prime Cyber Security ETF and the CIBR: First Trust NASDAQ Cybersecurity ETF (HACK) Global X Cybersecurity ETF (BUG) First Trust Cloud Computing ETF (SKYY)	This issue is focused on Cybersecurity. First, we want to give you an updated primer on the cybersecurity sector, and make sure you know the best ETFs to gain exposure to the likely explosive growth cyber security companies will experience over the coming quarters. Second, we wanted to identify strategies that you, the advisor, can use to minimize the chances your business is attacked and provide solutions if an attack does occur, so	6/29/2021	HACK: -2.99% CIBR: 13.47% BUG: 9.08% SKYY: -12.97%	SPY: 6.35%

you know what to do, and what not to do.

<u>Fund/Stock</u>	<u>Strategy</u>	<u>Date</u>	Total Return	Benchmark Perfor- mance Since Issue <u>Date</u>
Capitalizing on mRNA and Other Medical Tech ARK Genomic Revolution ETF (ARKG) Global X Telemedicine & Digital Health ETF (EDOC) ROBO Global Healthcare Technology & Innovation ETF (HTEC) Genomic Revolution Global X Genomics & Biotech ETF (GNOM)	Because of the success of mRNA in producing an effective COVID-19 vaccine at a record pace, along with the demonstrated effectiveness of anti-viral treatments like Remdesivir, we're likely to see a major acceleration in funding, research, and adoption of other cutting edge medical technologies and that means potentially substantial returns for companies with the right exposure.	7/13/2021	ARKG: -5.33% EDOC: -5.08% HTEC: -2.29% GNOM: -6.17%	SPY: 0.82%
Five ETFs That Can Make Your Life As An Advisor Easier Vanguard Total World Stock ETF (VT). iShares MSCI ACWI ETF (ACWI). iShares MSCI Global Min Vol Factor ETF (ACWV). iShares MSCI ACWI Low Carbon Target ETF (CRBN).	So how do you bridge the gap between an seven- figure trust and that clients nephew's tiny Roth IRA? Both are important to the overall relationship. You start by syncing up some of the foundational core holdings that make up the bulk of your asset alloca- tion. Specifically, we identify foundational "own every- thing" ETFs you can use across account sizes to simpli- fy smaller account administration and reduce variety among core ETF holdings, thereby making you more efficient:	7/27/2021	VT: 2.14% ACWI: 1.32% ACWV: 0.52% CRBN: 1.18%	SPY: 0.72%
Stagflation Playbook First Trust Dow Jones Internet Index Fund (FDN). Invesco S&P 500 Equal Weight Consumer Staples ETF (RHS). VanECk Vectors Investment Grade Floating Rate ETF (FLTR). Aberdeen Standard Bloomberg All Commodities Strategy K-1 Free ETF (BCI).	This Alpha issue is focused on something we sincerely hope never happens: Stagflation. That's because a stagflationary environment is a very difficult one to successfully invest in as, broadly speaking, it's negative for most stocks, most bonds, and idle cash (purchasing power is eroded through inflation). Positively, stagflation is not the most likely macroeconomic scenario going forward (a stock positive reflation scenario is the most likely future macro setup). But, stagflation risks are still at multi-decade highs, so the risks can't be totally ignored, either.	8/24/2021	FDN: -19.96% RHS: 8.42% FLTR: -0.60% BCI: 32.47%	SPY: 2.61%
Learning to Live with COVID Vaccine Markers (Multiple Stocks & ETFs) Global X Telemedicine & Digital Health ETF (EDOC). Amplify Online Retail ETF (IBUY). VanEck Vectors Morning Star Durable Dividend ETF (DURA).	In this Alpha issue, we examine the strategies and sectors that will benefit from society learning to "live" with COVID over the medium and longer-term, and the inspiration for this issue came from real life. We believe that reality will cause more permanent adoption of some "temporary" pandemic era behaviors, and we believe that should lead to some attractive investment opportunities.	9/8/2021	MRNA: -58.24% BBH: -23.44% EDOC: -21.20% IBUY: -41.95% DURA: 4.16%	SPY: 1.44%

<u>Fund/Stock</u>	Strategy	<u>Date</u>	Total Return	Benchmark Perfor- mance Since Issue
Hydrogen—The Next Stage of the Green Energy Revolution Plug Power (PLUG) Cummings (CMI) Defiance Next Gen Hydrogen ETF (HDRO)	Hydrogen has long been touted as a source of cleaner fuel for transportation and commercial uses. But it has always seemed like the decades-long play that just needs a little more technology or a breakthrough process to truly realize its untapped potential. But, over the past several months I've been digging into this space, and it started to make more sense from an investment perspective. I quickly realized just how much opportunity is at stake and why this moment in time is pivotal to the hydrogen development cycle.	9/21/2021	PLUG: 21.66% CMI: -7.14% HDRO: -10.36%	SPY: 5.65%
Buying Opportunities in "New Tech" Idea 1: Winning Streaming Wars (ROKU/SPOT) Idea 2: Next Evolution in Genetics (NVTA/CRSP) Idea 3: Future of Money (Z/COIN) Idea 4: Work from Anywhere (ZM)	Tech companies in the fields of robotics, fintech, biotech, clean tech, electric vehicles, cryptocurrencies, etc. have seen steep declines from the highs this year. With some of these stocks down more than 55% from the highs, they are now trading at far more attractive valuations than they have in years (and this is even more true following the weakness in the tech sector over the past week!) As such, we wanted to produce an Alpha issue that identifies potential opportunities in this "New Tech" space, as given the declines and the growth potential of some of these firms, the risk is now worth the reward for longer-term focused investors:	10/05/2021	ROKU: -55.69% SPOT: -29.61% NVTA: -65.85% CRSP: -32.07% Z: -37.84% COIN: -20.18% ZM: -51.51%	SPY: 5.81%
Fund (DBLTX) DoubleLine Shiller Enhanced CAPE (DSEEX) Guggenheim Total Return Bond Fund Institutional Class (GIBIX). Guggenheim Strategic Opportunities Fund (GOF) WisdomTree U.S. Quality Dividend Growth Fund (DGRW), WisdomTree Emerging Mar-	The dual goal of Sevens Report Alpha is to 1) Furnish you with interesting investment ideas and strategies you can share with clients and prospects and 2) Identify funds and ETFs that can outperform, so with that dual goal in mind we analyzed the fund offerings of some of the most well-known "Market Mavens" that appear in the financial media so that you can turn any mention of these celebrities into an opportunity to impress clients with your knowledge, and possibly find an actionable investment idea. After a thorough search, we found four of these "Mavens" that had funds or ETFs that: 1, Could be attractive to clients and 2. Consistently beat the market. The four "Mavens" we profiled were: Jeffrey Gundlach (Doubleline Capital), Scott Minerd (Guggenheim Investments), Jeremy Siegel (WisdomTree), and Kevin O'Leary (O'Shares). In today's issue, profile two funds from each "Maven."	10/19/2021	DBLTX: -4.92% DSEEX: -1.91% GIBIX: -5.86% GOF: -0.72% DGRW: 4.87% XSOE: -13.16% OUSA: 2.84% OGIG: -30.70%	SPY: 1.66%

Fund/Stock	<u>Strategy</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Total Return</u>	Benchmark Perfor- mance Since Issue Date
Capitalizing on A New Era of Energy Investment SPDR S&P Oil & Gas Exploration and Production ETF (XOP) Invesco S&P Small Cap Energy ETF (PSCE) First Trust Natural Gas ETF (FCG) Global X MLP ETF (MLPA)	Today's Alpha issue is essentially a "follow up" to our recent Alpha webinar, where we focused on the energy industry and explained, in part because of environmental concerns, that energy prices could be sustainably higher for the foreseeable future. So, in this issue, we profile several energy ETFs that we believe have the most targeted exposure and stand to outperform in this new era of energy, one where a lack of increased production should keep prices high, and where Natural Gas sees sustained increases in demand due to the desire to burn the most "clean" fossil fuel while the world moves further towards renewables.	11/2/2021	XOP: -0.25% PSCE: 0.24% MLPA: -1.41%	SPY: 1.20%
Metaverse Primer Meta Platforms Inc (FB) Roblox Corp (RBLX) NVIDIA Corp (NVDA) Amazon (AMZN) Microsoft (MSFT) Roundhill Ball Metaverse ETF (META)	Many analysts believe the "Metaverse" is the next evolution of the internet, and if that's true the long-term return potential is significant. So, we want to make sure you have the information you need to 1) Discuss the metaverse with any clients or prospects and 2) Identify the stocks and ETFs that stand to benefit from the continued growth of the Metaverse	11/16/202 1	FB: -31.83% RBLX: -56.55% NVDA: -9.65% AMZN: -5.61% MSFT: -7.38% METV: -25.88%	SPY: -2.36%
REITS As An Inflation Hedge Vanguard REIT ETF (VNQ) Pacer Benchmark Data and Infrastructure Real Estate SCTR ETF (SRVR) Pacer Benchmark Industrial Real Estate SCTR ETF (INDS) iShares Residential and Multisector Real Estate ETF (REZ)	According to a study we cited in today's issue, from 1972-2020, during periods considered moderate to high inflation, REITs actually outperformed the S&P 500! And, we're seeing that proved out so far this year, as VNQ, the largest and most diverse REIT ETF, is outperforming the S&P 500 (VNQ is up 26.6% YTD, while the S&P 500 is up 23% YTD). More specialized REITs have performed even better so far in 2021, and that's why, in addition to VNQ, in today's issue we focused on what we consider "REITs for the 21 st Century." Here's what I mean: Because of uncertainty regarding future mall traffic and office demand (due to the ongoing pandemic) we are focused today's Alpha issue on REITs that have exposure to infrastructure and technology including data centers, communication hubs, industrial warehouse distribution centers, and medical-related industries:	11/30/202 1	VNQ: 4.74% SRVR: 2.72% INDS: 5.08% REZ: 5.12%	SPY: 2.42%

Fund/Stock	<u>Strategy</u>	<u>Date</u>	Total Return	Benchmark Perfor- mance Since Issue Date
Best Performing COVID Strategies Strategy One: Mega-Cap Tech. XLK/VGT/FDN. Strategy Two: Online Spending. SHOP/IBUY. Strategy Three: Block-chain. BLOK (Amplify Transformational Data Sharing ETF). Strategy Four: Smart-Beta Industrials. PAVE (Global X U.S. Infrastructure Development ETF).	Today's issue focuses on strategies that have outperformed since the pandemic started in March of 2020 and should continue to outperform as the market realizes it's got to "live" with COVID. More specifically, the Omicron variant has again reminded people and markets that COVID is not going away and that we will have flare-ups from variants for the foreseeable future.	12/14/2021	XLK: -4.83% VGT: -5.14% FDN: -11.98% SHOP: -46.28% IBUY: -20.07% BLOK: -14.94% PAVE: 0.52%	SPY: -1.09%
Annual Contrarian Issue Contrarian Investment Idea 1: The China Growth Story Re- Emerges. KraneShares CSI China Internet ETF (KWEB) and Wis- domTree China ex-State- Owned Enterprises Fund (CXSE). Contrarian Investment Idea 2: Gold & Silver Miners Dig Up Profits. VanEck Vectors Gold Miners ETF (GDX) and Global X Silver Miners ETF (SIL). Contrarian Investment Idea 3: Investors Flock To Low Volatility Sectors. Utilities Select Sector SPDR (XLU) and Pow- erShares S&P 500 Low Volatility ETF (SPLV).	Today's Alpha is our annual Contrarian Issue, where we identified some of the worst-performing sectors and factors for 2021 and analyzed them to identify three sectors that we think could be poised for a big turnaround in 2022. We have produced this annual Contrarian Issue for the last several years to serve two primary functions. First, I'm a contrarian investor at heart, and I always enjoy scouring what "didn't" work during an investment year to determine whether these relatively cheap sectors or factors present an attractive opportunity, as contrarian investing can lead to outperformance. Second, we like to provide these contrarian ideas so that if a client asks you "What's cheap right now?" or "Are there any opportunities from last year?" you have interesting, well-founded ideas that can impress clients and prospects.	12/28/2021	KWEB: -14.77% CXSE: -13.21% GDX: 24.46% SIL: 1.20% XLU: 5.35% SPLV: -1.58%	SPY: -4.62%
Practical Crypto Strategies for Clients Greyscale Bitcoin Trust (GBTC) Amplify Transformational Data Sharing ETF (BLOK) ProShares Bitcoin Strategy ETF (BITO)	The push of cryptos into the cultural mainstream in 2022, along with substantial investment gains over the past several years, has resulted in a surge in interest in crypto exposure from investors. And, while there remains a lot of risks associated with crypto trading, the bottom line is that an advisor can only dissuade a client from cryptos for so long before it hurts the relationship. Given that, our goal in today's Alpha issue is to highlight some of the best and most responsible strategies to provide clients with crypto exposure without taking an overabundance of risk.	1/11/2022	GBTC: 2.23% BLOK: -9.21% BITO: 6.03%	SPY: -3.08%

<u>Fund/Stock</u>	<u>Strategy</u>	<u>Date</u>	Total Return	Benchmark Perfor- mance Since Issue Date
Weathering Market Volatility with "Quality" ETFs. Quality Idea 1: Financials. First Trust Financials AlphaDex Fund (FXO). Quality Idea 2: Qualitative Value. ValueShares U.S. Quantitative Value ETF (QVAL). Quality Idea 3: Shareholder Yield. Cambria Shareholder Yield. Cambria Shareholder Yield ETF (SYLD). Quality Idea 4: Core Value. Invesco S&P 500 Pure Value ETF (RPV).	This Alpha issue is an important complement to what we've been discussing in the regular Sevens Report, namely that we believe the best way to weather this increased volatility in markets is by allocating to "Quality" stocks, sectors, and ETFs. For us, "quality" means those stocks and ETFs with lower relative price-to-earnings (P/E) and price-to-book (P/B) ratios, strong free cash flow, and solid shareholder yield. We believe these stocks and sectors will be the most insulated from the effects of interest rate hikes, possibly slowing growth and other headwinds, and find themselves as high-quality landing spots for investment capital.	1/25/2022	FXO: 4.28% QVAL: 0.66% SYLD: 1.25% RPV: 3.52%	SPY: 2.73%
Finding Value and Opportunity in International ETFs Schwab Fundamental International Large Company Index ETF (FNDF). iShares Edge MSCI Intl Quality Factor ETF (IQLT). Vanguard International High Dividend Yield ETF (VYMI).	We've been talking a lot in the Sevens Report about wanting to allocate towards lower P/E sectors, and the fact is that quality international stocks in developed markets are currently trading at heavy discounts to the S&P 500. We think the combination of low valuations and less-aggressive central banks makes international exposure an important part of a diversified investment strategy going forward.	2/8/2022	FNDF: -2.29% IQLT: -3.06% VYMI: -1.92%	SPY: -4.74%
What Would Outper- form If Markets Turn Around? SPDR FactSet Innovative Technology ETF (XITK) Vanguard Consumer Discretionary ETF (VCR) iShares Broad USD High Yield Corporate Bond ETF (USHY) SPDR Blackstone Senior Loan ETF (SRLN)	Today's issue was inspired by this thought: What if everything works out alright? Many analysts (including me) are concerned about numerous headwinds hitting the U.S. markets and a potentially volatile trading year. That opinion has been correct so far in 2022, and it's well-reasoned. But it's also a very popular view on the Street right now. So, in today's issue, we identify a playbook to outperform if, simply speaking, everything works out great!	2/23/2022	XITK: 9.81% VCR: 10.28% USHY: -0.38% SRLN: -0.21%	SPY: 7.88%

<u>Fund/Stock</u>	Strategy	<u>Date</u>	Total Return	Benchmark Perfor- mance Since Issue <u>Date</u>
Bear Market Playbook (What Worked Last Time) MINT (PIMCO Enhanced Short Term Maturity Active ETF) SGOL (Aberdeen Physical Swiss Gold Shares ETF) VNQ (Vanguard REIT ETF) FXG (First Trust Consumer Staples AlphaDEX Fund)	In today's Alpha issue, we are going to examine what assets and sectors outperformed the last time we had a sustained, multi-year bear market (in the early 2000s). Now, to be clear, we do not think a bear market is the most likely outcome for this market. If we thought that, we'd be advocating for much more defensive positioning in the Sevens Report. But, at the same time, the current bull market is facing formidable headwinds, and the path for the Fed to successfully remove accommodation without harming the recovery is becoming increasingly narrower. Given that reality, we think it's prudent to review the strategies that worked the last time we had a sustained, multi-year bear market so that we all have a playbook of how to protect client assets, should this unwanted outcome occur.	3/8/2022	MINT: -0.81% SGOL: -5.92% VNQ: 6.30% FXG: 4.98%	SPY: 9.29%
Russia/Ukraine Ceasefire Playbook EMB (iShares J.P. Morgan USD Emerging Markets Bond ETF) HYEM (VanEck Emerging Markets High Yield Bond ETF) EUFN (iShares MSCI Europe Financials ETF) JETS (U.S. Global Jets ETF) FXE (CurrencyShares Euro Trust)	What happens to markets if there's peace in Russia/ Ukraine? That was a question that was emailed to me this morning by a subscriber, and it was incredibly well timed because today's Alpha issue is focused on identifying potential opportunities in the market for when there is a ceasefire declared in the Russia/ Ukraine war. More broadly, the Russia/Ukraine war is devolving into a stalemate and at some point, there will be a ceasefire. And, given the intense market reactions to the conflict from certain sectors and regions, we think that a ceasefire announcement, whenever it comes, will create potentially substantial medium-and longer-term opportunities in some of the most beat down sectors of the market.	3/22/2022	EMB: 2.26% HYEM: 3.08% EUFN: -1.77% JETS: 4.33% FXE: -0.65%	SPY: 1.29%