

A Key to Financial Success--Goal Setting

Eleanor Roosevelt notably said, "Happiness is not a goal, it's a byproduct."

Smart decisions, hard work, the gift of opportunity: each has an influence on financial success. The most influential indicator for success is setting goals for your professional and personal aspirations. Abacus encourages you to set an appointment with yourself this week and ponder these three goal-setting [questions](#). We will be curious to hear what you learn.

Financial Advice for College Freshmen

The "freshman ten" (a reference to the ten pounds often gained in the first year of college) might also apply to college debt accumulation. Abacus offers these [Top Six Tips](#) for successfully managing your finances in college. Here's to a healthy balance sheet!

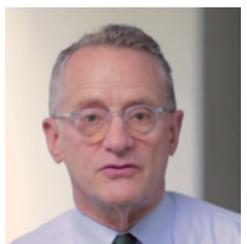


Meet Our Team

Abacus welcomes [Idene Thompson](#) as its new office manager. Idene is stepping in for Clydia Nations who retired from Abacus after 18 years of dedicated service. Idene brings a host of professional skills, expertise and experience to Abacus. Our greatest delight is Idene's smile, which conveys her natural enthusiasm and compassion in every conversation she has with others.

Celebrating Abacus in Greenville

Join Abacus at the [Upcountry History Museum](#) for all things BBQ including a conversation with Robert F. Moss, author of [Barbecue: The History of an American Institution](#). After we test taste the BBQ and wage the vinegar, mustard, dry-rub debate, Robert will chat with us about the evolution of BBQ and its parallels with the evolution of American society. [E-mail](#) Alexa Kirby if you would like to join us on **Monday, September 18, 5:30 to 7:00 pm**.



Athena's Corner: There They Go . . . Again

Howard Marks, founder of Oaktree Capital, has a 25-year knack for identifying market bubbles. As famous for his "memos" as his investment acumen, Marks' [There They Go . . . Again](#) recaps the factors in today's markets that point to a risky investing environment.

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