Alloy Silverstein
Accountants and Advisors

SUMMER 2026
client*alert*

Enjoy Summer Now, Avoid Tax Surprises Later

While summer is often focused on travel and celebrations, certain seasonal activities can affect next year's tax return. Plan now to help reduce surprises and identify opportunities before year-end.

Peak wedding season

Filing status, combined income, and tax bracket may all shift with marriage. Report name changes to the SSA, update address changes with employers and the IRS, and review Form W-4 withholding.

Sending kids to day camp

Day camp expenses may qualify for the Child and Dependent Care Credit if the care allows you to work. Eligible costs may include day camps, babysitters, and daycare programs for children under age 13.

Seasonal and part-time jobs

Students, teachers, and seasonal workers often take on summer jobs. Even workers with modest earnings may qualify for refunds of withheld taxes.

Renting out a vacation home

If you rent the property for 14 days or less, the income is generally tax-free (the 'Augusta Rule'). If rented for more than 14 days, it may qualify as a rental, allowing certain deductions.

Completing your extended return

If you filed a tax extension, summer is an optimal time to finalize your return. Don't wait until the last minute!

Are You Aware of State Retirement Plan Mandates?

As of 2026, 17 states have mandates requiring small businesses to offer a retirement plan or be automatically enrolled in a state-run program. In our region, active mandates apply to New Jersey (25+ employees), Delaware (5+), New York (10+), and Maryland (1+), with penalties for non-compliance.

State-run programs, such as NJ's RetireReady Auto-IRA, meet legal requirements but come with limited investment options, no employer matching, and minimal flexibility.

A private retirement plan, by contrast, offers custom investment choices, higher contribution limits, potential employer tax credits, and reduced administrative burden. It can help attract and retain employees while giving you more control over your own savings.

Contact us to discuss your options and learn how establishing a plan can be easier and more affordable than you might expect.

www.AlloySilverstein.com

900 North Kings Highway, Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08034 · 856.667.4100
165 North White Horse Pike, Hammonton, New Jersey 08037 · 609.561.1555

FINANCIAL Alert

Mid-Year Personal Finance Check-In

Are you on track? Now that you have a tax return to review, use the midpoint mark of the year to see where you stand on your goals, budgeting, and financial housekeeping.

Decide on your financial goals as a family.

- How much money will you need? When will you need the money, and how will you get it?
- Construct a net worth statement (a list of your assets and debts) and compare it to last year's statement. Are you gaining or losing ground?
- With your goals (and the effects of inflation) in mind, review the performance of your savings and investments

Take steps to protect what you already have.

- Do you have adequate disability insurance coverage to replace take-home pay if you become incapacitated?
- Do you have enough life insurance if you or your spouse should pass away?
- Do you have replacement value property insurance on your home?
- Do you have adequate insurance for calamities such as automobile accidents or lawsuits?

Update your withholdings.

Was your tax bill this year higher than you anticipated or was your refund lower than you would have wanted? Review your paycheck withholdings to make sure they're up to date, and submit a new W-4 if you need to make changes.

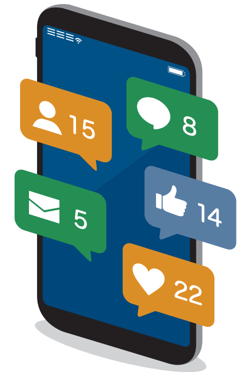
Evaluate your spending history.

Make it a goal to not live beyond your means and set a budget for the rest of 2026 that will keep your unnecessary spending down, while also paying down debt.

Consult with your CPA.

Talk to your accountant and financial advisor about your goals and expectations now — your future self will thank you!

The 5 C's: A Simple Framework for Stronger Digital Marketing



If your business's marketing feels like a guessing game, you're not alone. The businesses that succeed focus every piece of content, post, and campaign on building their brand, strengthening relationships, and driving results over time.

To help business owners focus their efforts, the 5 C's provide a framework to guide content strategy and elevate marketing quality.

Clarity: Define your brand's voice, messaging, and purpose. When your content reflects a clear identity, every post reinforces who you are and why customers should care.

Customer: Know your target audience. Understand their challenges, preferences, and the platforms they use. Tailored content builds stronger connections and keeps your brand top-of-mind. You can't stand out if you are targeting everyone.

Communication: Create content with intention. Mix educational, informational, and promotional pieces that reflect your brand story.

Consistency: Show up regularly with a cohesive voice and style. Consistency strengthens recognition, trust, and the long-term impact of every marketing effort.

Conversion: Monitor your metrics and ensure your content moves customers forward with specific calls to action.

Whether you're DIYing your marketing, outsourcing, or have in-house help, focusing on these 5 C's helps you move past reactive marketing and toward a strategic, long-term approach that elevates your brand and delivers measurable results.

*Introducing **Alloy Edge**, the newest addition to the Alloy Silverstein Group.*

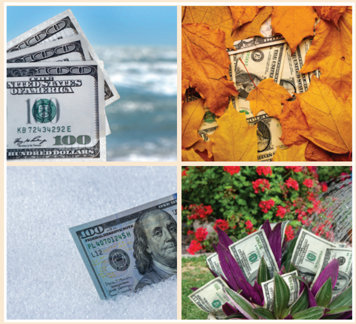
Alloy Edge provides digital marketing support for new and small businesses, backed by the same client-first promise you already trust from Alloy Silverstein. Learn more at alloyedge.io.

ALLOY EDGE

Want to dive deeper?
Scan the QR code or visit *alloyedge.io* to access our webinar and a DIY Framework Guide.

How to Control Seasonal Cash Flow Issues

Large swings in revenue throughout the year brought on by holiday shopping, weather and other annual events can make it exceptionally difficult for seasonal businesses to plan and sustain a positive cash flow.



The following tips can help seasonal businesses cope with downturns and effectively manage cash flow throughout the year:

- **When times are good, get a line of credit.** The best time to set up a line of credit is when you don't need it. Not only will you have the extra time it may take to secure a loan from a bank, you'll also gain peace of mind knowing that it'll be there when you need it.
- **Leverage your supplier relationships.** The goodwill you build with your suppliers will likely make them more inclined to help you out with alternative terms that keep cash in your pocket during low sales periods. For instance, your suppliers may agree to hold a portion of your inventory and accept payments upon release, instead of requiring upfront payment for the entire lot.
- **Create a labor strategy that optimizes your cash flow.** Consider giving your employees time off during low seasons and incentivizing them by offering higher pay during peak seasons. You can also minimize your need to hire extra staff or pay overtime during peak season if you're able to shift some of that work into the downtime months when your employees are light on tasks.
- **Partner with your customers.** Your customers can help you maintain a steady cash flow throughout the year with the right opportunities. Incentivize them to make purchases during your low season by offering worthwhile discounts that expire before the peak season.

Seasonal highs and lows are a reality for many businesses, but they don't have to create uncertainty. With the right planning and financial insight, you can maintain stability and position your business for long-term success. Contact your advisor today to build a stronger financial future year-round.

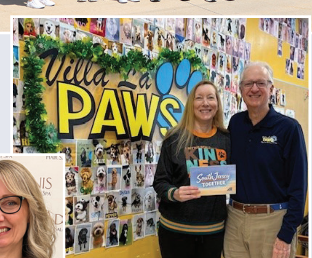
South Jersey Together: Loved by Locals

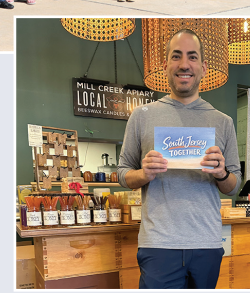
South Jersey has been Alloy Silverstein's home since 1959. Over the years, that connection has grown into something simple and important to us: ***showing up for the people and places that make this region what it is.***

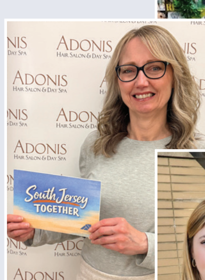
South Jersey Together is our way of doing that. We're highlighting the local businesses, organizations, and neighbors who keep this community strong, while sharing the small businesses our team members genuinely know, support, and enjoy along the way.

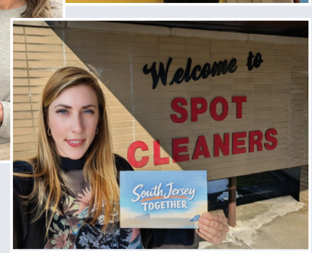
At its heart, South Jersey Together is about being an ally to our local community and lifting up the businesses that lift up everyone around them. From one local business to another, we're here to say thank you for helping make South Jersey what it is today.

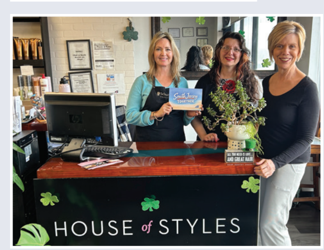
Follow along on our social media pages as we continue spotlighting the people and places that make this region feel like home!











Alloy Happenings

Ren Cicalese, CPA, PFS, CGMA

- Featured on the "21st Century Creative Accounting" episode of *A Head for Business* on USA Global TV & Radio, March 26.

Ren Cicalese III, CPA, MST

- Published in CIANJ's March 2026 issue of *Commerce Magazine* for the article "From Burnout to Buy-In: NJ Firms Reinvent Accounting Careers in 2026."

Chris Cicalese, CPA, MSTFP

- Highlighted in the Member Story "Being a CPA Amid a Culture of Giving," as part of the NJCPA's Spring 2026 issue of *New Jersey CPA Magazine*.

Janine Kiriluk

- Presented the webinar "AI in Finance: Opportunities, Risks, and Realities," May 27. View the recording at *alloysilverstein.com/recordings*.

Adrienne Dell'Olio, Claudia Massar

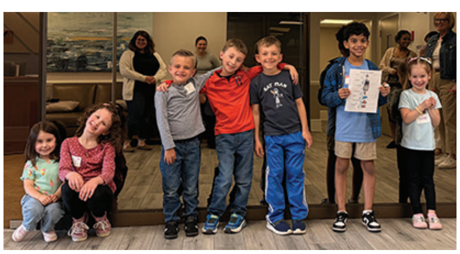
- Presented the webinar "Foolproof Marketing Framework for Small Businesses," April 1. View the recording at *alloysilverstein.com/recordings*.
- Attended the Association for Accounting Marketing's Annual Summit in Palm Springs, CA, May 18-20.

Welcome

- **Marian Chaput,** a bookkeeper for our Client Advisory Services division.
- **Anne Gillette,** a bookkeeper for our Client Advisory Services division.

Happy Anniversary

- **Janine Kiriluk,** celebrating her fifth anniversary with the firm.



On April 23, our Cherry Hill office welcomed some young visitors for Bring Your Kids to Work Day.

Alloy Silverstein team members celebrated the launch of "South Jersey Together" with a reception on March 4.

Alloy Spotlight

Sean Brislin, CPA
Semi-Senior Accountant

This quarter, our Alloy Spotlight is on Sean Brislin, CPA, an Accountant at Alloy Silverstein. Sean brings a thoughtful, detail-oriented, and client-focused approach to his work, helping clients feel supported and confident when navigating their accounting and tax needs.

Sean earned both his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Accounting from Western Governors University and is a Certified Public Accountant. He joined Alloy Silverstein in 2021 as a bookkeeper while still completing his master's degree and transitioned to the accounting team a year later. After finishing his degree, Sean focused on completing the CPA exam, passing all sections in 2022.

Since then, he has steadily grown in his role while working with a wide range of clients, including wholesalers, law firms, construction companies, and medical practices. "Each industry has its own unique traits, and accounting and tax challenges. Every new industry is an opportunity to learn where my client fits in that space," he says.

Sean is known for his responsiveness and technical knowledge, taking the approach that every client deserves to feel like they are the only client he is working with. "We help people focus on the things they're good at. No one feels good about getting an IRS notice, but they can sleep easier knowing it's in the hands of a trusted professional."

Originally from just outside Providence, Rhode Island, Sean now lives in Camden County, NJ. Outside of work, he is a lifelong baseball fan and a passionate supporter of the Boston Red Sox. He enjoys traveling, attending concerts, exploring new cities, and has visited 11 Major League Baseball stadiums so far, with more planned this summer.

Not only is Sean a big fan of the fantasy and sci-fantasy genre, he is a self-proclaimed "AFOL" – adult fan of Lego. As an avid enthusiast and collector, he owns more than 150 sets and over 200,000 pieces. Yes, there is a spreadsheet.

Something 2 Consider

Trust the Process

By Mark J. Fisher

If you followed the Philadelphia 76ers this season, you've heard the phrase "trust the process." It's more than a slogan. It's a mindset built on discipline, patience, and sticking to a plan through highs and lows. And just like basketball, success doesn't happen alone. It takes a team.

The same approach applies to your financial life.

In periods of economic uncertainty, it's natural to feel pressure to react. Markets shift, costs rise, and headlines change daily. The winning move is having a thoughtful, up-to-date financial plan.

Build your game plan (and review it).

If you don't have a financial plan in place, or if it hasn't been reviewed in the past year, now is the time. A good plan should outline where you are today, where you're headed, and what it will take to get there. Without that foundation, it's difficult to make confident decisions, especially during uncertain times.

Life changes, and so should your plan.

Some life changes are obvious triggers. Others are easier to overlook. It's a prime time to call your financial advisor if you're experiencing:

- Retirement approaching within five years
- Marriage, divorce, birth, or death in the family
- A job or career change
- Significant changes in cash flow or debt
- A major purchase, such as a home

Even smaller updates matter. Paying off a vehicle frees up monthly cash flow and can potentially shift your plan.

Know where you stand.

One of the biggest benefits of financial planning is clarity. A well-built plan helps you understand how today's decisions impact your long-term goals and answers key questions:

- Am I on track for retirement?
- Can I afford this major purchase?
- How long will my savings last?

At Alloy Silverstein Financial Services, we use planning tools and software to illustrate your full financial picture and adjust projections as your life evolves. The smallest of changes can have a meaningful impact when you can see them clearly. You should be comfortable and confident in knowing where you stand financially.

Your financial team matters.

Just like on the court, the right team matters. Financial planning is a connected process where investment decisions, tax strategies, and life changes all influence one another. Actions like selling investments or rebalancing a portfolio can carry tax implications, which is why coordination between your financial advisor and CPA is so important.

Communication is just as critical. Too often, key details are left out—an old 401(k), a paid-off loan, a shift in income. Without the full picture, even a strong plan can fall off track. We cannot plan around what we don't know.

Brace for uncertain times.

We continue to see pressure from rising costs, including healthcare, travel, fuel, and everyday essentials. Markets are also adjusting to changing consumer behavior, tariffs, and broader economic conditions.

It's important to stay informed, but not reactive. A well-built financial plan is designed to handle uncertainty, not to be rewritten every time headlines change.

The main takeaway:

In sports, success comes from preparation, communication, and trust. Your financial life is no different. Trust the process.

The fundamentals are simple: (1) Keep your financial team informed, (2) review your plan regularly, and (3) build and maintain your emergency savings. When those pieces are in place, you're better positioned to navigate what comes next.

If it's been a while since your last review, or if something in your life has changed, now is a good time to start the conversation.

Alloy Silverstein
Accountants and Advisors

900 North Kings Highway, Suite 100
Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08034-1561

Webinar Invitation

South Jersey Together:
Your Business Growth Toolkit

June 23, 2026 · 11:00am

Don't miss this panel webinar on the local and state resources available to new and growing businesses. Register at ***alloysilverstein.com/events***

Summer Tax Deadlines

June 15, 2026

- Second quarter 2026 individual estimated tax payments are due.

July 31, 2026

- Due date for filing 2025 retirement or employee benefit plan returns (5500 series) for calendar year plans.

September 15, 2026

- Third quarter 2026 individual estimated tax payments are due.
- Extension deadline for 2025 S-Corporation and partnership returns.

This Summer

- Be proactive with your finances and check with your CPA or advisor for a tax and financial review to go over your personal or professional goals.

What the IRS is Up to

Still Waiting on Your Refund?

Some taxpayers are still experiencing delayed refunds due to the IRS's transition to digital disbursements. If your direct deposit fails, you may receive IRS Notice CP53E, often caused by missing bank information, name mismatches, or rejected deposits. You typically have 30 days to correct the issue online or the IRS may issue a paper check, which could take up to six weeks. Use the IRS "Where's My Refund?" tool to check your status.

NJ Property Tax Relief: 2026 Reminders

New Jersey's ANCHOR, Senior Freeze, and Stay NJ property tax relief programs continue rolling out in 2026 with a deadline of November 2, 2026. Senior Freeze payments begin in July, ANCHOR payments start in September, and Stay NJ payments follow a quarterly schedule. Eligibility is based on residency, income, and age as of 2025, and some residents may receive auto-filed applications or mailed notices. Eligible seniors can file a single PAS-1 form for all three programs.

Tariff Update: Monitoring Potential Impacts

Recent U.S. Supreme Court developments related to tariffs may affect businesses with imported inventory or global supply chains. The AICPA is monitoring potential impacts on balance sheets, inventory costs, and possible refunds. Guidance continues to evolve, and the financial impact will vary by business. Discuss any concerns with your CPA or advisor as more information becomes available.