



Berkshire

DIVIDEND STRATEGY

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"Casual Friday" Commentary

Early Casual Friday: Gratitude + "Turkey Talk" – November 23rd, 2022

Happy Thanksgiving! We are grateful for:

- Your readership, and your business. It's an honor to be let into your inbox each week and manage accounts for your clients.
- The feedback, interaction, and inspiration we receive from you. We think it propels us to higher levels of professional excellence.
- The solid relative performance of dividend strategies in this difficult market. Hopefully, value is back!
- The investment industry itself. It's dynamic, rewarding, and lets us make a difference in people's lives. There is no other business like it.
- Berkshire itself. Berkshire is a place where intellectual curiosity, creativity and entrepreneurship can thrive and excellence is rewarded. We are proud of what Berkshire stands for and where our firm is headed.
- Thank you!!!

"Turkey Talk"

May the holiday season be filled with good health, friends and family and lots of great conversation! Here are some random but topical factoids to help you navigate and contribute to the conversation!

Crypto:

Let's get this one out of the way... you are likely to get asked what is going on with "Crypto" / FTX. Explain it so your 80-year-old aunt will understand and your know-it-all brother in law will be impressed too...

What? (This is our definition)

"Crypto" in general refers to a digital currency created by a non-government entity / decentralized units known as "de-fi". It usually contains elements of an issuer creating digital tokens or coins and complex digital "mining" deep in the internet or computer networks to obtain them. To us, it's an obscure notion of value storage, but hey there is technically nothing backing dollars either, so whatever people will accept as having value... has value.

Did you know in 2021, estimated to consume more energy than all the homes on Iceland put together... Take a look inside -

["Inside Iceland's Massive Bitcoin Mine"](#)

Blockchain generally refers to the digital footprint tracking system associated with a digital asset to verify its credibility and keep track of its history. Someday our brokerage accounts may be linked to blockchain ID system and all the history can be contained with its identifier.

What happened at FTX:

Two Companies: FTX (Crypto Exchange and Brokerage) & Alameda Research (Crypto Hedge Fund) – Both owned and founded by Sam Bankman-Fried.

One product: FTT Token which was a cryptocurrency created by FTX to reward traders on FTX, and to trade on the open market.

Who is Involved: FTX raised private equity capital through a variety of sources including a company called Binance which invested \$500 million. In 2021, Binance exits FTX equity position – Binance receives cash and \$2+ Billion in FTT Token.

How It Blew Up: In 2022 Alameda research experienced heavy crypto losses. It appears billions of client funds are then illegally moved from FTX customer trading accounts to Alameda to cover up losses. It also is alleged Bankman Fried took out large personal loans from customer accounts too. WOW.

Binance identifies misappropriation of client funds, Binance CEO Tweets:

- “As part of Binance’s exit from FTX equity last year, Binance received roughly \$2.1 billion USD equivalent in cash (BUSD and FTT). Due to recent revelations that have come to light, we have decided to liquidate any remaining FTT on our books.

A “run” on FTT ensues, rendering that crypto nearly worthless. Alameda and FTX, both heavily exposed to FTT cannot meet redemptions – bankruptcy.

[Business Insider – FTX What It Means](#)

Macy’s Day Parade Balloon Pilot Training Program?

Yes, Macy’s actually has training programs for the Balloon Pilot certifications...

AND the original balloon pilots just let go of the balloons at the end of the parade!

<https://www.tasteofhome.com/article/12-incredible-facts-about-the-macys-day-parade/>

National Dog Show 2022

Release the Hounds! This year’s event will showcase over 200 breeds.

Hosted by the Kennel Club of Philadelphia this a marquee event for canine enthusiasts across the globe.

<https://sports.nbcsports.com/2022/10/27/how-to-watch-national-dog-show-2022-thanksgiving/>

World Cup Victory Turned National Holiday?

Yep, Saudi Arabia shocked the world by beating a Cup favorite, Argentina.

In turn, King Salman declares a public holiday in Saudi Arabia.

<https://www.espn.com/soccer/saudi-arabia/story/4810328/saudi-arabia-declares-public-holiday-stunning-argentina-world-cup>

At the risk of being “Debbie Downer” at the dinner table avoid discussing the multitude of human rights issues associate with this event.

AND of Course: NFL Football with its first Turkey Day game dating back to... 1920!

12:30 p.m. EST: Buffalo Bills at Detroit Lions -- BUF -9.5 Favorites

- Since their first Thanksgiving game in 1934, the Lions have missed playing on Thanksgiving for only six seasons, from 1939–44, due to WWII.
- The Lions are a dismal 6-16 on Thanksgiving since 2000

What does star Josh Allen’s \$42 million annual income look like... after taxes?

https://www.tiktok.com/@thenextgenbusiness/video/7152292507055869230?is_from_webap_p=v1&item_id=7152292507055869230&lang=en

Agent fees can be as high as 3%

4:30 p.m. EST: New York Giants at Dallas Cowboys -- DAL -9 Favorites

- Since 1966, the Cowboys have hosted an NFL Thanksgiving game every year except 2.
- Dak is back – Coming back from injury, Cowboys quarterback Dak Prescott is 3-1 including last week’s thumping on Minnesota 40-3

8:20 p.m. EST: New England Patriots at Minnesota Vikings -- MIN -2.5 Favorites

- Minnesota Vikings good record (8-2) but thin margins (won seven of their eight games by a single score)
- Patriots *Matthew Judon* leads the league in sacks and makes about \$15 million less than the highest-paid edge rusher in the NFL.

Here’s some bonus material if you just want to rattle off some cool facts....

“Benjamin Franklin liked turkeys more than bald eagles?”

[35 Thanksgiving Facts to Share With Your Family](#)

Done Talking? Here is how to listen actively...

<https://bakadesuyo.com/2013/07/conversation-skills/>

Have a great long weekend!

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