



STIFEL *Bits*

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The Appetizer

“I’d say maybe 20%, 30% of the code that is inside of our repos today and some of our projects are probably all written by software.”

– Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella at a Meta AI developer event.

Now, on to the numbers. Drum roll, please ...

- 27: The number of Amazon Project Kuiper **internet satellites** recently rocketed into orbit, the first of many. SpaceX currently has over 7,000 in orbit.
- \$56 million: The **estimated value of a painting** by American artist Mark Rothko, which was damaged by a young child during a visit to a museum in the Netherlands.
- 78%: The percentage of companies that say they use AI in **at least one function**, up from 55% in 2023, according to McKinsey.
- \$100: The price of **six Greenland ice cubes** from a startup called Arctic Ice. The ice is supposedly “cleaner and denser than most.”
- \$2.718 trillion: The amount of **military spending globally** in 2024, up 9.4% from 2023. It was the highest rise since 1988.

Dig In

NextGen Investor Handbook

Have you ever googled, “What is a Roth IRA?” or nodded along when someone said, “Diversify your portfolio,” without having a clue what that actually means ... we’ve got you covered. Last week, we introduced the **NextGen Investor Handbook**.

This is the no-jargon, no-judgement guide for the next generation of investors who want to learn how to navigate financial decisions and milestones without falling asleep halfway through the explanation.

We’ll walk you through the basics – from budgeting and saving to investing and getting your finances in order as you start a family. There’s a section on credit scores (yes, you should open a credit card), a walk-through of buying big-ticket items like a house or a car, and even a friendly reminder that estate planning isn’t just for your parents.

While the guide is geared toward young professionals, it’s a useful tool for anyone. We hope this is a valuable tool for you. Your best days are just ahead!

Weekly Specials

St. Louis, take the day off – **baby elephant** Jet has hit the public stage! This playful five-month-old is now making surprise appearances at the Saint Louis Zoo’s River’s Edge exhibit. No schedule, just vibes. He’s curious, dirt-loving, and living his best life. See you there (I’ll be camped out, obviously).

Think your job’s hard? Try becoming a U.S. **licensed customs broker**. One must pass a 4.5-hour, open-book exam with 80 confusing questions on tariffs, classifications, and fees. The average pass rate? Just 21%. This includes one exam in 2019, where only 4.2% passed.

From street sweeper to national star! Mexico City resident Macario Martinez made **a video** of his song while riding on the back of a garbage truck. It went viral on TikTok. Now he’s got 2 million Spotify listeners and selfie requests nonstop.

Spain and Portugal just went through one of **Europe’s worst blackouts**. No one knows what caused it – but people made the most of it. No phones, no work, just hanging out. Did anyone try unplugging the cable and plugging it back in?

Corporate Lunch

Electric police cars are on the rise. The **Tesla Model Y** is now patrolling the streets.

Google’s remote work policy: Three days in the office, **or else!**

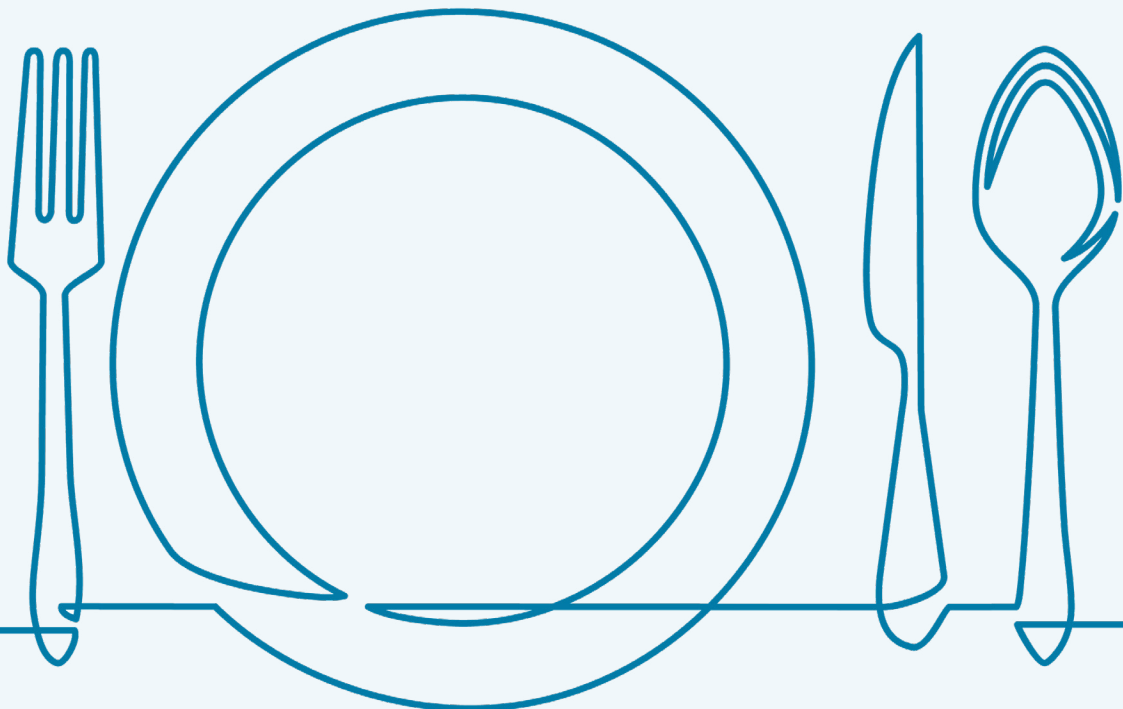
SpaceX just lost a bid to control **beach access** near its Texas launch facility. I mean, you can move your facility, but you can’t move the beach.

Meta is launching a stand-alone **AI** app to compete with other generative AI models. The intelligence may be artificial, but the competition sure isn’t.

JetBlue is ready to **“spread its wings”**, as it plans to partner with another U.S. airline in the coming weeks.

Time is of the essence! **Starbucks’** new **proprietary algorithm** has shaved two minutes off in-store wait times, bringing the average down to, oh, 17 minutes? (We kid, we kid)

Warren Buffett, an investing legend, plans to **step down** as **Berkshire Hathaway** CEO at year-end. When’s the retirement party?



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