# A Leif Jensen and Associates

#### Newsletter

October, 2015

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**Useless Information:** 

Brainwaves can be used to power an electric train.

The San Francisco Cable cars are the only mobile national monument.

### **Quick Links**

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**Services** 



#### Dear Reader,

As CPA's we are committed to providing a full range of high quality professional services including: accounting, bookkeeping, consulting, payroll, management advisory services, income tax preparation and other attestation services. Our goal is to meet our client's expectations as their most trusted advisor.

If you need help preparing your 2014 taxes, please call our office to schedule an appointment.

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# **Small Businesses**

As the trend continues, small firms are expected to still provide about half of new jobs in coming months.

Small firms are defined by owners of companies, with 50 or fewer workers. Reports show that they will create an uptick in openings.

Overall, it expected that approximately 215,000 jobs per month are to be created through year-end, which are expected to affect the U-3 Unemployment Report. The number of private sector jobs is at 120 million and growing, up from 107 million positions as the recession was ending in 2010 and above the prerecession high of 116 million.

I cannot remember the last "small business" friendly President. Too bad that we are not hearing any "Presidential Rhetoric" from the candidates on how they are going to assist "small business" owners in the future, since this is where our jobs are coming from.

#### **Dates to Remember**

- Third Quarter 941's Due
- Third Quarter IDES Reporting Due
- Halloween

#### This Month's Featured Service

## **Reviews and Compilations**

We provide attest functions to clients based upon their needs or requests from banks, funders, Board of Directors or governmental agencies.

### Like our pictures?

Check out: www.stankotecki.com





# Technology

New proposed regulations will force small businesses to ramp up their IT spending, whether they want to or not.

The biggest costs will come from necessary upgrades to their systems and their hardware in a bid to secure information and keep hackers. This has worked well for the large companies and the IRS. These regulations are especially targeted to firms in industries such as health care and finance, and for those that want contra cts with larger companies that seek vendor compliance with tougher security rules.

Smaller firms are increasingly at risk of lawsuits that could ruin them. So it is believed that they will spend thousands on security to try to avoid million-dollar judgments that could stem from system breaches. Most large firms have already upgraded. It is believed that a crackdown on shoddy data security practices is coming from the Federal Trade Commission (FTC).

A recent court ruling regarding the FDC gave the agency more ammunition to fight inadequate security measures to protect sensitive private data; including credit card and Social Security numbers.

Also, to address any misleading claims about the level of security a company employs, in regards to promising, but not quite delivering on claims that a company encrypts data to protect its customers. In light of the scrutiny, this is a good time for firms to review their security steps. Remember the Internal Revenue Service is in more hot water with lawmakers, now that it's announced that the cyberattack on its tax system affected more taxpayers than first reported.

In May, the agency said that tax information on 100,000 or so filers was stolen when hackers used IRS's "Get Transcript" Web tool to gain access to taxpayer data. It now says that 220,000 additional folks may have been victimized by this breach.

As before, the agency will notify the affected taxpayers, pay for credit monitoring and give victims the opportunity to apply for special identity protection ID numbers. Which is worthless, since this will only protect them from further tax refund attacks. With the information collected identity theft is a greater concern than tax fraud at this point.

# **Modern Office Requirements**

I was reading an article the other week that was showing the investment requirements for a modern office. I must not have a modern office. I do not have all of these items available nor budgeted at the current moment. How does your office fare?

Mobile technology 37% Cloud computing 35% Business intelligence/Analytics 26% Security mangement 26% Service management 25% Virtualization 25%

Automation 23% Collaboration tools 22% Social media 19% **Internet of things 16%** Portfolio/projrct management tools 15% Rich media/video 12%

-Leif Jensen

## **Featured Client**



Wednesday, November 11, Big Hurt Brewhouse 2015 11:30am - Cash bar 12:00pm - Lunch Silent Auction, Raffles

6801 W Cermak Rd Berwyn, IL 60402 Free parking

\$40 per person

Download form to purchase ticket(s)Buy tickets online

The luncheon serves as a fundraising opportunity for Solutions for Care to raise funds to benefit the Berwyn, Cicero and Proviso Township disabled and older adults. During the luncheon we will honor local veterans for their service to our country and will also recognize the 2015 Slezak Award recipient for their dedication to Solutions for Care and the community.

If you need further information please contact our event coordinator, Nancy Rivera, at 708-447-2448 or at nrivera@solutionsforcare.org.

www.solutionsforcare.org