



**W**e at *Bagattine and Company, Inc.* wish you and your family the best of this holiday season. Christmas is a magical and spiritual time of the year. It's a time when family and friends gather and embrace one another in kindness, love and respect.

I'm hoping and praying that each one of us look in the mirror and imagine how it would feel if that image was discriminated against because of its physical features, religious and sexual preferences. Let tolerance and compassion prevail. In Charles Dickens' "Christmas Carol" Scrooge did not see or understand himself until a series of dreams opened his eyes to what he forfeited in his life. He was intolerant, selfish, greedy, abusive, and apathetic to the plight of those less fortunate than he.

It was not until the final spirit, "spirit of what is to come", made him realize that he had fallen into an abyss of loneliness and despair and he still had time to change his destiny. The specters showed that his legacy would be uneventful. He forfeited the love of family and friends and lived his life of self-serving. Upon his awakening, he realized he must change and change he did. Remember Tiny Tim? He was the beneficiary of the rebirth of Scrooge. Kindness, compassion and respect prevailed the rest of his life.

This Christmas, and thereafter, keep love in your heart, and don't let despair misguide you. Be sensitive to those in need of your help. Give the gifts of love, tolerance and compassion and feel the goodness that it brings. Allow yourself to adopt a resolution in the New Year: promote kindness, control anger, be more understanding, express your views, be receptive to the views of others, be sympathetic, and reach out to those seeking guidance. Finally, **Christmas** celebrates the **birth of Christ Jesus**. Let's not overlook its meaning. Trust in God, believe in yourself and strive to do what is right. *Merry Christmas, Happy*

*Hanukkah, Buono Natale, Joyous Noël, Felice Navidad, Frohe Weihnachten,*

*and Mollaig Shona Dhuit.*



*HAPPY NEW YEAR!!*