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## Protecting Seniors News letter January 10, 2014

1 message

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**The Koewler Law Firm** <Newsletter@protectingseniorsnews.com>  
Reply-To: The Koewler Law Firm <Newsletter@protectingseniorsnews.com>  
To: protectingseniorsnewsarchive@gmail.com

Fri, Jan 10, 2014 at 7:00 AM

With help, seniors can keep some of their assets in the family rather than lose their entire life savings to the costs of long term care.

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# Protecting Seniors News

Welcome, friends, to the second issue of Protecting Seniors News, the elder law newsletter of The Koewler Law Firm. Some of you subscribed long, long ago when I first put up my website, ProtectingSeniors.com. That website became a much bigger project than I anticipated, so this newsletter has been a long time coming. It's been so long that you may have forgotten that you subscribed.

Some of you who subscribed did not get the inaugural issue last week. Sorry about that. I finished inputting the subscribers from my prior website during this last week.

The subscription page on the prior version of my website did not have the double opt-in system, so I do not have confirmation that your email address is correct in my list or that you will want to receive this newsletter. If you do not wish to receive this newsletter in the future, the unsubscribe function at the bottom of the newsletter should get you off the list.

I hope to make this a weekly newsletter and will use it to distribute the contents of my blog, ProtectingSeniorsNews.com. I hope to make it short enough to justify weekly publication, pithy enough that you will want to read it, and interesting enough that you might want to share it.

In addition, I will include the relevant articles that I posted to social media during the week as well as firm news, a listing of the presentations that I can make for your organization, and a schedule of upcoming meetings that you might wish to know about.

I hope that you find Protecting Seniors News worth the wait.

## My Family's Experience with Nursing Homes - Grandma Schneider

Most people seem revolted at the thought of moving into a nursing home or putting a loved one into a nursing home. I've heard many people speak of seniors abandoned in nursing homes, seemingly forgotten and alone. My family's experience with nursing homes is just the opposite.

I'll start with the worst experience we had, I guess. It's the worst not because of the nursing home but because of the rapid decline that my great grandmother suffered after an accident.

My great grandmother was a tough woman. (She was Grandma to my mom, but my sisters and I always called her Grandma Schneider. I guess we called her that to distinguish her from my mom's mom, whom we call "Grandma.") Grandma Schneider maintained her own house (light carpentry and repairs in addition to the everyday cooking and cleaning) well into her eighties. Even when her husband had been alive, she did the hard work. He would hold her tools while she repaired the car. (No kidding.)

One day, she went out walking (to the grocery store, we think. She could never tell us.) She fell about a mile from her house. She broke her shoulder and needed surgery.

After the surgery, the Grandma Schneider that I knew didn't seem to be there anymore. She wasn't in a vegetative state, but she wasn't far from it. My mother thinks that she had a reaction to the anesthesia. (My mom's not a doctor, so she doesn't have any way to be sure.)

Grandma Schneider went from completely independent to requiring 24-hour skilled care. Mom, my uncle, and my Grandma (Grandma Schneider's daughter-in-law) chose a nursing home close to all of us.

The nursing home took great care of Grandma Schneider. She always got anything she needed.

Mom, my uncle, and we children visited often. The thing I don't know is whether she enjoyed it there.

Grandma Schneider was almost completely unresponsive after the surgery that preceded her nursing home stay. I have no way to know whether she loved the nursing home, hated the nursing home, or had no opinion. She may not have been aware of her surroundings and may not even have been self-aware anymore. Her body was well cared for at the nursing home, I just don't think her mind was there anymore, even before she moved in.

I guess Grandma Schneider's stay in the nursing home was neither pleasant nor unpleasant for her. It just was.

I write about Grandma Schneider's experience in the hopes that some of you will let go of the guilt that you might feel when moving a family member into a nursing home. Sometimes, like with Grandma Schneider, a nursing home is by far the best care choice for a family member.

I'll write about my family's other (very positive) experiences with nursing homes in future newsletters.

### **Social Media Posts from the past week**

1-9-2014 Veterans, beware annuities for Aid and Attendance eligibility (pdf) #Veterans #SeniorCare <http://ow.ly/rXLjU>

1-8-2014 Convincing a loved one to accept care #SeniorCare <http://ow.ly/sdF7R>

1-7-2014 Myths about #LongTermCareInsurance <http://ow.ly/sdBei>

1-6-2014 Son sued for Mom's #NursingHome bill #SeniorCare <http://ow.ly/sdtqO>

1-5-2014 Preparing for Family Financial Obligations #EstatePlanning #SeniorCare <http://ow.ly/sdvze>

1-4-2014 No prevention for #Alzheimers found yet (pdf) <http://ow.ly/rXTCJ>

Older social media posts can be found in the [social media post archive](#) on the firm's website, [ProtectingSeniors.com](http://ProtectingSeniors.com).

### **The Koewler Law Firm news**

3-13-2014 Jim Koewler will present the continuing education program "Legal Issues for People with Dementia" at Stone Crossing Care Center in Canton. Continuing Education credit is available to social workers, counselors, and nurses.

5-14-2014 Jim Koewler will present the continuing education program "Helping Patients navigate Medicaid, Medicare, and Healthcare Changes" at the Cleveland Clinic. Continuing Education credit is available to Certified Case Manager, social workers, counselors, and nurses.

9-26-2014 Jim Koewler will present "Preventing Senior Fraud" at the meeting of Eldercare Professionals of Ohio at Heart Home Care in Euclid, Ohio.

Older items of firm news can be found in the [news archive](#) on the firm's website, [ProtectingSeniors.com](http://ProtectingSeniors.com).

### **Jim's available presentations**

- Preventing Senior Fraud (Continuing Education credit available for social workers, counselors, nurses, and case managers)
- Legal Issues for People with Dementia (Continuing Education credit available for social workers, counselors, and nurses)
- Protect your Life Savings from the Costs of Long Term Care (Continuing Education credit available for social workers, counselors, and nurses)
- Veterans Benefits for Long Term Care (Continuing Education credit available for social workers, counselors, and nurses)
- Advance Directives – Powers of Attorney, Living Wills, etc. (Continuing Education credit available for social workers, counselors, and nurses)
- Buying Long Term Care Insurance Wisely (Continuing Education credit available for social workers, counselors, and nurses)
- Planning Ahead to Protect against Long Term Care Costs (Continuing Education credit available for social workers, counselors, and nurses)
- “Protecting your Money when you need Long Term Care” and “Essential Estate Planning Considerations” (with free living wills for the audience)
- Myths about Long Term Care
- How to help your Parents Manage their Affairs

### **Upcoming meetings**

1-10-2014 Eldercare Professionals of Ohio, Crystal Waters, 9:00 a.m.

1-20-2014 Medina County Senior Services Network's Education Committee, Tres Potrillos in Medina, 11:30 a.m.

1-21-2014 UH Bedford Senior Network, Walton Manor, 8:30 a.m.

1-22-2014 Richfield Chamber of Commerce annual dinner, The Taverne of Richfield, 6:00 p.m.

1-23-2014 Portage Senior Services Network, Coleman Adult Day Services, 8:30 a.m.

1-23-2014 Parma Hospital Senior Resource Network, Royal Oak, 8:30 a.m.

1-24-2014 Eldercare Professionals of Ohio, Home Instead Senior Care, Oakwood Village, 9:00 a.m.

1-28-2014 Summit County Senior Services Network, Anthony Kucko Kertesz Funeral Home, 8:00 a.m.

1-28-2014 PNG (Professional Networking Group) 8:30 a.m.

2-4-2014 Aging Services Network of Euclid, 8:30 a.m.

2-5-2014 Stark Senior Services Network, Canton Baptist Temple, 9:00 a.m.

2-5-2014 Richfield Chamber of Commerce luncheon, Richfield Days Inn and Suites, 11:45 a.m.

2-5-2014 Medina County Senior Services Network's Client Services Committee, Sully's 3:00 p.m.

### **Newsletter Archive**

Past issues of this newsletter can be found in the [newsletter archive](#) on the firm's blog

site, [ProtectingSeniors.com](http://ProtectingSeniors.com).

## Contact Jim Koewler

If you'd like to contact Jim, this newsletter has a dedicated [contact page](#) on the firm's blog site, [ProtectingSeniorsNews.com](http://ProtectingSeniorsNews.com).

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