

**HOW CAN WE HELP?**

**Estate and Long Term Care Planning**

**Guardianship**

**Estate and Trust Administration**

**Probate Litigation**

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

**Elder Law 2**

**Hospital Stays 2**

**Cost of Care 2**

**Who's Who 3**

**Daisy Troop 3**

**Save the Date 4**

## Celebrating Certification in Elder Law

In 1988, the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (NAELA) was formed to address the unique needs of the elderly and the disabled. Elder Law differs from other legal specialties, because its objective is to provide comprehensive services to a class of people, rather than provide narrowly focused technical skills.

In July of 1993, NAELA assisted in the formation of a nonprofit organization called the National Elder Law Foundation (NELF), established for the purpose of developing and improving the professional competence of lawyers

in the field of Elder Law. In February of 1995, the American Bar Association's House



### **Congratulations, Linda!**

of Delegates accredited NELF as the certifying entity for specialization in Elder Law.

To become a CELA, an attorney must be in good standing, have substantial involvement in the practice of Elder Law, take 15 hours of continuing

legal education in Elder Law each year, and successfully pass a comprehensive written examination. The CELA exam is rigorous with a pass rate averaging only 60%. There are currently only eight (8) Certified Elder Law Attorneys in the State of Illinois.

When making important legal decisions about property, finances, powers of attorney, final wishes and healthcare options, the experience and compassionate care of trusted counsel goes a long way to ensure peace of mind!

**Linda was recently awarded Certification as an Elder Law Attorney.**

## Counting the Cost of Long Term Care

Long term care is a variety of services that includes medical and non-medical care to people who have chronic illness or disability. This year, about nine million men and women over the age of 65 will need assistance with support services, such as activities of daily living, like dressing, bathing and using the bathroom. Long term care can be living communities or nursing pro-

vided at home, in assisted homes. A study by the US Department of Health and Human Services says that people who reach 65 will likely have a 40% chance of entering a nursing home. Knowing the rules of Medicaid and Medicare may help to conserve assets. Generally, Medicare doesn't pay for long term care. Medicare pays only for medically necessary

skilled nursing facility or home health care. However, you must you must meet certain conditions for Medicare to pay for these types of care. Medicaid helps those with low income and limited assets.

**To learn more about Medicare and Medicaid, see the back page of this newsletter.**



Call 630-377-3241 to schedule a **FREE** one-hour consultation!

### Gardening Tips!

- **Stretch first.**
- **Wear gloves.**
- **Rest or change positions frequently.**
- **Conserve energy.**
- **Wear a hat.**
- **Hydrate.**
- **Whistle while you work!**

**Strohschein Law Group Celebrates**

**Older Americans Month in May!**

## Strohschein Team to Race June 12th!

The Strohschein Law Group Team is participating in the ancient and international sport of dragon boat racing on the Fox River during the Pride of the Fox RiverFest on Saturday, June 12th. When advertised as “no experience necessary”, the team jumped on board.

In China, the Dragon Boat Festival commemorates Chu Yuan’s unswerving loyalty and integrity as a scholar-statesman. The

dragon, a much honored symbol, signifies loyalty, dignity, power and good fortune.

Dragon Boat Racing was introduced to the Midwest in 1986 by the American Boat Association of Burlington, Iowa; and, in 1992, it came to St. Charles and the Fox River. The American Dragon Boat Association provides the boats and all the equipment, including the wooden paddles and

drum. The steersman controls the boat’s direction and the drummer sets the rhythm for the 20 member team, at the bow.

The excitement is rising and training and preparation are underway!

Please join us to “cheer us on” - it is a great family outing opportunity. Food and beverages will be available; but, no alcohol is allowed at Pottawatomie Park, the site of the race.

## Hospital Observation vs. Inpatient

As you may know, Medicare will pay for a stay in a skilled nursing facility if, in addition to other requirements, the stay is preceded by a three night stay in the hospital.

But, the hospitalization does not count toward this requirement if it was for “observation” rather than as an “inpatient”. Medicare has certain “diagnoses” that qualify for inpatient stays. You may be in the hospital for several days; but, your hospitalization may not be considered for nursing home “Medicare” requirements, or more importantly, coverage by Medicare for the hospital stay itself.

Check with your doctor or the discharge planner, so that there are no surprises when it is time to leave the hospital. If nursing home placement is

necessary, \$220 average cost per day for even a short nursing home stay, can be financially devastating. When you or a loved one is hospitalized, be sure

to ask if they are being admitted as an inpatient, or for observation. If it is for observation, you may successfully argue for a change in classification.

**Check with the doctor!**

### 2009 Costs of Long-Term Care\*

Non-Medicare Licensed Homemaker or Home Health Aide	<b>\$20/hour</b>
Medicare Certified Home Health Aide	<b>\$55/hour</b>
Adult Day Health Care	<b>\$62/hour</b>
Assisted Living One Bedroom Private	<b>\$46,398/year</b>
Nursing Home Semi-Private	<b>\$66,430/year</b>
Nursing Home Private	<b>\$77,198/year</b>

\*Genworth Financial 2009



**STRIKING GOLD** comes when a client takes a deep breath and lets his/her shoulders down.

It’s the hug of the elder who knows she is taken care of.

It’s the family that appreciates when we coordinate the best care for their loved one.

It’s when referrals come because we are part of the treatment team!

# Linda's List of Who's Who at the Firm



**Joan Hopley, RN**  
Elder Care Coordinator

Joan Hopley is an Elder Care Coordinator with Strohschein Law Group. Joan is a Registered Nurse and brings a wealth of experience in the field of geriatrics and long term care.

Her vast experience in the medical field allows her to communicate effectively with our clients and their families. Her compassion and understanding of, not only the client's needs but their family's, is what Strohschein Law Group is all about.

In Joan's free time she can be found jet-setting to the various locations of her three children and spoiling her grand-children as most grandparents do.

Joan can be reached via email at [Joan@StrohscheinLawGroup.com](mailto:Joan@StrohscheinLawGroup.com).

To learn about the rest of our team, visit our web site:

[www.StrohscheinLawGroup.com](http://www.StrohscheinLawGroup.com).

**"And in the end it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years!"**  
**Abraham Lincoln**

# Daisy Troop Gets Rave Reviews



## Daisy Troop #4622 of Corron Elementary School Plants Joy in the Hearts of Seniors!

We all love "Girl Scout Cookies", and so do the residents of Bickford Assisted Living and Memory Care in St. Charles!

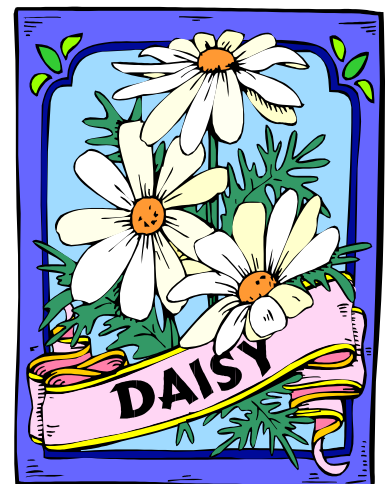
Strohschein Law Group LLC sponsored an afternoon of "Tea and Cookies" with residents and staff, on Sunday, March 21st - with a box of those famous cookies for everyone. Linda Strohschein, the troop's leader, organized the visit, which delighted all the seniors who attended.

Again, on Sunday, April 11th, the troop planned a visit to Arden Courts Alzheimer's Assisted Living in Geneva.

The girls learned that even though a person's memory is not very good, a game of BINGO can spark interest and, they all LOVED the cookies!

Building values into the lives of young girls, while reaching out to seniors in the community, reflects the heart of what Strohschein Law Group is all about.

*Planting seeds of care and friendship, generosity and acceptance, grow beautiful and fragrant bouquets of humanity for generations to come!*





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**Protecting What Matters.**

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# 2010 Educational Series - Save the Date

### Managing the Medicare and Medicaid Maze

Long term care planning includes figuring out how you can pay for needed care. Learn ways to optimize assets, and access "public benefits", when the bills keep coming in!

**May 18, 2010 - 12PM - 1PM**

### The Ins and Outs of Estate Administration

Learn about the process of probate, and how you can minimize stress for those you love after the funeral!

**June 22, 2010 - 12PM-1PM**

### Critical Conversations About Inheritance

So, who gets the gold? Learn important considerations when planning your estate, and what precautions you may want to take to prevent future problems.

**July 20, 2010 - 12PM - 1PM**

**FREE LUNCH!**

**RSVP 630-377-3241**

E-mail:

[invite@StrohscheinLawGroup.com](mailto:invite@StrohscheinLawGroup.com)

**We invite you and  
a friend to join us!**

All programs are held at  
our office location:

**2455 Dean Street**

**Suite G**

**St. Charles, IL 60175**

[www.StrohscheinLawGroup.com](http://www.StrohscheinLawGroup.com)

*The experience you require.*

*The compassion you'll appreciate.*



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National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, Inc.

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