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## UPCOMING SEMINARS

### Living Trust Seminars

For the public and also for our  
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family or friends!

**Saturday, Sept. 15th**

9am to 11:30am

Torrance Marriott

Breakfast Seminar

**REGISTER** 

## September's Promise

By Attorney Philip J. Kavesh, President

As a youngster, September was always my favorite time of year.

My family enjoyed our last few moments of summer vacation at our South Jersey shore cottage, delighting in those still warm, but uncrowded days at the beach (once everyone else left at the conclusion of Labor Day weekend). We then ritualistically packed up our Ford Country Squire station wagon - - with five kids and a dog squished among all our belongings - - and stopped on our way home to pick blueberries (with sweet anticipation of Mom's delicious blueberry pie - - with Breyer's vanilla ice cream!).

Once home, everyone buzzed with anxious expectations and last minute preparations for the new school year. My Mom took us shopping for new clothes and shoes (both a delight and a chore for me, who as a skinny, gawky kid with big feet, had a terrible time finding anything "cool" to wear that fit me!). Meanwhile, all of my pals in the neighborhood and I speculated wildly about what teachers we would have, which kids would be in what classroom and what our daily schedule would be (who would walk with whom to and from school and when would be our lunch and playground breaks!). The air seemed charged with electricity generated by all this anticipation, excitement, anxiety and promise of a new school year (actually, we did have a lot of lightning storms around that time of year!).

This is a sample of our monthly e-mail newsletter. To sign up to receive our newsletter, go to [www.kaveshlaw.com](http://www.kaveshlaw.com) or call 1-800-756-5596.

**Tuesday, Sept. 25th**  
9am to 11:30am  
Torrance DoubleTree  
Breakfast Seminar

**REGISTER** ▶

**Thursday, October 4th**  
9am to 11:30am  
Torrance Marriott Hotel  
Breakfast Seminar

**REGISTER** ▶

**Thursday, October 11th**  
6:30pm to 8:30pm  
Main Torrance Office  
Light Refreshments

**REGISTER** ▶

**Saturday, October 13th**  
9am to 11:30am  
Torrance Marriott  
Breakfast Seminar

**REGISTER** ▶

**View Our Living Trust  
Seminar Preview**



**Just as I was about to write this article,  
I coincidentally received this photo from a long-lost  
elementary school friend. That's me at the upper left.**

For me, September also brought great anticipation of a new football season. I loved going to professional games with my Dad (see my [prior newsletter article](#)). Our hearts swelled full of hope about our team's prospects (even though our beloved Philadelphia Eagles were really terrible in the 60's!). And the boys of the neighborhood would play pick-up football games almost every day in the field down the block, pretending to be our superstar athlete heroes!

I was further reminded how September was a new beginning by the Jewish holiday of Rosh Hashanah or "New Year" that always seemed to fall around mid-month. My family would get all dressed up to go to temple and, although I didn't understand much of what went on, I did get the message that we started the brand new year with a clean slate, full of promise. (I also loved to hear the sound of the "Shofar" or ram's horn blare out near the end of the service - - and loved honey and cookies the entire congregation enjoyed afterwards!).

But the absolutely best memory I have of September was that one, sunny, blue sky afternoon that I first arrived at college. I had dreamed of that day for many years. Each night, before I went to sleep, I would reach under my bed for a brochure of the school I had my heart set on (Haverford College, a "little Ivy League" school located just outside Philly). I would go into a deep meditation or prayer over one particular picture in that brochure that I can still remember to this day - - of a class of students and their professor sitting on the grass, in a circle, under the shade of a big, old tree. (My high school class had 723 kids, tightly packed into wooden desk and chair classrooms, so a college with only 450 total students and outside classes represented an idyllic and entrancing new world!)

### Client Review Seminar

This is a seminar for our existing clients who have not been in for their free 3-year review meeting, so they may hear about all of the changes in laws, planning technology and services that we now offer.

**Wednesday, Sept. 19th**

6:30pm to 8:30pm

Main Torrance Office  
Light Refreshments

**REGISTER** 

**Tuesday, October 2nd**

10am to 12pm

Main Torrance Office  
Light Refreshments

**REGISTER** 

**Wednesday, Oct. 17th**

6:30pm to 8:30pm

Main Torrance Office  
Light Refreshments

**REGISTER** 

To reserve your seat at one of our seminars, simply click the "REGISTER" link under the event you wish to attend or you may also call us at 1-800-756-5596 or [e-mail us](mailto:info@kmo.com).

### Quick Links

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**I found this Haverford College photo, that may very well be the one I looked at each night and held in my dreams!**

I vividly recall how the first days of college were incredibly alive with excitement, joy, adventure and promise! For me, this was the first time I had ever lived away from home, so it also meant freedom, at last! Little did I know, it also meant that I had to learn the lessons of that freedom, as I began to be "my own person" and make choices without my parents telling me what to do (and learn to live with the consequences of poor choices, as well as good ones!). Don't get me wrong...I was always a top student and serious about book learning, but looking back, there was so much more to "growing up" in college than studies. Most of what I learned was outside the classroom! My social and personal growth was equal to or greater than any intellectual enlightenment. For me, and I think for many others too, college was an invaluable rite of passage into adulthood. Something I look forward to my children and grandchildren experiencing too - - which, if you wonder where I'm going with all of this, of course leads me back to your estate planning.

It's sad to admit, as an American, but our youngest generation today is finding it harder to enjoy many of the opportunities their parents took for granted. It's much more difficult for youngsters to go to college, start a

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career, buy a home and support a family. So many colleges and universities have cut back student space and scholarships due to budgetary constraints. Government grants are less accessible. And even when loan money is available, many young people are turning away from college, not wanting to be saddled with heavy debt before they even embark on their careers. What you choose to do – - or not to do – - as part of your estate plan can have a great bearing on the life's path your grandchildren and great-grandchildren will follow.

There are many ways you can help your grandchildren and great-grandchildren get a proper “head start” in life through a good college education.

You can help with lifetime gifts. Cash gifts of up to \$13,000 per grandchild or great-grandchild each year aren't considered taxable gifts and you don't even need to file any gift tax return. (If you're married, you and your spouse can give up to \$26,000.) If the grandchild or great-grandchild is not yet college age, you can pre-fund their school using something known as a “529 Plan”. That's a special account where you can contribute up to \$65,000 right away (\$130,000 if you're married) and it's not considered a gift. Better yet, the money can immediately start to grow income tax-free and when it's later taken out for school, it's tax-free too! Another alternative is to set up a life insurance policy to create a grandchildren's college education fund. This is often done by utilizing a “Life Insurance Trust”, to ensure that the money will be both estate and income tax-free. If your loved one is already in college, you may want to pay some tuition or other college expenses directly (provided you see they are getting good grades!). These expenses that you pay directly don't even count towards the \$13,000 no matter how much they are.

If you can't afford lifetime gifts, at least you can provide in your Living Trust that, after you're gone, some dollar amount or percentage of your estate will be set aside in a continuing trust to pay for your grandchildren's or great-grandchildren's college education. Too often, I see children – - who you may be relying upon after you're gone to help their own offspring – - spend or mismanage their inheritance before it ever gets to the younger generation. If a small portion of your estate is set aside for

your grandchildren's and great-grandchildren's education, it probably won't adversely affect your children's standard of living, but it may positively affect your future generations' lives!

Whatever approach you choose, I implore you to do something to help ensure your youngest family members will enjoy – - like I did – - September's promise.

(If you have a neat back-to-school story, we'd love to hear it! Please feel free to comment on this post directly or [e-mail us](#).)

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## **Community Organization of the Month: The Friendship Circle of the South Bay**

We thoroughly enjoy and support organizations that give back to the community. If you know of any local non-profit organizations that are giving back to the Los Angeles or Orange County communities, please feel free to [e-mail us](#) and we might feature a highlight of the organization in a future newsletter.



The Friendship Circle of the South Bay is a non-profit organization dedicated to making a dramatic difference in the lives of children and young adults with special needs, through one-to-one peer mentoring and social-recreational programs in the homes, schools, and communities of the South Bay and surrounding areas.

Founded in 2005, The Friendship Circle of the South Bay focuses its sights on simultaneously impacting two populations in the South Bay community: children with special needs and teens with a willingness and desire to volunteer. It wanted to model for the community a lifestyle of acceptance and unity, fueled by the energetic and dedicated philanthropic youth living amongst us. The Friendship Circle started out with 8 children with special needs and 22 teen volunteers, meeting once per month on a Sunday afternoon in Manhattan Beach. Soon thereafter, a few of the teens took this concept to their high schools and established school-sanctioned clubs at Mira Costa High School, Palos Verdes High School, and Redondo Union High School.

Today, The Friendship Circle of the South Bay offers programs 6 days per week, year-round. It provides services for over one thousand children and young adults with special needs and an equal number of teenage volunteers. Friendship Circle Clubs are established throughout the South Bay at elementary, middle, and high school levels in public, private, and charter schools - and its members are constantly growing throughout Los Angeles County.

### **The Friendship Circle of the South Bay**

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

(310) 214-6677

Contact: Casey Ann Hickey, LMSW

[casey@gotfriends.com](mailto:casey@gotfriends.com)



### **The 2012 Skechers Pier to Pier Friendship Walk**

The Skechers Pier to Pier Friendship Walk will take place on Sunday October 28th, 2012. The funds raised at this event will be donated to The Friendship Circle and the local school districts.

For more information, go to [www.skechersfriendshipwalk.com](http://www.skechersfriendshipwalk.com)

### **Meet a Member of the KM&O Family: Steven J. Oshins, Esq., AEP (Distinguished) Of Counsel Attorney**

Steven J. Oshins is what is known as an "Of Counsel" attorney to our law firm. He is an expert in the area of advanced-level estate planning strategies such as asset protection and estate tax planning and has assisted many of our clients that require this specialized type of planning.



Mr. Oshins is a member of the Law Offices of Oshins & Associates, LLC based out of Las Vegas, Nevada.

He has been named among one of Las Vegas' top estate planning attorneys in numerous publications and has been featured and/or quoted in many media publications including, among others, The Wall Street Journal, Forbes, Bloomberg, Financial Times, Kiplinger's, Investment News and Lawyers Weekly USA. He has authored numerous estate planning and asset protection articles in professional publications and magazines.

Mr. Oshins has been very active in helping get some of the most valuable trust and creditor protection laws passed in Nevada.

There is still some time to take advantage of a window of opportunity available this year with the \$5.12 million exemption (see our blog entry, "[Time is Running Out - Your 2012 Estate Planning Window of Opportunity is Closing!](#)"). If you are single with an estate valued at \$3 million or more or you're a married couple with an estate valued at \$6 million or more, contact our office at 1-800-756-5596 and set up a phone call with an attorney to determine if you are qualified for this specialized planning available by Mr. Oshins.

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## Recent Blog Entries

Here are the latest blog entries for your reading pleasure!

- [Exercise May Reduce Your Chance of Alzheimer's](#)
- [Get Ready for a New Tax on January 1, 2013](#)
- [10 Great Senior Discounts to Take Advantage Of](#)
- [8 Tips for Reducing Your Credit Card Debt](#)
- [And Much More!](#)



Did you know that each blog entry has the option for you to leave a comment? We welcome your comments and feedback on our blog entries. Also, if you have any particular articles or topics that you would like to see featured in our blog, please let us know! Thanks, in advance, and we look forward to hearing back from you!

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## Fall Recipe

September 22nd marks the First Day of Fall and what better way to bring the new season in by stirring up this fall recipe, care of [AllRecipes.com](http://AllRecipes.com).

### Pumpkin Bread Recipe

Prep Time: 15 minutes

Cook Time: 1 hour

#### Ingredients:

- 3 cups canned pumpkin puree
- 1 1/2 cups vegetable oil
- 4 cups white sugar
- 6 eggs
- 4 3/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 1/2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1 1/2 teaspoons salt
- 1 1/2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- 1 1/2 teaspoons ground nutmeg
- 1 1/2 teaspoons ground cloves



#### Directions:

1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).
2. Grease and flour three 9x5 inch loaf pans.
3. In a large bowl, mix together the pumpkin, oil, sugar, and eggs.
4. Combine the flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt, cinnamon, nutmeg, and cloves.
5. Stir into the pumpkin mixture until well blended.
6. Divide the batter evenly between the prepared pans.
7. Bake in preheated oven for 45 minutes to 1 hour. The top of the loaf should spring back when lightly pressed.
8. Variations: Add raisins, mini chocolate chips, pecans, or walnuts.

ENJOY!

If you have a recipe of your own that you would like to share with our readers, please [e-mail us](#) your recipes!



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