

Opportunities

INFORMING YOU OF OPPORTUNITIES
FOR PLANNING YOUR FUTURE

WINTER 2010

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The importance of planning today

PERSONAL FINANCIAL PLANNING TAKES ON MORE IMPORTANCE TODAY than ever before and many needs must be considered.

Security during retirement concerns most Americans. Perhaps an aging family member will require long-term care, or you may want to provide educational expenses for a younger loved one. Decisions you make now can ensure that you can meet these and other needs.

Your past and present support of your charitable interests may mean a great deal to you and others. But in times of economic uncertainty, you wonder if you can continue your charitable gifts without taking away from important personal responsibilities.

Professional advisors can help

Skilled financial planning can balance what may seem to be contradictory goals. Generally, the best way to begin to accomplish objectives is to have your plans prepared by professionals. Such plans may include a will, trusts, life insurance, annuities, or retirement accounts.

Build your future

Read on to learn more about the importance of making plans and keeping them up to date. We are available to help answer questions you or your advisors may have about making charitable gift planning a part of these plans.

Healthy Estate Planning: Staying current and financially fit



Please join us for an insightful presentation

Wednesday, March 17, 2010

6:45 pm Cookies and Drinks

7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Presentation

Conference Rooms F&G, Ground Floor, New Hospital

Panelists will be available to answer your personal questions after the program.

Topics covered will include:

- Updating Your Estate Plans: What to Remember
- Safeguarding Your Income in Retirement
- Unlocking Value in Your Existing Assets

Plus an update on what's new at El Camino Hospital

Panelists are professionals experienced in estate and tax planning who volunteer on El Camino Hospital Foundation's Planned Giving Council.

There will be no solicitation of funds or business.

For more information, contact Madeline Chaleff,
650-962-4904 Madeline.Chaleff@elcaminohospital.org

Imagine all we can do together.
THE CAMPAIGN FOR EL CAMINO HOSPITAL



El Camino Hospital Foundation
THE HOSPITAL OF SILICON VALLEY

Does Your Will Work for You?

To create a bequest by will to a charitable organization or institution, such as El Camino Hospital Foundation, simply inform your attorney when you are reviewing your plans. Often the change does not necessitate a new will but simply the addition of a codicil to your existing will.

If you plan to use living trusts and other vehicles as the primary means to distribute your property, remember that charitable dispositions may be made in them as well. Let your professional advisors know of your wishes. As always, we are available to help in any way we can.

What Will My Legacy Be?

Do you qualify for membership in El Camino Hospital Foundation's Legacy Society? If you have made a gift to the Foundation in your will or trust, please let us know so we can thank you and invite you to our special Legacy Society events. For more information, contact Madeline Chaleff, director of gift planning, at 650.962.4904 or madeline.chaleff@elcaminohospital.org.

Did You Know? News About El Camino Hospital

The December 2009 issue of **Popular Science** magazine declared the new El Camino Hospital in Silicon Valley to be the most technologically advanced in the world. We are honored by their recognition. To see the full text, go to www.popsci.com/bown/2009/product/el-camino-hospital

New Registration System Enhances Patient Safety and Security

EL CAMINO HOSPITAL IS THE ONLY HOSPITAL IN SILICON VALLEY

and one of only a handful of hospitals nationwide that has adopted biometric technology to enhance patient safety and protect privacy. The Fujitsu PalmSecure™ patient registration system went live when the new hospital opened on November 15, 2009. Now, all patients who are admitted have their palms scanned to record their unique vein structure. Instead of using the patient's medical insurance card or driver's license for identification, the hospital uses the patient's palm print, which is far more difficult to falsify.



The new registration system speeds up the hospital admissions process and protects patients by dramatically reducing the possibility of medical identity theft. Because the image is linked to El Camino Hospital's health information system, hospital personnel are using it to verify and confirm that each patient is getting the correct treatment, thereby enhancing patient safety.

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"The PalmSecure system is one more important way that 'The Hospital of Silicon Valley' is leveraging technology to improve patient care," says Ken Graham, CEO of El Camino Hospital. "We'll do whatever it takes to deliver care safely and efficiently while continuing to improve the patient's experience."

Are Your Estate Plans Up To Date?

Although it may have been years since you last took an exam, we invite you to try your hand at this quiz. Answer each statement True or False, then total your score at the end. Anything you cannot answer due to incomplete estate planning should be answered False. If something does not apply to your situation, answer True.

1. I have a will. T F
2. I have not moved to a different state since last reviewing my estate plans. T F
3. My marital status has not changed since my last review. T F
4. No children or grandchildren have been born since my plans were last reviewed. T F
5. I am certain my property will go to those I wish, in the amounts I desire. T F
6. My spouse and/or children would need no assistance in managing property left to them. T F
7. No significant increases or decreases in wealth have occurred since my last review. T F
8. I have not given away nor sold property left to others in my will. T F
9. Adequate provisions have been made for transferring business interests I may own. T F
10. I do not wish to provide anyone with temporary help (e.g., education of children or grandchildren). T F
11. I am satisfied with the charitable gifts included in my plans. T F
12. I am aware of the amount I may leave to others tax-free. T F
13. My estate plan specifies which beneficiaries should be responsible for paying estate taxes. T F
14. I am confident the life insurance I have is adequate for the support of loved ones, payment of taxes (if applicable), and estate settlement expenses. T F
15. I know my will may not determine the beneficiaries of my life insurance and retirement plans. T F
16. The person I have chosen to handle my estate settlement is still willing and able to serve. T F
17. My assets are jointly owned where that is appropriate. T F
18. My loved ones are aware of my wishes regarding extraordinary medical measures. T F
19. I am aware that my spouse will not receive all of my property unless that is provided for in my will or other plans. T F
20. My financial records are up to date and readily accessible. T F
21. I have discussed my estate plan with those close to me. T F

How Did You Do?

Each false answer is worth:

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1) 10 points | 12) 5 points |
| 2) 2 points | 13) 5 points |
| 3) 8 points | 14) 3 points |
| 4) 5 points | 15) 3 points |
| 5) 5 points | 16) 2 points |
| 6) 4 points | 17) 4 points |
| 7) 4 points | 18) 6 points |
| 8) 4 points | 19) 8 points |
| 9) 6 points | 20) 3 points |
| 10) 4 points | 21) 3 points |
| 11) 4 points | |

If the values of your false answers total:

0-15: You are unusually prudent in your financial affairs. Congratulations!

16-30: You are above average as a manager of personal finances and estate planning. Review your plans to be sure they still reflect your wishes.

31-50: You are about average, in that you need to seriously reconsider your estate plan. Take time now to review or begin your estate plan with professional help.

Over 50: Your loved ones will probably experience significant difficulties, delays, and expense in settling your estate.

There is no time like the present when it comes to creating or updating your estate plans. Experience the peace of mind that can come from taking control of the future in ways that will benefit you, your loved ones, and your charitable interests. We would be pleased to help you and your advisors as you consider the charitable dimension of your plans.

Profile in Giving: Bernis and Larry Kretchmar

"WE BELIEVE IN REPAIRING THE WORLD AND MAKING IT A BETTER PLACE," explain longtime El Camino Hospital Foundation supporters Bernis and Larry Kretchmar.

The Wisconsin natives married in 1958 and settled in Northern California six years later, after stints in Hanover, New Hampshire and Rochester, New York, where Larry completed his urology internship and residency. Shortly after their arrival on the West Coast, Dr. Alvin Rutner invited Larry to join El Camino Urology Medical Group and the couple's 45-year association with El Camino Hospital commenced.

While Larry was busy building his medical practice, Bernis focused on raising their three children and establishing the family in the community. The calm was briefly and stressfully interrupted in 1967 by the Vietnam War, when Larry was drafted and sent to Da Nang to run the Navy's sole urology clinic in South Vietnam. Bernis and the children moved to La Mesa while they waited for him to come home. The family communicated by short wave radio every few weeks.

The Kretchmars returned to Los Altos in 1969 and Bernis became increasingly involved in the local public schools, volunteering for the P.T.A. and as an art docent. Over the next decade Larry served as El Camino Hospital's chief of surgery and chief of staff. When El Camino Hospital Foundation was established in 1982, Bernis joined the new board of directors and attended "fundraising school" to learn skills that would help the fledgling organization take flight. Two years later the Jewish Federation of Greater San Jose hired her to direct their women's campaign, a position she held for the next eleven years.

By 2004, Bernis was ready to turn her attention back to El Camino Hospital Foundation. She joined the gala committee and helped plan "In Full Bloom," the hospital's first such event in nearly a decade. She has remained on the committee ever since, co-chairing the rooftop extravaganza "What's Cooking at El Camino Hospital" in 2006. The following year, Bernis rejoined the Foundation board of directors and became a member of the Imagine Campaign Cabinet. "Larry and I have a good life here and we wanted to give back to our community in this way. We provide the historical memory," she says.



Bernis and Larry Kretchmar

Larry, now semi-retired, volunteers at the RotaCare Clinic and serves on the advisory board of the Genomic Medicine Institute. The Kretchmar

children and grandchildren have also absorbed the importance of volunteering for their communities. The youngest granddaughter aspires to join El Camino Hospital's Junior Auxiliary when she is old enough, just like her mom.

As they were reflecting on the good in their lives and the importance of El Camino Hospital to their family, the Kretchmars decided to make a planned gift to the Foundation. "My father taught me to make decisions during my lifetime about what I want my money to do," Bernis says, "and our children know our enthusiasm for El Camino Hospital. The hospital is such an asset to the community, it is worth supporting. With this gift we are taking care of our grandchildren and the community; we are insuring the future." And by creating a trust in their estate plan for El Camino Hospital Foundation, the Kretchmars are perpetuating a family legacy of giving.

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