

Maplewood Area Senior Initiative presenting free speaker series directed at educating seniors

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The Maplewood Area Senior Initiative (or "MASI"), an advocacy group focused on addressing the unmet needs of seniors in Maplewood and surrounding communities, is presenting a free speaker series directed at older adults and their caretakers on the second Friday of each month. The talks will take place at the Maplewood City Council Chambers at 7601 Manchester Road from 1:30 to 2:30 pm. The organization was formed by local professionals, including Maplewood City Councilperson, Barry Greenberg, elder law attorney Melissa Leavy, Katrie Spink of Lutheran Senior Services, Andrew Bolin of Thrivent Financial, and attorney Sean O'Gorman, and other local professionals.

At its third speaking event, hosted on Friday, August 14, 2015, John Hale, Director of Investor Education for the Missouri Secretary of State's office will discuss how seniors can take steps to avoid becoming the victim of financial abuse, physical abuse, and fraud. Mr. Hale educates the public on topics the State is committed to combating and will cover the following topics on



St. Louis Elder Law Attorney Melissa Leavy

August 14: unregistered sales people, Ponzi investment schemes, real estate investments, and investment fads. Officer Michael Martin of the Maplewood Police Department will be co-presenting with the Secretary of State's office on local Maplewood issues and problems officers see in the local senior community.

Other upcoming events include:

- Elder Law and Asset Planning Issues on September 11, 2015 Attorney Melissa Q. Leavy of The Elder Care Law Practice, LLC
- Medicare Insurance Issues on October 9, 2015 Paul Barker of Premier Insurance Source LLC
- Real Estate and Tax Issues on November 13, 2015 Real estate agent Kay Basta
- Financial and Retirement Planning on December 11, 2015 Andrew Bolin of Thrivent Financial

<u>St Louis Medicaid attorney</u> Melissa Q. Leavy is the principal attorney of The Elder Care Law Practice, LLC, a <u>St. Louis elder law lawyer</u>, and is committed to advocating for the legal rights of seniors and disabled persons. She regularly represents and counsels people across a variety of legal areas, including special needs planning, long-term care planning, Medicaid planning, <u>veteran's benefits</u>, estate planning, and probate and trust administration. Prospective clients who would like to meet with Ms. Leavy can reach her Clayton office by calling (314) 896-0046.

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