**ELDER LAW**

Planning during the last year of your life

By Arthur P. Bergeron

Elder law attorney in the Trusts and Estates Group at Mirick O'Connell

In a set of seminars this fall, I am inviting doctors, geriatric care managers, and others in elder services to talk about the many things you may want to consider to make that last year as good as it can be. Here are some legal tips you may want to consider:

- Give things away. If your asset value is over $1 million, you can save on Massachusetts estate tax. There is no gift tax over $1 million, you can save on Massachusetts estate tax. There is no gift tax over $1 million, you can save on Massachusetts estate tax. There is no gift tax over $1 million, you can save on Massachusetts estate tax. There is no gift tax over $1 million, you can save on Massachusetts estate tax. There is no gift tax over $1 million, you can save on Massachusetts estate tax. There is no gift tax over $1 million, you can save on Massachusetts estate tax.
- Structure things to avoid probate. You can typically do this by making sure property is held jointly, or by using a “payable on death” designation, or by putting the property into a revocable trust.
- Have an appropriate Health Care Proxy and Durable Power of Attorney, so your wishes can be carried out no matter how you are feeling during that last year.
- Have a MOLST (Medical Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment) form. Do you want artificial resuscitation? You get to decide if it’s in the MOLST form.

If you need more information on this, you can contact me at 508-860-1470 or abbergeron@mirickoconnell.com. You can also subscribe to Frank and Mary's YouTube Channel, https://www.youtube.com/user/ElderLawFrankAndMary for the latest informational videos.

**SEE THE THIRWOOD DIFFERENCE**

Spacious Living in a Beautiful Setting

- All Independent and Assisted Living Rental Apartments Feature:
  - Reasonably Priced Flexible Options
  - One & Two Bedroom Apartments up to 900 sq. feet
  - Village Apartments up to 1700 sq. feet
  - Full Kitchen
  - Patio/Balcony
  - Washer/Dryer
  - Ample Storage
  - Golf Privileges
  - Supportive Care
  - 24-Hour Security
  - Multiple Dining Choices
  - Fitness Center with Heated Indoor Pool
  - Social & Physical Activities
  - Weekly Housekeeping
  - Linen Service
  - Transportation
  - Health & Wellness
  - Move-In Coordinator

To learn more about our flexible rental options at Thirwood Place, visit us online at ThirwoodPlace.com or stop by and join us for a casual tour to experience the Thirwood difference.

(508) 398-8006
237 North Main Street
South Yarmouth, MA 02664
www.ThirwoodPlace.com

**SHINE NEWS**

Medicare Open Enrollment Begins Oct. 15

**Options for getting to medical appointments on Cape Cod using Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority service.**

Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority (CCRTA) has added additional stops on its SeaLine route leaving from Woods Hole. You can now get to Falmouth Hospital and to medical and dental providers in the Jones Road area. The CCRTAS ADA paratransit service (known as The Lift on Martha's Vineyard) travels to providers within ¾ mile of fixed route service, if arranged in advance for eligible riders. In other words, if you are eligible for The Lift services here on the island, you are likely eligible on the Cape as well. The DART service leaves from Woods Hole with a “reservation” made in advance with CCRTA (when timing can be accommodated) and travels to the door of the requested destination.

If you are on MassHealth (Medicaid) you are eligible for transportation assistance by applying for a PT1 through the MV Transit Authority and approved by your physician. Call the VTA at 508-693-9440 for information on the PT1 application.

For more information call the CCRTA

508-385-1430
800-352-7155
TTY 800-439-0183
Or go to the CCRTA website at capecodtransit.org

**VA NEWS**

Congratulations Jo Ann!

Congratulations to Jo Ann Murphy on her retirement! We are so grateful to you for your 20 years of service as the Dukes County Veterans’ agent and wish you all the best!

**Options for getting to medical appointments on Cape Cod using Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority service.**

Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority (CCRTA) has added additional stops on its SeaLine route leaving from Woods Hole. You can now get to Falmouth Hospital and to medical and dental providers in the Jones Road area. The CCRTAS ADA paratransit service (known as The Lift on Martha’s Vineyard) travels to providers within ¾ mile of fixed route service, if arranged in advance for eligible riders. In other words, if you are eligible for The Lift services here on the island, you are likely eligible on the Cape as well. The DART service leaves from Woods Hole with a “reservation” made in advance with CCRTA (when timing can be accommodated) and travels to the door of the requested destination.

If you are on MassHealth (Medicaid) you are eligible for transportation assistance by applying for a PT1 through the MV Transit Authority and approved by your physician. Call the VTA at 508-693-9440 for information on the PT1 application.

For more information call the CCRTA

508-385-1430
800-352-7155
TTY 800-439-0183
Or go to the CCRTA website at capecodtransit.org

**SHINE NEWS**

Medicare Open Enrollment Begins Oct. 15

**Options for getting to medical appointments on Cape Cod using Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority service.**

Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority (CCRTA) has added additional stops on its SeaLine route leaving from Woods Hole. You can now get to Falmouth Hospital and to medical and dental providers in the Jones Road area. The CCRTAS ADA paratransit service (known as The Lift on Martha’s Vineyard) travels to providers within ¾ mile of fixed route service, if arranged in advance for eligible riders. In other words, if you are eligible for The Lift services here on the island, you are likely eligible on the Cape as well. The DART service leaves from Woods Hole with a “reservation” made in advance with CCRTA (when timing can be accommodated) and travels to the door of the requested destination.

If you are on MassHealth (Medicaid) you are eligible for transportation assistance by applying for a PT1 through the MV Transit Authority and approved by your physician. Call the VTA at 508-693-9440 for information on the PT1 application.

For more information call the CCRTA

508-385-1430
800-352-7155
TTY 800-439-0183
Or go to the CCRTA website at capecodtransit.org

**VA NEWS**

Congratulations Jo Ann!

Congratulations to Jo Ann Murphy on her retirement! We are so grateful to you for your 20 years of service as the Dukes County Veterans’ agent and wish you all the best!

Options for getting to medical appointments on Cape Cod using Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority service.

Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority (CCRTA) has added additional stops on its SeaLine route leaving from Woods Hole. You can now get to Falmouth Hospital and to medical and dental providers in the Jones Road area. The CCRTAS ADA paratransit service (known as The Lift on Martha’s Vineyard) travels to providers within ¾ mile of fixed route service, if arranged in advance for eligible riders. In other words, if you are eligible for The Lift services here on the island, you are likely eligible on the Cape as well. The DART service leaves from Woods Hole with a “reservation” made in advance with CCRTA (when timing can be accommodated) and travels to the door of the requested destination.

If you are on MassHealth (Medicaid) you are eligible for transportation assistance by applying for a PT1 through the MV Transit Authority and approved by your physician. Call the VTA at 508-693-9440 for information on the PT1 application.

For more information call the CCRTA

508-385-1430
800-352-7155
TTY 800-439-0183
Or go to the CCRTA website at capecodtransit.org

**VA NEWS**

Congratulations Jo Ann!

Congratulations to Jo Ann Murphy on her retirement! We are so grateful to you for your 20 years of service as the Dukes County Veterans’ agent and wish you all the best!

Options for getting to medical appointments on Cape Cod using Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority service.

Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority (CCRTA) has added additional stops on its SeaLine route leaving from Woods Hole. You can now get to Falmouth Hospital and to medical and dental providers in the Jones Road area. The CCRTAS ADA paratransit service (known as The Lift on Martha’s Vineyard) travels to providers within ¾ mile of fixed route service, if arranged in advance for eligible riders. In other words, if you are eligible for The Lift services here on the island, you are likely eligible on the Cape as well. The DART service leaves from Woods Hole with a “reservation” made in advance with CCRTA (when timing can be accommodated) and travels to the door of the requested destination.

If you are on MassHealth (Medicaid) you are eligible for transportation assistance by applying for a PT1 through the MV Transit Authority and approved by your physician. Call the VTA at 508-693-9440 for information on the PT1 application.

For more information call the CCRTA

508-385-1430
800-352-7155
TTY 800-439-0183
Or go to the CCRTA website at capecodtransit.org

**VA NEWS**

Congratulations Jo Ann!

Congratulations to Jo Ann Murphy on her retirement! We are so grateful to you for your 20 years of service as the Dukes County Veterans’ agent and wish you all the best!

Options for getting to medical appointments on Cape Cod using Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority service.

Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority (CCRTA) has added additional stops on its SeaLine route leaving from Woods Hole. You can now get to Falmouth Hospital and to medical and dental providers in the Jones Road area. The CCRTAS ADA paratransit service (known as The Lift on Martha’s Vineyard) travels to providers within ¾ mile of fixed route service, if arranged in advance for eligible riders. In other words, if you are eligible for The Lift services here on the island, you are likely eligible on the Cape as well. The DART service leaves from Woods Hole with a “reservation” made in advance with CCRTA (when timing can be accommodated) and travels to the door of the requested destination.

If you are on MassHealth (Medicaid) you are eligible for transportation assistance by applying for a PT1 through the MV Transit Authority and approved by your physician. Call the VTA at 508-693-9440 for information on the PT1 application.

For more information call the CCRTA

508-385-1430
800-352-7155
TTY 800-439-0183
Or go to the CCRTA website at capecodtransit.org

**VA NEWS**

Congratulations Jo Ann!

Congratulations to Jo Ann Murphy on her retirement! We are so grateful to you for your 20 years of service as the Dukes County Veterans’ agent and wish you all the best!
Health Insurance Counseling, Medicaid, and MassHealth Info:
S.H.I.N.E.  
ECA, call 508-627-4368 for an appointment.  
OBCOA, call 508-693-4509, ext. 3, for appointments.  
TCOA, call 508-696-4205 for an appointment.  
Wampanoag Tribal Council, 508-643-9265.
Vineyard Health Care Access Program, 508-696-0102.

FOOD SERVICES:  
Emergency Pantries: All Senior Centers. Monthly distribution. Call for date and time.
First Baptist Church Parish House “Serving Hands,” Williams Street, V.H., info at 508-693-5339.
Island Food Pantry Christ United Methodist Church, Church Street, V.H., info at 508-693-4764.

FOOD SERVICES, TRANSPORT & HOUSING
Cape Cod Railroad Lunch Train, TCOA  
Oct. 3.
See the Cape as you have lunch on a train! Call 508-693-4286 to register.
Falmouth Shopping Trips, UICOA  
Oct. 16, Nov. 20, and Dec. 15.
8:15 am boat leaving, 3:45 pm returning. Call 508-693-2896.

“Come From Away” at Providence Performing Arts Center, UICOA  
Dec. 7. Round-trip motor coach and buffet luncheon included. Price TBA.
“Come From Away” is based on the true story of when the isolated community of Gander, Newfoundland, played host to the world. What started as an average day in a small town turned into an international sleeper when 38 planes, carrying thousands of people from across the globe, were diverted to Gander’s airstrip on 9/11/01. Undaunted by culture clashes and language barriers, the people of Gander cheered the stranded travelers with music, an open bar, and the recognition that we’re all part of a global family.” Call 508-693-2896.

Sympathy Trips, TCOA  
Keep an eye out for info on day trips for the Full A Series Breaks with Symphony Orchestras. Call 508-696-4205 for more info.

TRAVEL NEWS
No money, no teacher, no instructions. Dance to catchy, funky, rhythmic music. Dancing and Movement, OBCOA Fridays, 1 – 2:30 pm. A great way to exercise, increase mobility and balance, and have fun! Fitness with Catie, TCOA Tuesdays: 9:30 am Thursdays: 10:00 am Instructor: Catie Blake, Free. Equipment provided. Call 508-696-4205 for info. Got Strength? Strength Training Class, ECOA Tuesdays, 8:30 am, Thursdays, 3:30 pm Instructor: Lisa Amols. Be strong, flexible, fit, and happy! Call Lisa, 508-693-1099, before first class. Punch cards available. Join anytime. Misty Meadows Equine Learning Center Participate in facilitated interactions with our four-legged friends. Call 508-338-7198 for info. O.B. Exercise Classes, OBCOA Mondays, 8:45 am Group Exercise Thursdays, 9 am with Bill White Fridays, 8:30 am with Floyd Senior Fitness Classes, YMCA Free with “Y” membership or daily use fee. Go to ymcanmv.org for info and program guide. Strength Training, UICOA With Karyn Gilbert $8 (first class is free). Mondays and Wednesdays, 5:30 pm Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8:30 am and 9:30 am Saturdays, 9 am Walking Club, OBCOA Tuesdays, 10 – 11:30 am.


Mindful Knitting, ECOA Mondays, 3:30 to 5:30 pm. Not an instructional group. Call 508-627-4368. Needlework for Charity, ECOA Tuesdays, 10 am. Make projects benefiting charitable organizations, or your personal project. The more the merrier! Knitting, crocheting, needlepoint, and more! Needlepoint, ECOA Tuesdays, 1:15 to 1:55 pm.

Thank you from the Martha’s Vineyard Center for Living! The M.V. Center for Living would like to thank the following Island Grown Initiative’s Farm Hub • Privatus • The Black Dog Cafe • Island Fresh Pizza & Subs • Snapping Turtle Farm • Linda Jean’s • Morning Glory Farm
This year marks the third year of Perfect Pitch MV, where Island entrepreneurs pitch their ideas “Shark Tank”-style to local businesses in hopes of getting financial support for their ventures. The 2017 second-place winner was Sonnyside Rides, which was hired by the fair’s management. The business is a service that caters to weddings, birthday parties, reunions, and all sorts of events on the Island. Laura and Bruce Marshard have a long history of horses in their lives and business. In fact, Bruce rescued Sonny Boy (for whom the business is named), and that horse’s image even graced an Agricultural Fair poster back in 2014. While Sonny Boy is unfortunately no longer, there are two Percherons (Touch of Texas and Tim) and a Belgian (Dudley) who continue his legacy of making events more special for everyone involved.

Marshard, who prepared and presented with her friend and business associate Emily Moehnke, remembers her Perfect Pitch well. “We had a great time, and tried to convey just how much their support means to us as an organization and Island community,” she said. Marshard says she and her husband put perfect Pitch MV winnings toward a new carriage intended for weddings and other formal events. The ornate carriage has velvet seats, accommodates six people, and has a retractable cover to protect passengers from inclement weather. Recently it was rented by a high schooler to transport him and a group of friends from the Tisbury School to the Junior Prom at West Chop.

Marshard also credits the Perfect Pitch experience with her becoming more involved with the M.V. Chamber of Commerce and the local businesses that participate. She was impressed to see how hard the chamber works for Island businesses, and feels great to enhance it and make it even more special. Her advice for upcoming Perfect Pitchers is to “take advantage of the assistance they offer — it’s so helpful for the way you present your business to the public.” Marshard is lucky to have the best ambassadors built right in to her business — three horses who make people smile.

Hospice honors top donors

A Major Donor appreciation party will be held at the Granary Gallery from 5:30 to 7 pm on Saturday, Sept. 28, honoring top donors to Hospice of Martha’s Vineyard. According to a press release, Hospice of Martha’s Vineyard board of directors and executive staff will gather together with about 80 of their largest philanthropic supporters at Granary Gallery to celebrate the generosity that these individuals have shown to the Hospice organization. Hospice would like to express its gratitude to its presenting event sponsor, Martha’s Vineyard Bank, and its gracious hosts, Chris and Sheila Morse.

Hospice of Martha’s Vineyard is one of three Hospice organizations left in the country that do not charge patients, their families, or insurance for their services. As such, philanthropic support is the life-blood of the agency. They literally would not be able to meet their mission to provide quality hospice and bereavement services without charge to all who are facing serious illness, grief, and death, without the contributions made by the individuals who have been invited to join together at the Granary.

“It is essential that Hospice embrace our most dedicated supporters,” said Jess Rogers, development coordinator of Hospice of Martha’s Vineyard, “and ensure that we communicate just how much their support means to us as an organization and Island community. In one word, it truly means everything.”