Comment: The following news stories about adult guardianship or conservatorship are being circulated by the Disability and Guardianship Project of Spectrum Institute to persons interested in guardianship and conservatorship reform. The stories are extracted from the Newsfeed of the organization’s Disability and Abuse Project. Many thanks to Debra J. Stemmler for her research and to Dr. Nora J. Baladerian for funding the Newsfeed service.

– Thomas F. Coleman, Legal Director

“Arc gets grants to help people with disabilities.” The Arc of Monroe County has been awarded $215,000 in grants to support its guardianship and recreation programs. Awarded by NYSARC Inc. Trust Services, a $200,000 grant will provide guardianship services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities who would not otherwise have a legal guardian or advocate. --- rbj.net, May 29 (New York) https://is.gd/38mJAR

“North Carolinians describe guardianship as a 'sick, twisted process'. “It's a sick, twisted process and you're just basically stripped of your civil rights.” That's how Perquita Burgess described guardianship in North Carolina. --- cbs17.com, May 23 (North Carolina) https://is.gd/KfsA4V

“Ombudsman highlights most common problems faced by special guardians.” Councils need to provide the right support and guidance to carers and children subject to Special Guardianship Orders, the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman has said. --- familylawweek.co.uk, May 17 https://is.gd/GNVWVC

“Disability Is No Reason to Strip A Person’s Voting Rights.” Right now in the U.S., people with disabilities can be stripped of their right to vote in 39 states and the District of Columbia. It happens like this: In families that include an adult with a developmental disability or mental illness, a guardian may be chosen to assist with management of their loved one’s finances and health care decisions. Judges are also empowered to make decisions regarding voter participation competency during these guardianship proceedings. --- huffingtonpost.com, May 12 https://is.gd/YAMeM6
“Mental Capacity Standards in California Civil Litigation.” What mental capacity standards apply in California civil litigation? Last month we presented on this subject at the Placer County Bar Association’s annual spring conference in Roseville. I’ll offer highlights here. --- jdsupra.com, May 15 (California) https://is.gd/LgUe7O

“Fairfax County siblings fight to see father after guardian terminated visitation rights.” Adult children find themselves permanently banned from ever visiting their ailing parents because they asked too many questions about nursing home care. As the ABC7 I-Team discovered: It's legal and happening more than you may think. --- w jla.com, May 11 (Virginia) https://is.gd/Yn9naN

“'Nobody bothered to call': Local attorney, judge question lack of public guardianship service for county.” The agency that receives funding from the state of Florida to arrange for and provide guardianship services for the area’s elderly who find themselves in need is not providing those services in St. Johns County and at least one other county in the 7th Judicial Circuit. --- staugustine.com, May 6 (Florida) https://is.gd/FvHdFx

“Will Sebastian woman be jailed in visitation dispute over brother with Down syndrome?” George Gillette sat in a well-lit dayroom working on a Spiderman jigsaw puzzle as closing credits from “The Big Valley” came across the TV. --- tcpalm.com, May 10 (Florida) https://is.gd/wzUB1N