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Boomers Plan to Stay Home

New AARP Study Echos Past Surveys

Three in four of baby boom generation households (74%) expect to stay in their current home, according to a new survey prepared for AARP.

Echoing past surveys, most boomers (79%) say they would like to stay in their current home for as long as possible. Some – less than 10% – said they would like to stay in their current home but don't think they will be able to do so.

The 26 percent who expect to move, said they will be looking for a better house, a better climate or a home that is closer to family and friends. More than half of those boomers (age 45-64) planning to move expect to look for a home that's all on one level (59%). About half said they will look for a newer home (50%) or a smaller home (49%).

The poll conducted by Opinion Research Corporation for AARP was released to coincide with the announcement of the 2008 Livable Communities Awards from AARP and the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) honoring innovative thinking in the field of home and community design.

See **AARP Study**, page 10



A home builder in Florida is finding broad appeal for this universally designed home.

Rising Through the Ranks

Access Board Gets a New Executive Director

by Denise McGiffin Hofstedt

David Capozzi has a level of optimism and energy that you don't expect to see in someone who has worked for the federal government for 16 years. Described as both determined and deliberate, Capozzi has a long record of getting things done. It is not surprising he was named as the new Executive Director of the US Architectural & Transportation Barriers Compliance Board (Access Board) in November.

Capozzi takes over the helm from Larry Roffee who retired in August after leading the Access Board for the last 20 years. While Capozzi may be new to the job of Executive Director, he is not new to the board. He has been the Director of Technical & Information Services for 16 years. His efforts have helped build the board's technical assistance efforts into a comprehensive, reliable and relevant resource for Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance.

See **Capozzi**, page 6

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Breaking News

The US Department of Justice sues five New York City hotels for ADA violations.

See story at www.UniversalDesign.com

Making the Case for Universal Design

Editor's Note: Architect Mark Mazz was moved to write a letter to the American Institute of Architects (AIA) President Marshall Purnell after learning that the AIA Board voted to include four hours of education in sustainable design in its continuing education requirements. Here is Mark's letter and Marshall Purnell's response.

Marshall,

I have practiced "buy used, reuse, recycle" for more than 30 years. I have also practiced accessible design for 30 years. In those 30 years, I have never seen an architect sued for failing to be "green enough". However, I routinely see architects sued about failing to comply with the federal accessibility laws. And, I have seen design professionals and their clients lose millions of dollars failing to comply with the federal accessibility laws. In individual settlements, architects have lost up to \$270,000 and their clients have lost \$35,000,000 to \$42,000,000. None of these guys are deadbeats. They are highly respected businesses.

With all due respect, the AIA is spending too much energy looking "green" at the expense of emphasizing our legal responsibilities as licensed architects. If the AIA feels the need to fractionalize our 18 LU's, the AIA really needs to consider requiring several hours a year addressing accessible design.

Mark J. Mazz, AIA

TO: Mark J. Mazz, AIA

Last March, the AIA Board voted to modify our annual education requirements to include a minimum four hours of education in sustainable design within the mandated annual 18 learning units. This change is effective on January 1, 2009 and will apply to membership renewal beginning January 1, 2010.

In today's rapidly changing landscape of codes,

standards, and new products and materials, architects must maintain awareness and proficiency of ever-increasing amounts of information. The issue of climate change and the impact of buildings on carbon emissions have created a new expectation among clients and the public to look to the expertise of architects for solutions to help them leave a greener footprint. The AIA Board recognizes the need to help prepare our colleagues and fellow practitioners for the latest challenges and opportunities facing the profession.

As you are aware, AIA members must earn 18 hours of continuing education learning units (LUs) annually. Beginning in 2009, four of those 18 hours must now be in the area of sustainable design. The four hours of sustainable-design education must be part of the eight hours currently allocated for Health, Safety, and Welfare (HSW) education. When appropriate, a single HSW course can also count toward the sustainable design requirement; however, you would still need to fulfill the 18-hour requirement.

The AIA Continuing Education System (CES) team is working with our CES providers to offer members more education opportunities to fulfill this new requirement including making available ample education opportunities that qualify for sustainable design LUs during the AIA National Convention.

As AIA president, I hope that this gesture—along with the many other ways the AIA provides solutions that address issues such as climate change—helps demonstrate that the AIA and its members are ready to lead the industry by "walking the walk" for a more sustainable future.

Sincerely,

Marshall E. Purnell, FAIA

2008 AIA President

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Website Accessibility Class Action Suit Settled

The National Federation of the Blind (NFB) and Target have settled a class action lawsuit in which the NFB alleged that Target.com was inaccessible to users with visual impairments (Universal Design Newsletter, January 2007). Under the agreement Target will make specific changes to its website to enhance its accessibility, including ensuring that guests who use screen reader software have access to the same information and transactions as users who don't use that software. In addition, Target has agreed to pay \$6 million into a damages fund. Each eligible claimant can be awarded \$3,500 to \$7,000.

DOJ & NY Hotel Reach ADA Agreement

One of the 48 New York City hotels targeted in May 2005 for an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) "voluntary compliance review" by the Department of Justice (DOJ) has reached an agreement with the department (*Universal Design Newsletter*, Oct. 2006). Included in the agreement between DOJ and the Marriott Marquis, the hotel (which does not admit to non compliance with the ADA) will ensure that its main public entrance is accessible to people with disabilities; that its central operator maintains a tty; and that within three years the hotel will provide 50 ADA-compliant units, sleeping rooms, or suites and 20 of them will have accessible roll-in showers. The hotel also agreed to provide 80 units that are accessible to people with hearing impairments. DOJ said that it would not take further action against the Marriott Marquis if it continues to comply with the agreement.

U.S. Supreme Court Won't Hear Molski's Appeal

The US Supreme Court has refused to review a federal judge's order that required a "vexious litigant" and his legal counsel to seek court approval before filing any more lawsuits under Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) within the Central District of California.

Jarek Molski, who uses a wheelchair, is reported to have filed more than 400 lawsuits alleging ADA violations in businesses in California.

DOJ Reaches Settlement with DC Over Homeless Shelter Program

In December, the Department of Justice (DOJ) announced a settlement with the District of Columbia to improve accessibility for people with disabilities in the City's homeless shelters.

The settlement requires the District to develop a comprehensive plan to ensure that shelter program facilities are readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities. As part of the settlement, the District must take public comments on the plan, hold at least one public hearing and then submit the plan to DOJ for final approval. This settlement marks the first time DOJ has required a public entity to work with both its constituents and the department to ensure that a shelter program is accessible.

DOJ initiated an investigation after receiving complaints alleging widespread ADA violations in the District's shelter program. According to a January 2008 survey conducted by a contractor who administers the District's shelter program, 23 percent of the District's homeless residents have a physical disability and 19 percent have a severe mental illness.

DOD Adopts the New Accessibility Standards

The Department of Defense (DOD) recently adopted new accessibility standards under the Architectural Barriers Act (ABA), which requires access to federally funded facilities. The standards apply to military and other facilities under DOD's jurisdiction. According to a DOD memorandum issued on Oct. 31, 2008, the new standards take effect immediately for projects and leasing actions, though projects before FY 2010 are required to comply to the maximum extent feasible. The memorandum details which facilities are covered by the policy, addresses exclusions and requests for modifications, and provides supplementary information on certain requirements in the standards.

DOD is the third agency to refresh its ABA standards based on updated guidelines issued by the Access Board. The General Services Administration and the U.S. Postal Service previously adopted similar standards. As a result, updated standards are in now in place for all federally funded facilities covered by the ABA except housing. 

This settlement marks the first time DOJ has required a public entity to work with both its constituents and the department to ensure that a shelter program is accessible.

UD Commission Close to Draft Standard

Accelerated Approval Process Moving Ahead

The push to create LEED-like standards for Universal Design continues with a draft of proposed standards due out in February. The voluntary and consensus-based standards, which are intended to promote building and product design for a wide range of users, are the work of the Global Universal Design Commission (GUDC).

The standards development process is being coordinated by the IDEA Center, with funding from the RERC on Universal Design and the Built Environment, and the Burton Blatt Institute at Syracuse University.

The GUDC mission is to accelerate adoption of the UD philosophy. Design for the range of

Technical Council is now involved in writing an initial draft of the standards. There is a lot of interest in participating in the standards development process and we are now recruiting people to join the Consensus Standards Committee which will review, comment and eventually vote on the standard.”

A preliminary Standards Writing Committee has been formed, including:

- **John Salmen**, Universal Designers and Consultants (Design Process)

- **Carmen Jones**, Solutions Marketing Group (Board Member and Design Process)

- **Susan Goltsman** and **Tim Gilbert**, MIG, Inc. (Site Elements)

- **Katy McGuinness** and **Dave Kessler**, Kessler McGuinness Architects (Building Elements)

- **Korydon Smith**, University of Arkansas (Building Elements)

- **Sally Swanson** and **Jim Fruit**, Sally Swanson Architects (Building Elements)

- **James Maurer**, Foit-Albert Architects (Building Elements)

- **Tom Riegelman**, Sandals (Facilities Management and Customer Service)

- **John Lancaster**, National Council for Independent Living (Board Member)

- **Jon Sanford**, Center on Assistive Technology and Environmental Access (Human Performance Data)

- **Richard Duncan**, Housing Works/R.L. Mace Universal Design Institute (Rating System)

People interested in joining the Technical Council, which also means they would be on the Consensus Committee, should contact Jordana Maisel at jlmaisel@buffalo.edu. (Include a CV and short biography explaining the experience and knowledge that they can bring to this project.)

Working under an accelerated schedule, the committee anticipates a draft standard by mid-February, followed by the formation of a formal Consensus Standards Committee and public review. The website (www.globaluniversaldesign.com) currently features the draft standards. Visit www.UniversalDesign.com for upcoming notices about this project. 

The GUDC mission is to accelerate adoption of the UD philosophy.



Ramps are used between levels of the Reinstag in Berlin Germany

human performance and preferences must move beyond focus on compliance with law to a vision of good design that provides ease of use without disadvantage to any group or individuals.

All standards will be developed using an American National Standards Institute (ANSI) approved process but they will not be ANSI designated standards. Dr. Edward Steinfeld, Director of the IDEA Center and one of the founding board members of the commission, is Secretary of the Standards Committee. The Standards Committee will be chaired by Graham Hill of Ice Miller Strategies.

“There has been general positive support for the conceptual approach we are using to develop the standards,” says Steinfeld. “An enthusiastic

JAPAN
Making Young Designers Feel Like Aging Drivers

Young designers at car maker Nissan are being made to feel old. In an effort to help designers consider the needs of aging drivers in their work, the company has designers put on an “aging suit” and goggles. The suit, which adds an extra 11 pounds, restricts movement, and creates the sensations of bad balance and stiff joints. The designers also don goggles that simulate the eyesight of someone with cataracts.

The design strategy makes sense. In Japan, 40 percent of the population will be over the age of 65 by mid-century and 40 percent of Nissan’s US sales are to consumers over 50 years old.

UNITED KINGDOM
New Housing Strategy will Promote ‘Lifetime’ Homes

The government in the UK has developed a major new housing strategy to address the challenges of an aging population.

“Meeting the needs of an ageing population is one of the major challenges we are facing as a society,” says Housing Minister Caroline Flint. “This is about giving all older people a better choice. The vast majority of people want to stay independent in a suitable home as they get older. We have a responsibility to support that desire by increasing the housing choices that are available.”



The strategy calls for:

New “age friendly” standards for all new homes, beginning in 2013. Among the 16 key features that will make up the “Lifetime Homes” standard are: wider doors, improved design of bathrooms and staircases big enough to take stair lifts.

- All new government-built “social housing,” starting in 2011, will be built to the “Lifetime Homes” standards.

- The government will work with local planners and partners to promote more “age friendly” neighborhoods and cities. New implementation guidelines will set out how developers and councils should consider better paving and curb design, convenient access to public toilets and amenities, good street lighting, well-located bus stops, information services, disabled parking bays and accessible public transport.

- Eco-towns, of which 10 are planned nationally, will be the first “age-friendly cities.” The Olympic Village will also promote exemplary inclusive design and lifetime neighborhoods, thereby maximizing the potential legacy for all after the games finish.

- Development of a national rapid repair and adaptations service will support a major expansion of handyman programs across the country. Backed up by £33 million (\$48.4 million) of investment, this will enable an extra 125,000 older people every year to get repairs and adaptations to their home to support them living independently.

- A new dedicated National Housing Advice and Information Service will be established to provide expert advice.

- The Disabled Facilities Grant will provide increased funding to support more people making crucial adaptations to their homes now. This is a 30 percent increase in funding for people needing changes such as installing stair lifts, walk in showers and wider doors.

According to the report, the strategy is key to better meeting older peoples' aspirations to remain independent in later life while ensuring a major new emphasis on practical prevention of accidents and injuries that can put a strain on the budgets of local councils and health services.



... a major new emphasis on practical prevention of accidents and injuries that can put a strain on the budgets of local councils and health services.

“World Update” is compiled by Elaine Ostroff, Hon. AIA, founding director of the Adaptive Environments Center, and Denise Hofstedt, Editor of UDN. If you have information about international universal design efforts that you would like to have published in Universal Design Newsletter, write to us at:6 Grant Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912; or contact publisher@universaldesign.com

Capozzi, from page 1

Road to the Access Board

With an undergraduate degree in psychology, Capozzi decided to go to law school. After graduating from the State University of New York at Buffalo Law School, his interest in public policy led him to a position in the advocacy program of the Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA). In 1989, he was offered a job with Easter Seals' Project Action, which allowed him to focus on transportation access issues.

He was hired by the Access Board in 1992 after it had been given the responsibility to write the guidelines for the ADA.

Among his proudest career accomplishments was his early work on the Air Carrier Access Act. His involvement began long before the Act was even a twinkle in its Congressional sponsor's eye. Capozzi helped argue PVA's side in a lawsuit against the US Department of Transportation (DOT) when the case ended up in the US Supreme Court. The suit was PVA's effort to require airlines to comply with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. PVA's loss spurred the organization and its supporters in Congress into action. Less than three months after the Supreme Court case was concluded, Congress passed the Air Carriers Access Act, calling for the DOT to write accessibility regulations for airlines.

Capozzi and his colleagues at PVA were determined to make the law meaningful. They weren't willing to sit on the sidelines while DOT proceeded with the typical "top down" federal agency regulation development process that was common at the time. So, according to Capozzi, they met with DOT senior staff and persuaded them to do their business differently and use a regulatory negotiation committee. The committee, made up of representatives from disability advocacy groups, industry groups and the government, was charged with negotiating the regulations. Capozzi was the lead negotiator for the disability community. It was an effective process but as it neared the end, there was a major glitch.

On the last day of the last meeting, after months of negotiations, DOT pulled an issue off the table that was very important to the blindness community, according to Capozzi. The issue was related to exit row seating -- the policy that allows passengers to change seats if they are in an exit row and are unwilling or unable to perform the duties required of those passengers. "As a sign of solidarity [all] the disabilities groups involved in the negotiations walked out on literally the last day of the meeting,"

says Capozzi. "So there it was. We had negotiated for months with DOT to draft a proposed rule and gotten very close to the end."

DOT wrapped up the regulations on its own, but then they sat -- unpublished. Shortly thereafter, as fate would have it, Capozzi, who uses a wheelchair, was flying from Washington, DC to Orlando, FL for a President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities conference when an employee on one of the airport's mobile lounges that ferried passengers to the midfield terminal at Dulles Airport told him that he couldn't ride in the lounge without an attendant.

"I told him 'I drove here, I'm about to get on the airplane without an attendant, why do I need an attendant to ride this little bus to get me out to the airplane?,'" recalls Capozzi. "I was told, 'It's the rule.' Sure enough, it was the rule of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority." Capozzi sued the airports authority, Dulles Airport and DOT for failure to issue the Air Carrier Access Act regulations. The case was settled and within 90 days DOT issued the final regulations. "When I say we saw it all through from start to finish -- it was literally from start to finish," he says.

When he arrived at the Access Board in 1992, guideline development was in full swing. What rulemaking had been done previously by the Access Board was carried out in the old "command and control," authoritative style. He used his experience with DOT's regulatory negotiation process to help shape a new participatory model for the board. The agency began to use advisory committees or regulatory negotiation committees made up of a mix of stakeholders. Since 1993, the board has created 12 advisory committees and drawn in more than 300 organizations into the process. "It helps us gather the information we need and it helps us build support for our regulations," says Capozzi. "And most importantly... the people involved in those committees become almost like ambassadors for the



David Capozzi

"When I say we saw it all through from start to finish -- it was literally from start to finish."

David Capozzi,
Executive Director,
Access Board

Capozzi, from page 6

topic... because they were part of the process and because they felt a stake and an ownership in it.”

One of those ambassadors is John McGovern, President of Recreation Accessibility Consultants LLC, Hoffman Estates, IL. McGovern, who has known Capozzi since 1993, has served on three federal advisory committees as a representative of the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA).

“In his role then as head of technical information services, he was an integral part of our deliberations,” says McGovern. “David, it goes without saying, knows [the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG)]. In 1993, many of us on those early committees did not. We knew access...some more than others...but we did not as a group know ADAAG. It was critical that the knowledge, inspiration, and creativity we brought to the table mesh within the structure and universe of accessible design embodied in ADAAG.”

Known as a consensus builder who can, if need be, make the decision himself and a master negotiator who is both deliberative and a good listener, Capozzi is often described as “fair.”

“I have had some -- I thought -- great ideas about Access Board issues and David or his coworkers have gently poured water on them,” says McGovern. “He explains why, and I have never known him in 15 years to tell me one thing and then do another...it just isn’t in his chemistry.”

Jim Dejong, Director of the DBTAC-Great Plains ADA Center, who has known Capozzi for 20 years, agrees, “[Capozzi] is very conscientious and deliberate in making important decisions and researches all

angles of the issue at hand before making those decisions. He is a team player who works well with staff, advisory groups and industry representatives while ensuring the input of citizens with disabilities.... He is not one to seek the limelight but effectively motivates others and gives credit to others freely and honestly. His legal background is put to great use in maneuvering new standards into reality.”

Vision for the Board

The Access Board evolved under the leadership of Larry Roffee and the evolution is expected to continue under Capozzi.

According to Capozzi, the board’s role in writing the accessibility guidelines for telecommunications products in 1996 and then writing the standards for information technology under Section 508 of the of the Telecommunications Act, transformed the agency. It expanded its focus from bricks and mortar and vehicles to information technology – which “put us on the global map.”

Section 508 requires federal departments and agencies that develop, procure, maintain, or use electronic and information technology to ensure that federal employees and members of the public with disabilities have access to and use of information and data, comparable to that of the employees and members of the public without disabilities.....

For the full text of this indepth article on David Capozzi, visit www.UniversalDesign.com



“He is not one to seek the limelight but effectively motivates others and gives credit to others freely and honestly. His legal background is put to great use in maneuvering new standards into reality.”

Jim Dejong,
DBTAC-Great Plains
ADA Center

DESIGN TIP



Coat hook in a toilet stall

PROBLEM: Where should we put a 48” maximum height coat hook in a toilet stall?

TIP: The inside face of out a swinging door is a bad place for coat hooks, because of the hazard it presents to people pushing on the face of the door as they exit the stall. Low hooks should be located on a wall or partition preferably centered on a 30” x 48” clear floor space. 

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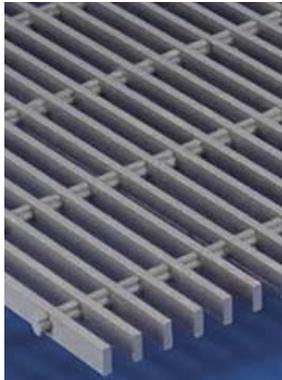
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Corrosion resistant fiberglass grating

The Duragrid R-7300 1-inch fiberglass grating from Strongwell can be used in place of steel grating in corrosive environments, such as ocean front hotels, to build up exterior balconies to match door threshold heights and eliminate



Grating

abrupt changes in level between interior and exterior spaces. According to the manufacturer, the material can span 36 inches with a load of 100 psf and a deflection of less than 1/4 inch. The material, which features a rectangular bar that looks

like steel bar grating, has a non skid surface and is low in electrical and thermal conductivity. The bearing bar spacing is 1-3/16 inch on center, the same spacing as standard steel grating.

Barrier-Free Shower Pan

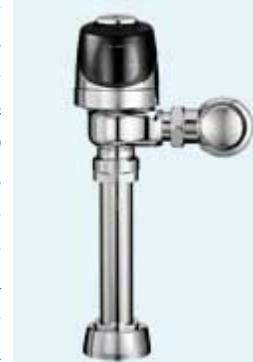
Tile Redi has developed a one piece, leak-proof shower pan that is slightly pitched so that when water hits the shower floor it instantly runs downward to the drain. The pan eliminates the need for a raised wall in the shower and allows for a curbless shower.



Shower pan

Solar powered flush valves

A new flushometer from the Sloan Valve Company, for use on urinals and waterclosets, is solar-powered and sensor-operated for hands free operation. The SOLIS® electronic Flushometers operate using any available light source, including occupancy-controlled lighting. The flushometers are available in single-flush or dual-flush (manual and automatic) models.



Flushometer

Contactless Lock



Lock

ILCO has introduced a contactless lock for use in lodging facilities. The 790 Contactless Lock reads a keycard when near to the lock –contact is not necessary. The lock provides audible and visual feedback to users and operates with radio frequency identification key cards, wristbands or fobs. The keys are not susceptible to demagnetization.

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Paul Cann, Director of Policy and External Relations at Help the Aged, said, “This strategy is enormously important. Housing is the backbone of older people’s quality of life, affecting their health, well-being and independence. Older people often tell us that they want to live in their own homes for as long as possible. This strategy will hopefully be a spring board to this becoming a reality.”

The report is available at: www.communities.gov.uk/publications/housing/lifetimehomesneighbourhoods



GAATES Honors Alvarez

Architect Eduardo Alvarez of Uruguay has been honored for his leadership on the first International Standard for Accessibility and Usability of the Built Environment (ISO TC59/SC16) by the Global Alliance on Accessible Technologies and Environments (GAATES). A Head Member of AyA (Accessibility and Architecture) International Consultant, a consultancy representing professionals from Spain, Brazil, Colombia and Uruguay, Alvarez is also the Chair of the International Organization for Standardization Technical Committee ISO TC59/SC16 “Accessibility and Usability of the Built Environment,” and is responsible for guiding the development of the standard.

The award was presented on Dec. 3 in the Kingdom of Bahrain, UAE, in celebration of the United Nations International Day of Persons with a Disability.

GAATES is an international not-for-profit organization that brings together experts in accessibility of the built, virtual and social environments. For more information, contact info@gaates.org, or visit www.gaates.org.



AARP Study, from page 1

“While boomers will reflect the patterns of earlier generations and mostly age in place,” said Elinor Ginzler, Senior Vice President of AARP, “the sheer number of boomers will increase demand for a whole variety of home and community options. The 2008 Livable Communities Award winners offer some great examples of appealing, user-friendly design.” The number of persons age 65 and older is expected

to grow to 70 million by 2030.

“The winners of the 2008 Livable Communities Awards have clearly taken note of the increasing demand for more accessible, livable homes and

communities, and are on the leading edge of change,” said Sandy Dunn, Chairman of the Board of NAHB and a home builder from Point Pleasant, WV.

The 2008 AARP and NAHB Livable Communities awards recognized the following projects:

New Millennial Homes (for The Freedom Home in Tampa, FL). New Millennial Homes has developed an affordable house design that includes features that enhance the home’s comfort and safety and allow it to be adapted as the needs of its occupants change over a lifetime.

The builder met the goal of keeping the home affordable by using Energy Star-rated appliances, state-of-the-art insulation and many other measures to reduce utility costs over time.

“This home is marketable to 100 percent of people looking for homes, most homes today are marketable to only 80 percent of people looking for homes,” said New Millennial

CEO and Managing Partner Mike Shrenk. “We feel this is the future in home construction.” (See page 11 for a list of the home’s universal design features.)

Interior Design Details (for the Rathbun Residence in Brea, CA). This remodeled home was designed for a woman who unexpectedly developed an illness that limited her mobility. Interior Design Details built archways and widened doorways in addition to installing automation and sensor units. The client’s desire for a comfortable and usable yet beautiful remodel was met through the use of slip-resistant interior floors, lever door handles, dimming light switches, granite countertops, and other stylish touches.

The Winery LLC (for Vineyard Lane in Bainbridge Island, WA). This former vineyard turned 45-unit campus has at least five different kinds of housing options – from small flats to free standing cottages. Located on a four-acre site not far from both the downtown area of Bainbridge Island and the city of Seattle, the community was designed to bring people of different ages and financial means together. In each of the 45 units, there are extra-wide doors and hallways, level-front entrances, security grips in all washrooms, low thresholds and extensive elevator access. Also included are screened parking, oversized windows, and a network of well-lit, paved walkways.

Established in 2007 by AARP and NAHB, the Livable Communities Awards are presented annually to builders, remodelers and developers for projects that enhance the daily lives of people of all ages and abilities.

A panel of expert judges appointed by NAHB and AARP reviewed applications and selected the finalists. Points were awarded based on: 1) Universal Design Features; 2) Ease of Maintenance and Energy Efficiency; 3) Exterior Design and Landscaping/Site Design; 4) Incorporation of Livable Community Design Features; and 5) Stakeholder Involvement.

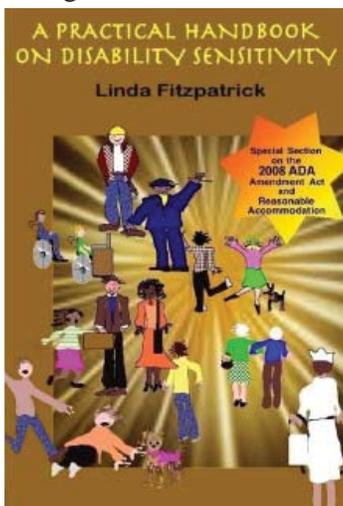
For more information, photos and video clips of the winning projects, visit www.aarp.org/homedesign. 



New Millennial Homes’ Freedom Home in Tampa, FL features a curbless shower with a seat and a handheld shower head.

A Practical Handbook on Disability Sensitivity

This book, subtitled, “How to Be Gracious without Walking on Eggshells,” is a comprehensive guide on how to interact and communicate



with people with disabilities.

Intended to broaden the reader’s consciousness and sensitivity, the book goes beyond a “do’s and don’ts” check list and seeks to help people understand the culture and needs of people with disabilities.

It covers the history and the changing demographics of disability; disability in the workplace; accommodations,

adaptations and accessibility; “people first language;” and includes a special section on the 2008 Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act. Author Linda Fitzpatrick is recognized as an authority on disability sensitivity and has more than 25 years of experience as an entrepreneur and business leader. The book is available at www.disabilityetiquettetraining.com

New Washington Accessibility Code

A book that features the Washington State accessibility codes is now available. (Washington State recently implemented a new accessibility code and requested certification for the new code, according to the Department of Justice.) Featuring double spaced text and code, page and chapter referrals throughout, the book includes five adopted codes in one publication. The 427-page book, is available in three formats: a book, a book with a CD set and on CD ROM. For more information, visit www.jordanpublishing.net or call 800.657.9881 (toll free).

...the book goes beyond a “do’s and don’ts” check list and seeks to help people understand the culture and needs of people with disabilities.

Freedom Home Design Incorporates Many Universal Design Features

Below are some of the features of New Millennial Homes’ Freedom Home design. A more extensive list can be found at www.UniversalDesign.com.

Exterior

- Accessible 4 ft. min. wide walkway from sidewalk or driveway to entry with two car parking
- Ramps (1:12 max.) as needed per the site conditions
- No-step entries with low-profile thresholds
- Large front porch with 60” min. turning diameter
- Exterior lighting with motion sensors
- Durable, low-maintenance exterior finishes

Interior

- Min. 36” doors throughout
- Min. 48” clear hallways with 60” turning diameter
- Accessible traffic pattern to all rooms and activity areas
- Level floor surfaces and interior floor materials
- Min. 60” turning diameter in Master Bathroom, Master Bedroom, Kitchen and Hall
- Multiple grab bar and shower seat installations
- Large “spa type” Master Bath with zero threshold/roll-in shower offering maneuvering room
- Shower system including temperature-set/pres-

sure-balance single handle control, diverter valve and hand held shower

- Side and front transfer access space to toilet in master bathroom
- Single lever Moen kitchen and bathroom sink faucets
- Accessible master bathroom vanity and kitchen sink with ample knee space below
- Electrical outlets and telephone jacks 18” min. from floor with contrasting color face plates
- Electrical switches 48” max. from floor with contrasting color face plates
- Environmental controls 48” max. from floor
- Accessible circuit breaker panel with topmost breaker at a max. reach of 48” from floor
- Lever handles on all swinging doors
- Both audible and visual smoke detectors
- Full size pantry in kitchen with pullout shelves
- Full extension hardware glides and pullout shelves in kitchen base cabinets and adjustable shelves above
- Front control electric drop in range with self-cleaning oven and smooth top surface
- Pot filler above range

March 15-19, 2009: *Aging in America Conference 2009*, Las Vegas. The Annual Conference of the American Society on Aging and the National Council on Aging. Contact: www.agingconference.org

March 16-18, 2009: *US Architectural & Transportation Barriers Compliance Board Meeting*, Washington, DC. Contact: www.access-board.gov/about/meetings.htm

March 31-April 3, 2009: *Accessibility Coordinator Training: Accessibility Management for Parks and Recreation*, Bloomington, IN. Designed to give accessibility coordinators the foundation for implementing an accessibility management program. Presented by National Center on Accessibility. Contact: www.ncaonline.org.

April 5-9, 2009: *5th International Include Conference*, Royal College of Art, London. The conference will focus on innovations derived from inclusive design. Contact: www.hhc.rca.ac.uk/1345/all/1/include_2009_.aspx

April 22-24, 2009: *3rd International Conference on Accessible Tourism (ICAT) 2009*, Singapore. Themed "Tourism Unlimited: Access for All," the conference will be hosted by The Disabled People's Association which promotes accessible tourism in the Asia-Pacific region. Contact: www.ICAT2009.com.sg

April 30-May 2, 2009: *AIA National Convention & Expo*, San Francisco, CA. This national conference will feature at least two sessions on accessibility and universal design. One will be on what architects and designers need to know about the new ADAAG and the other will be an indepth discussion of the complexity of compliance. Contact: www.AIAconvention.com.

July 8-10, 2009: *2nd International Conference on the Inclusive Museum*, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia. The program will include presentations by the leaders in museum studies as well as numerous papers, colloquiums and workshop presentations. Contact: <http://z09.cgpublisher.com>

Events to be placed in the UDN Calendar must be submitted to the editor one month before the publication date.

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