

**Seniors, Baby Boomers,  
Old Folks**

**Handicapped**

**Disabled**

**Crippled**

# The first Wheelchair Ramp

- Mention of the first wheelchair was in China in 6 AD
- 1595 King Phillip II of Spain had a deluxe wheelchair made with foot and arm rest
- The first mention of a wheelchair ramp or “pente douce” is found in French architectural history.

# The first Curb Cuts

- Curb cuts were designed for the convenience and safety of wheelchair users.
- Curb cuts originated in Berkeley, California in 1970.
- Curb cuts make life easier for mothers with strollers, delivery men, and people using other mobility aids such as walkers.

# A Rose by Any Other Name

## **Age related**

- Macular degeneration effects people over 60
- Presbycusis -progressive hearing loss associated with aging
- Alzheimer's Disease
- COPD shortness of breath limits life expectancy

## **Disabilities**

- Retinitis pigmentosa low vision
- Ushers Syndrome
- Multiple Sclerosis progressive cognitive and neuromuscular symptoms
- Cystic fibrosis frequent lung infections limits life expectancy

# Functional Parallels between Senior Citizens and People with Disabilities

- difficulty with physical activities
- reduction of activities at home
- reduction of activities at school
- reduction of activities at work and
- reduction in other activities.  
(vision, hearing, speech, mobility, dexterity, emotion, cognition and pain)

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- According to CNN Money and Met Life nursing home cost topped \$80,000 a year (4/12/13)
- Met Life fixed the monthly cost of Assisted Living at \$3,550.
- Met Life places the hourly rate of home health aids at \$21 an hour.
- Adult Day Services average \$70 a day.

# What they are most afraid of .....

## Seniors

- **Loss of independence**
- **89 % fear nursing homes more than death** (according to Aging in Place in America)

## People with Disabilities

- **Loss of independence**
- **Fear nursing homes more than death**

# Designing Intelligent Environments

- Imaging sensors
- Smart Wheelchairs
- Pressure Mat
- Medicaid Management Systems
- Remote Patient Monitoring
- Indoor location sensors
- Tongue Drive Sensors



# Inclusive Home Design Act of 2012

- H.R. 5781
- Representative Janice D. Schakowsky
- To require all newly constructed, federally assisted, single-family houses and town houses to meet minimum standards of visitability for persons with disabilities.
- Committees [House Financial Services](#)



# Visitability

- Designing intelligent environments
- One entrance that does not have steps
- Doors that are 32 inches wide, particularly the bathroom door
- Hallways 42 inches wide
- Grab bars in the shower/bathtub and close to the toilet
- Thermostat and light switches between 15 and 48 inches from the floor.

# Planning for Access

- Consider access early in the process and throughout all phases
  - Project use (residential, retail, office, etc.)
  - Funding sources (public vs. private)
  - Building type (new construction vs. renovation)
  - Housing type (Single family vs. multifamily)
  - Housing ownership (Condo vs. rental)

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# Technology and Durable Medical Equipment



# Beyond Robbie the Robot

- Dedicated robots included robots helping to administer medications and alerting a remote caregiver if the patient is about to miss his or her medicine dose (oral or no-oral medications).
- A semi-autonomous robot has been designed to support disabled and elderly people in their daily life activities, like preparing and serving a meal, or reintegration in professional life.

# Smart Homes

## More than “Help I’ve Fallen”

- Home security systems are more than burglar alarms
- New system include
  - Panic button
  - Voice activated dialing
  - Broken glass sensors
  - Motion detectors
  - Pressure Pad



# Reminders and Medication Dispensers



# Really Smart Phones



# Home Security System Can

- Cameras can provide caregivers with peace of mind when at work or shopping
- Two-way audio between the camera and monitor
- Camera has infrared LED's to "see in the dark"  
- 15 foot range



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### Housing Search: Birmingham, AL

[Choose a different city](#)

Basic
Advanced
 Accessible

**General Search Information**

Do you have a Section 8 Voucher?  Yes  No

VASH Voucher Holder?  Yes  No

Bedroom(s):  Bath:

Rent range:  to  a month

**Optional Filters**

ZIP Code(s):   
List relevant ZIP codes

Public Transit:

Shopping:

Hospital:

Smoking Policy:

Senior Housing:

Landlord Speaks:

**Search by Distance**

Within:  miles of

Street Address:

7 P Code:

Use my current location (works best on mobile browsers):

**Other Search Options**

### Other Search Options

- [Show all available properties which are subsidized or sliding scale](#)

### Resources

- [Scam Alert for Renters](#)
- [Foreclosure Alert](#)
- [Suggest a Resource](#)

### Helpful Tools

- [What can you afford to rent? \(Calculator\)](#)
- [What can you afford to rent? \(Chart\)](#)
- [An example of moving costs](#)
- [Calculate your moving costs](#)
- [Rental checklist](#)
- [Budget Worksheet \(PDF 44KB\)](#)
- [Print English page to others](#)

**"Social Equity" has been defined by  
APA (*Planning & Community Equity*,  
1994) as *"the expansion of  
opportunities for betterment that are  
available to those communities most in  
need, creating more choices for those  
who have few."***