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Local news for the people, by the people

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The PEACH Industry in Delaware

A History and A Modern Success Story

By Sandie Gerken

LIVE  VIDEO!

Today there are only a few commercial peach orchards in Delaware. The crops are going strong and profitable, but current production pales compared to the boom that the peach industry experienced in Delaware in the 19th century. Peaches were a vital part of Delaware's agricultural economy due primarily to the favorable sandy soil, the climate and adequate rainfall, and the state's strategic location near urban markets and accessible waterways for shipping.

The cultivation of peaches for commercial purposes began in 1832 when Isaac Reeves, a New Jersey farmer, partnered with Jacob Ridgeway of Philadelphia to purchase cheap farmland near Delaware City and planted 20 acres of budded peach trees. By 1837 they owned 1340 acres, marketing about 100 baskets per acre, shipping them by schooners to northern markets. As early as 1838, Delaware was becoming known for its fine peaches. In 1835 Major Phillip Reybold began his peach orchard enterprise on a large tract of family land near Delaware City. By 1848 his family owned 78,000 trees and realized considerable profits, shipping nearly 65,000 baskets of peaches in season. No other section of Delaware (or the USA) produced more peaches



than Delaware City at that time.

Nevertheless, peach-growing for profit grew slowly outside of New Castle County. The rest of the state had isolated orchards and grew peaches for private use or for sale within local markets. Most crops were sent to market by water transport. Orchards distant from

continued on page 2



Bennett Orchards sketch and photo of peaches above, used with permission of Bennett Orchards

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Luxury Motors of Rehoboth Beach
John Ferguson, owner
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Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971
luxurymotorsrb.com
Find us on  at:
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*We are honored to feature **Luxury Motors of Rehoboth Beach** in High Tide News this month. I have done business with John Ferguson and his staff at Luxury Motors and I must say it was the best experience I have ever had buying a car! (I have purchased many cars in my lifetime and I can't say that I ever enjoyed it...but this time I did! I love my new little beach car and I love the service I received at Luxury Motors! We welcome John, Kerry and Dave of Luxury Motors to Sussex County and wish them the best!)*

LIVE  VIDEO!

Luxury Motors of Rehoboth Beach opened for business in mid-July and is located in the former Lee F. Slaughter Fine Cars, Rehoboth Beach Motor Cars, location on Route 1 in Rehoboth Beach. *You know the place*, about a mile north of Dewey Beach, just south of the bridge over the Lewes Rehoboth Canal...at the end of the "Forgotten Mile". You can't miss the cool cars on the triangular shaped car lot as you drive north to the outlets! Next time you drive by stop and check out the beautiful cars, they are even nicer close-up.

Successful and Trusted Business Owner for 30 years

John Ferguson has been in the business of selling cars since 1985. A friend took John to an auto auction and there he found his calling. He has been passionate about buying and selling cars ever since.

He got his start at **South Street Auto Sales** in Frederick, MD, of which he is still the owner.

"In this business, your reputation is everything and John has worked hard to build his dealership as one known for being fair and honest. We look forward to earning the trust and business of the Cape region."

What makes Luxury Motors stand out from the rest?

"We carry low-mileage, high-end, late-model used vehicles. We buy and consign all types of autos as well. If you don't see what you want on our lot or on our website, check out our other dealership southstreetautos.com or tell us what you're looking for and we'll do our best to find it for you.

"We look forward to working with and for the community."

Opened for business mid-July ...selling beautiful, high-end, late model used vehicles that are fun to drive at the beach!



"From the moment you step on our lot until the time you drive away in your next car, your buying experience with Luxury Motors of Rehoboth is our number one priority. We encourage you to use the expertise and resources of our sales staff; they are here to help you find the right car at the right price. Call us today at 302-226-2100 to schedule your test drive! se habla espanol!"

David Vest, Sales

For more information call **Luxury Motors of Rehoboth Beach** at 302-226-2100 or stop by at 20575 Coastal Highway,

Rehoboth Beach DE 19971. **Don't miss the grand opening on Thursday, August 13th at 4:30 pm!**

The Peach Industry in Delaware

waterways found the cost of shipping peaches too expensive. By 1848, peach orchards were established in Kent County near Dover, Smyrna, Frederica, and Milford. But, "sandy Sussex" lagged behind, still in economic stagnation caused by the burden and expense of hauling crops to water. In 1847, only 100,000 baskets were produced in both Kent and Sussex together. By 1856, the railroad changed all that and became vital to crop prosperity in the state. Sussex began to expand peach growing. Large orchards were established near Bridgeville, Seaford, Lewes, and other inland areas as the railroad progressed southward. Production increased exponentially by 1865. By 1870, central Delaware was one continuous orchard as peach growing became a boon to farmers. In 1870, an estimated 3 million baskets of peaches were shipped from Delaware. Peaches became Delaware's most characteristic agricultural product.

But, all was not "peachy keen" in the interim. A devastating peach disease called the "Yellows" had infected trees in New Jersey and was the reason Isaac

Reeves had moved his peach production to Delaware back in 1832. By 1855, the "Yellows" had become rampant in Delaware, wiping out entire orchards. Farmers did not understand the cause of the disease, so the removal and destruction of infected trees was the only effective eradication program. A belief that the disease was in the soil led to moving orchards to new areas. We know today that this is a viral disease transmitted by a leafhopper insect. Controlling the insects effectively curbs the "Yellows". It took until well into the 1860s for the peach industry to regain prosperity in Delaware. The major production center shifted from New Castle County to downstate Delaware. The calamitous "Yellows" reappeared in the mid-1880s and decimated the number of peach

trees in the state from 4.5 million to approximately 2 million. Improved orchard sanitation, developing horticultural practices began to hold peach decimation at bay. But, the disease blighted trees again in the early 1900s and wiped out orchards, decreasing number of trees in Delaware to fewer than 500,000. After World War II, the



Family photo of Jim, Carrie, Hail, Henry Bennett Courtesy of Bennett Family

peach industry recovered, but not to its top ranking in Delaware. Today, Delaware produces approximately 2 million pounds of peaches annually.

The Delaware Fruit Exchange, established in 1883 near Wyoming in Kent County, inspected and graded peaches, shipped and sold them at auction, concentrating buyers in one location. Related essential industries, such as canneries and basket factories, were established near peach orchards and depended on peach production for their own profitability.

To recognize the importance of the peach industry to the state, the Delaware General Assembly adopted the peach blossom as the official state flower in 1895. As of 2009, peach pie is Delaware's official dessert.

A Peachy Success Story

Early August is prime time for peach harvest in Delaware with a few varieties available in July. One successful Sussex County grower, Bennett Orchards, near Frankford, has an established reputation for its spectacular pick-your-own orchard. Bennett grows 20 varieties of peaches, which include freestones, clingstones, yellow flesh or white, plus nectarines.

continued from page 1

Jim Bennett and his wife, Carrie starting growing peaches on 25 acres of the family farm in 1983. Jim had come back to the family farm after college and searched for a challenging, but profitable way to farm the land. A University of Delaware extension agent suggested a peach orchard. A friend of Jim's mother introduced him to the Fifer family in Kent County. Jim set a goal to "grow the perfect peach" and

create a legacy for future generations. Jim's family has owned the farm since 1867, when Jim's ancestor, Henry Wells Long purchased the property. Previous generations have used the land for chicken farming and grain crops. The property's farmhouse was built prior to 1850, when the farm centered on a grist mill, called the Baltimore Mills.

The current orchard, planted in 2007, is the third generation of trees planted on the Bennett farm. Peach trees only have a viable lifespan of 15 years, so as one section ages, another is planted. Jim and Carrie's two sons, Henry and Hail, along with Hail's wife Ashley now run the orchard business. The entire family is involved in maintaining the farm. Hail and Ashley run the pick-your-own business while Henry concentrates on marketing in local farmers' markets. Hail and Henry are the sixth generation to work the family farm and are proud of their family legacy.

The Bennett Orchards and farm has been named to the Agricultural Preservation District and is a Delaware Century Farm. It has been featured on the national PBS series, "America's Heartland and a segment of WBOC's "Travels with Charlie".

RIGHT NOW is prime season for peaches. Visit Bennett's Orchards at 30993 Armory Road, Frankford for a "hands-on" opportunity to pick your own peaches. Call 732-3358 or check the website www.bennettorchards.com before you go to be sure



Author, **Sandie Gerken** lives in Dagsboro, DE. As a native Sussex Countian, local history is one of her passions.

Retired now, she devotes her time to genealogy research (her greatest passion since 1978), watercolor painting, grandchildren, soccer for kids with disabilities, books, and things creative and historical. She recently authored the book *Memories of the Clayton Theatre* as a fundraiser to help the Clayton go digital. She is now exploring her writing skills with local history articles for *High Tide News*.

of picking time.

Primary Sources: www.BennettOrchards.com and interview with Jim Bennett

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After a year with the small mortgage company in Dagsboro she then moved to Dover to work for Chase Home Finance, MetLife Home Loans, and ultimately ended up at Caliber Home Loans.

Laura has always been a “numbers” person. She excelled in math in school. This job is a constant juggling of numbers: figuring out how much house someone can afford, or how much their payment is going to be, what kind of program to put them into, how much money they are going to need at closing, etc. Laura started out in a completely different field, but fell into this business and really believes it’s the right job for her!

This business is all about relationships

In the beginning Laura started out doing business with only a handful of people who are still full time, but, through the last 10 years, she has met literally hundreds of people. Because she is not from Delaware, making connections, establishing relationships and gaining the trust of realtors, and other referral sources has been key to growing her business. Laura is helping people achieve the American Dream. They are buying a home and making the largest purchase of their life, so they need to have a loan officer they trust to work with.

Laura has built her business on making relationships, seeing them through to the end and beyond the purchase of the home

...simply by calling people back. As we all know, being told by someone that they will get back to you, and then not hearing from them is extremely frustrating. Whether Laura can help someone or not, she always does her best to get back to them in a timely fashion, whether to deliver good news, or to help them get on a track to be ready to purchase in the near future. She also prides herself in being aware of all the programs available for buyers out there. Conventional, Veteran Loans, FHA Loans, USDA loans, Delaware State Housing Authority bond loans, and the list goes on. Laura makes sure her buyers have the availability of the best program to suit their needs.

First Time Homebuyers... a most rewarding experience

Laura Lord works with a wide variety of customers. She loves working with first time homebuyers, and in her own words:

“there is nothing more rewarding in this business, than to sit at the settlement table when a young couple, or a single borrower is handed the keys to their first house.”

She also enjoys working with people buying second homes, which can be just as exciting. She sees a lot of families moving to Delaware from New Jersey and Pennsylvania,

and they are thrilled to be buying a home where the taxes are 1/10 of what they paid where they came from.

Unlike when you use an online lender, Laura believes when you buy a home, that you should be able to sit down with your loan officer and have them explain the process and what to expect. She makes herself available to her customers throughout the process, and because Caliber services their own loans, she is also available after her customers buy a home with any questions they may have on payments, property taxes, etc. Laura lives and works in the local community, her kids go to school here, her husband grew up here. Laura Lord’s personal and business reputation is very important to her.

Even though it seems to get harder every year, Laura enjoys her career very much. Laura is proud to represent Caliber. It is a wonderful company to work with and to have standing behind her. Laura has been a loan officer for 10 years, and looks forward to the next 10 years!

If you are in need of Laura’s services or know someone who might be, please don’t hesitate to contact her.

Phone: 302-841-5316. People can apply online right through the website:

www.caliberhomeloans.com/llord
Laura’s office is located in downtown Milford, at 15 N Walnut St, Milford, DE 19963.

Laura Lord, Recipient of the 5 Star Mortgage Professional Award for the 5th year in a row. Featured in the October Issue of Delaware Today.



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Are you safe at home?

A checklist from **Christiana Care Health System Visiting Nurse Association** that will help you find ways to avoid falls. Each year, one out of every three people over 65 will fall, often at home. Staying active is a very important step to lower your risk for falls. Check your home for hazards that may cause you to fall and then make a plan to fix any fall risks in your home.

Front/Rear and Garage Entry

- Do you need help to get in or out of your home?
- Are there steps that don't have railings?
- Are the sidewalks not equal?
- Are the light switches out of your reach?
- Do the inside doors swing out over the steps?
- Are shrubs growing too close to the way in?

Stairways

- Are there shoes, toys or other objects on the steps?
- Are full length handrails missing or broken?
- Are treads, risers and carpeting loose, broken or slippery?
- Is a light switch missing from the top or the bottom of the stairs?

Living Room/Family Room

- Are floor coverings hard to walk over?
- Are thresholds not equal?
- Are the doors too narrow or blocked in some way?
- Do you have trouble using door handles and knobs?
- Are you unable to open the windows?
- Is your furniture set up in a way that makes it hard to move around?
- Do you need help to get up from your chair?
- Does your furniture slip on the floor?

Kitchen

- Is it hard for you to open and close the oven?
- Are dishes and food hard to reach?
- Is the counter too high for you?
- Is the counter too cluttered to use?
- Is it hard to reach the sink and faucets?
- Is the table too cluttered or hard to reach?
- Do you need help to open the refrigerator?
- Can food be placed into smaller lighter containers to make it easy to use?

Bathroom

- Is the door too narrow, blocked or otherwise hard to get through?
- Is there too little space to get on or off the toilet?
- Is the toilet too high or too low?
- Is there too little room to get in or out of the tub?
- Are grab bars missing?
- Is the shower floor slippery?
- Is it too hard to stand long enough to take a shower?

Bedroom

- Is the door too narrow, blocked or otherwise hard to get through?
- Is it too crowded to move around the bed?
- Does the furniture make it hard to move around your room?
- Is it hard to access the closet?
- Is it hard to use the drawers?
- Is it hard to get into or out of your bed safely?
- Does the bed slide on the floor?
- Is there a clear, lit path from your bed to your toilet in the middle of the night?
- Can you reach a lamp or flashlight while in bed?
- Is there a sturdy armchair where you can sit to dress?

General Tips

- Think about a personal emergency response system or cell phone.
- Keep important phone numbers close to all phones and a phone close to your bed.
- Be sure all halls and stairs are brightly lit.
- Get rid of boxes, stacks of magazines, toys and other clutter.
- Get rid of area rugs. Tack down loose carpet.
- Use non-skid backing on all area rugs, along with bathroom rugs.
- Apply yellow safety tape to the edges of steps and doorways so they are easier to see.
- Put in night lights or motion detector lights in most often used areas (hallways, stairways, bathrooms, bedrooms.)
- Keep electrical and phone cords out of walkways.
- Check with a professional before buying medical equipment.
- Think about placing a bell on your pet collars so you can hear them if they are under foot.
- Clean eyeglasses daily and replace hearing aid batteries.
- Wear pants instead of long robes and dresses you might trip over.
- Choose sturdy, low shoes with non-skid soles.
- Pick Velcro closures instead of laces you might trip over.
- Use a laundry bag with a strap instead of a clothes basket.

"All safety begins with you"

Diane Lalime, Physical Therapist, Christiana Care Visiting Nurse Association

Checklist is provided by



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WHO WILL BE... THE NEXT SEASIDE IDOL?

Announcing...
Brandywine's Best Talent Competition

Wednesday, October 21st

Brandywine Senior Living at Seaside Pointe is auditioning talent for their 2015 season and the next performer could be YOU!

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Delaware Facts and Trivia

Did you know?

By Sandie Gerken

Agriculture is Delaware's largest single land use with 41% of its land use in farming.

In 1875 Delaware was shipping 6 Million baskets of peaches to market. Today there are 12 farms that grow peaches commercially on over 235 of Delaware acres.

Delaware has approximately 2450

farms and over 115,000 acres of Delaware farmland is permanently preserved for agriculture, which is a driving force in Delaware's economy.

Delaware has 129 Century Farms, which are active farms owned by the same family for at least 100 years.

Delaware's agricultural production was valued at \$1.3 Billion as of 2012.



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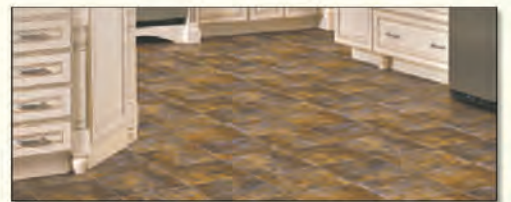
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By Vincent Paez

Ferries are used all over the world to compensate for the lack of a bridge or easy transport across a body of water. Some are equipped to carry automobiles. I love the feeling of being on a ferry, especially a large one with a snack bar and views from multiple levels. There are so many ferry routes throughout the world, and I wish there were time to take all of them. I have had plenty of opportunities to use some of them, and, fortunately, I have had good experiences. All of the ferries I have used have left on time, were clean, and had decent ticketing and concession services. I'd like to share with you some of my favorite ferry routes, and I hope you enjoy the descriptions. I've added relative pricing with \$-signs. Starting with the good ones, ending with my favorite ones:

11. Burlington, VT to Port Kent, NY \$\$

Burlington is a beautiful city in New England. It is

a small, quaint college town, which is home to the University of Vermont. To get to Plattsburgh, New York or Montreal, it is best to take the ferry. The ferry is very small and built only for cars. Drivers stay in their cars and watch the beautiful Vermont-New York scenery as they cross Lake Champlain. The day I used the ferry was a snowy day, which just added to the beauty of the surroundings.

10. Boston, MA to Provincetown, MA \$\$\$

Boston is a fun city with a short ferry to Provincetown, or P-Town, as the locals call it, which is the last town on end of Cape Cod. After a nice stroll in downtown Boston, you can buy a ticket at the pier on the Boston Harbor (or Haa bah, as the locals call it). P-Town is a clean, lively place, where the local gay community gathers. It is absolutely fun and has great restaurants. P-Town was the first place the Pilgrims landed (it was not Plymouth), and a tall monument was erected years ago to commemorate this event. P-Town is a must see, if you are in Boston. The ferry ride is clean with a snack bar, alcohol bar, and clean restrooms. If you go, make time for the beach!

9. Cape-May, NJ to Lewes, DE \$\$\$\$

Many folks reading this are familiar with this ferry, as it is a short drive from Fenwick Island, DE. This is a big, full service ferry. The view of both

New Jersey and Delaware shores are spectacular, especially, while eating a hot dog from the large concession stand. I would recommend this ferry, if your origin or destination were in Southern New Jersey. It does take time to board and ride the ferry, and Route 1 in DE may be faster otherwise.

8. New London, CT to Orient Point, NY \$\$\$\$

This ferry is a convenient way to cross over Long Island Sound from New England to Long Island. I would highly recommend it, if your origin or destination were Long Island, as it saves the stress of going into New York City. The crew is efficient, and boarding is easy. The snack bar and bar are typically well stocked, so, if you have someone else driving and fancy a trip to the bar, you can enjoy the view of The Long Island Sound with a libation. I use this ferry to travel from Massachusetts, where I now live, to Long Island, where my father lives. Very close to the Long Island side of the ferry are many vineyards. The "North Fork" of Long Island is well known for its quality wines.

7. Circular Quay, Sydney, Australia to Manly, Australia \$\$\$

This ferry offers beautiful views of the Opera House in Sydney Cove. It is a typical tourist destination with hustle and bustle and people speaking many different languages. I took it many years ago to get to Sydney's Taronga Zoo, where I saw and touched a live koala bear for the first time. Sydney Harbor is magnificent and a must-see when in Australia. The plethora of boats and the stunning weather makes for a pleasant experience. You must remember that Australia's seasons are the reverse of our seasons. I went in July, when it was winter Down Under. Still, the weather was nice (60 degrees F and sunny).

6. Staten Island, NY to Manhattan, NY \$

My parents met in Times Square, New York City. They did not have a lot of money, and they dated on the Staten Island Ferry. It was relatively cheap, and the ride was very pleasant, as it is today. The ferries, which may be the same vessels from my parents' time, run well and on time and they have pretty clean bathrooms. They carry only passengers (no cars), and the ride is very scenic, especially when the ride passes by the Statue of Liberty. I too dated my future wife on this ferry. A few years

Author, **Vincent Paez** is a chemist and international businessman. He speaks five languages and has lived/worked on four continents for three Fortune 500 companies.



Vincent is a passionate musician and loves the music scene, especially in the Ocean City area.

ago, we took a round-trip ride from Manhattan to Staten Island. On that particular day, there was a terrorist threat, so our ferry was accompanied by heavily armored US Coast Guard boats. That made the ride feel a bit strange, but at least we were well protected.

5. Golden Horn Ferry, Istanbul, Turkey \$

I have written about Istanbul before in the High Tide News. It is a city of contrasts of old and new. This ferry is for people only and offers spectacular views of the Bosphorus River. The ferry typically includes narration by tour guides pointing out famous spots along the river. While I was there, I tried the delicious kabobs sold in restaurants near the ferry.

4. Hong Kong City to Kowloon, Hong Kong \$

This ferry is a must-do at night in Hong Kong. I took the ferry from the Hong Kong side of the Kowloon Bay to the Kowloon side after sunset to go to dinner. Kowloon has wonderful seafood restaurants. In the restaurant I chose, I actually got to pick the crayfish in the tank that was to be my dinner. Crossing the Bay is a real experience with the lights of skyscrapers on both sides of the bay. It is possible to cross over by car on a bridge, but the ferry experience is far more impressive.

3. Calais, France to Dover, UK \$\$\$\$

Ah, the beautiful white cliffs of Dover. They can be seen as the ferry from France gets closer to England on the English Channel. This is a full service ferry on which one can bring their car. I drove from Germany to Calais, France with a German car and drove on the right hand side of the road, of course. Upon arrival in Dover, England, I had to drive on the left hand side of the road. I handled the situation well, but I admit that I did have a head-ache

continued on page 8

FRUITLAND FORCE BASEBALL

FRUITLAND FORCE

2015 Baseball Tryouts

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Tryout Dates & Times

Tryouts will be held on July 25th and August 8th at Fruitland Little League

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9U: 10 am - 11 am (Turning 9 before April 30, 2016)	
10U: 11 am - 12 pm (Turning 10 before April 30, 2016)	
11U: 12 pm - 1 pm (Turning 11 before April 30, 2016)	
12U: 1 pm - 2 pm (Turning 12 before April 30, 2016)	
13U: 2 pm - 3 pm (Turning 13 before April 30, 2016)	
14U: 3 pm - 4 pm (Turning 14 before April 30, 2016)	
15-17U: 4 pm - 6 pm (Turning 15, 16, or 17 before April 30, 2016)	

Contact for more information: Bill Atkinson (billa625@aol.com, phone #443-523-6479) or Brent Skeeter (BRSKEETER@salisbury.edu)

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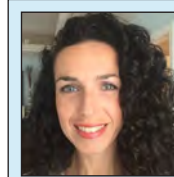
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Generation "W": The Age in Place Effort

By Kathryn Cieniewicz, MSPT, CAPS



Kathryn Cieniewicz, MSPT, CAPS, from Aging in Place Specialists, LLC, is a Certified Aging in Place Specialist based out of Lewes, DE who offers comprehensive services for aging in place including home modifications, consulting, and service coordination. She can be reached at 302-444-8318 or www.aginginplacede.com.

We have all heard of Generation X- the generation born from the 1960s to the early 1980s, but have you heard of Generation W? That is... Generation "Worried". We are actually in the same generation as X but are growing more concerned about our aging parents and grandparents who undoubtedly want to stay at home but are frequently having difficulty doing so. None of us want to place mom or dad in that nursing home. We want to do what's best for them and figure out a way to make it work, but how? It's overwhelming. There are many considerations to having mom or dad live at home safely and independently. We work full time. We have families and our own homes to tend to. We do care, however, and we need a plan- DESPERATELY.

Aging in Place, or living one's lifetime at home, is preferred 9x out of 10 in people over the age of 65 years old according to AARP. This is no surprise. With falls on the rise, especially in the home, and disease management challenges, it is no wonder that families are worried about having their loved ones stay in their homes for the long haul. As the responsibility to care for our loved ones increases, the need to navigate through all the needed resources increases as well. Aging

in Place is most definitely a collaborative effort. There is no one, cookie cutter, solution for every person. It requires an individualized, compassionate approach.

There are some things, however, that everyone reading this in Generation W could benefit from. Most common home modifications needed for aging in place include grab bars, which are safety devices that can be installed in a wall for holding onto to avoid a fall or for added support. Grab bars come in many different styles to choose from but there are certain aspects of grab bars that should be standard such as using vertical, horizontal or L shaped bars- NOT diagonal ones. Also, suction cup ones are not a viable long term option as they can come off the wall and one could suffer significant injury. Use a lot of grab bars and make sure you have solid backing to secure them into the wall. There are even grab bars available that are specifically designed to be completely slip resistant especially when they are wet.

Ramps are another common modification needed for those who want to stay in their homes but have difficulty getting up and down steps safely. Before building a ramp, one should

consider if the person using it will need to use it by themselves or if someone will always be available to get them up and down the ramp. This will greatly impact what the slope of the ramp should be, how many platforms within the ramp you have, the appropriate width of the ramp, the threshold at the doorway to get onto the ramp, and the amount of door latch side space available for an individual to position themselves for access to the door. A common thing missed, as well, is the type of path available to get to the car from the ramp. As a physical therapist doing home care for nearly 12 years, I have seen some fairly useless ramps that may be more dangerous than the steps they were trying to avoid.

Home monitoring systems are another useful tool to us "W"s that want to keep a check on our loved ones. There is a system for your 88 year old mother who doesn't have Internet in her home and has "no intention of ever having Internet in her home" (you can hear her saying that now can't you?)- called Evermind. It is a system that can help monitor activity simply through plugging in their most routinely used appliances. The system will send you alerts to let you know mom is okay because she has turned on and off her coffee

maker or if there may be a problem because the TV has been on for way more hours than usual. There are, however, more techy options that are still very user friendly for mom but offer more comprehensive home monitoring. The bracelet and pendant emergency response systems have technology in them now that can be brought outside the home with GPS monitoring. They also have automatic call service if mom falls that doesn't require mom to push the button. Maybe mom won't wear that pendant. Maybe she has dementia and you worry about her wandering out of her home. There are caregiving and respite services available to assist and even GPS shoes!

The point is- there is help, Generation W. There are companies, technologies, services, and specialists available to help us navigate the waters of aging in place. Our parents were there for us. We will be there for them too.



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The Promise of Pixar

Having treated myself to the movies this week, I chose "Inside Out", a Disney Pixar film production. Astoundingly, the production team did it again; they created a brilliant, relevant and meaningful message for all ages consistent with other popular Pixar films, *Finding Nemo*, *Toy Story*, *The Incredibles*, *Ratatouille*, *WALL-E*, *Up*, *Monsters, Inc.* and *Cars*, etc. The movie is a thought-provoking, mindful and creative production that addresses how emotions work from a brain science perspective and that in the absence of one emotion, none of our emotions functions properly.

Ever wonder what's behind Pixar's success from a leadership perspective? Ed Catmull, co-founder of Pixar Animation Studios and President of Walt Disney and Pixar Animation Studios, said it best, "when Pixar was in the tank and our results were declining back in 2006 prior to the wildly successful

film, *Toy Story*, I made it a point to sit with each person on my team and ask them the following question. "Why are you so messed up? And I meant it. I was genuinely interested in what they had to say so we could fix it."

Catmull finds no problem in owning mistakes, failing often, failing early, and learning from his staff. He believes that the value of a company is its people. He focuses on instilling trust. "The we is absolutely smarter than the I." "The only way you are going to find out what the we is thinking is to ask them and then listen."

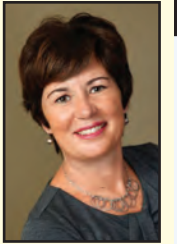
Humbly, the CEO admits "it is our job to not grow up – to be kids." One of his ongoing challenges is to ask how he and his team can bring more creativity to Pixar. To find the answer, he brings a relentless discipline of going behind the scenes and looking for the management and cultural forces blocking creativity. He could see that

some force was taking them off track in 2006 but had no idea what it was. "That force was hidden and mighty powerful," claims Catmull. "How does one deal with forces and problems that one can't see?"

Learning from that exercise it became apparent that trust was a missing component coupled with the fact that the staff didn't feel it was safe to fail and had become risk-averse. Catmull realized that "we must be willing to forego the societal beliefs of thinking you are dumb or lazy if you fail. Failing is necessary; you need to make it safe in the face of the fragility of ideas. The talent was there, they just had to remove the block that was preventing the creativity and candor.

Interestingly, Catmull says, "at the beginning, all of our movies suck." "It's always difficult and painful." Trust people, listen to them, give them permission to fail. Allow

Eunice Carpitella Founder, Leadership Consultant and Executive Coach, Transformative Dynamics, LLC., Fenwick Island, DE. *Transformative Dynamics* develops great leaders, builds new futures and creates extraordinary results. We partner with executives of Fortune 1000 companies, middle market businesses, entrepreneurs, women in business and MBA students with University of Pennsylvania's, The Wharton School. Services include leadership development consulting and executive coaching. Check us out at: www.transformativedynamics.com



for difficulty and pain throughout the process. Nobody at Pixar knows what a movie is going to be like until it is practically done. In the interim, there are fears, feelings of fraud, and the whole gamut of emotions that are necessary to be fully alive, creative, and successful.

Inspired by a 2015 Leadercast presentation featuring Ed Catmull, Ph.D., co-founder of Pixar Animation Studios and President of Walt Disney and Pixar Animation Studios.



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FERRIES

continued from page 6

afterwards from concentrating so hard on driving.

2. Bergen, Norway to Stavanger, Norway \$\$\$

One of the most exciting ferry rides I have ever taken was in Norway. This ferry carries only people. It is smaller than most ferries and travels at high speeds. In order to get from Bergen to Stavanger (pronounced Sta vah nya), the ferry travels through the fjords (pronounced fee-ords), small rock islands separated by narrow portions of water, through which the ferry travels. At times, I held my heart in my hands, as we closed in on some of the islands with very little distance between us. Fortunately, there was a bar on board to help calm my nerves.

1. Gothenburg, Sweden to Frederikshavn, Denmark \$\$\$\$

This ferry is fully equipped for people and cars. I actually never got to ride on this. For some reason, it was not operating at the moment I wanted to cross, so I had to get across on a helicopter. Now that was fun. It was my first and only ride in a helicopter. It sat about ten people, who also could not get across on the ferry. I missed the ferry, but I had a great experi-

ence on the helicopter.

Another ferry that I did not get to take was the ferry from Cape Cod to Martha's Vineyard. I drove about ninety minutes from Boston to the ferry, where the crew told me that it would cost \$120 to put my car on the ferry (each way). When I decided to park the car instead of paying that exorbitant price, the crew told me that the parking lot was six miles up the hill (back where I came from). I would then have to take a shuttle from that parking lot for six miles back to the ferry. I hear that Martha's Vineyard is beautiful, but it cannot be worth that much hassle. Instead, I drove back towards Boston, stopped in Plymouth, and had a wonderful time learning about the Mayflower on the replica ship. Who needs "The Vineyard" anyway?

I have always felt safe in ferries. I do realize that there is some element of danger, as the world saw in South Korea a few years ago. I try not to think of such dangers, as the risk of something happening is so low. I hope that you get to try several of these ferries and have a similar positive experience. As for me, I still am waiting to try more and more of them.

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Largest Individual Gift in The Music School of Delaware History Positions School for Exceptional Growth



Kate M. Ransom, President & CEO

(July 29, 2015) WILMINGTON, DE—In a press conference today at The Music School of Delaware's Wilmington Branch, David C. McBride, Board Chair, announced that board member, key donor, and long-time adult student of the Music School, Dr. William J. Stegeman, made a magnanimous and unprecedented donation to the School of \$750,000.

Dr. Stegeman's donation completes the funding of Phase I (new wing) and allows Music School leaders to plan and move forward with the second phase of their Capital Campaign. In Phase II, funds will be raised for several capital projects, including the renovation of the concert hall and upgrading the School's roof, heating and ventilation systems. The support of Dr. Stegeman ensures The Music School of Delaware can also plan and prepare to reach their "Goals and Priorities for a Century of Success." The Board initiated a strategic planning process earlier this spring in preparation for the school's 100th anniversary year in 2025.

Board Chair David C. McBride, Esq. commented on the gift's significance: "In addition to finishing Phase I of our capital campaign, Dr. Stegeman's contribution demonstrates an exceptionally strong vote of confidence in the school. From our ability to prosper through the recession, to our excellent music faculty and programming, and community outreach, The Music School of Delaware is well-poised for continued success."

Dr. William Stegeman is CEO and Senior Scientist of Jackson ImmunoResearch Laboratories, Inc., the company that he founded in 1982 with partner Ralph C. Hood, Jr. and two investors. He is a graduate of the University of Maine, University of Massachusetts, Rutgers University, and he was an NIH postdoctoral research fellow at Temple Medical School. Located in West Grove, PA, his company specializes in the production and conjugation of affinity-purified secondary antibodies and purified immunoglobulins. Dr. Stegeman has served on the Board of the Music School since 2010 and has been a student in violin and viola since 2001.

In speaking of his intent, Bill said: "With this gift, I want to endorse and support the visionary and positive direction the school is taking and express our appreciation for the excellence of its faculty, student accomplishment, and leadership. I hope many, many others will give what they can, as well."

The school's chief executive since 1999, Kate M. Ransom noted that Dr. Stegeman's gift is a remarkable demonstration of their passion and generosity for the future of the arts in the region, as well as a testament to the strength of the school's Board of Directors, and leadership donor base. "I extend profound gratitude to Bill. Major gifts such as this are transformative and allow the community to have



Katie Inie-Richards, Milford Branch Director; Kate Ransom, President and CEO, The Music School of Delaware; Dr. William J. Stegeman, CEO and founder, Jackson ImmunoResearch; David C. McBride, Esq., chair, Board of Directors, The Music School of Delaware; and Suzuki violin students.

access to excellence in the arts for all. Bill has consistently shown unprecedented commitment to the future of the arts in Delaware, and great passion for the school and our educational programs."

Founded in 1924, The Music School of Delaware reaches thousands of people from Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Maryland through its instructional programs and over 100 public performances each year. The Music School is the only nationally accredited program of its kind in Delaware and is the only statewide accredited community music school in the nation. The Music School offers standard-setting instructional programs for all ages and has a faculty of nearly 100 expert artists and educators with branch locations in Wilmington and Milford and over 20 satellite and outreach sites statewide. For more information, please call the Wilmington Branch at (302) 762-1132.

Delaware Tech & Wilmington University Students to Compete in Student Film Contest in Milton

...Audience votes will determine the winner

Georgetown – It's Team Delaware Tech versus Team Wilmington University in the student film contest at the Milton Theatre at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 15. A team of four communications students from Delaware Tech's Owens Campus will be competing against a team of four students from Wilmington University in a contest sponsored by Short Wars.

Students Lydia Conner, Seth Shockley, Adam Smith, and Bryce Evans will be representing Team Delaware Tech. Each team will be producing their own version of the Short Wars 2015 Screenplay Contest winner "Never Let Go," written by Khamanna Iskandarova,

in the week leading up to the premiere. The audience will select what they feel is the better version, and the winning team will split the prize of \$8,000. Tickets are \$10.

Communications Instructor Jessica Farley is eager to see what her students can do. "The Delaware Tech team beat out several other university teams for their spot in Short Wars and that accomplishment alone was very exciting," she said. "This group brings all the enthusiasm, creativity, diligence and humility needed to produce a film in five days, which in itself is quite a feat. Our team is grateful for the administrators, donors and sponsors of the Short Wars programs. By presenting

college and high school students with an opportunity to create, manage and execute a project like this, they are giving them a unique learning and life experience, as well as investing in our community."

Founded in Delaware, Short Wars Inc. is a 501c(3) nonprofit organization that raises funds for screenwriting competitions and film productions for high school and college students. The Short Wars online screenplay contest is open to all levels of writers and has attracted screenplays from around the world. The Short Wars program is aimed at introducing select high school students to video production and supporting them through

their college years by funding production work to help their development.

The Milton Theatre is located at 110 Union St. in Milton and can be contacted at (302) 684-3038. For tickets to the premiere or more information, visit www.shortwars.org. RSVP to the event on Facebook by visiting www.facebook.com/events/875201482550992/.

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An Attitude of Gratitude

Insights by Nancy

Thankfulness stirs up an emotional response: My heart feels lighter as my mind swells with happy memories of family, friends and the blessings in my life. I am reminded of joyous occasions and of dear people that have influenced and shaped who I am.

As I look upon all His gifts of love, comfort, conveniences and the beauty

that surround me I am humbled. I am grateful for the undeserved favor of faith, (Hebrews 11:1), "Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see." My life has been made more whole by the love of Jesus and my relationship with Him.

I have found it is the sorrows and difficulties in life that have brought me

the closest to Jesus. My dependence on Him is what opens my eyes and my heart to receive His love and to embrace the knowledge and assurance that God is truly always with me. For this I am truly thankful. May your heart brim with joy and gratitude as you reflect on God's great love and the gifts he has for YOU each day.

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