

Special Experience #2

Environmental Experience

For my second special experience, Carla, Nicole, and I each decided to go to a public place and find the benefits and disadvantages it had for elderly people and people with disabilities. Carla went to Giant Eagle (grocery store), Nicole went to John's Bar and Grille (restaurant) and I went to Huntington National Bank (in Brewster).

Carla found that Giant Eagle is a pretty good place for elderly people to shop.

The benefits of Giant Eagle are:

- 12 handicap parking spots
- 3 electric scooters
- Public restrooms that are handicap accessible
- Automatic opening doors
- In-store pharmacy and in-store bank (this makes for less places they have to go)
- the aisle are large and uncluttered (making it less easy to trip and easy for a wheel-chair if necessary)
- no steps
- baggers to help bag items and carry out and load your car

The disadvantages of Giant Eagle are:

- shelves being high so it is difficult to reach some items, but there are people in the store willing to help get items down, but sometimes they are hard to find.

Nicole found that John's Bar and Grille has both benefits and disadvantages for elderly people and people with disabilities to eat.

The benefits of John's Bar and Grille are:

- 2 handicapped parking spots
- flat side entrance
- ramp main entrance
- handrails up ramp
- no stairs
- all tables wheel chair accessible

The disadvantages of John's Bar and Grille are:

- bad lighting
- no handicap wheelchair accessible bathroom
- narrow hallways
- rugs that constantly get kicked up
- booths not wheel chair accessible

I found that the bank is a descent bank for people to bank at. It has some benefits as well as some disadvantages.

The benefits of Huntington Bank are:

- Well lighted area
- Friendly customer service representatives

- seating areas for people to sit while they are waiting
- handicap parking spots
- a ramp to walk up

The disadvantages to this particular Huntington Bank are:

- while it does have a handicap parking spot, it is in the back of the bank, making it easier to get to the ramp but the customers must back out onto the street
- 3 steps to walk up, if wanting to get to the ramp, they must walk down the sidewalk
- Not much room inside the bank
- Nothing to hold onto while walking up to the desk
- No public accessible restrooms

Overall, I would say that all of the places we observed are pretty good for elderly people and people with disabilities. There are some disadvantages but with the proper help, people should be able to shop and bank and eat at these places.

Comment [st1]: Wow, nice journal. +1