



# SENIOR Wingspan's Elder Voice FORUM

Volume 6 Issue 12  
December 2010

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Office for Children, Youth and  
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Wingspan Anti-Violence Program

430 East 7th Street, Tucson, AZ 85705 — 520-624-1779 — [www.wingspan.org](http://www.wingspan.org)

## Michael and Rick's 4 bits



2011 will mark the beginning of the second decade of the 21st century. It seems like only yesterday that 'millennium fever' was the big thing as we bade farewell to the span of time that we know best and which formed our personalities and our values. The big worry 10 years ago was 'Y2K' – computer systems that may or may not be ready to recognize the validity of dates with years that did not begin with '19' - remember that? Many changes have taken place during the 100 years we know as the 1900s – major wars between nations, long periods of relative peace and great prosperity, great shifts and upheavals in social conscience and activism among the populations of all countries – all of which have affected us both collectively and personally.

The very existence of Senior Pride here at Wingspan attests to these events – there was a time in the not-so-distant past when LGBT people of our generation lived in silence and relative obscurity due to the irrational fears and prejudices of an uninformed and ignorant society. Senior Pride can be justifiably proud to be a part of the programs here at Wingspan which seek to provide a place for social interaction and education. So we wish you all a Happy New Year 2011 and an ongoing invitation to join us in any and all possible ways during the coming year.

## Coming Out Support Group for 40+

A support group for those coming out after age 40 has begun meeting under Wingspan's aegis. For more information or to join the group, call Linda Thomas at 520.624.1779 ext. 125 or email at [lthomas@wingspan.org](mailto:lthomas@wingspan.org).

## A Dis-N-Dat Farewell from m. j.

Thank you for allowing me to give back a little, for the last year and a half, by serving as the Wingspan Volunteer Coordinator for Senior PRIDE Educational Events. During the time I have been involved with the WSP program, I have had the opportunity to work with some of you by bringing to the community: "A Colorful Life", "Adopt Iron Horse Park" (idea by Dea Brascalla), "Wingspan Seniors Care" and "Senior Games" (at the Himmel Library). With the coming of a new decade, I have decided to, at long last, take up some of my own neglected projects. I will therefore take leave of my volunteer duties at the end of DEC 2010. I take this occasion to bid one and all A Very Joyous Holiday Season and wish you A Healthy and Happy New Year.

Arrivederci E Grazie!  
m. j. talbot

## Seniors Games at Himmel Library

It's not just the younger LGBTQ crowd having fun. Join fellow 50+ friends for an afternoon of games every Monday, excluding holidays, from noon to 3 pm. at Himmel Park Library, 1035 North Treat Ave.

Every Thursday ~

Exercise class, Mah-Jongg and light lunch at Tucson Chinese Cultural Center

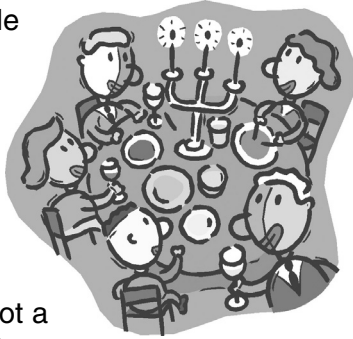
Open to all! Annual membership of \$60 includes 52 lunches a year or come as a one time or occasional guest for \$5/single lunch cost. 1288 W. River Road or contact Patsy Lee @ 292.6900.

NB: Same 2 friendly Mah-Jongg instructors will be at both locations; however, if you are especially interested in learning to play, please attend the MON Senior Games at Himmel Library!!

## Upcoming Events

### PFLAG Holiday Dinner

The beautiful people of PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) are once again giving a holiday dinner for members of the Senior LGBT community. This is not a potluck, folks; PFLAG provides everything. And the everything they provide is stupendously delicious. We know. We have had the pleasure of this company in years past. You definitely do not want to miss this gala event! All seniors are invited. For more information, call Karen or Jack at 207-9120 or e-mail them at karenj7@cox.net.



**Event:** Senior Pride Dinner  
**Date:** Saturday, December 11  
**Time:** Set up at 3:00 pm, dinner served at 4:00 pm  
**Place:** First Congregational UCC,  
1350 N. Arcadia Avenue  
(half-way between Swan and Rosemont two blocks north of Speedway Boulevard).

The PFLAG people are our strongest allies so let's show up and show them our appreciation for what they do for us, and tell them so.

### Walk Thru Winterhaven

Senior Pride will have a walk through Winterhaven on Wednesday, Dec. 15, beginning at 5:30 PM. We will meet at the side entrance on Tucson Blvd. at Kleindale. Everyone is asked to bring canned and other nonperishable foods for the Food Bank when they walk through Winterhaven. Of course, they will also accept cash. After viewing the holiday lights display at Winterhaven we'll meet again as we did last year for dinner at the India Oven restaurant on Campbell Ave. If you plan to have dinner in the restaurant with us, please RSVP to Lee and Merlin at 207-5336 or msnguys@cox.net.

## Get ready for Night Thing!

Come ring in the New Year with Wingspan and a few hundred of your closest friends at Night Thing, Wingspan's Inaugural New Year's Eve Celebration.

It's all happening Friday, Dec. 31, from 7 pm. till 2 am. at the beautiful JW Starr Pass Marriott Resort & Spa. Some party-goers are booking rooms, as well, so if you'd like to join the fun, the resort is offering us a discounted rate of \$164 per night.

Tables are \$1,500 for up to 10 people. Individual tickets and tables can be purchased online at the Wingspan website.

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### Upcoming Senior Pride Events

#### SAVE THE DATE:

**LGBT Elder Issues Open House -  
Wednesday, January 26, 11-1, at Wingspan.**

Event will feature a panel from Pima Council On Aging, lots of resource information, community input and survey, and lunch!

Wingspan Senior Pride will provide transportation to those needing it. More details will follow in the January issue of Senior Forum. Please mark your January calendar now and plan to join us to help increase access to services for seniors!

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**Become an  
Ally!**



The week of November 15th through the 20th was celebrated by the community and officially recognized by Mayor Walkup as Transgender Awareness Week in Tucson. There were presentations, panels, workshops and films, one by Oscar Jimenez, director of Wingspan's Anti-Violence Program, entitled "Esmeralda del Desierto". The week ended with a Ceremony of Remembrance, the tenth annual to be held in Tucson, coinciding with an International Day of Remembrance, honoring the 30 known transgender people murdered during the past year worldwide.

One of the recurring themes of the week was the importance of being an ally to the transgender



*PFLA G  
Senior Pride  
Holiday Dinner*

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*Set up at 3:00 pm, dinner served at 4:00 pm*

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(half-way between Swan and Rosemont two blocks  
north of Speedway Boulevard).*

*For more information, call Karen or Jack at 207-9120  
or e-mail them at karenj7@cox.net.*

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*Wednesday, December 15, beginning at 5:30  
PM.*

*Meet at the side entrance on Tucson Blvd.  
at Kleindale.*

*If you can, please bring canned and other  
nonperishable foods for Food Bank  
donations (cash, of course, is also  
acceptable).*

*Dinner at the India Oven restaurant on  
Campbell Ave will follow for anyone  
wishing to join us. Please RSVP to Lee and  
Merlin at 207-5336 or msnguys@cox.net.*



# December 2010

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday   | Wednesday  | Thursday | Friday   | Saturday   |
|--------|--------|---|--|----------|--|--|
|        |        |   | 1  | 2        | 3  | 4  |
| 5      | 6      | 7<br>Iron Horse Park<br>Cleanup<br>9:00 AM                          | 8  | 9        | 10   | 11<br>PFLAG Holiday<br>Dinner for Senior<br>Pride – 4:00 PM<br>1st Congregational<br>UCC           |
| 12     | 13     | 14<br>Wingspan Senior<br>Pride Meeting<br>Himmel Library<br>2:00 PM | 15<br>Walk through<br>Winterhaven<br>5:30 PM with<br>dinner at India<br>Oven after | 16       | 17   | 18<br>40s and Better<br>Breakfast Group<br>Royal Sun Best<br>Western Restaurant<br>9:30 – 11:00 am |
| 19     | 20     | 21<br>Iron Horse Park<br>Cleanup<br>9:00 AM                         | 22   | 23       | 24<br><br>Christmas Eve  | 25<br><br>Christmas Day  |
| 26     | 27     | 28  | 29   | 30       | 31<br>New Year's Eve<br><br>Night Thing<br>JW Marriott Starr<br>Pass Resort & Spa<br>7:00 PM – 2:00 AM |  |

community. The lesbian, gay and bisexual communities have benefited greatly from allies who are not part of our community (for example Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays PFLAG, Gay Lesbian and Straight Education Network GLSEN, churches and synagogues and Gay-Straight Alliances GSA's in schools). The transgender community needs and deserves the support of the LGB community as well.

At the remembrance ceremony, a group of people read poems written by youth participating in Made for Flight, a transgender and ally workshop series and kite-building project to commemorate transgender individuals murdered in the last year. Learn more about the project at <http://madeforflight.blogspot.com/>.

**One poem by Jai was particularly moving:**

I was the one who started as a boy  
I am the one who left a woman  
I was the one forced to submit to you  
I am the one who would never submit  
I was the one who felt your hatred  
I am the one who has transcended it  
I was the one who embodied your fear of "self"  
I am the one who only embodied myself  
I was the one who hated my body  
I am the one who changed it  
I was the one who had to fight to survive  
I am the one who lost  
I was the one who pleaded for mercy  
I am the one who has been silenced  
I was the one who had just celebrated Valentine's  
I am the one who will not have a Valentine  
I was the one who had pretty green eyes  
I am the one who is gone

## Humor Corner

'OLD' IS WHEN...

Your sweetie says, 'Let's go upstairs and make love,' and you answer, 'Pick one; I can't do both!'

'OLD' IS WHEN...

Your friends compliment you on your new alligator shoes and you're barefoot.

'OLD' IS WHEN...

Going bra-less pulls all the wrinkles out of your face.

'OLD' IS WHEN....

You don't care where your spouse goes, just as long as you don't have to go along.

'OLD' IS WHEN...

You are cautioned to slow down by the doctor instead of by the police.

'OLD' IS WHEN..

'Getting a little action' means you don't need to take any fiber today.

'OLD' IS WHEN...

'Getting lucky' means you find your car in the parking lot.

'OLD' IS WHEN....

An 'all nighter' means not getting up to use the bathroom.

**AND**

'OLD' IS WHEN...

You are not sure if these are facts or jokes?

## November Events

### Meander in Tucson Meetup Group

List of events for lesbian women  
<http://www.meetup.com/MeanderinTucson>

### Tuesday, December 7 & December 21

(1st and 3rd Tuesdays) 9AM

### Adopt a Park Iron Horse Cleanup

Iron Horse Park 10th Street  
between 3rd and 4th Avenue

### Tuesday, December 14 (2nd

Tuesday)

### Senior Pride Planning Meeting

2 PM at Himmel Park Library, 1035 N. Treat  
Avenue (off Speedway) ph: 594.5305

### Saturday, December 18

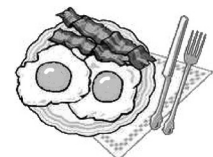
(every 3rd Saturday of the month)

### 40s and Better Breakfast Group - A welcoming network of lesbians

Royal Sun Best Western Restaurant  
SW corner of Speedway and  
Stone

9:30 - 11:00 AM

Phone contact: Carol Ehrlich  
520-584-0339





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Once again, we come to the Holiday Season, a deeply religious time that each of us observes, in his own way, by going to the mall of his choice.

- Dave Barry

*Christmas is a season for kindling the fire for hospitality in the hall, the genial flame of charity in the heart.*

Washington Irving

**Most Texans think Hanukkah is some sort of duck call.**

Richard Lewis

HE WHO HAS NOT CHRISTMAS IN HIS HEART  
WILL NEVER FIND IT UNDER A TREE.

Roy L. Smith

The proper behavior all through the holiday season is to be drunk. This drunkenness culminates on New Year's Eve, when you get so drunk you kiss the person you're married to.

P. J. O'Rourke