



Voices of Choices

Compassion & Choices Arizona Newsletter

Previous Issues at: www.choicesarizona.org

2007 - Issue #3

Compassion & Choices Arizona (formerly known as Hemlock Society or End of Life Choices)

P. O. Box 12126, Tucson, AZ 85732 * Toll Free 1-877-535-3600 * Email: info@choicesarizona.org * Web: www.choicesarizona.org

2007 STATEWIDE CONFERENCE

**Saturday, November 3rd, 10 am - 3:30 pm
at the Embassy Suites Hotel, Tempe, Arizona
4400 S. Rural Road, Tempe**

**Registration, Coffee & Pastries begins at 9 am
in Junior Ballroom A
Luncheon included**

(Please See Page 8 for Directions and Details!)

This event will kick off the State of Arizona's "Health Care Decisions Week" which begins November 5. Attendees will receive a free Advance Directives Packet and detailed information on completing and submitting the forms from Liz Atkinson of the Arizona Office of the Secretary of State. Attendees will also hear from Representative Linda Lopez (D), District 29, Tucson, on her success in passing "Arizona's Health Care Decision Week" and her efforts in passing a physicians aid in dying bill for all Arizonan's. Roland Halpern, the Director of Community Relations from our National organization will provide up to date information about the Compassion & Choices organization. *Other speakers have been invited to attend.* Further information will be provided as we get closer to our conference date. The cost for the conference (including lunch and morning coffee/treats) is \$30.



MEMBERSHIP DRIVE SUCCESSFUL!

**New Membership and New Leadership Arise
at the first C&C Membership Drive**

Our membership drive meeting was held on June 30, 2007 to revitalize the local Phoenix/Scottsdale/Tempe Chapter of Compassion & Choices Arizona. The meeting was incredibly successful! A new Board of Directors has been formed and the former chapter President, Marshall Lindsay will now be able to retire after four years of exemplary leadership. Marshall will not be leaving the area, nor the organization, and will avail himself as a consultant to the new board.

The new Phoenix/Scottsdale/Tempe Board of Directors are: President, Loretta Lande; Vice President, Gwen Aloia; Treasurer, Joyce Wilson; Secretary, VACANT (we are still seeking a volunteer!); and board members include Charles Mathews and Joan Fitz-Randolph. Other new/former members also indicated they would gladly help with activities of the board.

Thanks to everyone who helped put this event together. And a warm welcome to all new members. We look forward to working together to make our right-to-die cause a "front-burner" issue in the Arizona Legislature.

We plan to hold additional membership drive meetings in other cities in Arizona. We hope you'll join us!



Billie Stockl

More information is available online at <http://www.choicesarizona.org/conference.htm>

For questions please contact Billie Stockl (toll free) at 877-535-3600

MARCH ON THE ARIZONA LEGISLATURE

Wednesday, January 23, 2008 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM

Once again, we plan to march on the Arizona State Legislature! We will let them know that the residents of the state of Arizona are serious about passing an Oregon-type aid-in-dying bill (see Page 7 for details on the Oregon Law). The bills previously submitted by Representative Linda Lopez (D-29) have not even been considered in the House of Representatives. Her bills have been written with the utmost of care to protect both physicians and patients in this undertaking. The bills ask for physician aid in dying and for control of suffering for terminally ill patients.

We will provide some bus transportation to residents not able to drive that distance. Please contact the Local Chapter nearest you to voice your interest in bus transportation. If the participation is great enough in your area, we will do everything we can to provide transportation support. Questions? Call our toll-free number 1-877-535-3600.

CONTACT INFORMATION

We want to hear from you! Please let us know your ideas, concerns, etc.

CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

Casa Grande - Francene Haskins
(520) 836-9272

Cochise County - Billie Stockl
(520) 803-9285
Email: bstockl@cox.net

Flagstaff - Need a Chapter Leader!
Contact: C&C Arizona Toll Free 1-877-535-3600

Green Valley - Peter Smith
(520) 648-8487
Email: peterd@laposadagv.net

NW Valley (Northwest Valley: Carefree, El Mirage, Glendale, Morristown, Peoria, Sun City, Sun City West, Surprise, Wickenburg, and Youngtown)
Irene Weitzman
(623) 214-6552
Email: ireneweitz@aol.com

Phoenix/Scottsdale/Tempe
Contact: Loretta Lande
Email: lorettalande@aol.com

Prescott - Need a Chapter Leader!
Contact: Margot J. Champagne
(928) 776-3025
MJCesq100@aol.com

Sedona - Deborah Darby
(928) 634-3237
Email: peacefulpassing@msn.com

Sun Lakes - Bob Wallace
(480) 802-4327
Email: joyrobwall@wbhsi.net

Tucson - Cherie Esser
(520) 825-2219
Email: jcbesser825@yahoo.com

Yuma - Need a Chapter Leader!
Contact: C&C Toll Free 1-877-535-3600

STATE LEADERSHIP

Compassion & Choices Arizona Board
President: Billie Stockl, Sierra Vista
Vice President: Margot Champagne, Prescott
Secretary: TBA
Treasurer: Stanley Steinberg, Tucson
Cherie Esser, Tucson
David Brandt-Erichsen, Tucson
Marshall Lindsay, Scottsdale
Bob Wallace, Sun Lakes
Irene Weitzman, Sun City West

Newsletter Editor
Deb Darby (send info: peacefulpassing@msn.com)

**Compassion & Choices Arizona
Medical Advisory Group**
Dr. Robert H. Furman
Dr. Harvey Turner

WHAT'S SO FUNNY ABOUT DEATH???



~ PROSECUTORS ACCUSE FEN VOLUNTEERS ~

“DEATH WISH”

FINAL EXIT NETWORK VOLUNTEERS CALL IT ASSISTED SUICIDE.

PROSECUTORS MAY CALL IT MANSLAUGHTER

Excerpted with permission from an article by Paul Rubin

To read the entire article:

<http://www.phoenixnewtimes.com/2007-08-23/news/death-wish>

Last spring, family and friends gathered at a service for Jana Van Voorhis, a 58-year-old Phoenix woman who recently had died at her home. She was laid to rest where her mother, Mary Jane, had been laid to rest eight months earlier. At the conclusion, Jana's family released helium-filled blue balloons into the air, something she had requested years earlier during what often had been a tortured existence marred by chronic mental illness. Never married, Jana was well-loved by her family, including her two siblings, Viki Thomas of Phoenix and Wes Van Voorhis, a Seattle-area physician and University of Washington professor.

On the afternoon of April 15, Viki and her husband, Jared, had found Jana's body in bed at her home. They immediately suspected her death had been caused by a drug overdose, intentional or not. Those close to Jana knew she had a veritable apothecary of prescribed painkillers, sleep inducers, and mood stabilizers on hand. But the couple noted that there wasn't a pill bottle in sight, which seemed odd to them. Also, Jana's body had been neatly tucked under the covers, her hands by her side atop the sheets, dark hair carefully fanned out on a pillow. "It looked staged," Viki Thomas says. A few months later, after the circumstances of what actually had been Jana Van Voorhis' assisted suicide emerged, the image of the balloons at the service struck Jared Thomas. "When those balloons were floating off, we didn't have a clue that helium had killed Jana," he says. "To think of her breathing in helium from a tank while two strangers just stood by and watched; it's just too much."

The police did not, at first, suspect foul play. But Maricopa County prosecutors are now contemplating whether to file manslaughter charges against two senior citizens who have admitted to guiding Jana Van Voorhis through her suicide on April 12. They are volunteers for the nonprofit Final Exit Network, an offshoot of the now-defunct Hemlock Society, which was founded in 1980 by author Derek Humphry, who is quoted as saying: "Follow my instructions for a perfect death, with no mess, no autopsy, no postmortem." Final Exit Network is considered among the most radical of the assisted-suicide associations, in that it also embraces "members" who suffer from serious mental illnesses, not just physical.

Final Exit literature says its exit guides are prosecution-proof if they follow this one-step-removed approach to assisting in suicides of its members. Maricopa County prosecutors may have something to say about that. Records suggest Jana

sought its help in dying sooner than later. Though she did have physical issues, Jana (according to family member and medical records) wasn't suffering from any illness about to kill her anytime soon. What Jana was suffering from, and had been for decades, was serious mental illness. Since her teenage years, Jana's problems had required intensive psychiatric care. Her troubles increased over time, especially after her mother became incapacitated with Alzheimer's disease and died in July 2006. Final Exit Network's protocol demands that someone who desires to commit suicide "must attest that all relevant family members or caregivers will not interfere with your wishes." The network also claims it will not assist in a suicide "when family, friends or caregivers know about the patient's plans and are strongly opposed." In this instance, no one from the network ever contacted Jana's family to get their position on her apparent death wish. Instead, her exit guides abided by Jana's alleged wishes and kept the suicide plan hush-hush to the end. Jana's closest family members insist they would have done anything to stop her from killing herself - had they known what was up. One of the FEN Volunteers who was present when Jana died says, "Jana was in the throes of what we call existential suffering. Even though their physical pain may be managed, just being alive is a burden. They're not able to function much with reference to other people." Jana knew what it was like to have had a very functional, active life, and that was part of her angst, that she had lost it and there was no way she could get any of it back."

"She had talked about suicide since she was 10, though she never did anything about it," Viki says. Jana was admitted into a psychiatric hospital while attending Camelback High School and underwent mental-health treatment for the rest of her life. And over time, because of her persistent troubles, she became a handful, even for those who loved her.

But her physical illnesses, which apparently were far more often perceived by her than real, were the centerpiece to what was a distressed existence. She inscribed her initials next to the following sentence in Final Exit's form letter: "I have considered the feelings of my family, friends and other loved ones, and have decided to choose the time and manner of my death. No one has tried to make this choice. It is entirely my own." Viki and Jared Thomas say they'd never given much thought to the ins and outs of assisted suicide before Jana died. Now, the couple says they aren't against the concept under certain circumstances, such as when someone really is dying and is in great pain and wants to speed up the inevitable. But Jana's case, they say, feels different to them, and not just because she was family and now she's gone. "If the Final Exit Network had gotten ahold of me, I would have called Jana and gotten right over there," Viki Thomas says. "Sure, she had problems. But she was alive, and now she's not.

VOLUNTARILY STOPPING EATING AND DRINKING (VSED)

AS A MEANS OF ENDING LIFE

By R. Sean Morrison, MD

Director, National Palliative Care Research and Training Center

Hermann Merkin Professor of Palliative Care

Professor of Geriatrics and Medicine

Vice-Chair for Research

Brookdale Department of Geriatrics and Adult Development

Thanks to John Abraham for submitting this information

When persons with serious and advanced illness stop eating and drinking, the overwhelming majority (>90%) gradually lose consciousness until they enter a coma after which death soon follows. The discomfort associated with this process is thirst which is treated by palliative care professionals with ice chips, artificial saliva, or lip balms. That being said, a small number of patients can develop an agitated delirium. This condition can also be quickly and effectively treated by palliative care professionals so that a peaceful death ensues. The specialty of palliative care was developed to provide the highest quality medical care for persons with advanced illness and their families. **The following website can provide you with more information: www.aahpm.org, www.capc.org.**



Oscar the Cat Predicts Patients' Deaths

By Ray Henry for the
New England Journal of Medicine

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP) - Oscar the cat seems to have an uncanny knack for predicting when nursing home patients are going to die, by curling up next to them during their final hours. His accuracy, observed in 25 cases, has led the staff to call family members once he has chosen someone. It usually means they have less than four hours to live.

"He doesn't make too many mistakes. He seems to understand when patients are about to die," said Dr. David Dosa in an interview. He describes the phenomenon in a poignant essay in Thursday's issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

"Many family members take some solace from it. They appreciate the companionship that the cat provides for their dying loved one," said Dosa, a geriatrician and assistant professor of medicine at Brown University.

The 2-year-old feline was adopted as a kitten and grew up in a third-floor dementia unit at the Steere House Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. The facility treats people with

Alzheimer's, Parkinson's disease and other illnesses.

After about six months, the staff noticed Oscar would make his own rounds, just like the doctors and nurses. He'd sniff and observe patients, then sit beside people who would wind up dying in a few hours.

Dosa said Oscar seems to take his work seriously and is generally aloof. "This is not a cat that's friendly to people," he said. Oscar is better at predicting death than the people who work there, said Dr. Joan Teno of Brown University, who treats patients at the nursing home and is an expert on care for the terminally ill.

She was convinced of Oscar's talent when he made his 13th correct call. While observing one patient, Teno said she noticed the woman wasn't eating, was breathing with difficulty and that her legs had a bluish tinge, signs that often mean death is near. Oscar wouldn't stay inside the room though, so Teno thought his streak was broken. Instead, it turned out the doctor's prediction was roughly 10 hours too early. Sure enough, during the patient's final two hours, nurses told Teno that Oscar joined the woman at her bedside.

Doctors say most of the people who get a visit from the sweet-faced, gray-and-white cat are so ill they probably don't know he's there, so patients aren't aware he's a harbinger of death. Most families are grateful for the advanced warning, although one wanted Oscar out of the room while a family member died. When Oscar is put outside, he paces and meows his displeasure.

No one's certain if Oscar's behavior is scientifically significant or points to a cause. Teno wonders if the cat notices telltale scents or reads something into the behavior of the nurses who raised him.

Nicholas Dodman, who directs an animal behavioral clinic at the Tufts University Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine and has read Dosa's article, said the only way to know is to carefully document how Oscar divides his time between the living and dying.

If Oscar really is a furry grim reaper, it's also possible his behavior could be driven by self-centered pleasures like a heated blanket placed on a dying person, Dodman said.

Nursing home staffers aren't concerned with explaining Oscar, so long as he gives families a better chance at saying goodbye to the dying.

Oscar recently received a wall plaque publicly commending his "compassionate hospice care."

New England Journal of Medicine: <http://content.nejm.org/>

READ ANY GOOD (DEATH AND DYING) BOOKS LATELY?

Yes, I have read a good Death and Dying book lately. It is *"To Die Well: Your Right to Comfort, Calm, and Choice in the Last Days of Life"* by Dr. Sidney Wanzer, 2007. This is not to be confused with the book "Dying Well", which is not nearly as good. The examples given in the appendices are especially helpful. Although the work is slightly repetitive, the points made are worth repeating! Dr. Wanzer makes this 209 page volume an easy read, and his approach is thorough, thoughtful, and engaging. *"To Die Well"* is a good, clear, book written by a physician in laymen's terms. No medical/bureaucratic babble here. I commend it to you. *John Abraham (former Executive Director, C&C Arizona)*

While every one of us hopes "to die well," this may not be possible without knowing our rights about care at the end of life. How can futile medical treatment be stopped? When might death be hastened? How can each of us retain control of these decisions?

The information in *To Die Well* is both comforting and empowering. Knowing our rights to refuse treatment, as well as legal ways to bring about death if pain or distress cannot be alleviated, will spare us the frightening helplessness that can rob our last days of meaning and connection with others.

Drs. Sidney Wanzer and Joseph Glenmullen do not shy away from controversy. They make clear what patients should expect of their doctors, including the right to sufficient pain medication even if it shortens life. They distinguish between normal sadness and depression. They also explain the ways to hasten death that are legal and possible for anyone, and those that require a doctor's help.

Appendices include current national and international end-of-life organizations, sample living wills, and Health Care Proxy.

Author Biographies:

Sidney Wanzer, M.D., nationally recognized authority on issues of death and dying, learned what did and did not work for end-of-life treatment in almost four decades of internal medicine, initially in private practice and later with the Harvard University Health Services. He was the lead author of the groundbreaking article in the *New England Journal of Medicine* which for the first time held that, in certain situations, it could be ethical for a physician to assist in hastening the death of patients suffering intolerably. Dr. Wanzer lives in Concord, Massachusetts, and has three grown children and six grandchildren.

Joseph Glenmullen, M.D., Clinical Instructor in Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School, is on the staff of Harvard University Health Services and in private practice in Cambridge, Massachusetts. His works include the widely praised *Prozac Backlash* and *The Antidepressant Solution*.

Praise for *To Die Well*:

"Everyone approaching the end of life should read this superb book. In clear, practical terms it explains what you can do to achieve the peaceful death everyone wants but too few people have-particularly those not lucky enough to have a physician like Dr. Wanzer." Marcia Angell, M.D., Harvard Medical School, former Editor-in-Chief, *New England Journal of Medicine*

"Sidney Wanzer was one of the first mainstream U.S. physicians to advocate openly both for improvements in palliative care and for more choice about hastening death if suffering becomes intolerable. Those who want to learn about all of their potential end-of-life options would do well to read this book." Timothy E. Quill, M.D., author of *Death and Dignity: Making Choices and Taking Charge*

"To Die Well has been a long personal crusade for Sidney Wanzer, in caring for patients and their families and in writing on behalf of their needs as they face the complex issues in the last weeks and days of a terminal illness. His book is important for both patients and clinicians." David S. Rosenthal, M.D., Past President, American Cancer Society

"In this caring and compassionate book, Dr. Wanzer advises us to work with our doctors to organize into a vigilant team. His wise advice is worth every reader's time." Lawrence D. Egbert, M.D., Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

"The discussion of the 'turning points' of care is a welcome and needed addition to the current debates. An immense contribution." Richard Macdonald, M.D., Former President, World Federation of Right-to-Die Societies

"The most comprehensive and understandable view to date of how patients, families, and doctors can successfully confront the imposing challenges of life-threatening and fatal illness." Edward Lowenstein, M.D., Harvard Medical School, Division of Medical Ethics

The article above is from the *org.opn.lists.right-to-die Digest*, Vol 13, Issue 115: *To Die Well: Your Right to Comfort, Calm, and Choice in the Last Days of Life: Sidney Wanzer, M.D. and Joseph Glenmullen, M.D.*

Available wherever books are sold including Amazon.com. Orders may also be placed through the Publisher by calling 800-343-4499.

STATE CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

The 2007 State Conference will be held on November 3, 2007, during National Advance Directives Week. It will be held at Embassy Suites, 4400 S. Rural Road, Tempe, AZ.

DIRECTIONS: From I-10 East take the Superstition Freeway, US 60 East; take second exit which is Rural Rd. The hotel is on the immediate right (southwest corner).

CHOOSE A LUNCH SELECTION (PLEASE CIRCLE THE ONE YOU PREFER):

Chicken Marsala: Boneless breast of chicken served with garlic mashed potatoes.

Beef Bourguignon: Beef tips sautéed with mushrooms in a Burgundy wine sauce, served on a bed of pasta.

Stuffed Seafood Crepes: Two delicate crepes filled with a seafood medley & smothered in a Florentine sauce; served with fresh fruit.

Space is limited so please register early!!

Call toll free 1-877-535-3600 to reserve a space.

Conference registration fee must be received by October 30.

Please make your \$30 check to Compassion & Choices Arizona and mail to:

Compassion & Choices Arizona
P.O. Box 12126
Tucson, AZ 85732

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email: _____

I want to support the cause. Here is an extra \$ _____ contribution. Keep up the good work!

DIRECTIONS: Embassy Suites, 4400 S. Rural Road, Tempe

**From I-10 East take the Superstition Freeway US 60 East; Take second exit which is Rural Road
The hotel is on the immediate right (southwest corner).**

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Call 1-800-EMBASSY (800-362-2779). Limited conference room rates will be available until October 2.

Make your reservations early! When making reservations, please let them know you're with "Compassion & Choices Arizona" (Code: C&C) to get the special conference rate. Occupancy per night (does not include 12.07% local taxes and fees): 1 person = \$139; 2 people = \$139 (same as 1); 3 people = \$149; 4 people = \$159.

You can select either one king bed, or two double beds.

A complimentary, full cooked-to-order breakfast, and an evening Manager's Reception (drinks), are included in the room rate. Each suite features a spacious living room and private bedroom. All suites are fully equipped with two televisions, a mini refrigerator, microwave oven, coffee maker, two telephones with data ports, high speed wireless internet access, a dining table and sleeper sofa-bed in the living room section, and a work desk in the bedroom.



Make your reservations early!

Invite a friend!

Treat a friend!

UPDATE ON USAGE OF OREGON'S DEATH WITH DIGNITY ACT

Under Oregon's Death with Dignity Act (DWDA), terminally-ill adult Oregonians are allowed to obtain and use prescriptions from their physicians for self-administered, lethal medications. The Oregon Public Health Division is required by the Act to collect information on compliance and to issue an annual report.

- During 2006, 65 prescriptions for lethal medications under the provisions of the DWDA were written. Of these, 35 patients took the medications, 19 died of their underlying disease, and 11 were alive at the end of 2006. In addition, 11 patients with earlier prescriptions died from taking the medications, resulting in a total of 46 DWDA deaths during 2006. This corresponds to an estimated 14.7 DWDA deaths per 10,000 total deaths.
- Forty physicians wrote the 65 prescriptions.
- Since the law was passed in 1997, 292 patients have died under the terms of the law.
- As in prior years, participants were more likely to have cancer (87%), and have more formal education (41% had at least a baccalaureate degree) than other Oregonians who died. Patients who died in 2006 were slightly older (median age 74 years) than in previous years (median age 69 years).
- Most patients died at home (93%); and were enrolled in hospice care (76%), although the number enrolled in hospice was less than in previous years (87%).
- All patients, except one, had some form of health insurance: 64% had private insurance and 33% had Medicare or Medicaid.
- Complications were reported in four patients during 2006; they all regurgitated some of the medication.
- As in previous years, the most frequently mentioned end-of-life concerns were: loss of autonomy (96%), decreasing ability to participate in activities that made life enjoyable (96%), and loss of dignity (76%). During 2006, more participants were concerned about inadequate pain control (48%) than in previous years (22%).
- During 2006, 10 referrals were made to the Board of Medical Examiners (BME) for incorrectly completed reporting forms. The BME found no violations of "good faith compliance" with the Act and did not sanction any physicians for "unprofessional conduct" regarding the Act."
- Support has been averaging 70% since 1990 (a total of nine polls).

EDITOR'S CORNER

AUTUMNAL EQUINOX, LIFE AND DEATH:



Deb Darby

We hope summer is almost over (at least I do!) I literally have to remind myself of "Reasons to Live" when it's been 100 degrees+ for months and months. I keep a list displayed on my desk with nice things like "Yoga, magazines, family and friends, gardening, bodywork, reading, nature, sunsets/sunrises and cool weather/summer rain/puffy clouds" as a constant reminder of why I'm here. The list also says, "Helping others understand death." Does that mean I've got the inside track on all things death? Not at all. It simply means that I've studied death all my life in one form or another. My lack of anxiety on the topic has helped more than one friend face imminent death with grace and good humor.

One of the most comforting aspects of death to me is the autumn, when Mother Earth herself allows things to die, wither on the vine, go dormant and otherwise appear to be gone... forever. But new life arises come spring.

Long before the dawn of modern times, life and rituals followed a more simplistic path. Guided by the natural cycle of birth-life-death-and-renewal, the ancients marked their seasons by celebrating each phase of the wheel of life, including the autumn. Some cultures still do acknowledge the rhythm of life, but in America, doctor-obsessed as we are, we try to fight death off...and sometimes succeed!

So, we've conquered Death! Hooray? Or not?! Nature asks us to live as long as we're supposed to and then to recycle ourselves into ashes or dust. That's what I plan to do. I firmly believe there is new life just beyond death's door! Many of



our members feel that making a graceful exit is more important than living in any state of disrepair just because "we can". Rather than live lives filled with fear of the end, we celebrate each day to the extent that we can, love our family and friends (and yoga, magazines, cool weather, etc.) and prepare, with a calm and clear mind, for the inevitable.

In this newsletter you'll see articles regarding people who have put their lives on the line to advance a cause similar to ours (Page 3). Perhaps they weren't as cautious as they could have been; perhaps they will end up in jail. Still, they took the action they believed was right and now we may have a test case in Arizona on the topic of assisted suicide. Not willing to go to jail? That's OK; sign up a few new members or help plan an event instead! Attend the state conference and bring a friend. And thank you for all you do.

To see how Death with Dignity looks when laws are changed to make it legal, please go to the website of the information noted above:
<http://oregon.gov/DHS/ph/pas/index.shtml>



Compassion & Choices Arizona
P. O. Box 12126, Tucson, AZ 85732
Compassion in Dying * End of Life Choices

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Compassion & Choices Arizona supports options for those who are terminally ill and mentally competent to determine their own life's end, including freedom from unnecessary pain and suffering during the last part of life.

Please make sure we have the information about your Chapter events at least six weeks in advance to assure that your event gets good coverage on the website, in the newsletter and with the screaming yellow cards we will prepare and mail to your constituency!
Send info to: info@choicesarizona.org

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6, 10 AM AT THE NAVAJO ROOM IN SUN LAKES COUNTRY CLUB. Membership The Sun Lakes Chapter of Compassion & Choices Arizona will Sponsor a Ministerial Panel Discussion of Dying, Death, and Ministry. Come hear a group of Sun Lakes clergy, moderated by Jerry Holland, D.Min. discuss end-of-life decisions and dilemmas. They will consider the ways in which main-stream religions address issues surrounding death and dying, how they minister to patients and families, and issues such as advance medical directives, cremation, and views on funerals and memorial services. The public will be encouraged to ask questions of the ministers. The meeting is free and open to all interested persons. For information, call Jerry at 895-0687, or Bob at 802-4327

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, ARIZONA STATE CONFERENCE 10 AM TO 3:30 PM AT THE EMBASSY SUITES HOTEL, TEMPE, ARIZONA: 4400 S. Rural Road, Tempe. **DIRECTIONS:** From I-10 East take the Superstition Freeway, US 60 East; take second exit which is Rural Road; the hotel is on the immediate right (southwest corner). Registration, Coffee & Pastries begins at 9 AM in Junior Ballroom A. Luncheon included. Please see Page 6 for more details, hotel information and registration form!

SUN CITY WEST, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1:30 PM: NORTHWEST VALLEY CHAPTER MEETING of Compassion & Choices. Rep. Linda Lopez (D), District 29, Tucson, will discuss her legislative efforts to pass an Oregon-type Death with Dignity bill in Arizona and why she needs your support to get this done! Discussion and questions are welcome. Refreshments will be served. Event will be at the Sun City West Foundation Center 14465 R.H. Johnson Blvd (between 145th and Stardust Blvd) in Sun City West. Join us and bring a friend! Call 623-214-6552 for more information.



Linda Lopez

MARCH ON THE ARIZONA LEGISLATURE, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2008 11:30 AM TO 1:30 PM. Questions? Call our toll-free number 1-877-535-3600.