

A challenge to you, especially those of you contemplating living arrangements in later years  
by Sherlea Dony, board president

Since my thirties, and more recently my 40s and 50s, I think about how great it would be to have either our own housing or gay-friendly housing where our straight-but-not-narrow friends and families also could live. I envision different levels of care being offered, and amenities such as a communal room for meals, a recreation area, with, of course, pool tables, a swimming pool or two and a nice big spa. And I see this space as a totally safe space for us, however that manifests itself.

But most of all I dream a community that is affordable to us all.

Over the last few decades, I've shared conversations with others in our community about housing possibilities. The conversations always fire me up, but there's a silent acknowledgement about how much work a project of this nature would take. Would we build new or retrofit an existing community? Anyway, a recent conversation with Emily Jones brought the issue to the forefront again for me, plus I'll be attending a conference at Ithaca College on September 21 about "Livable Communities and Aging," so I'm fired up again.

My challenge to you is to contact me for further discussions if you are at all interested in this topic. I cannot guarantee that something will get off the ground, but what if it did??? There are several people in our community in the public eye and/or in real estate willing to dialogue about this topic. We know that no one person can do this alone; a team effort would be required. Contact me through our Info Line number below or through my email address, [sherlea\\_dony@rainbowseniorswny.org](mailto:sherlea_dony@rainbowseniorswny.org). I'd love to hear from you! I'm also envisioning a meeting with 20-25 enthusiastic people....

Now on to some news and events about Rainbow Seniors. We recently set up an Info Line, 585.234.1290, that brings you our most current events, and you also can leave a message for Board members. And, our Web site has a new look-- [www.rainbowseniorswny.org](http://www.rainbowseniorswny.org). We're working hard to keep you up to date on our ever-growing organization.

We're excited about our next dance, our Halloween Monster Ball, Saturday, October 28, 5:30-10 p.m. at the Roger Robach Center at Charlotte Beach/Lake Avenue. We've had such a great response from the community to our dances that we now feel obligated to help you keep your toes tapping and your groove thang shakin. So don't miss it! We'll have basket raffles and a costume contest, but costumes are optional. That you come and have fun is what's important!

Happy Fall!