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Highlights from the Dallas Voice Website

Dallas City Council approves COVID-19 relief package

The Dallas City Council on Wednesday, April 22, approved a COVID-19 relief package that will provide up to \$18.4 million in rental assistance and small business relief. The package was the result of the work of two new Ad Hoc COVID-19 Committees convened to help the city determine how to respond to the COVID-19 crisis.

The Mortgage and Rental Assistance program will offer \$6.1 million in rental and mortgage aid, providing up to \$1,500 for a maximum of three months per eligible household. Applicants must be city of Dallas residents who lost their jobs or were furloughed due to COVID-19.

The Office of Economic Development is launching a \$5 million Small Business Continuity Fund that will provide up to \$10,000 in grants and up to \$50,000 in low-cost loans to small businesses affected by COVID-19.

The businesses must be able to prove they were in operation for a minimum of six months prior to March 16, must be low to moderate income microbusiness owners and/or businesses that employ or previously employed at least 51 percent LMI workers.

Applications for both programs start in June.

— Tammye Nash

DHHRM deplores Hitler comparisons to Covid-19



Mary Pat Higgins

Covid-19 protesters have been comparing stay at home orders to Hitler and the Holocaust.

Mary Pat Higgins, CEO of the Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum, disagrees. Here's

a statement from her:

"The Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum deplores the resurgence of comparisons to Hitler and the Nazis by those unhappy with regulations issued during the COVID-19 emergency.

"Some of those who oppose stay at home and shelter-in-place requirements have charged state officials with behaving like Hitler and imposing Nazi-style orders. One such accusation, made last week by an elected official in Idaho against that state's governor, compared him to Hitler, noting that in Nazi Germany 'non-essential workers got put on a train.' For the record, Hitler and the Nazis put Jews on trains — men, women, and children — to their deaths, not because they were non-essential workers, but simply because they were Jewish.

"This accusation is as disgraceful as it is

historically insupportable and morally reprehensible. The deportation of Jews to their deaths by a totalitarian, racist, antisemitic regime stands as an unmatched horrific time in modern history. To compare this to the efforts of our elected officials to attempt to balance our health and economic needs while under threat from a worldwide pandemic cheapens the sacrifice of the millions of Jews murdered by the Nazis and their collaborators.

"This statement is unacceptable and discouraging all the more because it was made by an elected official. More than ever, at a time when it is easy for fear and hate to take the place of compassion and kindness, we are committed to our mission to teach the history of the Holocaust and advance human rights to combat prejudice, hatred, and indifference. With antisemitism on the rise all over the world, we take this moment to choose acceptance, understanding, and respect. We hope you will join us today to remember, to hope, and to pledge: Never Again."

Or put another way, being asked to stay home and watch Netflix to protect your health and your life doesn't equate to being marched into a gas chamber. However, we have quite a bit of sympathy for yesterday's protesters in Dallas who were mostly looking for the right to get their hair done.

— David Taffet

Live Oak city councilman, husband die of Covid-19

Live Oak City Councilman Anthony Brooks, 42, and his husband Phillip Tsai-Brooks, 52, have both died of Covid-19. The city of Live Oak is northeast of San Antonio along I-35. The couple were married five years.

Brooks was a military veteran and worked at San Antonio Military Medical Center. Tsai-Brooks was a hair salon owner. Their deaths occurred two days apart.

"Tony Brooks and Phillip Tsai loved each other so much, and they left this world together," Tsai-Brooks' brother told the San Antonio Express-News.

Tsai-Brooks is survived by four brothers and his mother who lived with the couple and has also tested positive for the virus.

— David Taffet

Dallas County extends stay at home order through May 15

Dallas County Commissioners voted Tuesday, April 21, to extend the stay at home order now in effect through May 15. There are, however, questions over whether the order will stay in place, given Gov. Greg Abbott's plan to begin re-opening certain businesses in Texas at the end of this week. Abbott said he will speak Monday, April 27, as to whether the Dallas County order is at odds with his order.

The May 15 date was a compromise between those who want everything re-opened as soon as possible and public health officials who think May 15 is too soon.

— Tammye Nash

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Life on the fringe during a pandemic

The hustlers of Mexico City's Alameda Park barely get by in the best of times; during the COVID-19 pandemic, many of them are hungry, homeless and hopeless

MÉXICO CITY — In the center of Mexico City sits the world renowned Alameda

Central Park. Founded in 1592, it is the oldest public park in the Americas. Although not so popular with the locals, it draws many international tourists. And where there are tourists, there are hustlers.

Alameda Park contains two museums along with numerous popular cafes, restaurants and cantinas — good places to sit outside and people watch. And with spring-like weather almost 365 days a year here, there are always lots of people around.

I often go to the only gay cantina at the park, La Rayuela. My first time sitting outside La Rayuela, I was most surprised at the number of young men walking by my table and saying hello, wanting to make conversation. I thought I was very special and pretty; then I figured it out. Those young men wanted me to “hire” them or least invite them for drinks.

I did invite some for cocktails; I always enjoy a good conversation over cold beers. And I wanted to know their stories, too.

After drinks, some of the hustlers wanted me to take them to my place and get intimate. I never took them up on those offers, figuring that would be too dangerous. When I said no to taking them to my place, they often told me, “I know where we get a room for \$100 pesos” (\$4 USD). I always said no to that, too, imagining a filthy room with dirty sheets and bedbugs. I wondered, if I went with them, would, make it out of the hotel alive or be found dead later by the cleaning lady?



Jesus Chairez
Contributing Columnist

Alameda Park attracts plenty of young male hustlers, and getting a client can be competitive. Walking around strutting like boastful roosters are twinks, muscular men in tight tank tops and some effeminate ones. There are plenty of “chacales” in the park — young men with darker skin who are “tops” only and who can get a little rough at times.

The usual cost for a hustler is \$250 peso (\$10.50 USD). There are no high-end call boys in this part of the city and no Grinder hookups either. Hustlers will do anything you want — active, passive, fellatio. Some even offer the besos negro (the “black kiss”), which is what they call anal stimulation. I was amazed by such a low price. But when you consider that the average daily income in Mexico is only \$200 pesos (\$8.50 USD), you realize that this is good, quick cash. If a hustler can get a couple of clients — or even just one client — a day, they are ahead of the average daily pay game.

Then came COVID-19

Then the novel coronavirus or COVID-19 pandemic hit, and slowly things in Mexico City started to close. First to close were the cafes, restaurants, cantinas and gyms. Employers sent home non-essential workers. Then all hotels closed, and so did the parks. Alameda Park was sealed up with steel barricades, because people would not stop gathering there in crowds to dance to DJ music or be entertained by street performers.

All of Mexico went into stay at home mode, quarantined. Those who had jobs where they could work from home did just that. Many people lost their jobs



Fernando, above; Alfredo, right.



and income, and many of them had no savings and no stimulus check for assistance.

In Mexico more than half of the population works at informal jobs; think street vendors and taco stands. And if they don't work, they don't eat.

That includes the male hustlers.

Alfredo

I wondered what happened to the hustlers, so I went looking for them at the park. I was particularly looking for those I had talked to in the past. At Alameda Park, all the hustlers except for maybe one or two were gone. Their clients, usually older gentlemen, were also gone.

I did find Alfredo, a tall, thin, dark-skinned and handsome young man from the state of Guanajuato. Before the pandemic, no matter when I would go to the cafes or cantinas at the park, I would see Alfredo there. He was always smiling and always said hello. I would see him standing and talking with friends, or standing alone when he was working.

Although Alfredo lived on the streets — or stayed in a cheap hotel from time to time — he always looked well-groomed. But the day I found him after the epidemic came, he was outside of a convenience store, across the street from the park, eating ramen noodles. He looked worn out, beat and dirty, and his smiling, gregarious personality was gone.

He told me he was doing OK but that he was not able to get cleaned up because the hotels were all closed. These days, he

told me, if he does get a client the only place to go is the client's home, and on those occasions, he gets to shower and sometimes even wash his clothes.

But those offers are few and far between.

Alfredo said he has been working the streets of Mexico City for three-and-half years now. He had been making around \$700 pesos on the weekends, but now he is lucky to even have one client.

“Everyone is scared,” he told me. He said he is scared, too, but he has few options available. His usual fee had been \$250 pesos. But now, Alfredo told me, he is so hard up for money he will take \$100 peso (that's \$4.25 USD), but no less.

Most days, though, he makes nothing and only eats when someone gives him food.

Alfredo doesn't have a cell phone, so he wasn't able to build up a client base. He has no one to call for help or work. His only option is to keep a watchful eye out for clients at the park.

But the clients, for the most part, are quarantining at home.

I asked Alfredo where he was staying at night since all the hotels were closed. He explained he was sleeping at “El Caballito,” a 92-foot-tall yellow metal street sculpture near the park. He sleeps with three friends for protection.

Alfredo doesn't think he can make it much longer in Mexico City and is considering going back home to his family in Guanajuato. After three years of hustling and living around, he said, it's now time to give it up.

It broke my heart to see him so beat down, so I gave him a donation. When he started to thank me with a hug, I jumped back and asked him to keep his distance.

Fernando

I went looking for another familiar face to interview, but there were none. Then out of the blue, Fernando — a hustler I met last year in June — called me. Strange how that worked: I was looking for him, and he called. He said he wanted to talk to me because he wanted to ask me for a favor.

I knew what the favor probably was; he wanted money. But I wanted something too — an interview — so I agreed to meet him.

We met on the street near the park, and he made small talk for a while. I could see he was uncomfortable asking me for a favor, so I asked him: “How much do you need?”

He said needed \$1,000 pesos (\$40 USD) and that he would pay me back in June, when he thinks his day employer will ask him to go back to work.

Fernando looked well-groomed and clean when we met that day; obviously he wasn’t living on the streets. He told me he has his own apartment, a small place with two rooms outside the city center.

Fernando told me that he got into hustling a year and a half ago, strictly by accident. He said one day he went to Alameda Park to roller blade, and while he was resting on a bench, an older gentleman approached and asked him, “How much?” When Fernando asked the man what he meant, the man apologized, explaining he thought the younger man was a hustler. When the older man started to leave, though, Fernando called him back, and they went to a cheap hotel together.

After that encounter, Fernando became a regular hustler, learning the trade by making friends with other hustlers. He did have a cell phone, which he used to build a client base. Clients could call him to set up a meeting, and when things were slow at the park, he could call them.

Fernando charges his clients \$250 pesos (\$10.50 USD) and can usually get

two clients a day. But on Fridays and Saturdays, he often gets several clients, making up to \$2,000 pesos (\$81 USD) a day

But now, he said, “all that money is now gone. People are afraid.”

Fernando said without his day job and with few clients, he has no income and doesn’t know what he will do. He said he mostly stays at home watching television and no longer goes to Alameda Park.

He said he can probably get by the way for maybe another month.

After we talked, I decided to give him the “loan” he asked for. As he left, he promised, “I will pay you back.”

I don’t expect to be repaid, though. Because I know things aren’t likely to get better for him — or the others like him — any time soon.

Jesus Chairez, formerly of Dallas, now lives in Mexico City. He was the producer and host of North Texas first bilingual LGBTQ Latino radio show, Sin Fronteras on KNON 89.3 FM, and is a published author in the book, Queer Brown Voices. He can be reached at facebook.com/Jesus-Chairez



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Legal vs. moral; money vs. health

Protests around the country question the legality as well as morality of shelter-in-place

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Over the last couple of weeks, a variety of groups have staged protests around the country, calling on elected officials to end the COVID-19 lockdown, questioning both the legality and the morality of the numerous disaster declarations.

In Austin, Infowars podcast host Alex Jones organized a demonstration outside the Texas Capitol on Saturday, April 18. The “You Can’t Close America” protest included anti-vaccine advocates, with protesters holding signs supportive of President Trump and denouncing the country’s foremost epidemiologist, Dr. Anthony Fauci.

Signs read, “We are not prisoners,” and “My body my choice” with a face mask crossed out, to stress they were protesting COVID-10 quarantines, not anti-choice abortion laws.

On Tuesday, April 21, a group of folks under the banner of Park Cities Republican Women protested in Dealey Plaza, saying they had the right to decide for themselves when to go out and where to shop.

On social media, a number of people, including some in the LGBT community, have posted videos and pictures of themselves partying in groups, ignoring social distancing and flaunting the stay at home orders in place in both the city of Dallas and Dallas County.

On the other hand, Texas Gov. Greg Abbott on March 29 signed one of the strictest quarantines in the country that applies to people traveling into Texas from Louisiana, enforcing it with troopers at all major state highway crossings from Louisiana.

Louisiana has had three times the

number of deaths as Texas with one-sixth the population.

“A covered person [someone traveling to Texas from Louisiana] shall remain in the designated quarantine location for a period of 14 days or the duration of the person’s presence in Texas, whichever is shorter, leaving only to seek medical care or to depart from Texas,” the order reads.

The order says Department of Public Safety special agents will visit the place of quarantine unannounced to confirm covered persons are complying. Failure to comply could result in fines up to \$1,000 and up to 180 days in jail.

But are quarantines and stay at home orders legal?

Chapter 418 of the Texas Government Code refers to emergency management powers of the governor regarding law enforcement and public protection. The section is referred to as the Texas Disaster Act of 1975.

The law makes the governor responsible for protecting people from dangers “presented by disasters” by giving him “broad authority to fulfill that responsibility.” The section gives the governor the power to issue executive order that have “the force and effect of law.”

The governor “may use all available resources necessary to cope with disaster” and “may control ingress and egress to and from a disaster area and the movement of persons and the occupancy of premises in the area.”

In this case, the entire state has, in effect, been declared a disaster area.

The fine and jail term are also prescribed by Section 418 of the code. That’s why Abbott imposed a \$1,000 fine and up to 180 days in jail for anyone coming from Louisiana breaking quarantine.

There are limitations to the governor’s powers under this section of the law. He may not interfere with the dissemination of news but may require TV, radio and newspapers to issue public service messages.

The governor also may not interfere with the work of police or firefighters, and he cannot order the confiscation of firearms or ammunition from a person who is legally possessing those weapons.



The Rev. Christopher Thomas, above; Jimmy Owen, below.



But while powers given to elected officials under Texas law are clear, the constitutionality of the current law hasn’t been tested in court. Still shelter-in-place and even stricter quarantines appear to be legal under Texas law.

Regardless of the legality of the orders, the question remains: Why would people be protesting stay at home orders that are designed to prevent the spread of an illness that has already killed more than 48,000 people in the U.S. in the last month?

Counselor Jimmy Owen said the insistence on protesting and breaking quarantine reflects where some people are developmentally.

“They’re not looking at the long term,” he said, “not thinking of the concept of mortality.”

People begin to understand their mortality “as they grow into their adulthood,” he explained, adding, “Ultimately, it comes from a place of ‘I need to live my life to the fullest.’”

But he said from what he’s seen, most people in Dallas are following the rules and taking things thoughtfully. And he thinks the LGBT community, especially those who lived through the AIDS crisis, are taking things very seriously.

COVID-19 FACTS

How does the virus spread? The virus that causes COVID-19 is thought to spread primarily from person to person, mainly through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes.

Does the virus live in water? Coronavirus hasn’t been found in drinking water.

How long does the virus live in the air? Up to 3 hours.

Can the virus be transmitted through food? Coronavirus doesn’t seem to spread through food. Still, wash fruits and vegetables under running water before eating them.

How long does the virus live on other surfaces?

Aluminum: 2-8 hours
Ceramics: 5 days
Copper: Up to 4 hours
Cardboard: Up to 24 hours
Glass: Up to 5 days
Paper: A few minutes to 5 days
Plastic: 2-3 days
Stainless steel: 2-3 days
Wood: 4 days

“We’ve seen what happens when you don’t follow rules in ways other communities have not,” Owen said, referring to using safer sex and educating others as the LGBT community did during the AIDS crisis.

Some are using religious freedom as their justification to break the rules and demanding churches be exempt from social distancing. The Rev. Christopher Thomas, rector of St. Thomas the Apostle Episcopal Church, called those protesters selfish, although he said he understands people who want to get back to work because they have to feed their families.

But that’s not who he’s seeing protesting stay-at-home orders. He said the overarching religious principle is “What is the greater good?”

“Where are we meeting the risen Christ?” he asked. Of people he has seen in supermarkets this week without face masks, he said, “That’s selfish. You’re hurting other people.”

Thomas called demonstrators who are not worried about the health of other people un-Christian. “When materialistic needs cloud your vision,” he said, that’s not Christian. And, he said, the demonstrators who probably call themselves pro-life, don’t seem to actually value life based on their behavior.

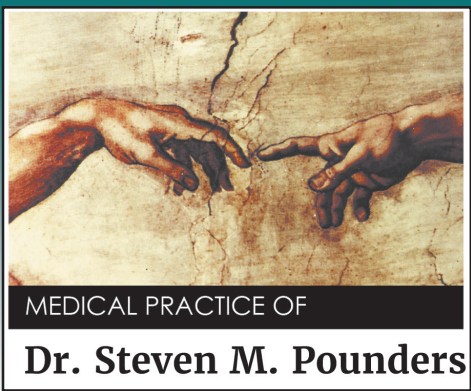
But Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick’s latest statement on ending the quarantines — “There are more important things than living” — left Thomas speechless. “That does take my breath away,” he said. “That’s not the Christ I know.” ■

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Filling idle hours with flowers

Rainbow Garden Club members are using their time off to grow even nicer gardens

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
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Members of the Rainbow Garden Club are filling stay-at-home time by spending more time in their gardens. “It fills in those idle hours and gives you a sense of accomplishment,” said Rainbow Garden Club member Jay Stankiewicz.

Stankiewicz moved to his current Oak Cliff home four years ago. He had a landscaper design his new yard and went native. But, “Native plants can be aggressive,” he said.

So, this year he’s spending his stay-at-home time scaling down a bit.

Part of scaling down involved removing a swimming pool that had dominated his yard and replacing it with a koi pond. He describes the pond as an off-center, half a donut, raised bog area with three spill overs rather than a the traditional waterfall into the pond.

Stankiewicz began his plantings in the bog with cannas. They were aggressive, so he replaced them with elephant ears. But the elephant ears proved even more aggressive, so now he’s replaced those with container water plants.

His recommendations for gardeners in the area are agave and prickly pear. Both are tolerant of the heat and very easy to maintain, he said.

Rainbow Gardeners President Stan Aten pointed out that “The weather’s been odd this year.”

There wasn’t much of a winter, and it’s



Rainbow Garden Club member Mike Cheever’s yard.

been a very wet spring, he said. So, he planted tomatoes in February, which is early.

In his garden, there are only a few places where tomatoes thrive. They need a lot of sun, and his yard has lots of shade. He offered one trick to help the fruit grow: plant them near flowers to attract bees that help pollinate the tomato plants.

With stay at home orders, Aten said he hasn’t been to the store at all this year. Even so, he’s put in some raised beds. “The good thing about gardening is if it didn’t work this year, there’s always next year,” Aten said.

But he said good gardening isn’t just about what the garden will look like this year. Always plan five years ahead. If bulbs are happy in the yard, they’ll multiply. So, it’s not about this year’s display of daffodils or irises; it’s how well they set and then divide to produce twice as many next year and double that the year after.

From one iris bulb he picked up at a garage sale years ago, he now has dozens. In his Oak Cliff yard, Aten is looking for plants that are tolerant of the shade.

For gardeners who also have quite a bit of shade, he recommends Japanese maples, which are small trees. He’s currently planting choral bells in his yard, which is an evergreen perennial with reddish-purple leaves and little white flowers. Rather than the common large tulips we often see, Aten prefers small tulips that, he said, are more likely to come back year after year.

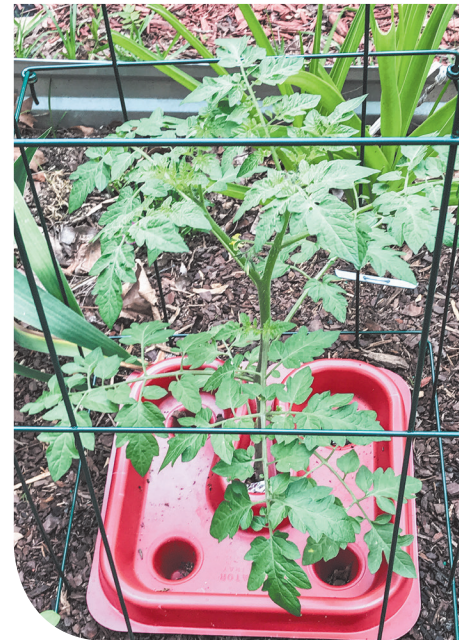
Rainbow Garden Club member Todd Eich said he was furloughed two weeks ago. He used the time to spend outside in his garden. He also hasn’t been out to the store but has renewed and refreshed his garden with some plant swaps with his neighbors and friends.

“The garden’s given me a sense of something to do,” Eich said, adding that his husband, who’s a chef, believes, “If you can’t eat it, there’s no use for it.” So, in his garden he’s growing vegetables as well as a number of herbs including parsley, basil, dill, rosemary, oregano and thyme.

“I tend to like flowers,” he said, and his flower garden is mostly wildflowers; this year he’s excited about some sunflowers he noticed coming up.



From the gardens of Todd Eich, above, and Stan Aten, below.



Eich has had time to work on a pond he dug in the yard, leveling it and adding new water plants. He recommends water lettuce that just floats on the water.

Eich also keeps chickens for the eggs they lay. He said he was down to one older hen who only occasionally lays eggs, so he just added four pullets — younger chickens — that he expects to start laying eggs in a month or two.

For ideas about gardening, Aten said meetings will resume after the pandemic. In the meantime, the group’s website, RainbowGardenClub.com, has pictures from members’ gardens and a list of public gardens around the DFW area to visit although many of those are closed during stay-at-home orders.



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■ commUNITYvoices

Let's get smart

Quarantine is affecting us all, but ending it the wrong way will just make it worse

As I sit here writing this, it's been 41 days since Dallas Mayor Eric Johnson and then Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins first issued disaster declarations in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Tarrant County Judge Glen Whitley and Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price followed suit soon after.

Forty-one days.

For most of that time, I have been working from home. Every day, I get up, get dressed and make that loooong commute down the hall to my "office," also known as my living room. (My wife is also working from home; she has to commute all the way to the dining room.) It is a dicey situation; my desk is dangerously near the kitchen, with the TV just on the other side.

I joke (not about the kitchen, although surprisingly enough, I rarely turn on the TV), but at the same time, I have found myself working much, much more since I started working from home. Although my workday doesn't officially start til 9 a.m., Monday through Friday, I am often at my desk by 8 a.m. or so, simply because I don't have to drive anywhere. And I don't think I have stopped working at 5 any workday since this all started.

And speaking of workdays — every day is a workday now. I have worked every day since March 9 for at least an hour or so. I am starting to get worn out. I feel guilty for complaining though, because I know so many people have it so much worse. At least everyone in my household still has a job (both sons are essential workers at an office supply store).

There are people who have lost their livelihood completely — those who worked at restaurants and bars, hair and nail salons, retail stores not deemed essential, and those who are watching the businesses they built slowly crumble. Those who lost jobs were promised the regular state unemployment payments

plus extra from the federal government. But the system has been so swamped it is nearly impossible for them to even get through to apply. I know one woman

waste it all by lifting restrictions and opening everything back up way too soon.

Yes, I want things to get back to the so-called normal. Yes, I want my friends and family to be able to open their businesses and go back to their jobs. Yes, I want our flat-lining economy to be revived.

But I also want my friends and family to stay alive. I want them to be healthy. I am not willing to sacrifice my loved ones on the altar of greed and money. And after all, if they are killed or disabled by the virus, they won't be out working or running a business or spending money at someone else's business.

Yes, we need to "open up our country" again. But we have to be smart about it. And people crowding together in front of government buildings, without masks or any or form of protection, to wave signs bearing misspelled slogans about their right to put themselves and everyone else at risk is not being smart about it.

Opening up businesses without enforcing rules calling for face masks and proper physical distancing, etc., is not being smart about it.

The president wasting time bragging about what a great job he's doing (rather than admitting he royally screwed up) and pushing doctors to use a medication that has no benefit other than putting money in his and his supporters' pockets is not being smart about it.

State and local politicians arguing over who's order supersedes who's in hopes of making political points that will help them in the next election, instead of working together to do what is actually best for the people, is not being smart about it.

Being smart about it means having rules and enforcing them. Being smart about it means having enough tests available so that everyone can find out if they are positive and if so, what they need to do to protect themselves and others. Being smart about it is having our elected officials focus on what's best for the people, not best for their own re-election hopes.

So, let's be smart about this for a change. There is a way forward, and we have to find it soon.

Tammye Nash is managing editor of Dallas Voice. Opinions here are her own and do not represent the views of Dallas Voice as a whole.



Tammye Nash
From Where I Stand

who was just trying to get into the Texas Workforce Commission website to download the application to fill out and mail in; she finally got through about 2 a.m. And what about the small business owners? I mean the actual small business owners, the ones who saw the promise of a variety of amped-up Small Business Administration loans dangled in front of them, only to see most of the available funds sucked up by not-so-really-small small businesses before anyone else could even get their applications filled out.

And that's not even mentioning the "stimulus checks" folks were supposed to get. Yes, some people have received their checks, but others — often, the ones who really need them — are still waiting since the delivery of actual paper checks (instead of direct deposit) was delayed by Donald Trump insisting that his signature be on each one. Other people will never get their checks, because Congress failed to include protections keeping those checks from being garnished to pay off debts.

In other words, I know that, in the grand scheme of things, my complaints about long hours and an uncomfortable desk chair are nothing compared to what other people are facing — all in an effort to "flatten the curve" of infections and keep our healthcare infrastructure from collapsing and keep people from becoming seriously ill or even dying.

But now — after all that hardship, all the sacrifices people have made to try and contain this virus and mute its impact — I am watching politicians getting ready to

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In uncertain times like these, the work of community non-profits becomes more vital and important than ever. At the same time, ensuring they have the funds they need to carry out their missions can become more challenging. This is where you come in.

You can help us kick off our 2020 fundraising year from the safety of your own home. Tune in for our first-ever Black Tie Dinner Digital Kickoff on April 30th at 7 pm, live on Facebook. Our 2020 Co-Chairs, Jeremy Hawpe and Brad Pritchett, will be bringing you exciting Black Tie Dinner news, including this year's theme and announcing the 2020 beneficiaries.

Learn how you can help by visiting blacktiedinner.org/kickoff.



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Art for art's sake

FINE ART

Designers share a checklist for selecting art for your own living space



M. Wilcox Design selected Christi Meril's 'The Power of Love' as its signature art piece, above; while Morgan Farrow was moved by Melissa Auberty's 'Shiloh,' left.



If the lockdown hadn't hit, we would all currently be enjoying Thrift Studio, the month-long pop-up wherein many local designers, artists and artisans, retailers and galleries contribute works and vignettes to showcase trends in luxury home furnishings. (More than just a sale, it's also a charity: 100 percent of proceeds benefit Dwell with Dignity, the charity that supports families facing poverty have quality living conditions.)

The event had to be postponed, although there's an online auction version of it going forward until the end of the month. And while the charity still has a need for good living conditions for its clients, we all might need tips for improving our spaces more than ever. So we asked eight designers to offer their advice about how to select artwork for your home. Here's what they said.

Ashley Engles of M. Wilcox Design. The best tip I can give someone for artwork is just to pick something that **sparks happiness**. Art can be so personal, and it really is the perfect way to show a little personality in any space.

Carolyn Isler of Twelve Twenty. Art should lead the way and **set the tone** for the room. Follow your heart!

Cathy Kincaid of Cathy Kincaid Interiors. Choose only what you love!

Leslie Jenkins of Jenkins Interiors. It has to **speak to you**, first and foremost. But also, buy art from reputable artists.

Josh Pickering of Pickering House. Art is about the story it tells, or the one you tell about how you found it. Collect what you love, and what makes for **the best cocktail conversations** — don't buy pieces that are simply decorative.

Lindley Arthur of Lindley Arthur Interior Designs. When choosing artwork, the only rule is that you love it. We encourage our clients to find art that is **meaningful to them**, as opposed to something that just matches the room's color scheme.

Kerri Goldfarb, Mia Brous and Louise Marsh of Madre. Art **doesn't have to coordinate** along with the décor. You should select pieces that speak to you.

Morgan Farrow of Morgan Farrow Designs. It has to **move you**... so every time you engage with it, you feel something.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

To participate in Dwell with Dignity's online auction, visit ThriftStudio.com.

Start making scents

The smell of your garden may be as important as the look of it



Stargazer lilies are not only shockingly beautiful but produce a sweet fragrance and thrive in Texas soils, above; gardenia shrubs can line a walkway, below.

When we decorate our living environments, we usually think in terms of colors, textures, shapes and spaces.

But what about aromas?

The smell of a room, or a garden, probably has just as much to do with establishing the mood of your home as the look of it.

We asked **Dave Forehand**, vice president of gardens at the Dallas Arboretum, to compile a list of smell-worthy plant-

ings to make the style of your home sensible... and scents-able.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

Banana shrub (*Mitchelia figo*) received its common names because its flowers smell like ripe bananas. It blooms heavily in the spring with cream-colored, one-inch flowers that look like tiny magnolia blossoms edged with crimson. Blooming will continue sporadically throughout the summer. The plant is evergreen



and has glossy, deep green leaves that are three inches long, making it a great backdrop for other garden plants. Banana shrub can be planted near an entryway or window so that its fragrance can be enjoyed indoors. Once established, banana shrub is quite drought-tolerant and can work in various light conditions, making it a versatile plant for North Texas.

Fragrant tea olive (*Osmanthus fragrans*) has some of the most fragrant blossoms of any plant. You can smell

the aroma up to 100 feet away. You may never find the flowers because they are tiny — but plentiful. It is a small, upright, evergreen tree or large shrub that will typically grow to 10–15-feet tall. (There is a variety called Carl Wheeler that has a very nice growth habit and many more leaves than the regular osmanthus. Plant it at the corner of your house, and you will smell it all over your yard.)

Texas mountain laurel (*Sophora secundiflora*) is an evergreen shrub/tree that is native to South Central Texas. It has glossy-green oval leaves and can grow in full sun or shade. Once established, it is very drought-tolerant. In the spring, it produces long spikes covered in purple blossoms. These purple flowers smell just like grape bubblegum. How fun is that? This Texas native is a great choice for North Texas landscapes.

Hyacinth is an early-spring-blooming bulb, and the flowers have a very sweet aroma. You can plant hyacinth in your landscape in late fall or early winter. Putting them in a container near a door will allow you to smell them when you come and go. Indoors, you can force a hyacinth to bloom by putting the bulb in a container like a glass and filling it with pebbles and water and setting the bulb on top of the pebbles. It will grow roots into the pebbles and will bloom just like in the spring. It will make your house smell wonderful.

Gardenia (*Gardenia jasminoides*), is also known as cape jasmine, is an evergreen shrub that typically grows to a height of 3 to 8 feet, depending upon the cultivar. Spread is usually about the same as the height. The foliage of healthy shrubs is glossy, dark-green, 2–4 inches long and half as wide. Depending on the cultivar, the flowers can be either single or double and from 2–4 inches in diameter. Gardenias are primarily grown for their fragrant flowers and handsome foliage. They should be planted where people will notice the fragrance. They are waxy, white and very fragrant. Many consider them the most fragrant flower. The flowers open over a long period of time, from May through June, and sporadically throughout the summer.

Stargazer lily is a hybrid variety of the oriental lily group. This is a very popular lily that is easy to grow and can be planted in spring or fall. The flowers have a strong sweet fragrance and can bloom for 4 to 6 weeks. Plant them in a large container near your door or on a patio or balcony and enjoy beauty and aroma.

Drink by the sink



What's the one accessory you never knew you always needed? Well, if you're self-quarantining like the rest of us, and maybe — just possibly — drinking more at home than in the past, here are some accessories that could hit the spot. The Sipski Wine Holder and Sudski Beer Holder accomplish the same goal: Making convenient access to an adult beverage no farther than your shower. The holders grip without suction cups or adhesive and are moveable, so you can find the perfect place in your master bath, on a mirror, or even in the guest facilities, where anyone can enjoy a cabernet or IPA during their ablutions.

Available on Amazon, Target and other retailers.

In the market

Questions to ask when viewing a house



If you are shopping for a house, you probably plan to view several before deciding on the one. It can be tempting to make a decision based on your first impressions, but you need to consider many factors before deciding whether a house is right for you. Here are some questions to ask the real estate agent.

How old is the house? An old house is not necessarily a deal breaker, but it should prompt you to ask more questions. Ask about recent renovations, the age of the roof and when appliances were last upgraded. An old house could have major problems, but it is also possible that all of those issues have already been addressed, and the house is in excellent condition.

Are you aware of any problems with the house? The real estate agent can tell you if the house needs work or if there are any recent or planned

changes in the neighborhood that might affect your decision.

Is anything else included with the house? The property may include a shed, guesthouse or furniture. Make sure you know where the property line is so you know how much room you have to work with if you are thinking about adding a shed, fence or pool in the future.

How long has the current owner lived in the house? If the owner has lived in the house for decades, that indicates that he or she is happy with the property. If the owner is moving after a short time, there could be a significant problem with the house or the neighborhood.

Why is the owner selling the house? If the seller had a problem with the house or did not like the neighborhood or school system, you should ask follow-up questions. If the owner

is moving to start a new job, he or she may be in a hurry to sell, which means you may be able to negotiate a lower price.

How long has the house been on the market? If the house was just listed and is exactly what you are looking for, you should act quickly. If it has been on the market for a long time, that could indicate that there is a problem or that it is overpriced. If the owner is having trouble selling, ask the real estate agent why.

Is the price negotiable? Some sellers are firm in their price requirements, but

others are more flexible. If the owner wants to sell quickly, or if the house has been on the market for a long time, you may be able to negotiate a lower price.

Ask a lot of questions. Viewing a house is the perfect opportunity to gather all of the information you need to make an educated decision on whether it is right for you. A real estate agent has a wealth of information about the house, the neighborhood and the owner's circumstances that can help you make a wise decision. Ask plenty of questions so you can make the right choice. ■

DESIGN

Organizing rooms with feng shui



Now that a lot of people are confined to their homes and apartments, living in space comfortably has become a high priority. How can you maximize your happy space in an organized and economical way? Feng shui is an ancient art and science that was developed centuries ago in

DÉCOR

A Pop of pillows



One of the easiest ways to spruce up a space and turn your familiar couch or old chair into something like new is with the addition of a pillow to give your seat a pop — which is exactly what Pillow Pops accomplish. The online e-tailer offers literally hundreds of high-quality elegant pillows, organized by color and design. And one

thing you can never go wrong with is a classic black-and-white scheme, which never goes out of style like these (mix up the textures, from leathery to velvets, for a bit of zazz). On the other hand, bold patterns or even fringed trim can make a statement in and of themselves.

Available at PillowPops.com.

China. Put simply, it is the act of positioning the furniture and accessories in your home with the flow of nature and natural energy. There are two principles and five elements to follow in order for you to live in balance and harmony. Here are the basics:

The commanding position is the best way to position furniture around the room. For instance, you want your stove, your desk and your bed to face the doorway without being aligned with the doorway. This allows you to deal with whatever walks into your life.

The bagua is the energy map (re: floorplan) of the room. There are eight areas of the map that represent different things for the home: wealth, passion, self-care, family, children, knowledge, career and travel. Choose three areas and focus specifically on them.

There are five different elements: earth, fire, wood, metal and water. Each of these elements represents certain colors and can enhance a gua, which will enhance the overall energy in your home. Earth represents being grounded and stable. Its associated colors are brown, orange and yellow; fire represents passion and is associated with red; wood represents vitality and is associated with both greens and blues; metal represents efficiency and beauty and is associated with whites and metallics; water represents flowing and shifting and is associated with black. The colors you choose to decorate your home with can impact your mood. You should get positive feelings when you walk into a room, and feng shui can harmonize you and your environment. It can give you the feeling of peace, energy, joy and serenity — especially when things are decluttered and organized!

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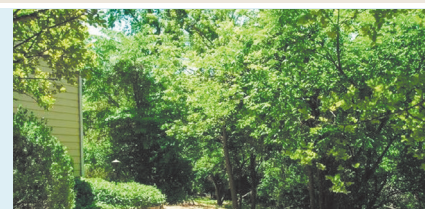
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Staying 'Visible'



Pioneering queer actor Wilson Cruz talks his new LGBTQ docuseries, his groundbreaking gay teen role and what he'd tell his younger self

The first openly gay actor to play an openly gay series regular in a leading role on TV, Wilson Cruz has witnessed firsthand the changing tides of TV representation. Cruz paved the way for shows such as *Will & Grace* and *Ellen* with his portrayal of Rickie Vasquez, the troubled gay Latino high schooler on the teen drama *My So-Called Life*, which ran for one season in 1994.

Cruz was 21 when he played Rickie; now 46, he reflects on the role as one of the interviewees in the new Apple TV+ five-part documentary *Visible: Out on Television* which, along with Wanda Sykes, he also executive produced. (all eps dropped on Valentine's Day.)

Through a wide range of archival footage and interviews with actors, journalists and activists, the docuseries investigates how TV has shaped the American conscience. During it, Cruz recalls auditioning for *My So-Called Life* and turning back to late veteran casting director Mary Goldberg to say: "I don't know if I'm ever going to see you again, but please tell whoever wrote this that

it means a lot to me, that it would have made a difference if I had seen this when I was 15." Then, as Goldberg replied, the twist he didn't see coming: "Don't worry," she said, "you're going to be able to tell it yourself."

Here, Cruz talks about the docuseries' evolution, his personal catharsis and his issue with studios casting straight actors to play gay as awards bait. ■

— Chris Azzopardi

Dallas Voice: How did you get involved with *Visible*? Wilson Cruz: Seven years ago [political activist] David Bender, who had been working on this project for many years, reached out to me because he was interested in interviewing me for the documentary... for obvious reasons [laughs]. We had a long lunch and it became pretty clear really quickly that I had a passion for this subject matter but also that I had access to many of the people he wanted to interview just because of the nature of my career and my relationship with GLAAD for over a decade, and so I could be very helpful to him. That's how it happened.

Eventually we interviewed 60 people on our own, and it became clear that this was going to be more than two hours and that we were going to need some help. We came to Apple, and Apple brought on two amazing documentary filmmakers, Ryan White and Jessica Hargrave, in order to finish the film and really mold it. Then I came back on to help them continue to bring them who they needed to speak to,

and also to make sure that we always had an eye on this not just being a documentary about the LGBTQ movement but really about how television was used as an agent of change by the movement.

How do you think *Visible* broadens the historical perspective of the LGBTQ experience? I think that there's a lot that we forget, just because that's the nature of the human experience. But what the series does really well is to remind us of what happened just within some of our own lifetimes — that, yes, we have come a long way, and a lot of work went into getting us here. A lot of people risked a lot in order to have this conversation. It wasn't just LGBTQ people; it was LGBTQ people and the people who love them who took up the baton when we were unable to, when we weren't being hired to tell our own stories or we were afraid to come out and be public about it. We needed people who were willing to take on those roles.

More recently, we forget that the way the network news was talking about HIV and AIDS during the height of the epidemic was incredibly problematic, and that the only people who were going to save us at that time was us. That's when GLAAD was created. That's when ACT UP was created. It was this community that really started to say, "If you're not gonna save our lives, we're gonna have to save them ourselves, and we're going to have to demand that we be seen." We could no longer afford at that time to be invisible and that's where visibility started to really begin in earnest.

In the doc, you talk about how playing Rickie helped you reconcile with your father. Your experience with him — being kicked out of the house after you came out to him — was written into Rickie's story, and he watched that storyline play out. How did that moment illustrate to you the power TV can have? I talk all the time about how television is an intimate medium: We are in your bedroom, we are in your living room; we come into your homes, and you invite us in, and we tell you our stories. In my personal experience, it was an invitation to my father to see me, because Rickie Vasquez was very much who I was when I was a teenager, and his life parallels mine in many ways.

My father and I didn't speak for a year, but within that year he was able to turn on the television, and I was able to have a conversation with him that I couldn't have physically, and he learned a lot about me and about what my life had been like. He was moved to a new place, and it gave him permission to reach out to me, and I have that series and that character to thank for the supportive father that I have today. That's no overstatement. So it is a

testament to the intimacy of television and the power of storytelling.

Looking at the work that you've taken on, from *Noah's Arc* on through *Star Trek: Discovery*, the transformative power of representation seems to be something you still believe in. Whenever I take a project on, one of the first things I ask myself is, "What is the message that this is going to leave an audience member with? What are we offering through this?" The other thing that it is for me is that so many actors are like, "Oh, I don't want to play too many gay roles because I just don't want my career to be about that." Whereas, I have gone out of my way to look for roles that I feel will add to the conversation. I've wanted to have those opportunities.

Why do you think that is when so many other actors go in the other direction? Because with the first role I had on *My So-Called Life* as Rickie, I got to see how powerful that story could be, and I wanted to continue to tell stories like that, and I felt like there were few people who were willing and excited to take on those roles, and here I was.

As for your part in Hulu's *The Bravest Knight* — the first animated children's series to have openly gay characters — what about that spoke to you? My brother, who's also openly gay and married to his husband, had just had a baby or was pregnant when they approached me to do *The Bravest Knight*. I thought it was a great opportunity for me to give a little gift to my nephew. On top of that, I think there aren't enough children's programs that depict families like the one we do on *The Bravest Knight*, because there are thousands of LGBTQ families in this country who would love to see their lives reflected back at them and their children, so they know they're not alone and that their families are just as valuable as anybody else's.

Have you been able to gauge what it means to *Star Trek* fans to have a more LGBTQ-inclusive *Star Trek*? Yes. For 52 years, people have been clamoring for real LGBTQ representation on *Star Trek*, and to be a part of the couple who actually gives that to an audience is overwhelming. People reach out to us all the time, and I'm excited for people to see season three, because we're expanding it in a very special way.

In a very special gay way? That's all I'm gonna say — I want to keep my job! But there is a lot to look forward to in season three for LGBTQ fans, that's for sure.

You've known Anthony Rapp since *Rent* — he originated the role of Mark Cohen on *Broadway*, and you later joined as *Angel*. What's been the best part about

■ **VISIBLE** Next Page

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■ **VISIBLE** From Previous Page

getting to work with Anthony, who plays your lover in *Star Trek*, all these years? Well, first of all, he's one of the most supportive actors that I've ever worked with. We are a team; we are a unit. But the best thing about working with him is that, because we find this couple in the middle of their relationship, there was very little work we had to do in order to get to know each other. We brought with us a 22-year history of friendship, and so I feel like it comes across on screen that these two people know each other and genuinely love each other, because we do.

Since you're both gay men playing gay men on *Star Trek*, I wonder: Do you think LGBTQ roles should go to exclusively LGBTQ actors? No, I'm not going to say that we should *only* be the ones allowed to play them. But I will say that I think what an LGBTQ actor brings to an LGBTQ role is different; there's just something innate and lived-in that comes across, but that's not to say that a straight actor cannot give a powerful performance. What is worrisome to me is when a production will hire a straight actor to play that role because of some notion that because they're a straight actor that it's that much more difficult to take on this role. So, it's awards bait. These are our lives. These are experiences for a lot of people. And if you're a straight actor playing these roles, I think it's important that you acknowledge and understand that.

I will say that in terms of trans actors playing

trans roles, I think that is incredibly important, because there are so many trans actors out there who are just waiting for the opportunity to be able to tell their own stories. Especially in terms of trans people of color and trans women of color and trans men of color, we need to see more of them.

In the doc, actor Ryan Phillippe, who played a groundbreaking gay character on *One Life to Live*, reads a letter from someone changed by his character. Where do you keep the letters you've received? Well, seeing how I live out of a suitcase these days... actually, I don't have a lot of the stuff from the old days anymore. I have to tell you that most of the young people who watched *My So-Called Life* back in the day didn't really reach out to me until years later when I would see them out publicly and in person, when they were adults, because so many people were processing their own stuff when

that aired. But the onslaught and the daily messages I received from people who felt and feel it necessary to reach out to me to tell me how powerful it was for them is very real. It happens almost daily on social media. It's just a trail of tears.

When was the last time you revisited episodes of *My So-Called Life*? It's been a while. I think it's hard for me to watch myself, and I think the last time I watched it was about 10 years ago, with my brother at home, but I think that was it.

I ask because I've noticed that Rickie is so embedded in your identity that you get choked up just talking about him. What about him gets you emotional even now? I think what's important to me about it is he was a way for me to process my adolescence, which wasn't easy. I think that's probably why I haven't watched it, too, because when I did it I literally saw it as a way to walk through those experiences again and leave them there on that stage and then be able to walk away from them and move on. But for me, when I think about him, and if I do see an episode every now and then, it's visiting your teenage self. You just want to hug them. You just want to say to them, "It's going to be all right." And I just want to grab him and say, "I'm gonna be fine."

But he does ... he means everything to me because without him none of this would have happened. He set the trajectory for my career and also gave me my life's passion of making sure our stories are told, and part of his legacy is *Visible*.

If spring cleaning and planting is getting you anxious to redo your home, but you need some additional inspiration, well that's what streaming services are for. Here are some online

options for motivation, encouragement and distraction. (All of these are available on Netflix.)



Hey, it's possible — even likely — you'll feel a little inferiority complex creep in after just half an episode of **The World's Most Extraordinary Homes** (pictured). But take that as a challenge, not a disappointment. When you see what real estate can become, you might get even more ambitious. Or you can go the other direction entirely with **Tiny House Nation**, which shows how people live in less than 500 square feet of space. It might make you feel a bit superior in your studio apartment.



You've been living under a rock for the last year if you haven't at least heard of **Tidying Up with Marie Kondo** (pictured), with the declutter queen who counsels her clients to dispose of anything that doesn't "spark joy." If you have been under a rock, you probably don't need her advice, though the show is a hoot either way. The show **Minimalism** can also get you in the mood for living a life built on simple pleasures and clean lines.



For more escapist fare, there's always the one-two punch of **Styling Hollywood** (pictured) and **Queer Eye**. Both reality shows feature gay design experts plying their craft (and usually camping it up) for customers in need. And **Interior Design Masters** gives us a makeover competition for people who are actually following through.

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Cassie Nova

What's in a name?

Hello and happy Quarantining Day 532 — or so it feels like. Trying to stay positive in these trying times has been hard on all of us. Now I am worried I am going to get bed sores (well, couch sores). My husband knows to roll me over if it looks like I haven't moved in a few hours. I feel like I am only a few days away from the "I wash myself with a rag on a stick, Lisa Simpson." I hope y'all get that joke.

Every day it feels just a little harder to get up and get motivated to move or exercise. I always feel better after I do, but the motivation just is not there some days.

My fat ass has absolutely no problem getting motivated to cook and eat, though. Just this week I have made a lasagna from scratch and chicken and dumplings, and right now I have ribs being smoked in the smoker. I am going to be huge — well huge-er — when this is all over. Maybe I am preparing to hibernate in case this goes on much longer. God, I wish I could do that: Just go to sleep and wake up when I can finally get back to work and be around people.

They keep talking about how the world will be changed when this is all over — fewer tables in restaurants, everyone still having to wear masks, continued social distancing. The only upside to any of that is I will never have to learn the lyrics to any song ever again. I will do brand new songs every night — you know, since you can't see my lips, who cares if I know the words!

I'm joking because that is how I deal, but seriously, I am worried about my job. I will suck the dick of whoever finally finds a cure. More than likely it will be a woman, soooo ... High fives for that beautiful, smart lady!

I saw an article recently on a gay website reading Crystal Methyd for her drag name. For those that don't know, Crystal Methyd is a queen on the newest season of *RuPaul's Drag Race*. They weren't really reading her so much as the show for choosing someone with a name that has such an obvious drug reference. It felt very "But who will think of the children?!"

The article annoyed me, and so did a few posts from very young, over-woke gays calling for her to change her name. I totally understand what drugs, especially meth, has done to our community. As someone who has beat addiction, I know better than most. But dammit! It is a drag name. Drag names and performers have always pushed buttons and, if anything, started conversations.

If you want more proof that everyday people are getting more and more sensitive and easily offended, where was this article when Sharon Needles was on the show? As a matter of fact, I saw the article about Crystal Methyd *after* Sharon Needles posted it saying something about feeling left out. I LOL'd.



I guess it just bothers me *anytime* someone tells a queen to change their name. RuPaul has annoyed me by telling Heidi N. Closet that she hated her name and refusing to call her by anything but her first name. Granted, her name doesn't exactly flow off the tongue, but that is what she chose, and it should be respected.

Years ago, I actually had one of the girls from an early season of *Drag Race* tell me my name, Cassie Nova, was the worst drag name she had ever heard. She told me my name was stupid as she autographed a postcard-sized photo of herself that I did not ask for. (Said card was immediately thrown in the trash.)

Not that I am sensitive about my name or anything; I know it's corny. But I love my name. I bet Heidi loves hers.

Some girls put a lot of thought into picking a drag name; I did not. A thousand years ago, when I was 17, I and a few other baby gays went into Tapelenders on Cedar Springs. They had pornos you could rent stored in big binders that displayed the VHS cover of the movie. Like giddy little school-girls, we flipped through the pages like we were shopping for a husband, blushing as we gawked at VHS movie covers like *Big Ones*, *PowerTool* and *Rawhide*.

Then we looked at one of the binders that said "Bisexual," and we opened it up. BOOM! Right there, the first movie cover we saw was *Who Shaved Cassie Nova!? We busted out laughing. I told my friends right then, "If I ever do drag, I am going to be Cassie Nova! That's hilarious!"*

Three years later, as I am being called on-stage for a charity show, the emcee asked me my name. I said, "James." She said, "No dummy. What is your drag name?" Then I smiled as I remembered being in Tapelenders and said, "Cassie Nova." Now, here we are, 28 years later, and I still smile when I think of how I got my name.

So let these girls have their damn names. Leave them alone. If you are offended by a drag name, you have had a very sheltered life. Focus on the real problems in this world.

Word play drag names to me are the best, and the crazier the better. Remember Shegotta Mustache? I miss her. Some of my favorite names are Charity Case, Emma Roids and almost any of the Amandas — Amanda Love, Amanda Phuk and even Amanda Hugginkiss. There is even a drag queen in a wheelchair named Sarah Palegic. Look her up; she's fabulous.

In the beautiful words of Abraham Lin-

coln, "Stay the fuck at home and wash your hands!" Remember to always love more, bitch less and be fabulous! XOXO, Cassie Nova.

this week's solution

M	A	R	C		G	L	E	A	M		S	H	O	P
U	S	E	R		R	A	T	I	O		T	O	R	A
R	I	T	E		A	D	O	R	N		O	M	N	I
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L	E	G	E	N	D					A	L	E	R	T
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F	L	A	M	E		A	F	T		R	E	L	I	C
L	O	C	O		S	I	T	E	S		E	L	A	L
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I	D	O	L		U	B	O	A	T		O	H	M	Y
S	O	S	O		M	E	N	S	A		M	O	O	R
A	C	H	E		S	T	A	T	S		E	W	E	S

 browse

For a more complete Community Calendar online, visit Tinyurl.com/dvevents.

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Isaac loves his plants.



Terry Walker's urban herb garden.



Cody pulling weeds.



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Cody at North Haven Gardens.



Jay English



Sandi



Brieux



Shepherd with his lettuce.



Stacey Hoya



Alexis and Sven

q-puzzle

Something About Marrying

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
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				26		27	28	29						
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		52				53	54	55						
56	57					58					59		60	61
62						63					64			
65						66					67			

Solution on Page 22

Across

1 *Hairspray* composer Shaiman

5 Twinkle in your partner's eye

10 Visit Barneys, e.g.

14 Person with a PC

15 Two to one, for one

16 Scroll for the cut

17 Circumcision or baptism

18 Gussy up

19 Prefix with science

20 Start of a question in *There's Something About Marrying*

22 More of the question

24 Ten-incher, for example

25 Tips off

26 Kind of straight, in poker.

30 End of the question

34 Be intense like a queen

36 Rear on board

37 Bone of John the Baptist, e.g.

40 Nuts

41 On-line locales

43 Airline to Ben Gurion

44 He cared for Samuel

45 Comic Lea

47 The I's have it

48 Emulates Isadora Duncan

50 Seasonal serving

52 Cartoon series of the episode *There's Something About Marrying*

56 Ryan of porn

58 German sub

59 "Lions and tigers and bears, ___!"

62 Matching notes for Rorem?

63 Head-oriented group

64 Secure with lines

65 Pain suppressed by Schumacher?

66 Chat room request

23 Kind of statesman

27 Response to an online personal, perhaps

28 1993 treaty acronym

29 Pass the threshold

30 Fruity kind of computer?

31 Latin I word

32 Urvasi has one

33 Degeneres program, for short, with *The*

34 Hauled ass

35 Marlene Dietrich role in *Blue Angel*

38 *Otello* villain

39 Drain trouble

41 *Mississippi Sissy* author Kevin

42 Breaks for Almodovar

45 Report card blemish

46 "Fourscore and seven years ___..."

49 *Boys Don't Cry* actress Sevigny

51 Fairy story figure

53 "Suuure!"

54 *Tales of the City* character

55 Time gone by

56 Part of a Stein line

57 *The Times of Harvey Milk*, for short

60 He comes between Larry and Curly

61 Periods that last 525,600 min.

Down

1 Many a painting by Frida's Diego

2 Broadway whisper

3 Change labels

4 Thick liqueur

5 Will Geer's role on *The Waltons*

6 Cheryl of *Charlie's Angels*

7 War zone, in brief

8 Opera singers put them on?

9 Yves, but not YSL

10 Pilot's place

11 Character who married some gay couples and asked the question

12 Phrase from Ripley

13 Two queens, and others

21 Start of a Sappho title, perhaps

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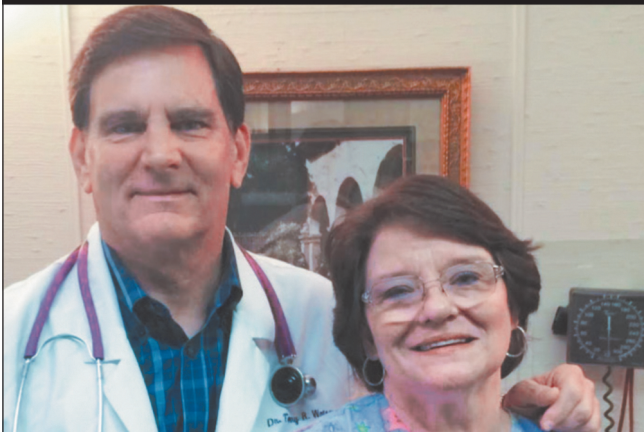
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