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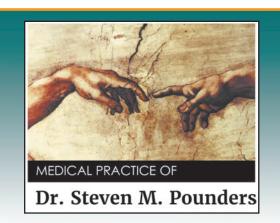


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ON THE COVER

Friends raising money for LifeWalk (masks removed for picture) Photo courtesy Todd Maria



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INSTANTEA Dallas Voice.com/Instant-Tea Highlights from the Dallas Voice Website

Abbott says bars can begin re-opening next week, but Jenkins says not in Dallas



Gov. Greg Abbott



Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins

Bars in Texas will be allowed to re-open at 50 percent capacity beginning Wednesday, Oct. 14, but only on a county-by-county basis with approval from individual county judges, according to health guidelines published by Gov. Greg Abbott's office on Wednesday, Oct. 7, on the website for the Governor's Strike Force to Open Texas. But Dallas County will not be among those allowing bars to re-open.

Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins said via Twitter immediately following the governor's announcement, "I will not file to open them [the bars] at this time." He added that according to the Dallas County Public Health Committee, the county remains "in orange," or in other words, at moderate community risk for COVID-19 transmission, but "our numbers are increasing (Bad!) I will listen to everyone but will follow the science."

The guidelines published on the strike force website Wednesday allow "opening bars and similar establishments to 50 percent capacity in regions with low COVID-19 hospitalizations" beginning a week from today, adding that "County Judges can opt their county into these openings provided they assist in enforcing health protocols."

The guidelines also allow "businesses like amusement parks, movie theaters, zoos, aquariums and bowling alleys [to] expand to 75 percent capacity in counties with low COVID-19 hospitalizations" beginning Oct. 14. "Texans have shown that we can contain the spread of COVID-19 by following health protocols and guidelines. Our state is prepared for these additional openings, but we all must remain vigilant and show personal responsibility to protect ourselves and our loved ones," the post Wednesday said.

- Tammye Nash

Paxton says he won't resign despite allegations against him



Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton released a statement Monday, Oct 5, denying accusations against him of bribery, abuse of office and more that surfaced over the weekend after the Austin American-Statesman reported that seven of Paxton's senior OAG employees had asked authorities to investigate Paxton.

"The Texas attorney general's office was referred a case from Travis County regarding allegations of crimes relating to the FBI, other government agencies and individuals," Paxton said in a statement on Monday. "My obligation as attorney general is to conduct an investigation upon such referral. Because employees from my office impeded the investigation and because I knew Nate Paul. I ultimately decided to hire an outside independent prosecutor to make his own independent determination. Despite the effort by rogue employees and their false allegations, I will continue to seek justice in Texas and will not be resigning."

Paxton is already under indictment, dating back to 2015, on federal securities fraud charges.

The seven employees who are accusing Paxton notified the AG last week by text that they would be contacting authorities with their allegations and then sent a letter, signed by then-first assistant AG Jeff Mateer, to the OAG's director of human resources, notifying them about the allegations. Mateer turned in his resignation late Friday, Oct. 2, before the allegations became public.

Earlier Monday, today, Paxton's office released a statement announcing that Paxton had appointed Brent Webster to replace Mateer as first assistant attorney general.

- Tammye Nash

LGBTQ people 4X as likely to be victims of violent crimes

PHOENIX — The first study of its kind found that people who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer or gender non-conforming are nearly four times as likely to be victims of violent crime than those outside such commu-

Although other research has long shown that LGBTQ people and gender minorities are disproportionately affected by crime, the study published in Science Advances, a multidisciplinary journal, on Oct. 1 looked at data that has only been collected since 2016, making for the first comprehensive and national study to examine the issue.

It found that members of such communities, referred to as sexual and gender minorities, experienced a rate of 71.1 violent victimizations per 1,000 persons a year, compared with 19.2 per 1,000 a year among non-sexual/gender

But it was the fact that sexual and gender minorities are victims of such a variety of crimes at such disparate rates - and who they're victimized by - that surprised researchers, said lead author Andrew R. Flores, an assistant professor at American University. For example, researchers found that such a population is much more likely to be victimized by someone they know well than is a person who is a non-sexual and gender minority.

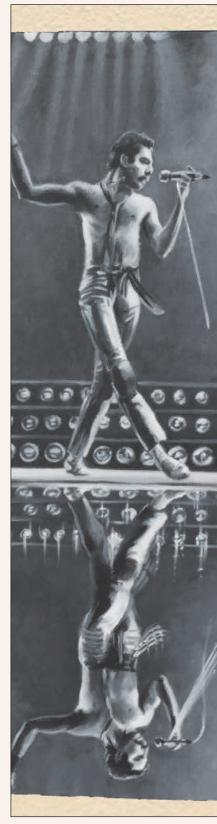
The study also found that sexual and gender minorities are burglarized at twice the rate of other households, and that they're more likely to be victims of other types of property theft.

The study is based on a national crime survey conducted by the federal Bureau of Justice Statistics, which until 2016 had not asked respondents about their sexual orientation and gender identity. Researchers examined responses to the 2017 survey, which was released last vear.

- Astrid Galvan, Associated Press

LGBT Chamber Foundation auctions art

The LGBT Chamber of Commerce Foundation, which awards scholarships to LGBT students, has a piece of art on auction to support its work. The 15" x 30" acrylic of Freddy Mercury on stretched canvas by a local artist is up for bid on eBay. The auction ends on Oct. 11.



The artist is Abby Davis, a sophomore at Grand Prairie Fine Arts Academy. She has won state awards for her art and has had pieces displayed in art galleries across the country. She is constantly looking for ways to help fight for equal rights and justice for all.

To bid, go to https://www.ebay.com/ itm/193691470936?_trksid=p2471758.m4704

David Taffet



Have an event coming up? Email your information to Managing Editor Tammye Nash at nash@dallasvoice.com or Senior Staff Writer David Taffet at taffet@ dallasvoice.com by Wednesday at 5 p.m. for that week's issue.

The Gay Agenda is now color-coded: Red for community events; blue for arts and entertainment; purple for sports; green for nightlife and orange for civic events and holidays.

• Biweekly: Hope Cottage Foster **Parent Information Meeting**

Hope Cottage holds information meetings for those interested in becoming foster parents. The meetings are held alternately on Saturdays at 10 a.m. and Thursdays at 6 p.m. For information email Clyde Hemminger at chemminger@hopecottage.org.

• Now on exhibit: Gabriel Dawe

Mexican-Canadian celebrated for his site-specific installations of multicolored thread, the artist's work spans a varied spectrum of scale and media from immersive chromatic installations to tabletop sculptures made of common domestic items. Through Oct. 31 at Talley Dunn Gallery, 5020 Tracey St. To schedule an appointment, contact info@ Talleydunn.com.

• Now on exhibit: In America-Joey Brock

Joey Brock explores self-acceptance in his series of collage-portraits. Through Oct. 31. Ro2 Art, 110 N. Akard St. To schedule an appointment, call 214-803-9575

OCTOBER

• Oct. 10: TCA Virtual Tour of Homes

Turtle Creek Association's 19th annual Tour of Homes will be virtual with host Jocelyn White navigating visitors behind the doors of four homes on Turtle Creek Boulevard beginning at 1 p.m. Info at TurtleCreekAssociation.org.

• Through Oct. 10: Acqua Alta

New works by Julie Lazarus at William Campbell Contemporary art, 4935 Byers Ave., Fort Worth. https://my.matterport.com/ show/?m=y9wy3ztR94M.

• Oct. 10: Primadonna — The Tribute to Madonna

Primadonna — The Tribute to Madonna will be held from 8-11 p.m. at Lava Cantina, 5805 Grandscape Drive in The Colony. Seating is limited. Tickets are available through EventBrite.

• Oct. 11: LifeWalk

Virtual LifeWalk. Register at LifeWalk.org.

• Oct. 11: TCA Virtual Tour of Homes

Turtle Creek Association Virtual Tour of Homes. Information at TurtleCreekAssociation.org. \$40 members. \$50 non-members.

• Oct. 12: Dallas Chamber **Music Society**

The Dallas Chamber Music Society

opens it 76th season with a multimedia concert entitled Chaplin's Smile featuring the music of Charlie Chaplin at 7:30 p.m. in Caruth Auditorium on the SMU campus. \$45 for tickets to the live concert. \$10 for the live stream.

• Oct. 13: First day of early voting

• Oct. 13: LGBT Grief Group

Grief group for those who have lost a same-sex partner currently meeting virtually at 6:45 p.m. Contact Ray at raymond.sablack@gmail.com for Zoom room access.

• Oct. 17: All Eyes on Texas

Equality Texas celebrates LGBTQ History Month honoring Lori Olson, who took backlash for supporting LGBTQ youth and the first Wimberley Pride, transgender activist Emmett Schelling and Dell Technologies, which has stood for equality. Virtual event from 6-9 p.m. includes social lounge, exhibition hall, entertainment, All Eyes on Texas program and dance party. \$125. For students, seniors and those experiencing hardship, 500 tickets will be available for \$25. https://secure.everyaction.com/ ooXcxursw0q5E5oKGb4yvw2.

• Oct. 17: Get Up Stand Up!

Kitchen Dog Theater presents a socially distanced drive-in celebration of democracy. Concerts held behind KDT's new compound at 7:30 p.m. at 4774 Algiers St. \$30 per car plus \$15 for each additional passenger. KitchendogTheater.org.

• Oct. 17: Robert Lansden: Wheels of Time

Cris Worley Fine Arts, 1845 Levee St., Ste. 110, hosts an open house from noon-



Jennifer Holiday

4 p.m., for the gallery's new exhibition, Robert Lansden: Wheel of Time, which runs through Nov. 10. To follow proper social distancing protocols, only 10 visitors will be allowed in the gallery at one time. Appointments for the open house are not required but are encouraged. For information call 214-745-1415.

• Oct. 17: Singularis: New Drawings by Jake Gilson

Singularis, an exhibition of new drawings by Jake Gilson, will be on display Oct. 17-Nov. 14 at William Campbell Contemporary Art, 4935 Byers Ave., Fort Worth, with an opening event on Oct. 17 from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. The gallery will also soon offer a 3-D virtual tour of the show, to be available online at William Campbell Contemporary Art. com.

INCOME TAX RETURNS



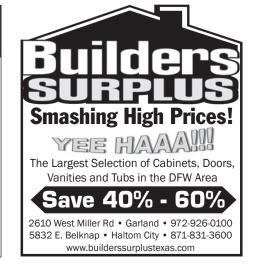
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IMPORTANT FACTS FOR BIKTARVY®

This is only a brief summary of important information about BIKTARVY and does not replace talking to your healthcare provider about your condition and your treatment.

(bik-TAR-vee)

MOST IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT BIKTARVY

BIKTARVY may cause serious side effects, including:

Worsening of hepatitis B (HBV) infection. If you have both HIV-1 and HBV, your HBV may suddenly get worse if you stop taking BIKTARVY. Do not stop taking BIKTARVY without first talking to your healthcare provider, as they will need to check your health regularly for several months.

ABOUT BIKTARVY

BIKTARVY is a complete, 1-pill, once-a-day prescription medicine used to treat HIV-1 in adults and children who weigh at least 55 pounds. It can either be used in people who have never taken HIV-1 medicines before, or people who are replacing their current HIV-1 medicines and whose healthcare provider determines they meet certain requirements.

BIKTARVY does not cure HIV-1 or AIDS. HIV-1 is the virus that causes AIDS.

Do NOT take BIKTARVY if you also take a medicine that contains:

- dofetilide
- rifampin
- > any other medicines to treat HIV-1

BEFORE TAKING BIKTARVY

Tell your healthcare provider if you:

- Have or have had any kidney or liver problems, including hepatitis infection.
- ▶ Have any other health problems.
- Are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if BIKTARVY can harm your unborn baby. Tell your healthcare provider if you become pregnant while taking BIKTARVY.
- Are breastfeeding (nursing) or plan to breastfeed. Do not breastfeed. HIV-1 can be passed to the baby in breast milk.

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take:

- Keep a list that includes all prescription and over-the-counter medicines, antacids, laxatives, vitamins, and herbal supplements, and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist.
- BIKTARVY and other medicines may affect each other. Ask your healthcare provider and pharmacist about medicines that interact with BIKTARVY, and ask if it is safe to take BIKTARVY with all your other medicines.

POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS OF BIKTARVY

BIKTARVY may cause serious side effects, including:

- Those in the "Most Important Information About BIKTARVY" section.
- ▶ Changes in your immune system. Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections. Tell your healthcare provider if you have any new symptoms after you start taking BIKTARVY.
- Kidney problems, including kidney failure. Your healthcare provider should do blood and urine tests to check your kidneys. If you develop new or worse kidney problems, they may tell you to stop taking BIKTARVY.
- ▶ Too much lactic acid in your blood (lactic acidosis), which is a serious but rare medical emergency that can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: weakness or being more tired than usual, unusual muscle pain, being short of breath or fast breathing, stomach pain with nausea and vomiting, cold or blue hands and feet, feel dizzy or lightheaded, or a fast or abnormal heartbeat.
- > Severe liver problems, which in rare cases can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow, dark "tea-colored" urine, light-colored stools, loss of appetite for several days or longer, nausea, or stomach-area pain.
- ▶ The most common side effects of BIKTARVY in clinical studies were diarrhea (6%), nausea (6%), and headache (5%).

These are not all the possible side effects of BIKTARVY. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any new symptoms while taking BIKTARVY.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.FDA.gov/medwatch or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

Your healthcare provider will need to do tests to monitor your health before and during treatment with BIKTARVY.

HOW TO TAKE BIKTARVY

Take BIKTARVY 1 time each day with or without food.

GET MORE INFORMATION

- This is only a brief summary of important information about BIKTARVY. Talk to your healthcare provider or pharmacist to learn more.
- ▶ Go to BIKTARVY.com or call 1-800-GILEAD-5
- If you need help paying for your medicine, visit BIKTARVY.com for program information.



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Early voting: What you need to know

American Airlines Center is one of 10 mega-centers that will be open for early voting

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer taffet@dallasvoice.com

las County
there are 60
early voting
locations; of
those, 25 are
within the portion of the city
of Dallas that lies within Dallas County.
Some early voting locations in the city
of Dallas are in Collin County, but those
elections are under Collin County's jurisdiction.

ithin Dal-

In Oak Lawn, early voting has moved to the Oak Lawn Library on Cedar Springs Road rather than at the previous location, Reverchon Recreation Center. But for the first time, there's another early voting location in the city's most populous zip code — 75219 — and that's the American Airlines Center.

Mavericks owner Mark Cuban is paying for the cost of running the super voting center as part of a deal made between team owners and players who shut down basketball early in the season to show support for the Black Lives Matter movement.

In addition, Dallas County Elections Department has secured nine additional locations widely distributed around the county to use as mega-voting centers. They include the Mesquite Convention Center, the Granville Arts Center in Garland and the Irving Arts Center among others.

Some locations are in addition to regular early voting locations. Some are replacements. The American Airlines Center replaces the George Allen Courthouse location in downtown Dallas.

Parking will be free in a designated American Airlines Center parking lot for early voters. Follow the signs and enter the arena through the north entrance. And on Saturday, Oct. 17 and Oct. 24, as well as on Election Day, DART will provide free rides to the polls. In Tar-



American Airlines Center

rant County, voters can ride Trinity Metro and other public transportation free throughout the early voting period and on Election Day. Just show a current voter registration card or Texas ID.

"We are trying to give every eligible voter in Tarrant County the ability to vote in the November 2020 election," said Tarrant County Judge Glen Whitley. "We are offering free rides on as many public transit providers as possible, including accessible services for the elderly and mobility-impaired as well as on-demand service in Arlington and Fort Worth. These rides will be available during early voting and on Election Day."

The early voting period runs from Tuesday, Oct. 13, to Friday, Oct. 30, but dates and hours may vary based on where you live. During that period, you may vote at any early voting location within your county.

In Dallas County, from Tuesday, Oct. 13-Saturday, Oct. 17, Monday, Oct. 19 through Saturday, Oct. 24 and Monday, Oct. 26 through Friday, Oct. 30, early voting locations will be open from 7 a.m.-7 p.m. On Sunday, Oct. 18 and Oct. 25, early voting locations are open 1-6 p.m.

In Tarrant County, early voting hours

are 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Oct. 13-17 and Oct. 19-23. Hours for Oct. 24 and Oct. 26-30 are 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Hours for Oct. 25 are 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

To vote early or on election day in Texas, you must present one of the following forms of voter ID:

- Texas driver license issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS)
- Texas Election Identification Certificate issued by DPS
- Texas personal identification card issued by DPS
- Texas handgun license issued by DPS
- U. S. military identification card containing the person's photograph
- United States citizenship certificate containing the person's photograph
- Passport

A student ID issued by the state of Texas is not valid identification for voting.

Curbside voting is available during early voting for anyone with a disability who can't physically enter the polling place. In Dallas County, if you have an assistant with you, when you arrive at the polling location, have them notify the election official at that time. The election official will then bring everything

you need to your car outside the polling location.

If you don't have an assistant, call 214-819-6338 ahead to notify the election day clerk that you want to vote curb side.

Straight party voting in Texas has been eliminated. To vote in every race, you must mark the ballot for each race individually. Party affiliation is indicated with each candidate. If you are voting based on party affiliation, look for the party along with each candidate's name.

Republicans are listed first, Democrats second and any third-party candidates after that. Party order is decided by which party won the last gubernatorial election.

To early vote, go to any early voting location in the county where you're registered.

To find a list of all mega-centers and early voting locations as well as precincts open for voting on election day, visit DallasCountyVotes.org.

To find voting information for Tarrant County, visit TarrantCounty.com/en/elections.html.

For Collin County voting information, visit CollinCountyTX.gov.

For Denton County voter information, visit VoteDenton.com.

Black Tie announces LIVE! Line-up

Bruce Monroe named Kuchling winner; Tan France, Cecile Richards, Cassie Nova to appear

FROM STAFF REPORTS

lack Tie Dinner officials this week announced a line-up of actors, singers, an activist and a local drag legend who will all be featured in Black Tie LIVE!, a one-hour special airing Sunday, Oct. 18, from 4-5 p.m.WFAA-TV, the North Texas ABC affiliate.

Black Tie Dinner is the largest LGBTQ fundraising dinner of its kind in the country, and Black Tie LIVE! — Black Tie's answer to fundraising in a pandemic — is the organization's very first live TV special. The celebrity lineup includes fashion designer, television personality and author Tan France from Queer Eye, actresses Vicci Martinez and Emily Tarver from Orange is the New Black, actor Erich Bergen from Madam Secretary, activist Cecile Richards and local drag legend Cassie Nova.

The show will also feature performances from pop star Ava Max and local favorite Anton Shaw.

Another highlight of the broadcast will be the presentation of the 2020 Kuchling Humanitarian Award to activist and community leader Bruce Monroe, in recognition of his years of activism for and service to the Dallas LGBTQ community.

"As we continue to work through the challenges of 2020, we are excited to televise a groundbreaking and historic TV special that reflects our mission statement to entertain, educate, and empower our community", said Jeremy Hawpe, 2020 Black Tie Dinner Co- Chair. "We want viewers to come away from the TV special feeling inspired and ready to make a positive impact on the community."

Black Tie LIVE!, just like the annual Black Tie Dinner, is at its heart, a community fundraising event. The broadcast,

presented by BBVA, along with



Bruce Monroe

the Black Tie online auction that goes live Thursday, Oct. 8, the annual raffle for a new car and Black Tie's innovative virtual peer-to-peer fundraising tool called the Black Tie Dinner Ambassador Program are all combining to help fill the fundraising gap that could have been left when the COVID-19 pandemic forced cancellation of Black Tie's usual formal dinner. Funds raised this year will be divided among the Human Rights Campaign Foundation and 16 local beneficiaries serving the LGBTQ and HIV communities.

The local beneficiaries are AIDS Outreach Center, AIDS Services of Dallas, Big Brothers Big Sisters Lone Star, Cathedral of Hope United Church of Christ, Celebration Community Church, Coalition for Aging LGBT, Equality Texas Foundation, HELP Health Education and Learning Project, Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, Legacy Counseling Center, Northaven United Methodist Church, Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas, Promise House, Resource Center, Turtle Creek Chorale and Uptown Players.

"The fundraising for our 2020 beneficiaries will continue through the telecast of Black Tie LIVE," said Brad Pritchett, the other 2020 Black Tie co-chair. "We are hoping to inspire viewers, friends, family, and co-workers to give money directly to these great organizations through our re-imagined television program."

Black Tie Dinner online auction opens for bidding on Oct. 8 and closes at 10 p.m. on the evening of Oct. 18, five hours after the broadcast continues. North Texas residents can purchase car raffle tickets online for their chance to win a 2020 Mercedes, courtesy of Park Place Motorcars, through 4:40 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 18, the day of the broadcast.

For information on the online auction, on the raffle for the Mercedes Benz, Black Tie LIVE! And the Black Tie Dinner organization, visit BlackTie.org.

KNOW YOUR STATUS. GET TESTED TODAY.

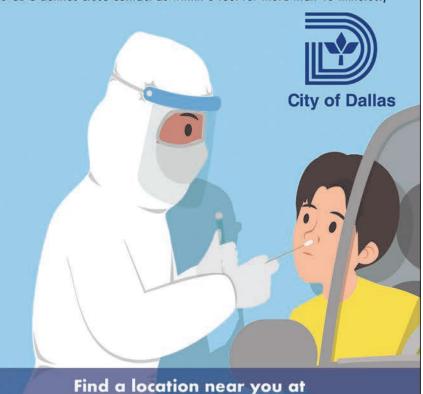
How to get tested:

Drive-Thru Walk-up Mobile / At Home

Free COVID-19 testing available for:

- People with COVID-19 symptoms
- People at high risk due to age or underlying conditions
- People who have been in close contact with others who are experiencing symptioms or have tested postive for COVID-19

(The CDC defines close contact as within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes.)



214-670-INFO or dallascityhall.com/COVID19

_It's a draw

Pence dodged hard questions in the VP debate, and Harris let him

LISA KEEN I Keen News Service lisakeen@mac.com

he vice presidential debate Wednesday night, Oct. 7, was a draw: Vice President Mike Pence completely dodged difficult questions, and U.S. Sen. Kamala Harris — and moderator Susan Page — let him.

The winner was a random insect that landed prominently on top of Pence's head and, unbeknownst to Pence, distracted the television audience from



Members of the production crew inspect glass on stage to serve as a barrier to protect against the spread of COVID-19 as preparations take place Tuesday, Oct. 6, for the vice presidential debate at the University of Utah on Wednesday, Oct. 7. (Julio Cortez, Associated Press)

whatever the vice president was rambling on about over his allotted time.

"The fly got better reviews than the cloying, smarmy condescending performance of Mike Pence," said Nadine Smith, executive director of Equality

Lori Lightfoot, Chicago's lesbian mayor, posted on Twitter that Harris "brilliantly laid down the hammer on the

failed leadership" of Trump. But others said Harris failed to push back at Pence on his claims that she and Biden were planning to "stack the court" with liberals and want to "change the rules"



REGISTER & FUNDRAISE TO HELP END HIV

The fundraising efforts for LifeWalk is now more important than ever. During the pandemic, Prism Health North Texas has seen an increase in testing, behavioral health services, and people returning to care at the organization. Many are losing their health insurance due to job loss and have turned to organizations like Prism Health North Texas to receive care and request assistance for rent assistance, HIV medication, food, and more.

Join us in fundraising and "walking virtually," so individuals living with HIV can continue to access and maintain treatment during this critical time.

Register today at LifeWalk.org.

around who should get to nominate a replacement for the late Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

After completely ignoring two questions from the moderator, Pence, in a moment of unselfconscious irony, asked that "the record show" that Harris failed to answer a question.

Later, Pence claimed not to know what Trump's nominee for the Supreme Court, Amy Coney Barrett, thinks about abortion. President Trump has always made clear that being anti-abortion is a key factor in making his pick.

"Mike Pence is someone who is comfortable saying things that are utterly false with a completely straight face," Pete Buttigieg told MSNBC.

Buttigieg, himself a strong contender for the Democratic presidential nomination at one time, helped Harris prepare for the vice presidential debate. He debated her in practice sessions, serving as a surrogate for Pence. Buttigieg is not only a proven debater himself, but, as former mayor of South Bend, Indiana, is familiar with Pence, the former governor of Indiana.

Log Cabin Republicans founder Rich Tafel said he thought both sides did a good job Wednesday night.

"I think Pence speaking over his time and the female host hurt him there," Tafel said. "I think Harris speaking directly about not raising taxes and not opposing fracking helped Biden with those voters

"I am not personally a fan of either candidate, but I felt Harris made moderate swing voters more comfortable with her and the ticket. I have a long, antagonistic history with Pence based on his anti-gay rhetoric and find his speaking style smarmy and canned," Tafel added.

But Tafel also dinged Harris for her "refusal" to answer Pence's question about whether she and Biden plan to increase the size of the Supreme Court.

"That was a low point for Harris. They need to answer this question," Tafel said.

Smith said she thought Harris hit Pence hard "on the issues people care about most — the absolute lethal failure to protect Americans from COVID."

MSNBC's lesbian political commentator Rachel Maddow said she doesn't think the debate will "move the needle" at all. CNN's openly-gay political commentator Keith Boykin agreed.

"Vice President Mike Pence needed to

score a knockout to change the momentum of the campaign," Boykin said. "Instead, he repeated empty platitudes and talking points that contradicted the truth about the coronavirus and the economy that Americans have watched with their own eyes nearly all year long.

"In the end, nothing that happened in the debate did anything to move the needle. And that's bad news for Donald Trump," he added.

Still Boykin gave Harris high marks: "Going into Wednesday night's debate, I thought the expectations for Sen. Kamala Harris were unreasonably high," he said. "By the end of the night, however, she met them. She prosecuted the case against Donald Trump. She defended Joe Biden and her own record. And she managed to do it all while walking a racist, sexist tightrope that holds professional Black women to unfair standards of decorum."

Buttigieg agreed, telling MSNBC that Harris made a "powerful case." He criticized Pence for having "tried to create a picture that everything's fine."

"He's perfectly happy to say something that's not true ... and make it sound as if everything's going great," he said, adding that he doesn't think Pence

succeeded.

Some political observers said they thought Pence didn't look well. Pence had recently been on the front row of a crowded White House event to announce Trump's nomination of Barrett to Ginsburg's seat. Soon after that event, President Trump and numerous others at the event tested positive for the corona virus, and Trump was briefly hospitalized.

"What stands out to me from this debate was the repeated blatant falsehoods by Vice President Pence," said Lorri Jean, executive officer of the Los Angeles LGBT Center. "When national leaders lie repeatedly, saying one thing and doing another, it should alarm LGBT people greatly, because it means we are at grave risk."

"The most ominous content for LGBT people," Jean said, "was his views on religious freedom, which would completely decimate protections for LGBT people in healthcare, in employment, in the recognition of our families (including the ability to adopt children) and more. That, alone, should have LGBT people running to the polls to support Biden and Harris."

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UPTOWN PHYSICIANS

GROUP

Providing comprehensive medical care to the North Texas LGBT community for over 30 years



BEST General Practitioner 7 Years in a Row!



BEST Medical Group Practice



BEST HIV
Specialists



Dr. Donald Graneto named to D Magazine's Best Doctors in Dallas for 2017 in Infectious Disease and Family Medicine respectively.



Peter Triporo, NP named Top 10 in 2018 America's Top Nurse Practitioner Awards presented by Point of Care Network



Voted 2020 Readers Voice Awards BEST Medical Group Practice, BEST HIV Specialists and **Dr. David Lee**, BEST General Practitioner

AVAILABLE SERVICES

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Trump after getting COVID:

He still doesn't care

uick! Look out your window! You may get a fleeting glimpse of our so-called president waving through the window of a hermetically-sealed SUV after testing positive for the novel coronavirus because he just Loves! America! So! Much!

Now, while some might say that Trump's complete disregard for medical advice and disdain for any kind of rules was basically asking to be infected with COVID-19, they would be right. This diagnosis was a hard-fought outcome. It's nice to see Trump work hard at something for once.

Trump's positive COVID-19 test naturally caused some concerns. I mean, it's a generally a bad thing when the president gets sick. Trump being flown to Walter Reed increased anxieties about his health. As did the bizarre videos he posted from the hospital.

But, thankfully, Trump is the King of Stamina and Health and Manliness, and he's got a message for America: COVID-19 ain't no thang.

I mean, sure, it has killed more than 210,000 people in this country alone. But it didn't kill Trump. That means there's nothing to worry about. Nothing to see here. Move along and MAGA.

Apparently those 210,000-plus people, not to mention the thousands more who are suffering with illness and experiencing a myriad of other health complications due to COVID-19, are just suckers and losers.

That means I have great news for you about cancer: I have had it twice, and I didn't die either time! This is proof that cancer doesn't kill anyone! You don't have to die, folks, unless you just don't have the awesome cancer fighting stamina that I do. And if that's the case, well, bummer for you.

Obviously, I am not being serious. And even if I were, I would not deserve to be taken seriously. I should be rightly told to pound sand, as my dad was fond of



D'Anne Witkowski
Creep of the Week

saying my dad who died from cancer.

leaving the hospital four days after being admitted, Trump tweeted:

"Feeling

really good! Don't be afraid of Covid. Don't let it dominate your life. We have developed, under the Trump Administration, some really great drugs & knowledge. I feel better than I did 20 years ago!"

This is a dangerous message. It continues to downplay the seriousness of COVID-19 and directly feeds the myth that COVID-19 is a kind of left-wing conspiracy to bring about the downfall of Donald Trump. That, of course, fuels the "mask wars" across the country, with Trump supporters asserting it's their right to put themselves, and you, at risk of contracting the virus because of freedom.

As for those "great drugs" he's talking about? Yeah, they're not for you. Trump has access to treatments that aren't available to the peasants, not to mention the fact that Trump's access to world-class care is unencumbered, and he doesn't have to worry about how he'll pay for it.

Because we're paying for it. Taxpayers. A group that Trump has been revealed to not be a part of.

And I haven't even gotten into how many members of Trump's inner circle have now tested positive for COVID-19.

The Rose Garden soirée for Amy Coney Barrett, Trump's Supreme Court nominee who has her eye on undoing marriage equality and reproductive freedom, was apparently a super-spreader event with folks not wearing masks and not social distancing.

Aside from Trump and the first lady, other folks in the Trump orbit recently testing positive or COVID-19 include Hope Hicks, Press Secretary Kayleigh McEnany, Kellyanne Conway, Republican National Committee Chair Ronna McDaniel, assistant to the president Nicholas Luna, Campaign Manager Bill Stepien, Chris Christie, and Republican Sens. Mike Lee of Utah, Thom Tillis of North Carolina and Ron Johnson of Wisconsin.

And then, of course, there's former GOP presidential candidate Herman Cain, who attended a June 24 Trump rally without a mask. On July 2 he tested positive for COVID-19, spent the rest of the month claiming he was getting better before he died on July 30.

I am sure all those with the virus, and especially Cain's family, are taking great solace in Trump's bragging that he's feeling great. What a gift to us as a nation. Sure, we haven't seen or touched our loved ones since March, but at least Trump feels great.

I used to say that I hoped Trump did, indeed, get COVID-19. My reasoning was that unless he had it himself, he would never care about it, never bother to take it seriously and never put together a national plan to fight it. There is still NO plan.

But I admit now, I was wrong. He has the virus and he STILL doesn't give a fuck about anyone but himself. His takeaway from all of this is, "See? It's not that bad." He has never once eulogized the dead or acknowledged any responsibility at all.

VOTE HIM OUT.

D'Anne Witkowski is a poet, writer and comedian living in Michigan with her wife and son. She has been writing about LGBT politics for over a decade. Follow her on Twitter @MamaDWitkowski.



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Black Tie Dinner will also draw the winning raffle ticket for this year's brand-new Mercedes-Benz, courtesy of Park Place Motorcars.

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LIFE+STYLE

community

The event, hosted by Jada Pinkett Fox, goes virtual

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer taffet@dallasvoice.com

ifeWalk turns 30 this year, and while no outdoor event will be held, Jada Pinkett Fox is hosting a one-hour virtual LifeWalk on Sunday, Oct. 11, with the livestream beginning at 11 a.m. on Facebook, YouTube and at LifeWalk.org. And while the event is short of its \$500,000 fundraising goal, more than \$150,000 has already been collected at a time when need for services is at its highest level in years.

"We've seen an increase in patients coming in," Prism Health North Texas spokesman Tri Truong said. Prism Health is the lead agency that produces LifeWalk

As people lost their jobs and their health insurance this year, Prism Health's medical clinics that treat patients with HIV have seen a major uptick in traffic, Truong said. Because of the effect the coronavirus has had on everyone, there's also been increased demand for behavioral health services. And with so many out of work, Prism's housing assistance program has been strained.

Those services are funded, in part, through money raised by LifeWalk.

LifeWalk partners with other agencies providing services to people with HIV, and proceeds are shared among those organizations. Among them are AIDS Services Dallas, which provides housing to people living with HIV; the Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund, which provides financial assistance for critical needs when other resources are exhausted; the Turtle Creek Chorale, which has an assistance fund to provide emergency help to its memberswith HIV, and UT Southwestern's community prevention and intervention unit, which works to prevent sexually transmitted diseases.

A challenging year

For teams raising money this year, the pandemic has presented a challenge.

"This year has been hard on LifeWalk and other fund raisers," Max Rippetoe



said. "I have been very impressed and appreciative of the fundraising that I have been able to do this year."

Rippetoe heads Team LUV, a group of Southwest Airlines employees who have participated in LifeWalk for years.

"I am fortunate to have a great group of supporters that I contact every year, and most of them have been very generous again this year — and a few of my supporters increased their donations 50 percent, 100 percent, 150 percent, which is fantastic, especially this year," he said.

Rippetoe said he uses a personal appeal in his fundraising efforts. He writes an email to each member of his group asking for support, and after they donate, he writes a personal thank you note acknowledging their support.

"I've actually increased my personal fund raising this year 5-to-10 percent over last year, which includes a generous corporate match from one of my supporter's employers, and a special donation from another long-time LifeWalk supporter that offered a one-day fundraising challenge," he said. "I am hoping to raise a few more bucks during this final week of the LifeWalk season."

Much of the money usually raised by LifeWalk teams is done through events, large and small. Many of those are drag shows held in the bars, and one of the annual events has been a miniature "progressive" golf tournament held in bars along Cedar Springs Road.

None of those options were available this year, although some online events were held. Rippetoe's team has had to find other options, too.

Rippetoe said in previous years, Team LUV has done multiple bake sales, Circle E candle sales, custom bracelet sales, a wine tasting class and, on the day of LifeWalk, they have sold Jello shots and baked goodies at Turtle Creek Park.

"But this year, of course, we've done none of these," he said. "Our team this year is smaller, but we still have impressive fund raising from some of our team members."

He said he just hopes next year LifeWalk can get back to normal.

"The mission and work of Prism Health North Texas is dear to me and to many on our LifeWalk team, so we happily spend time, soliciting donations, year after year," Rippetoe said. "I've been involved in LifeWalk for about 15 years, and this is the only annual fundraiser that I do. It's important to me."

Among the virtual events, were Young Advocates for Sexual Health' '90s virtual trivia night via Zoom. Sister Polly Von Acocker hosted a virtual beer tasting with a chilled beer pick-up from Peticola's Brewing Company in the Design District, and Team Clover held an online silent auction. There was also a virtual dance party and a pet paparazzi contest that helped other teams raise LifeWalk money.

Truong said the online LifeWalk event will celebrate LifeWalk's 30 years and the impact it has had on the community. He said he expects messages from performers from previous years, including from singer Lisa Loeb and drag super star Shangela. Denise Lee and Miss LifeWalk Polly Von Acocker will perform, and Prism Health North Texas CEO Dr. John Carlo will speak.

To participate in LifeWalk, you can either join a existing team or "fly solo." Go to LifeWalk.org and create a fundraising page or simply hit the donate button and fill out the information.

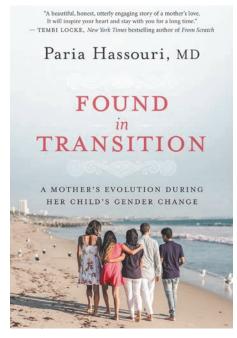
Raffle tickets are also available online. The top prize is a Royal Caribbean cruise, with no expiration date since the cruise industry is currently closed due to COVID-19. Two airline tickets on Southwest accompany the cruise.

Second prize is two round-trip airline tickets on Southwest Airlines. All airline tickets are courtesy of Team LUV. Third prize is a one-night stay at the Melrose Hotel with complimentary parking and breakfast for two as well as dinner at Chuy's.

Much of the money donated to LifeWalk is turned in the day of the walk. Without an event in the park, Truong said he couldn't even venture a guess about how much more will be raised. But he's hoping for a big finish for LifeWalk's 30th anniversary this year.

Mother meets trans daughter; boy meets boy

Found in Transition: A Mother's **Evolution During Her Child's** Gender Change by Paria Hassouri, MD (New World Library 2020) \$25.95; 215 pages.



In your mother's book, you were known before you were born.

She noted every kick, every headbump, every stretch you made as she carried you. She felt your burps, and she felt it when you rolled over. And though she'd never met you, she recognized you the minute you arrived because your mother knew you before you were born.

But as in the new book Found in Transition by Paria Hassouri, MD, a mother can't know everything.

She always wanted to be a mom. Born in the U.S., raised in Iran, Paria Hassouri was a teen when she returned to the U.S. where her mother insisted that Hassouri and her sisters get an education.

But schooling was secondary in Hassouri's eyes. She'd wanted children since she was a child herself and was particularly eager to have daughters, though she was not terribly disappointed that her first two babies were sons.

For much of her life, Hassouri's second-born, Ava, had been a handful. There were many conversations with teachers through the years, Hassouri

recalls: Teachers worried that Ava was depressed, had behavioral issues or was suicidal. Ava was a smart kid with great creativity, and she loved to try new things, but she didn't tend to stick with them for more than a few months.

Because of that, when, at the edge of adolescence, Ava finally told her parents that she was a girl, Hassouri thought it was another "phase." To her own later guilt, she refused to believe her child.

Though Hassouri was a pediatrician, her first identity was as the mother of three children, two boys and a girl — and now what? She was confused, wounded and greatly saddened. She and her husband had carefully named their offspring according to family tradition, and now one of them wanted a new name and new pronouns that sounded wrong to Hassouri's ears.

She mourned that her second-born would never become the man she'd envisioned. She cried and grieved. And yet, she writes, there really were just two options: "I choose figuring it out," she said. "I choose my child."

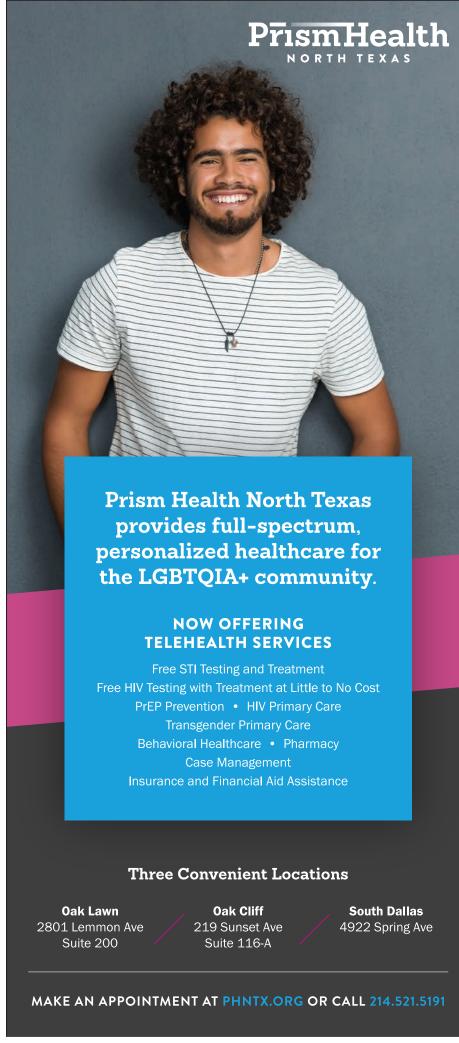
Reading Found in Transition is tough — not for what it is, but for what author Paria Hassouri says. It's almost like sandpaper on a sunburn.

Foremost, there are a lot of hard truths inside this memoir, for which Hassouri states, "I have to own them and be honest about them." And that took courage, although confessions seem to be necessary here, for her and for readers.

This book, in fact, would've been much different absent those harsh, sometimes incomprehensible feelings and thoughts; readers may've even sensed that it wasn't quite complete.

No, it would have been the lesser without its brutal truths from this maternal point of view, because here's the thing: Though Ava is a constant presence in a memoir that truly wouldn't exist without her, this is really not her story. It might make you angry; it might make you cry. But this tale belongs to her mother; indeed, Found in Transition is 100 percent a mother's book.

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Heartstopper Volume 1 by Alice Oseman (Graphix Scholastic 2020) \$14.99; 288 pages.

And sparks flew.

Forget the beginning of a new romance; the middle is where the best part is, the boy-meets-boy part where everything's a first. First hand-hold, first hug, first kiss, that's what you want to see: sparks, embers for a flame to come, maybe even some heat.

And in *Heartstopper Volume 1* by Alice Oseman, that's what you get.

Fourteen-year-old Charlie Spring

hadn't meant to come out as gay. It happened, and he never really had control of it. One day, nobody knew, and then everybody did. He was bullied, of course, and though there were a few guys in his class that he called friends, he never truly knew who he could trust.

Take, for example, Ben Hope. Ben was an older boy that Charlie hung around with sometimes, and when he really thought about it, Charlie knew in his heart that Ben was just using him. He was all kissy and stuff when nobody was looking, but Charlie knew downdeep that Ben would never let anyone see them together. He even knew for a fact that Ben had a girlfriend.

Ben was not forever; Charlie knew that much, and it was discouraging. And then he got paired up with Nick Nelson in first period class.

Just one grade ahead, Nick was tall and handsome and friendly. He had light hair and an easy smile, and he put Charlie at ease the day they met. Soon, they were talking about things outside of class. Nick got Charlie on the school rugby team. They texted and emailed



long after school hours, and they became good friends.

And Charlie started to fall in love. But Nick Nelson was totally straight; everybody knew that, right?

Well, everybody but Nick. Once, he'd had a mad crush on a girl, but that was in 7th grade. Now he couldn't stop thinking about Charlie. He wasn't sure what that meant exactly, but it scared him a little. Was Charlie feeling the same way?

While you're reading *Heartstopper* Volume 1, there are two basic sounds that will come from your lips: "Awwwwww" and "Arrrrrgh!"

The first will escape repeatedly because this is one really sweet book about first love and first realization. It's gentle and not TMI, and even if you're well past the new-love stage and in a committed relationship, it'll remind you of those first where-do-I-put-my-nose kisses.

Author-illustrator Alice Oseman tells this boy-meets-boy story with drawings that show the roller-coaster of teenage crushes and the awkwardness of early romance. Through those drawings, she also quietly lets readers know that some people struggle to understand their sexuality, and that's okay. To further the realism, there are bullies in this story, and a boy who almost seems dangerous.

Oh, and that other sound you'll utter? It comes at the end with a cliffhanger. Yep, you'll have to wait for the Happily Ever After. Arrrrrrgh!

If graphic novels are your favorites, or if you're ready to fall in love, do it with Nick and Charlie. Made for the romantic soul, Heartstopper Volume 1 sparks.

— Terri Schlichenmeyer







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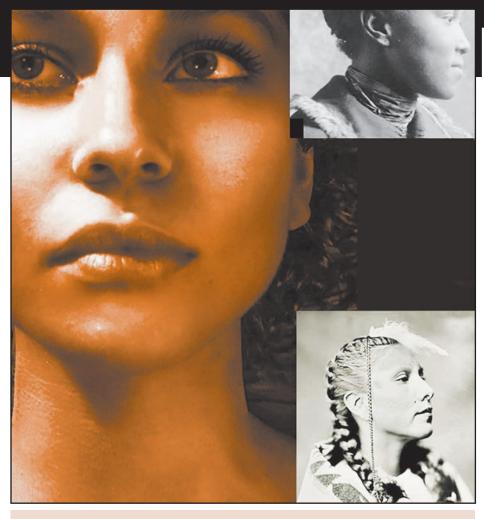
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10.12

'My Red Hand, My Black Hand'

Cara Mia Theatre and Soul Rep Theatre team up to bring back the Cafe Negro Arts Series with the regional premiere of Obie Award winner and Pulitzer Prize nominee Dael Orlandersmith's My Red Hand, My Black Hand, an audio play in which a teenager describes the past, present and future of her parents' cultures; her father's "red" Tlingit and Lakota heritage and her mother's "Black" heritage in rural Virginia. The play streams online Oct. 12-18, presented in partnership with Indigenous Direction and Weatherford College and featuring internationally-acclaimed recording artist N'Dambi. Tickets start at \$10. For information and tickets visit SoulRep.org.

10.10

Turtle Creek Virtual Tour of Homes

Local personality Jocelyn White will host the 19th annual Turtle Creek Tour of Homes, which this year is a virtual tour of five luxurious homes located in the Turtle Creek Corridor, including 2555 N. Pearl (Regency Row # 4, The Ritz Carlton), 3505 Turtle Creek Blvd. (The Vendome), 3519 Turtle Creek Blvd. (The Claridge), The Bel Air (The Tree House) and 1999 McKinney Ave. (The Jewel Box). Tickets range from \$40-\$125. For tickets and information visit TurtleCreekAssociation.org.



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Cassie Nova

A letter to family and friends that are Republican

Hev v'all. I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing because I need a favor from you. I do not take asking you this lightly, but it is weighing very heavily on my heart and mind. Could you please, just this once, vote democratic in this upcoming election?

I normally would not ask this, but there is nothing normal about the times we live in right now. To my family in particular who voted for Mr. Trump in the last election: I know vou have seen how divided his wavs have made our country. I beg of you to not vote for him a second time. I ask you this as a son, brother, nephew, uncle, cousin and grandson. I ask this as someone you love.

This has gone so far past our different political views; this is now more about morals morals that my family helped instill in me. I was taught that you treat people with kindness and respect. I know you see it; I know you know what I am talking about. I know that in the privacy of your own homes and to your close friends, you say things like, "I wish he would just shut up and do his job!

You can help shut him up by voting blue on Nov. 3.

This is Texas; this is the Deep South. So I know some of you can't see past the words "Republican" and "Democrat." Most of you are small-town country folks with good hearts, people who know right from wrong. I know what I am asking goes against your natural instincts, but sometimes you have to evolve to survive. Our democracy is dying; please throw it a life line.

I promise you that if the tables were turned, I would absolutely listen to your plea and think long and hard about my decision. Please do that for me.

This isn't just a vote for president; it is a vote to help protect my way of life. Until 2003 it was illegal to have gay sex. We couldn't legally get married until 2015, and it was totally legal to fire someone for being gay until June 2020. That is this year. Your ability to marry who you love, your sex life, your em-



ployment has never been an issue for you. So please think about the privilege you have had without ever worrying that it might be taken away. My rights and freedoms are hanging in the balance, and that is why I am asking for your help.

This is why I am scared. This is why this election matters.

Most of you have children, and I know you want to leave a healthy earth for your kids. I've been to your houses; you recycle. That shows me that you want to better this planet. Climate change is real, and we all know it. For the sake of your children, vote blue.

I am willing to discuss and fact-check

anything you want if it will help persuade you to vote against Trump. The Democrats are not coming for your guns. They are not coming for your healthcare. If there is a huge reason you are against voting blue, I ask you to please fact-check the truth of the topic and not listen to your friends on Facebook, the ones that are suddenly intelligent on the

this week's solution

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internet but can't make complete sentences in real life

Our current president is racist. That is not an opinion; that is a fact. His inability to denounce white supremacy tells you everything you need to know on that subject. The president of the United States should be president to all, not just the white folks. People of color have felt separated and marginalized for too long, and Trump is widening the divide. In your heart, you know that to be true. I know you do.

Look, if you are still all "HELL YEAH! THAT'S MY PRESIDENT!!!" after all that you have seen and all that you know, then please tell me so. Better the devil you know, after all, and I will know you have been lost to the cult and have blinders on. I will miss you.

If you love me, please think about my plea. This is coming from me not just as a gay man, but as a human that believes there is good in this world. Please don't reward bad behavior. Send a message that goodness prevails over party lines. Our differences can be worked on, and our problems can be resolved together. But hate should never be rewarded or overlooked because you can't see past the words "Democrat" and "Republican."

I promise to care about your issues if you care about mine. Thank you for taking the time to read this, and thank you more for seriously considering my request.

Love to you all, James Love and sometimes...Cassie Nova

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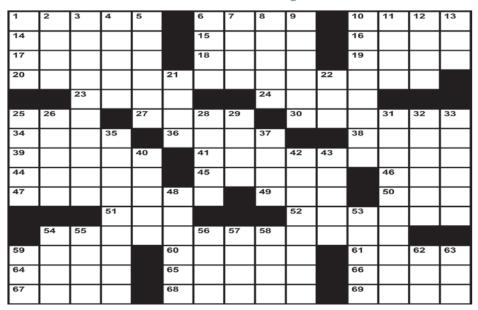
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q-puzzle

I am Nobody!



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- 10 Sherman Hemsley religious sitcom
- 14 Try to bite, doggy-style
- 15 Electronic synthesizer
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- 18 Lambda Legal Defense records
- 19 Oman man
- 20 With 39-Across, 2018 movie about a reclusive poet
- 23 Watched intently
- 24 Label on a lemon that isn't a fruit
- 25 Nile reptile
- 27 Bas relief of Eleanor's husband
- 30 Some bellybuttons
- 34 Umlaut parts, in Rilke's language
- 36 Gershon of Bound
- 38 Start of an Evan Wolfson memo
- 39 See 20-Across
 - 41 With 39-Across, poet who wrote "I am nobody!"
- 44 Ryan Seacrest, for one
- 45 Improvise, like Robin Williams
- 46 Sappho's long E
- 47 Takes umbrage at 49 Us, to Rilke

- 50 Good Will Hunting setting
- 51 Arena for GLSEN
- 52 Patent subject
- 54 She played the title role in the movie in this puzzle
- 59 Change from red to pink
- 60 Nephew of Donald Duck
- 61 Infatuated with Mr. Right Now
- 64 Apt anagram for "yeas"
- 65 Black pussy cats, e.g.
- 66 Place for Young men?
- 67 New York Times
- Magazine editor Adam 68 Silences for
- 69 Slippery swimmers

Tchaikovsky

Down

- 1 Type of balls
- 2 System for a Johnny
- Mathis song
- 3 Truman Capote et al., medically
- 4 Off-color
- 5 Made amends (for)
- 6 Web info source
- 7 Barrie's lake
- 8 Young girl of old comics
- 9 Wimbledon champ Andre
- 10 Lover of Henry and June
- 11 Shopping area

- 12 "Well, Did You ___"
- 13 Snatch
- 21 "Understood" to Ginsberg
- 22 Come out on top
- 25 "Do" equivalent for Maria
- 26 River of Debussy's land
- 28 King with the golden touch
- 29 Town in O-o-o-o oklahoma
- 31 Be a male breeder
- 32 Like stories of Simon Sheppard
- 33 Tammy Baldwin's realm
- 35 Like nights of insomniacs
- 37 Sometime defender of gay rts.
- 40 Movie about a cross-dresser
- 42 "For beauty lives with
- _" (Shakespeare) 43 Hedda Gabler
- playwright
- 48 AIDS activist Elizabeth
- 53 Madonna song of 1990
- 54 It goes on a hero's meat, maybe
- 55 Sapphic poems
- 56 To a degree
- 57 Pink and lavender
- 58 Isn't informal
- 59 Close kin, for short
- 62 k. d. lang's
- "Big Boned_
- 63 Post-lovemaking sighs

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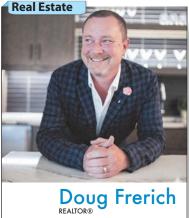
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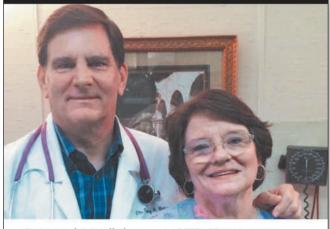
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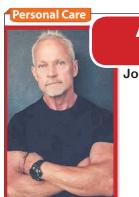




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