Old soul

Ky Sisson and his family own the in-home senior care firm Lend-A-Hand, opened in 1992. He was also a reporter and personality on Reno's Channel 2, KTVN. On Jan. 5, Sisson launched a new television show on the channel to combine his passions. Aging & Awesome airs weekly on Saturday evenings at 7 p.m.

Tell me more about Lend-A-Hand.

My mom, dad and grandparents founded Lend-A-Hand in 1992, when I was in the womb. ... My mother had a vision for in-home senior caregiving, which now is a mega-industry-whereas 26 years ago, it wasn't. She was a pioneer in the industry and across the state. We were the first in Reno, and later on she was the lobbyist who [obtained] legislation to ensure the protection of seniors, of a vulnerable population, from agencies that were frivolous.

What is your mother's name?

Tammy-Tammy Sisson. She's a pioneer in assisted living, group homes, adult day centers. She's has an amazing heart for seniors. ... Lend-A-Hand has really been our platform-we call it our ministry-to help people who are unable to do the activities of daily living.

What's your role in Lend-A-Hand?

I do day-to-day operations. I talk to clients. I hire our caregivers. ... I'm constantly hiring. We don't hire just anybody with a pulse. ... Everyone's hurting for

NOTES FROM THE NEON BABYLON

Panicking a calm nation



employees, and so I do a really thorough, four-step process. ... I was doing marketing and PR early on. And then this show came to mind. I thought, well, if I could do this, it would be an amazing outreach for this company, but I wanted it to be about other providers, too. I didn't want it to be the Lend-A-Hand show. ...

How long were you on television?

I worked freelance for three years, and I worked at Channel 2 for two years. My personality, my mantra was always outgoing, energetic, outgoing. ... I like the really energetic, more talk show. lifestyle type of television. So, I said, "OK, I can combine two of my passions here-senior care ... and then also that aspect of being Aging & Awesome.

That's the name of the show, right? You mentioned talking about problems seniors face, but that

sounds like there's more to it, more positive stuff.

BY JERI CHADWELL

No, it's not just addressing the problems. It's showcasing the brilliant, wonderful personalities-the love, the passion for life that our senior community has. Yes, aging is challenging, but there are ways to stay aging and awesome.

Your co-host, Jo Dellaripa, is 86?

She's 86, and she is kind and loving and positive and optimistic-and so she embodies what I want others to see. I'm just a dude who is young and likes to tell stories and has the energy to do two full-time jobs. ... I want the audience to see Jo. I want the audience to see Jo and go, "Wow! If she can do it, I can do it!" ...

Give me some details on topics vou'll cover.

The biggest thing is that we want people to take away tangible information, substance they can use in their lives to meet the challenges that will come. Everybody is getting older. Everyone is going to have an aging mother or father. We want people to go, "OK, I learned on Aging & Awesome that when mom is doing x, y and z, we should get her to a doctor to be evaluated for Alzheimers." ... No one wants to talk about that. No one wants to talk about mortality. Nobody wants to talk about things like "What is ageism?"—and ageism is a horrible, discriminatory, very widely accepted form of discrimination. How can we be aware when we're being ageist? Those are some topics that no one really knows about.

BY BRUCE VAN DYKE



Please. If the federal government shutdown is still in effect as you read this, then, please, somebodyclose down the national parks. All of them. Lock them up, and put up barricades. Do whatever is necessary, but, please, keep people out. This insane damage and abuse that's taking place because there are no rangers and supervision is unbearable. Americans are acting like cretinous pre-schoolers. Why are these places even open? Trevor Noah nailed it last week while showing pics of trashed National Park bathrooms—"Who's the shithole country now?

Please. When new Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib said what she famously said last week, just fess up—she didn't say *anything* you hadn't said vourself 17 times that week. Hell, 17 times that morning.

So Agent Orange went on TV this past Tuesday and lied his ass off. Great. Wonderful. Who cares?

Fuck him. He's making shit up. Daily. He's making shit up so he can have a "crisis" that will be immediately tossed by the courts. He's making shit up so that he can momentarily forget about Mueller. He's making shit up so that Ann and Rush will think he actually has a pair of actual testicles. It's beyond pathetic, truly. I hope we saw at least a few networks roll with live fact checking while The Mad Idiot burped up his rank, toxic swill. As none other than Bette Midler tweeted—"Networks should air Trump's 'speech' ONLY if they have the technology for an instant bullshit-to-English translation."

Another good tweet, from Republican journalist Bill Kristol-"There is no security crisis at the border. There's a security crisis in the White House." And one more, from Republican strategist and Never Trumper Stuart Stevens—"There are numerous

examples of presidential addresses made to calm a frightened public. This will be the first to frighten a calm public."

Please. Will one Republican senator take his thumb out of his ass and tell Dum Dum to go piss up a rope?

Call me an insane, pie-eyed optimist if you will, and I might well be, but, goddammit, I really do think the pressure is building and building and building, and it could well mean that sometime in the next month or two, a Retrumplican senator or maybe even two (imagine!) will experience some kind of magical collection of calcium growing in a somewhat vertical and cylindrical shape in his dorsal region and that this strange physiological phenomenon will mark the beginning of a genuine reluctance to continually suckle Trump's hideous mottled ass. And when that dam breaks...

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