

DIVERSIONS

THE STYLE INVITATIONAL

Lies ahead: Our 2019 timeline

BY PAT MYERS

In **Week 1311**, our Year in Preview, we asked you to tell us what "happened" in 2019. In the timeline below, some of the dates are relevant to the entry; others are just whatever.

4th place:

June 6: The nation celebrates the 75th anniversary of D-Day. **The president forgoes the trip to Normandy, citing jaw spurs.** (Daniel Helming, Trenton, N.J.)

3rd place:

Nov. 6: **Beto O'Rourke loses election for dogcatcher**, but his rousing concession speech vaults him to the lead in Democratic presidential primaries. (John Hutchins, Silver Spring)

2nd place and the Oreo music box:

Oct. 31: At the request of Make-a-Wish, **Trump delivers candy to a hospitalized child**, telling her, "I hope you appreciate this, because the docs just told me you have two, maybe three days left tops." (Jeff Contompassis, Ashburn)

And the winner of the Lose Cannon:

Sept. 22: The **National Council of Teachers of English disbands** after a violent battle over inserting a comma into MeToo. (Ira Allen, Bethesda)

Prophets and loss: Honorable mentions

Jan. 20: **Rudy Giuliani declares that Trump has been totally vindicated** and condemns Robert Mueller for "not even trying to find the criminal, Individual 1." (Frank Osen, Pasadena, Calif.)

Jan. 29: At its quarterly meeting, the **Fed sharply lowers its rate of interest** in the president's tweets. (Gary Crockett, Chevy Chase)

Feb. 4: **The Dow Jones index breaks 30,000** for the first time, then closes at 7,328 three hours later. People shrug, figuring it'll go back up tomorrow. (Jon Ketzner, Cumberland, Md.)

Feb. 11: **Post Malone wins a Grammy** for best mumbled-word album. (Jeff Contompassis)

March 7: **On World Math Day**, the president states that he can divide by zero. "I write down a number, draw a line under it, then put a zero below that. It's very, very easy for someone like me." (John McCooney, Rehoboth Beach, Del.)

March 21: **In a last-minute deal**, the EU trades the UK and a country to be named later for Bryce Harper. (Kevin Dopart, Washington)

March 28: **Lawyers arguing before the Supreme Court discreetly look the other way** when Justice Kavanaugh, in the middle of an important oral argument, boofs. (Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.)

April 1: In a plea bargain, **Ei Chabo is freed** after agreeing to pay \$5 billion for the border wall. (Bruce Carlson, Alexandria)

April 14: **The NRA announces**, proactively, that there will be nothing that could have been done. (Art Grinath, Takoma Park)

April 15: Ruth Bader Ginsburg wins the **Boston Marathon**, throws her lace collar into the air in celebration. (Lynne Larkin, Vero Beach, Fla.)

April 25: After **tornadoes tear through several Oklahoma towns**, Trump tweets that residents could have prevented them had they "used leaf blowers." (Duncan Stevens)

May 5: The president's outreach to Latino voters hits a snag when **Trump observes Cinco de Mayo** by tossing out jars of Hellmann's. (Duncan Stevens)

May 14: **Finally able to compromise**, Congress approves funds for a 3-foot border wall. (Selma Ellis, Rolling Meadows, Ill.)

June 1: **Elizabeth Warren reveals** that she is a 1/64 owner of the Washington Redskins. (Mark Raffman, Reston)

June 2: **Jimmy Carter announces** he'll seek second term as president; he immediately jumps to top of the polls. (Jon Ketzner)

July 20: At the **Comet Ping Pong** pizza parlor, **Trump**



JAN. 9 LOS ANGELES TIMES PUZZLE BY DEBBIE ELLERIN, TRIBUNE CONTENT AGENCY

New contest for Week 1315: Clue Us In — our reverse crossword

DICEY: Your plan for budgeting next year's expenses on future craps winnings

RIBS: "Our state may be small, but every resident is a millionaire" (as in "R.I. BS")

It's our annualish backwards-crossword: We give the answers; you write the clues. Or "clues": The Empress is more interested in jokes and wordplay than crossword authenticity; she won't even run clues for all 74 words in the grid. **This week: Supply clever, funny clues for as many as 25 of the 74 words and multi-word terms in this grid**, as in the examples above.

How to format your entry so that the Empress can sort them without going even insane:

Please write each entry on its own line, as WORDFROMTHEGRID (without spaces even if you interpret it as multiple words): [your clue], as in the examples above. You can explain it after the clue, as with RIBS above.

Note: This is an American-style crossword, *not* the British type in which the clue is a sentence containing an anagram of the word.

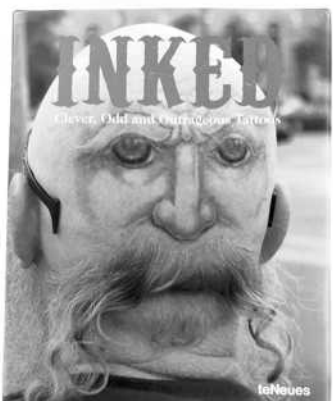
This Los Angeles Times crossword ran in The Post's Style section on Jan. 9; if you like, you can see the original clues at wapo.st/invite-crossword-1315.

Submit entries at wapo.st/enter-invite-1315 (all lowercase).

Winner gets the **Lose Cannon**, our new Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives the very cool — and appropriately titled for us — book "Inked: Clever, Odd and Outrageous Tattoos"; we can vouch for all three adjectives just by seeing the cover photo, which depicts a blue-eyed human face tattooed onto the back of someone's bald head, with the man's fringe of hair serving as a curly mustache. Donated by Roy Ashley.

Other runners-up win our "You Gotta Play to Lose" Loser Mug or our "Whole Fools" Grossery Bag. Honorable mentions get one of our lusted-after Loser magnets, "We've Seen Better" or "Idiot Card." First Offenders receive only a smelly tree-shaped air "freshener" (FirStink for their first ink). **Deadline is Monday night, Jan. 28**; results published Feb. 17 (online Thursday, Feb. 14, as our special valentine — or non- — to you). See general contest rules and guidelines at wapo.st/InvRules. The headline "Lies Ahead" is by Dave Prevar; Chris Doyle and Tom Witte each suggested the honorable-mentions subhead. Join the Style Invitational Devotees on Facebook at [on.fb.me/invdev](https://www.facebook.com/on.fb.me/invdev). "Like" Style Invitational Ink of the Day on Facebook at [bit.ly/inkofday](https://www.facebook.com/bit.ly/inkofday); follow @StyleInvite on Twitter.

THE STYLE CONVERSATIONAL The Empress's weekly online column discusses each new contest and set of results. Especially if you plan to enter, check it out at wapo.st/styleconv.



BOOK PUBLISHED BY TENEUES, 2008

The next best thing to tattooing a Loser Magnet onto your arm.

commemorates the 50th anniversary of the moon landing hoax. (Kevin Dopart)

July 22: Melania Trump shows up to the **NAACP national convention** wearing a white sheet and hood with the words "I really Kan't Kare Kan U." Her aides later say they don't see what the fuss is about. (Art Grinath)

Aug. 1: **Last year's dance craze, "flossing,"** is replaced by this year's dance craze, "removing ear wax." (Lawrence McGuire, Waldorf)

Aug. 15: Trump alleges that **the influx of Cuban baseball players** has led to "an epidemic of stolen bases." (Mark Raffman)

Sept. 13: **Trump abruptly tweets that he is withdrawing U.S.**

troops from Wakanda. (Larry McClemons, Annandale)

Oct. 10: For the first time since becoming vice president, **Pence disagrees with President Trump**, stating firmly that the toilet paper should hang *over* the roll. (Drew Bennett, West Plains, Mo.)

Oct. 22: Ruth Bader Ginsburg is named the **point guard for the Washington Wizards**. (Rick Haynes, Boynton Beach, Fla.)

Nov. 9: On the **30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall**, Trump tweets: "Tore down beautiful wall! SO WEAK! Shd have built it higher!" (Duncan Stevens)

Nov. 18: **Kavanaugh is spotted** leaving Ginsburg's house at 4 a.m. He says they were playing "a drinking game." She says they were playing pinocle. (Tom Witte, Montgomery Village)

Nov. 23: After yet **another acquisition by Jeff Bezos**, The Post decides to include the parenthetical disclaimer only when mentioning an entity he *doesn't* own. (Jennifer Gittins-Harfst, Annandale)

Nov. 30: Pink Floyd commemorates the **40th anniversary of "The Wall"** by releasing a smaller edition called "Steel Slats." (Jesse Frankovich, Grand Ledge, Mich.)

More honorable mentions in the online Invite at wapo.st/invite1315.

Still running — deadline Monday night, Jan. 21 — our "joint legislation" contest. See wapo.st/invite1314.

L.A. TIMES SUNDAY PUZZLE

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

"PASS" By PAUL COULTER

ACROSS
1 Brewer's need
5 "In the Land of Israel" author Oz
9 Barbershop tool
14 Cremona artisan
19 Skunk River city
20 Hardly a revealing style
21 Quiet partner
22 Domed-top structures, perhaps
23 Imminent wordplay warning?
26 Peter, Paul or Mary
27 "Aladdin" prince
28 Astronomy Muse
29 Disney's Cruella De
30 Many a Degas
31 Oil sources
33 "Is my account settled?"
36 Drive—
37 Types
39 Parmenides' name
40 Apiece, in scores
42 Others, in Latin
43 You're looking at one
44 "Sunday Night Football" network
47 Nervous draft choice?
51 1982 sci-fi film
52 "Mon" I
53 Field of study
54 Workbench attachment
55 Getting on
56 Scary fairy tale beast
57 More mean
59 Film festival entry
61 Half a luau serving?
62 French season
63 Agency that regulates test cheating?
68 Sched. uncertainty
70 Really digging
72 Oldest
73 Musketeer
75 Kind of guy you can count on
76 Bit
78 "I, Claudius" role
80 A silly stunt may be done on one
81 Cabinet dept.
82 Swarm
83 Very first ATM password?
86 "Dropped" '60s drug
87 European capital

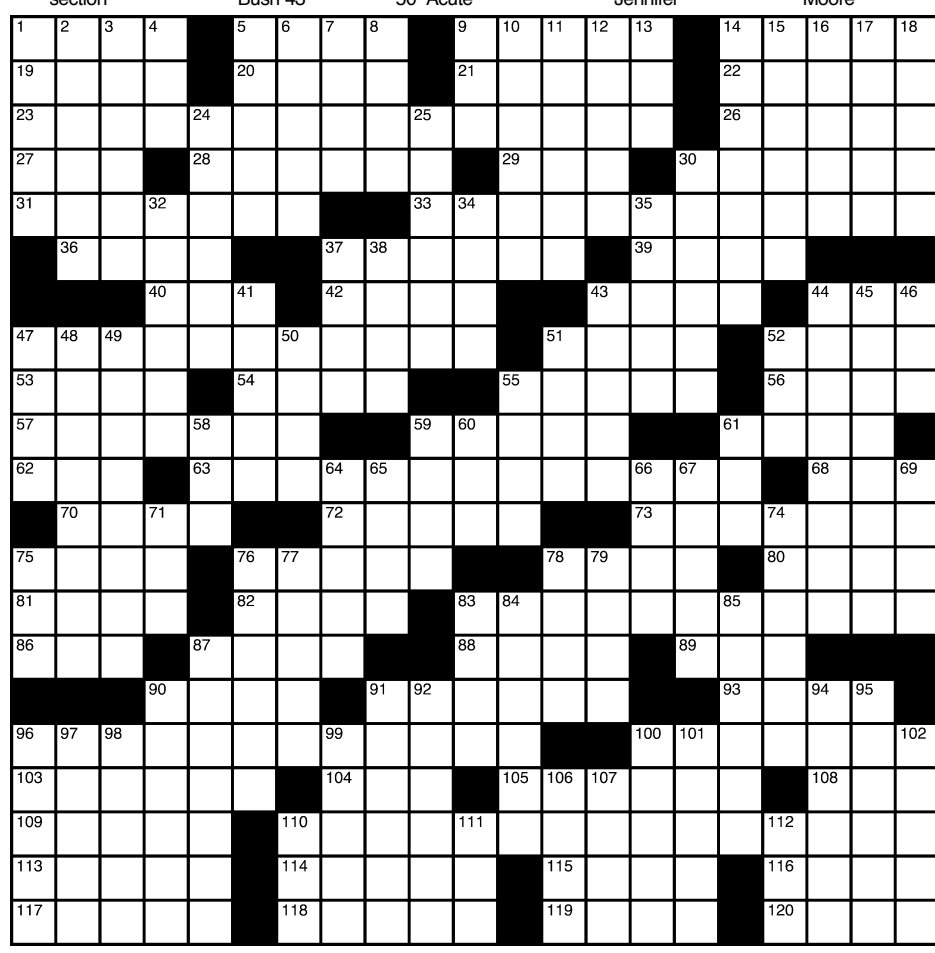
88 Fruity cocktail word
89 "Comprende?"
90 Space opening
91 International economic coalition
93 Link warning letters
96 Popular disco era pastimes?
100 Moves unsteadily
103 Heads off
104 According to
105 Shark hanger-on
108 "What's ___?"
109 Make a mash of
110 No longer be comprehensible ... and with its first word divided in three parts, a hint to how to read this puzzle's title
113 Young conger
114 Public commotion
115 Logician's link
116 Former gen.'s status
117 Orchestra section

118 Signs of the future
119 Running goal
120 "Anything ___?"
DOWN
1 Comedy club chorus
2 Breakfast choice
3 "... shall not from the earth": Lincoln
4 Atlanta-to-Miami dir.
5 Love abroad
6 Half a '60s quartet
7 Beasts of burden
8 Spanish ayes
9 Planet shape: Abbr.
10 Best Buy buy shot in rafts
11 They may be evening openings
12 Eyelike
13 Ballpoint, e.g.
14 Tested for gold, say
15 Really bad atmosphere
16 Justice confirmed under Bush 43

17 Workplace cartridge contents
24 Puffy clouds
25 Kind of acid in red wine
30 Turning whiter
32 Biblical debarkation point
34 Estrada of "CHiPs"
35 Big name in Argentine politics
37 Breaks
38 "Night" author
41 Flood deterrent
43 Annoying criticism
44 Romantic evening extension
45 Thiamine deficiency disease
46 It could be a mere nod
47 Decline
48 Talks from
49 Took offense at
50 Acute

51 "What a long week!"
52 Classic O'Brien noir film
55 Bothers
58 Nasdaq debut
59 How many TV shows air
60 Private nonprofit: Abbr.
61 Ran into
64 The Carpenters' soloist
65 Shopping list entry
66 Calvary inscription
67 Relatives of b'ars?
69 Arabian Peninsula port or its gulf
71 Craag
74 Least occupied
75 Come together
76 Rears
77 Friend of Claudius I
78 Common opening time
79 "A Visit From the Goon Squad" Pulitzer winner
Jennifer

83 Crude gp.? week!
84 MLB leader in career saves
85 Virgil subject
87 Clunky old cars
90 Concurred
91 Aplenty
92 Designed to fit tightly
94 Herb commonly in live-spice powder
95 Removes forcibly
96 Mill output
97 Elementary seed
98 Audacity
99 Fact
100 Fiji's eastern neighbor
101 Cereal grass disease
102 Bjorn Borg, e.g.
106 Barely gets, with "out"
107 Bog
110 BART stop
111 Simon & Garfunkel's "Robinson"
112 "... he drove out of sight": Moore



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Answers to last week's puzzle below.

HOROSCOPE

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY | Jan. 20: This year, you open up to many changes. Often, you see both sides of a disagreement. You could be overwhelmed by all the feelings that need sorting. If you are single, you might go through a string of relationships until later in this birthday year, when you meet someone with whom you can relate. If you are attached, the two of you often are on opposite sides of a debate. Respect your differences, and your relationship will evolve. Leo knows how to make you laugh.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
Tension builds with today's lunar eclipse. You might find that those around you are emotional. Know that this, too, shall pass. Avoid unneeded controversy. You could decide to go for a long walk or drive.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
You look at others who seem to act as if they are on an emotional seesaw. You have concerns about communication and a potential change. Your reactions will change, given some time. You might not like surprises, but you will get used to them.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
You could feel pushed and pulled in several directions. Your finances might be difficult to stabilize, especially if someone else is involved. Don't worry so much right now. Go out and enjoy your Sunday.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
You will want to try a different approach, but do not assume that the result will be different. Today's lunar eclipse could affect you if you have a planet near or opposite this date. Know that you don't have control over anyone but yourself.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
Step back some if you're feeling out of sorts. It will not hurt you to spend some time alone instead of among friends. Quite a few people could be upset or in disparaging moods. A loved one could be very sensitive to your needs.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
You might be considering how you feel about a certain friendship. In some way, you could feel as if this person doesn't fit with the other parts of your life. Ask yourself how important it is to have a link between this friend and your life.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
Your sense of fun comes forward despite having to deal with someone emotional. You could be tired of all the vocalization. You might like a change of scenery and people. If you can get away, you'll return to your daily life more invigorated.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
Reach out to someone you care about. This person might be more available than usual, but you could be wishing for more. Make plans to get together while you are speaking to them. This person has an odd way of displaying their feelings.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
A friendship comes to your attention. You need to spend more time with this friend. Nevertheless, you find that someone close to you is very demanding or full of ultimatums. A change of company might be a relief, even if just for a few hours.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
You can accomplish a lot if you remain disciplined, but you might not if you relax and do only what you want. You are juggling quite a few concerns; you might need to eliminate one or two of them to stabilize your life and days.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
You might sense a lack of stability around you. A friend could be wishy-washy about a key decision and cannot seem to be able to achieve what they want. Don't judge this person or the situation, just be present in the moment.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
When you are with a certain friend, you feel as if you are on the seesaw of life. As this person questions themselves, you'll ask yourself similar questions. Know what you want, and act on it. Sometimes, people are unsure of their choices.

Answers to last week's puzzle.

