

DIVERSIONS

THE STYLE INVITATIONAL

Inking globally: Place-neologisms from Week 1116

BY PAT MYERS

In Week 1116, we asked you to come up with a new term using the letters of a place name and define it; you didn't have to use all the letters but you couldn't reuse them.

4th place

From "Florida": **La Froid**: A state where global warming can't happen. (Don Druker, Rockville, who got his only previous invite ink in Week 94, back in 1995)

3rd place

From "Dallas": **Sallad**: In North Texas, the sprig of parsley on top of your T-bone. (Mark Raffman, Reston)

2nd place and the Creepy Horse Man dashboard thingie:

From "Montana": **Not-a-man**: Someone who neither hunts nor fishes. (Mark Raffman)

And the winner of the Inkin' Memorial

From "Russia": **USSRIA**: Putin's grand vision. (Peter Jenkins, Bethesda)

Down under: honorable mentions

From "Boca Raton": **Baconrot**: A skin condition combining advanced age and severe tan. "My grandmother lies by her condo pool all day, working on her baconrot." (Bird Waring, Larchmont, N.Y.)

From "Benghazi": **Ba-zing!**: Audience cry heard at tea party rallies every time there's an attack on you-know-who. (Robert Schechter, Dix Hills, N.Y.)

From "San Francisco": **Cancon of Sirs**: Annual line dance on Castro Street. (Christopher Damm, Charles Town, W.Va.)

From "Buffalo": **Off-blu**: Common Northern skin tone. (Gregory Huyck, Frederick, a First Offender)

From "Des Moines": **Demnoises**: Thunderings that lowans hear every four years from outsiders proclaiming themselves huge fans of ethanol and all other things corn. May be drowned out this year by gopnoises. (Jim Stiles, Rockville)

From "Montgomery County": **Countermom**: Someone who knows what's best for someone else's children. (Ward Kay, Vienna)

From "Saskatchewan": **Eh-tack**: An inoffensive offensive. (Kevin Dopart, Washington)

From "Boston": "Turn off the storm, **Snobot**." "I'm sorry, Dave. I'm afraid I can't do that." (Julia Shawhan, Silver Spring)

From "Charlottesville": **Chattelover**: What gossips called the original owner of Monticello. (Amy Harris, Charlottesville, a First Offender)

From "Leicester": **Restlice**: Agitated, itchy and crawling with bugs. Hey, you would be too, if you'd been buried under a parking lot for 530 years. (Roy Ashley, Washington)

From "Potomac": **TooPAC**: Collect checks from yo' friends and wife. Cross the bridge, living the Smug Life! (Todd DeLap, Fairfax)

From "Indianapolis": **Spinload**: Calling discrimination "religious freedom." (George-Ann Rosenberg, Washington)

From "Saint Petersburg": **Putin Tears**: Regret over countries not invaded and enemies still alive. (Gary Crockett, Chevy Chase)

From "Silver Spring": **Essing**: Adding an "s" where it doesn't belong. (Ted Weitzman, Olney)

From "Los Angeles": **All-Egoness**: Every city needs a motto. (Jeff Contompasis, Ashburn)

From "Beverly Hills": **Bellyshrivel**: What most of the town's doctors do. (Frank Osen, Pasadena, Calif.)

From "Key West": **Styweek**: Spring break. (Mary Kappus, Washington)

From "Austin": **Anti-Us**: How the rest of Texas regards residents of the state capital, and vice versa. (Frank Osen)

From "Silicon Valley": **Evillainy**: What's causing hackers to date your data. (Frank Osen)

From "Silicon Valley": **No Evil?** **Silly**: Google's revised motto after it decided that privacy and profit don't mix. (Gary Crockett)

From "North Carolina": **TarHail**: Welcome, y'all! (Dave Komornik, Danville, Va.)



BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

New contest for Week 1120: Celebrating our differences

The Redskins' offensive line vs. a pile of odd socks: The socks have almost as many holes.

A tattoo of Joe Biden vs. a Style Invitational Loser Magnet: If you had the magnet attached to your shoulder, *maybe* Biden wouldn't want to play with it.

A \$4 haircut • Dilbert's necktie • Ruth Bader Ginsburg doing the Macarena • that "not so fresh" feeling • pizza-scented shampoo • the Redskins' offensive line • a pile of odd socks • the 400-meter dash • a Style Invitational Loser magnet • "American Gothic" • Mohandas K. Gandhi • an elderly Labrador retriever • an Elizabethan sonnet • a tattoo of Joe Biden • Yemen • an overactive bladder • a three-cupped bra

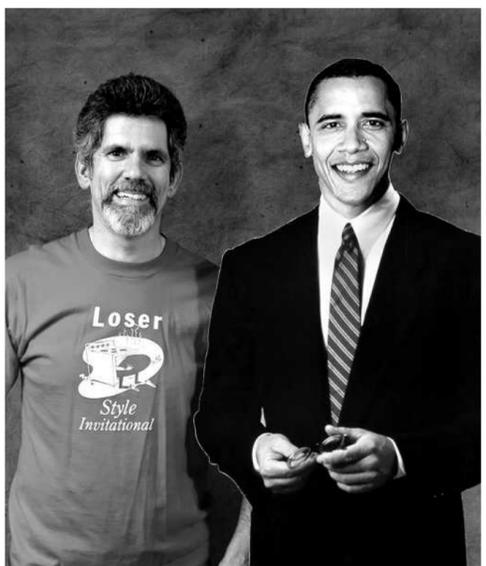
One of the most enduring (a.k.a. really easy to create) Style Invitational contests has been the one in which the Czar or Empress offers a list of random nouns and asks readers to explain how any two of the items are alike or different. Over the years, some of the winning comparisons seemed so fitting that we've been accused of constructing the list with those results in mind.

But nobody could accuse the Empress of being *this* well organized: **This week: Each of the above 17 items appeared in a different Style Invitational compare/contrast contest from 1996 to 2014. Explain how any two of them are alike or different or otherwise linked**, as in the examples above.

Winner gets the Inkin' Memorial, the Lincoln statue bobblehead that is the official Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives an eerily realistic life-size cardboard cutout photo of President Obama, donated by 12-time Loser Dean Evangelista. The cutout folds up, so we can mail it, but the winner will still have to wait till after May 30, because the Loser Community is absolutely going to use this as a prop during the Flushies, the Losers' annual awards lunch.

Other runners-up win their choice of a yearned-for Loser Mug or the ardently desired "Whole Fools" Grossery Bag. Honorable mentions get a lusted-after Loser magnet designed by Bob Staake: either "The Wit Hit the Fan" or "Hardly Har-Har." First Offenders receive a smelly tree-shaped air "freshener" (FitStink for their first ink). E-mail entries to losers@washpost.com or, if you were born in the 19th century, fax to 202-334-4312. Deadline is Monday night, April 27; results published May 17 (online May 14). You may submit up to 25 entries per contest. Include "Week 1120" in your e-mail subject line or it might be ignored as spam. Include your real name, postal address and phone number with your entry. See contest rules and guidelines at wapo.st/InvRules. The headline for this week's results is by Tom Witte; the honorable-mentions subhead is by Chris Doyle. Join the lively Style Invitational Devotees group on Facebook at on.fb.me/invdev. "Like" the Style Invitational Ink of the Day on Facebook at bit.ly/inkofday.

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.



SELFIE BY DEAN EVANGELISTA

One of these men will go home with you if you win second prize. And it's not Dean Evangelista of Rockville.

From "Charleston": **HaSnort**: Snooty reaction of a South Carolinian touring the West Virginia capital. (Dave Komornik)

From "Abu Dhabi": **Dubbiah**: Well-known provider of air bases. (Jack McBroom, Fort Valley, Va.)

From "Georgetown": **GoreWon**: Old bumper sticker still seen on Volvos in D.C. neighborhoods. (George-Ann Rosenberg)

From "Phoenix": **Nixhope**: Welcome center for undocumented immigrants. (Ellen Raphaeli, Falls Church)

From "Cartagena, Colombia": **Cab, gal, erotomania**: Only one of these is an authorized Secret

Service travel expense. (Chris Doyle, Ponder, Tex.)

From "Washington": **WagNosh**: A Style Invitational Loser brunch. (John O'Byrne, Dublin, who's attended at least two while visiting the States)

From "Mississippi": **MissPissi**: Deep South term for a cranky store clerk. (Dan Steinbrocker, Los Angeles)

From "Ponder, Texas": **Dope sex rant**: Why my neighbors avoid me. (Chris Doyle, Ponder, Tex.)

Still running – deadline Monday night, April 20: Our contest to name and describe new colors. See bit.ly/invite1119.

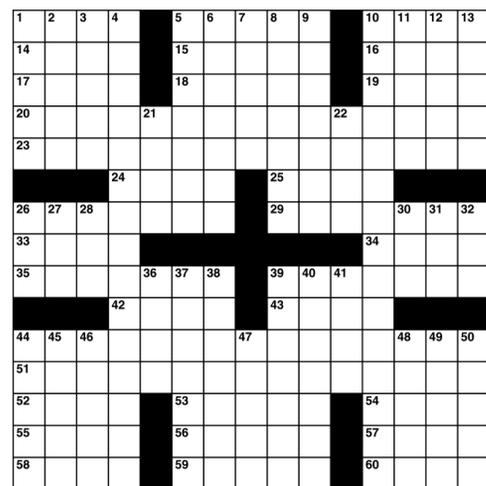
SUNDAY CHALLENGE

BY BRUCE VENZKE

© 2015 CROSSYNERGY SYNDICATE LLC

- ACROSS**
- Clay-rich soil
 - Raises
 - Receipts
 - Look for one among the reeds
 - Drive forward
 - Ancient region near Moab
 - Space Age drink?
 - Pop hit
 - Federal mediation agcy.
 - Exhibits an accommodating nature
 - Having a condescending attitude
 - 1940s film critic
 - Saint Petersburg's river
 - French-style roof
- DOWN**
- Ocean voyager's destination
 - Dollar alternative
 - Statesman Barak "Nashville"
 - Airport waiter?
 - Artificial tooth
 - Explorer
 - Hernando de _____
 - Put together
 - Vicious action
 - Wolf-cryer's questionable claim
 - Expansion
 - Monetary penalties
 - Country-western singer McEntire
 - Cannes contraction
 - Wolfish looks
 - Adherents (suffix)
 - Praiseful works
 - Competitor of Coco
 - Source _____

- DOWN**
- Theme
 - Disparage
 - Actress Blakley of "Nashville"
 - Attorney's helpers
 - Maturation agent
 - Came out of a bear's den, say
 - Dates with dentists, e.g. (abbr.)
 - Ring out
 - Mule, e.g.
 - Conglomerate with an "ecomagination" program
 - Rival of Dwight
 - Body part
 - Glowing bit
 - Prefix meaning "one billion"
 - Legally impose
 - Welcome spot
 - Gregory's
 - "On the Beach" co-star
 - Squelch
 - Cry of discovery
 - Sister Bertrille, e.g.
 - Outlawed spray
 - McCarthy-era attorney Roy
 - Somewhat
 - Baby shower gift, perhaps
 - "It's a date!"
 - Contemporary of Picasso
 - Smartphone ancestors (abbr.)
 - Pancho's TV Western sidekick
 - Called strikes, for short
 - Do some do work
 - Where many tennis winners are hit
 - Associate with
 - Surround tightly (var.)
 - Bring to a close



CROSSYNERGY

Answer to last week



HOROSCOPE

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY | APRIL 19: This year you express your talents and innate sixth sense. You might want to curb a need to spend so much. Try to assess your need to possess not just things but sometimes people as well. If you are single, you'll attract others through your self-expression. Romance heads your way. If you are attached, every so often you pull back because you feel insecure. You'll want to work on communicating more effectively. A major purchase is likely, one that may benefit your bond.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
Spend some time reflecting before making a decision. Your thoughts and desires might be different once you are relaxed. Use your instincts with your finances.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
Others can't seem to stay away from you. Spend more time with a friend. You may be unusually energetic, which might annoy one of your lazier pals. A loved one is likely to express his or her affection through a delightful gesture.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
You might want to make this a lazy day. You may be so busy that you won't realize the strain of the hectic pace. Touch base with a dear friend.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
You will discover how quickly someone responds to you once you reach out to him or her. You

might commit to plans with this person before you know it, even if you live thousands of miles apart.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
Stand up for what you want. A loved one might become much more open. Seize this moment to become more closely connected.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Keep reaching out to a respected friend at a distance. You'll get past a problem as a result of a conversation. Tonight, follow the music.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
One-on-one relating will give you new perspective on a recent issue. Be willing to make an extra effort in a difficult situation. As a result, you'll witness someone's true feelings emerge. Together you can handle a problem.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
Defer to a loved one. You might not

realize how bossy you can be. Be sure to step back and allow others to show their stuff. A friend wants more time with you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
Ask yourself why you are so resistant to someone's inquiries. You know this person cares and wants to help. Making an effort to open up might make a big difference in the outcome. Be aware of your spending.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
Once you get rid of the need to control, you may see your childlike side emerge. When you stop manipulating situations and people, others will come in closer.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
You may see a personal matter differently once you have a conversation with a family member. A loved one might go out of his or her way to make you happy. Enjoy!

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
Communication flourishes, especially with a close relative or neighbor. You may hear so much gossip that you might not be sure exactly what is true. Nevertheless, you are likely to be amused.

© 2015 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

Intervening when parents bully kids

Dear Readers: I've stepped away from my column for a few days. Please enjoy these "Best Of" columns in my absence.

Ask Amy

AMY DICKINSON

Dear Amy: When I was a child, my mother would lose her temper and yell at me in

public. At home she threw things and hit me with different objects. She was also an affectionate and enthusiastically involved parent.

She was college-educated, attended church regularly, did not drink, and we lived in a solid, middle-class community. Life was a roller coaster.

I know many strangers witnessed my mother's behavior. I don't recall one person ever stepping in to help me. Once I was an adult, neighbors and friends told me that they were aware of what was happening but didn't think it was their place to intervene.

As a young woman, I found myself in a very dangerous situation, and it never occurred to me to ask someone for help. The impact of that changed my life forever.

I am now a mother myself. I have experienced the embarrassment of my children throwing tantrums in public. Once a stranger crossed the street

and offered to help. He offered the help directly to my daughter. I did not take offense. He was doing the right thing.

I guess I'm trying to say that it is important to do something. Trust me, one simple act can make all the difference for years to come.

Speak Up for Children

Thank you so much for your eloquent testimony. When people intervene thoughtfully, they are not just giving a parent notice, but they are also demonstrating an important value to the children involved.

Dear Amy: I once had a dad in a parking lot scream at me, "What are you looking at?" when I tried to stop him from screaming at his child by staring at him with a shocked look on my face. Once, when I thought that a woman was about to hit her daughter, I went up to the mom and said quietly, so only she could hear, "You're all she has." It stopped her cold. I've used it as my own mantra when I was losing my temper.

Wow. Now it's my mantra. Thank you.

Dear Amy: Some parents are

bullies, whether or not they realize it. And imagine being completely dependent for your food, shelter and safety on someone who bullies, berates and humiliates you.

I don't have to imagine it. I lived it.

How, as a boy, I wished someone would have intervened. Of course, whenever anyone did challenge my mother, she immediately painted them as "stupid" or "crazy." Maybe if enough people who recognize inappropriate parental behavior speak up directly, it would finally become socially unacceptable to treat a child this way.

Survivor

I hope that the people who tried to intervene with your mother made an impression on you. It can be nearly impossible to know what to do in these situations, but I'd be willing to be called "crazy" if that's what it took to get a parent's attention. (February 2005)

Amy's column appears seven days a week at www.washingtonpost.com/advice. Write to Amy Dickinson at askamy@tribpub.com or Ask Amy, Chicago Tribune, TT500, 435 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60611.

EB

© 2015 by the Chicago Tribune