

## DIVERSIONS

### THE STYLE INVITATIONAL

## Your hint parade: The crossword clues of Week 1157

BY PAT MYERS

In **Week 1157**, we presented a filled-in crossword by The Post's new Sunday crossword guy, Evan Birnholz, and invited you to come up with joke clues for the words. You have to think flexibly to get some of these: for example, many readers suggested that **STAB** was the **patron saint of sit-ups**, and that **NETSALES** concerned the **beer selection at Brooklyn NBA games**. See Evan's favorite entries, plus explanations of tricky clues, in this week's Style Conversational at [bit.ly/conv1161](http://bit.ly/conv1161).

#### 4th place

**BAR:** Both lawyers and drunkards need to pass this (Rob Huffman, Fredericksburg, Va.)

#### 3rd place

**BEAT:** Follows "A: Get up" on a forgetful person's to-do list (Frank Osen, Pasadena, Calif.)

#### 2nd place and the solar-powered Buddha:

**FARMS:** Rejected terser, saltier title of Hemingway's novel (hyphenated) (Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.)

#### And the winner of the Ink in' Memorial

**LIE:** Dead politicians continue to do this in their graves (Jeff Contompasis, Ashburn, Va.)

#### Fail in the blanks: honorable mentions

**ABBA+MUSH:** Two-word review of "Fernando" (William Kennard, Arlington)

**MUSH:** Goo, or Go! (Jack McBroom, Fort Valley, Va.)

**RELAY:** When you truly can't eat just one (Barry Koch, Catlett, Va.)

**REAR:** Both Kim Kardashian and her fame rest on this (Kirsten Rahman, Silver Spring)

**REAR:** Talk like a pirate again (Danielle Nowlin, Fairfax Station)

**ONTO:** He rides with the One Ranger (Selma Ellis, Rolling Meadows, Ill.)

**KINDERGARTENCOP:** At nap time, who gets called when a child is resisting a rest (Barry Herman, Laurel, Md., a First Offender)

**FRILLS:** These days, legroom AND six mini-pretzels (Lena Webb, Somerville, Mass., a First Offender)

**LOBE:** Stud's hangout (Donald Ramsey, Takoma Park, Md., a First Offender)

**LOBE:** Without it, you're earring-impaired (Chris Doyle, Ponder, Tex.)

**FARMS:** A long-distance girlfriend (Chris Damm, Charles Town, W.Va.)

**EKE:** The middle of a weekend (Kevin Dopart, Washington)

**OMIT:** Nike's new yoga-wear slogan: Just \_\_\_ \_\_\_ (Ben Aronin, Washington)

**NETSALES:** Dumb way for the Flying Wallendas to make a little money (Bill Lieberman, Ellicott City)

**PLESSY:** Full of pless (Brendan Beary, Great Mills, Md.)

**PLESSY:** X + Y = P. Solve for X. (Todd DeLap, Fairfax)

**WEIRDO:** Yankovic's blood type (Frank Osen)

**WEIRDO:** That slashy letter that the Danish use (Paul Burnham, Gainesville, Va.)

**TYRIONLANNISTER:** Like life: nasty, brutish and short (Jeff Loren, Seattle)

**AINT:** What's left when paint starts peeling. (Mae Scanlan, Washington)

**BERG:** What Dan Snyder told Kirk Cousins not to do. (Mark Richardson, Takoma Park)

**ESSEX:** The most contorted position in the Kama Sutra (Peter Boice, Rockville)

**SIDING:** Contributing something to Thanksgiving dinner (Kevin Dopart)

**SIDING:** In Barcelona, the answer to "Does that bell make a sound?" (Jeff Shirley, Richmond)

**EYESORE:** Sty or stye (Lena Webb)

**ROBS:** What there's too many of as soon as Schneider shows up in a movie (Steve Honley, Washington)

**COLDSNAP:** "See, there's no global warming..." (Jon Gearhart, Des Moines)

**ARGUE:** What pirates say in a cussing match (Jon Gearhart)

**SIRE:** Fourth choice at a sperm bank (Andrew Hoenig, Rockville)



BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

## New contest for Week 1161: Give us four Pinocchios

**Stephen Douglas used the line "I know you are but what am I?" four times in his debate with Lincoln.** (Jay Shuck)

**Hillary Clinton has amassed a huge campaign war chest from monies freed from the accounts of Mrs. Sese Seko merely by paying administrative fees of only a few thousands of dollars US.** (Jeff Contompasis)

**Joe Biden once held his breath for 12 seconds.** (Ira Allen)

Nine years ago, we combined two of our favorite contest genres in **Week 739**: (a) zings at politicians and (b) lies, usually in the form of bogus trivia. Since then, the candidates themselves have taken lying to a new level, not even bothering to fudge facts when they can just make up total wha??? untruths and proclaim them with confidence. So *we're* not going to feel bad about **this week's contest: Tell us some false "facts" about politicians, present or past.** You can see the results of our first contest at [bit.ly/invite743](http://bit.ly/invite743) or in the *Empress's Style Conversational* column ([bit.ly/conv1161](http://bit.ly/conv1161)).

Though we'll be rewarding a lie, the winner still gets the Ink in' Memorial, the Honest Abe statue bobblehead that is the official Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives the brand-new Trump Coloring Book, in which artist M.G. Anthony depicts the potential president of the United States as an addition to Mount Rushmore, the face on a \$1 million bill, and all four street-crossers on the "Abbey Road" cover. Donated to the Invite campaign chest by Denise Sudell.

**Other runners-up** win their choice of a yearned-for Loser Mug, the older-model "This Is Your Brain on Mugs" mug or a vintage Loser T-shirt in various styles. Honorable mentions get one of lusted-after Loser magnets, "Magnet Dum Laude" or "Falling Jest Short." First Offenders receive a smelly tree-shaped air "freshener" (FirStink for their first ink). Email entries to [losers@washpost.com](mailto:losers@washpost.com) or, if you were born in the 19th century, fax to 202-334-4312. Deadline is Monday night, Feb. 15; results published March 6 (online March 3). You may submit up to 25 entries per contest. Include "Week 1161" in your email 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](http://wapo.st/InvRules). The headline for this week's results is by Kevin Dopart; the honorable-mentions subhead is by Tom Witte. Join the lively Style Invitational Devotees group on Facebook at [on.fb.me/invdev](http://on.fb.me/invdev). "Like" the Style Invitational Ink of the Day on Facebook at [bit.ly/inkofday](http://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](http://wapo.st/styleconv).

**With just the right quality of untruth, this yuge book from Post Hill Press can be yours.**

**ARTFORMS:** Creative tax returns (Tom Murphy, Bowie)

**ARTFORMS:** Greenwich Village version of "[stuff] happens" (David Garratt, Silver City, N.M.)

**PORN:** Field of employment where openings appear often but are quickly filled (Mark Raffman, Reston)

**ERIES:** Drunken Clevelanders might see two or three of these (Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.)

**UNCLEREMUS:** Remove the cleremus (Warren Tanabe, Annapolis)

**STOLEAKISS:** Item on an expensive call girl's price list (Ward Kay, Vienna, Va.)

**TETE:** It was on the cutting edge in 1789 (Beverly Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.)

**Still running — deadline Monday night, Feb. 8: our contest to redefine an existing word. See [bit.ly/invite1160](http://bit.ly/invite1160).**



GRID BY EVAN BIRNHOZ AT DEVILCROSS.COM

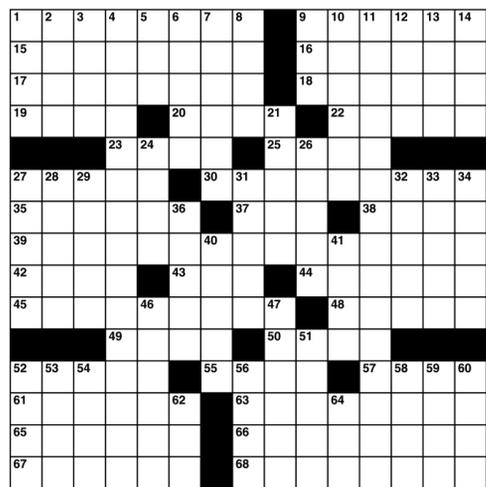
See [devilcross.com/2014/03](http://devilcross.com/2014/03) for Evan Birnholz's actual clues for this grid.

### SUNDAY CHALLENGE

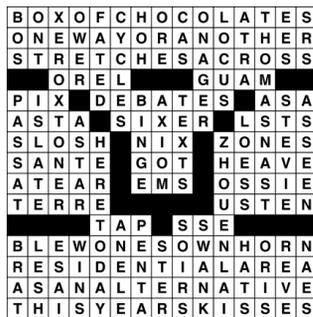
BY DONNA S. LEVIN © 2016 CROSSYENERGY SYNDICATE LLC

- ACROSS**
- 1 Domestic manufacturer's concern
  - 9 Conditional construct
  - 15 Scourge of the ozone layer
  - 16 Falafel condiment
  - 17 Characteristic of a plodding plot
  - 18 Squash, in a way
  - 19 Brit's fizz
  - 20 Discretion
  - 22 Rope on the range
  - 23 Nonverbal "Yipes!"
  - 25 "Understood, daddy-o"
  - 27 "American Top 40" host Casey
  - 30 Great Lakes walleye
  - 35 Pulsating
  - 37 Manchester United's zero
  - 38 Iolani Palace island
  - 39 Lump of coal, if one is naughty
  - 42 Small syringe?
  - 43 Vintage auto
- DOWN**
- 1 Politburo propagandist
  - 2 Move, in a real estate ad
  - 3 Certain pin-striped infielder, to his fans

- 4 Title for Maggie Smith's "Downton Abbey" character
- 5 Gift tested with Zener cards, briefly
- 6 Butts and butters
- 7 Joe Bittspik's creator
- 8 Teeny-tiny time unit (abbr.)
- 9 Contraction often confused with a possessive adjective
- 10 It makes for a bad kisser in more than one way
- 11 2015 Blake Lively fantasy
- 12 Fruit of the rose
- 13 Grandson of Adam
- 14 Justice Scalia, to his buddies
- 21 Many "Survivor" immunity idols
- 24 Chaotic way to run
- 26 Greek triangle
- 27 Brand with the slogan "Go Far with GOLEAN"
- 28 Bar habitues (abbr.)
- 29 Engages in some retail therapy
- 31 Gold brick
- 32 Canadian maestro of children's song
- 33 Stray
- 34 Pains
- 36 Boobies, e.g.
- 40 "Cool!"
- 41 River emptying into the Caspian
- 46 Guts
- 47 Richardson who was a key character in the Saturday Night Massacre
- 51 Large vessel
- 52 Venom injector
- 53 Enterprise with a King David Lounge for its elite patrons
- 54 Pond scum
- 56 Poultry seasoning
- 58 Howard Wolowitz on "The Big Bang Theory," by training (abbr.)
- 59 Used to be
- 60 Prohibitionists
- 62 Pig's digs
- 64 Time delay



Answer to last week



### HOROSCOPE

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY | FEB. 7:** This year you get past a lot of problems because of your flexibility and intuition. You know when it's appropriate to have a fight and when to stand up for yourself. No one will want to take you on when you decide you've had enough. You often will be in the limelight. If you are single, you will meet someone who knocks your socks off. Be sure that the person you choose is 100 percent right for you. If you are attached, the two of you have a great time with each other. Avoid getting into power plays and right-or-wrong situations. Aquarius can trigger your ego.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) Frustration easily could lead to solutions if you're willing to share what's going on with you. Friends surround you; what becomes possible as a result could be very exciting. Understand what needs to happen to make someone feel comfortable with you.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) You could be compensating for someone else's problems. At what point are you willing to stop and let this person deal with his or her own issues? You will be a lot happier once he or she accepts responsibility. Become more of an observer.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) Reach out to a distant friend whom you rarely talk to; both of you will enjoy the conversation. You have a lot of news to catch up on. You may be tempted to share a secret. Do you want this information to be public knowledge?

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) One-on-one relating takes you down a new path with a loved one. You could feel as if this person has what you lack. The

question remains: Do you really believe that this is true? You may not be able to persuade the other party otherwise.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) You are no stranger to popularity. Remember, you have the power of choice. Use it. Choose where you want to be and with whom. Recognize that if you say no for much longer to one person, he or she may not be in your life for much longer.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You always can say no to an invitation that feels awkward or unappealing. In fact, that may be the best course of action. You have something on the back burner that you have been wanting to complete. Do whatever it is you want.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) You could feel awkward around a loved one. How much are you responsible for creating this situation? You often don't think about this person's feelings; you just take off and do what you want. The ramifications will be quite powerful if you're not careful.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Decide what would be best to do under the present circumstances. A family member could become very demanding. You may not want to be responsible for indulging this person's needs and desires. Know when to say that you've had enough.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) You may express anger that you didn't even realize you had. As a result, you may need to clear the air. Once you do, you will discover that there are many alternatives around you. Make the most of possibilities that you want to pursue.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Understand the possibilities surrounding a situation. You often opt for the material, concrete solution that appeals to the logical side of your personality. Make a point of being a bit more abstract today. Goodwill surrounds caring.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) You will begin the day feeling different from how you have in quite a while. Be prepared to get into a tiff if you feel strongly about a situation. Be willing to stand up for yourself when dealing with an angry person. Your personality melts resistance.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20) Everyone needs to disappear from time to time, and you are no exception. Take some much-needed time off today and do your thing. Do not assume that you must be alone. Instead, realize that you can choose to have lots of company if you so choose.

## Can they skip this milestone birthday?

### Ask Amy

AMY DICKINSON

**Dear Amy:** My in-laws are hosting a birthday party for my husband's grandfather. He is turning 90. The party is 200 miles away. My husband and I both work full time and have two young children, one with multiple life-threatening food allergies. We were told to "pack food for her." No plans were offered to accommodate her.

We often do not attend events where she cannot eat safely. In addition, we do not have anywhere to stay overnight after the party — 400 miles is too much driving in one day for our kids. Other family members knew about the party before us and made plans to stay with the people who live nearby. Hotels are challenging for us because of the inability to prepare food for our daughter. Bigger spaces

with kitchens are expensive. Leaving our kids at home is not an option. We certainly do not feel very welcome, but we do not want to be rude, either! We do see his grandfather at other times during the year. Are we obligated to attend the party?

*Upset*

**Upset:** Are you obligated to attend your children's great-grandfather's 90th birthday party?

Yes, you are. The fact that you don't intend to fulfill this obligation doesn't make it less of one.

You obviously have extreme challenges concerning your daughter's food allergies. You cannot take her anywhere where her health will be seriously compromised. Taking her sounds like an exhausting minefield for your family. And yet — you've offered up so many reasons why you can't go

to this party that it seems quite honestly that you simply don't want to go.

You have received an invitation to this special party, yet you say that you "do not feel very welcome." I'm not sure what — other than the invitation itself — you require.

As her parents, you and your husband have the responsibility of communicating with people about what you and she need — and then you should follow through and make sure you have backup plans in case people don't comply.

It sounds as if you should stay home that day and encourage your husband to go solo (or perhaps with one of your children).

Write to Amy Dickinson at [askamy@tribune.com](mailto:askamy@tribune.com) or Ask Amy, Chicago Tribune, TT500, 435 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60611.

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