

## DIVERSIONS

## THE STYLE INVITATIONAL

## A super PAC of lies: Fake poli-trivia from Week 1161

BY PAT MYERS

In **Week 1161** we asked for bogus "facts" about politicians. This season, the following list might be the only bigger collection of lies than a debate transcript.

## 4th place

More a fan of football than baseball, **President Truman** annually attended Redskins' home openers to throw out the first interception. (Brendan Beary, Great Mills, Md.)

## 3rd place

**Bernie Sanders's** high school debate coach was slightly hard of hearing. (Danielle Nowlin, Fairfax Station, Va.)

## 2nd place and "The Trump Coloring Book":

**Marco Rubio** takes frequent water breaks to cool his CPU. (Dave Silberstein, College Park, Md.)

## And the winner of the Inkin' Memorial

To add some levity to his second inauguration, **President Clinton** added "in bed" under his breath to the phrases he repeated taking the oath of office. (Jeff Shirley, Richmond)

## What lies beneath! honorable mentions

When young **Hillary Rodham** passed secret notes to friends in class, she kept copies in an open jar on her desk. (Gary Crockett, Chevy Chase, Md.)

"**Caucus**" is a Latin term for "small gathering of white people." (Warren Tanabe, Annapolis)

Although George H.W. Bush did not know it at the time, **Willie Horton** was a registered Republican. (Mark Raffman, Reston, Va.)

**Bernie Sanders** decided to run for president after discovering that an anagram of "Hillary Clinton" is "I'll cry a lot in NH." (Jesse Frankovich, Lansing, Mich.)

Before inventing hip-hop, **Alexander Hamilton** played both calypso and reggae music as a youth in the Caribbean. (Dave Letizia, Alexandria)

**Ben Carson** actually can perform brain surgery in his sleep. (Rob Cohen, Potomac, Md.)

**Calvin Coolidge** did not take the oath of office at his inauguration in 1925; instead, he had the Chief Justice read it in full, then replied, "What he said." (Brendan Beary)

Cletus P. Harvey, father of Steve Harvey, was the Chicago Tribune Linotype operator who printed the "**Dewey Defeats Truman**" front page in 1948. (Roy Ashley, Washington)

Despite a subpar Super Bowl, write-in votes lifted Cam Newton to a third-place finish in the **South Carolina primary**. (Barry Koch, Catlett, Va.)

**Donald Trump** moonlights as a male protestant. (Jack McBroom, Fort Valley, Va.)

Feeling that the game was rigged, young **Bernie Sanders** tried to get each of the three-card monte players in Brooklyn broken up into three one-card monte players. (Gary Crockett)

**Carly Fiorina's** claim to have been class valedictorian is true; however, she was home-schooled. (Neal Starkman, Seattle)

**Ben Carson's** childhood home is a converted grain silo. (Mike Gips, Bethesda)

**Bill Clinton** once had sex with Hillary Clinton in the White House. (Rob Huffman, Fredericksburg, Va.)

Following **Ted Cruz's** reading of Dr. Seuss on the Senate floor, **Donald Trump** tweeted: "I'm going to ban the Star-Belly Sneetches." (Todd DeLap, Fairfax)

**John Ellis Bush's** nickname as a kid was "I" (Ward Kay, Vienna)

**John Nance Garner's** famous quote about the vice presidency "not being worth a bucket of warm spit" was inspired by an inaugural gift from his brother-in-law. (Jamie Martindale, McLean)

On quiet nights in the White House, **FDR** loved to put baseball cards in the spokes of his wheelchair and have an aide push him through the halls at full speed. (Brendan Beary)

**Rahm Emanuel** gargles with soap every morning, but it doesn't help. (Mark Raffman)

To distance himself from the



BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

## New contest for Week 1165: B all you can B

**Sousaphobe: "Ides, nothing – just beware anything with a march."**

**Bransportation: the process of creating effective movements.**

**Seismolobby: A PAC for all the serious movers and shakers.**

With his three blots of Style Invitational ink in this week's results, Brendan Beary of Great Mills, Md., splashes past the 1,000-ink mark into that exclusive off-the-deep-end pool that includes just four other Losers in our 23-year history.

Brendan, a 54-year-old civilian "deputy something-or-other" at the Pax River naval base in Southern Maryland, started entering the Invite back in 1996, getting a blot of ink here and there like a normalish person for several years, until he zoomed from eight inks in Year 10 to 113 in Year 11. Brendan went on to score the most ink ever in a single year — a ridiculous 179 blots in 2005-06 — before dialing it back to something a bit closer to sanity, but continuing to make regular appearances in the Losers' Circle every year, racking up 36 wins and 98 runners-up, including this week's fourth place.

As Brendan joins Russell Beland, Chris Doyle, Tom Witte and Kevin Dopart in the Double Hall of Fame, he's opted to accept the Empress's "award" she's offered to these milestones: to serve as a guest judge for a week, and to choose the contest he'll be judging. We assumed that Brendan, a published poet and an ink-snarfer in umpteen verse contests, would want to judge poems, but instead he chose a neologism contest modeled on the K-themed one that Kevin judged in 2014: **Change a word, phrase or name by adding one or more B's, and/or by replacing one or more letters with B's, and define your new term**, as in Brendan's examples above. The E will send Mr. B a list of all the week's entries minus any identifying or personal information; he won't know whose work he chose until we publish it here.

Winner gets the Inkin' Memorial, the Lincoln statue bobblehead that is the official Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives the latest in Loser Barbara Turner's creations made from old Loser T-shirts. In past years she made two dresses; this year Barbara's stitched together several Invite shirts with others to make a great length of multicolored fabric you wrap around yourself — it's called the Sorry. THE thing to wear to the Losers' Flushies awards May 21.

**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. Honorable mentions get one of our 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. Deadline is Monday night, March 14; results published April 3 (online March 31). You may submit up to 25 entries per contest. Include "Week 1165" 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. The headline for this week's results was submitted by Chris Doyle, Danielle Nowlin and Tom Witte; the honorable-mentions subhead is by Beverley Sharp. 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; follow @StyleInvite on Twitter.

**THE STYLE CONVERSATIONAL** The Empress's weekly online column discusses each new contest and set of results; this week the E will offer some of Brendan Beary's Greatest Hits among his 1,000 inks. Especially if you plan to enter Week 1165, check it out at wapo.st/styleconv.

Russians, **Richard Nixon** changed his dog's name from Chess to Checkers. (Edward Gordon, Austin)

Though he doesn't cultivate an image of an intellectual, **Donald Trump** has a vocabulary of nearly 800 words. (Larry McClemons, Annandale)

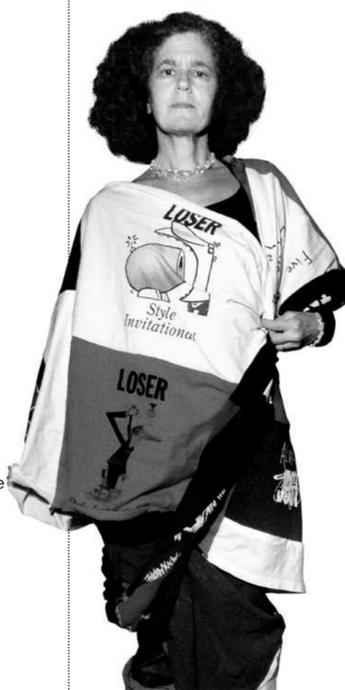
Showing fiscal restraint, **Ben Carson** proposed building a wall only around New Mexico. (Kevin Dopart, Washington)

President **James Garfield** had a morbid fear of cats. (Jerry Birchmore, Springfield, Va.)

**Sarah Palin** once gave an off-the-cuff response in the form of a complete sentence containing three relevant subordinate clauses. (Jeff Contompasis, Ashburn, Va.)

More honorable mentions in the online Invite at bit.ly/invite1165.

**Still running — deadline Monday night, March 7: Our contest for "Wait Wait... Don't Tell Me"-style trivia questions. See bit.ly/invite1164.**



MARK HOLT

**Wrap yourself in Loserific glory with the custom-made Sorry, this week's second prize.**

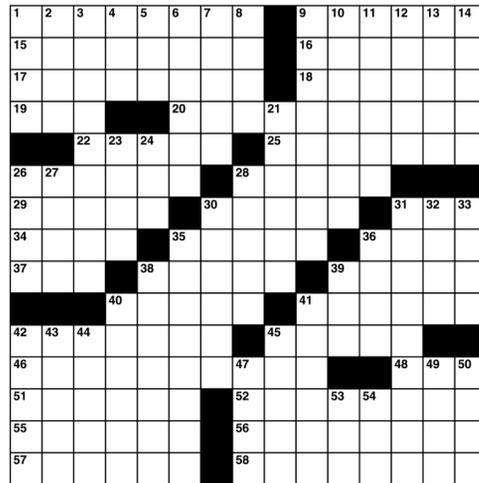
## SUNDAY CHALLENGE

BY TONY ORBACH © 2016 CROSSYENERGY SYNDICATE LLC

|   |   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| <b>ACROSS</b>                             | <b>38</b> Cole Porter's "You Don't Know ___"                | <b>3</b> Station call                   | <b>28</b> Certain succulents  | <b>41</b> "Anchorman" dog whose name references Ted Knight's "The Mary Tyler Moore Show" character |
| <b>1</b> Wyoming tribe members            | <b>39</b> Anglican bishop's headgear                        | <b>4</b> Not sing.                      | <b>30</b> Outer part  | <b>42</b> Egypt's Gamal _____  |
| <b>9</b> Judicial inquest                 | <b>40</b> Bygone Vegas landmark that featured the Copa Room | <b>5</b> Ignoramus                      | <b>31</b> Perfected pitch?  | <b>43</b> Heavenly prefix  |
| <b>15</b> Target's canine mascot          | <b>41</b> Highly prized ornamental pieces                   | <b>6</b> Caper film fodder              | <b>32</b> South American country whose name means "turkey" in Portuguese      | <b>44</b> Gives  |
| <b>16</b> Musk company                    | <b>42</b> Lille inn   | <b>7</b> "Sheesh!"                      | <b>33</b> Theater suffix  | <b>45</b> Skater Harding   |
| <b>17</b> Chimerical                      | <b>43</b> Implied   | <b>8</b> Observed                       | <b>35</b> Digressions   | <b>47</b> Dig  |
| <b>18</b> Actress Taylor of "Bones"       | <b>44</b> Place for dedicated lines?                        | <b>9</b> Flabbergast                    | <b>36</b> Suva is its capital   | <b>49</b> "Smooth Operator" singer   |
| <b>19</b> Something to take in the parlor | <b>45</b> Seat, slangily                                    | <b>10</b> "I'll take your word for it!" | <b>38</b> Sport featuring improvisational movement through an obstacle course | <b>50</b> Oil company that makes a new model toy truck each Christmas season                       |
| <b>20</b> High formal?                    | <b>46</b> Prime rib request                                 | <b>11</b> Reused song snippet           | <b>39</b> Dropped thing in a freestyle rap battle                             | <b>53</b> Computer key   |
| <b>22</b> Cuckoo                          | <b>47</b> Oikos yogurt maker                                | <b>12</b> Sympathetic words             | <b>40</b> Summoning event   | <b>54</b> New beginning?   |
| <b>25</b> Almost equal to, with "than"    | <b>48</b> Prominent features of the Teletubbies             | <b>13</b> Nonentities                   |   |  |
| <b>26</b> Male CIC's better half          | <b>49</b> Feed bag bits                                     | <b>14</b> Finals                        |   |  |
| <b>28</b> Something to turn on or stop on | <b>50</b> Sad sacks   | <b>21</b> Chemical salt                 |   |  |
| <b>29</b> Shore time                      | <b>51</b> Sad sacks   | <b>23</b> Quad bikes, for short         |   |  |
| <b>30</b> Nonchalant                      | <b>52</b> Checkout lines?                                   | <b>24</b> Cal. column                   |   |  |
| <b>31</b> Angry Birds Star Wars, e.g.     |   | <b>26</b> Dog                           |   |  |
| <b>34</b> Some hands, on deck             |   | <b>27</b> Sister of Rachel              |   |  |
| <b>35</b> Cog piece                       | <b>DOWN</b>   |   |   |  |
| <b>36</b> Sustenance source               | <b>1</b> Some   |   |   |  |
| <b>37</b> High degree                     | <b>2</b> Make a call  |   |   |  |

Answer to last week

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## HOROSCOPE

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY | March 6:** This year you often come across as being far more serious than you really are. People respond well to this side of you, but they might not be able to relate to the unpredictability and lightness of your personality once it emerges. If you are single, you easily could meet someone who becomes important to your life's history. Take your time deciding whom you want to be with. If you are attached, the two of you benefit from increasing the private time you have together as a couple. It might be difficult to make extra time, but it is imperative to the well-being of the relationship. Aquarius has a strong sense of what is good for you.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19)  
Join your friends after having a serious chat with someone at a distance. Do not let this conversation color your day. Your ability to let go has become greater over the past few years, and you should tap into it now. Use your instincts with a relative.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20)  
A loved one might be less than friendly. This person seems to be going through some personal issues, as you most likely are aware. You might opt to head into work or join a friend. Whatever your choices are, you will feel good.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)  
Reach out to a loved one who means a lot to you. Catching up on news is likely to make you feel more connected and cared about. You might be considering taking a mini-vacation to visit this person or to have him or her visit you.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)  
A partner will make an effort to please you. Be aware that he or she might sense that your energy

is off. Be willing to do the unexpected or try something very different. The result will be that you feel more energized and content.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)  
If you don't feel comfortable with what a friend shares, express your feelings. You might have to respond to an unexpected call. The person who calls could have an idea that delights you and is very unusual. You probably will decide to go for it.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)  
Pace yourself and get as much done as possible. You have been putting off a project for a while. Once you clear up what has been holding you back, you can make fun plans. To your relief, a loved one might reverse his or her stance.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)  
You will project your more serious side, which is good. A sense of wildness and wanting to be a teenager again emerges. A loved one could capture your interest with unusual suggestions. You don't need to say much — just go off and enjoy.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)  
Pressure builds at home. You might be making a judgment about what you need to do. Check it out and make sure you know where you're heading. You can postpone this "to do" if you would like to have a lighter, easier afternoon.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)  
You might be overly concerned about a situation around you. Instead of worrying, initiate a conversation to see what is happening. Perhaps an assumption is off. Get out of your immediate environment, even if it's just for a walk or to go to a favorite spot.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)  
Be aware of the costs of proceeding as you have been. You could be overly tired and withdrawn. In the state you are in, you might make a different decision than if you were feeling refreshed. Try to postpone any important purchases.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)  
When you are having a good time, putting on the brakes could be close to impossible. A friend might be a little too serious for your taste. Know that this person could have a lot going on. Be spontaneous and change plans if you want.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20)  
Take a personal day, and know that you might not need to spend it alone. A friend could be waiting for your call. You will need to slow the pace a bit and relax. You often run on such a high frequency that you are impossible to stop.

## Prayer for healing is presumptuous

## Ask Amy

AMY DICKINSON

Recently I was sitting outside a cafe, drinking a cup of coffee, when a man at a nearby table approached me and asked if he could pray for me. I shrugged and said okay. He then proceeded to grab my hand and asked Jesus to "heal" me. Then he continued to explain to me — at great length — all about how I could be "healed" if I "accepted Jesus into my heart."

I realize this man meant well, but I can't help finding his behavior a tad presumptuous.

First of all, my spirituality is very personal to me. I don't wave it around in public or shove it in other people's faces, and I don't like other people doing it to me. Second,

I've been disabled since birth, so I don't have any experience of what it is to be otherwise. I've never considered myself to be "sick."

I have a loving family, many good friends and a rewarding career. The conditions of my life are already fulfilling. The wheelchair is just transportation.

Is there any way I can say no to these kinds of approaches without coming across as rude? *Chairchick*

**Chairchick:** It is always challenging to respond well when you feel suddenly sideswiped by someone who is both presumptuous and kindly. But you are an individual, and you have the right to feel free within your space. He did ask if he could pray for you; if this happens in the future you can say, "No, thank you." Otherwise, I suggest a gentle interruption. This man

placed his hands on you, and so you could place a hand on his, make eye contact and say, "Excuse me, sir. I understand that you mean well, but I'm not sick or in need of healing. Please don't presume what I need because, obviously, I'm perfect just as I am."

**Dear Amy:** I want to applaud you for your evenhanded and compassionate responses to letters from and about LGBT people, reflected in recent questions to your column. *Thankful*

**Thankful:** My goal is to respond to all letters from all people in a way that reflects our shared humanity. Thank you.

Write to Amy Dickinson at askamy@tribune.com or Ask Amy, Chicago Tribune, TT500, 435 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60611.

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