

DIVERSIONS

THE STYLE INVITATIONAL

Wit on a shingle: The food puns of Week 1173

BY PAT MYERS

In Week 1173 we asked you to slightly change the name of a food or brand of food and describe the result. Lots of entries this week, but so many were past their sell-by date ("I Scream: Desserts for scary movies") or just plain undercooked ("Beerios: Cheerios with beer in them"). Fortunately, the Empress is an intrepid shopper and came home with a nice basket of these.

4th place

S'moron: A chocolate graham cracker sandwiched between two toasted marshmallows. (Chris Doyle, Denton, Tex.)

3rd place

Crap'n' Crunch: The Breakfast of Multitaskers. (Dave Matuskey, Sacramento, Calif.)

2nd place and the can of silkworms and the jar of sour grapes:

Lawnuts: Extract from shell at own risk. Must be 18 to use oven. We are not responsible for burns or allergies. By baking with this product, you waive your right to a jury trial. (Amanda Yanovitch, Midlothian, Va.)

And the winner of the Inkin' Memorial

Phlegm in meringue pie: What you get when you're nasty to your waitress. (Jon Gearhart, Des Moines)

It's just nacho day: honorable mentions

Chili con 'kay, so? Bland Mexican food. (Christopher Lamora, Arlington)

More neigh sauce: We can't tell you the secret ingredient . . . (Beverly Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.)

Oyster spew: Served in months without an R (Jeff Shirley, Richmond)

Trollhouse cookies: INEDIBLE GARBAGE made by COMPLETE IDIOTS for WORTHLESS LOSERS!! (Frank Osen, Pasadena, Calif.)

Honey-glazed pasties: Favorite treat at the Secret Service party. (William Kennard, Arlington)

FriToes: Corns chips. (Mike Ostapiej, Mount Pleasant, S.C.)

Flay of sole: An old Gitmo favorite, made with enhanced preparation techniques. (Gary Crockett, Chevy Chase, Md.)

Pop Secrete: It's self-buttering! (Dave Prevar, Annapolis)

Collie flour: What hot dog buns are made from. (Tom Witte, Montgomery Village, Md.)

Berned toast: Hillary's first choice for breakfast (Caroline Warfel, Exton, Pa., a First Offender)

Egg McNuthin': Scrambled egg whites, veggie sausage and soy cheese on a gluten-free bun. (Ed Sobansky, Bowie, Md., a First Offender)

Couch potato salad: A cookie crumb/ crushed-chip/ popcorn kernel blend vacuumed from under the sofa cushions. (Danielle Nowlin, Fairfax Station, Va.)

Colonel B. Sanders Chicken: Not only will there be a free chicken in every pot, you'll also get a free pot. (Ivrs Kuskevics, Takoma Park, Md.)

WETAbix: Cracker that increases both sex drive and pledge drive. (Stephen Dudzik, Olney, Md.)

Crime of Wheat: Cereal you ate during Passover. (Mark Raffman, Reston, Va.)

Trumpkin Pie: With its vibrant orange color and assertiveness, it is very popular, though not quite as rich as it appears. (John Hutchins, Silver Spring)

Pasta PrimaBerra: It's 90 percent pasta and the other half is vegetables. (Tom Witte)

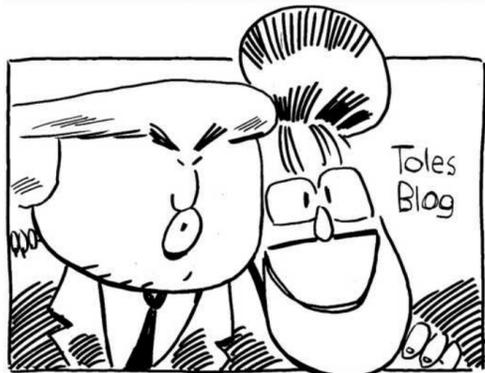
"Sesame" Chicken: Who knew Big Bird would be so tender and juicy? (Todd DeLap, Fairfax, Va.)

Peeking duck: It's not a good sign when your dinner casts a baleful eye at you. (Mae Scanlan, Washington)

Gop Tarts: Only one flavor is still available, and now it's subject to a manufacturer's recall. (Frank Mann, Washington)

Egg too yung: A fried chicken embryo. (Chris Doyle)

Still running — deadline Tuesday night, May 31: Our contest for funny lines in obituaries. See bit.ly/invite1176.



TOM TOLES/THE WASHINGTON POST

New contest for Week 1177: The ballad box:

Meet Donald, likely nominee, failing up from bankruptcy, But Sarah just carries his torch, has only seen countries she can see from her porch,

What a crazy pair!

But they're cousins, identical cousins all the way.

Self-regarding in matching mirrors, pro and protege.

Where Donald adores a marble lobby, and firing people is his hobby,

Our Sarah loves to fire a gun, or skin a bear just for fun,

What a wild duet!

Still they're cousins, identical cousins, and you'll find

They think alike, they quote alike, they even self-promote alike —

You can lose your mind

When opportunists . . . are two of a kind!

That nifty parody of the "Patty Duke Show" theme was not by one of our regular Loserbards, but by Tom Toles, The Post's Pulitzer Prize-winning editorial cartoonist. Tom posted it along with this cartoon on his blog, where 66-time Loser Dion Black saw it and showed the Empress, reminding her that we wouldn't want to miss out on the chance to sing about *this* election. **This week: Write a song related to this year's elections, set to a familiar tune.** In the online Invite I'll link to clips of the original songs (or to your own clips, if you submit them), but you're more likely to get ink in the print version if you use a very well known tune (and write short). **You get an extra week for this: Deadline is Monday night, June 13.** We did this contest for the 2008 election as well; see the fabulous results at bit.ly/invite789.

NEW: No more emailing entries! Instead, submit them at this website: subpl.at/INVITE1177. It's super-easy.

Winner gets the Inkin' Memorial, the Lincoln statue bobblehead that is the official Style Invitational trophy. Second place gets a Political Twin Pack: a Time-Life DVD of "Presidential Bloopers," including footage of Ford stumbling off Air Force One, Reagan dozing off in a news conference, and George H.W. Bush falling to his knees on a bowling lane; plus the Mixed-Up Politician "magnetic poetry" set — 200 little magnetic words and phrases like "a thousand points of light," "sexual relations" and "stops here." Donated by Nan Reiner.

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). Deadline is Monday night, June 6; results published June 26 (online June 23). You may submit up to 25 entries per contest. See contest rules and guidelines at wapo.st/InvRules. The headline for this week's results is by Roy Ashley; the honorable-mentions subhead is by Jon Gearhart. 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. Especially if you plan to enter, check it out at wapo.st/styleconv.

French flies:

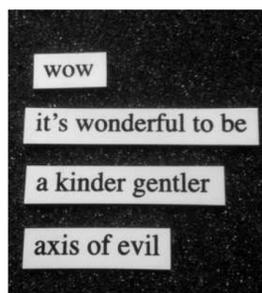
"First we swat 'em, then we pot 'em.

Salt their bodies, top to bottom. Crispy, tasty, nice and lean: French flies are your haute cuisine." (Neal Starkman, Seattle)

Spandexopita: Rich tarts served at big, big, fat, fat Greek weddings. (Phil Frankenfeld, Washington)

Feelawful: A giant platter of fried chickpeas with chickpea sauce on chickpea bread. (Edward Gordon, Austin)

McTheDonald's: New home of the whopper. (Kevin Dopart, Washington)



PAT MYERS/THE WASHINGTON POST

Accent your refrigerator's Loser Magnets with some mixed-up political platitudes.

Oysters Blockafella: Not reputed to be so much of an aphrodisiac. (Danielle Nowlin)

Mr./Ms. Peanut: May or may not include nuts. (Rob Cohen, Potomac, Md.)

Porn flakes: And you thought alphabet soup was fun! (Jack McCombs, Fairfax, Va.)

Kvetch of the day: The menu item that boasts zero satisfied customers. (Mark Briscoe, Alexandria)

Wander Bread: Manna. (Gary Crockett)

Rantatouille: Made with really steamed vegetables! (Frank Osen)

Scrimp cocktail: Imitation shellfish and ketchup. (Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.)

Chilean Seabiscuit: On a French menu, it's listed under "Fruits de Mare." (Christopher Lamora)

Buffalo wins: The recipe for this tailgating snack is so tricky, it is now enjoyed only on very rare occasions. (John Hutchins)

Pupu Splatter: An even less appetizing appetizer than the original. (Dave Matuskey)

WaPo' Boy: A dish of crow eaten by many a Style Invitational entrant. (Jeff Shirley)

SUNDAY CHALLENGE

BY MARTIN ASHWOOD-SMITH © 2016 CROSSYNERGY SYNDICATE LLC

ACROSS
1 "Dilbert" cartoonist
11 Little devils
15 Disneyland Star Tours character
16 Looking grim
17 Pitching technique?
18 Emollient plant
19 By some measure
20 Google returns
21 French shaker
22 Riot participant, maybe
24 Fly in the tropics
28 Musk of Tesla Motors
30 Candle total, perhaps
31 Sugar form
33 Danson of "Cheers"
34 Certain tiara wearer from the South

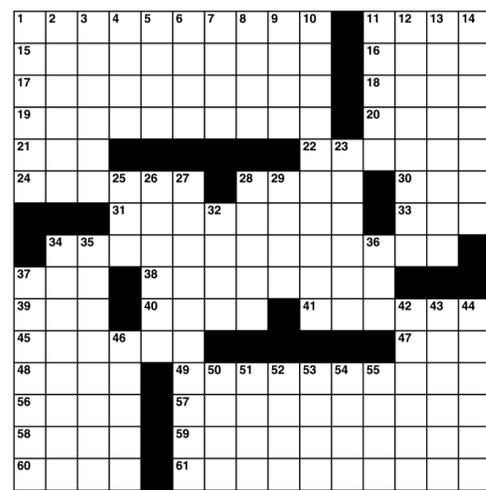
37 Blanched
38 Wayne's Oscar film
39 Consumer enticements
40 Chow
41 Fleet fellows? village
45 "Fiddler on the Roof" Good feller?
47 Horned hopper
49 They can be upset
56 Step up?
57 Housing units
58 City near Padua
59 Sharpening wheel
60 Minus
61 Writing for grades

DOWN
1 One who gets kicks from kicks?

2 Cackling cauldron keepers
3 Actor Peter of "Lawrence of Arabia"
4 Unable to decide
5 Bag or board
6 Brouhahas
7 "___ Dinah" (1958 Frankie Avalon song)
8 Lots and lots
9 Bovine calls
10 Gloaters' counterparts
11 Home of Hells Gate State Park
12 Have influence (against)

13 Woman with a mentor
14 Blows a gasket
23 Baby bodysuit
25 What passes may lead to, briefly
26 Six-line sonnet section
27 Egg choice
28 Aquatic eagles
29 Like epics
32 Native of Ger.
34 Scene of chaos
35 Twinklings
36 RR destination
37 Profligate spender

42 Imelda or Ferdinand
43 Range
44 Promontories
46 Cubes have 12
50 Type of pronoun (abbr.)
51 Fork-shaped frat letters
52 Director Wertmüller
53 Current event?
54 "___ Magnifique" (Cole Porter tune)
55 It often precedes a deal



Answer to last week

S T A L L A W A I T
 S T R A Y E D S W A T T E D
 H A I R R A I S I N G T A L E
 E P A A D V E R S E L L B
 E L L A A G E D I E T
 R E S T S O N O N E S O A R S
 R E T A G S S A T I N S
 P E N D S A D D
 D A N T E S G E R A R D
 W O R D O N T H E S T R E E T
 E R A S R O T E S S E
 L I T S P E N S E R S P R
 S T I C K Y S I T U A T I O N
 H O P E R S O R I E N T S
 S N I D E O L E G S

HOROSCOPE

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! May 29: This year you often have one idea or viewpoint, but then you act on another, which results in mixed messages. These varying perspectives sometimes create conflict. If you are single, you easily could get bored with a potential admirer. Try to resolve this issue with this person if you have strong feelings for them. If you are attached, as a couple, you'll need to give yourselves time to indulge each other and have more personal time together. Pisces pushes you ahead in your career.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
 You might want to take some much-needed personal time. Excuse yourself from plans, if need be. You will gain from allowing yourself to relax and enjoy.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
 Wherever you are, you find yourself surrounded by friends or at least crowds. Others seem quite talkative and full of new information. Listen to various people during your daily routine.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
 Tension builds. You might become reactive as a result, which could surprise even you. Your family and home life rank high as priorities, yet a friend will try to squeeze his or her way into your day.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
 Listen to what a loved one shares. You could be baffled by your emotions — perhaps you have too many options to choose

from. Communication seems to be overwhelming.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
 A loved one makes a kind gesture that you can't say no to. A conversation could have its share of rough moments, but what you get is the level of caring that exists between you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
 Allow some self-imposed restrictions to melt away. You'll discover how many options you have available to you as a result. Allow a friend to support you in this venture of breaking past your present limits, even if it is in a small way.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
 You could find that what you are doing feels more like work and less like play. Some of you actually might decide to get a head start on tomorrow. You can clear out a lot now, which will make next week a lot easier and much more relaxing.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
 Tap into your resourceful imagination for ideas on what to do today. A new friend might surprise you with some suggestions. Appreciate this friend's resourcefulness and resilience.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
 Tension builds during the day. You could feel remarkably tired and will want to withdraw by the evening. An older relative or friend might make a request that you will need to fulfill. Make it your pleasure.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
 Reach out to a sibling or loved one who you care a lot about. Catching up on each other's news could be exhausting, but it is worth the time.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
 Be aware of what you are doing with your spending. You might be more forthright with someone who is at least somewhat dependent on you financially. You will want to stop making frivolous purchases. Fun doesn't have to cost money.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
 What you want is reflective of your dream life. Write down more about your dreams. When you reflect on them, you will gain a deeper understanding of what might be possible.

Long road lies ahead for false accuser

Ask Amy

AMY DICKINSON

The only person to visit me recently had been my adult niece. I asked my niece why she took my necklace and told her to return it immediately.

My niece denied she had even seen my necklace. I was furious with her for lying to me.

I went to the police and pressed charges against her for stealing. A few weeks later I found my necklace in the pocket of a coat I had forgotten about.

I had wrongfully accused my niece of stealing from me and had pressed charges against her!

I'm ashamed to admit that I also insulted her as a parent, her young children, and blasted her on several social-media sites during those weeks.

We live in a small, tightknit community, so word traveled quickly. I was told by another family member that my niece told them she could not go to the store without getting dirty looks.

I have dropped all charges against her and told her I made a mistake. I said, "Let's put this

ugly incident behind us and forget it happened."

My niece will not speak to me! Her husband told me that my accusations have caused my niece a great deal of anxiety and that she has been sleeping poorly.

I just want everything back to how it was before. A close friend suggested that since I publicly humiliated my niece, a public apology would be a good start.

I'm ready to drop the whole incident and forget it ever happened, and see no need in continuing to refer back to it.

Older but Not Wiser

Older but Not Wiser: You didn't hesitate to press charges and then spread this falsehood through social media and the community. So I guess your "Let's forget this whole thing happened" philosophy only kicked in when you were at risk of embarrassing yourself.

Yes, you should apologize publicly. What you shouldn't do is to repeat the false accusation when you make your apology. I am often surprised at how often political candidates, for example, repeat alleged falsehoods before

rebutting them. So you should apologize to your niece privately, and while you are doing so, ask her how she would like you to word your public apology.

Then — if you're lucky — everyone involved might be able to forget the whole thing happened, but I doubt it.

Dear Amy: "Dazed and Confused" got a mysterious text from a girl, proving she had been with Dazed's boyfriend. Your advice didn't go far enough.

Her boyfriend is a cheater. Period. End of story. She will never be able to trust him. Ever.

I married someone like this and ended up divorcing him due to the same cheating and lying.

Glad I'm Out

Glad I'm Out: I was surprised at "Dazed's" determination to stay in the relationship; my instincts are more like yours.

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

© 2016 by the Chicago Tribune