

DIVERSIONS

THE STYLE INVITATIONAL

Split hairs: Week 1196 neologisms

BY PAT MYERS

In Week 1196, one of our recurring "Hyphen the Terrible" contests, we asked the Greater Loser Community to look through the pages of The Post or another publication for hyphens between two words or within a word (often when a word breaks at the end of a line), and then combine either side of the hyphen with either side of another hyphenated term. The neologisms below are mostly from The Post, though entrants also curled up with line endings from a host of other rags, among them the Hartford Courant, the Boston Globe, the Maryland Independent, the Martinsburg (W.Va.) Journal, the Boone, N.C., Mountain Times and, not to be forgotten, the West Plains (Mo.) Daily Quill. Vive small papers — long may they hyphenate.

4th place

(hem-orrhoid + mem-oir) **Hemoir:** A life story that comes to a painful end. (Lawrence McGuire, Waldorf, Md.)

3rd place

(hill-sides + Clin-ton) **Hilton:** A hotel where your efforts to check into it are always thwarted by the lady behind the desk. (Jeff Contompasis, Ashburn, Va.)

2nd place and the Donald Talking Pen:

(misc-on-duct + con-tinued) **Miscontinued:** Dug a hole and kept digging. "Despite warnings from aides, the nominee miscontinued his sexist remarks." (Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.)

And the winner of the Inkin' Memorial:

(assess-ment + in-formation) **Assessin:** Someone who kills good ideas by saying, "I think we need to study this more." (Jeff Contompasis)

Low-phens: honorable mentions

(ad-dress + en-joy) **Ad-joy:** Unalloyed ecstasy seen in infomercials, usually directed at small kitchen appliances. (John Hutchins, Silver Spring, Md.)

(low-income + ro-mances) **Lowmances:** One-night stands at the EconoLodge. (Larry Gray, Union Bridge, Md.)

(constipa-tion + in-roads) **Constiparoads:** I-270 and I-66 on a Friday evening. (Ward Kay, Vienna, Va.)

(esca-lation + flash-lights) **Escalights:** Rival neighbors' ever more ostentatious annual Christmas displays. (Jeff Contompasis)

(evangel-i-cal + per-functory) **Evangelifunctory:** Paying lip service to conservative Christian principles. "Before introducing Mr. Trump, Mr. Falwell made some evangelifunctory remarks about upholding strong family values." (Duncan Stevens)

(strip-ping + spec-ulation) **Stripulation:** "I'll show you mine if you show me yours." (Jesse Frankovich, Lansing, Mich.)

(inflamma-tory + of-fense) **Inflammafense:** A huge faux pas, e.g., hooking up with the boss's husband at the office Christmas party. (John Hutchins)

(Woo-lever, name of a funeral home + low-reaching) **Woo-reaching:** The "courtship" of grabbing a woman's whatever. (Jesse Frankovich)

(middle-class + pas-sionately) **Class-sionately:** With great intensity but with civility, as in a debate. (Obsoleto.) (Gary Crockett, Chevy Chase, Md.)

(neuro-surgeon + Euro-pean) **Neuropean:** Le Woody Allen. (Gary Crockett)

(pyro-technic + sym-phonie) **PyroPhonic:** What Samsung is going to call its new audio system. (Cindi Rae Caron, Blowing Rock, N.C.)

(red-light-cam-era + per-sons) **Red-light-camper:** A popular stop with Appalachian Tail hikers. (Kevin Dopart, Washington)

(sin-ister + Sun-day) **Sinday:** Every day of the week on the Gomorran calendar. (John McCooy, Rehoboth Beach, Del.)

(congres-sional + invest-igated) **Congrestigated:** Having had 3,194 questions asked in 33 hearings at a taxpayer cost of \$23 million to find



BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

New contest for Week 1200: The definitive dozen

"In closing": Oratorical flourish meaning "I will now speak 15 more minutes." (Peter Metrinko) **Global warming:** Leftist plot to destroy Americans' God-given right to destroy. (Mark Naimark) **Historical revisionism:** Now the past has been torched by a new generation. (Phil Frankenfeld)

The Empress can't quite believe it, either, but The Style Invitational has reached Week 1200 and we're still here. We'll commemorate it in our time-honored way: by ripping off an earlier contest. **This week: Supply a word, name or multi-word term along with a wry definition or description; together, the term and description must total exactly 12 words,** as in the examples above from Week 860 in 2010, when we asked for the same thing, but with the definition exactly 10 words. Two words joined with a hyphen will count as two words. Use an existing term; don't make up a neologism.

Submit entries at this website: bit.ly/enter-invite-1200 (all lowercase).

Winner gets the Inkin' Memorial, the Lincoln statue bobblehead that is the official Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives this adorable crocheted olive-green ski mask with a multitude of crocheted tentacles curling below the eye holes, a la Cthulhu of H.P. Lovecraft or perhaps an Ood of "Doctor Who." Donated by John "Ed" Edwards of Surrey, England.

Other runners-up win their choice of a yearned-for Loser Mug, the older-model "This Is Your Brain on Mugs" mug or our Grossery Bag, "I Got a B in Punmanship." 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, Nov. 14; results published Dec. 4 (online Dec. 1). You may submit up to 25 entries per contest. See general contest rules and guidelines at wapo.st/InvRules. The headline for this week's results is by Danielle Nowlin; the honorable-mentions subhead is by William Kennard. 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.



PAT MYERS/THE WASHINGTON POST

After no one would volunteer to model this at the Loser brunch, the Empress just made a selfie.

zero administrative wrongdoing. (Jesse Frankovich)

(human-ity + Abra-ham) **Humani-Ham:** The marketing department rejected this original name for Soylent Green. (John Hutchins)

(ill-informed + technol-ogy) **Illogy:** An unending series of sickening movies. "The 'Saw' illogy isn't likely to stop at seven." (John Hutchins)

(disas-trous + as-pirations) **Disaspirations:** "I will build a great, great wall on our southern border, and I will make Mexico pay for that wall." (Jesse Frankovich)

(argu-ment + anni-versary) **Arguversary:** A special occasion in which each half of a committed couple swears hearing the other one offer to make dinner reservations. (Hildy Zampella, Falls Church, Va.)

(wealth-est + under-way) **Wealthi-way:** The HOT lanes on the interstate. (Jeff Contompasis)

(Demo-crat + Dem-ocrats)

Cratocrats: Class of leaders who lead because they are in the leader class. (Mark Raffman, Reston, Va.)

(di-rector + doz-ens) **Rector-doz:** A sermon so boring that even the pastor falls asleep. (Beverly Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.)

(dis-tricts + de-stroyed) **Dis-stroyed:** Lost badly trading Mama insults while playing the dozens. (Jeff Contompasis)

(endo-metrial + four-inches) **Endo-inches:** thisclose (Cindi Rae Caron)

(gro-cery + cam-paign) **Gropaign:** A great strategy for reaching female voters. (Kevin Dopart)

(laugh-ter + fran-chise) **Laugh-chise:** The Cleveland Browns. (Duncan Stevens)

(medi-cal + con-tractor) **MediTractor:** The device used by your former proctologist. (Margaret Welsh, Oakton, Va.)

(millenni-als + af-fordable) **Millenni-fordable:** A burger, a brew and a basement. (Ellen Ryan, Rockville, Md.)

(Euro-pean + neuro-surgeon) **Eurosurgeon:** One of the officials who will perform the Brexit procedure (a.k.a. "Eubris"). (Gary Crockett)

(pop-lar + injur-ies) **Pop-juries:** Whoever these people are who take online surveys. "According to the pop-jury surveyed by Clickbait Consultants, Americans are greatly concerned that Kanye West was not elected secretary general of the United Nations." (Drew Bennett, West Plains, Mo.)

(Nothing-ness + rock-and-roll) **Nothing-and-roll:** A sandwich in the All-Gluten Diet. (Mark Raffman)

(sex-ed + Got-ter-dämmerung) **Sex-terdämmerung:** Weingergate. (Chris Doyle, Denton, Tex.)

(pre-occupation + re-morse) **Premorse:** Feeling bad about something you haven't even done — yet. (Lawrence McGuire)

And last: (toilet-paper + enter-tainment) **Toilet-tainment:** The Style Invitational. (Duncan Stevens)

Still running — deadline Monday night, Nov. 7: Our contest for "questions for terrible people." See bit.ly/invite1199.

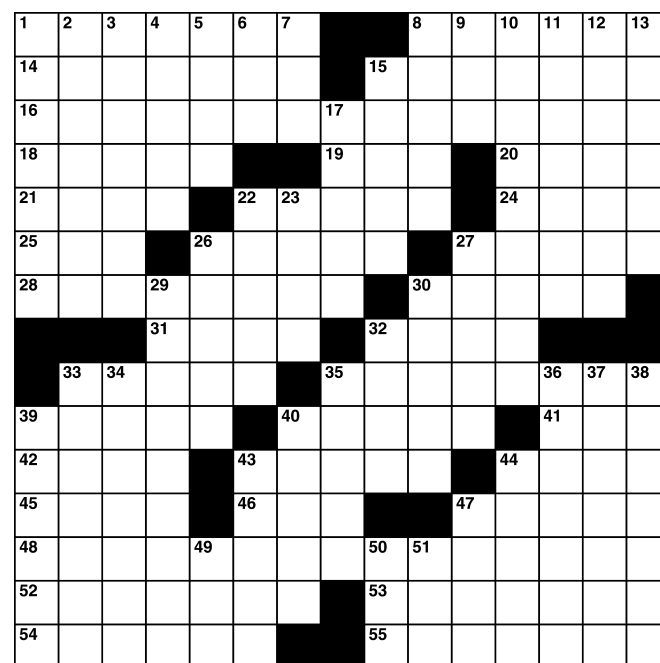
SUNDAY CHALLENGE

BY PATRICK JORDAN © 2016 CROSSYENERGY SYNDICATE LLC

- | | | | | |
|--|---|-------------------------|--|--|
| ACROSS | 27 Far from diplomatic | 52 Exhibit clairvoyance | 12 It's on a table in chemistry class | 36 Degree of excellence |
| 1 Deem unworthy of consideration | 28 Spongy bouncer | 53 Comestible substance | 37 Unmistakable | 37 Unmistakable |
| 8 "Pick up the pace!" | 30 Bonnie who often belts the blues | 54 Willy Wonka's wares | 13 Vacation destination | 38 Finds repugnant |
| 14 Come into | 31 Spreadsheet segments | 55 Trade balance factor | 15 Feathered "Game of Thrones" message carrier | 39 Fills positions |
| 15 Fictional British barrister Horace | 32 Some dangle over dashboards | | 17 Sentry's stint | 40 Ski mecca featuring Mount Mansfield and Spruce Peak |
| 16 Colloquial term for some "Twilight" characters | 33 "United by Individuality" Toyota model | | 22 Jambalaya crustacean | 43 "But of course!" |
| 18 They can be grand or petit | 35 Untied the knot | | 23 Cobbling tools | 44 NFL highlight speed |
| 19 Contraction appearing six times in the lyrics of "My Way" | 39 Culture or future follower | | 26 Former Apple laptop | 47 Golf instructor's demonstration |
| 20 Gill nicknames him "Sharkbait" | 40 Quidditch team complement | | 27 Quiche Lorraine morsel | 49 Tenth VP to become POTUS |
| 21 Haggis tidbits | 41 Introduction for Maria? member Janowitz | | 29 Stewed meat dish | 50 ___ Stremmur (Billboard chart-topping rap duo) |
| 22 Called for | 42 "Literary Brat Pack" | | 30 Captivate completely | 51 Year in Justinian I's reign |
| 24 Procrastinator's antithesis | 43 Swing time? | | 32 2009 Beyoncé hit | |
| 25 Curling surface | 44 Poncho feature | | 33 Hardly profound | |
| 26 "The Young Lions" author Shaw | 45 Chain in "Where Eagles Dare" | | 34 Stack up | |
| | 46 Not vert. | | 35 Messing with various parts? | |
| | 47 Tango move | | | |
| | 48 Collections for Elton John and Lady Gaga | | | |

Answer to last week

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



HOROSCOPE

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY | Nov. 6: This year you open up to new and more dynamic ideas. Stay focused on what you want in order to make it so. If you are single, you can't be sure of the quality of any relationship you form until fall 2017. Don't commit too quickly; otherwise, you could prevent yourself from meeting Mr. or Ms. Right. If you are attached, the two of you become an even stronger couple. Aquarius always seems to come up with a quirky perspective.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) You might run into someone who is much more verbal or aggressive than you are. Avoid the collision. The problems that result from such a situation are not worth it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Take charge and bring others together for brunch or a barbecue. Someone could be making more of a situation than is necessary, at least in your opinion. Listen, and don't be demeaning.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) A phone call or a visit from a loved one who is reaching out to say hi will mark this day as special. You might consider taking a trip in the near future. Make plans to go to a movie or a game, or just somewhere you can relax and say little.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You could find that your temper is closer to the surface than usual. You have been absorbing a lot of what someone else has dropped on you, including their anger. Try to avoid this person.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Know that you have the right words to entice the right person to ask the right questions. Use your intuitive sense to relieve some of the pressure. A partner or close loved one will respond to your efforts.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You might enjoy getting extra sleep or reading the Sunday paper. A loved one will do their best to distract you. A child also might act up, as he or she wants more of your attention.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Your job is to find a way to make a request or a long-term desire real. You have the focus and creativity to find the right path. Test out ideas on a sympathetic ear. Listen to the feedback you get.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Your imagination comes up with one idea after another. You could drop some fiery words on someone you care about. Do not take this person's words or attitude personally.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Make your Sunday calls early in the day. Afterward, you might want to adjust your plans accordingly. Catch up on a sibling's news. A neighbor also is likely to want to speak with you; know that what they share is probably just gossip.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You have a lot to share. However, you might not be in the mood to express the strength of your dismay about a personal or financial matter. You have the energy to do whatever you want.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) You feel as if others will listen to you. You'll seek out agreement rather than opposition. Don't sit on your anger, or you could become explosive. Another ramification is that your internalized feelings could cause you to get sick.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Know that a lot is being shared in confidence. Keep your own counsel, and you will learn more. Others naturally trust you.

Man's bond with mom troubles wife

Ask Amy

AMY DICKINSON

Dear Amy: My husband is 51, and I'm 41. We've been together five years, and got married seven months ago. I am ready to throw in the towel. I have been married before, when I was younger, and he has not. Now I am feeling like I have been in this marriage before. I am again married to a guy who is too stuck on his mother.

My first husband, who was his mom's only child, had a controlling mother. For some reason, I have married another guy with the same problem.

I guess I thought he would be different because he was older and should be a grown man by now. His mother is driving a wedge between us, and he is allowing it. There is no talking to him about it because things always get twisted in his favor.

I tend to ignore him, because when I attempt to speak to him about this issue, we argue.

I am thinking I should just walk away. We have no children together, and I don't have to put up with it, right?

Ready to Leave

Ready to Leave: You knew this man for five years before getting married. Surely you would have received some insight about his relationship with his mother beforehand.

You say your husband, at 51, had never been married before. Marriage requires huge adjustments in family systems. To be happily married to you, he must put his relationship to you, and your marriage, at the center of his life. You should also attempt to compromise, adjust and accept that his mother is now part of your family.

A marriage counselor could help the two of you to discuss this dynamic and make the necessary adjustments.

Dear Amy: You asked for feedback concerning the letter from "Left-Out Liberal," who disagreed with her husband's politics.

I see no difference in this scenario and people with different religious backgrounds. The only solution is to let each believe what they want philosophically and act accordingly, but on the important issues in life that

directly affect the couple, such as child-rearing, buying a home, budgeting, career paths, etc., couples should communicate and come to a consensus.

I wouldn't ask my wife to change her religious views or her political way of thinking. I never ask her how she's voting. I wouldn't want her to be something she's not and vice versa.

Happy With Differences

Happy With Differences: Many people responding to this letter equate political and religious views. If you don't ask your wife how she's voting, it sounds as if you keep the peace by not discussing politics. This particular year, I agree with this approach.

Amy's column appears seven days a week at washingtonpost.com/advice. Write to askamy@amydickinson.com or Amy Dickinson, Tribune Content Agency, 16650 Westgrove Dr., Suite 175, Addison, Tex. 75001. You can also follow her at askamy.com.

© 2016 by Amy Dickinson distributed by Tribune Content Agency