

DIVERSIONS

THE STYLE INVITATIONAL

Torquing heads: Headline winners

BY PAT MYERS

Week 1375 was our perennial Mess With Our Heads contest, in which readers added a bank head, or subtitle, to a real headline from The Post or elsewhere. Many used “remote learning” as How to Teach Gramps to Use the Clicker.

4th place:

Major Universities Stop Lab Research

‘Who’s a good dog?’ to remain a mystery (Jeff Shirley, Richmond)

3rd place:

My Co-worker Burps Loudly and Engages in Self-Talk

Title set for tell-all book by Pence (John Hutchins, Silver Spring)

2nd place and the defibrillator T-shirt:

Amid outbreak, Meals on Wheels is changing the way food is delivered

Frustrated, dizzy customers long to return to Meals on Tables (Alex Steelsmith, Kailua, Hawaii)

And the winner of the Lose Cannon:

Queen’s message of solidarity to the nation

‘Fat-bottomed girls make the rockin’ world go round’ inspires Britons in time of need (Michelle Christophorou, Guildford, Surrey, England)

Banks for nothing: Honorable mentions

NFL changes draft to TV-only event

55-inch Samsung expected to be first pick (John McCooy, Rehoboth Beach, Del.)

(Ad for kitchen cabinet remodeling) **Don’t Replace – Reface!** Plastic surgery helping more couples avoid expensive divorces (Marli Melton, Carmel Valley, Calif.)

What’s still open in D.C. Hole in presidential face continues to spout misinformation (Lawrence McGuire, Waldorf)

Fauci throws cold water on Trump’s declaration that chloroquine is a ‘game changer’ ‘I couldn’t push him down, so I just splashed his paper with my drink’ (Dave Zarrow, Reston)

1 in 8 Trump voters lives in a county with no ICU beds ICE beds deemed more essential (Jonathan Jensen, Baltimore)

U-Haul offers 30-day storage free for college students Parents must retrieve offspring from lockers by May 1 (Jesse Aronson, Arlington)

‘We’ll improvise and make it work’ Copies of next week’s Post to have perforations, cardboard tube (Howard Ausden, Damascus, a First Offender)

Living in the present Woman given isolation cottage by husband (Dan Helming, Trenton, N.J.)

Broadway to dim lights for a month ‘Maybe virus won’t see us’ strategy questioned (Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.)

Coronavirus slowdown seen from space Extreme social distancing proves effective (Alex Steelsmith)

Crocs to close all North American stores through end of month CDC sics carnivorous reptiles on nonessential businesses (Frank Osen, Pasadena, Calif.)

D.C. Council to consider emergency measures this week Will vote Thursday on whether to put out raging fire in downtown building (Jesse Rifkin, Arlington)

From castle to cubicle On-his-own Prince Harry starts as admin assistant at real estate office (Jeff Contompasis, Ashburn; Roy Ashley, Washington)

How many rolls do you really need? White House physician boldly questions Trump about his diet (Steve Smith, Potomac)

It still doesn’t seem real! Even Trump’s fiercest supporters have doubts about his hair (Bill Dornier, Indianapolis)

House, Senate leaders start to make changes to congressional routines Lobbyists must now leave bags of cash in designated touch-free drop zones (Allen Haywood, Washington)



BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

New contest for Week 1378: You wish: A pun — a star

Short form: How are Donald Trump’s coronavirus news conferences like Elvis Presley’s hound dog? They’re ‘quine, all the time. (Duncan Stevens)

Long form: Intrigued by rumors that a group of Tennessee Jews has been marketing a brand of chewing tobacco, kosher food giant Manischewitz sends someone to investigate. He approaches a group of men loitering outside a Baptist church, spitting into cans, and he asks: “Pardon me, goys, is that the Chattanooga Jews’ chew?” (Charles Frick, Style Invitational Week 347, 2000)

This week’s contest was suggested by Loser All the Time Duncan Stevens: **Tell a joke, in your choice of form, whose punchline is a pun on a song title or lyric, as in Duncan’s obviously brand-new example as well as one from a long-ago contest for groaner puns on any expression or passage.**

Submit up to a total of 25 entries at wapo.st/invite-1379 (no capitals in the Web address). Deadline is Monday, April 20; results will appear May 10 in print, May 7 online.

Winner gets the Lose Cannon, our Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives **The Screaming Goat**, which is a tiny plastic goat, maybe two inches high, that is perched on a plastic tree stump. When you push down on the goat, it emits a goatlike scream. You’re guaranteed to have several seconds of fun listening to “the high-pitched bleats that caused the screaming goat sensation to go viral,” according to the box. On the other hand, by now, several seconds might be more fun than you’ve had lately. Donated by Longtime Loser Drew Bennett.

Other runners-up win their choice of our “For Best Results, Pour Into Top End” Loser Mug or our “Whole Fools” Grossery Bag. Honorable mentions get one of our lusted-after Loser magnets, “Too-Weak Notice” or “Certificate of (de) Merit.” First Offenders receive only a smelly tree-shaped air “freshener” (FirStink for their first ink). See general contest rules and guidelines at wapo.st/InvRules. The headline “Torquing Heads” is by Kevin Dornier; Jon Gearhart wrote the honorable-mentions subhead. Join the Devotees group on Facebook at [on.fb.me/invdev](https://www.facebook.com/on.fb.me/invdev). “Like” the Style Invitational Ink of the Day on Facebook at [bit.ly/inkofday](https://www.facebook.com/bit.ly/inkofday); follow @StyleInvite on Twitter.

The Style Conversational: The Empress’s weekly online column reviews each new contest and set of results. Check it out at wapo.st/conv1379.



Billy pulpit: This week’s prize Screaming Goat atop an upside-down Loser Mug.

Effort is underway to thin jail population Inmates complain of forced Jazzercise (Sam Mertens, Silver Spring)

Kitchen trends for 2020 Faucet that plays “Happy Birthday” twice tops the list (Bill Dornier)

Influential French chef elevated British cuisine Proclaimed ‘Zees stuff is terrible,’ threw it at ceiling (Duncan Stevens)

Many who died had health problems Captain Obvious releases annual report (Frank Mann, Washington)

Maryland casinos will cut visitors CDC insists ‘no proven cure for coronavirus through bloodletting’ (Sue Lin Chong, Baltimore)

Openings that just went poof Another good reason to practice social distancing at Taco Bell (Jon Ketzner, Cumberland, Md.)

Sharks, Blue Jackets set to play without any fans Dan Snyder offers tips (Sam Mertens)

The new Virginia looks a lot like the old Virginia Disappointed woman sues plastic surgeon (Lee Graham, Rockville; Rob Cohen, Potomac)

This is the biggest blunder in presidential history At least until tomorrow (Drew Bennett, West Plains, Mo.)

VIPs get quick test access, highlighting system inequities Hollywood, Wall Street big shots pay others to take virus test for them (Allen Haywood)

We Make Flooring Easy — We Come to You Our customers don’t have to bring their old floors to us (Marli Melton)

WHO declares virus a global pandemic President demands identity of this whistleblower (Howard Walderman, Columbia)

Model prompts policy U-turn Melania persuades CDC to change guidance to ‘Be Best’ (Gary Crockett, Chevy Chase)

How to cook if cooped up with the kids Hansel & Gretel witch starts ‘Coven Oven’ blog (Steve Honley, Washington)

The benefits of an immersion blender Sorry, this is the most upbeat news we can provide during a global pandemic (Bill Dornier)

Man gets jail for video of himself licking ice cream tub Toy Rikers Island ‘weirdest prize yet,’ says Style Invitational stunt contest runner-up (Alex Steelsmith)

My co-worker burps loudly and engages in self-talk Royal Consort chafes at sharing home office space with Empress (Drew Bennett)

Still running — deadline also April 20: our contest for songs (including videos) about Life in the Time of Corona. See wapo.st/invite1378.

L.A. TIMES SUNDAY PUZZLE

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

“UR OUT!” By FRED PISCOP

- ACROSS**
1 Identifies in a Facebook photo
5 ___ basin
10 Chitchats
14 Prep for surgery
19 Mil or mile
20 Kipling’s “Lone Wolf”
21 Release, as an odor
22 Reason to march
23 Where a displaced ex-hubby may sleep?
25 Determination as to which twin is born first?
27 Brunch dish
28 2000 NBA MVP
30 Clay-pigeon launcher
31 Guinness Book suffix
32 Back-to-zero button
33 Delightful places
34 Closed (in)
36 Concerning
38 North Pole explorer
40 Restaurant with skating carhops
44 Poem about the letter nu?

- 50 Myriad
51 Violinist’s effect
52 “Didn’t mean it!”
53 Confession hearers
56 Lendl of tennis
57 Alloy containing carbon
58 “Any day now”
59 Body ___
60 Elsinore natives
62 Ex-White House Press Secretary Spicer
63 Progressive Insurance icon’s layoff?
66 Warning to a sinner
68 ___ Madness: old anti-drug movie
69 Dried, pulverized onions?
72 “The Swedish Nightingale” Jenny
73 Littlest littermates
77 Greek X
78 Primatologists’ subjects
79 Commonly abbreviated bit of Latin
81 Part of a hat trick

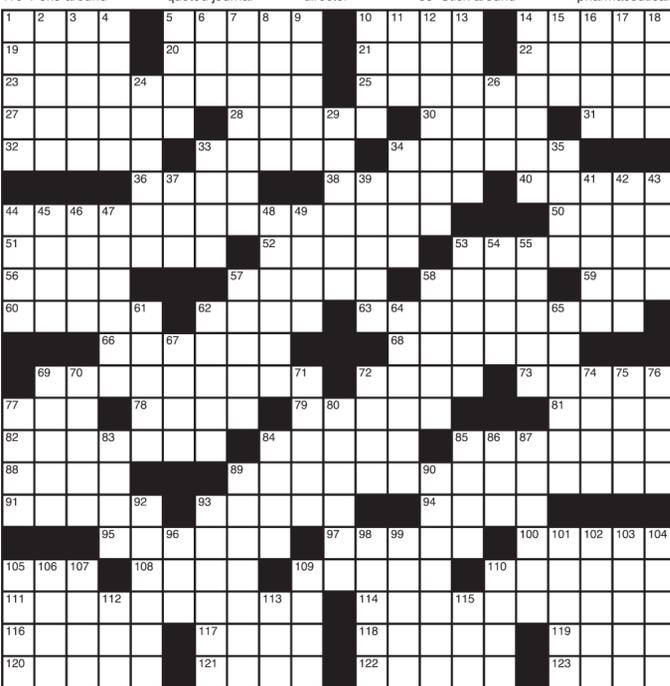
- 82 Hard bargain driver
84 “CSI” part
85 African grassland
88 “Uh-huh”
89 Three movies about skeletons?
91 Clobbers with snowballs
93 Silents vamp
94 Hammerhead cousin
95 Got ready to stop
97 Needing a rinse
100 28-Across, for eight seasons
105 “That’s unfortunate”
108 Rebus animals
109 Game akin to bingo
110 Flea market deal
111 Extension of an embargo?
114 Della’s notable facial feature?
116 Poke around

- DOWN**
1 House of Henry VIII
2 “Speed Racer” genre
3 Helps the cause
4 Made off with
5 Negotiating asset
6 Clanton gang leader
7 ___ ring: encryption toy
8 One way to work
9 Grow dark
10 USAF VIP
11 Org. with an oft-quoted journal

- 12 Marsh bird
13 Bright at night
14 Sharpshooters’ aids
15 Sleeping ___
16 Far from polite
17 Doesn’t waste
18 Muppet with a unibrow
24 Eye part
26 Vientiane native
29 Set a high goal
33 Logician’s word
34 Buffoon
35 Fuller’s geodesic creation
37 MLB Expo, since 2005
39 Counts’ equals
41 ___ spray
42 Toastmaster’s opening
43 Dermatologist’s concern
44 “Amores” poet
45 Operatic icon
46 Abba of Israel
47 Difficult
48 Ritzy spread
49 Either “Fargo” director

- 53 Elbowed
54 Urban sunbather’s spot
55 Derive
57 Orders to go
58 Potpourri quality
61 Bud protector
62 Home of the Ninja Turtles
64 No longer in bed
65 Thrifty
67 St. Peter’s Square figure
69 Climactic film scene
70 Bright Orion star
71 Pressed through a sieve
72 Celeb with a TV “Garage”
74 Pitcher’s gem, in baseball lingo
75 Brand associated with NASA missions
76 Crack up
77 Casino disk
80 Lower in status
83 Catches on to
84 Slough off
85 Stick around

- 86 Torah holder
87 Roy G. Biv hue
89 Saint-Saëns work with a memorable cello solo
90 Big-box stores, e.g.
92 Yawning, say
93 Coarse woolens
96 Part of BYOB
98 Brewers’ ovens
99 Playwright Chekhov
101 Tunesmiths’ org.
102 Hayek’s “Frida” role
103 “Silas Marner” author
104 Monopoly fees
105 1/2 fl. oz.
106 Level-headed in baseball lingo
107 Half hitch, e.g.
109 Dot on a radar screen
110 “Riverdance” dance
112 Hogwash
113 Dethroner of Foreman
115 Lilly of pharmaceuticals



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Answers to last week’s puzzle below.

HOROSCOPE

BY MADALYN ASLAN

HAPPY BIRTHDAY|April 12: Independent and outspoken, you learn best from experience, and this year gives you plenty of that. Expect massive changes in your lifestyle, which smooth the way for a terrific summer. Financial rewards come through a job well done. If single, fate is working overtime to create your soul mate connection. If attached, you take more initiative and your sweetie responds with delight. Romantic bliss follows. Pisces loves to be cuddled.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) You are restless today and yearning for something new, whether it is long-distance travel to a foreign land or taking a seminar on a subject that attracts your interest. Your beliefs are strong and sincere but changeable.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Even at home today, be aware that your workload could increase and you might feel stressed and overworked. Take time out for an elderly family member. With a stranger you detect deception and recognize insincerity with ease.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Romance is in the air, and relationship issues figure prominently. You look for balance as you fine-tune a love partnership. Harmony and peace are highlighted. It is also a day for feeding your creative juices. Indulge in art and music.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Completing a home project is not as much fun as starting something new, but today demands it. A partner also demands it. So now is the time to wrap up what you have been working on and make room for something else.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Tomorrow it is back to the grind so take today to celebrate. Let loose, have fun and recharge your batteries. It is your day to play it your way. And to play with children. Let things be unpredictable, open and innocent.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You look at your priorities today. Issues about your ideals and what you value arise. Expect emotional reactions related to money and finances. Do something simple with a small group of friends and feel a breath of fresh air.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Today is great for launching new ideas and brainstorming. Emotions could be volatile. You might be impatient. Follow your curiosity and look for adventure. Get ready for the changes coming in the next week.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) You get a financial boost today. You are restless and looking for a change. Freedom of thought and action is key. Stay focused as best as you can and plan a list of goals for the upcoming week.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Your charm and wit are appreciated today. Relax, enjoy yourself, and replenish your body. Remain flexible in your schedule. Foster generosity and listen carefully to a child who has something burning to say.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan 19) You seek peace and harmony today. Lie low and take plenty of naps and time to daydream. Do not feel there is anything you absolutely must do. You can let yourself off the hook.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Friends play an important role in your day, especially Libra and Gemini. You do well with others, especially in a group. Focus on your wishes and dreams. And make sure that they are still an expression of who you are.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) You are changeable today so be careful not to overcommit yourself. You pursue a new idea and get very excited about it. Share it online. This revs you up for the new week and you feel you can accomplish anything.

Answers to last week’s puzzle.



4/5/20