

# Style



Catching up on 'Nashville'

In the News Carolyn Hax \$20 diner Torrey Smith Gay marriage Donut wars Beer



Click Now! **40% OFF** One Item at Retail Price. **HOBBY LOBBY** Start Here For Easter Savings! HAPPY EASTER!

More ▾

Catching up on 'Nashville'



2013's new and notable restaurants



Aziz Ansari on stage



Losing faith



## The Style Invitational By the Empress

### Style Invitational: As we primp for our 20th anniversary, we bring out the dead (poems)



Bob Staake for The Washington Post - In memory of Ferdinand A. Porsche, the subject of our winning obit poem.

Buy This Photo

By Pat Myers, Published: January 31

There's no new contest this week, because four weeks from now — on March 3 (Feb. 28 online), when the results would have run — the Empress will devote this entire space (and more!) to a celebration of the Style Invitational's 20th anniversary. We'll look back at the Invite's greatest hits, especially from the past 10 years: the best of the song parodies, neologisms, horse names, limericks, "joint legislation," cartoon captions and dozens of other classic contests. We'll also tell you about the Losers, the unlikely community of contestants that's been active since Year 1 with a calendar of social events, a vigorous competition for most ink, a set of meticulous online standings, and a Facebook page that numbers almost 500 members. And there just might be a few peeps from the Czar, the E's predecessor and the originator of this contest, whom she mercifully sent into retirement

ADVERTISEMENT

nine years ago.

(Note to readers of the print edition: The Web address given on this week's Sunday Style page to The Style Conversation, my weekly online column about the new contest and results, doesn't work this week, while the page is undergoing some improvements. (It goes to last week's column instead.) Instead, access it [here](#).

### The Style Invitational

The Style Invitational is The Post's weekly humor/wordplay contest, serving up since 1993 an irreverent mix of highbrow and lowbrow -- haughty and potty -- in genres ranging from neologisms to cartoon captions to elaborate song parodies. A new contest appears at [washingtonpost.com/styleinvitational](http://washingtonpost.com/styleinvitational) every Friday.

Archive

Style Conversational E-mail

ADVERTISEMENT

### Report from Week 1004

Our annual contest for poems about those who died in the previous year: Frequently noted was that Dave Brubeck is taking five and much longer; that Sherman Hemsley moved on up; that Robin Gibb's no longer stayin' alive; that Vidal Sassoon and Phyllis Diller were hair today, gone tomorrow; and that go-go pioneer Chuck Brown was, of course, gone-gone.

In a rare but not unprecedented move, we present two Inkin' Memorials today; the second one, a song parody, appears only online so we could include a link to a YouTube clip of the 85-year-old original song.

### The winners of the Inkin' Memorials

#### Ferdinand A. Porsche (1935-2012), designer of the Porsche 911

When Porsche first designed his car, he cleverly employed The insights he had garnered from the

works of Sigmund Freud.

A car, as Porsche understood, was outwardly metallic, But in the heart of man it was organic flesh, and phallic.

And so he built it long and strong, he built it fast and loud,  
To make the rich unmanly man feel powerfully endowed.  
Though Freud had said that now and then cigars are just cigars,  
Ferdinand, the businessman, knew cars are not just cars.  
*(Robert Schechter, Dix Hills, N.Y.)*

#### Jean Harris, convicted of the murder of Scarsdale Diet doctor Herman Tarnower

*(To "Can't Help Lovin' Dat Man")*  
Fish gotta sink, birds gotta fall;  
You gotta love me or no one at all.  
Can't help pluggin' that man of mine.

Life is a banquet; that's what they say.  
How could you take my sugar away?  
Can't help pluggin' that man of mine.

Hungry, weak, and sad  
Makes a girl go mad.

## The Post Most: Lifestyle

- Most Popular**

  - Her boyfriend stopped wanting sex
  - Carolyn Hax: A word for the grandma who labels kids? Upsetting.
  - In Gortitz, Germany, a walk through history
  - To build brand, companies produce slick content and their own media
  - The four most expensive ex-presidents in America

- Top Videos**
- Top Galleries**



### Personal Post

Top recommendations for you

- 2 h **STYLE**  
NPR's popular Tiny Desk Concerts are moving to a new building
- 4 h **STYLE**  
Read this: The four most expensive ex-presidents in America right now
- 9 h **FOOD**  
Wine: Petite sirah deserves some love
- 9 h **FOOD**  
6 petite sirahs to try
- 2 h **FRONTPAGE**  
Let's talk about sex

**More headlines for you**

TRENDING ON wp social reader

- Don't Expect a Historic Ruling on Same-Sex Marriage**
- Scientists Create Ultra-Thin Invisibility Cloak**
- New Apple flaw lets hackers change your Apple ID and iCloud p...**

### Post Newsletters & Alerts

Sign-up for e-mail newsletters and alerts and get the news you need delivered directly to your inbox.

- Going Out Guide: Dinner & Drinks
- Going Out Guide: With The Kids
- At Home
- DC Scout
- Going Out Guide
- Lean & Fit
- Movies
- Travel

Haven't had one taste! But you've been free – to cheat on me.

Herman, you might have avoided my barbs  
If you had just let me snack on some carbs.  
Can't help pluggin' that man of mine.  
(Nan Reiner, Alexandria, Va.)

2. **Winner of the toilet-shaped coffee cup:**

**Edward Archbold, who died after winning a roach-eating contest**

Hey, the next time that someone approaches  
With a contest to eat the most roaches,  
Though the prize may be nice,  
I suggest you think twice,  
'Cause it might be your big *buenas noches*.  
(Nan Reiner)

Continued 1 2 3 4 Next Page

Reprints

0 Comments Discussion Policy | FAQ | About Discussions | About Badges

No comments are available at the moment. [Leave a comment](#)

More from The Washington Post

- Ask Amy: Addiction creates friendship dilemma
- Elderly woman locked in trunk for nearly 2 days recounts ordeal
- Carolyn Hax: What, when, how to share details of a cheating past
- Carolyn Hax: A word for the grandma who labels kids? Upsetting.
- Taking short-sale hit and moving on may be best for young couple

Sponsored Headlines [What's this?]

- The Takeaway: Fleetwood Mac Guitarist Bob Welch Commits Suicide AARP.org
- Ask E. Jean: Strip Clubs Before Marriage ELLE
- Why Millennials are Difficult to Mentor OPEN Forum
- In Florida They Will Shoot You Dead, and It'll Probably Be Legal Vice
- Stunning Photos Of Recently Redesigned Bathrooms Lonny

Top Lifestyle Stories

Most Popular Videos



San Francisco's city attorney: 'We put discrimination on trial'



Should the Capitals offer Ribeiro a long-term deal? -- Post Sports Live



Justice Kennedy: Prop 8 brings SCOTUS into 'uncharted waters'

Sponsored Links

The Visa® Black Card™

Apply Now and Get 100% More Value When Redeeming Points for Airfare!

See all Washington Post Newsletters

ADVERTISEMENT

**DIABETES TOOK MY MOTHER...**

Every 24 hours, diabetes claims 200 lives. Your gift of \$9 a month can help give others a fighting chance.

American Diabetes Association. [Make A Monthly Gift](#)

Featured Advertiser Links

Looking to buy a home? Visit TWP Real Estate section for the latest open houses.

ADVERTISEMENT

Sponsored Links

The Visa® Black Card™

Apply Now and Get 100% More Value When Redeeming Points for Airfare! www.blackcard.com

South University

Build Your Future Online at South University. Get Info & Learn More! online.SouthUniversity.edu

TransUnion® Official Site

Free and Fast Credit Score. Total Protection From All 3 Bureaus transunion.com

[Buy a link here](#)

Top Jobs

- Business Jobs
- Computer Jobs
- Construction Jobs
- Education Jobs
- Engineering Jobs
- Healthcare Jobs
- Legal Jobs
- Management Jobs
- Media Jobs
- Non-Profit Jobs
- Sales Jobs
- Science Jobs

Keyword

Location

PROVIDED BY SimplyHired

Search

www.blackcard.com

**South University**

Build Your Future Online at South University. Get Info & Learn More!  
online.SouthUniversity.edu

**TransUnion® Official Site**

Free and Fast Credit Score. Total Protection From All 3 Bureaus  
transunion.com

[Buy a link here](#)

AD

**The Washington Post**

[Politics](#) [Opinions](#) [Local](#) [Sports](#) [National](#) [World](#) [Business](#) [Tech](#) [Lifestyle](#) [Entertainment](#) [Photo](#) [Video](#) [Blogs](#) [Classifieds](#)

**More ways to get us**

Home delivery

Mobile & Apps

RSS

Facebook

Twitter

Social Reader

Newsletter & Alerts

Washington Post Live

Reprints & Permissions

Post Store

e-Replica

Archive

**Contact Us**

Help & Contact Info

Careers

Digital Advertising

Newspaper Advertising

News Service & Syndicate

**About Us**

The Washington Post Company

In the community

PostPoints

Newspaper in Education

**Partners**

[washingtonpost.com](#)

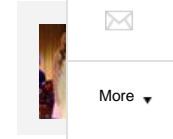
© 1996-2013 The Washington Post [Terms of Service](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Submissions and Discussion Policy](#) [RSS Terms of Service](#) [Ad Choices](#)

# Style



Catching up on 'Nashville'

In the News Carolyn Hax \$20 diner Torrey Smith Gay marriage Donut wars Beer



Catching up on 'Nashville'



2013's new and notable restaurants



Aziz Ansari on stage



Losing faith



## The Style Invitational

By the Empress

### Style Invitational: As we primp for our 20th anniversary, we bring out the dead (poems)

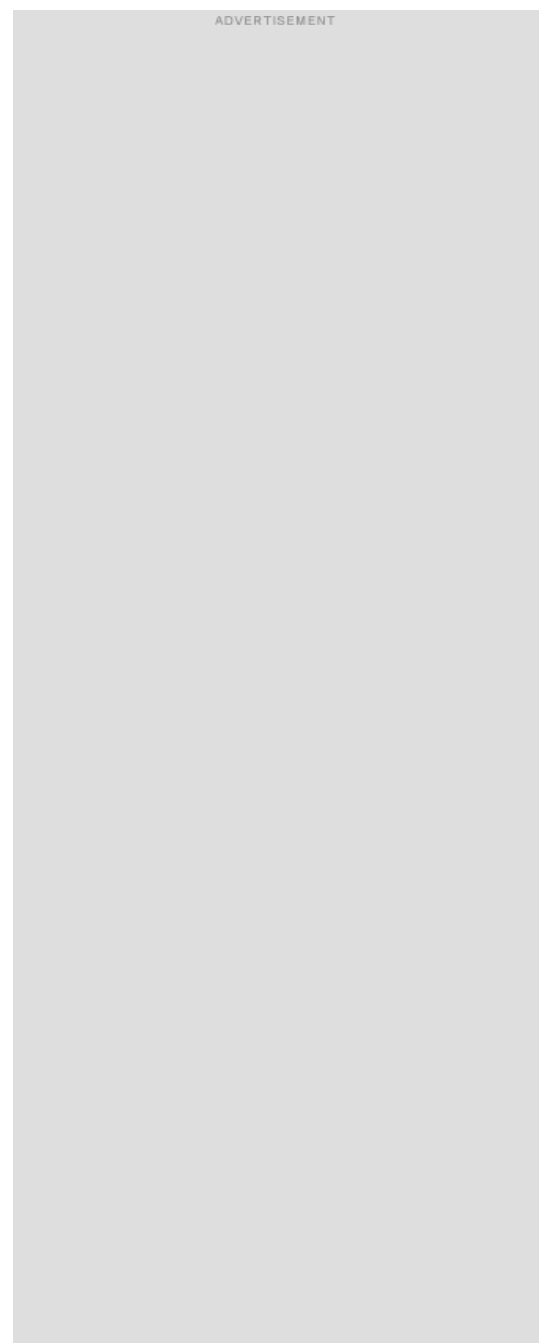


Bob Staake for The Washington Post - In memory of Ferdinand A. Porsche, the subject of our winning obit poem.

Buy This Photo

3. A eulogy for **Sally Ride** is not off-base;  
I wouldn't halt one, though perhaps I'd pause it  
To ponder how she managed a career in space  
Yet all the while remaining in a closet.  
*(Brendan Beary, Great Mills, Md.)*

4. **Thomas Kinkade**  
Go very gentle into that good night  
With houses quaint where Pollyanna lived.  
"Rage? Nah," said the Painter of the Light.  
*(Jeff Brechlin, Eagan, Minn.)*



## The Style Invitational

The Style Invitational is The Post's weekly humor/wordplay contest, serving up since 1993 an irreverent mix of highbrow and lowbrow -- haughty and potty -- in genres ranging from neologisms to cartoon captions to elaborate song parodies. A new contest appears at [washingtonpost.com/styleinvitational](http://washingtonpost.com/styleinvitational) every Friday.

Archive 

 Style Conversational  E-mail

ADVERTISEMENT

Va.)

### Donna Summer and Robin Gibb

People stuck in the '70s fervently shouted, "By music we won't be misled!" But two passings have shown what the sane never doubted: That disco is certainly dead. *(Matt Monitto, Elon, N.C.)*

**Joe Paterno**, once revered,  
Whose earthly days are through,  
Will sadly be remembered most  
For what he *didn't* do. *(Mae Scanlan, Washington)*

**Jack Klugman**  
For years you entertained us by annoying Felix Unger;  
But all things pass (and you, alas, weren't getting any younger).  
With neatnik versus total slob, will either one convert?  
I guess you get the last laugh, 'cause you're both immersed in dirt. *(Beverley Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.)*

### Letitia Baldrige, etiquette expert and Jacqueline Kennedy's chief of staff

*(To "Camelot")*

It's true! It's true! The transcripts make it clear:  
Civility's gone AWOL this year.

The House and Senate almost come to blows now;  
Repubs and Dems don't ever vote as one;  
We're sad to say that that's the way it goes now

## Digging deeper: honorable mentions

### Marvin Miller, head of the Major League Baseball Players Union

When crafty Marvin Miller led the MLBPA, 'Twas then that players' salaries went rocketing away.

He made some people very rich, but there's one problem: That's

The reason that it costs a hundred bucks to see the Nats. *(Nan Reiner)*

**Earl Scruggs** saunters up to the Heavenly Gate.

There's a banjo audition. How easy is that? Saint Peter's on harp and his playing sounds great,

But an angel joins in on guitar — and he's Flatt. *(Chris Doyle, Ponder, Tex.)*

**Murray Lender**, of the People Chosen,  
Made a fortune large in bagels frozen.  
We'll always miss him dearly, even though he

Made us like his product: round and doughy. *(Kathye Hamilton, Annandale,*

## The Post Most: Lifestyle

### Most Popular

1. Her boyfriend stopped wanting sex
2. Carolyn Hax: A word for the grandma who labels kids? Upsetting.
3. In Gortitz, Germany, a walk through history
4. To build brand, companies produce slick content and their own media
5. The four most expensive ex-presidents in America

### + Top Videos

### + Top Galleries



## Personal Post

Top recommendations for you

2 h

### STYLE

NPR's popular Tiny Desk Concerts are moving to a new building



4 h

### STYLE

Read this: The four most expensive ex-presidents in America right now



9 h

### FOOD

Wine: Petite sirah deserves some love

9 h

### FOOD

6 petite sirahs to try

2 h

### FRONTPAGE

Let's talk about sex



More headlines for you 

TRENDING ON wp social reader



### Don't Expect a Historic Ruling on Same-Sex Marriage

### Scientists Create Ultra-Thin Invisibility Cloak

### New Apple flaw lets hackers change your Apple ID and iCloud p...

## Post Newsletters & Alerts

Sign-up for e-mail newsletters and alerts and get the news you need delivered directly to your inbox.

Going Out Guide: Dinner & Drinks

Lean & Fit

Going Out Guide: With The Kids

Movies

At Home

Travel

DC Scout

Going Out Guide



### In Washington.

The politicians say just what they think now;  
They're slandering their colleagues just for fun;  
But frankly, we get dizzy from the stink now  
In Washington.

Washington! Washington! I know it sounds a bit absurd,  
But in Washington, "etiquette" is now a dirty word.

To tell the prez "You lie!" is off the "rude" charts,  
"Go (blank) yourself" are words that tend to stun;  
Ms. Baldrige, please come back --  
It seems we've lost the knack  
Of treating people civilly right here in Washington. *(Beverley Sharp)*

### Ray Bradbury

Ray's friends flew like madmen the length of the drive  
And arrived at the funeral parlor at 5.  
"Alas," said the owner, "it's over and done:  
I did the cremation at 4:51." *(Christopher Lamora, Guatemala City)*

I heard you at the Fillmore, heard you at Winterland,  
I heard you with Bob Dylan, I heard you with the Band,  
You took a load off Annie, you took a load for free.  
Financially, O **Levon Helm**, you took a load off me. *(Nancy Lasner, Washington, a First Offender)*

Reprints

### 0 Comments

Discussion Policy | FAQ | About Discussions | About Badges

No comments are available at the moment. [Leave a comment](#)

### More from The Washington Post

- Ask Amy: Even a loving loan should come with a note
- 22-year-old man killed while swinging from Utah rock arch in rope stunt popularized on YouTube
- Miss Manners: Charitable donors may be forgiven for their excess
- They were right — he was bad for her, but how does she move on?
- Prosecutor plans news conference in custody death of Down syndrome man in Frederick, Md.

### Sponsored Headlines [What's this?]

- Heidi Klum and Seal's Unusual Marriage, Revealed  
StyleBistro
- Jennifer Lawrence on Dior Ads: 'Of Course It's Photoshop, People Don't Look Like That!'  
StyleCaster
- 10 Surprising Ways to Avoid Nursing Home Care  
Caring.com
- 10 Things That Should Always Be In Your Purse  
Beso
- Confessions of Hotel Housekeepers  
AARP

[Top Lifestyle Stories](#)

[Most Popular Videos](#)

[See all Washington Post Newsletters](#)

ADVERTISEMENT

**American Diabetes Association.**

**CHILDREN WITH DIABETES NEED YOUR HELP.**

Your monthly donation of \$9 can help improve the lives of 25.8 million people.

**Make a Monthly Gift** Free thank-you gift

### Featured Advertiser Links

Looking to buy a home? Visit TWP Real Estate section for the latest open houses.

ADVERTISEMENT

### Sponsored Links

- The Visa® Black Card™**  
Apply Now and Get 100% More Value When Redeeming Points for Airfare!  
www.blackcard.com
- South University**  
Build Your Future Online at South University. Get Info & Learn More!  
online.SouthUniversity.edu
- TransUnion® Official Site**  
Free and Fast Credit Score. Total Protection From All 3 Bureaus  
transunion.com

[Buy a link here](#)

### Top Jobs

- Business Jobs
- Computer Jobs
- Construction Jobs
- Education Jobs
- Engineering Jobs
- Healthcare Jobs
- Legal Jobs
- Management Jobs
- Media Jobs
- Non-Profit Jobs
- Sales Jobs
- Science Jobs

Keyword Location

PROVIDED BY [SimplyHired](#)

[Search](#)



San Francisco's city attorney: 'We put discrimination on trial'



Should the Capitals offer Ribeiro a long-term deal? -- Post Sports Live



A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Peep



Sponsored Links

The Visa® Black Card™

Apply Now and Get 100% More Value When Redeeming Points for Airfare! www.blackcard.com

South University

Build Your Future Online at South University. Get Info & Learn More! online.SouthUniversity.edu

TransUnion® Official Site

Free and Fast Credit Score. Total Protection From All 3 Bureaus transunion.com

Buy a link here

AD

The Washington Post

Politics Opinions Local Sports National World Business Tech Lifestyle Entertainment Photo Video Blogs Classifieds

More ways to get us

Home delivery

Mobile & Apps

RSS

Facebook

Twitter

Social Reader

Newsletter & Alerts

Washington Post Live

Reprints & Permissions

Post Store

e-Replica

Archive

Contact Us

Help & Contact Info

Careers

Digital Advertising

Newspaper Advertising

News Service & Syndicate

About Us

The Washington Post Company

In the community

PostPoints

Newspaper in Education

Partners

CAPITAL BUSINESS The Capitol Deal El Tiempo Latino

express findsave FP Foreign Policy

MASTERCLASS PARADE POST TICKETS the ROOT

service alley Slate StudentAdvisor TROVE

washingtonpost.com

© 1996-2013 The Washington Post Terms of Service Privacy Policy Submissions and Discussion Policy RSS Terms of Service Ad Choices



# Style



Catching up on 'Nashville'

In the News Carolyn Hax \$20 diner Torrey Smith Gay marriage Donut wars Beer



Catching up on 'Nashville'

More ▾

Catching up on 'Nashville'

2013's new and notable restaurants

Aziz Ansari on stage

**Post Pulse**  
What's trending on the web now

Losing faith



## The Style Invitational

By the Empress

### Style Invitational: As we primp for our 20th anniversary, we bring out the dead (poems)



Bob Staake for The Washington Post - In memory of Ferdinand A. Porsche, the subject of our winning obit poem.

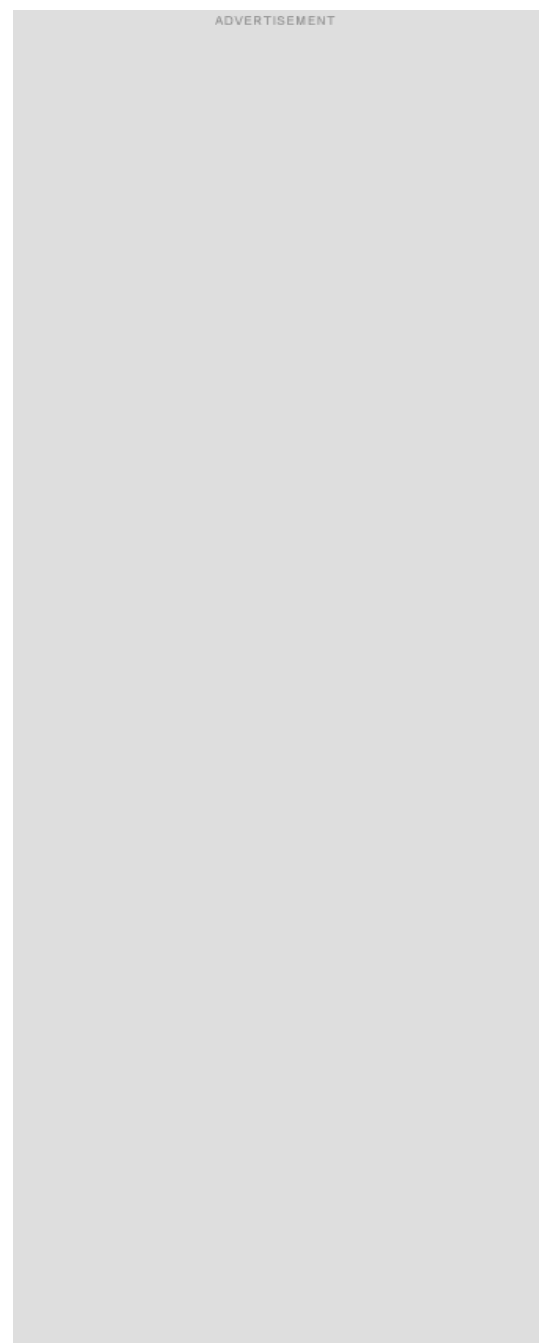
Buy This Photo

#### Antisa Khvichava

She claimed to be one hundred thirty-two  
 (It's hard to tell if that was really true),  
 But thanks to luck, good health and proper genes,  
 She'd pass for someone in her hundred-teens! *(Brendan Beary)*

#### Helen Gurley Brown


To her magazine readers she wanted to show  
 That it's fun and fulfilling to act like a ho.  
*(Mark Raffman, Reston, Va.)*



## The Style Invitational

The Style Invitational is The Post's weekly humor/wordplay contest, serving up since 1993 an irreverent mix of highbrow and lowbrow -- haughty and potty -- in genres ranging from neologisms to cartoon captions to elaborate song parodies. A new contest appears at [washingtonpost.com/styleinvitational](http://washingtonpost.com/styleinvitational) every Friday.

Archive 

 Style Conversational  E-mail

ADVERTISEMENT

### Arlen Specter

Now that really he's a specter,  
No one chivvies, snipes or chides  
That former GOP defector  
Arlen's once again switched sides. (*Frank Osen, Pasadena, Calif.*)

### Don Cornelius

He introduced soul music to the nation,  
But now, alas, Don's soul train's left the station. (*Howard Walderman, Columbia, Md.*)

### Said Jean Harris, "This new Scarsdale Diet

Is amazing! You really must try it!  
With just four rapid rounds  
I shed 200 pounds!  
(Now I just hope the jury will buy it.")  
(*Christopher Lamora*)

### Robert B. Sherman, Disney songwriter

Earthworms over earworms crawl,  
Since it's a pall world after all. (*Kevin Dopart*)

### John Demjanjuk, Nazi guard

Living in our own backyard,  
Was innocent, he often said,  
But all his witnesses are dead. (*Robert Schechter*)

### Mike Wallace

He runs up to the Pearly Gates,  
A microphone in hand.  
He shoves it in Saint Peter's face  
While shouting, "I demand  
An answer to my question, Saint!  
Is Jesus on the take?  
Did Moses rob the Israelites?  
Was Solomon a fake?"  
Peter cries, "Get out of here!  
I won't take this abuse!"  
But Wallace barges past the gates,  
And then all hell breaks loose. (*Robert Schechter*)

### Lady Sybil of "Downton Abbey"

Downtony-Powntony  
Lady S. Branson  
Expired in childbirth on  
Brit TV screens.  
She's not the only one;  
Characteristically  
Contracts expire, thus  
Gory death scenes. (*First Offender Chris Hansen, London, who saw this before Americans did and delivered a spoiler unto the Empress*)

## The Post Most: Lifestyle

### Most Popular

1. Her boyfriend stopped wanting sex
2. Carolyn Hax: A word for the grandma who labels kids? Upsetting.
3. In Gortitz, Germany, a walk through history
4. To build brand, companies produce slick content and their own media
5. The four most expensive ex-presidents in America




### + Top Videos

### + Top Galleries



## Personal Post

Top recommendations for you

- 2 h **STYLE**  
NPR's popular Tiny Desk  
Concerts are moving to a new building 
- 4 h **STYLE**  
Read this: The four most expensive ex-presidents in America right now 
- 9 h **FOOD**  
Wine: Petite sirah deserves some love
- 9 h **FOOD**  
6 petite sirahs to try
- 2 h **FRONTPAGE**  
Let's talk about sex 

More headlines for you 

TRENDING ON  
**wp social reader**



### Don't Expect a Historic Ruling on Same-Sex Marriage

### Scientists Create Ultra-Thin Invisibility Cloak

### New Apple flaw lets hackers change your Apple ID and iCloud p...

## Post Newsletters & Alerts

Sign-up for e-mail newsletters and alerts and get the news you need delivered directly to your inbox.

- Going Out Guide: Dinner & Drinks
- Going Out Guide: With The Kids
- At Home
- DC Scout
- Going Out Guide
- Lean & Fit
- Movies
- Travel



Higgledy-piggledy

**Carmen Basilio,**

Champion boxer whom

Death has outfoxed.

Lightweight pneumonia bugs

Unpugilistically

Knocked him right out. Now this

Boxer's been boxed. *(Dixon Wragg, Santa Rosa, Calif.)*

**Alex Karras**

Every gig he tried, he was a keeper;

Surely he could tackle Mr. Reaper.

If you think so, you are sadly wrong-o;

God sent one last Candygram for Mongo. *(Nan Reiner)*

**Mickey Mouse Club's Don Grady and Ginny Tyler**

Meeska, Mooska, Mouseketeer!

Don and Ginny disappear. *(Jeff Contompasis, Ashburn, Va.)*

**Newsweek** was a magazine.

It comes in print no more.

I fear that too soon, "get some ink"

Will be a metaphor. *(Ken Gallant, Conway, Ark.)*

**NFL linebacker Junior Seau**

In professional football, our top-rated sport,

Former players lead lives that are painful and short.

So it's not that surprising when one of them dies

From repeated concussions that speed his demise.

Let us pray for a change in this dangerous game

So I never again pen a couplet this lame:

"Into linemen and running backs Junior would plow,

Making skull-crunching hits, and he'd never Seau." *(Chris Doyle)*

**Sylvia Kristel, star of the softcore "Emmanuelle" films**

I. You never held back, you gave it your all,

And you added new meaning to the words "Kristel ball." *(Phil Battey, Alexandria)*

Continued 1 2 3 4 Next Page

Reprints

0

Comments

Discussion Policy | FAQ | About Discussions | About Badges

No comments are available at the moment. [Leave a comment](#)

More from The Washington Post

- Making time for play in Takoma Park
- Miss Manners: A little forethought protects your dessert from interlopers
- Ask Amy: Brother's behavior creates wedding

Sponsored Headlines

[What's this?]

- 16 Songs Everyone Over 50 Must Own AARP.org
- Heidi Klum and Seal's Unusual Marriage, Revealed StyleBistro

See all Washington Post Newsletters

ADVERTISEMENT

**CHILDREN WITH DIABETES NEED YOUR HELP.**

Your monthly donation of \$9 can help improve the lives of 25.8 million people.

**Make a Monthly Gift**

**STOP DIABETES.**

Free thank-you gift

American Diabetes Association.

Featured Advertiser Links

Looking to buy a home? Visit TWP Real Estate section for the latest open houses.

ADVERTISEMENT

Sponsored Links

**The Visa® Black Card™**

Apply Now and Get 100% More Value When Redeeming Points for Airfare!

www.blackcard.com

**South University**

Build Your Future Online at South University. Get Info & Learn More!

online.SouthUniversity.edu

**TransUnion® Official Site**

Free and Fast Credit Score. Total Protection From All 3 Bureaus

transunion.com

[Buy a link here](#)

Real Estate

**Is the Washington, D.C.-area housing market bubbling again?**



With average home prices up by double-digit percentages, some have begun to wonder if we are...

Listings



**\$899,000**, 5 bd / 5 bath  
Reduced Price  
Leesburg, VA



**\$152,000**, 3 bd / 3 bath  
Recently Listed  
Baltimore, MD



Go to The Post's Real Estate

drama

- Actress Lily Tomlin clarifies late-night legend Johnny Carson did not try to out her
- 22-year-old man killed while swinging from Utah rock arch in rope stunt popularized on YouTube
- 10 Things That Should Always Be In Your Purse  
Beso
- 10 Surprising Ways to Avoid Nursing Home Care  
Caring.com
- 13 Things a Movie Theater Employee Won't Tell You  
Reader's Digest

**Top Lifestyle Stories**

**Most Popular Videos**



**San Francisco's city attorney: 'We put discrimination on trial'**



**Should the Capitals offer Ribeiro a long-term deal? -- Post Sports Live**



**A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Peep**

**Sponsored Links**

**The Visa® Black Card™**

Apply Now and Get 100% More Value When Redeeming Points for Airfare!  
www.blackcard.com

**South University**

Build Your Future Online at South University. Get Info & Learn More!  
online.SouthUniversity.edu

**TransUnion® Official Site**

Free and Fast Credit Score. Total Protection From All 3 Bureaus  
transunion.com

[Buy a link here](#)

AD

**The Washington Post**

Politics Opinions Local Sports National World Business Tech Lifestyle Entertainment Photo Video Blogs Classifieds

**More ways to get us**

Home delivery

Mobile & Apps

RSS

Facebook

Twitter

Social Reader

Newsletter & Alerts

Washington Post Live

Reprints & Permissions

Post Store

e-Replica

Archive

**Contact Us**

Help & Contact Info

Careers

Digital Advertising

Newspaper Advertising

News Service & Syndicate

**About Us**

The Washington Post Company

In the community

PostPoints

Newspaper in Education

**Partners**

CAPITAL BUSINESS The Capitol Deal El Tiempo Latino

express find@save Foreign Policy

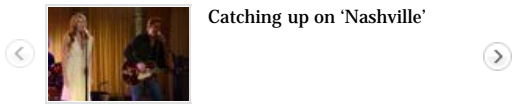
MASTER CLASS PARADE POST TICKETS the ROOT

service alley Slate StudentAdvisor TROVE

washingtonpost.com

© 1996-2013 The Washington Post Terms of Service Privacy Policy Submissions and Discussion Policy RSS Terms of Service Ad Choices

# Style



Catching up on 'Nashville'

In the News Carolyn Hax \$20 diner Torrey Smith Gay marriage Donut wars Beer

**HOBBY LOBBY**  
Click Now! 40% OFF Start Here For Easter Savings!  
HAPPY EASTER

Catching up on 'Nashville' | 2013's new and notable restaurants | Aziz Ansari on stage | **Post Pulse** What's trending on the web now | Losing faith



## The Style Invitational By the Empress

### Style Invitational: As we primp for our 20th anniversary, we bring out the dead (poems)



Bob Staake for The Washington Post - In memory of Ferdinand A. Porsche, the subject of our winning obit poem.

Buy This Photo

I saw "Emmanuelle" when just a teen  
And wondered: All my life where had you been?  
The title song was one that kept me humming  
While visions of Ms. Kristel kept me, uh, very happy. *(Tom Witte, Montgomery Village)*

**Elliott Carter**, past his hundredth year, liked to compose IT  
Pieces where DOES two different N'T groups  
Played different WORK movements  
At different IN speeds POETRY  
At the same THAT time  
That WELL overlapped EITHER. . . *(David Williams, Dunbar, W.Va., a First Offender)*

ADVERTISEMENT

#### The Post Most: Lifestyle

Most Popular

1. Her boyfriend stopped wanting sex
2. Carolyn Hax: A word for the grandma who labels kids? Upsetting.
3. In Gorlitz, Germany, a walk through history
4. To build brand, companies produce slick content and their own media
5. The four most expensive ex-presidents in America

Top Videos

## The Style Invitational

The Style Invitational is The Post's weekly humor/wordplay contest, serving up since 1993 an irreverent mix of highbrow and lowbrow -- haughty and potty -- in genres ranging from neologisms to cartoon captions to elaborate song parodies. A new contest appears at [washingtonpost.com/styleinvitational](http://washingtonpost.com/styleinvitational) every Friday.

Archive 

### Art Modell, owner of the Cleveland Browns (until he moved them in 1996)

On a winter midnight dreary, while snow blew in from Lake Erie,  
Art came up with a new theory he had failed to find before.  
"My team needs some warmer weather!  
Sever this cold Cleveland tether,

Question 'where,' no longer 'whether': We are heading for the door!"  
Like a flame there came the answer, as he led them out the door:  
"We are going to Baltimore!"

Frantic fans fumed, "This is treason! Keep them here for one more season!"  
But Art gave not cause nor reason, heading for that warmer shore.  
All the so-called football mavens dubbed Art's newly minted Ravens  
Flightless, fightless Cleveland cravens -- faded Browns, who could not score.  
Yet in the 2000 season, Art's team was the Super Corps!

They were part of Baltimore.

Now Art's taken one last flier, joining legends all admire,  
Halas, Rooney and the Squire -- men who made pro football soar.  
Though "the Move" is still debated, on Lake Erie's shores berated,  
In Charm City celebrated, there's one voice fans can't ignore.  
Loudly, proudly, hear the players voice their deep, unfeigned rapport:  
Quoth Art's Ravens -- "Baltimore!" (*Barry Koch, Catlett, Va.*)

### And dead last: The rejected obit poems of 2012

Dear Loser: For Style Invitational swag,  
Like the bobblehead Lincoln and Grossery Bag,  
You pored over dozens of newspaper obits  
For wry and hilarious no-one-would-know bits  
To put in an ink-worthy limerick or ode  
About people who've gone to their final abode.  
Your poems have been read by no other than me,  
And then tossed in the trash can. -- Yours truly, The E. (*Chris Doyle*)

**Still running -- deadline Monday night -- is our backward-crossword contest. See [bit.ly/invite1007](http://bit.ly/invite1007).**




Visit the online discussion group [The Style Conversational](#), in which the Empress discusses today's new contest and results along with news about the Loser Community -- and you can vote for your favorite among the inking entries, since you no doubt figured the Empress chose the wrong winner. If you'd like an e-mail notification each week when the Invitational and Conversational are posted online, write to the Empress at [losers@washpost.com](mailto:losers@washpost.com) (note that in the subject line) and she'll add you to the mailing list. And on Facebook, join the far more lively group [Style Invitational Devotees](#) and chime in.

+ Top Galleries



## Personal Post

Top recommendations for you

- 2 h **STYLE**  
NPR's popular Tiny Desk Concerts are moving to a new building 
- 4 h **STYLE**  
Read this: The four most expensive ex-presidents in America right now 
- 9 h **FOOD**  
Wine: Petite sirah deserves some love
- 9 h **FOOD**  
6 petite sirahs to try
- 2 h **FRONTPAGE**  
Let's talk about sex 

More headlines for you 

TRENDING ON  
social reader



**Don't Expect a Historic Ruling on Same-Sex Marriage**


**Scientists Create Ultra-Thin Invisibility Cloak**

**New Apple flaw lets hackers change your Apple ID and iCloud p...**

## Post Newsletters & Alerts

Sign-up for e-mail newsletters and alerts and get the news you need delivered directly to your inbox.

- Going Out Guide: Dinner & Drinks
- Going Out Guide: With The Kids
- At Home
- DC Scout
- Going Out Guide
- Lean & Fit
- Movies
- Travel

See all Washington Post Newsletters 

ADVERTISEMENT

**Next week's results: Send Us the Bill, or No Year's Resolutions**, our Week 1005 "joint legislation" contest. (The alternative headline and today's honorable-mentions subhead are both by Jeff Contompasis.)

Continued 1 2 3 4

Reprints

## 0 Comments


[Discussion Policy](#) | [FAQ](#) | [About Discussions](#) | [About Badges](#)

No comments are available at the moment. [Leave a comment](#)

### More from The Washington Post

- Red means stop for walkers, too
- Maryland farmers should report their use of hazardous pesticides
- Northern Virginia officials worry secret CIA facility could scuttle hopes for landing FBI HQ
- Ask Amy: For bar mitzvah, open heart to latecomers
- Husband at injured wife's bedside as family grieves son killed by Alabama airport sign

### Sponsored Headlines [What's this?]

- Heidi Klum and Seal's Unusual Marriage, Revealed  
[StyleBistro](#)
- The 10 Smartest Dog Breeds For Families  
[She Budgets](#)
- How To Use Google to Find Research Paper Material  
[About.com](#)
- Debating between a laptop or tablet? The choice is simple.   
[Intel](#)
- 10 Things That Should Always Be In Your Purse  
[Beso](#)

### Top Lifestyle Stories

### Most Popular Videos



San Francisco's city attorney: 'We put discrimination on trial'



Should the Capitals offer Ribeiro a long-term deal? -- Post Sports Live



A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Peep

### Featured Advertiser Links

Looking to buy a home? Visit TWP Real Estate section for the latest open houses.

ADVERTISEMENT

#### Sponsored Links

##### The Visa® Black Card™

Apply Now and Get 100% More Value When Redeeming Points for Airfare!  
[www.blackcard.com](#)

##### South University

Build Your Future Online at South University. Get Info & Learn More!  
[online.SouthUniversity.edu](#)

##### TransUnion® Official Site

Free and Fast Credit Score. Total Protection From All 3 Bureaus  
[transunion.com](#)

[Buy a link here](#)

### Rental Listings



**\$1,300 - \$1,545**, 1-2 bedrooms  
Charter Oak Apartments  
Reston, VA



**\$945 - \$1,425**, 1-3 bedrooms  
Station Square Apartments  
Suitland, MD



**\$1,830 - \$3,990**, 1-2 bedrooms  
Trilogy NOMA  
Washington, DC



[Go to The Post's Rentals](#)

#### Sponsored Links

##### The Visa® Black Card™

Apply Now and Get 100% More Value When Redeeming Points for Airfare!  
[www.blackcard.com](#)

##### South University

Build Your Future Online at South University. Get Info & Learn More!  
[online.SouthUniversity.edu](#)

##### TransUnion® Official Site

Free and Fast Credit Score. Total Protection From All 3 Bureaus  
[transunion.com](#)

[Buy a link here](#)

**More ways to get us**


[Home delivery](#)

[Mobile & Apps](#)

 [RSS](#)

 [Facebook](#)

 [Twitter](#)

 [Social Reader](#)

[Newsletter & Alerts](#)

[Washington Post Live](#)

[Reprints & Permissions](#)

[Post Store](#)

[e-Replica](#)

[Archive](#)

**Contact Us**

[Help & Contact Info](#)

[Careers](#)

[Digital Advertising](#)

[Newspaper Advertising](#)

[News Service & Syndicate](#)

**About Us**

[The Washington Post Company](#)


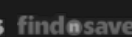

[In the community](#)

[PostPoints](#)

[Newspaper in Education](#)

**Partners**

  *The Capitol Deal* 

   [Foreign Policy](#)