

# Style Invitational

BY PAT MYERS

## Report from Week 1000

in which we celebrated that milestone with our most renowned contest: to create a new term, or neologism, by changing an existing word by adding a letter, subtracting a letter, substituting a letter, or transposing two letters: And this time the original word (not necessarily the resulting word) needed to start with a letter between T and Z.

THE  
WINNER  
OF THE  
INKIN'  
MEMORIAL

**Trendinitis:** Inflammation of the hip.  
(Jeff Contompasis, Ashburn)

**2** Winner of the book "Stuck Up!: 100 Objects Inserted and Ingested in Places They Shouldn't Be": **Milderness:** The suburbs. (Tom Witte, the Milderness of Montgomery Village)

**3** **Nuderwhelm:** To disappoint your date when your clothes come off. (Mike Gips, Bethesda)

**4** **Vuvuzeal:** The uncontrollable desire to be annoying to others at a sporting event. (Bird Waring, Larchmont, N.Y.)

## Witless tampering: Honorable mentions

**Whatever:** What your teenagers really mean when they say "whatever." (Jeff Loren, Manassas)

**Underlingo:** Employees' coded expressions to dis the boss. (John Shea, Philadelphia)

**Mombie:** A new mother on three hours' sleep. (Mark Raffman, Reston; David Cooper Moore, Philadelphia)

**Umbilicall:** A daily phone conversation with Mom. (Bird Waring)

**Whorton:** The oldest professional school. (Jeff Hazle, Woodbridge)

**Twilet paper:** Any book by Stephenie Meyer. (Mark Raffman)

**Straining wheels:** A stationary bicycle. (Roger Hammons, Ashburn)

**Will-o'-the-Wasp:** Manifest Destiny. (Brendan Beary, Great Mills, Md.)

**Thummyache:** A symptom of

overtexing. (Dave Prevar, Annapolis)

**Threaty:** A peace offer you can't refuse. (Jeff Contompasis)

**Tomcant:** A neutered kitty. (Barbara Turner, Takoma Park)

**Dadpole:** A frog. (Dudley Thompson, Cary, N.C.)

**Nyeti:** The Abominable No-Man. (Kevin Doport, Washington)

**Text Offensive:** ANYTHING IN ALL CAPS. (Danielle Nowlin, Woodbridge)

**Ufoology:** The study of alien abductions. (Beverley Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.)

**Top Gut:** New Jerseyites' nickname for their governor. (Mark Raffman)

**ZZZ Top:** Any played-out '70s band. (David Genser, Poway, Calif.)

**Y'almart:** One-stop shopping for grits, guns and Bibles. (Greg Arnold, Herndon)

**Theesome:** Amish kinkiness. (David

Genser; Frank Mullen III, Aledo, Ill.)

**REMptation:** What you're led into during a boring sermon. (Lois Douthitt, Arlington)

**Udopia:** Washington state, man. (Ned Bent, Erie, Pa.)

**Ultraviolet light:** A sunny morning in the dorm after the midnight kegger. (Barry Koch, Catlett, Va.)

**Television:** A political news conference. (Melissa Balmain)

**TerpsicKorean:** Yo! Gangnam Style! (Mae Scanlan, Washington)

**Texedo:** String tie and tails. (Chris Doyle, Ponder, Tex.)

**Tiramiso:** A not-so-popular dessert made with ladyfingers, espresso and soy goo. (Barbara Turner)

**Waffel:** I think it's spelled that way. Or maybe it's... (Edmund Conti, Raleigh, N.C.)

**Sorrywart:** Someone who constantly feels bound to apologize. (Neal Starkman, Seattle)

**Vergin':** Still pure, but only just. (Barrie Collins, Long Sault, Ontario)

**Waterbard:** To read someone Hallmark Mother's Day cards for 20 minutes straight. (Mike Gips)

**User-fiendly:** Made by Microsoft. (Jeff Contompasis)

**Vegilante:** A PETA activist. (Dudley Thompson)

**Youngk:** To aggravatingly add more unneeded letters to a really simple name. (Larry Yungk, Arlington)

See more neologisms in this week's online Invite at [bit.ly/invite1004](http://bit.ly/invite1004).

**Still running — deadline Monday night — is our contest to reuse an ad slogan for a different product. see [bit.ly/invite1003](http://bit.ly/invite1003).**



BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

## THIS WEEK'S CONTEST

# Week 1004: Dead letters

**The cork let's pop, the wine decant  
For the father of the cochlear implant.  
Glasses raised, let's give a cheer  
To William House, we say, "Hear! Hear!"**

In the wake of the days of revelry as we finally kicked 2012 goodbye, we pause a moment — as we've done for the past nine years — to remember those whose lives were lost, and then of course get busy writing irreverent little verses about them. **This week: Write a humorous poem about someone who died in 2012**, as in the example above by Washington Post Senior Silly Tweeter Gene Weingarten. It doesn't have to rhyme, but in the Empress's experience, rhyming verses tend to be funnier. (They also tend to scan a bit better than the second line of the above.) Short verses are more likely to make the print paper, but the best longer poems (including song parodies) will be published in the online Invite. You can find various lists of "notable deaths of 2012," etc., online. Compared with some of our other contests, our obit-poem challenge does call for a certain restraint in content and tone: Unless you're talking about an Osama-level evildoer, don't give three cheers who the person has met his demise, or predict that his soul is heading netherward.

Winner gets the Inkin' Memorial, the bobblehead that is the official Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives a toilet-shaped ceramic coffee cup that, set out on your breakfast table, could help you in your resolution not to overeat. Donated by Andrea Kelly.

**Other runners-up** win their choice of a yearned-for Loser Mug or the ardently desired Grossery Bag. Honorable mentions get a lusted-after Loser magnet. First Offenders receive a smelly, tree-shaped air "freshener" (FirStink for their first ink). E-mail entries to [losers@washpost.com](mailto:losers@washpost.com) or fax to 202-334-4312. Deadline is Monday, Jan. 14; results published Feb. 3 (online Jan. 31). No more than 25 entries per entrant per week. Include "Week 1004" in your e-mail 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/inviterules](http://wapo.st/inviterules). The subhead for this week's honorable mentions is by Chris Doyle. Join the lively Style Invitational Devotees group on Facebook at [on.fb.me/invdev](http://on.fb.me/invdev).



**STYLE CONVERSATIONAL** Have a question for the Empress or want to talk to some real Losers? Join us at [washingtonpost.com/stylconversational](http://washingtonpost.com/stylconversational).

## MOVIES

# 'Hunger Games' and 'Hobbit' sequels top poll of anticipated films

BY ERIC KELSEY

This year will look a lot like 2012 at the box office, with "The Hunger Games" and "The Hobbit" at the top of cinemagoers must-see lists, according to a survey by ticket-seller Fandango.

The second installment in "The Hunger Games" trilogy, "The Hunger Games: Catching Fire," which is set for a November release, topped the list as 2013's most-anticipated blockbuster.

The first film in the life-or-death thriller series starring Jen-



**Jennifer Lawrence**



**Martin Freeman**

nifer Lawrence raked in \$687 million worldwide at the box office in 2012.

"The Hobbit: The Desolation of

Smaug," director Peter Jackson's second installment in the "The Hobbit" series of elves and dwarves, ranked second on the survey that polled more than 2,000 moviegoers during the final week of 2012. It is scheduled to hit the big screen in December.

"People love the mega-franchises, and that is what gets them most excited," said Dave Karger, Fandango's chief correspondent. "The first 'Hunger Games' whetted peoples' appetites for more. The same can be said for 'The Hobbit' and 'Iron Man.'"

The superhero thriller "Iron Man 3," starring Robert Downey Jr., ranked third on the list and is set for a May 3 release.

"Star Trek into Darkness," the follow-up to 2009's science-fiction adventure "Star Trek," and "The Great Gatsby," starring Leonardo DiCaprio, rounded out the top five. Both films are set to open in May.

Mila Kunis, who stars in upcoming film "Oz: The Great and Powerful," was voted sexiest actress, while Channing Tatum was voted sexiest man for Paramount's "G.I. Joe: Retaliation." Both films

are set for March releases.

Ben Kingsley ("Iron Man 3") was voted most-anticipated villain, and June's zombie thriller "World War Z," starring Brad Pitt, was voted most-anticipated apocalyptic film.

British actress Alice Eve was voted biggest breakout actress for "Star Trek," while fellow Brit Henry Cavill got the nod as biggest breakout actor for playing Superman opposite Russell Crowe and Amy Adams in "Man of Steel," which will be released in June.

— Reuters