

DIVERSIONS

THE STYLE INVITATIONAL

Wit3words: The funniest map codes

BY PAT MYERS

In **Week 1182** we asked you to play with the app and website what3words, a map of the world that's divided into 57 trillion three-meter squares — and each of these little squares is assigned a code combining three words from a list of 40,000. Your mission was to find some word codes that were especially appropriate to their locations, or to say what, if life were funnier, *should* have that code. All the locations of the codes below are real unless otherwise indicated.

4th place

All future power plants should be sited in East Hampton, Va. — in **others.back.yard.** (Pete Kinsella, Glen Allen, Va.)

3rd place

"flagpole.with.mortar, Canada" = ANAGRAM CAPITAL OF THE WORLD (Jesse Frankovich, Lansing, Mich.)

2nd place and the egg timer ringed with weird human heads:

I find it strangely appropriate that typing **president.trump.elected** whisks one away to Quebec. (Jon Gearhart, Des Moines)

And the winner of the Inkin' Memorial:

buffoon.fruitcake.upstairs is in . . . Wasilla, Alaska. (Frank Osen, Pasadena, Calif.)

Low-cations: honorable mentions

You can find **stereotype.included.group** right on FedEx Field, Home of the R*dsk*ns (Jon Grantham, Bowie)

We found the missing emails — they're in the Clintons' front yard in Chappaqua, N.Y.! At **printouts.luminaries.specifics.** (Chris Doyle, Denton, Tex.)

Ironically, there are no houses near **knock.knock.joke,** outside Savannah, Ga. (Elliott Schiff, Allentown, Pa.)

Not surprisingly, there's **awesome.duration.celebrated** in Intercourse, Pa. (Kimberly Baer, Woodbridge)

. . . Which is also known as the birthplace of the fake orgasm, with **fictional.escalating.screeches.** (Jesse Frankovich)

. . . Or more euphemistically, **basics.weddings.reached.** (Mark Raffman, Reston)

Sneezing.dragon.zone is in the (hopefully) appropriately named Noatak nature preserve in Alaska. (Pam Sweeney, Burlington, Mass.)

It seems the Bible went a little overboard in its promises: **meek.shall.inherit** (in Kirov, Russia) just this 3-by-3-meter plot! (Pete Kinsella)

Where else but Brazil: **tenderest.waxed.bikini.** (Jeff Shirley, Richmond)

Ugh, **little.tiny.hands** should not be anywhere near Chelsea (Mich.). (Marni Penning Coleman, Falls Church)

They have **collected.mankind.purchasers** at Mount Rushmore — the half of it that commemorates slave-owning presidents. (Dave Matuskey, Sacramento)

At the Little Bighorn Battlefield, South Dakota, you will find **owners.essentially.speared.** (Julius Sanks, Ashburn)

In the CIA's George Bush Center for Intelligence in Langley, Va. (noted in the search bar as "near Brookmont, Md."): **smart.policy.soup,** not to mention **cave.plot.calculating** (Ellen Ryan, Rockville)

And at the NSA near Fort Meade, Md.: **polices.voters.faithfully.** (Steve Langer, Chevy Chase, Md.)

In the middle of nowhere in the North Pacific Ocean: **completely.totally.lost.**

In the middle of nowhere in the North Atlantic Ocean: **completely.utterly.lost.** (Jeff Contompassis, Ashburn, Va.)

With so many political minds already located up there, **head.bottom.intersection** should be moved from Western Australia to Capitol Hill. (Jon Gearhart)

The IRS's overseas operations? **give.that.tome** (Argentina) (Alex Jeffrey, Columbia, Md.)

Maybe the next presidential vacation home will be in Lordsburg, N.M., at **trump.whites.house** —



BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

New contest for Week 1186: We're always happy to verse you

Toilets/ T.S. Eliot
Let us go then, to the john,
Where the toilet seat waits to be sat upon
Like a lover's lap perched upon ceramic;
Let us go, through doors that do not always lock,
Which means you ought to knock
Lest opening one reveal a soul within
Who'll shout, "Stay out! Did you not see my shin,
Framed within the gap twixt floor and stall?"
No, I did not see that at all . . .
(From "Holy Tango of Literature" by Francis Heaney)

This week's contest was suggested by Loser Bruce Niedt, who showed the Empress a nifty book called "Holy Tango of Literature" — "holy tango" being an anagram of "anthology." Its author, the puzzle editor and "Professional Word-Type Person" Francis Heaney, rearranged the letters of various poets' names, then wrote parody poems based on those anagrams, like the "J. Alfred Prufrock" takeoff above.

This week we'll broaden Heaney's idea: **Write a humorous poem, of any form, about or "by" the anagram of anyone's name.** Poems that relate somehow to the original subject will probably be more clever, no? We're not imposing a length limit, but longer poems have to be worth the space they take up. We don't mind short verses at all.

Submit entries at bit.ly/invite-enter-1186.

Winner gets the Inkin' Memorial, the Lincoln statue bobblehead that is the official Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives a little book called "Butt Rot and Bottom Gas: A Glossary of Tragically Misunderstood Words" (Butt rot: a disease affecting the base of a tree; bottom gas: a gas used by scuba divers). Donated by Melissa Yorks.

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, Aug. 8; results published Aug. 28 (online Aug. 25). 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 Chris Doyle; the honorable-mentions subhead is by Jesse Frankovich. 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.

where the president could oversee the building of the border wall a few miles away. (Edward Gordon, Austin)

Or maybe **trumps.backup.plan** is to build a much shorter wall on the border of Mexico and Guatemala (Julia Shawhan, Silver Spring)

Easter egg found! If you type in **calm.crew.quiet** or **songs.happy.indoor** or another code assigned to the Richard Rodgers Theatre — home of "Hamilton" on Broadway — the search bar will say the location is "near Weehawken, New Jersey." Weehawken is where Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr had their once again famous duel. (Kathy Hardis Fraeman, Olney)

My childhood home in Stockholm, N.J., should be converted to a kilt shop: Right there in my old front yard is where **paradise.swelled.beneath.** (Hildy Zampella, Falls Church)

Ted Cruz and Rick Perry should move in together outside Van Horn, Tex., at the **huge.loser.zone.** (Todd DeLap, Fairfax)

At National Rifle Association headquarters in Fairfax: **impress.potential.buffoon.** (Tim Kloth, Springfield)

Searchers had to go all the way to Tanzania to find the fabled **inoffensive.trump.tweets.** (Todd DeLap)

Sarah Palin's home state seems to have a theme going: **really.scary.mothering** (near Healy, Alaska) **crazy.scary.mothering** (near Nome) **super.scary.mothering** (near Bethel) (Frank Mann, Washington)

Speaking of Alaska: **trump.likes.winning** (in Nikiski) **trump.likes.losing** (Kotzebue)

(Frank Mann)

I've tracked **money.laundrying.schemes** to a remote area near Tshiturapadi, Zimbabwe — good, because their prince owes me money! (Jon Gearhart)

If "we don't smoke marijuana in Muskogee," why do they have **pipes.full.herb** there? (Doug Frank, Crosby, Tex.)

The map says it's in southern Tanzania, but **infinity.sized.dress** is actually found in Your Mama's closet. (John Hutchins, Silver Spring)

The Wicked Witch of the East's mausoleum has been discovered at **really.most.sincerely,** near Krasnoyarsk, Russia (Chris Doyle)

Levi's quality control department must be outsourcing to Portugal, at **unzips.zips.unzips.** (Jeff Shirley)

The Metropolitan Museum of Art seems to be trying to appeal to a different group of tourists with **cage.rock.gladicators** (John O'Byrne, Dublin)

Inside Trump Tower in Manhattan you will find the **ripe.orange.bunch.** (Todd DeLap)

In London's Edgware district, where the majority voted to remain in the EU: **many.vote.leave** But near Rayne, in Essex, where every district voted to leave: **many.voting.remain** (Frank Mann)

And Last: The Empress should have judged this week in Guatemala, from a little desk at **pointless.maps.contest.** (Elliott Schiff)

More honorable mentions in the online Invite at bit.ly/invite1186.

Still running — deadline Monday night, Aug. 1: our ink blot contest. See bit.ly/invite1185.

SUNDAY CHALLENGE

BY BRAD WILBER © 2016 CROSSYNERGY SYNDICATE LLC

ACROSS

1 Cat burglar's scheme
 6 Movie with Whoopi Goldberg in black and white?
 15 Sidestep
 16 Attorney's specialty that may deal with inheritance taxes
 17 "Bad, bad" Brown of song
 18 Elfin workshop locale
 19 Ltr. holder
 20 Some hotel lobby furniture
 22 Royal companion of Falstaff
 23 Hauls into court
 25 Swedish flag symbol
 26 Thronebery of Mets lore
 27 Things zipped and unzipped in a sporting goods demo
 29 Civil War historian Shelby
 30 Constellation whose name means "eagle"
 31 "That gave me goose bumps!" feeling

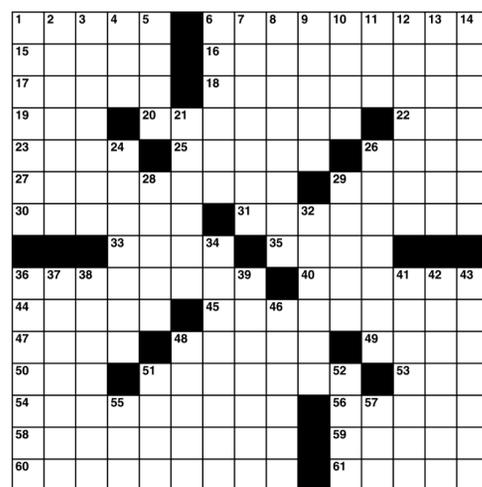
33 She has a large
 35 Paul of "Little Miss Sunshine"
 36 Apprehended
 40 Put on a bulletin board
 44 Tiny elemental components
 45 Loathsome
 47 Homeowner's debt (abbr.)
 48 Traveled far and wide
 49 Beginning of -plasmic or -thermic
 50 Golf pros often break it
 51 Department stocking
 53 Indian lentil dish
 54 Famously buoyant brand
 56 Ham it up
 58 Alexandria's surroundings
 59 Where "The Crucible" takes place
 60 It contains exactly 24 points, all won by the same tennis player
 61 No longer fit to eat, in a way

DOWN

1 "Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy" keyboard instrument
 2 Broadway hit with salty-tongued puppet characters
 3 Cash-flashing climber
 4 Pre-1868 Tokyo
 5 Kiddie-lit couple who created Curious George
 6 Nissan that has grown from subcompact to midsize
 7 Carbon 13, for one
 8 Ready to snap, maybe
 9 Frequent dinner guests on TV's "Bewitched"
 10 Biblical verb suffixes
 11 One "preacher" curl, e.g.

12 Stereotypical luau number
 13 Herb Alpert School of Music institution, familiarly
 14 Signs of the zodiac and original NATO states, e.g.
 21 Oblong cream puff
 24 1998 Christopher Reeve memoir
 26 Charlie McCarthy accessory
 28 Doghouse bane
 29 "Is that your _____ answer?"
 32 Like 10 of the last 11 Best Picture Oscar winners
 34 Many graffitiist's paints
 36 Roughing it, perhaps
 37 Tenor role in Mozart's "Don Giovanni"

38 Engage in some congressional quid pro quo
 39 Veer from the norm
 41 Figure with "Baywatch" and "Shaving Fun" versions in 1994
 42 Not listing a year of publication
 43 Authority often consulted by Christopher Columbus
 46 Eye on the sly
 48 Cleveland Indians legend Al
 51 Dark side of 19th-century fiction
 52 Affirmative from Opie to Aunt Bee
 55 Flushed
 57 Great Leap Forward chairman



Answer to last week

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

HOROSCOPE

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY | July 31, 2016: This year you might hold back emotionally, or perhaps you'll judge your feelings quite harshly. If you are single, use extreme caution if you start dating someone. Take your time, and make sure this person is really who they claim to be. If you are attached, the two of you love your time together, far away from the world and your worries. Cancer can be too clingy for you to handle.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
 You don't typically choose to reveal your thoughts or ideas. You may decide to take a small break from your social circle. You tend to want to stay home and not be particularly responsive to others. Make it okay to have a lazy day or two.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
 Communication with others will keep you very busy if you choose to be responsive. An invitation for a late brunch will sound perfect. Say "yes" and join friends at a favorite spot.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
 Be aware of a tendency to feel left out or confused. Use caution with your finances. You easily could miscount your change or make an error writing a check. Be sensitive to a partner's needs.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
 You may feel as if you have certain matters under control. Make several calls early in the day, because later you could decide to change your plans and head in a different direction.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
 You can't be on top of your game all the time. Be willing to acknowledge that you are not as energetic as usual and declare it a lazy day to watch a movie or maybe settle in with your favorite Sunday newspaper.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
 You won't want to stay home once you hear what a friend is up to, or perhaps after you receive a fun invitation. The more people around you, the happier you will be.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
 Don't give in to someone's attempt to get you to fill in for him or her. You need to remain free and handle what you need to. Wherever you are, others seem to appreciate your efforts.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
 Take off for the movies or figure out what would delight your mind the most. Someone will let you know how much he or she cares once you decide to stop pressuring him or her.

Ex-husband is sending mixed signals**Ask Amy**

Dear Amy: I was 19 when I married my husband, who was 27 at the time. When we started dating, I was pregnant by another man. My husband and I got married 10 months later.

He is a manager at a chain pizza store that his family owns, so he works a lot — 60 to 70 hours a week. I was young, newly married with a baby and a new, big-girl job.

He wasn't paying me any mind (I thought). So I left him. I wanted both the income and the attention. I wanted to have my cake and eat it, too. He worked a lot because we wanted nice things.

It has been more than a year since I left. We still see each other, hang out and are intimate. I want him back more than anything. He says that he loves and misses me but that he can't get over the fact that I left him.

I often suggest we do things, and I am always the one to text him. The longest we have gone without talking is 10 days, at which point I texted him. He gives me the most

confusing vibes. When we're together it seems perfect. I want to give up, but my Christian belief makes me not want to. I'm torn, stressed and exhausted. I don't know what to do. Please help!

A Broken Girl

Broken Girl: Your Christian faith didn't stop you from leaving your husband, so now it might be best if you didn't use your faith as an excuse to keep pursuing him.

In terms of "wanting cake," it seems that your ex is now in that category. He has the advantages of having a relationship with you when he wants it. He might also be punishing you for your own rejection by keeping you on the ropes.

If you were happy with things as they are, then you wouldn't have a problem, but it is a fact that chasing someone who doesn't really want to get caught simply doesn't work.

Lawyers and other advisers frequently suggest that couples who are splitting up should not have conjugal visits. This muddies the water and delays

both parties' ability to move on.

It is time for you to stop pursuing your ex. Stop it. If he wants to come back to you, he will. If he doesn't want to come back, his distance will help you to recover from this failed relationship and make different choices next time.

Dear Amy: I got chills when I read the letter from "Worried," the woman whose boyfriend's mother was rude and dismissive toward her. I'm glad her boyfriend confronted his mother over this.

If this dynamic doesn't change, she should seriously reconsider this relationship. My mother-in-law treated me this way during our courtship, and then upped her game once we got married. It has been hell.

*Chilled***Chilled:** So sorry.

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

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