

DIVERSIONS

THE STYLE INVITATIONAL

Easy as 1,1,2,3: Fibonacci poems

BY PAT MYERS

In **Week 1301** we asked for Fibs, poems whose syllables per line follow the mathematical Fibonacci sequence of 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8.

4th place

"Here's My Foreign Policy: I am no hater, As long as you're a dictator." — *D.J.T. Washington* (Mark Raffman, Reston, Va.)

3rd place

Bread's Not My snack. (Celiac.) But that doughy scent . . . I'm a gluten for punishment. (Matt Monitto, Bristol, Conn.)

2nd place and the giant rattlesnake mug:

To Find Single Men at Trump Rallies? Friends guffawed: "The odds are good; the goods are odd." (Nan Reiner, Boca Raton, Fla.)

And the winner of the Lose Cannon:

Gee, Thanks, Stormy: After your Tale from those plush rooms; I can no longer eat mushrooms. (Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.)

Deputy dawggerel: Honorable mentions

Storms, Droughts? Sad jokes! Climate change? Of course it's a hoax! Mar-a-Lago is just fine, folks. (Melissa Balmain, Rochester, N.Y.)

The Don, Upon Waking up, Was once filled with dread To find a horseface in his bed. (Jesse Frankovich, Grand Ledge, Mich.)

Eight Years, Steady, Atrophied My nerves for trauma: Now I'm a wreck. Thanks, Obama. (Duncan Stevens)

Hue. Cry. "Boohoo . . . What dead guy?" While the world hollers, Donald counts his petrodollars. (Nan Reiner)

Now That Midterms Are over, Together we'll grow, Eating either turkey or crow. (Drew Bennett, West Plains, Mo.)

Horse Sleigh Snowfall Harness bells The horse knows the way "Wait, where's my phone? Oh no, go back!" (Kristin Braly, Baltimore, a First Offender)

Trump And Comrade Vladimir: Two peas in a pod. One thinks he's czar; the other, God. (Ray Gallucci, Frederick, Md.)

In A Public Interview If flustered, don't fret: Get in touch with your inner Brett. (Marcus Bales, Cleveland)

Since The Options For voting Are so hard to sift, My go-to source is Taylor Swift. (Jesse Frankovich)

I play Tennis. So, alas, Alone I will be. Because love means nothing to me. (Craig Dykstra, Centreville, Va.)



BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

New contest for Week 1305: Hits and Googles

Googleyup: "chocolate covered lettuce"
Googleyup: "chocolate covered steak"
Googleyup: "chocolate covered sand"
Googleyup: "chocolate covered Volkswagen Beetle parked in front of a supermarket in China"
Googlenope: "chocolate covered poached mouse fetuses on a lightly toasted poppy-seed bagel with a schmear" — *from a list by Gene Weingarten, 2007*

Googleyup: "Trump is completely honest." (The one hit: "Trump is completely honest about his probable future dishonesty.")
Googleyup: "Twitter brings me peace of mind." (The one hit: "Lately, staying off Twitter brings me peace of mind.") — *both from Gene Weingarten, 2018*

At a comely age 25, the Style Invitational has grown up — and here's the only way you'll see "Style Invitational" with "grown up" — with Google. And the Invite has played with the search engine in various ways, as has Washington Post humor columnist Gene Weingarten (who until 2003 carried on an intimate, whispered-about relationship with the Empress's predecessor, the Czar).

In 2007, Gene coined the term "Googlenope," a word or phrase that generates no Google hits at all, while discovering "Queen Elizabeth's buttocks," "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious-esque" and "Nelson Mandela is a doo-doo head." The same year, the Style Invitational Losers tried it for Week 717 (winner: "That controversial 'Gilligan's Island' episode" by Malcolm Fleschner). And as late as 2010, Loser Mark Richardson found no hits for "Nobody understands me like my husband" or "Nobody understands me like my wife."

We've also had contests for Googlewhacks — a single hit — and Googillions, phrases that drew more than 1 million hits ("Trump has the same hair on his behind" — J. Larry Schott, 2009). But we never got around to doing the variation that Gene dubbed Googleyups: phrases that surprisingly do have one or more hits out there, if only to negate the sentiment, as in the examples above from Gene's column just last weekend.

Obviously, finding unique and interesting hits on Google is a lot harder in 2018 than in 2010, and it was hard then. So the E is broadening her search parameters, so to speak. **This week: Find us either a Googlenope — a phrase in quotation marks that generates no previous hits — or a Googleyup, a phrase that surprisingly does have hits.** You could even contrast a Googlenope with one or more Googleyups, as Gene did in 2007, or cite an ironic context for the Googleyup, as he did last week. If you come up with an actual Googlenope, note that with your entry.

Submit entries at the website wapo.st/enter-invite-1305.

Winner gets the **Lose Cannon**, our Style Invitational trophy. And speaking of Pulitzer-Winning Juvenile Armpit-Farters, this week's second prize was donated by Dave Barry, who got it from a fan. It's a nice manly **barbecue apron**, probably from 2012, since "Meat Romney" is embroidered onto it. What's manly about it? Well, lurking behind a dish towel attached to the front of the apron is a pendulous foot-long fabric, um . . . as Dave says: "It is difficult to describe this item without using the word 'penis,' but I will try: This is a novelty apron mining the rich, never-gets-old humor vein that is 2012 election humor." **Warning:** Before the Empress will award this prize, the winner must attest in writing to having no taste whatsoever. Otherwise, the E will substitute something more decorous and mature, like a plastic dog turd. **Other runners-up** win our "You Gotta Play to Lose" Loser Mug or our Grossery Bag, "I Got a B in Punmanship" (or perhaps a new design). Honorable mentions get one of our lusted-after Loser magnets, "We've Seen Better" or "IDiot Card." First Offenders receive only a smelly tree-shaped air "freshener" (FirStink for their first ink). **Deadline is Monday night, Nov. 19;** results published Dec. 9 (online Thursday, Dec. 6). See general contest rules and guidelines at wapo.st/InvRules. The headline for this week's results is by Chris Doyle; Chris also wrote this week's honorable-mentions subhead. Join the Style Invitational Devotees on Facebook at [on.fb.me/invdev](https://www.facebook.com/invdev). "Like" 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 discusses each new contest and set of results. Especially if you plan to enter, check it out at wapo.st/styleconv.



Weingarten models the apron in its presentable position.

Go. Leave. Really, I'll be fine. Don't feel guilty, son. I'm used to loneliness. Have fun. (Hildy Zampella, Alexandria)

You've Now Read all The snoozers That got ink for the Style Invitational Losers. (Chris Doyle, Denton, Tex.) *Actually, no! More Fibs in the online invite at wapo.st/invite1305.*

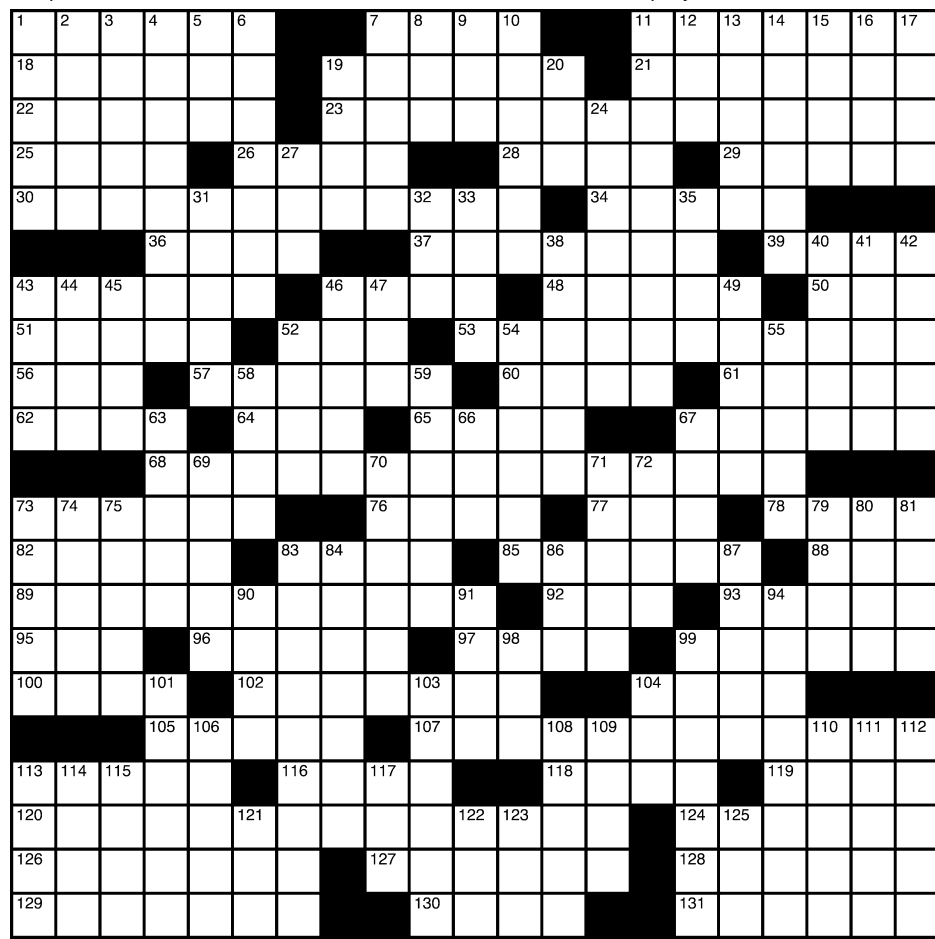
Still running — deadline Monday night, Nov. 12: our "what if" contest. wapo.st/invite1304.

L.A. TIMES SUNDAY PUZZLE

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

"HUNGER GAMES" By PATTI VAROL

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| <p>ACROSS</p> <p>1 Comfy cover-up</p> <p>7 Didn't toss</p> <p>11 Elemental variant</p> <p>18 Loosen, in a way</p> <p>19 "Spare me your excuses"</p> <p>21 Spot for doodles</p> <p>22 Land at Mexico City Airport?</p> <p>23 A hungry actor might</p> <p>25 Poison sumac exposure risk</p> <p>26 Nonstick cookware brand</p> <p>28 "It matters how you get there"</p> <p>29 Dollars for quarters</p> <p>30 A hungry film critic might</p> <p>34 Compote component</p> <p>36 Polish literature?</p> <p>37 Exile</p> <p>39 Bird feeder food</p> <p>43 "How you holdin' up?"</p> <p>46 "No done"</p> <p>48 Subjects of the film "Blackfish"</p> <p>50 Music-licensing org.</p> <p>51 Not quite right</p> <p>52 Some is changed regularly</p> <p>53 A hungry locksmith might</p> <p>56 Pentagon address</p> <p>57 Clever barb response</p> <p>60 Loch with a mystery</p> <p>61 Seriously ticked</p> <p>62 Cartoon desert island sight</p> <p>64 Passé</p> <p>65 Special forces mission</p> <p>67 Competed using blades</p> <p>68 A hungry librarian might</p> <p>73 Cherry-topped dish</p> <p>76 Venerable English school</p> <p>77 Dinghy need</p> <p>78 "Thor: Ragnarok" actor idris</p> <p>82 Live, TV-wise</p> <p>83 Bouquet bearer</p> <p>85 Mariano Rivera, memorably</p> <p>88 Alley in comics</p> <p>89 A hungry janitor might</p> <p>92 Shade</p> | <p>93 Curved plumbing piece</p> <p>95 Call ___ day</p> <p>96 Monopoly buy</p> <p>97 Somber notice</p> <p>99 CafePress purchase</p> <p>100 Comes together</p> <p>102 Kellogg's toaster pastry</p> <p>104 Philistine</p> <p>105 Inched</p> <p>107 A hungry banker might</p> <p>113 Point of contention</p> <p>116 Swearing or swearing-in words</p> <p>118 Cookie grain</p> <p>119 Mystique</p> <p>120 A hungry angler might</p> <p>124 Lanai furniture material</p> <p>126 "One man's struggle to take it easy," for "Ferris Bueller"</p> <p>127 Intimidating words</p> <p>128 Password precursor</p> | <p>129 Poor rating</p> <p>130 Actress Falco</p> <p>131 Reason</p> <p>DOWN</p> <p>1 Measure up</p> <p>2 Singer Baker</p> <p>3 14-time Grammy-winning banjoist</p> <p>4 North Carolina team</p> <p>5 Unlike this ans.</p> <p>6 One who picks up a lot</p> <p>7 Mexican painter</p> <p>8 Night before</p> <p>9 Chapel bench</p> <p>10 Champ's collection</p> <p>11 Trains</p> <p>12 A behavioral sci.</p> <p>13 Ferrell's "SNL" cheerleading partner</p> <p>14 Guiding principles</p> <p>15 Willing to listen</p> <p>16 Auto store buy</p> <p>17 "Grand" ice cream brand</p> | <p>19 Ponzi scheme, e.g.</p> <p>20 Psalm pronoun</p> <p>24 Sincere attempts</p> <p>27 Off-chewed item</p> <p>31 Defiant response</p> <p>32 TiVo predecessor</p> <p>33 Foot that's part of a meter</p> <p>35 Four Corners state</p> <p>38 City on Lake Erie</p> <p>40 WWII sub</p> <p>41 Gush on stage</p> <p>42 Wiped out</p> <p>43 Ramadan ritual</p> <p>44 Abu Dhabi dignity</p> <p>45 Name on Irish euros</p> <p>46 Veda reader</p> <p>47 Resembling</p> <p>48 Omega rival</p> <p>52 Capital north of Berlin</p> <p>54 Like some bagels</p> <p>55 Fond papa</p> <p>58 Stopped at sea, with 'to'</p> | <p>59 Chatters</p> <p>63 Terrier on "Frasier"</p> <p>66 Before now</p> <p>67 Fit to be tied</p> <p>69 Word before or after "mother"</p> <p>70 Outcome</p> <p>71 Breakfast-on-the-run pickup</p> <p>72 Really feel the heat</p> <p>73 Pulitzer-winning Ferber novel</p> <p>74 Work together</p> <p>75 Present at birth</p> <p>79 Actress Petty of "Orange Is the New Black"</p> <p>80 Tusked critter</p> <p>81 Cal. entry</p> <p>83 Naysayer's weapon?</p> <p>84 Highly skilled in turkey dressing</p> <p>86 Often-seared tuna</p> <p>87 English Derby town</p> <p>90 Last element in Pandora's box</p> <p>91 Lawn-Boy parent company</p> | <p>94 Menace</p> <p>98 Texter's "Oh, and another thing . . ."</p> <p>99 Geoffrey the Giraffe's store</p> <p>101 River racers</p> <p>103 Stick (to)</p> <p>104 Carlsbad Caverns dweller</p> <p>106 Bright again</p> <p>108 White ___ Party spread</p> <p>109 ___Grain: breakfast bar brand</p> <p>111 Blue eyes, e.g.</p> <p>112 Baseball Hall of Famer Koufax</p> <p>113 Ratio phrase</p> <p>114 Adult cygnet</p> <p>115 Herb used in turkey dressing</p> <p>117 E'en if</p> <p>121 "Based ___ true story"</p> <p>122 Retirement spot</p> <p>123 "Moonlight" Oscar winner</p> <p>125 Mahershala ___ Comparison words</p> |
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Answers to last week's puzzle below.

HOROSCOPE

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY | Nov. 11: This year, the adaptability that you offer becomes very important to quite a few people. Your lack of traditional boundaries delights friends old and new alike. If you are single, you might believe that the first attractive person you meet this year is The One. Date for a while — at least a year — and see whether you still feel the same way. If you are attached, you and your partner often have very serious conversations. These exchanges only strengthen your bond. Capricorn is lucky for you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) You might note that an older relative seems to be evaluating an important matter. Give this person the space and the time to discuss what is on his or her mind. Maintain a caring attitude, as they seem to be taking this particular situation very seriously.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You could be reaching out to someone who makes a big difference in your life. A partner or loved one expects to be there for you. Even if you might not want to share with this person, you need to be diplomatic.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Listen to a close associate who tends to point you toward the right path. Schedule some time to clear out a project or finish a chore. A serious talk with a key person in your life reflects their energy and reveals what they really think.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Defer to a loved one. This person might be a handful in general, and sometimes even a stick in the mud. They could be very conservative and not as fun-loving as you might like. However, the caring between the two of you is genuine.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You might be upset about a certain matter. A friend or loved one appears to have a bad case of the blues. Just be yourself and do what you enjoy. Encourage this person to open up.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) If you are full of mischief and feel as if you are a kid again, then your mood is where it needs to be. Let your inner child emerge. Do not worry about someone else's reaction. Playing as though you're little again can revive your spirit.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Recognize the importance of your family, home and domestic life. At the present moment, how a key person in your life is presenting themselves worries you. Stop and take some time to chat with this person.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) You know that you are not weak and that you are a force to be dealt with. You naturally light up another person's life just by hanging out with them. Try not to be overly serious in a conversation. Keep your interactions light and easy.

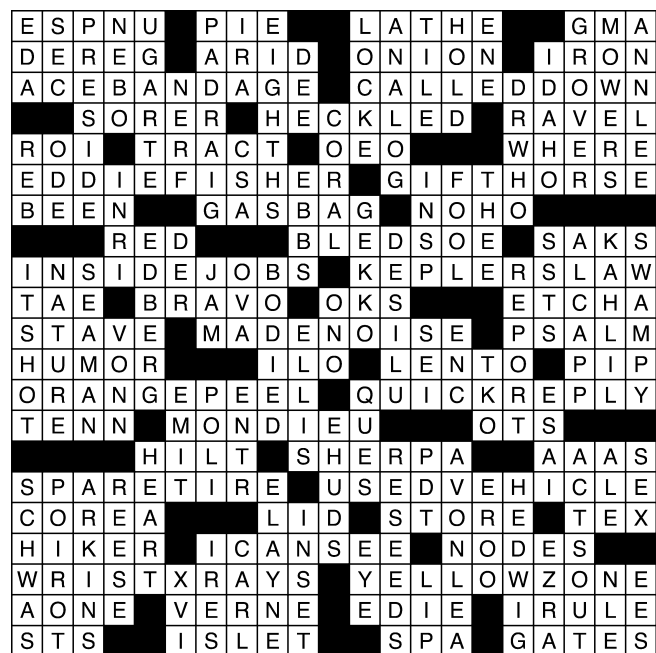
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) You might want to do some heavy shopping or playing. If you are not careful, you will see how fast you can drain your checking account. Try to maintain some balance. Share your ideas with a close friend or loved one.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You could be tired of trying to handle all your responsibilities. Take a realistic look at what is happening. You might need to look at why you do not support yourself in being more authentic. Don't feel as if you have to share whatever is on your mind.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Even when greeting good times with a loved one, you'll want to maintain a low profile. Adding a screen of privacy could add a lot of depth and openness to your bond. Let go of seriousness, and embrace your more lighthearted side.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Your friendship means a lot to a key person in your life. Sometimes, this individual might appear to be a little shy or withdrawn. Make that okay. Each friendship one has in life can be very different from the others.

Answers to last week's puzzle.



11/4/18