

DIVERSIONS

THE STYLE INVITATIONAL

Droll call: Winning 'Joint legislation'

BY PAT MYERS

Week 1314 was our biennial "joint legislation" contest to combine the names of new members of Congress as "co-sponsors." Some of the entries below will require you to say them out loud, perhaps repeatedly. But believe me, they don't compare with such Mrs. Incredible stretches as **Omar-Harder-Lee-Lamb** (Mary Had Little Lamb) or **Pappas-Scott-Braun-Meuser-Case** (Papa's Got Brand New Suitcase). Yes, this contest was a bear to judge.

4th place:

The **Hyde-Smith-Underwood** Bill to guarantee the right to unmarked burials in national parks. (Steve Honley, Washington)

3rd place:

The **Sherrill-Watkins-Scott** resolution that younger siblings should get to play with the older kids' toys. (Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.) [share all what kin's got]

2nd place and the Jesus Bandages band-aids:

The **Finkenauer-Pappas-Wild-Golden-Case** Act offers immunity to Eric and Don Jr. for corroborating the Steele dossier. (Frank Osen, Pasadena, Calif.)

And the winner of the Lose Cannon:

The **Morelle-Gooden-Wright-Hill** Congressional Ethics Reform Act (died in committee). (Jeff Contompasis, Ashburn)

Nays: Honorable mentions

The **Hyde-Smith-Smith-Rose-Rose-Levin-Levin-Garcia-Garcia** Anti-Doublespeak Paperwork and Ink Reduction Act (Frank Mann, Washington)

Wright-Steube-Baird-Underwood Act designating nudist-friendly areas in national forests. (Virginia Hume Onufer, Chevy Chase, Md., a First Offender) [Rights to be bared under wood]

The **Omar-Kim-Allred** Act, a GOP-sponsored bill to summarily accuse all Democrats of being Communists. (Kathy Hardis Fraeman, Olney) [Oh, mark 'em all red]

The **Lamb-Scott-Gooden-Green** Act to clean out leftovers in the refrigerator before they become really gross. (Mark Raffman, Reston)

The **Levin-Omar-Levin (LOL)** Proclamation recognizes that Israel and Palestine shall never again take up arms against one another. (Chris Damm, Charles Town, W.Va.)

The **Pappas-Torres Small-Pence** bill to ban the sale of "slim-fit" trousers to men over 50. (Paul Burnham, Gainesville)

The **Gooden-Cunningham** Declaration praising the Third Little Pig for cleverly choosing building materials. (Dave Airozo, Silver Spring)

The **Pressley-Pence-Wright** Declaration to Place a Proper French Crease in *les pantalons*. (Joanne Free, Clifton)

The **Guest-Rouda [ruda]-Lee-Rose-Tlaib [t'leeb]** Act to Remind People to Just Sit Politely for a Few More Minutes (Jennie Reiff, Crystal Lake, Ill.) [guest rudely rose to leave]

The **Lamb-Garcia** Act to prohibit bizarre ice cream flavors. (Robyn Carlson, Keyser, W.Va)

The **Hyde-Smith-Wright** Act to improve the Witness Protection Program (Drew Bennett, West Plains, Mo.)

The **Allred-Hill-McSally-Miller-Morelle-Mucarsel-Powell-Phillips-Sherrill-Torres Small** proclamation telling Trump to go 2 L. (Bill Verkuilen, Brooklyn Park, Minn.)

The **Golden-Neguse** Act to fund all federal operations. Forever. (Jeffrey Steinberg, Bethesda)

The **Pappas-Hill-Harder** resolution confirming that fathers had to climb higher distances, both ways, to school in their day. (Pamela Love, Columbia)

The **Miller-Steube-Green** Declaration of the proper way to serve beer on St. Patrick's Day. (Joanne Free)

The **Hill-Steube-Baird** Act to



BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

New contest for Week 1318: Love the tiny tail stain!*

Original: We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. (*Thomas Jefferson, the Declaration of Independence, 1776*)

Anagrams to: What is evident is that women are not treated that equitably. The late framers structured this for penile people. Guys create and enact the laws. The gals are there behind their hubby, alienated. Oh, refill, hon? (*Kevin Dopart, Week 1051, 2013*)

Original: The Washington Post Style Invitational **Anagrams to:** I have total nitwits pen nasty loo things (*Chris Doyle, Week 1051*)

The Loser Community has proved itself amazingly adept at rearranging letters into clever anagrams. (In fact, if you join the Style Invitational Devotees group on Facebook, the Devs will anagram your name inside out.) Recently we had a contest for anagrams of movie titles; this week we hark back to our broader contests of 2013 and 2004. **This week: Create an anagram — a phrase or sentence with the letters rearranged — of any text (except merely someone's name) of any length, as in the examples above.** You must use every letter in your original exactly once; you may add any punctuation or capitalization you like. For short phrases, you might want to rearrange Scrabble tiles, but it's not cheating to use such free computer programs as **Anagram Artist** by one-time Loser Mike Keith. And before you send in your entry, *please* use the quickie **Anagram Checker** at Wordsmith.org, which will instantly tell you if you've left out a letter or added an extra one.

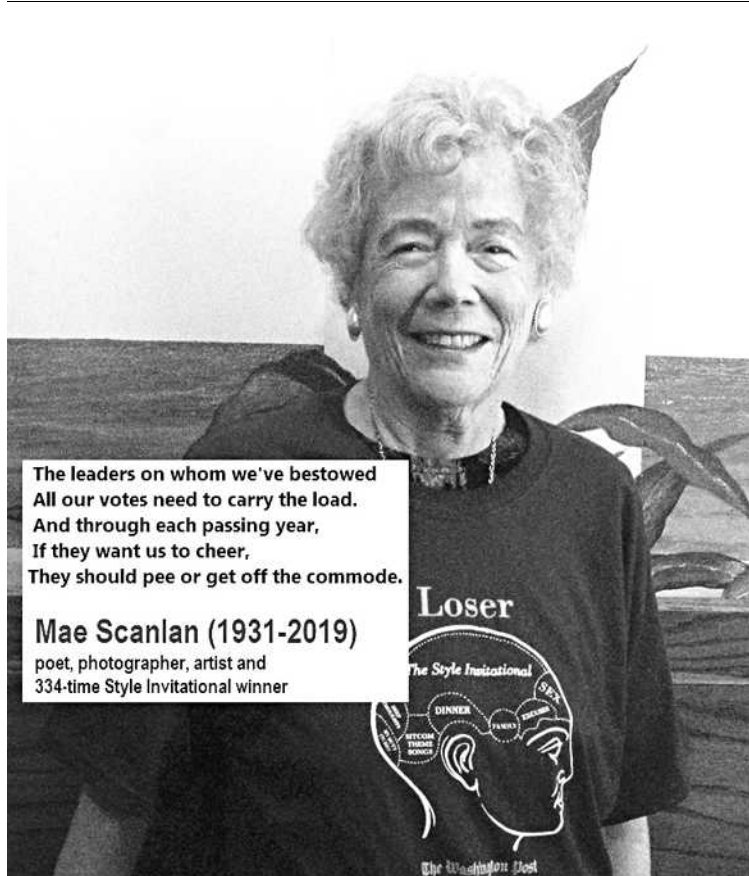
*It's an anagram of "The Style Invitational." But you got that, right?

Submit entries at wapo.st/enter-invite-1318 (all lowercase).

Winner gets the **Lose Cannon**, our Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives a pair of big fat foamy brown bedroom slippers adorned with jolly-faced poop emoji, a prize that was inexplicably declined by the Week 1270 runner-up.

Other runners-up win our "You Gotta Play to Lose" Loser Mug or our "Whole Fools" Grossery Bag. 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, Feb. 18;** results published March 10 (online Thursday, March 7). See general contest rules and guidelines at wapo.st/InvRules. The headline "Droll Call" was submitted by both Kevin Dopart and Bill Dornier; William Kennard wrote the honorable-mentions subhead. Join the Style Invitational Devotees on Facebook at on.fb.me/invdev. "Like" Style Invitational Ink of the Day on Facebook at bit.ly/inkoftheday; follow @StyleInvite on Twitter.

● **THE STYLE CONVERSATIONAL** The Empress's weekly online column discusses each new contest and set of results. This week's features a tribute to the peerless Mae Scanlan, who died this week, plus tips on writing long-form anagrams from our star 'grammers. Especially if you plan to enter, check it out at wapo.st/styleconv.



MAE SCANLAN'S LIMERICK FROM WEEK 887, 2010; MORE ON MAE AT wapo.st/CONV1318

authorize even more strip mining. (Jeff Shirley, Richmond)

The **Wild-Lee-Horn-Neguse** Act designating exactly what's good for the gander. (Kevin Dopart, Washington)

The **Roy-Luria** Shopping Mall Teen Safety Act (Jesse Frankovich, Grand Ledge, Mich.)

The **Harder-Hern** Act to make people speak up. (Bob Kruger, Rockville)

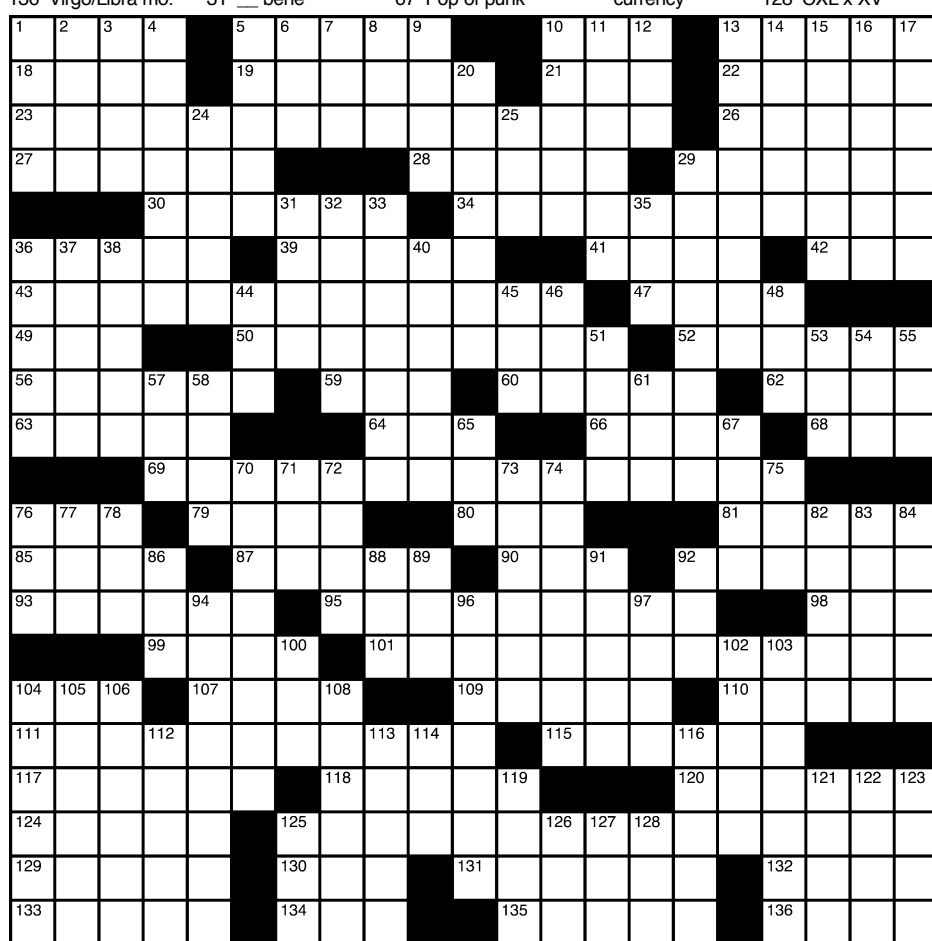
More honorable mentions in the online *Invite* at wapo.st/invite1318.

Still running — deadline Monday night, Feb. 11: our Punku contest — haiku with puns. See wapo.st/invite1317.

L.A. TIMES SUNDAY PUZZLE

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

- "NOT AGAIN" By DAVID POOLE**
- ACROSS**
- 1 Pen pals?
 - 5 Complexion enhancement
 - 10 Email subject abbr.
 - 13 Get to smile
 - 18 From square one
 - 19 Steam up
 - 21 John, to Paul, George and Ringo
 - 22 John, Paul, George and Ringo
 - 23 Chef's directives involving
 - 26 Travis of country
 - 27 Tennis' Goolagong
 - 28 Kia HQ city
 - 29 Widen
 - 30 Old pool people
 - 34 One splitting firewood?
 - 36 Violin stroke
 - 39 Big chamber group
 - 41 Candidate's aim
 - 42 Yearbook sect.
 - 43 Chance for Obama to play?
 - 47 Quaint oath
 - 49 Bar quaff, briefly
 - 50 YOLO, in ancient Rome
 - 52 Actress Staunton of Harry Potter movies
 - 56 Lemony, say
 - 59 PC bailout key
 - 60 113-Down's last words
 - 62 Placed
 - 63 Take in or let out
 - 64 Broadway's Hagen
 - 66 Hirsute Himalayan humanoid of myth
 - 68 Crossed (out)
 - 69 Therapist's technique using poetry?
 - 76 Compress, as a file
 - 79 Resist
 - 80 Pop duo ___ & Him
 - 81 Signs of shock
 - 85 Currier's partner
 - 87 Andrea ___: ill-fated ship
 - 90 City, informally
 - 92 Magoo's maid
 - 93 Cooperstown charter member
 - 95 Abash
 - 98 Prov. at one end of the Ambassador Bridge
- DOWN**
- 1 Project for Poitrot
 - 2 Airing
 - 3 Student of Seneca
 - 4 TV dinner brand
 - 5 "Xena" actress O'Connor
 - 6 Hush-hush maritime org.
 - 7 Java holder
 - 8 Witty bit
 - 9 Sensitive issues for directors
 - 10 ___-de-lis
 - 11 Wells title foes
 - 12 Bobs and buns
 - 13 Bloody Civil War battle site
 - 14 Actress Maples
 - 15 Inuit boats
 - 16 Volleyball position
 - 17 Fragrant compounds
 - 20 Put up
 - 24 Bisected
 - 25 Rooster's last word?
 - 29 Involve with reluctance, as a tough situation ___ bene
 - 31
 - 32 Yellowish tone
 - 33 Answers the call
 - 35 Pollen carrier
 - 36 Erie Canal city
 - 37 One who has class?
 - 38 Benjamin of "Law & Order"
 - 40 Kicks out
 - 44 Govt. org. with a Media Bureau
 - 45 Calendario square
 - 46 Mil. roadside danger
 - 48 2017 Best Director Oscar winner Guillermo ___ Toro
 - 51 It may be held in a deli
 - 53 Southern Calif. airport
 - 54 Roller in Vegas
 - 55 Put in
 - 57 MLK's title
 - 58 Miffed
 - 61 Voice artist Blanc
 - 65 Shakespearean cries
 - 67 Pop of punk
 - 70 Snoopy's nemesis
 - 71 Northern Calif. airport
 - 72 Jane Rochester, nee
 - 73 Uncouth types
 - 74 It's misleading when it's red
 - 75 Ming most look up to
 - 76 Spot at the prom?
 - 77 Climbing greenery
 - 78 Iron pumper's pride
 - 82 Versatile utensil
 - 83 Historic nautical trio member
 - 84 Dionysus devotee
 - 86 Red or White
 - 88 Little trickster
 - 89 "Aladdin" monkey
 - 91 Club component
 - 92 AOL alternative
 - 94 Patient's ID
 - 96 Knack
 - 97 Fill to the max
 - 100 Nikkei index currency
 - 102 Blog updates
 - 103 Gretzky's NHL record 1,963
 - 104 Supreme Egyptian deity
 - 105 Bar in TV's "M*A*S*H"
 - 106 Play grounds?
 - 108 Bring into harmony
 - 112 Parisian
 - 113 "I never give anything without expecting something in return" speaker
 - 114 Western treaty
 - 116 NBA legend Thomas
 - 119 Little light
 - 121 Euro
 - 122 Programmer's "endless" problem
 - 123 Peevish state
 - 125 Game div.
 - 126 Barely make, with "out"
 - 127 Fjord kin
 - 128 CXL x XV



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Answers to last week's puzzle below.

HOROSCOPE

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY | Feb. 10: This year, you open up to a lot of changes in your daily environment. You also are more willing to fight for a cause. Others might need to readjust to your newfound temperament. If single, your domestic life becomes more important. You might want to have a live-in relationship. Make sure the person is right for you before you leap to the next step, though. If attached, the two of you enjoy your domestic life more than ever. Taurus might not be the best sign to share ideas with.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Your intuition points to a new way of thinking. You might listen to others and see what they say in a new light. You may act on an uncomfortable issue you have avoided.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You might weigh the pros and cons of a certain friendship or occurrence relating to this friend. Say little and listen as much as possible. You could be surprised by an insight that evolves as a result.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Accept an invitation that could surround you with friends — and some strangers, too. A partner might relax a little more than they have of late. An older friend or relative might have an interesting slant on information.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Make plans for brunch or a late lunch with an older relative. Your thoughtfulness is appreciated. You will process your feelings more easily if you stay active. Recognize what is happening with a friend who's been trying to connect.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Accept a challenge that involves a favorite sport. You could find yourself playing Scrabble or poker, or enjoying some other game together. A discussion could evolve that carries significance.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) A loved one tries to make a point, whether you are ready to hear it or not. This person likes action and has little tolerance for endless thinking. You often disagree because of your different approaches.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Defer to someone and let this person have the feeling of being empowered. Consider a change of pace, or adapt your schedule to new needs. Take a loved one out for a movie and dinner.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) You could feel as if someone could be taking a hard stand. Your creativity could help you move past another person's naysaying, surprising even this person. Your relationship moves to a new level as a result.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Plug your high energy into a favorite pastime. Do not let this energy drift into an unsatisfying event. You relate well to someone younger, who naturally gravitates to you. Make plans to go skating or do another activity.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Tension might have plagued the home front over the past few days. Make a choice to move past stress and get active. Allow your more playful side to emerge when dealing with a loved one or child.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) You might suddenly feel overwhelmed by invitations and calls. Do not walk away; get into the moment. You discover how contagious your mood can be, and vice versa. You end the afternoon ready for another weekend.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Balance your checkbook again if you are shopping. You are capable of tremendous damage if you do not honor your budget. You might want to turn away from temptation and go to a movie.

Answers to last week's puzzle.

