

DIVERSIONS

THE STYLE INVITATIONAL

Our typo humor; Winning neologisms

BY PAT MYERS

In Week 1437 the Empress invited readers to make a fat-fingered "typo": to add or change a letter in a word, name or phrase by a letter adjacent to it on the keyboard, or to double a letter. She almost gave big ink to this one by Tony Allenye — **The Tan Commandments:** Includes "Keep hands on steering wheel and visible at all times" — until she noticed that Ten/Tan doesn't qualify because A isn't adjacent to E on the keyboard.

4th place:

Microsoft Bung: An even less popular search engine. (Hannah Seidel, Alexandria, Va.)

3rd place:

Marathin: Any diet that lasts more than two weeks. (Mark Raffman, Reston, Va.)

2nd place and the squeeze toy of a foot-eating shark:

In God We Tryst: The story of Jim Bakker, Jimmy Swaggart, Jerry Falwell Jr. . . . (Jonathan Jensen, Baltimore)

And the winner of the Clowning Achievement:

Jest lag: The awkward silence between telling a joke and getting a laugh. (Chris Doyle, Denton, Tex.)

HonoRabble mentions:

Manority: The top 1 percent. (Susan Gearty, Menifee, Calif.)

Hellful: "How would you rate our Customer Service Virtual Assistant?" (Jeff Loren, Seattle)

Gullabaloo: What happens when you leave half a sandwich on the beach. (Jesse Frankovich, Lansing, Mich.)

NAGA: A Trump stan who won't shut up about the last election. (Leif Picoult, Rockville, Md.)

Apocalypse: What mankind would have faced if anti-vaxxers had held sway in the 1950s. (Lee Graham, Rockville, Md.)

As Shepherds Watched Their Flicks by Night: Even out in the meadows on Christmas Eve, the Binge-Viewing of "Love, Actually." (Gary Crockett, Chevy Chase)

Barfalounger: A frat house recliner. Actually, any piece of frat house furniture. (Chris Doyle)

Cicaca: What you get after your dog eats what seems like half of Brood X on your morning walk. (Hannah Seidel)

Corpse de Ballet: What's left when the arts budget is cut. (Diana Oertel, San Francisco)

EEKG: A false heart rate reading from your Apple Watch. (Terri Berg Smith, Rockville)

Fadebook: Any social media platform once it starts attracting your parents. (Jonathan Jensen)

Fear Evan Hansen: It's YOUR arm he'll be breaking next. (Daniel Galef, Tallahassee)

Freedoom: Having the right to vote. But you have to vote for Trump. (Erika Ettin, Washington)

Greedom: The sacred GOP principle of capitalism at any cost (to others). Also known as "Kaching! Let it ring!" (Brad Levy, Lawrence, Kan.; Frank Mann, Washington)

Honorrhea: The award Trump deserves for surviving his "personal Vietnam." (Chris Doyle)

Hostalgia: Pining for Alex Trebek. "Hostalgia skyrocketed during Dr. Oz's week on 'Jeopardy!'" (Chris Doyle)

Ibanka: Presidential adviser with an eye on the bottom line: hers. (Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.)

Ignoramus: "Colonoscopy? Heck, no — I don't even want to know what's in there if they're gonna do that." (Richard Lorentz, Woodland Hills, Calif.)

James and the Giant Pesach: A boy travels around the world on a massive piece of matzoh. (Duncan Stevens)

Kegacy: The stories you deny at your confirmation hearing. (Gabe Goldberg, Falls Church)

KinkedIn: We give networking a whole new meaning — connecting perverts around the world with dozens of unsolicited emails a day! (Peter Boice, Rockville; Jon Ketzner, Cumberland, Md.)

Lolliplop: That "all-day sucker" your kid drops on the ground within two



BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

New contest for Week 1441: 'Rick rolling: Songs as limericks

Whenever we go to the zoo,
The hummingbirds fly right to you!
In your face they will flit,
And I'm irked, I'll admit:
See, I'd like to be **Close to You**, too.

This week's contest was suggested to the Empress by Style Invitational reader John Vigour of Charlottesville, who was inspired by a widely circulated — but, as far as I can tell, anonymous — set of "Famous Poems Rewritten as Limericks."

And just as we did in a contest that was about movies, we'll take John's suggestion to make it musical: **This week: Sum up or otherwise reflect a well-known song as a limerick**, as in the example above. No matter how obvious it is to you, please supply the title of the song you're limericking. The title doesn't have to appear within the limerick itself. If you're focusing on a single verse, rather than, say, the whole "American Pie," I might be able to run it for comparison along with the limerick, in which case the song doesn't have to be quite as familiar.

Please see our guide "Get Your 'Rick Rolling'" at wapo.st/limericks1441 for our fairly strict rules on limerick rhyme and meter (in a nutshell: "perfect" rhyme, and a strong "hickory-dickory-dock" rhythm in Lines 1, 2 and 5; a "dickory-dock" in Lines 3 and 4; additional unaccented syllables on either side are fine).

Submit up to 25 entries at wapo.st/enter-invite-1441 (no capitals in the Web address). **Deadline is Monday, June 28;** results appear July 18 in print, July 15 online.



Winner gets the Clowning Achievement, our Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives **Digit Hooks:** four substantial hooks that are eerie life-size replicas of four curved human fingers; you screw them into a wall or whatever and they beckon to hold your coat or umbrella or whatever you like. They seem to date from the 1970s and were donated still in the box by Style Invitational Devotees member Sheri Sutherland.

Other runners-up win their choice of our "For Best Results, Pour Into Top End" Loser Mug or our "Whole Fools" Grocery Bag. Honorable mentions get one of our lusted-after Loser magnets, "No 'Bility" or "Punderachiever." First Offenders receive only a smelly tree-shaped air "freshener" (FirStink for their first ink). See general contest rules and guidelines at wapo.st/InvRules. The headline "Our Typo Humor" is by Jesse Frankovich; William Kennard wrote the honorable-mentions subhead. 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; and follow @StyleInvite on Twitter.

The Style Conversational: The Empress's weekly online column discusses each new contest and set of results. See this week's at wapo.st/conv1441.

minutes at the county fair. (Beverly Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.)

Louis DeeJoy: Hip-hop artist who shows up to his concerts a week late. (Duncan Stevens)

Mehovah: His Witnesses don't even bother to walk up to your door. (Jeff Contompasis, Ashburn)

O'ergasm: That chill when a singer nails the high note in the national anthem. (Chuck Helwig, Centerville)

Pixnic: A carefully staged outdoor meal that you can photograph, but not eat (unless you want to taste shaving cream on the pie). (Sarah Walsh, Rockville)

Pokémob Go: Game where you locate, battle, and capture virtual congressmen at the Capitol. (Stephen Dudzik, Olney)

Pooltergeist: Who (your brother says) pushed you off the diving board. (Richard Franklin, Alexandria)

Raiders of the Lost Arm: An archaeologist's quest for the last missing piece of the Venus de Milo. (Donald C. Dimitroff, Beltsville, Md., a First Offender)

Sexiled: Just-a-friendled. (Kevin Dopart, Washington)

Thesus monkey: 1. A grad student who is inhumanely treated at research universities. 2. A grad student. (Brendan Beary, Great Mills)

Unformation: What you get from embracing QAnon. (John Kammer,

Fairfax)

XÆA-Xiii: The robotic, shape-shifting tech heir from the future sent back to terminate XÆA-Xii Musk. (Kate Baughman, Arlington)

Yip-hop: Dog rap. "Yo, they call me Fluffy, and I'm a Pomeranian/ My ancestry is Polish with a hint of Lithuanian." (Duncan Stevens)

Yuckleberry: The fruit of the pokeweed. (Jeff Contompasis)

Defoxification: Removal of poison from political discourse. (Chris Doyle)

Assteroids: Okay, okay, call them hemorrhoids, if you want to be all technical. (John Kammer)

And Last: **Achieveht:** "So you won, what, a magnet the size of a business card?" (Dave Prevar, Annapolis)

And Laster: **Snort-term memory:** The ability to recall neologisms from previous Style Invitationals. (Jesse Frankovich)

And Even Laster Than That: **Staaker:** A cartoonist groupie. (Roger Dairymple, Gettysburg, Pa.)

And Lastest of All: **The Stule Invitational:** A contest full of poop jokes. (Marni Penning Coleman, Falls Church; Jeff Contompasis)

Still running — deadline also June 28: our contest for parodies or other songs about topics in the news. See wapo.st/invite1440.

L.A. TIMES SUNDAY PUZZLE

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

"ELEMENTARY" By DAVID P. WILLIAMS

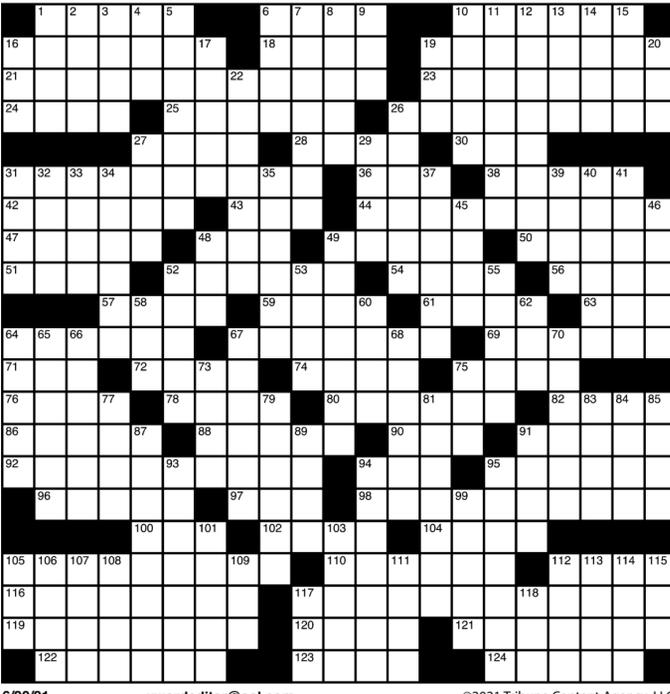
ACROSS
1 Market division
6 Subterfuge on ice
10 High-quality
16 Makes the rounds for rounds
18 Thick noodle
19 "No Reservations" host Anthony
21 One of four women with an EGOT
23 Early rotary-winged aircraft
24 "Winning — everything"
25 Butt heads
26 "Elizabeth I" Emmy winner
27 "... going, going,
28 Speedy shark
30 Give in to gravity
31 Joint winner of the FIFA Player of the 20th Century award
36 Magic's org.
38 Martini partner
42 Foot rest?
44 Games go-with
44 "Long Day's Journey Into Night" dramatist
47 Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, e.g.
48 Sweet ___
49 Christmas opener?
50 Court exchange
51 Author Silverstein
52 Nothing in Naples
54 "The Waltons" actor
56 "Frozen" reindeer
57 Screen star, say
59 Horse trailer?
61 Red-wrapped cheese
63 PC panic button
64 ___ Creed
67 Countermand
69 Scarcity
71 Tokyo, before the Meiji Restoration
72 N. Macedonia is its newest member
74 Capital of Latvia
75 Threadbare
76 Mo. once seventh
78 Immortal Babe
80 Stitched again
82 Whaler of fiction
86 Spanish bar food
88 Kind of trap

90 "That's enough!"
91 Mild cigar
92 Grammy winner for comedy and banjo playing
94 Is for you?
95 Islands west of Lisbon
96 "Buss it" rapper Banks
97 One-named singer who directed "Music" (2021)
98 Emmy-winning comedian/actress
100 Airport calc.
102 In the ___ of time
104 "The Kite Runner" protagonist
105 Rami Malek's Best Actor role
110 Softly illuminated
112 Obstacle
116 Conspicuous-ness
117 First living magician with a star on the

Hollywood Walk of Fame
119 Against the flow
120 Galena and others
121 Easy way to win
122 Mortarboard dangle
123 Field protector
124 Church cries
DOWN
1 Fireworks reactions
2 Fe
3 It may be a long one
4 Prune
5 Ideal
6 Adds dialogue to
7 Super Bowl LIII MVP Julian
8 Divided land since 1945
9 Official language of Belize. Abbr.
10 Outings with buses
11 Make more than
12 Teen in a tux, often
13 Unconventional,

maybe
14 Ingenuie
15 Like some straits
16 D.C. area airport
17 Sweat spot
19 Main squeeze, in slang
20 House IDs
22 Highway toll, e.g.
26 South African metropolis, colloquially
27 Au
29 Dad-to-tot talk support
31 God of Guatemala
32 Small amount to give
33 One of four direcciones
34 Net defender
35 Subtlety
37 Shook, in a way
39 Lunar plains
40 Ag
41 Least well
45 Inspected
46 "The Elephant Man" (1980) director

48 Sn
49 Hg
52 Lack of musicality
53 Zap
55 Rn
58 First TV channel with 24-hr. news coverage
60 Swing seat, maybe
62 La Méditerranée, e.g.
64 Stick-y spots?
65 Think
66 Cu
67 Whirlybird raisers
68 Cosa ___
70 Like old timers?
73 Bass in a band
75 "In Flanders Fields" setting, succinctly
77 Kipling's Rikki-Tikki-___
79 Scam
81 Shade of green
83 Hippocratic oath prohibition
84 Field or its measure
85 One on a fo'c'sle, perhaps
87 Union breakers
89 ___ Brith
91 Kingpin
93 Afternoon feature
94 Invite for dinner, say
95 Yellowfin
99 Firenze friends
101 Window sticker
103 Santa ___, Calif.
105 Seminoles' sch.
106 Spellbound
107 "Lohengrin" heroine
108 Morse sounds that can spell "hies"
109 Fashion line?
111 Swirl of smoke
112 Royal address
113 Ne
114 Contents of a monk's bowl
115 Econ. indicator
117 Point
118 Blood, slangily



6/20/21

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Answers to last week's puzzle below.

HOROSCOPE

BY GEORGIA NICOLS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY | June 20: You are warm, charming and emotionally generous. You're intuitive when dealing with others, and you enjoy their company. You are confident, courageous and loyal to your loved ones. This year you want to set your life in order. This is why you will plan, do and build. You might literally build physical structures, or you will restructure the framework of your life.

Moon Alert: Avoid shopping or making important decisions from 6:30 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. Eastern time today (3:30 a.m. to 5:15 a.m. Pacific time). After that, the Moon moves from Libra into Scorpio.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
Be friendly with others today, because people will be generous to you. Keep your pockets open, because gifts, goodies and favors from others will come your way. This is a good day to explore loans, mortgages or to borrow something.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
People are friendly today, especially people from other lands and different cultures. In turn, you feel friendly to them, which makes this a big mutual appreciation society. You'll be successful when dealing with everyone.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
Work-related travel might be a factor for some of you. Many of you will converse or be involved with people from different cultures and other countries. Whatever effort you put out today will come back to you multiplied.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
This is a fun-loving day! Enjoy good times with others, especially children. Sports activities, social outings, the arts and playful times will appeal to you because you want to enjoy yourself. You also want others to be happy.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
Family discussions will go well today. In fact, they will be mutually supportive, which is why this is a feel-good day for any family get-together. However, you also might choose to enjoy your own solitude at home.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Today you're in a positive frame of mind, which is why all your relations with others are warm and friendly. You will notice that you get

from others exactly what you give, especially in terms of warmth and affection. You are concerned for someone's welfare.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
This is a good day for moneymaking ideas. You might see ways to boost your income. You might earn more money today. You also might buy something for yourself that makes you feel richer.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
Today you have a genuine concern for the welfare of others, even the welfare of strangers. It's important to you to feel that you are helping someone who needs your help. This makes you feel more worthwhile and edified by your actions.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
Solitude in beautiful surroundings will delight you today because you feel the need for some peace and quiet to restore your equilibrium.

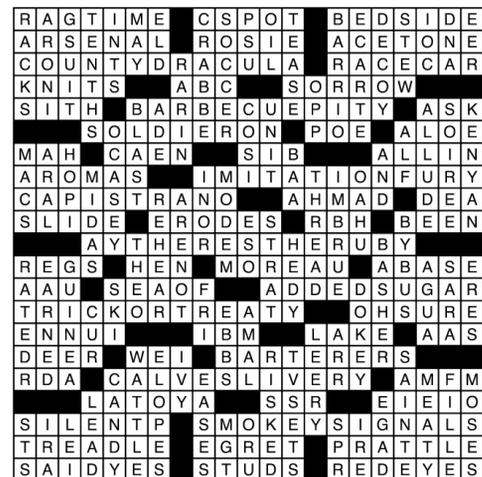
We all need to do something to restore and replenish ourselves.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
All your dealings with others, especially in groups and clubs, will be positive and upbeat today. Others will welcome your physical and emotional support while you cheer them on.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
You make an excellent impression on others today, especially people in authority — bosses, teachers and the police. Regardless of what you do for a living, you will look successful and affluent.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
Travel opportunities abound. If you can't travel today, you might make travel plans for the future. Likewise, you might explore opportunities in publishing, the media, medicine, the law and higher education.

Answers to last week's puzzle.



6/13/21