

DIVERSIONS

THE STYLE INVITATIONAL

Shift workers: Inking job switches

BY PAT MYERS

In Week 1462 we asked Greater Loserdom to tell us what would happen if any two people switched professions.

4th place:

If Genghis Khan switched places with Jeff Bezos: The Post's disclaimers would say "(Genghis Khan owns The Washington Post)" and "(Jeff Bezos owns Asia)." (*Gary Crockett, Chevy Chase*)

3rd place:

Kamala Harris as tennis star Peng Shuai: "I'm still here. Everything is fine."
Peng Shuai as Kamala Harris: "I'm still here. Everything is fine." (*Amanda Yanovitch, Midlothian, Va.*)

2nd place and the toy virus microbe and antibody:

Donald Trump and Rodney Dangerfield: **Donald:** I'm disrespected big league . . . hey, this job is easy!
Rodney: The ex-Prez gets no respect, I tell ya. The other night I told the Secret Service to watch my wife — they placed a camera in her shower. I told them to find me a body double: They put a toupee on a tangerine. (*Leif Picoult, Rockville*)

And the winner of the Clowning Achievement:

Edgar Allan Poe writes children's books: "Still that hatted cat comes calling, Nameless Things with him enthralling Children who, their caution falling, Heed their parents nevermore."
Dr. Seuss writes horror: "Then I heard from the floorboards a thumpety-thump, like a tocker whose ticker just started to jump." (*Coleman Glenn, Huntingdon Valley, Pa.*)

Worn-out flip-flops: Honorable mentions

If Joe Biden and Tom Brady switched places, Tampa Bay would still have an immobile quarterback who goes to bed at 8 p.m., but the country would no longer have to worry about too much inflation. (*John Hutchins, Silver Spring*)

Megan Thee Stallion and Donald Trump: *Donald:* Delights in making millions using the P-word, plus having "Stallion" in his name. *Megan:* "I won ALL the Grammys, including Best Polka." (*Mark Raffman, Reston*)

Trump once wrote a Little Red Book; **Chairman Mao** once read a little book. (*Beverley Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.*)

If you and Elon Musk switched places, you could travel into space, and he could pay income taxes. (*John Glenn, Tyler, Tex.*)

A hit man as Emily Post: "Always leave your calling card." **Emily Post as a hit man:** "The shrimp fork should be placed between the jugular vein and the carotid artery." (*Hildy Zampella, Alexandria*)

If Imelda Marcos and Oliver Twist switched jobs, at least Oliver wouldn't have had to go barefoot. (*Ilene M. France, Silver Spring, a First Offender*)

Colonel Sanders and Dan Snyder: The Colonel improves the Washington Football Team's performance and the food at FedEx Field. Dan enjoys owning a franchise where pictures of breasts, legs and thighs don't get you investigated. (*Mark Raffman*)

If Donald Trump became Harry Truman: (Pointing to his pocket) "The buck stops here!" (*Art Grinath, Takoma Park*)

Euclid and Ed McMahon would both continue to excel with straight lines. (*Kevin Dopart, Washington*)

Teacher turned flight attendant: "Okay, who can tell me the velocity of this plane if we're going 500 miles an hour and we're getting there at 2:35? You, in 11B."

Flight attendant turned teacher: "Watch me as I show you how to place your books in the slot on the right side of your desk." (*Neal Starkman, Seattle*)

New contest for Week 1466: Be Invitationally correct

Wednesday's Miss Manners column incorrectly stated that if a crouton falls down the dress of the lady seated next to you, etiquette dictates removing it with the sugar tongs. While that remains the case in Europe, Americans follow the precedent set by Woodrow Wilson at a 1916 state dinner, in which the fingers were used. (*Mike Fransella*)

Due to a transcription error, the Indian prime minister's wife at Tuesday's White House dinner was incorrectly described as wearing "a sorry ensemble." (*Elden Carnahan*)

Due to a typographical error, an obituary stated that Joseph McDonald was survived by his wife of 270 years. They were actually married for 27 years. It only seemed like 270. (*Tom Witte*)

As the saying goes, newspapers are the first draft of history, and, well, first drafts can sometimes be, well, not quite correct. But reputable papers like The Washington Post — yes, it is one, even though it runs this column every week — make it a point to fess up when they get something wrong. Here's a contest we haven't done since the Empress's first year, back in 2004: **This week: Give us a funny "correction" that a newspaper or magazine might offer**, as in the examples above from Week 609.

Submit up to 25 entries at wapo.st/enter-invite-1466 (no capitals in the Web address). **Deadline is Monday, Dec. 20;** results appear Jan. 9 in print, Jan. 6 online.

Winner gets the Clowning Achievement, our Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives a **darling plush kitten** from whose butt you pull out tissues or toilet paper. Donated by Invite Staff Prize Donor Dave Prevar, who also suggested redoing the correction contest.

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 new lusted-after Loser magnets, "A Small Jester of Appreciation" or "Close, but Ceci N'est Pas un Cigare." First Offenders receive only a smelly tree-shaped air "freshener" (FirStink for their first ink). See general contest rules and guidelines at wapo.st/inviteFAQ. The headline "Shift Workers" is by Chris Doyle; Jon Gearhart wrote the honorable-mentions subhead. Join the lively Style Invitational Devotees group on Facebook at [on.fb.me/invdew](https://www.facebook.com/on.fb.me/invdew); "like" the Style Invitational Ink of the Day on Facebook at [bit.ly/inkofday](https://www.facebook.com/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 (which will feature the Week 609 ink) at wapo.st/conv1466.



Your tissues or toilet paper will be warm as a cat's innards!

If Brad Pitt and Tom Brady switched lives: Every other male would still hate their stinking guts. (*Jon Ketzner, Cumberland, Md.*)

If Cesar Millan switched places with Larry David, he could have a TV show called "Curb Your Dog." (*Roy Ashley, Washington*)

If Jimmy Carter and Hugh Hefner switched places, Jimmy would be confessing to lusting roughly 24/7, while Hugh would have tried to hire the giant swimming bunny. (*Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.*)

If Joan Jett and Mitch McConnell switched jobs, he would be the new leader of the Blackhearts. Some would argue that so would she. (*Eric Nelkin, Silver Spring*)

If MC Hammer switched with M.C. Escher, the song would be "U Can't Build This." (*Jesse Frankovich, Lansing, Mich.*)

If Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene and NASA Administrator Bill Nelson switched roles, MTG would schedule missions to find Jewish space lasers, while Nelson would use his free time — no committee assignments — to search the skies to discover what planet MTG came from. (*Dave Prevar, Annapolis*)

Pee-wee Herman and Sen. Mitch McConnell: Senate Pee-wee: "Today's secret

word is 'filibuster'! Ha-ha! For the rest of the day, whenever anybody says the secret word, scream real loud!" *Playhouse McConnell:* "Globey melting? What an unhinged socialist delusion!" (*Roxi Slempl, Bariloche, Argentina, a First Offender*)

If Salvador Dali and David Lynch changed places, the petunias would eat the walruses last, Emily. (*Duncan Stevens*)

If Prince and Prince Charles switched, Great Britain would have purple reign. (*Ilene M. France*)

Ken Jennings as Forrest Gump: "I believe you have omitted four shrimp dishes." **Forrest Gump as Ken Jennings:** "What is shrimp?" (*Amanda Yanovitch*)

Juliet Clappett: Jethro, wilt thou whisk me away from these peasants to a mansion in Beverly Hills? **Ellie May Capulet:** Hey there, Romeo. Why'd ya haffin' go and be a Montague? (*Jon Gearhart, Des Moines*)

Kim Kardashian as Sir Mix-a-Lot: Kim tops the charts with "I Got Back." (*Gary Crockett*)

Sen. Ted Cruz as Oscar the Grouch: "Why does that blue guy get free cookies? He doesn't even have a job!"

Oscar the Grouch as Sen. Ted Cruz: "You're saying I get paid for complaining about everything? I love this trashy job! Heh heh heh!" (*Amanda Yanovitch*)

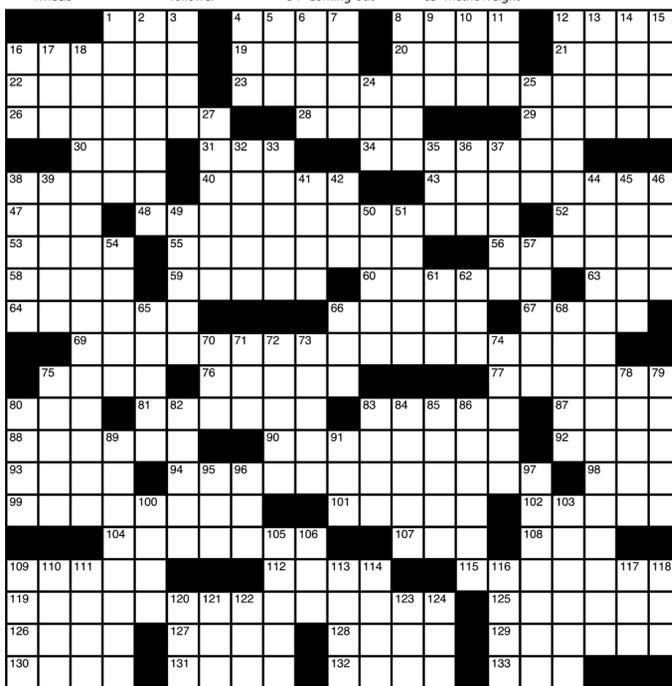
The Dalai Lama as "Shark Tank's" Kevin O'Leary: "You seek \$100,000 for 5 percent of your business, but you need only look inward for true fulfillment." **Kevin O'Leary as the Dalai Lama:** "You want me to give you the secret to true happiness? But what's in it for Mr. Wonderful?" (*Lori Lipman Brown, Silver Spring*)

More honorable mentions in the online Invite at wapo.st/invite1466.

Still running — deadline Monday night, Dec. 13: Our contest for 2022 news events. See wapo.st/invite1465.

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

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| 83 Muff | | | | | |
| 87 Rope material | | | | | |
| 88 Cello-supporting rod | | | | | |
| 90 Support for a big top | | | | | |



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Answers to last week's puzzle below.

HOROSCOPE

BY GEORGIA NICOLS

Happy Birthday | Dec. 12: You are intuitive, intelligent and confident. You are a perfectionist and know exactly how to dress and create an impression. You are a natural and sympathetic counselor to others, which makes you a valued friend. This year has been a quieter year for you with a strong focus on your closest relationships. Next year will be happy, creative and dazzling.

Moon Alert: There are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions today. The Moon is in Aries.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Today you're in a practical, logical frame of mind; nevertheless, your idealism is confused about something, perhaps related to the media, foreign countries or higher education. Tread carefully.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Someone older or more experienced might help you. Nevertheless, confusion about financial or practical support is evident. Study and make travel plans. Avoid financial disputes.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Someone might have good advice for you today. Nevertheless, be aware that some kind of misunderstanding or confusion exists with a partner or close friend.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) People see you as conscientious and reliable. You impress them. However, you are also dealing with some kind of confusion and misunderstanding related to your health, job or a pet.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Although you might be focused on issues in the news, the media, foreign countries or travel, be aware that some kind of confusion related to your kids might take place today. This confusion could extend to sports or social activities.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Even though you have a clear idea about how to handle assets, debt or help from someone else, today there is a genuine misunderstanding or confusion going on at home.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Although conversations with others are solid, practical and logical today, you might not have all the

facts. Or you might be misinformed. Or your ideas might be unrealistic. Wishing does not always make it so.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Be careful with financial decisions today, because an element of confusion and possibly even deceit exists. Make sure you know what you're doing, especially if you're spending money. You may have practical expectations related to your health.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Today it's hard to get behind what you really believe or think, because you're filled with some self-doubt. Worse yet, you might be idealistic about something and not even realize that it's an unrealistic position. Listen to the advice of someone younger, perhaps one of your kids.

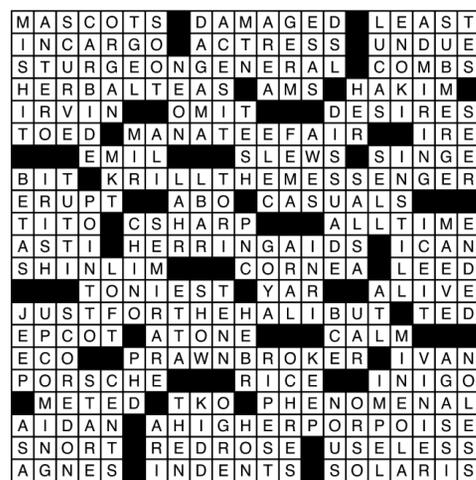
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Today it's easy to second-guess

things because you don't feel sure about something. You have doubts. Meanwhile, a serious, practical discussion about plans at home seems to be solid. It's hard to know what to do. If this is the case, do nothing.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) It's ironic, because today you are mentally clear to make plans or study and learn something new. Nevertheless, a discussion with a friend or a member of a group might throw you off your game. It might even cause you to change your goals. Don't be quick to make changes.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Parents, bosses and the police might create some kind of confusion in your life today. You're not sure what to do next or who to believe. Fortunately, you have a pretty solid grasp on your finances, so you won't go too far wrong.

Answers to last week's puzzle.



12/5/21

"Away from the noise and bustle"

Discover great area neighborhoods in "Where We Live," Saturdays in Real Estate.



The Washington Post

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