

DIVERSIONS

THE STYLE INVITATIONAL

'Hi'-way ribbery: Winning limericks

BY PAT MYERS

Week 1502 was our annual Limerixicon, a salute to the never-ending limerick dictionary project at OEDILF.com.

4th place:

Two newlywed Goths want to choose A token of love they won't lose. She likes funerals, he Adores snakes; they agree To get hiss-and-hearse matching tattoos.

3rd place:

One day Lassie, while filming, was laggin'; Wouldn't move — so they had to start draggin'. The director said, "Sheesh, Let's attach a long leash, Then we'll go hitch our star to a wagon."

2nd place and the book from the Museum of Bad Art:

I like rap, so I play it nonstop, Which annoys both my mom and my pop. "That ain't music," they say, "Like the hits in our day, Long before your dang hippy-hop."

And the winner of the Clowning Achievement:

Our home is historic, you'll see. Mr. Rochester shares it with me. We have bedrooms to rent From September to Lent — Log on now to JaneEyreBnB!

Junior HI: Honorable mentions

Said a hidebound exec, "When I'm hiring I pick bottoms and legs worth admiring." Which reached out: "Au revoir! For it's clear, sir, you'll soon be retiring."

Mr. Dumpty is sadly now gone, His remains scattered out on the lawn, He climbed far, far too high On that wall — why, oh why? It seems that his friends egged him on.

A British guitarist named Stan Was playing a concert in Cannes, When an audience member Threw rocks and an ember ... And that's when the Brit hit the fan.

My kitchen's been gaily restyled: Neon yellow and pink have run wild! To what do I owe This mysterious glow? Just two highlighters snagged by my child.

Have a problem to solve that's got heft? Is it making you feel less than deft? Never fear! Keep your cool! Thanks to vigilance, you'll Sometimes find there's a bit of help left.

At my campsite I'm startled to see A black and white beast by my knee. Though the tail that arises Is his, the surprise is: The high-tailing party is me.

A man came to Hippocrates; quoth The man: "Look, on my elbow's a growth, And it hurts — makes me yelp." Doc said, "Wish I could help, Sir, but 'First, do no arm' was my oath!"

Hippocrates tried something new When his days as a doctor were through: He began cutting hair At a beauty school, where He taught stylists to first harm no 'do.

About Hillary he was frenetic. "Lock her up!" got the crowds energetic. So the boxes they found In his club will be bound To make justice seem extra poetic.



BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

New for Week 1506: Let's go magnet fishing with new words

The meal that chefs call omakase (A favorite of the sushi posse) The raw-fish lover's trendy favorite — Alas, when done they have to pay for it.

Yeet!

The folks at Merriam-Webster are back with a look at some of the 370 new terms and meanings they've recently added to their dictionary — and even donated a prize celebrating one of them.

So let's do what we did with the last batch about a year ago: This week: From the list below, write a humorous poem of eight lines or fewer featuring one or more of these terms, as in the creatively (but validly) rhyming example above by Style Invitational fan Gene Weingarten, a longtime connoisseur of the subtleties of Japanese food who indeed has ordered omakase, a chef's-choice menu.

Submit up to 25 entries at wapo.st/enter-invite-1506 (no capitals in the Web address). Deadline is Tuesday night, Sept. 27 (that's for you, Rosh Hashanah people); results appear Oct. 16 in print, Oct. 13 online.

- adorable, birria, cootie catcher, dawn chorus, deep cut, dumbphone, FWIW, greenwash, hairy eyeball, hoglet, ICYMI, janky, kratom, LARP, level up, lewk, MacGyver, magnet fishing, meatspace, mood board, omakase, pumpkin spice, pwn, shrinkflation, side hustle, sponcon, stromboli, supervillain, supply chain, sus, Tater Tots, yeet

Winner gets the Clowning Achievement, our Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives a mug imprinted with the Merriam-Webster logo and its definition of "pumpkin spice." (The Empress, who will drink virtually any coffee that keeps her awake, including that filtered through old socks, had to spit out a pumpkin spice brew. But that's your call.)



The mug won't pollute your coffee: our second prize.

Other runners-up win their choice of our "For Best Results, Pour Into Top End" Loser Mug or our "Whole Fools" Grossery Bag. Honorable mentions get one of our lusted-after Loser magnets, "A Small Jester of Appreciation" or "Close, but Ceci N'est Pas un Cigare."

The Style Conversational: The Empress's weekly online column discusses each new contest and set of results. See this week's at wapo.st/convo1506.

Joe Manchin is no country hick But he's made many city folks sick With his waffles and whines And his coddling of mines: He's changed horses while deep in the crick.

He took documents with him, unbidden, In a Florida safe, kept them hidden. Now his fans, near and distant, Plus to keep it consistent, All proclaim, "Lock him up!"

Trump's take on the docs he had hidden: "That's BS! Who said it's forbidden? They're mine, free and clear! Plus, they weren't even here — You guys played them! Whaddaya, kiddin'?"

Hickory dickory dock, Dumb mouse must have gotten a shock When the sound of a chime Put an end to his climb. What a weenie, cold-cocked by a clock!

The internist loved the old clock, But his words left the seller in shock: "Even though the wood's nice, I will not pay full price: I'm a dickery hickory doc."

A gentleman wearing Versace Ate with gusto and got it all splotchy. In a hurry, he tried Using water and dried It most foolishly — with a hibachi.

A hive is a home for a bee A bird makes its nest in a tree A hole is a house For a mole or a mouse And a Palm Beach resort with lots of rooms for top-secret documents is a house for me — because I don't have to obey any laws, including the laws of limericks.

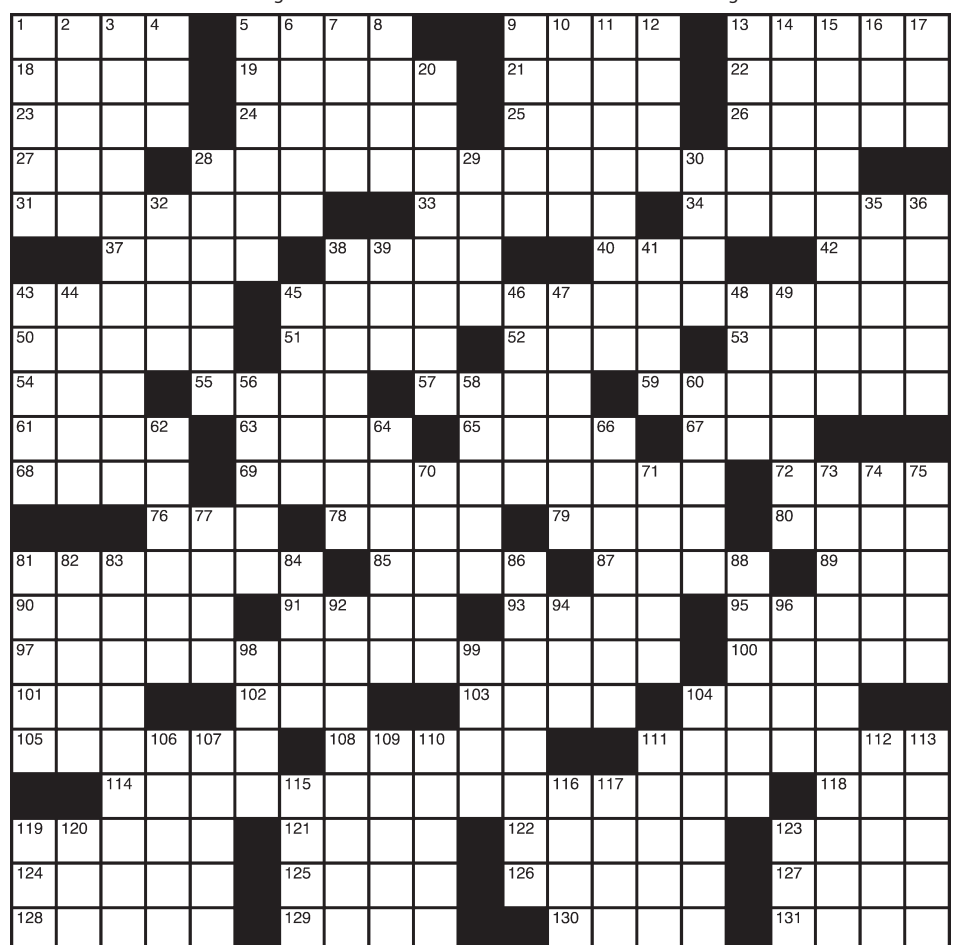
More limericks in the online Invite at wapo.st/invite1506.

Still running — deadline Monday night, Sept. 19: Combine the names of any two U.S. and/or Canadian cities in a "joint venture." See wapo.st/invite1505.

L.A. TIMES SUNDAY PUZZLE

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

- 'GAME DAY' - BY LYNN LEMPEL ACROSS 1 Interpretation 5 Left on board? 9 Smartphone array 13 Church reading 18 Falafel bread 19 Civil rights leader Medgar Evers 21 Vault 22 Submit for judging 23 Bind with a cord 24 Piece of history 25 Gumbo pod 26 Lines on GPS displays 27 Vague amount 28 Prompt to a Twister player? 31 Over the speed limit 33 Glove material 34 Half-baked, as a plan 37 Impulse 38 Bursts 40 Former NBA star Ming 42 Figs 43 Correspond 45 Encouragement to a Yahtzee player? 50 One in a dory 51 Biblical preposition 52 Dory's companion 53 "Mr. & Mrs. Smith" co-star 54 Psychology 101 subject 55 Brief times, briefly 57 Coarse 59 Heavenly octet 61 Benchmark 63 "Salt Fat Heat": Samin Nosrat cookbook 65 "Mr. & Mrs. Smith" co-star 67 D'backs, on a sports ticker 68 Actor Alan who hosts the "Clear+Vivid" podcast 69 Sad request to one's Hangman opponent? 72 Microwaves 76 "Summertime Sadness" singer Lana \_ Rey 78 Equally matched 79 Climate change sci. 80 Entertainment industry grand slam, for short 81 Diminished 85 Vegas calculation 87 Arborist's patient 89 Atmosphere 90 One way to think 91 Prosecco kin 93 Trim, perhaps 95 Originate 97 Advice to a checkers player? 100 Connective tissue 101 Sports drink suffix 102 Sculling need 103 Botanist Gray and actor Butterfield 104 Crown array 105 \_ opener 108 Like the River Shannon 111 Forced (on) 114 Prayer for a chess player? 118 Damage 119 Geometry surface 121 "A \_ technicality!" 122 Real doozies 123 Globetrotter's need 124 Knuckle or knee 125 Prune, before drying 126 Singer Ronstadt 127 Turn over \_ leaf 128 Some TVs 129 Fed. IDs 130 Over 131 Spill the beans 132 Down 133 Bug-hitting-the-windshield sound 134 Artist who works with a chisel 135 On-call devices 136 Impetuous 137 French fashion giant 138 Priceless? 139 Like two 2015 Max Scherzer games 140 Will of "Blue Bloods" 141 Thoughtful 142 Classical pianist Alice Sara \_ 143 Resting on 144 Brothers, e.g. 145 Nikolai who wrote "The Overcoat" 146 Italian fashion giant 147 \_ pale ale 148 Do a slow burn 149 Allowing access 150 Charge, in a way 151 Philadelphia NFLer 152 Overture 153 Chili scoop 154 Fabricated 155 Dedicate, as time 156 Strategic steps 157 First-aid dispenser 158 Opposite of sur 159 See 3-Down 160 Grace under fire 161 Spread around 162 Medieval Icelandic collection 163 Hindu royalty 164 Give the slip 165 "Huh?" 166 Survey results, e.g. 167 Beachcombing 168 prize 169 Enter gingerly 170 Dries up 171 Strands in a lab 172 Wheel parts 173 Lots and lots out: resolve 174 Attacks 175 saxophonist 176 NFLer 177 "Waiting for Lefty" dramatist Clifford 178 TV Land fare 179 Agenda entries 180 Extended conflicts 181 Stand for something? 182 See 3-Down 183 Roadie's vanload 184 Witticism 185 Pinkie-side arm bone 186 Comfy loungewear 187 Napa Valley tub



9/18/22

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Answers to last week's puzzle below.

HOROSCOPE

BY GEORGIA NICOLS

Happy Birthday | Sept. 18: You are friendly, sociable and reliable. You like your independence, but you also like a comfortable lifestyle that is predictable. You are an excellent communicator. This year, service to others will be a theme, perhaps service to family. This means you have to take care of yourself to be a reliable resource.

Moon Alert: After 4 a.m., there are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions today. The Moon is in Cancer.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) This is a productive day. Whatever you do, you will get to the bottom of it so that you can repair and fix it as you go. You might see ways to introduce reforms where you work. You also might see ways to improve your health.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You have strong opinions, especially about politics, religion and racial matters. You might want to share your ideas with younger people or in an entertaining venue. Be careful not to go overboard.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You might look within yourself to see what motivates you or to discover what you are seeking in life. To be sure, we can all improve ourselves, because there is no end to "better."

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You will be convincing if you share your ideas and theories with someone. That's because you will express yourself forcefully with impact, and you will address the bottom line of something. Perhaps this is a conversation with a family member you haven't seen in a while.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Today you might want to change how you handle your money. Perhaps you see new uses and applications for something that you already own. Basically, you're in a resourceful frame of mind.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) This is an intense, powerful day, because anything is possible with the Sun in your sign dancing with Pluto. You will express yourself very forcefully with others. It will

please you to accomplish something by working hard.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Your ability to ferret out the truth of something or solve a mystery is excellent because you are focused, determined and drawn to hidden truths. This quality will help you in research. Meanwhile, you are confident, upbeat and friendly.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) You will be successful dealing with teams and groups of people, because you are focused and persuasive. One of the reasons you are so convincing is that you believe in what you're saying.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) You might encounter someone who is powerful and persuasive. Very likely, this person is a parent, boss or someone in a position of authority. Do not argue with this

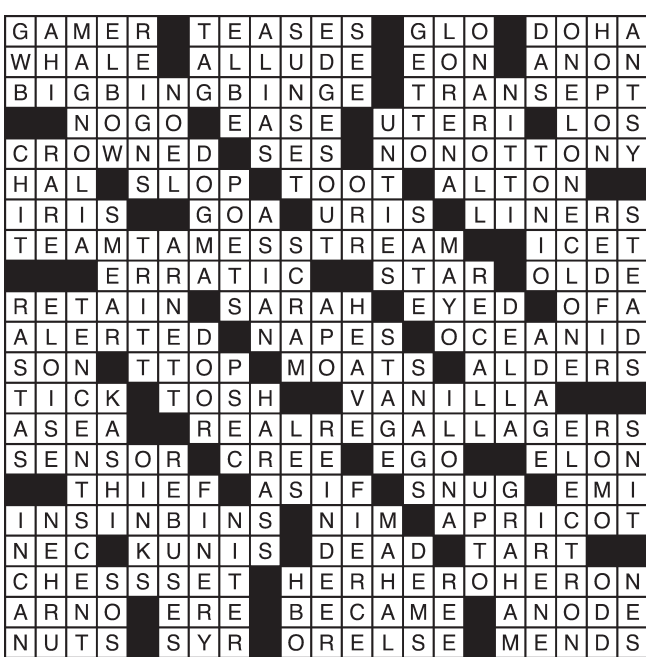
individual, because it will be pointless.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You might get on your soapbox to persuade others to agree with your political or religious ideas. Or perhaps someone will do this to you. Either way, be careful about someone promising more than what is possible.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) You might have excellent ideas about how to deal with wills, inheritances and shared property, because you're in a resourceful frame of mind. You are tempted to look on the bright side and ignore real problems.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) A partner or close friend will probably try to convince you about something. This could be a good thing, or not. However, if it relates to shared property, take things with a grain of salt.

Answers to last week's puzzle.



9/11/22