

DIVERSIONS

THE STYLE INVITATIONAL

Redoozies: 2018 revisited, Part 2

BY PAT MYERS

In Week 1310, Part 2 of our annual Year in Redo, the Empress invited you to enter or reenter any of the 25 contests from the previous six months. See more winners, including some fabulous song parodies, in the online Invite at wapo.st/invite1314.

4th place:

Week 1305, Googlenopes (no Google hits) and Googleyups (at least one hit):

Googlenope: "The world will be better in 2019" (William Kennard, Arlington) [After the submission deadline, this phrase appeared preceded by "no guarantee at all that"]

3rd place:

Week 1291, anagrams of movie titles: "The Big Lebowski" > "The Big Bowelski": Same movie, but with a dirtier rug. (Matt Monitto, Bristol, Conn.)

2nd place and the foot-shaped bottle opener advertising a funeral home:

Week 1288, product warnings: Law Offices of Michael Cohen, Esq.: May flip in tight spots. (Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.)

And the winner of the Lose Cannon:

Week 1287, song parodies about current events:

To "Stayin' Alive" Well, you can tell Trump is eyeing number three, Wants to fill the seat of RBG, Pack that court with right-wing picks, Try to get it up to three and six. True, Ginsburg's not so young, But look, they've healed her ribs and lung! Can't take another frat boy Brett, So don't go counting Ruth out yet!

Everybody's sayin' that we should all be prayin' She's stayin' alive, stayin' alive. Sweep her car for booty trap and swaddle her in bubble wrap, She's staying alive, stayin' alive. Health-y food, rest! Stayin' alive, stayin' alive! Bu-let-proof vest! Stayin' aliiiiive. . . (Hildy Zampella, Alexandria)

The Second Dumbing: Honorable mentions

Week 1284, compare two items from a list we supplied: Oscar Wilde vs. Kim Jong Un's Porta-John: While Oscar was renowned for shafts of wit . . . (Frank Osen, Pasadena, Calif.)

Dust bunnies vs. Florida Man: One is detritus commonly found on the bedroom floor, and the other is made of dust. (John Hutchins, Silver Spring)

Week 1285, trivia questions with right and wrong answers: What were the first words spoken via telephone in 1876? Correct: "Watson, come here. I want to see you." Wrong: "Hi, this is Rachel from Card Services." (Duncan Stevens)

Week 1286, replace a P with another letter: Tipsyquak: A diner who rounds down. (Howard Walderman, Columbia)

Week 1289, bogus animal trivia: Rolling Stone Keith Richards attributes his longevity to a daily drink of cockroach milk. (Frank Osen)

Obscure collective nouns for animals include a "kindle of kittens," a "murmuration of starlings" and a "WTF of platypuses." (Larry McClemons, Annandale)

Week 1291, movie anagrams: It's a Wonderful Life > Sit Under a Lowlife: A chief of staff wishes he'd never been born. (Lynne Larkin, Vero Beach, Fla.)

It's a Wonderful Life > I Fled Town's Failure: Tired of George and his so-called friends, Mary Bailey runs off with the richest man in town — who just happens to be rolling in an extra \$8,000. (Kevin Dopart, Washington)

Week 1295, bad/really bad: Sign you're in Trump's inner circle: Everyone's in Prada. Sign you're really in Trump's inner circle: Everyone's in Pravda. (Mike Gips, Bethesda)

Week 1297, put a "typo" in a real headline: ॐ Pun-control group boasts most successful year with victories



BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

New contest for Week 1314: Bill Us Now — 'joint legislation'

- The Allred-Rose-Rosen-Rose Act to forbid messing with the color scheme on "The Bachelor"
- The Pappas-Levin-Wright Act to Get Dad a Beer, Will You?
- The Baird-Johnson-Sinema Declaration That a Porn Entry This Obvious Will Not Get You Ink

However much this new 116th Congress is really going to accomplish — insert your degree of optimism/pessimism here — we can already declare that it will be a fabulously productive one for our beloved (and occasionally behaved) "joint legislation" contest: Not only do we have far more House and Senate freshmen to work with — last year, there were so few new members that the Empress ended up drafting local incumbents to flesh out her list — but also, wow, look at all those names that can be used as words!

This week: Combine two or more names from the list below of the new members of Congress to "co-sponsor" a bill based on their combined last names, and state its purpose, as in the examples above. We're just playing with their names, not referring to the politics of the actual people behind them. Note the pronouncers next to some of the names; the Empress personally confirmed them by watching many horrible campaign commercials on YouTube in which the candidate approved the suspiciously similar R or D message.

As always, the E will accept a small but clear (to her) stretch of pronunciation; the 2017 winner was "the Dunn-Taylor-Yoder-King bill requiring truth in online dating profiles" — as in "don't tell her yo' da king." If you think that there's a chance the Empress won't get your entry, you may follow it with a translation, but do it on a separate line so she can try without it.

- The new members (since 2017): Allred; Armstrong; Axne (pronounced "Ax-knee"); Baird; Blackburn; Braun (brawn); Brindisi (brin-DIS-sy); Burchett (BURCH-ett); Case; Casten; Cisneros; Cline; Cox; Craig; Cramer; Crenshaw; Crow; Cunningham; Davids; Dean; Delgado (del-goddo); Escobar; Finkenaue (rhymes with "power"); Fletcher; Fulcher (rhymes with "vulture"); Garcia; Garcia; Golden; Gonzalez; Gooden; Green; Guest; Haaland (Holland); Hagedorn (HAY-gedorn); Harder; Hawley; Hayes; Hern; Hill; Horn; Horsford; Houlahan; Hyde-Smith; Johnson; Joyce; Kim; Kirkpatrick; Lamb; Lee; Levin; Levin (both "levven"); Luria (LUR-ia); Malinowski; McAdams; McBeth; McSally; Meuser (like "amuser"); Miller; Morelle (mo-REL-ly); Mucarsel-Powell; Neguse (ne-GOOSE); Ocasio-Cortez (o-CAH-zio-cor-tez); Omar; Pappas; Pence; Phillips; Porter; Pressley; Reschenthaler (RESH-en-thah-ler); Riggelman; Romney; Rose; Rose; Rosen; Rouda (rooda); Roy; San Nicolas; Scanlon; Schrier (rhymes with "fryer"); Scott; Shalala (sh-LAY-la); Sherrill (rhymes with "sterile"); Sinema (cinema); Slotkin; Spanberger; Spano (spanno); Stanton; Stauber (stabber); Steil (style); Steube (rhymes with "ruby"); Stevens; Taylor; Timmons; Tlaib (l'leeb); Torres Small; Trahan (tra-HAN); Trone; Underwood; Van Drew; Waltz; Watkins; Wexton; Wild; Wright.

Submit entries at wapo.st/enter-invite-1314 (all lowercase). Winner gets the Lose Cannon, our new Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives a tin of 15 Jesus Bandages, perfectly functional bandaids adorned with Renaissance-style likenesses of the Healer. Plus "free prize inside!" Donated by Al Salas. And to prepare your owie before laying on the bandage to make the wounded whole, we'll add Scrub Away Your Funk — a hard little disk that you wet and turn into a full-size washcloth. Donated years ago by Drew Bennett.

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, Jan. 21; results published Feb. 10 (online Thursday, Feb. 7). See general contest rules and guidelines at wapo.st/InvRules. The headline "Redoozies" was submitted by both Tom Witte and Jesse Frankovich; Kevin Dopart 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/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.

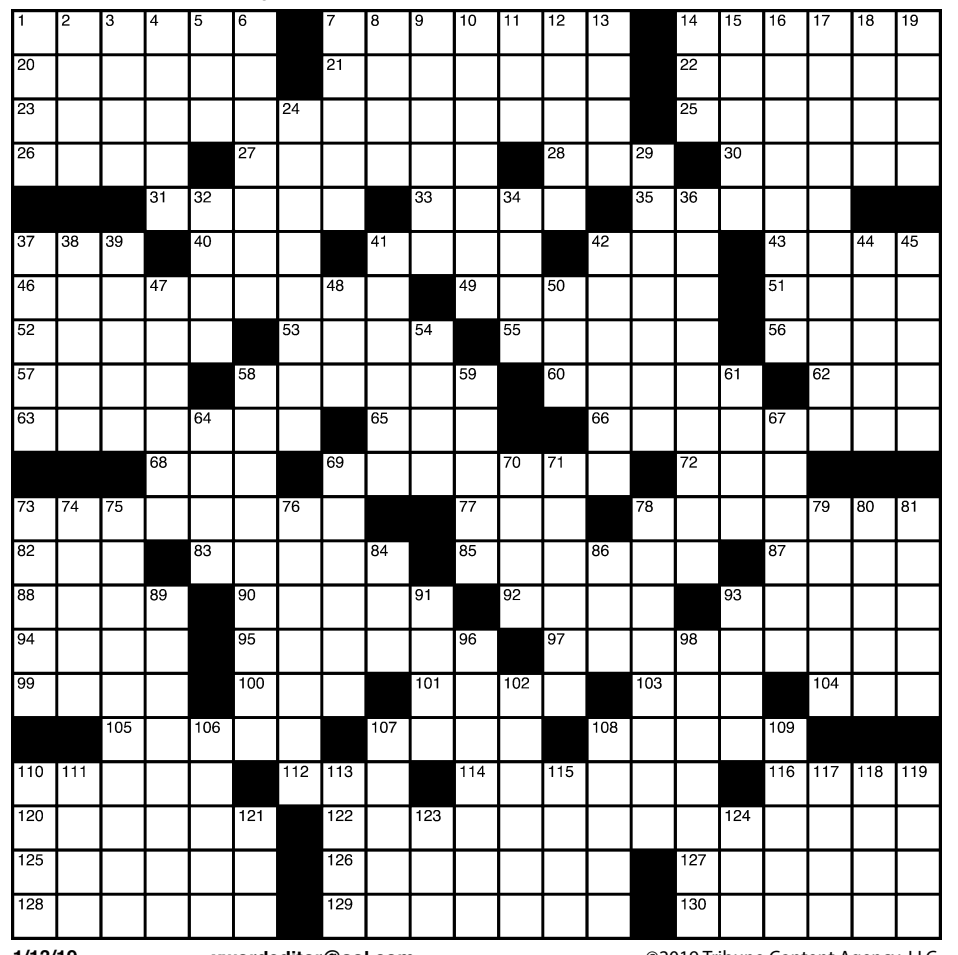
nationwide Incorrigible wordplay fanatics declare, 'This only incorriges us more' (Jeff Contompassis, Ashburn)
Archaeologists find 'one of a kind' 4,400-year-old tomb bomb in Egypt Script of 'Springtime for Pharaoh' discovered (Joshua Rokach, Silver Spring)
Week 1302, Ask Backwards, questions for given "answers": A. A pith helmet. Q. What do little English boys call a

urinal? (Steve Honley, Washington)
Week 1305, Googlenopes, 'yups: Googleyup: "Vladimir Putin praised Trump" 'Nope: "John Kelly praised Trump" (Drew Bennett, West Plains, Mo.)
Lots more honorable mentions in the online Invite at wapo.st/invite1314,
Still running — deadline Monday, Jan. 14: our contest for poems about people who died in 2018. See wapo.st/invite1313.

L.A. TIMES SUNDAY PUZZLE

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

- "BETA BLOCKERS" By JOHN LAMPKIN
ACROSS
1 It's usually spotted in a game
7 Prolong painfully
14 Pablo's putting-off word
20 Heat-sensitive patch
21 1982 Toto hit
22 Twist counter-clockwise, as a nut
23 Defeat decisively in an annual Nathan's contest?
25 Hardly modest
26 Hardly quick
27 Steamed dumpings, e.g.
28 Oit.
29 mispunctuated word
30 Plane angle symbol
31 Alley Cop's love
32 Diplomacy
35 Tribute with bent elbows
37 Best-liked, in texts
40 Flabbergast
41 One in line for what's left
42 For instance
43 Whale-tale captain
46 Cutlery causing boo-boos?
49 Cell dead spot indicator
51 European capital
52 Many misses
53 Ripped
55 Super lu
56 Amer. fliers
58 Ripped off
60 Handle change
62 Actress Peeples
63 Bird on LSU's seal
65 Is for all
66 Apply, as butter
68 41-Across, often
69 Explore à la an aging Captain Kirk?
72 Director Lee
73 "Enough already!"
77 Vague opening?
78 98, but not 98.6
82 Bird hunted to extinction by the Maori
83 Easygoing sort
85 The boy well-known in meteorology?
87 California roll ingredient
88 Bat head?
90 Cardiff's country
92 Galileo's birthplace
93 Give desperate
94 Last-...
95 Greening up
97 Roleo official?
99 Actress Sommer
100 Revival prefix
101 Some reddish deer
103 Place to stay when you're out, ironically
104 Many retirees: Abbr.
105 Against a thing, at law
107 Utah national park
108 Bury
110 Eager kids' plea
112 Heady quaff
114 War zone excavation
116 GI no-show
120 Achieve success
122 Farm workers' coffee setup near a fence post?
125 "We can't hear you!"
126 Consequence of only getting close?
127 "Enough already!"
128 "The Communist Manifesto" co-author
129 Sign off on
130 Govt. securities
DOWN
1 Conks out
2 Verbal
3 Con... musical tempo
4 Halved
5 Japanese
7-Down
6 Dies in this puzzle?
7 See 5-Down
8 Pitchers Darling and Guidry
9 Quick-witted
10 Pilot feeder
11 Palindromic celeb.
12 Not suitable
13 First presidential swinger, golf-wise
14 Org. with minors
15 Critical ticker valve
16 Where even termites were welcome, presumably
17 One who sniffs out good investments?
18 Tree house
19 "Dragonwyck" novelist Seton
24 Criticize to death
29 Astronomer's aid
32 Kentucky event before the Derby
34 Trim, as a pic
36 Painfully off-pitch Jewish diva?
37 Get all misty
38 " woman wishes to be no one's enemy (and) ... refuses to be anyone's victim": Angelou
39 Like some memes
41 Kind of tea
42 "Because I ..."
44 OB/GYN test
45 Set off
47 Into shenanigans
48 "The Gift of the Magi" gift
50 Support wear
54 Comic-Con attendee
58 Sampling from Quaid's vineyard?
59 Dig deeply
61 Sleeping bag site
64 Lab
67 Ax to grind
69 Verdi opera based on a Shakespeare tragedy
70 TripAdvisor rival
71 Einstein
73 Photoshop fodder
74 Outspoken
75 Carpet made from corn husks?
76 Beach in a classic bossa nova hit
78 If all else fails
79 Ends
80 Misjudgment
81 Smartphone options
84 Pollen-packing petal pusher
86 Surreal ending?
89 Dentist's directive
91 Mumbai wrap
93 Designer Klein
96 It's played secretly under the table
98 Secretly
102 More than irk
106 Celebrate wildly
107 Cause of temporary weight loss?
108 101 course
109 1:1, for one
110 NASCAR's Yarbrough
111 Elvis' middle name
113 Moon goddess
115 Coup target
117 Power acronym
118 "The Grapes of Wrath" character
119 Rents
121 Debit settings
123 Big name in ATMs
124 Radiation source



1/13/19 xwordeditor@aol.com ©2019 Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

Answers to last week's puzzle below.

HOROSCOPE

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY | JAN. 13: This year, you change your goals and your direction. You feel more in touch with your needs and are more willing to support yourself in achieving what you desire. Listen to your inner voice while making decisions. If you are single, toward your next birthday, you might be easily charmed by a new person in your life. If you are attached, you sometimes feel conflicted about what you want from your sweetie. Accept your sweetie as they are. Aries understands you well.

ARIES (March 20-April 19) The more you eye the long term and see what's going on, the better you understand how lucky you are because of your ability to communicate. Confusion surrounds the day, but you will enjoy yourself if you stay open.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Keep your own counsel, even if someone tries to coerce you into giving them some information. A loved one reaches out to you. The conversation you share could be quite intimate. You might adjust your patterns as you gain more understanding.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You can make headway and have a significant conversation with a key person in your life. You might not be as secure as you'd like to be. A friend might become controlling at some point. Recognize how insecure you feel. No one can change that feeling but you.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You might want to change gears and proceed in a new way with a key project, where you'll be more visible. A conversation could be more serious than you had anticipated — at least, that's how the other party is taking it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Be willing to stretch your mind and understand a different culture. Though you might not feel comfortable, know that you are learning to be more effective and understanding. Let your creativity emerge.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) One-on-one relating seems to be the best mode to relax and share some time with a loved one. You've pushed hard to achieve a certain goal; don't lose ground by not understanding what a key person shares with you. Walk away from a power play.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Reach out to a loved one or an important friend. This person often delights in what goes on around you. You might experience more than just a friendship with this person. Be open to communicating your thoughts. Touch base with a sibling or a dear friend.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) You don't need to do much other than relax and catch up on sleep. A friend who is very serious might want to get you into playing a card game with them. You will need to learn some ground rules, but once you do, you'll be difficult to beat.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Your affectionate side emerges. You might find it hard to say "no" to a loved one. A serious conversation might go along with this period of getting to know each other better. Avoid making any commitments, if you can. You might not be ready.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Stay centered, and know what is possible for you to commit to. You could be happiest at home, not pushing too hard. Invite a friend over for an early dinner and some fun conversation. Confusion could surround your plans.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) You might be trying to find out how someone really feels about you. Know that you cannot change this person. Just give them space, and they are likely to pull in more closely as a result. You communicate well together, but don't push the timing.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Be aware of the cost of continuing to enjoy a certain set of friends. You might not understand what's going on between you and another person, and it seems easier to hang out with your mutual friends.

Answers to last week's puzzle.

