DIVERSIONS

THE STYLE INVITATIONAL

Pun of your business: Top mergers

BY PAT MYERS

In **Week 1217** we asked you to combine two or more types of businesses and name the hybrid. Approximately 1,600 groaner puns later, the Empress cuts the ribbon on the following joint ventures.

4th place

A store that sells ice cream, pets and cowboy boots: **Brrr, Grrr & Fryes** (Melissa Balmain, Rochester, N.Y.)

3rd place

Home protection service/celebrity hairstylist: **A Mighty Fortress/ Scissor God** (Frank Osen, Pasadena, Calif.)

2nd place and the Potty Basketball set:

Comedy club/medical insurer: **Yomamacare** (Dave Matuskey, Sacramento)

And the winner of the Inkin' Memorial:

A Vietnamese soup joint with a travel agency on the side: **Pho Getabout** (Tom Witte, Montgomery Village, Md.)

Limited partnerships: honorable mentions

Basketball court/cinema/AC repair: **Net, Flicks & Chill** (Hildy Zampella, Falls Church)

Tanning salon/hair salon: **Turn You Red & Coif** (Chris Doyle, Denton, Tex.)

An art supply store below a toupee shop: **Brushes Under the Rug** (Danielle Nowlin, Fairfax Station, Va.)

Bakery and juice bar: **Roll With the Punches** (Jesse Frankovich, Lansing, Mich.; Amy Harris, Charlottesville)

Battery store with Mediterranean coffee shop downstairs: **Anode on a Grecian Urn** (David Peckarsky, Tucson)

Casino that offers EMT training: **Aid and a Bet** (Mark Calandra, Sudbury, Mass., a First Offender)

Gun store/funeral home: **Bloodbath & Beyond** (Holly Saunders, Bethesda)

Fashion boutique/smoking cessation clinic: **Clothes but No Cigars** (Jesse Frankovich)

Hydraulic engineering firm/ workout space: **Dammit Gym** (David Friedman, Santa Clara, Calif.)

Life coach/Jewish deli: **What Am I/ Chopped Liver** (Amy Harris)

Middle Eastern fruit market and fortuneteller: **Dates With Destiny** (Jesse Frankovich)

Otis Elevator Co./U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement: **Lifts and Separates** (David Garratt, Silver City, N.M.)

Animal shelter/law firm: **Boxers or Briefs?** (Hildy Zampella)

Psychics/abortion-activist fundraisers: **Seers and** *Roe* **Bucks** (Mike Ostapiej, Mount Pleasant, S.C.)

A Victoria's Secret with an optometrist on the second floor: **Eyes Up Here!** (Lee Graham, Washington)

Repo service/growth removal: **Seize and De-Cyst** (Jesse Frankovich)

Vietnamese noodle restaurant/ Vietnamese nail salon: **Pho Toe-Finish** (Dave Airozo, Silver Spring)

Meditation center/packing supplies: **Better Oms and Cartons** (Chris Doyle)

A funeral home that rents out unused rooms to tourists: **Dead & Breakfast: The Snoretuary** (Tom Witte)

Climbing equipment/lingerie: **The High and the Nightie** (Mae Scanlan, Washington)

A tobacco shop, health spa and travel agency: **We've Got Chew, Calming and Going** (Jon Gearhart, Des Moines)

Bookkeeping firm/motel cabins: **Sums and Shanty Evenings** (Amy Harris)

Cattle barn cleanup and urinal sales: **Moo Goo/Guy Pan** (Frank Osen)

Mosque/minicar track: **Allah/Kart** (Stephen Dudzik, Olney, Md.)

Clothing store/public toilet: **Getup & Go** (Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.)

BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

New contest for Week 1221: Who's kidding whom?

The child of Richard Nixon and Miss Manners will compile a People Whom We Will Decline to Invite list. (Brendan Beary)
The child of Carmen Miranda and John Nash will be fruitful and multiply. (Peter Metrinko)
The child of Imelda Marcos and Dr. Seuss would collect mukluks, galoshes and gillies and high-tops, and also some moccasins, chukkas and flip-flops. (Mark Hagenau)

Here's a contest that we seem to have done only once before, long ago — in fact, it was one of the last contests posted by the Empress's predecessor, the Czar, before he went off to spend more time with his family at the end of 2003. And more than 13 years later, it could use some fresh names. **This week: Take two people from history, past or present, and tell what their child would be like,** as in the examples above from Week 533. **New this time:** In 2003 we insisted that the parents be one male and one female; this time, same-sex unions are fine with us.

Submit entries at this website: bit.ly/enter-invite-1221 (all lowercase).

Winner gets the Inkin' Memorial, the Lincoln statue bobblehead that is the official Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives a larger-than-life fuzzy toy chipmunk that, powered by the battery inside, wiggles its limbs and tail and makes chipmunk sounds. It's really actually very cute, unless you don't like toy-chipmunk sounds. Found by the Empress somewhere she doesn't remember.
Other runners-up win our new "Gotta Play to Lose" Loser Mug or our Grossery Bag, "I Got a B in Punmanship." Honorable mentions get one of our new lusted-after Loser magnets, "No Childishness Left Behind" or "Magnum Dopus." First Offenders receive only a smelly tree-shaped air "freshener" (FirStink for their first ink). Deadline is Monday night, April 10; results published April 30 (online April 27). See general contest rules and guidelines at wapo.st/InvRules. The headline "Pun of your business" is by Chris Doyle; the honorable-mentions subhead is by Kevin Dopart. Join the Style Invitational Devotees group 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.

PAT MYERS/THE WASHINGTON POST

This week's second prize, an electronic chipmunk.

Proctologist's office/kitchen remodeler with a big storefront window: **See-Colon-Backsplash** (Danielle Nowlin)

Seminary/riding academy: **Sermon on a Mount** (Howard Walderman, Columbia, Md.)

Ski school and weight loss center: **Downhill Fast.** (William Kennard, Arlington)

Truck rentals/language academy: **U-Load Sixteen Tongues** (Jeff Shirley, Richmond)

Skin care/home sales: **Repeel and Replace** (Annette Green, Lexington, Va.)

Sleep clinic/WWF promoter: **The Yawn & the Wrestlers** (Larry Gray)

Tibetan monastery/Spanish restaurant: **The Lamas & the Tapas** (Sarah Jay, Churchville, Md.)

Trump boutique/apiary/landscape service: **Ivanka-Bee-A Lawn** (Becky Fisher)

Lumberyard/CIA safe house: **Woodstock & Snoopy** (Danielle Nowlin)

Stump removal/Museum guide training: **Chipper by the Docent** (Brad Alexander, Wanneroo, Australia)

Ice cream maker/Computer repair: **Sorbet/The Geek** (Holly Saunders)

Realtor/escort service: **Land, Ho** (Duncan Stevens)

A performance arts emporium combining Elvis memorabilia, theater production, "Lord of the Rings" costumes and busking lessons: **Presley, Stage, Toes Hairy and Mime** (Kevin Dopart, Washington)

Still running — deadline Monday night, April 3: our contest inviting you to be comically pedantic. See bit.ly/invite1220.

Dermatologist/leather crafter: **Warts & Awl** (Dave Prevar, Annapolis; Lawrence McGuire, Waldorf)

Heavy-duty hosiery/personal security/family planning clinic: **No Runs, No Hits, No Heirs** (Larry Gray, Union Bridge, Md.)

Houseplants/fundraising events: **Fronds With Benefits** (Jesse Frankovich)

Italian restaurant/funeral parlor: **Pastaway** (Becky Fisher, Madison, Wis.)

Masonry supply/Breitbart News headquarters: **Brick & Mordor** (Mark Raffman, Reston)

Mattress store/weight-loss clinic: **U-Snooze, U-Lose** (Jane Auerbach, Los Angeles)

Metal refinery/casino: **Smelt It, Dealt It** (Alison Candela, Rockville)

Milliner/fitness center: **Cap 'n' Crunch** (Larry Gray)

Off-track betting parlor/spay-neuter clinic: **They're Off!** (Larry Gray)

Orthopedist and Cuban restaurant: **Slings and Arroz** (Mark Raffman)

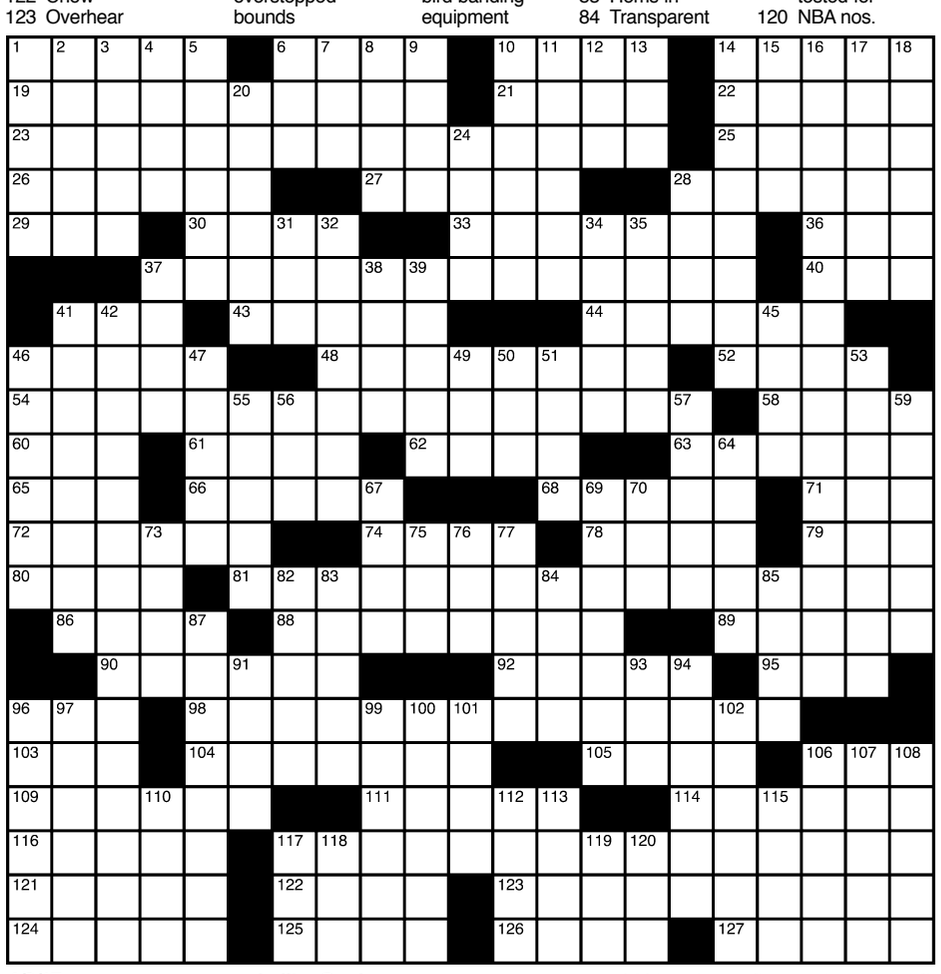
L.A. TIMES SUNDAY PUZZLE

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

"ALL IN FAVOR" By JOHN LAMPKIN

ACROSS
1 Worker on the floor
6 Second-rarest blood type, briefly
10 Really big
14 Worked at home
19 "Lordy me!"
21 "Hamilton" accolade
22 "Ici on __ français"
23 Website search response with an attitude?
25 Spirits strength
26 Seven Wonders lighthouse
27 They often have runners
28 Mite
29 "Round __ virgin ... "
30 "My turn"
33 "Guys and Dolls" composer
36 Archipelago part: Abbr.
37 Competition at the geometry fair?
40 Marshal at Waterloo
41 Pre-A.D.
43 "So long"
44 Vexing
46 Ballerina Shearer
48 Like some out-of-favor suffixes
52 Lats relatives
54 "A penny saved is hardly worth the effort"?
58 You, at one time
60 "In a __"
61 Burkini wearer, perhaps
62 Saltimbocca herb
63 Acquiesce
65 Moo __ pork
66 "'Scuse Me While __ This Guy: and Other Misheard Lyrics": Gavin Edwards book
68 Fella
71 Booster's cry
72 89-Across' Illinois headquarters
74 Primary part
78 Germ's future?
79 66, e.g.: Abbr.
80 Carrier known for tight security
81 "I'll give you five bucks for your Egyptian water lily"?
86 Spanish 101 word
88 Gorilla, for example
89 Farm equipment giant
90 Actress __ Sue Martin
92 Do fair work
95 Mule's father
96 Cabinet dept.
98 Positively charged vehicle?
103 Also
104 "Probably ... "
105 River past Logroño
106 Sun or moon
109 Obliterate
111 Outfit again
114 Hall of Fame second baseman Roberto
116 "If I Were __ Man"
117 Miscreant handling letters?
121 Fracas
122 Chow
123 Overhear
124 Ranked tournament players
125 "Let's Get It On" singer
126 Many 99-cent purchases
127 Stretch

DOWN
1 Unstable
2 Snake state
3 New England touchdown site
4 River of Germany
5 "The Bathers" artist
6 Short lunch order?
7 Midday refresher
8 Writes ths clue, say
9 Rock sci.
10 __ doll
11 One overstepping bounds
12 Seriously overstepped bounds
13 Brother of Jack and Bobby
14 What may be stiff when trouble arises?
15 Farm girl
16 Quality control job at a maraschino factory?
17 Plaza Hotel imp
18 With skill
20 Sagan series
24 Touched
28 Bandleader Lawrence
31 Sport-__
32 Modular homes
34 Holder of disks
35 More steady
37 Famille member
38 British philosopher A.J.
39 Sides sharing views
41 Mining passage
42 Feature of Charlie Brown's head?
45 Migratory bird banding equipment
46 Homecoming query
47 "Encore!"
49 Lyricist Gershwin
50 Eggy quaff
51 Composer Charles
53 Hill hundred
55 Classic TV nerd
56 Chou En-__
57 Denudes
59 Fruit-ripening gas
64 Prim and proper
67 Revolve on an axis
69 Lab dispenser
70 Prefix with meter
73 Intestinal divisions
75 Spanish pronoun
76 Suitable
77 "Rocky IV" boxer Ivan __
82 Watched at the beach, maybe
83 Hems in
84 Transparent
85 Deck wood
87 Osculates
91 German finale
93 Wall St. hedger
94 Arrow poison
96 You won't find subs on them
97 Get out
99 Hole-in-one, for one
100 Otherwise
101 Actress Hatcher
102 Time periods?
106 Muscat native
107 Give up to the cops
108 Retired sportscaster Musburger
110 Got a hole-in-one on
112 At a Dodger game, for short
113 Handle
115 Parting words?
117 Bit of RAM
118 Drivers' org.
119 What Zener cards purportedly tested for
120 NBA nos.



4/2/17 xwordeditor@aol.com ©2017 Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

Answers to last week's puzzle below.

HOROSCOPE

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY|April 2: This year you often alternate between being the pioneer your sign is known for and getting into the groove of enjoying being home a lot. If you are single, you could meet someone special before the end of September. This person is likely to have a big impact on your life. If you are attached, the two of you will be developing more mutual interests. Cancer knows how to rain on your parade.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
Afternoon events will encourage you to slow down. A conversation with a younger person could have you wondering what they have been experiencing. You'll want to find a solution for this person; know that it will happen soon.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
An invitation to a game or some other spectator event heads your way. You will relax while you are there, and you'll give your mind a much-needed break.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
You smile, and someone responds in kind. Getting to know this person will be a pleasure. You have a lot in common and the potential for an excellent friendship.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
You could be very tired and might want to hide under the covers. Go for it. By the afternoon, you will get a second wind. Indulge in what you would like to do.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
Use the morning for any important matters. By the afternoon, you will be longing for a nap. Whether you go to the movies or invest your time in a hobby makes no difference. A friend might have a case of the blues. Listen to what this person has to say.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Fulfill obligations early in the day. You might not know it yet, but some free time to go out with friends will prove most rewarding. Someone who expresses his or her caring could be part of your afternoon.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
You could be ready to make an important change. You might run into some resistance where you least expect to. Be a good listener. Getting a word in could be close to impossible. Lighten up, and enjoy the humor of the situation.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
Deal with a close friend in the morning. A talk could lead to a topic that you both have avoided. Be willing to take a risk or do something very different. Though you like the tried and true, an escapade into the unknown holds a lot of potential.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
A loved one is likely to make an overture before you are even able to. Don't worry about it too much. Discussions involving your daily life and how to enjoy it more prove to be very interesting and worth hearing.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
Reach out to someone you care about. This person could surprise you with what they are thinking. Not everything or everyone is predictable all the time. Note how often this person's mood changes.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Your ability to help someone relax comes into play. You might find it hard to get a friend or associate off their position. Perhaps going full throttle and talking about the real problem with a positive attitude will get better results.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
Your ability to create what you want soars. It is as if Lady Luck is riding on your shoulder today. A responsibility involving an older relative calls. You cannot bypass this obligation. Once you are done, the day is yours.

Answers to last week's puzzle.

3/26/17