Johnny won-nots: Honorable mentions

“Pompatas” is the Latin word for “festered disease.” (Mark Ruffin, Reston)

Johannes Brahms suffered from chronic insomnia. (Tom Witte, Montgomery Village)

If you play “I Am the Walrus” backward, you can clearly hear John Lennon saying, “Hey, mate, the bloody thing goes the other way round.” (Dan O’Day, Alexandra)

Joni Mitchell’s tax records reveal investments in a Hawaiian parking lot firm. (Robert Schechter, Dix Hills, N.Y.)

Bob Marley died of chronic insomnia. (Bruce Alter, Fairfax Station)

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Styx was named for the part of Kentucky where the band members were born and raised. (Jeff Wedler, Ocean Pines, Md.)

In 1952, the Victor Recording Co. made John Cage short his composition “12’55’” so it would fit on a single 78 rpm side. (Steve Edw, Friedman, Washington, a First Offender)

Jimmy Page and Robert Plant had considered naming their band Molkydunum Zeppelin, but they didn’t know how to spell it. (Jeff Haze, Woodbridge)

“Carmina Burana” is Latin for “sports commercials.” (Lawrence McGuire, Waldorf)

When “I Shot the Sheriff” was released as a 45 rpm single, a small but humorous typo in the title made it an instant collector’s item. (Barry Koch, Catlett, Va.)

Mama Cass’s real name was Anita Heilich, (Michael Greene, Alexandria)

Upon reaching puberty, children release pheromones that interfere

with their parents’ ability to enjoy music they do not already know. (Josh Feldblyum, Philadelphia)

Eager to ride the tide of the mid-60s “British Invasion,” some American acts took to coloring their teeth beige. (Brendan Bean)

The Fender Telecaster custom-made for Gene Simmons replaces the guitar’s usual F-hole with an A-hole. (Stephen Dudzik, Ohio)

The Tuareg nomads of North Africa sing a version of “Happy Birthday” that can be roughly translated: “Have a nice day, and may you avoid stepping in fresh camel poop.” (Beverly Sharpe, Montgomery, Ala.)

The world premiere of Verdi’s “Aida” ended in tragedy when the lead soprano accidentally crushed an elephant to death. (Madeleine Begun Kane, New York)

The lyrics to “We Will Rock You” originally appeared in Shirley Jackson’s short story “The Lottery.” (Carol Reed, Centreville)

Chubby Checker has a chiropractic degree. (Bruce Alter, Fairfax Station)

After the plane crash on “the day the music died,” NTSB inspectors said the accident could have been averted with a small or medium Bopper. (Brendan Bean)

“Lucy in the Sky With Diamonds” is a coded reference to a secret military alliance involving Liechtenstein, Suriname and Delaware. (Christopher Lamora, Guatemala City)

In Greece, the leather case of a bouzouki traditionally includes a mini comic strip and a dumb joke. (Christopher Lamora)

One of today’s superstars got the money to pursue her dream when she won a bingo jackpot in the little Dominican church in her

neighborhood. She decided to take her stage name from the winning bingo call: B-11 – said in Spanish, of course. (David Swerdloff, Washington)

Mambos Nos. 1-4 also stank. (Jeff Kontopasias, Ashburn)

Around the house, Johnny Cash liked wearing pastels and paisleys. (Roy Ashley, Washington; Joanne Free, Clifton)

Will.i.am is deathly allergic to legumes. (James Kruger, Butta-Butte, Lesotho)

Bob Dylan keeps the answer key to all the questions raised in “Blowin’ in the Wind” in his sock drawer. (Jeff Brechlin, Egan, Minn.)

Alice Cooper’s real name is Sally Cooper. (Rob Huffman)

All the singing on the original Alvin and the Chipmunks album was performed by three Lollopig Guild actors from “The Wizard of Oz.” (Rob Wolf, Gaithersburg)

Beyoncé did not merely lip-sync “The Star-Spangled Banner” during the inauguration; she also had her image holographically projected onto the stage from her villa in Tuscany. (Robert Schechter)

“Boogie,” “jazz” and “rock and roll” were all originally slang terms for nose-picking. (Dixon Wragg, Santa Rosa, Calif.)

In the video for “Hips Don’t Lie,” Shakira’s hips tap out Morse code for “my hips actually lie.” (Sara Page Podolsky, Karmiel, Israel, a First Offender)

In their early days in Detroit, the Spinners played bar mitzvahs under the name the Dreidels. (David Leventon, Gainesville, Va., a First Offender)

Since Jimi Hendrix performed his iconic guitar version of “The Star-Spangled Banner” at Woodstock, no one in Bethel, N.Y., has ever seen a single cat. (Phil Frankenfeld, Huntington)

For the past 35 years, the SPCA has regretted turning down the Village People’s offer to make them the world’s most musically iconic charity. (James Pierce, Charlottesville)

The kazoo derives its name from the Polish word kazuki, meaning “love whistle.” (Jason Russo, Annandale)

At one time, Madonna was actually like a virgin. (William C. Kennard, Arlington)

The Lone Ranger’s real name was William Tell. (Beverly Sharpe)

Sousa’s “Washington Post March” used to have several additional sections. And better proofreading. (Brendan Bean)

The bathroom is actually on the left. (Cheryl Davis, Arlington)

2. Winner of the box of fish crackers: On her European tour, Ke$ha has agreed to perform under the name K’$ha. (Brendan Bean, Great Mills, Md.)

3. In the fade-out of the Archies’ “Sugar, Sugar,” you can clearly hear the phrase “I buried Jughead.” (Rob Huffman, Frederickburg)

4. It’s a myth that they showed Elvis only from the waist up on “The Ed Sullivan Show” because of his suggestive dancing; actually, his fly was open. (Danielle Nowlin, Woodbridge; Chris Doyle, Ponder, Tex.)

29. Make pizza dough from scratch utilizing only three ingredients: flour, water and old USB cables.

7. Instead of relying on Photoshop to digitally remove the wrinkles from your grandfather’s face, use clothespins and duct tape.

24. Bake cookies cut in the shape of every U.S. state — so you can pretend that Colorado is an iPad and Wyoming is a Kindle.

Monday marks the start of what used to be known as TV Turnoff Week and now, in this multiplatform age, is called Screen-Free Week: The idea, of course, is that families set aside their various electronic crutches for seven days and look up momentarily at the world around them, as well as reacquaint themselves with proto-
tablet technology. To the latter end, our very own Bob Staake has just produced what everyone is calling his finest children’s picture book yet: the wordless “Bluebird,” a lovely rumination on bullying, loneliness and the redeeming power of friendship. (Yes, we’re talking about the same person who regularly defaces this page with cartoons of banana-nosed cedrets, horses with backward legs and unclothed hot babes.)