THIS WEEK’S CONTEST

Week 1040: IRS my case

Figure the tax due by the aggregate weight of the taxpayer’s family, maybe $10 per pound. A family of four that weighs 500 would owe $5,000, while a larger family — larger as in more numerous or larger as in, you know, larger — would pay more, given how much faster they wear out roads and bridges.

As Loser Elden Carnahan pointed out to us months ago, we couldn’t very well ignore this week number. And so, at a comfortable distance from April 15, we present the Thoroughly Taxing Edition of the Style Invitational, with your choice of contests:

Schedule A: Suggest a novel way for the government to determine taxes, as in Elden’s example above.

Schedule B: Suggest a deduction that you’d like to take, or that some famous real or fictional person or past or present might like to take (suggested by Edward Gordon and Chris Doyle on the Style Invitational Devotees page on Facebook).

Schedule C: Suggest a cause that you’d rather check off $3 for, now that most major candidates won’t take the money anyway (suggested by Devotee Jon Spell).

Winner gets the Inkin’ Memorial, the Lincoln statue bobblehead that is the official Style Invitational trophy. Going with our revenue theme this week, second place receives both a pack of tissues with $100 bills printed on them (staple them to your return atop your W-2 form) and the second of our sets of fine Porkin’ Pig coin banks — a pair of pink ceramic piggies that can be, uh, nested one behind the other. Dave Prevar donated the tissues, Nan Reiner the pigs.

Other runners-up win their choice of a yearned-for Loser Mug or the ardently desired Grossery Bag. Honorable mentions get a lustered-after Loser magnet. First Offenders receive a smelly, tree-shaped air “freshener” (FirStink for their first ink). E-mail entries to losers@washpost.com or fax to 202-334-4312. Deadline is Monday, Oct. 7; results published Oct. 27 (online Oct. 24). No more than 25 entries per entrant per week. Include “Week 1040” in your e-mail subject line or it might be ignored as spam. Include your real name, postal address and phone number with your entry. See contest rules and guidelines at washpost.com/invdev. The subhead for this week’s honorable mentions is by Kevin Dopart. Join the lively Style Invitational Devotees group on Facebook at on.fb.me/invdev.

Lowcales:
Honorable mentions

Antietam: Picnic foods. (Beverley Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.; John McCooey, Rock Island, Ill.)

Boise: Jay Z Jr. (Jeff Hazle, Boise, Idaho; Eric Ries, Bethesda)

Bogota: A buy-one, get-one promotion by a breast augmentation clinic. (Joel Knanishu, Rock Island, Ill.)

Boise: Jay Z Jr. (Jeff Hazle, Woodbridge; Eric Ries, Bethesda)

Bolivia: Doghouse on the White House grounds. (Danielle Nowlin, Woodbridge)

Cameroon: A tourist oblivious to the worst health-food drink since broccoli cream soda. (Nan Reiner, Montgomery, Ala.; John Glenn, Tyler, Tex.)

Cancun: A place to see squid in their natural habitat. (Edmund Conti, Raleigh, N.C.)

Caracas: Step 1 in making a football. (Beverly Sharp)

Chicago: The dimple at the bottom of Cary Grant’s face. (Dan O’Day, Alexandria)

Coral Gables: Miniature Slinkys.

Curacao: German beer that’s as cheap as the equivalent of “free lunch” or “military intelligence”; Manila as a place to display your piggy banks (David Bruskin, Woodland Hills, Calif.; a First Offender)

Crystal Lake: A place to see squid in their natural habitat. (Edmund Conti, Raleigh, N.C.)

Juneau: Not kosher. (Nan Reiner, Alexandria)

Kalamazoo: A place to see squid in their natural habitat. (Edmund Conti, Raleigh, N.C.)

Kyrgyzstan: A place to display your kyrgyz. (Danielle Nowlin)

Liechtenstein: German beer that’s good to the last drop. (Danielle Nowlin)

Liverpool: Give your back yard something different from that old kidney shaped (Joanne Free, Clifton)

Manassas: What studied behinds turn into after too much beer and TV. (Nan Reiner)

Naples: Leave it to Picasso to paint a woman’s breasts on the back of her neck. (Chris Doyle, Ponder, Tex.)

Newark: Noah’s second boat, the one with a metal container for the termites. (Chris Doyle)

Ocraoke: The worst health-food drink since broccoli cream soda. (William Kennard, Arlington; Beverly Sharp)

Outer Banks: The financial institutions considered “small enough to fail.” (Bill Reney, Frederick, Md., a First Offender)

Palm Springs: Miniature Slinkys. (Andrea Kelly, Ashton)

Pitcairn: The act of applying deodorant. (Melissa Balmain)

Pyongyang: The sound made by a North Korean “nuclear missile” going off. (Danielle Nowlin)

San Francisco: An employee who gives her boss all the things on his Christmas list. (Christopher Larmo, Los Angeles; Larry Neal, McLean)

Shrewsbury: Future resting place of Judge Judy. (William Kennard)

Walla Walla: The sound of Chris Christie twerking. (Damon Thompson, Washington)

And Last: Luzon: The heightened state of immature or scatological humor. “I’ve got nothing for Week 1040 — I gotta get my Luzon.” (Brendan Beary)

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Still running — deadline Monday night — our contest to use the words in “To be, or not to be…” to write your own passage. See bit.ly/invite1039.