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# Style Invitational Week 1423: Muddled heads — anagram a headline

Plus the winners of our biennial 'joint legislation' wordplay contest



(Bob Staake for The Washington Post)

Feb. 11, 2021 at 9:54 a.m. EST

☐ Add to list

(Click here to skip down to the "joint legislation" winners)

The Down Side to Life in a Supertall Tower: Leaks, Creaks, Breaks (New York Times)

Rearrange all those letters to make this anagram:

"Shake, rattle, and roll - we dance to it" works ... Lessees? I barf! I puke! (Steve Allison in

Josh Hawley Blasts 'Lie' He Incited Riot As Missouri Newspaper Calls Him 'FrankenHawley' (Newsweek) =

Fiery Trump ally is ill on air! Swine was senseless when a harsh mob hijacked the Capitol! (Maurice Goddard in Anagram Times)



We've been scrambling a lot of late at The Style Invitational, thanks to the eagerness of anagram buffs in the Loser Community. A couple of months ago we had a contest for anagramming song titles and lyrics; now, at the suggestion of Loser Jonathan Jensen, we turn to another regular source of Invite fodder: This week: Choose a headline (or part of a headline) in any print or online publication dated Feb. 11-22 and rearrange all its letters into an anagram, as in the examples above posted this week in the Anagram Times, a continually updated collection of reader-submitted headline anagrams under the marvelous umbrella of Wordsmith.org, which also publishes Anu Garg's email newsletter A. Word. A. Day (one of the Empress's faves) and - please use this if you enter - the

handy-dandy Anagram Checker: You copy in the text you're anagramming, and then your anagram, and the software does a little happy dance if the anagram is valid. While you may not add or omit letters in your anagram, you may use capitalization and punctuation however you like. Along with the original headline and the anagram, give the name and date of the publication; if it's online inlease supply a link so the Figan find it



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4. What floor?

Day stuck at home







Submit up to 25 entries at wapo.st/enter-invite-1423 (no capitals in the Web address).

Deadline is Monday, Feb. 22; results appear March 14 in print, March 11 online.

Winner gets the Clowning Achievement, our Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives the Butt Station, a nifty desk set consisting of a tape dispenser in the shape of a Gumbyish green humanoid sitting on a toilet. The toilet bowl functions as a paper clip holder — especially because Not Gumby's butt has a magnet to hold the clips. The Empress has one of these on her very own desk in the currently very lonely Post newsroom; this one was donated by Loser Steve Smith.

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, "No 'Bility" or "Punderachiever." First Offenders receive only a smelly tree-shaped air "freshener" (FirStink for their first ink). See general contest rules and guidelines at wapo.st/InvRules. The headline "Bill Becomes LOL" is by Jesse Frankovich; Tom Witte wrote the honorable-mentions subhead. Join the lively Style Invitational Devotees group on Facebook at on.fb.me/invdev; "like" the Style Invitational Ink of the Day on Facebook at bit.ly/inkofday; and follow @StyleInvite on Twitter.



The Style Conversational: The Empress's weekly online column discusses each new contest and set of results. See this week's, published late Thursday, Feb. 11, at wapo.st/conv1423.

The "You're Invited" podcast: Ten half-hour episodes, including dish from the Empress and the Czar, and tips from top Losers. See bit.ly/invite-podcast.

And from The Style Invitational four weeks ago . . .

## Bill becomes LOL: The 'joint legislation' of Week 1419

Week 1419 was our biennial contest in which you create "joint legislation" by combining the names of new members of Congress. The Empress hopes that they could be so productive on Capitol Hill: She received more than 2,000 "bills," many of them featuring Torres-Ossoff, and very many of them featuring Rep. Donalds.

It helps to read the bills out loud (perhaps repeatedly) and of course to know how the names are pronounced: Returned-to-Congress Rep. Issa is pronounced EYE-sa; Gimenez is HIM-e-nes; and Rep. Herrell is pretty close to Hurl.



Still stumped? See this week's  $\underline{\text{Style Conversational column}}$  (published late Thursday, Feb. 11) for all the translations.

## 4th place:

The  ${\bf Moore\text{-}Greene\text{-}Salazar\text{-}Good}$  Act mandates fresh leafy veggies to school lunch programs. (Pia Palamidessi, Cumberland, Md.)



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## 3rd place:

The Mann-Jones-Steel-Owens-Moore Resolution lamenting the perpetual inability to keep up with the neighbors. (Steve Glomb, Alexandria, Va.; Jesse Frankovich, Lansing, Mich.)
[Man, Jones still owns more]

## 2nd place

and the Four Seasons Total Landscaping mug:

The Kim-Torres-Ossoff Act expressing sympathy for Kanye West. (Mark Eckenwiler, Washington)

## And the winner of the Clowning Achievement:

The **Bordeaux-Gimenez-Torres** Resolution, limiting long-winded uncles at Thanksgiving to 20 minutes tops. (Sarah Walsh, Rockville, Md.)

[Bored o' him and his stories]

## Dork barrel legislation: Honorable mentions

 $\label{thm:condition} The {\bf Newman-Bice-Moore-Tiffany} \mbox{ Act to set minimum engagement ring sizes for aspiring second husbands. (Pam Sweeney, Burlington, Mass.)}$ 

[New man buys . . .]



The Mann-Torres-Spartz-Good Resolution discouraging the practice of barbed-wire hurdling. (Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.)

The Herrell-Harshbarger-Fischbach rule that if your Big Mac makes you sick, you can get a free Filet. (Kathy White, Fairfax, Va., a First Offender; Dan Helming, Trenton, N.J.)

 $\label{thm:constraints} \textbf{The Jacobs-Lummis-Jacobs} \ \text{Act to prevent the taking of property from landlords in underserved areas.} \ \textit{(Mark Raffinan, Reston, Va.)}$ 

[Jacob's slum is Jacob's]

The  ${f Issa-Tiffany-Herrell-Bordeaux}$  Act to encourage teens to alert a trusted adult when a friend abuses alcohol. (Seth Tucker, Washington)

 $[I\,saw\,Tiffany\ldots]$ 

The  ${f Good ext{-}Hinson ext{-}Bush}$  Act requiring all police investigations to check for clues behind the landscaping. (Danielle Nowlin, Fairfax Station, Va.)

The  ${\bf Mann ext{-}Fallon ext{-}Owens ext{-}Good}$  Act endorsing the doctrine of original sin. (Steve Langer, Chevy Chase, Md.)

[Man fallen; no one's good]



The Fallon-Issa-Keller Act requiring that sidewalks be salted during snow season. (Jeff Contompasis, Ashburn, Va.)

[Fall on ice: a killer]

The Fallon-Steel-Good Act enshrining the five-second rule into law. (Eric Nelkin, Silver Spring, Md.)
[Fallen still good]

The  ${f Fitzgerald\text{-}Good}$  Act to resculpt the statue of President Ford in the Capitol with a better-tailored suit. (Hannah Seidel, Alexandria, Va.)

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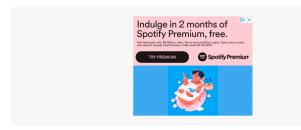
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EARN MORE

The Good-Herrell Act to reverse all executive orders from the previous administration, because sometimes you just need a Good-Herrell to feel better and move on. (Jon Gearhart, Des Moines)

The Hinson-Fischbach-Fallon-Mann-Spartz Act instructs male legislators on the proper method for "tucking in one's shirt" when alone with a journalist in a hotel room. (Frank Osen, Pasadena, Calif.)

The **Moore-Hickenlooper-Pfluger** Proclamation that more of *anything* is better than yesterday's coyfefe. (John Call. Frederick. Md., a First Offender)



 $\label{thm:constraint} The {\it GOP-sponsored} \ {\it Franklin-Jackson} \ Act \ authorizes \ a \ one-time \ stimulus \ payment \ of \ \$120. \ (Franklin-Jackson) \ Act \ authorizes \ a \ one-time \ stimulus \ payment \ of \ \$120. \ (Franklin-Jackson) \ Act \ authorizes \ a \ one-time \ stimulus \ payment \ of \ \$120. \ (Franklin-Jackson) \ Act \ authorizes \ a \ one-time \ stimulus \ payment \ of \ \$120. \ (Franklin-Jackson) \ Act \ authorizes \ a \ one-time \ stimulus \ payment \ of \ \$120. \ (Franklin-Jackson) \ Act \ authorizes \ a \ one-time \ stimulus \ payment \ of \ \$120. \ (Franklin-Jackson) \ Act \ authorizes \ a \ one-time \ stimulus \ payment \ of \ \$120. \ (Franklin-Jackson) \ Act \ authorizes \ a \ one-time \ stimulus \ payment \ of \ \$120. \ (Franklin-Jackson) \ Act \ authorizes \ a \ one-time \ stimulus \ payment \ of \ \$120. \ (Franklin-Jackson) \ Act \ authorizes \ a \ one-time \ stimulus \ payment \ of \ \$120. \ (Franklin-Jackson) \ Act \ authorizes \ one-time \ stimulus \ payment \ of \ \$120. \ (Franklin-Jackson) \ Act \ authorizes \ one-time \ o$ 

The Torres-Ossoff Act to compensate former vice president Mike Pence for what Sen. Harris did to him during their debate. (Dave Airozo, Silver Spring, Md.)

The  ${\bf Moore\text{-}Clyde\text{-}Steel}$  Act to fund a breeding program for Budweiser's horses. (Fred Shuback, Silver Spring, Md.) [Clydesdale]

The **Bordeaux-Steel-Nehls** Prison Cot Reform Act. (David Peckarsky, Tucson) [Board of steel nails]

The  ${f Bordeaux}$ -Jacobs-Williams Act to encourage more novel boys' names. (Pamela Love, Columbia, Md.)

The **Donalds-Good-Bice** Declaration that we really didn't care if the door hit him on the way out. (Kevin Dopart, Washington)

The Good-Bordeaux-Manning ICE Reform Act. (Dudley Thompson, Cary, N.C.; Chris Doyle, Denton. Tex.)

AD

 $\label{thm:continuous} The {\bf Bowman-Bordeaux-Boebert} \ {\bf B} an an a Fanna Foe Fert \ Foe Fie Foe Fert \ Boebert \ Act \ to \ mitigate \ unnecessary \ name \ calling. \ (Scott \ Straub, Winchester, Va.)$ 

The Ross-Nehls Act to serve escargot sushi at the congressional cafeteria. (Duncan Stevens; Jesse Frankovich) [Raw snails]

The  ${\bf Bentz\text{-}Nehls}$  Act to straighten out the escargot. (Mark Raffman)

 $\label{thm:condition} The {\bf Salazar-Mrvan} \ {\bf Act} \ to \ procure \ a \ fleet \ of \ bullet-resistant \ trucks. \ ({\it George Thompson, Springfield, Va.})$ 

[Sell us armor van]

The  ${f Jones-Jacobs-Hickenlooper-Spartz}$  Resolution that affirms, "That's kinda sorta my name, too." (Sarah Walsh)

The **Bice-Kim Act** promoting fat-free milk. (Gary Crockett, Chevy Chase, Md.; Jonathan Jensen)

 $\label{thm:continuity} The \mbox{ Fallon-Herrell-Keller-Kelly-Malliotakis-Marshall-Miller-Tuberville-Williams} \\ Declaration, telling the former Inciter-in-Chief to go 2L. (William Verkuilen, Brooklyn Park, Minn.) \\ The \mbox{ Fallon-Herrell-Keller-Kelly-Malliotakis-Marshall-Miller-Tuberville-Williams} \\ Declaration, telling the former Inciter-in-Chief to go 2L. (William Verkuilen, Brooklyn Park, Minn.) \\ The \mbox{ Fallon-Herrell-Keller-Kelly-Malliotakis-Marshall-Miller-Tuberville-Williams} \\ Declaration, telling the former Inciter-in-Chief to go 2L. (William Verkuilen, Brooklyn Park, Minn.) \\ The \mbox{ Fallon-Herrell-Keller-Malliotakis-Marshall-Miller-Tuberville-Williams} \\ The \mbox{ Fallon-Malliotakis-Malliota$ 

Still running — deadline Monday night, Feb. 15: our wordplay contest to add a "collaborator" to a movie, song, etc., and then change the title. See wapo.st/invite1422.

**DON'T MISS AN INVITE!** Sign up here to receive a once-a-week email from the Empress as soon as The Style Invitational and Style Conversational go online every Thursday, complete with links to the columns.

■ 0 Comments

Pat Myers |
Pat Myers is editor and judge of The Style Invitational, The Washington Post's page for clever, edgy humor and wordplay. In the role since December 2003, she has posted and judged more than 700 contests. She also writes the weekly Style Conversational column and runs the Style Invitational Devotees page on Facebook. Follow 

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