

## Photographer mocks fat-shaming trolls

Haley Morris-Cafiero's first cyberbully introduced themselves just minutes after HuffPost published a story about her 2013 photo series, "Wait Watchers."

The sender told her that she "was going to die tomorrow from the diabetes caused by my obesity," Morris-Cafiero recalls.

She didn't die the next day, but she laughed when she read the message. The artist was stunned that a stranger would offer their input on her appearance when she could not "care less what they think," huffpost.com reported.

In her newest project – five years and thousands of negative comments later – Morris-Cafiero takes an unconventional approach to disarming and confronting Internet trolls: She offers impersonations of them.

Morris-Cafiero writes in an artist statement that rather than respond to her trolls individually – a gesture that would likely fall on deaf ears – she wanted to "parody the bullies attempts by creating images and publishing them on the – the same

vehicle used for their attack. And the images would be seen by millions, and would live again, again, and again."



she ultimately chose 30 commenters to impersonate, taking care to ensure that the final image would not



reveal the troll's identity to anyone but themselves.

She selected those with the potential to make a strong visual impact, and whose public profiles revealed elements she could humorously exaggerate.

"I use humor as a way to dissolve the blow of their negative words," Morris-Cafiero told HuffPost.

"Many of the bullies had photos on their profile that showed extremes: idyllic vacations, locations, and personal images. Then I searched the Internet to find props to accentuate the extremes."

In each image, Morris-Cafiero fashions herself after a warped version of the subject based on details culled from their public-facing profiles, exaggerating elements of their physicality to match their excessive concern for hers.

Morris-Cafiero magnifies these imperfections to pierce through "the fallacy that the Internet will shield [the commenters] identities," she said.

In inhabiting her subject's performative social media presence, Morris-Cafiero mocks their mockery and neuters its impact.

"The Bully Pulpit" images display the commenter's original offending statement prominently, "almost as if I were 'subtweeting' them," Morris-Cafiero said.

Ugly investigations are emblazoned on T-shirts and aprons, illuminated in a neon sign and scribbled on a

mirror used for a satirical selfie. The commenters who inspired the images range from a 13-year-old video game enthusiast to a septuagenarian bodybuilder.

Morris-Cafiero hopes current and would-be Internet trolls will see the work and think, "I better stop or else I will be found."

She also hopes that bullying victims see that their tormentors "can be outwitted, and that you can fight back in a different way," she said.

Morris-Cafiero recently created a Kickstarter campaign to raise funds to publish the series as a larger collection in print, after showing "The Bully Pulpit" in galleries in London and San Francisco.

As for advice she has for an artist or content creator encountering cyberbullying for the first time, she urged them to "ignore critics... direct the viewer to the work and let the work do the talking."

She added, "If the viewer can't talk about the work and can only concentrate on the appearance of the artist, then the artist shouldn't waste their time."

## Woman files for divorce after husband refuses to recharge her phone for Dh50

A young Emirati woman in her 20's complained that her husband was not giving her enough money for her expenses.

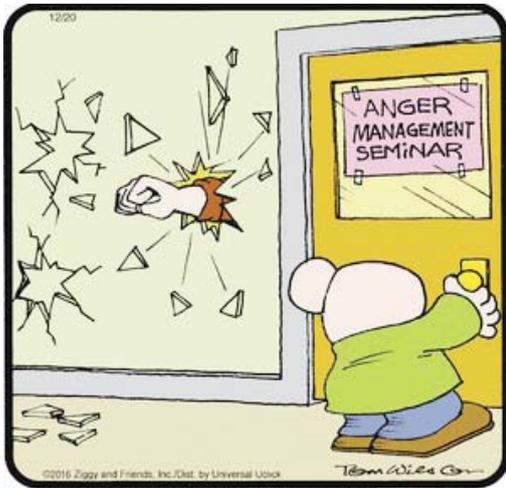
She filed for divorce on the grounds of insufficient financial support, khaleejtimes.com wrote. The latest in a string of incidents which led her to this decision include his refusal to give her Dh50 to recharge her mobile phone credit, as per Al Bayan report.

"I wanted him to recharge my credit so I can speak with my friends," she testified in court.

She added that she bore her husband's difficult financial situation for more than one year without complaint.

His circumstances and meagre salary are not enough to sustain my lifestyle, she alleged, especially since I am unemployed and only have a high school diploma.

The young man in his turn said in his defense that he does give her money as much as he is able. He added that his refusal to recharge her credit was the primary reason she filed for divorce.



## Out of this world

Being a teacher is fun because when you're sitting at your desk, kids will act as though there's a soundproof force field around you. The false confidence that they won't be heard leads to entertaining moments, like this exchange in which two grade 11 boys in a science class were discussing their futures.

"You know what I wanna be when I grow up?" the first student said. "An astronaut."

The second student adopted a quizzical look, as if to suggest he had seen his classmate's science mark and doubted a job at NASA was on the horizon. Still, the first student continued, "I want to be an astronaut because I'm going to be the first person to land on the sun."

The boy's friend looked at him even more incredulously and said, "You can't land on the sun. It's way too hot. That'll never happen." But the first student persevered. With conviction, he responded, "Yeah, I know it's too hot. That's why I'm going to land on it at night."

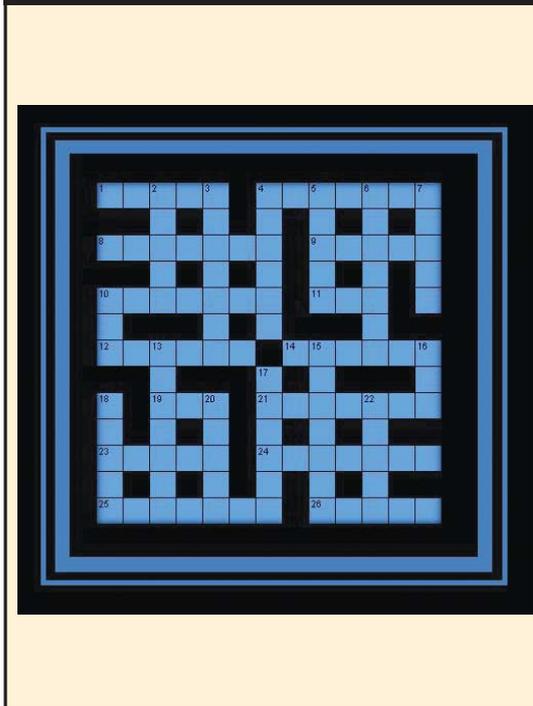
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Children admire a gingerbread scale model of the village in Szepetnek, Hungary.

GYÖRGY VARGA/EPA

## Catch Words



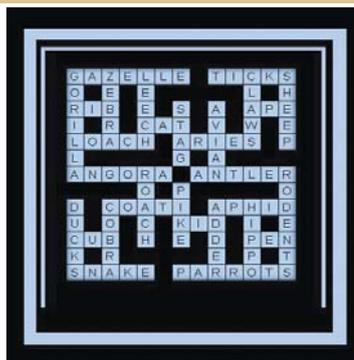
## ACROSS

- Pieces of \_\_\_ (5)
- \_\_\_ on the Roof (7)
- Secret \_\_\_ (7)
- Save it for a \_\_\_ day (5)
- Put out to \_\_\_ (7)
- Me and \_\_\_ (3)
- \_\_\_ said than done (6)
- \_\_\_ and liabilities (6)
- Let sleeping dogs \_\_\_ (3)
- A first \_\_\_ (7)
- A \_\_\_ engagement (5)
- Return to sender, address \_\_\_ (7)
- \_\_\_ awaited (7)
- Come up smelling of \_\_\_ (5)

## DOWN

- Fun and \_\_\_ (5)
- \_\_\_ chamber (7)
- Forgive and \_\_\_ (6)
- The \_\_\_ tricks department (5)
- Act in haste, repent at \_\_\_ (7)
- A \_\_\_ flush (5)
- As easy as \_\_\_ (3)
- Buying and \_\_\_ (7)
- City \_\_\_ (7)
- Original \_\_\_ (3)
- \_\_\_ and the Beast (6)
- An \_\_\_ a day keeps the doctor away (5)
- Trial and \_\_\_ (5)
- Keep a few \_\_\_ in the fire (5)

## Yesterday's solution



## Sudoku

Sudoku was inspired by the table devised by Iranian mathematician Khwarazmi. Fill 9x9 grid with digits so that each column, each row and each of the nine 3x3 sub-grids that compose the grid, contains all of the digits from 1 to 9.

3	1		4	7				
	5	9		3				
			9			1		
9	4			2		3		
5								1
		7		1			2	9
		2			5			
			6			5	9	
			3	8			1	7
7	1	4	2	8	3	5	6	9
2	9	5	1	7	6	3	8	4
6	3	8	5	6	4	2	7	1
9	2	9	4	1	5	7	3	8
4	1	4	7	6	3	8	9	5
5	8		6	2	9	7	1	4
3	7	3	6	5	3	5	8	6
2	6	4	9	5	6	4	9	2
4	8	2	3	9	1	6	5	7
5	6	5	9	2	4	7	8	3