

Shuffling Papers by Drew Schmenner

Universal Crossword edited by David Steinberg

15x15 crossword grid with numbers 1-71 indicating starting positions for clues.

- ACROSS: 1 Prepares, as a table; 5 Popular corn chip; 10 Bench press muscles, for short; 14 Complain; 15 Ancient fabulist; 16 ___ year (2024, for one); 17 Solo at the Met; 18 Grannies; 19 Actress Hathaway; 20 Movement that empowered African American creators (Hint: Unscramble this answer's last word and think "Toronto"); 22 Vacuum brand; 23 Piglet's milk source; 24 Like many hippies' shirts; 26 Degree within "in the end"; 28 Jeopardy; 31 In the style of; 32 Fa follower; 33 Tasks assigned at a meeting (... "New York"); 34 Kermit, famously; 40 Annoy; 41 Physical, for one; 42 One doesn't work in a calm environment (... "Chicago"); 47 Virtuoso; 48 ___ Jordan sneakers; 49 "That hurts!"; 50 Relay race section; 51 They come with a kids' menu; 55 "War and Peace," e.g.; 57 Damages; 58 Interstate oasis (... "Washington"); 63 ___ mater; 64 Ragu competitor; 65 Certain pop star; 66 Casino machine; 67 Yo-Yo Ma's instrument; 68 Head ___ heels; 69 Bronte heroine; 70 Shower with too many gifts, say; 71 FedEx DOWN; 1 Scrape covering; 2 Apt name for a sandwich lover?; 3 Event requiring goggles, a helmet and running shoes; 4 "The final frontier"; 5 Zealous supporter; 6 Raise, as children; 7 "___ She Lovely" (Stevie Wonder classic); 8 Maid of honor's duty; 9 Photo ___ (media events); 10 Toddlers' get-together; 11 So, so tiny; 12 White water boat; 13 Go on a shopping spree; 21 Tech journalist Swisher; 22 Place to buy a hero; 25 Novelist McEwan; 26 (Don't watch this in the office); 27 Singer Amos; 29 Mix around; 30 Vanessa of "The Crown"; 34 "___ dokie!"; 35 "\$#@!," e.g.; 36 Colt's mom; 37 Skyline obscurer; 39 Greeting Down Under; 43 Uncles, in Oaxaca; 44 Large coffee vessel; 45 "That crossed the line"; 46 "Return of the Jedi" furbal; 51 Pursue; 52 Campaign event; 53 Knight's protection; 54 ___ throat; 56 Precursor to Windows; 59 Move, in real estate parlance; 60 Wrinkly tangelo; 61 Word before "timer" or "thermometer"; 62 Dividing line?; 64 IBM products that ran 56-Down

HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

FRIDAY, AUGUST 6, 2021 Cosmic Caution Tape



As the sun squares Uranus, we encounter the wire fence, the caution tape, the wall with a sign, "Turn back now." But this blockage represents a contest of wills. Someone before you claimed the territory. Pause to consider the purpose and correctness of the claim; also the consequences of pushing through, if indeed there are any at all.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The reason you want to know about someone is more than sheer curiosity. You wonder about the potential. Do you share commonalities? Is there an opening? Can you make a connection? The right questions will be key.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You have an urge to open all the windows and doors so fresh, life-giving air can circulate. This is the same urge that sends you adventuring into the wide, busy world.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). In much of life, the first step is a point of no return. This is why arenas allowing for experimentation are so popular. They embody the nature of play, which is to try things without serious consequence or commitment.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). As compassionate as you are, listening to talk that goes on and on meaninglessly feels like an assault. With a healthy appreciation for pleasant, articulate brevity, you'll craft your side of the conversation accordingly.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). To some degree you can choose your teachers and your students, though life will surprise you in this regard. You'll get the equivalent of a weird substitute or rambunctious pupil and make the most of it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The work feels like a grind because it is. But at least it's a grind that matters, as it feeds and fortifies you and others. This gets harder before it gets easier, but heavenly forces will eventually come to your aid.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). That which disturbs you also interests you. Do you dare look into it? A tiny peek will be an interesting exercise in your sensory and emotional responses. One small dose can start your process of immunity.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Humility must be cultivated. Without it, we are prone to mistakes of arrogance. The things we are so certain of become dangerous. A humble heart purifies your personal atmosphere and all you do there.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Just because you have the right of way doesn't mean you should proceed. It's best to proceed, head on a swivel, ready to yield, speed up and do whatever assists the flow.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). When you're not strong enough to knock down the wall that closes you in, inspect it for weakness; one crack is all you need to start chipping away. Don't see it? Look closer. There always is one.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). On a spinning planet, even the most stable and concrete relationships are changing all of the time. Don't let that throw you off-balance. You're at your best when you expect the road to wind.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Belonging is a feeling happening in a person, a poetic sense or a spiritual resonance. It's not a fact. Belonging is subjective truth. The only person who can tell you where, if and how you belong is you.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 6). You are good at what you do and excellent at describing it, making you a marketing genius who earns top dollar for positioning yourself so well. You'll get deep satisfaction from a key relationship with many rich layers. There's a test in October and prize in November. You'll celebrate love and then be swept up in it. Libra and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 30, 2, 22 and 14.

Universal SUDOKU

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

9x9 Sudoku grid with some numbers pre-filled.

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

9x9 grid for solutions to the Sudoku puzzle.

SOLUTIONS

9x9 grid showing the solution to the Sudoku puzzle.

Dig Deeper by Erica Hsiung Wojcik

Universal Crossword edited by David Steinberg

15x15 crossword grid with numbers 1-71 indicating starting positions for clues.

- ACROSS: 1 Angry; 4 "___ the word!"; 8 Cover up, as a gift; 12 Like the coolest coffee?; 14 Devoided, literally or figuratively; 16 A bad argument might have one; 17 Indian garment worn with a choli; 18 Fit for a queen; 19 Legendary; 20 Pompous tyrant; 22 Michigan, e.g., in Chicago; Abbr.; 23 "Fancy" country singer; 24 "Checkmate," essentially; 26 Entered gradually; 28 Swarmed; 32 German for "the"; 33 Bottom-heavy fruit; 34 First South American city to host the Olympics; 35 "Time to kick my shoes off!"; 39 Environmental activist Brockovich; 40 ___ for the ride; 42 Good bills for a vending machine; 43 Scholarship funders; 45 Got onto the ballot; 46 "Yeah, I'll pass"; 47 Place for a pint; 48 Perfectly clean; 50 They make records; 54 Desertlike; 55 Start of many a French bistro name; 56 Popular chat room platform, once; 58 Parentheticals in a play; 62 Cracker brand used for some casseroles; 63 Get overwhelmed, so to speak; 65 Nerve; 66 Shawkat of "Arrested Development"; 67 Person who never complains; 68 "Ish"; 69 Desserts eaten on 3/14; 70 Dough for a deal?; 71 Fresh DOWN: 1 Light spray; 2 Dark berry; 3 Laura of "Marriage Story"; 4 Notable New Orleans necklace; 5 Intermountain West tribe; 6 Big: Prefix; 7 Smooth and charming; 8 Question a college-bound senior might ask; 9 Dragged (into); 10 "I was solving a crossword when it happened," e.g.; 11 Nut found in turtles; 13 Certain frozen foods with crusts; 15 Claim you had no idea; 21 "Queen Sugar" channel; 25 Actor ___ Patrick Harris; 27 Frodo's companion; 28 "Mummified," like a house; 29 Savior; 30 Prince's "Purple ___"; 31 Metaphorical opportunities; 36 "This round's ___"; 37 Gendered fashion label?; 38 Those, in Toledo; 41 Cabbage type often used in kimchi; 44 Word after "back" ... or before "elbows"; 49 "___ the Damn Season" (Taylor Swift song); 50 Extra piece; 51 Stew often topped with sour cream; 52 Fix, as laces; 53 "Ish"; 57 Bird on a Canadian coin; 59 "Oh, shoot!"; 60 If not; 61 Poky; 64 Cleverness

HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7, 2021 Lion Vibes at a High



The sun, moon and Mercury all ride on the back of the lion now, their sway felt in our regal attitudes toward even the most mundane aspects of life. Approach getting dressed or eating lunch or having a short walk or conversation with the grace and nobility of one executing a royal duty, and then ready yourself for results most fortunate.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). When you don't have the patience to sit through the lecture or read the book, dive in and learn by doing. Mistakes make the best teachers anyway! Their lessons are relevant by nature, brief, thorough and acute.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). There is certainly a mystical aspect to what you are taking on, but it's not worth thinking about now, let alone trying to describe it to others, as it's unexplainable. Live it and love it.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Because you believe that everyone is great in a different way, you wouldn't value your own efforts while devaluing the efforts of another. You'll have to search for the value that isn't readily apparent.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Don't take the chaos as a bad sign. You're early to the party, that's all. Things are still swirling around, deciding where and how to settle in. Early to the party means you get to establish the rules. You get to be a founder.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). This scene is far from perfect, but as you aim to keep stress low and spirits high, you succeed in creating the sort of day you'll enjoy even as you build your sunnier future upon it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Perhaps when Narcissus contemplated his reflection and got stuck there, it wasn't his fault. Rather, the contemplation of one's own reflection is an all-around bad luck move, especially for anyone who has real things to accomplish.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). There was a time for blending in and adding your subtle colorations, and that time is over now. As you paint yourself onto the canvas of this backdrop called your community, use broad strokes and bold colors.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). It's a hard thing for children to understand, but you'll model this concept so well today: Just because we put others first doesn't mean we make ourselves less important. You'll embody social organization with compassionate maturity.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You've been known to get swept into the slipstream of beauty and gladly, helplessly glide wherever it takes you. In today's case, you'll wind up where the wild things quench their thirst.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). It is only natural for people who are good at one thing to think they would also be good at an adjacent thing. The wise take overlapping strengths in stride while tending to the unique study each discipline requires.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). This new venture needs definition. Go powerfully into the realm of naming and renaming. What you call a thing will strongly influence what it becomes.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Timing sends a message. Arguably, the spaces are more informative than the information that interrupts them. You want to be in control of this.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 7). The ocean, the Grand Canyon, a wall of sound from a magnificent band... to feel at once enveloped and miniaturized by something vast pulls your spiritual self to the helm. From there, you make excellent decisions and find your way to the people who sing your soul. You embody awe. Sagittarius and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 25, 41, 27 and 12.

Universal SUDOKU

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

9x9 Sudoku grid with some numbers pre-filled.

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

9x9 grid for solutions to the Sudoku puzzle.

SOLUTIONS

9x9 grid showing the solution to the Sudoku puzzle.