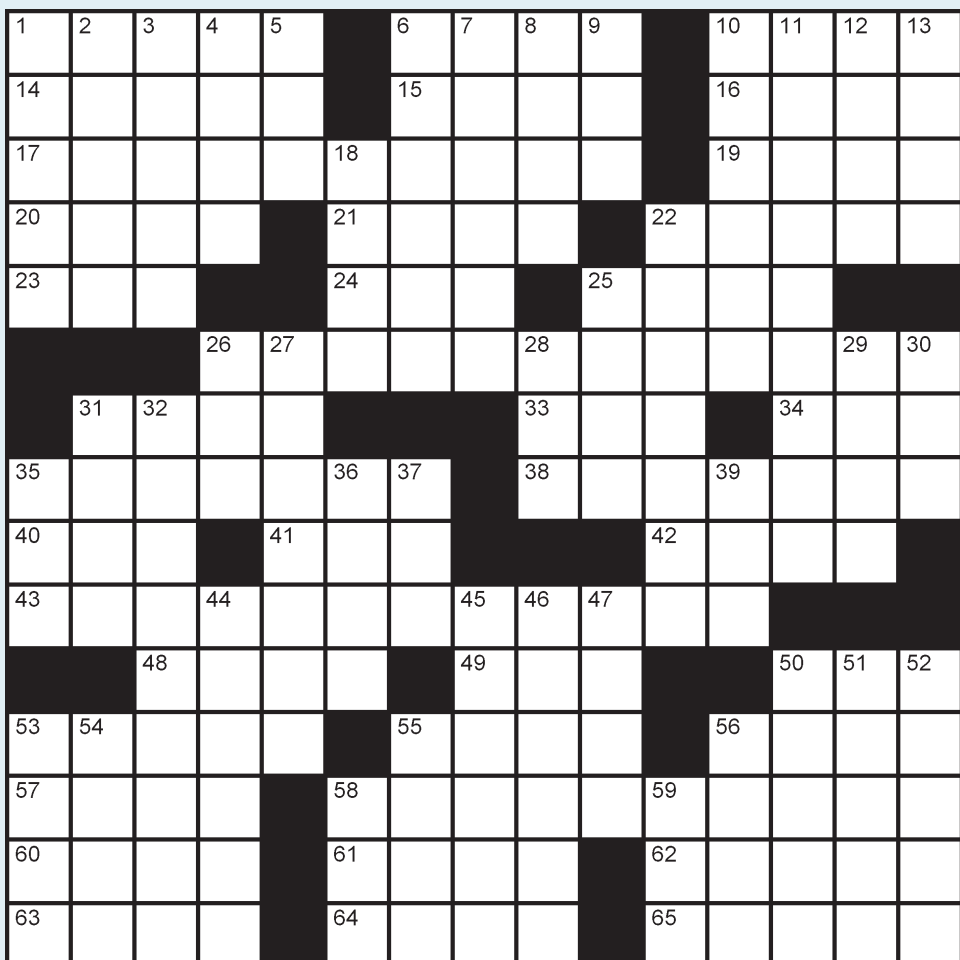


Front and Back Legs by Paul Coulter

Universal Crossword edited by Amanda Rafkin



- ACROSS**
- 1 Analyze syntactically
 - 6 Emailed a dupe to
 - 10 Officials at Phillies games, briefly
 - 14 Let up
 - 15 Big name in chips
 - 16 Game on horseback
 - 17 *Like community government (Hint: Note the letters that bookend both words of each starred clue's answer ... and what these letters collectively spell)
 - 19 Coffee maker sound
 - 20 All tied up
 - 21 All fired up
 - 22 Fills to excess
 - 23 Flushed
 - 24 After expenses
 - 25 Opposite of baja
 - 26 *All the other people
 - 31 One who values actions over words?
 - 33 Broke bread
 - 34 Most eco-friendly dryer?
 - 35 "Just play along"
 - 38 Answered
 - 40 Cable network with a patriotic name
 - 41 What jowls do
 - 42 Charged particles
 - 43 *Spurring into action
 - 48 Call to a mate
 - 49 Curved path
 - 50 Blond shade
 - 53 Late general Powell
 - 55 Adjective for a shoppe
 - 56 Chimney channel
 - 57 Smell from a trash bag
 - 58 *Receipts
 - 60 Clutter
 - 61 Norse god associated with lightning
 - 62 Judges' attire
 - 63 (Check this out!)
 - 64 Baby beagles
 - 65 Steeple's tip
- DOWN**
- 1 Less ruddy
 - 2 Situated over
 - 3 Sped
 - 4 Baseball legend Musial
 - 5 Word hidden in "three letters"
 - 6 Smart
 - 7 What a filling fills
 - 8 Watched warily
 - 9 Internet connection initials
 - 10 Modernize
 - 11 Serious sermon subject
 - 12 Ballet bend
 - 13 Absorbs, with "up"
 - 18 Narrow street
 - 22 Ignore the alarm clock
 - 25 Penny, perhaps, in poker
 - 26 Moody music genre
 - 27 Rendition
 - 28 Crew member's implement
 - 29 Takes legal action
 - 30 5 p.m., say, for a workday
 - 31 Ponder (over)
 - 32 "No clue"
 - 35 Embrace
 - 36 A whole bunch of
 - 37 Thing in an incubator
 - 39 Captain's journal
 - 44 Craving that needs quenching
 - 45 Pace faster than a canter
 - 46 They may be marching
 - 47 Frosts, as a cake
 - 50 Cover story?
 - 51 Terrific
 - 52 "Siddhartha" author Hermann
 - 53 Provide for free
 - 54 Uplifting poems
 - 55 Diamond Head's locale
 - 56 Box office bomb
 - 58 Motor oil brand
 - 59 AARP members: Abbr.

HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2021 Solar Eclipse Theme



Martin Luther King Jr. had a theory that "He who is devoid of the power to forgive is devoid of the power to love. There is some good in the worst of us and some evil in the best of us." Embracing the contrasts, contradictions and gray areas will be a theme of this Sagittarian new moon and solar eclipse. Nothing is one way, at least not for long.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). People want to connect with you and if they don't have a practical reason to do so, they may just invent one. The relationship will be more fruitful when you understand deeper motives.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Though "tree-hugger" is a stereotype, the embrace of nature is a primal need. The natural world connects people in a way the digital world cannot. Maybe it's not a tree you want to hug, but hugs will be had today.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). At the very heart of love's nature is an element of risk. You're willing to risk yourself in so many ways for loved ones. You'll risk being disappointed, hurt, feeling foolish and more. Without this risk there is no love.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). For reasons unclear to you, you'll resist your own plan. Consider this might be your inner wisdom telling you something is not quite right. Take your mind off this for a while and come back later.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). To invest love is to invest hours, attention and money. So, it is always apparent what and whom you love, just follow where those resources flow and that's where your love lies.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You feel thrown back to an era when eloquence was a symbol of status. Artful conversations will elevate people while dull exchanges will diminish their position. You'll choose your words very carefully.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). A noble pursuit is afoot. You will strive to be the one who gives more, knowing you probably won't make it, as your taste in people is excellently skewed to generous souls.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Choosing what looks good on paper is best for people who live on paper. As for those in the breathing, feeling world, the rest of the senses are best employed.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). An ongoing argument rears its head in a new way today. The information is nothing that you don't know already but how it's presented will be a game changer. Pay attention; your next play is important.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You don't know what you've got till it's gone. That is the way it goes in the song and the way it goes in real life too for the careless. You're not careless and you'll take extra measures today to prove it.

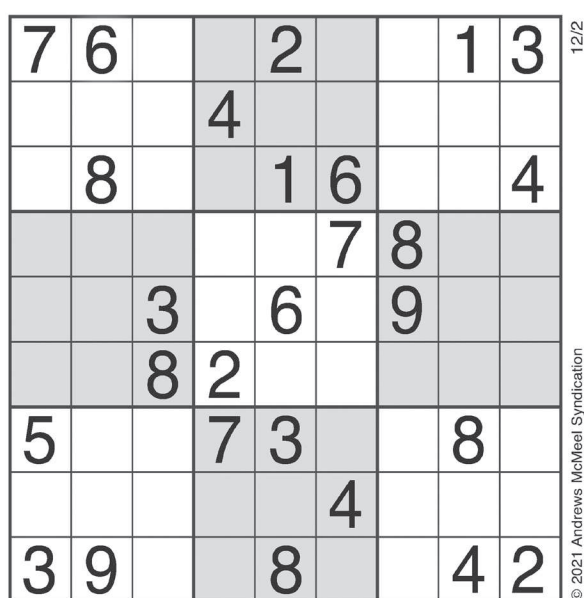
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Different areas of your life will prove related in ways you wouldn't have guessed. Strangely, everything doesn't hinge on one element and yet altering one element can still change everything.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Intentions matter, but typically you don't notice them unless they are followed up by action. People earn a more significant role in your life when they show up for you time and again.

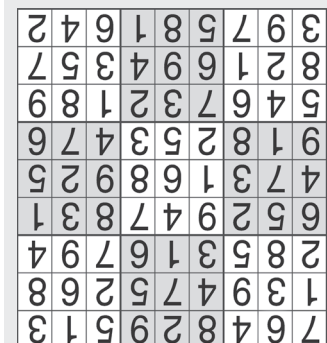
TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 3). You've never been one to pursue fame, but because you love what you do so much, you'll become well known for it. Finances improve as you deftly handle publicity. Family will be the source of stellar ideas, the reason for celebrations and travel too. March increases cash flow while July offers an excellent investment. Pisces and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 38, 1, 17, 4 and 18.

Universal SUDOKU

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

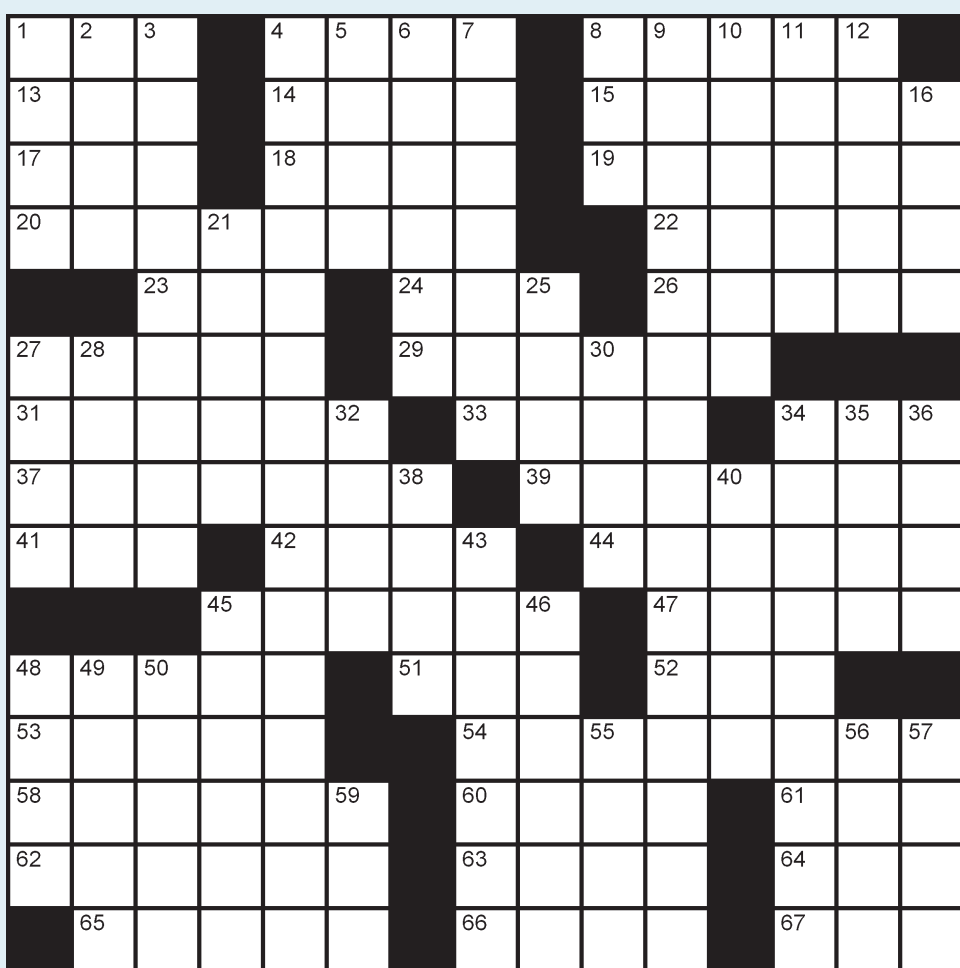


SOLUTIONS



Headed for the Top by Nancy Stark and Will Nediger

Universal Crossword edited by David Steinberg



- ACROSS**
- 1 Top seed's reward
 - 4 Frolic
 - 8 Cowboy's pants
 - 13 "Hahaha," in a text
 - 14 Now more than ___
 - 15 Agree
 - 17 In the past
 - 18 "Billions" actor Asia ___ Dillon
 - 19 Move stealthily
 - 20 Low pitch indicator, in music
 - 22 Gets closer to
 - 23 Aussie hopper
 - 24 Sharp knock
 - 26 Fjord, for instance
 - 27 Beachcomber's find
 - 29 Marks on shoes
 - 31 ___ spectrum
 - 33 Palindromically titled fashion magazine
 - 34 Short comedy routine
 - 37 Doonesbury cartoonist Garry
 - 39 What some people can't tolerate
 - 41 Band hidden in "One Love"
 - 42 Name that anagrams to "coin"
 - 44 Did some restaurant work
 - 45 Turtleneck, for one
 - 47 Kind of paint or glove
 - 48 Nicki who sang "Anaconda"
 - 51 Enjoyed fufu, say
 - 52 Athlete once ineligible for the Olympics
 - 53 Dickinson who wrote almost 1,800 poems
 - 54 Riboflavin, e.g.
 - 58 Put aside for later
 - 60 Wine list section
 - 61 Like a fox
 - 62 Gregarious
 - 63 Word with "rug" or "code"
 - 64 Take advantage of
 - 65 Watches over, as a fire
 - 66 Stephenson who coined "metaverse"
 - 67 Touch gently
- DOWN**
- 1 Reveal secrets
 - 2 Class with poses
 - 3 It hits the ground when you're running
 - 4 Place to end up after walking the plank
 - 5 Shape such as 0
 - 6 Cab devices
 - 7 Foreword follower
 - 8 Pet in many a YouTube video
 - 9 Worst possible track meet result
 - 10 Quaking trees
 - 11 Flower feature
 - 12 Apt rhyme for "bore"
 - 16 Obstacle in a course?
 - 21 Strongly built
 - 25 Word near a handle
 - 27 Leave completely full
 - 28 Fling with force
 - 30 Diamond imperfection
 - 32 Postal delivery
 - 34 Toast words ... or 3-, 4- and 9-Down, based on their meanings and direction?
 - 35 "Gotcha"
 - 36 Offshoot of a lecture conference
 - 38 Bruins' Golden State sch.
 - 40 Homecoming queen's crown
 - 43 Good source of fiber
 - 45 Contact a radio show
 - 46 Idolize
 - 48 "Clean up this ___!"
 - 49 "Turn on the A.C.!"
 - 50 One who cries "Uncle"?
 - 55 Creative inspiration
 - 56 "Casablanca" heroine
 - 57 No, in Moscow
 - 59 Windy City trains

HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2021 Fresh Moon, Fresh Start



Technically we can start over at any moment. We don't because we prefer the safety of an identity. We relate to ourselves as people who behave in certain ways. When it's working, great! And when it's not, as will be the case for many today, it's time to alter or drop something. It's amazing what can be lost while still maintaining a sense of self.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). There are plenty of good ideas zinging around, but without a structure for accountability it will be difficult to get people to do what they say they'll do. Make a deadline-based plan including verification, reward and punishment.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). When something doesn't work the first few times, it's hard to know whether you need more tries or an entirely different approach. In the current case, it's a little of both. Do more research.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). While you're not slave to the clock, you can't get around the fact that the world runs on agreements around when and where. To avoid rushing around, give yourself a wide margin for the unexpected glitch.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). As you check your current status against where you'd like to be, give yourself plenty of credit for things like taking care of yourself. Because getting to the goal won't be half as important as how you feel when you get there.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Context will be extremely important to making the right impression. Meet in a place that will keep you feeling comfortable and powerful. Bonus points for good lighting.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). People on the same team won't necessarily act like they are. They may be overly competitive and noncollaborative. The important thing is to stay relaxed and alert. This dynamic will only sharpen your game.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'd love to know what's coming up, but this is no time to stare into the ethereal mist. Make it happen. Choose your adventure, plan it and get busy creating a destiny worthy of you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). New ventures will be meaty and will come with a side order of inconvenience and a big glass of chaos to wash it all down. Hang in there for the complimentary dessert, as sweet as it is just.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). When you're caught in the traffic jams of life, stay patient. Even the most monumental of accomplishments can only happen on a moment-to-moment basis.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). An endeavor will be so involving, you'll slip into a state of flow. It's just you and the task at hand. The input or reaction of the outside world will mean nothing to you -- if you notice it at all.

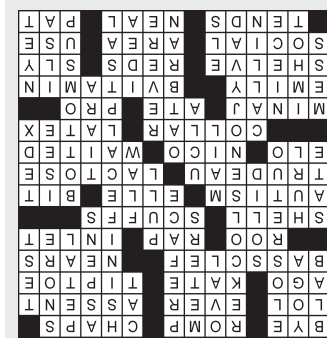
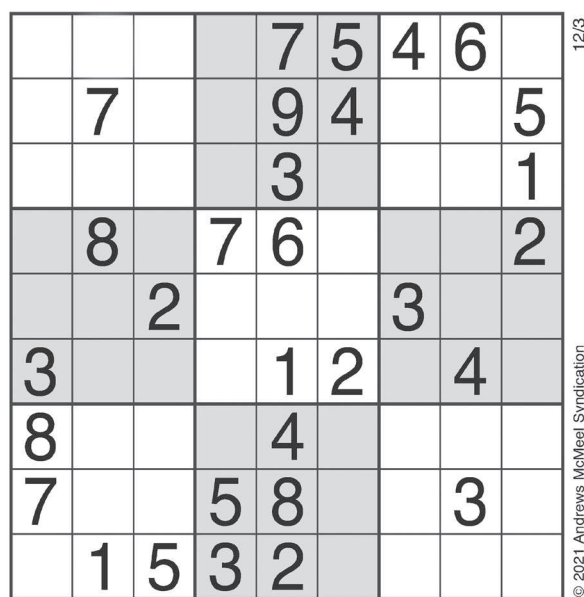
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll have no problem getting attention, but what matters is what happens afterward. Make it count. Be ready to lead people somewhere. This is a perfect time to prepare.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). There are those whose relationship with the truth is tenuous at best. Maybe half of what they say is real, but which half? Take the whole expression as metaphor though, and a deeper truth emerges.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 4). Your gorgeous attitude is a net to pull in fascinating friends, lucrative opportunities and unexpected astonishments. You make it look effortless, but your charisma takes work. Your goal of greater awareness and better listening seems humble to some, but it also happens to crack open the treasure chest. Pisces and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 22, 28, 1 and 40.

Universal SUDOKU

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



SOLUTIONS

