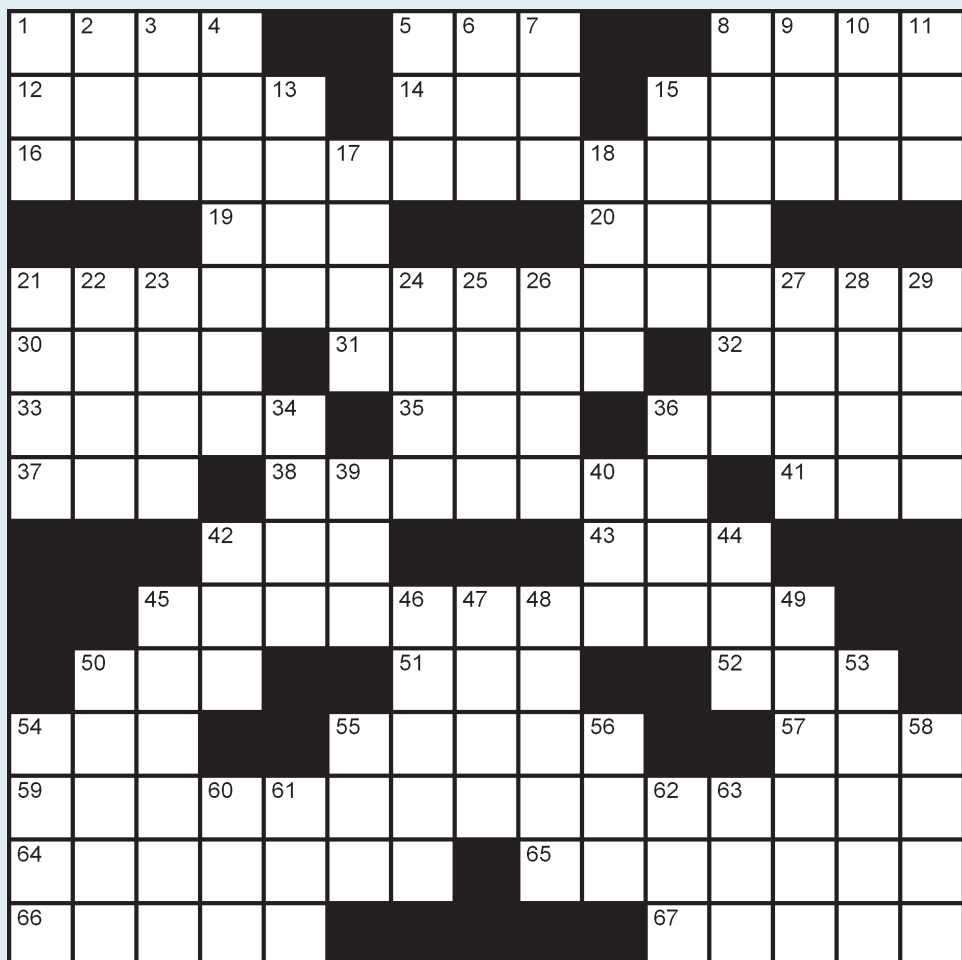


Be Polite! by Christina Iverson

Universal Crossword edited by David Steinberg



- ACROSS: 1 Tiff, 5 Little marcher, 8 The "M" of STEM, 12 Diva's solos, 14 Sticky stuff, 15 Magazines, radio and the like, 16 \*Many HQ staffers, 19 \_\_\_-Cat (winter vehicle), 20 Post-OR destination, 21 \*GP, e.g., 30 "OMG, sooo funny!!", 31 Parasitic sort, 32 Just barely, 33 Sleep concern, 35 D.C. baseball player, 36 This puzzle's will soon be revealed!, 37 Chiding sound, 38 \*The "P" of PVC, 41 Guys, 42 Joke on a valentine, often, 43 Refinery shipment, 45 \*One may have "ESQ" on their business card, 50 \_\_\_ it on the line, 51 "Yipes!", 52 Bunk option, 54 I-, O-- or N---, 55 Coffee add-in, 57 ChapStick target, 59 "Behave!," or a hint to the letter changes needed to understand the starred clues, 64 Talk and talk and talk, 65 Like volcanic rock, 66 Buggy releases, 67 Trio of trios, DOWN: 1 Pollen pouch, 2 Paid athlete, 3 What a biathlete takes, 4 Piece of clicking footwear, 5 Six or seven, for a first- grader, often, 6 Neither companion, 7 AAA job, 8 Jewish scroll in a case, 9 Ax relative: Var., 10 Ascot, e.g., 11 Owns, 13 Gold medal-winning gymnast Lee, 15 Shiny mineral in some makeup, 17 A rock, for a crow, sometimes, 18 Word after "sky" or before "seas", 21 \_\_\_ Stanley (traveler in an envelope), 22 Hypes (up), 23 Dropped, like spirits, 24 "99 Luftballons" singer, 25 "Square" part of a diet, 26 Play's first section, 27 Checkout line unit, 28 Jay or Joy, 29 Genesis garden, 34 Pool's hue, 36 Banks on a runway, 39 One leader?, 40 Doll, e.g., 42 Tissue box word, 44 Tolkien's Treebeard, for one, 45 Finds it impossible, 46 Any episode of "I Love Lucy," now, 47 Turn suddenly, 48 Animal in the family Giraffidae, 49 Tattled about, 50 Valley called the "Garden of France", 53 Stimulate, 54 Site with a "What to Watch" guide, 55 Sound from a baby, 56 Flavor enhancer: Abbr., 58 (I have a secret to share!), 60 It's in your genes, 61 Desired answer to "Will you marry me?", 62 Raggedy Andy's sister, 63 Keanu's role in "The Matrix"

HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

FRIDAY, JULY 1, 2022 Clash of the Cosmic Titans



Powerful moves are made when instinct and intellect coexist. You celebrate it when it happens, knowing that it's not always the case. Today there's some inner conflict and what's needed isn't more ideas or intellectual persuasion. What's needed is a reconnection with the primal tides. This message comes via a square of Mars and Pluto. ARIES (March 21-April 19). You've deliberated long enough. Climb the ladder to the high-diving board, count down from three and jump. No hesitating on this one because there's a line of people behind you waiting to take the same risk. TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Someone gave you good advice. When you first heard it, you didn't think much of it. But wisdom is patient. It sticks around until you're ready to understand and apply it. You'll act on what you've learned to excellent effect. GEMINI (May 21-June 21). As every baby learning to walk knows, awkwardness is inevitable. The stumbles teach you how to catch yourself, which you'll need to do over and over, as walking is basically an act of catching yourself with each forward fall. CANCER (June 22-July 22). You're creating something beautiful out of practically nothing. Work is tough and dirty. If it weren't, you'd miss out on the pride you'll feel at the end of the day. Things are coming along nicely. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Ideas aren't born fully formed. Express your infant thought in a safe place and let others help you parent it along. Your idea will gain clarity and you'll discover its strengths and weaknesses. You'll rid it of falsity and fortify its truth. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Belonging is an essential human need. Knowing how comforting it is to get the signals from others that you are accepted "as-is", you will kindly give those signals to others. Your warmth doesn't only relax people, it lifts and heals them.

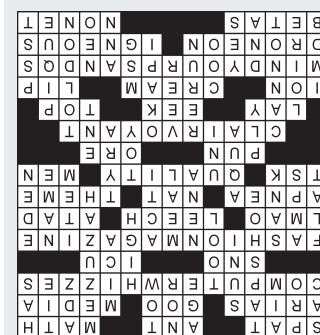
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). What people imagine about their behavior and ability may be different from how it plays out in life. Then again, only those brave enough to dive in and make things real will discover such outcomes. You're among the brave. SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Oddly enough, you won't know some of the things on your mind until you hear yourself speak them. Being around people you feel comfortable with will teach you about yourself. The more you communicate, the more you'll learn. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Like the flow of freeway traffic, the rhythm of your day will be affected by many collaborative factors. Matching the speed of those around you, you'll soon move as a single unit headed to the same destination. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). If the effort to have fun has you feeling frantic instead, maybe it's not you. Change your environment. Choose different company. See if things don't mellow when you're supported by someone you can relax around. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll thrive in all kinds of relationships. There's an easy give-and-take with some, and with others it's more of a give-and-give. You'll set the boundaries when you need to but for now your heart expands to accommodate demands. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You'll tune into group and crowd dynamics. Those who seem more interested in the rest of the room than the ones they are with are sending a signal of dissatisfaction or distress. You could save someone with your fun. TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 1). Your skills pay off this year. What used to be high-pressure becomes an easily managed part of your day-to-day. Respect and money reward this growth. More highlights: a research project or mission ties you with distant prospects, a party and pictures for future-you to cherish, and papers get signed; toasts ensue. Pisces and Taurus adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 2, 18, 44, 37 and 11.

Universal SUDOKU

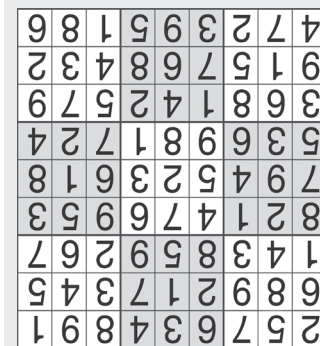
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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

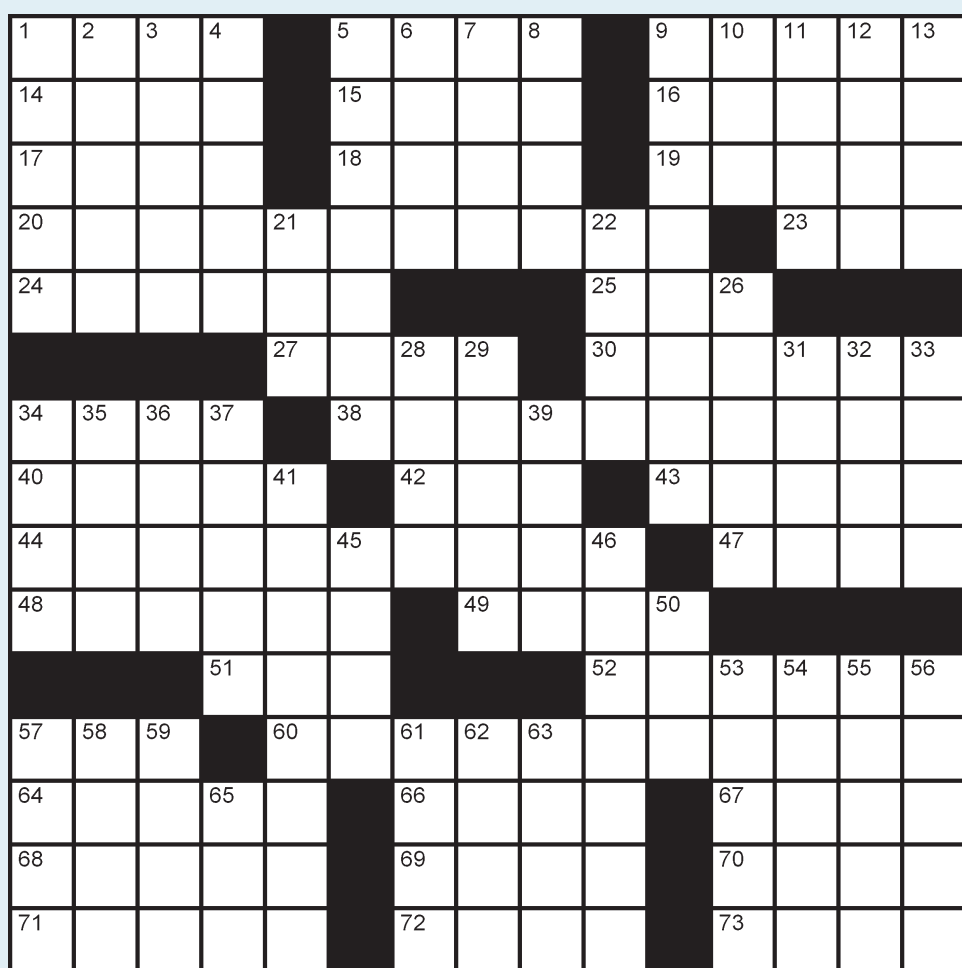


SOLUTIONS



Color Coded by Steve Faiella

Universal Crossword edited by Amanda Rafkin



- ACROSS: 1 Halifax, \_\_\_\_, Scotia, 5 Study all night, say, 9 Entice, 14 "You said it!", 15 Spa attire, 16 Fast on one's feet, 17 Hot line, maybe?, 18 Iowa college town, 19 The "K" in K-Town, 20 \*Spends one's golden years at home, 23 Floppy part of a basset hound, 24 Kristen Stewart portrayed her in "Spencer", 25 Chemist's workplace, 27 Ride the waves, 30 Sanctify, 34 Disneyland transport, 38 \*Numbered highway sign, 40 Edmonton hockey player, 42 Give a scathing review to, 43 Musical composition, 44 \*Gentler part of one's personality, 47 Sushi bar beverage, 48 "Feed a cold, \_\_\_ a fever", 49 Caramel candy brand, 51 Ungraceful person, 52 "I've found it!", 57 AstroTurf alternative, 60 Salad choice, and a description of the first words of the starred clues' answers, 64 Group of Girl Scouts, 66 Actress Rooney or Kate, 67 Killmonger's first name in "Black Panther", 68 Atmosphere protector, 69 Like numbers divisible by two, 70 "Welcome to my \_\_\_!", 71 \_\_\_ over (studied), 72 Small salamander, 73 Bird feeder morsel, DOWN: 1 Congested-sounding, 2 Last Greek letter, 3 Ticked off, 4 Restless, 5 Board game with the categories "Data Head" and "Creative Cat", 6 Easy win, 7 Biblical brother of Cain, 8 Flat-topped landform, 9 Go out for a bit?, 10 Swelled head, 11 Deep mud, 12 "You've gotta help me!," e.g., 13 What the 'in' :( represents, 21 Some face cards?, 22 Mollusk in jaecheop-guk, 26 \_\_\_ Badenov ("Rocky and Bullwinkle" baddie), 28 Features of distressed jeans, 29 Panache, 31 Swedish furniture chain, 32 The giraffe has the longest one, 33 Family diagram, 34 \_\_\_ and turn, 35 Barrel of laughs, 36 The A in NATO?, 37 The first "M" in MGM, 39 Prefix with "skeleton", 41 Did a makeover on, 45 Mortgage update, for short, 46 Tastefully stylish, 50 Belonging to us, 53 Film spools, 54 Spooky, 55 Butter-spreading tool, 56 Made an inquiry, 57 Put an end to, 58 Pasta that looks like rice, 59 It might become unhinged, 61 Marvel mutants, 62 Roof overhang, 63 Made a sketch of, 65 Number on a foam finger

HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

SATURDAY, JULY 2, 2022 Mercury's History Lesson

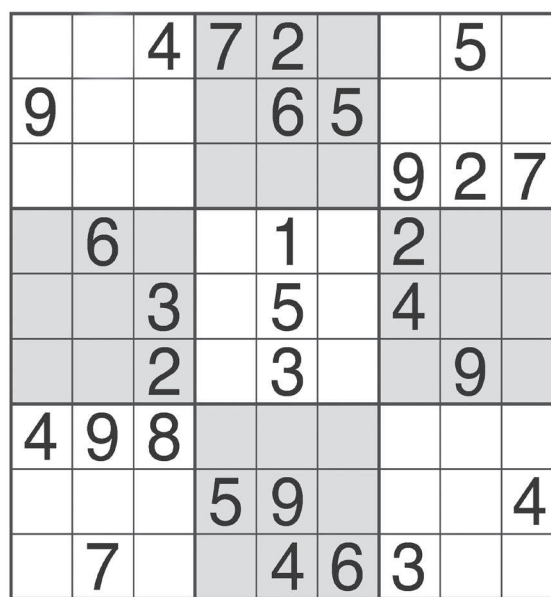


History can be your best teacher, but with the current antics of Mercury, history is more like the teacher who passes out a test then hides out in the lounge. Recalling the past can be tricky and making meaning out of it even trickier, but valiant efforts will keep you from repeating past mistakes. New mistakes are way more fun! ARIES (March 21-April 19). You feel the unexpressed emotions of others. Because you're intuitive, you'll wonder at what people need in addition to and outside of the things they are actually asking for. TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'd like to help but aren't sure how. You don't want to be the person who thinks they are helping while they make things worse. So, you take the time to learn what's needed. Respectfully unobtrusive, you'll hang back and observe. GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Treat everyone identically and there will be problems. People have different preferences. Trying to meet the individual needs of each is also problematic, plus exhausting! Do what you most enjoy. You'll attract a good fit. CANCER (June 22-July 22). So much of life can be negotiated for those inclined to try. You'll be especially keen in such matters and will consider the first offer a jumping-off place. You'll think of brilliant deals, arrangements and compromises. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Certain numbers have a resonance for you and it's good luck to see them in your environment, perhaps on a receipt, address or license plate. What's even better luck is when you hit the numbers you've attached to a particular goal. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Worry is produced by imagining a frightening future. Take precautions, handle what you can, and then project all that energy into a vision of the future in which you and your loved ones are healthy, wealthy and wise.

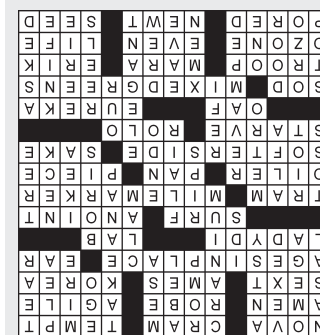
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll split your time between interests and people you adore. There is absolutely no better use of your day, so put off laborious tasks until another day. SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Following a whim will bring about an auspicious circumstance, but only if the impulse comes to you honestly, and not because you're just trying to get out of the work you told yourself you'd do. Give your inner boss priority. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). When you say "let's get together," you mean business. There's fun to be had with friends and you wouldn't dream of leaving this up to chance. You'll lead in this regard as you follow up with an adventurous plan. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Each day you gain both skill and awareness that there's exponentially more to learn, giving you the warped sensation of catching up whilst falling further behind. And yet you'll do it anyway, for the love of learning. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You have ideas about what a loved one should do next for optimum health and success, but unless explicitly asked, the best you can do is continue to be a fine example and trust that something good is coming together for all. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Those trying to appear normal will come across as weird because only weird people consciously strive for normalcy. You'll embrace anyone struggling to fit in, with the full knowledge that all the best people are weird. TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 2). It's a year in which you achieve a remarkable balance of opposites -- freedom with security; passion with practicality; serious play. You'll use your talent to promote the interests of others and take home an award for the team. More highlights: money from a new client or company, a renovation and a cuisine-driven adventure. Leo and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 1, 18, 6, 20 and 5.

Universal SUDOKU

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



DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★



SOLUTIONS

