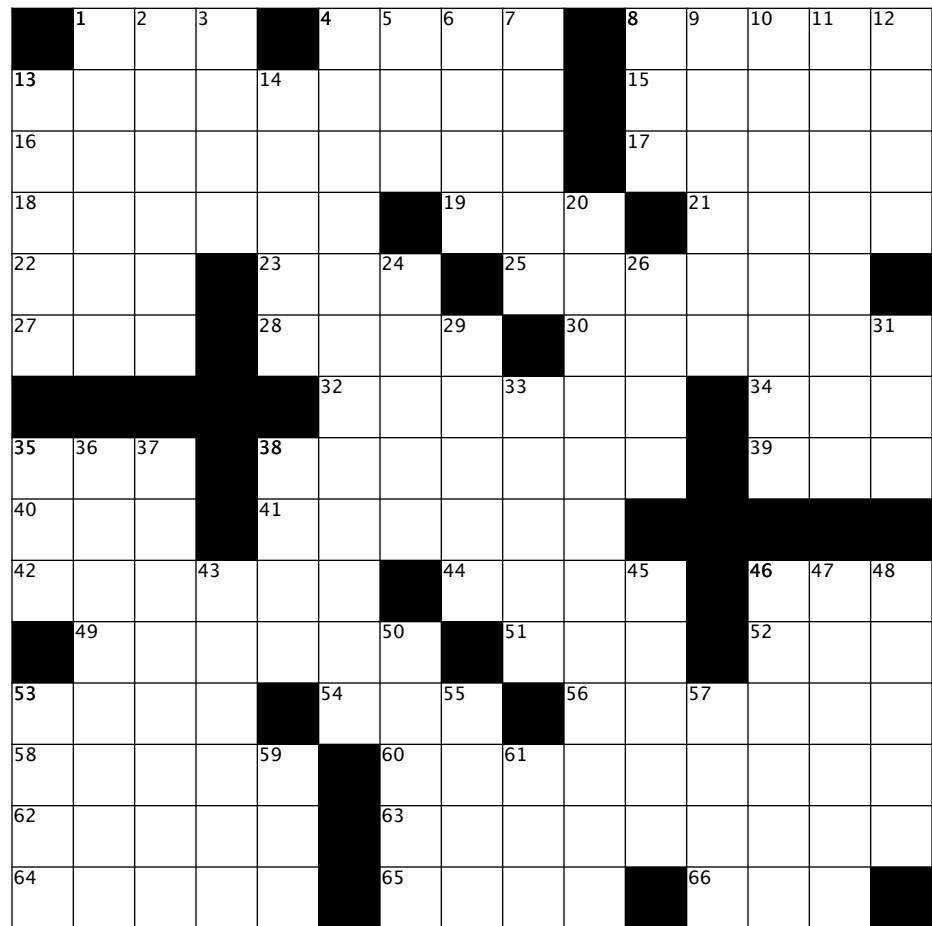


The Drop Off

Ross Trudeau

ACROSS

1. "___/___, no notes"
4. "Putin: the New ___" (BBC doc)
8. "You're better off without her"
13. Minimal impact camping ethic
15. Carried
16. Bird spotters?
17. Phillies slugger Harper
18. Do some crop dusting, perhaps
19. Conservative
21. Former Israeli P.M. Barak
22. Author
23. Author Asquith whose name is a homophone of mine!
25. Hall-of-Fame pitcher a.k.a. "the Franchise"
27. "Feel me?"
28. Old Spice competitor
30. What Kim Jong-un called Donald Trump, prompting a spike in Merriam-Webster searches for ___
32. Attempts, with "at"
34. The end of Henry V?
35. Marathon ID
38. Title TV son of June and Ward whom we're asked to "Leave It To"
39. Skrillex genre, briefly
40. Single
41. Standing Rock people
42. Chess champ after Fischer
44. Big name in sandals
46. Law school accrediting org.
49. Lay a trap, in a way
51. College app endorsement
52. Clutch, e.g.



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53. Gemma of "Crazy Rich Asians"
54. "Yesterday!"
56. ___ Sturgeon (longest-serving First Minister of Scotland)
58. Part of B.L.M.
60. Coke sales, e.g.
62. Vigilant
63. Listen via wiretap, e.g. ... and a hint for solving today's puzzle
64. Self-care occasion
65. Get a round of weak punch?
66. Ending with "siena." or "auburn."

DOWN

1. Mike ___ (screen-obsessed "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" boy)
2. V8, e.g.
3. The Big Easy
4. Plant known for rapidly growing to the canopy
5. Word that indicates a crossword clue is a specific example, not an exhaustive definition
6. HP competitor
7. Zero out
8. Flow back
9. ___ for the wicked
10. Retch
11. Racked up
12. Ticked (off)
13. Pounces (on)
14. Aquarium fish
20. Mid-size sedan succeeded by the Dart
24. Desolate
26. The ___ (Othello)
29. Tie for Benoit Blanc
31. AOC, e.g.
33. Photoshop, maybe

35. ___ choy
36. Sometime later
37. In mourning, in a way
38. Squander
43. Bakery-cafe chain that was once the U.S.'s largest provider of free WiFi hotspots
45. They're not basic
46. No longer waiting on a platform, say
47. "Cat ___" (Jane Fonda film)
48. Audibly astounded
50. Portends
53. Casino food?
55. Finish (up)
57. Give over
59. Oink-filled pen
61. Spelling Bee editor Sam Ezersky's alma mater