

A Cute Puzzle

by 530nm330Hz (Andrew M. Greene)

I found a quip that seemed appropriate to today's occasion. I hope you find it, too.

Note: This is actually page 2, but there was no room on page 1 for the title or instructions. I barely had room for the crossword and the clues. So turn the page over, solve the crossword puzzle there, and then come back to this side of the page when you're done. Don't worry, I'll wait! (Seriously: This instruction is not a puzzle.)

Take the three numbers to the left of each row, and convert them into a clue, using the crossword puzzle answer corresponding to each number. You will probably need an Internet search engine such as Google to answer these clues. Some numbers have both "across" and "down" answers; pick the one that works.

You may have noticed that there's a number missing from each clue. It's missing in the crossword puzzle, too. Just note that the missing number may be at the beginning, middle, or end of the clue.

The last clue? Oh, don't worry. It will come later in the puzzle. Just wait for it.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|-----|----|--|----|---|----|---|----|--|----|--|----|--|----|--|----|--|----|--|
| 94 | 88 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 62 | 25 | 2 | | | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 60 | 49 | 4 | | 5 | | | 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 27 | 103 | 7 | | 8 | | 9 | | 10 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 51 | 109 | 11 | | 12 | | 13 | | 14 | | 15 | | | | | | | | | |
| 97 | 34 | 16 | | 17 | | 18 | | 19 | | 20 | | 21 | | | | | | | |
| 54 | 83 | 22 | | 23 | | 24 | | 25 | | 26 | | 27 | | 28 | | | | | |
| 28 | 106 | 29 | | 30 | | 31 | | 32 | | 33 | | 34 | | 35 | | 36 | | | |
| | | 37 | | 38 | | 39 | | 40 | | 41 | | 42 | | 43 | | 44 | | 45 | |

Now you're ready to assemble the quip, by transferring letters from the answers above. The spaces between words are for you to discover.

23 1 11 23 7 27 18 23 11 23 12 21 2 36

20 21 32 11 14 15 25 23 35 21 33 10

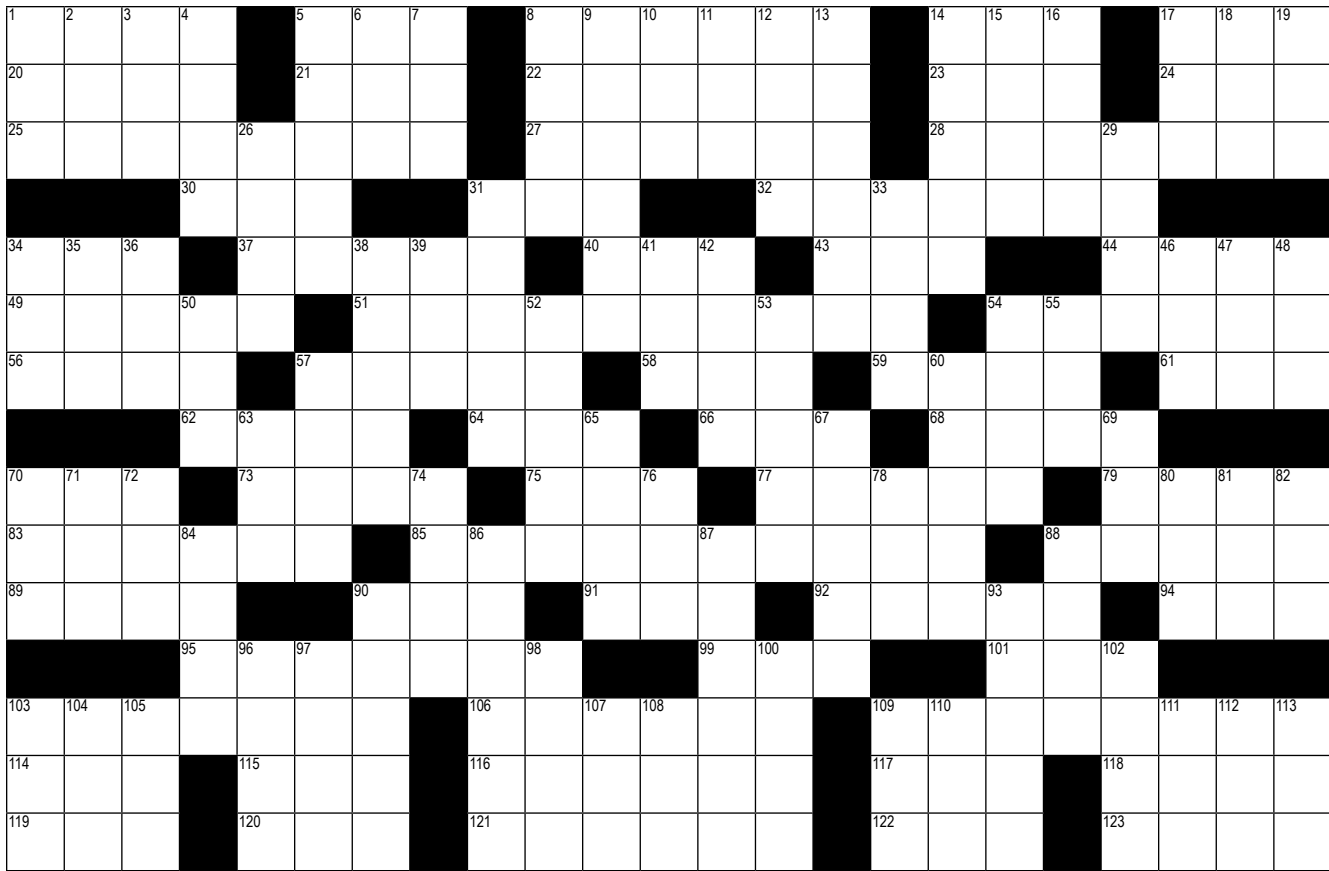
37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45

Oh, now would be a good time for me to give you the last clue, wouldn't it? Here you go:

25 31 18 4 31 12 10 5 1 19 23 14 29 36

What is the occasion that inspired this puzzle?

13 32 6 2 22 28 17 16 3 13 26 13



ACROSS

- 1 Occasional flower in the Middle East
- 5 Miracle-_____
- 8 Job for the Bounty?
- 14 Warner Bros. whirler
- 17 Failing to enforce to the rules
- 20 Message from above
- 21 Possessed
- 22 Take a horse back to the farrier
- 23 "___ Got Rhythm"
- 24 Anne Baxter title role
- 25 Bobby, for example
- 27 Kind of shepherd?
- 28 More cluttered
- 30 Overseas currency
- 31 Clean the floor
- 32 Oscar winner Benigni
- 34 Dreidel, for one
- 37 Emersonian name
- 40 MIT VI-1 alumni
- 43 Apr. addressee
- 44 "Hoop"-dee-do?
- 49 Apartments
- 51 Kind of commerce regulated by Congress
- 54 Indivisible
- 56 Talent show interrupter on TV
- 57 "I'm not in ____, dear, I'm in agony!"
- 58 Jean-_____ Picard
- 59 They "try harder"
- 61 Commodore computer, or

- a small furry friend
- 62 High-ranking gov. official who lives at the USNO
- 64 HST's predecessor
- 66 Garment covered in pureed carrots
- 68 Apple core offering
- 70 It oozes
- 73 Ivories
- 75 Boat propeller
- 77 Breaks of day
- 79 Clods
- 83 Having taken more Novocaine
- 85 Queen Anne's lace
- 88 Character list for computers
- 89 Itch
- 90 Brass ____ (MIT class ring)
- 91 Their JFK terminal was distinctive
- 92 Bud of baseball
- 94 Barn design seen in Pennsylvania
- 95 Its capital is Yerevan
- 99 Its members include Kings, Warriors, Wizards, and Mavericks.
- 101 Partner of Jones
- 103 Mass for the dead
- 106 Interrupt the opposing attorney
- 109 One who watches Mister Rogers?
- 114 Smelter input

- 115 Inst. in Harper Valley
- 116 "Auf Wiedersehen!"
- 117 Past
- 118 Tragic heroine of opera
- 119 You might find it in a British calzone
- 120 Prop in "Antony and Cleopatra"
- 121 Experienced ones
- 122 ___ Wonderful (Fruit juice brand that got in trouble with the FDA and FTC about health claims in their ads)
- 123 Mixolydian, e.g.

DOWN

- 1 Made an XXX, sometimes
- 2 "___ Blue"
- 3 LvB was born in it
- 4 Black
- 5 Its capital is Accra
- 6 Computer storage chip
- 7 "___ to Joy"
- 8 It carried Jason
- 9 Pre-cell attention getter
- 10 20th-C. political entity
- 11 He deduced R=I/V
- 12 Loud crowd sound
- 13 Mandelbrot who discovered fractals
- 14 The New York _____
- 15 Claim
- 16 Orange scrapings
- 17 Floral necklace
- 18 Mad. or Lex.
- 19 Gen-_____

- 26 Kind of junkie
- 29 NYC neighborhood
- 31 Something one "uses to build a theme", according to Pete Schickele
- 33 L.A. tar ___ or La ___ Tar...?
- 34 Pull (on)
- 35 Name in rock history
- 36 Attach, as to the start menu
- 38 Giving sass
- 39 Genealogical raw material
- 41 Class for those from Fr.
- 42 Broadway souvenir
- 46 Ref, in MLB
- 47 Dishonestly assert "Traffic from Manhattan to Riverhead is going at the speed limit"?
- 48 Play the Major General
- 50 It set a rail speed record of 574.8 km/h
- 52 Bequeath
- 53 A litmus test puts them in a red state
- 54 Goals
- 55 You can ask them for a pat-down
- 57 Soothsayer
- 60 R-CH=CH₂
- 63 Just manage, with "out"
- 65 Unable to tear one's eyes away
- 67 Modeling wood
- 69 Trig function
- 70 Animal in a Flanders and Swann song

- 71 "___ Town"
- 72 Expression of #amazement
- 74 Look over quickly, or in depth
- 76 As is
- 78 Tiny, as a bairn
- 80 Oy!
- 81 Shame!
- 82 The number of the Prisoner
- 84 Boyfriend
- 86 Idle
- 87 Bad feeling
- 88 With one's jaw on the floor
- 90 Have the cartographer update
- 93 Don't take it literally
- 96 TV host Kelly
- 97 They'd play at Shea
- 98 First stiff
- 100 A/C label info
- 102 George Michael band!
- 103 New Yorker cartoonist Chast
- 104 "I'll be there ___ long!"
- 105 Proof finale
- 107 A Clampett
- 108 Horus's symbolic organ
- 109 Short doze
- 110 Id's counterpart
- 111 Playbill blurb
- 112 Like the number that's missing from this puzzle
- 113 Charlotte of "The Facts of Life"