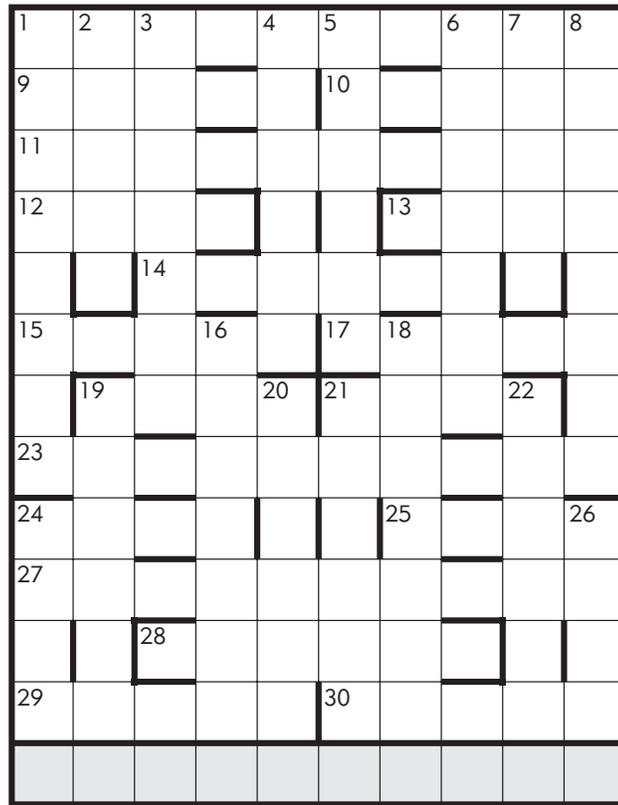


THE PUZZLER

BY EMILY COX AND HENRY RATHVON

Cryptic Crossword

In the grid, the area below the columns is a dark crypt into which no clue answer may enter. Buried in the crypt is a revered figure: the patron saint of puzzle-solving. Once in each column of the grid, a letter in an Across or Down answer will not fit and must be interred in the crypt beneath its column. In order, those ten letters will reveal the inspirational patron saint's name. Answer lengths are kept in the dark. Five clue answers are capitalized.



Note: The instructions above are for this month's puzzle only. An introduction to clue-solving may be found online at www.theatlantic.com/issues/puzzclue.htm.

ACROSS

1. Traitor divides the former Sulawesi parties
9. Fruit full of juice behind goose egg
10. TV host on the subject of a famous lost love
11. Bituminous stuff where a collier gets hitched? (*two words*)
12. Small tantrum about old bard
13. Light disk disturbed computer operator
14. Real and true, except for failing
15. Enchanting islander left out of loop
17. You say some big cats got too curious?
19. Almost like a fancy hotel sign
21. Gig's ending after boy band's set piece

23. Working not mandatory over period of time
24. Couples in second mixed playoff match
25. Marker of a finish line oddly trampled
27. A plain tree encrypted deep secrets
28. Fall color in the middle of woods and mountains
29. Bill's initially edgy and uptight
30. Material for Rush broadcast?

5. Study of French amid harvest (*two words*)
6. Coming to kid with a cod
7. Crowd around American League announcer
8. Deranged idolaters of some body-builders
16. Give a hearing to tannery workers' messengers
18. System of anchors also back in vogue
19. Rose engaging parrot in Tahitian town
20. Southwest city vault entombs colonist (*two words*)
21. Butts we removed from Wild West films
22. Joke about leg makes you slack-jawed
24. Petty squabble in spring time
26. The First Lady has a hangover

DOWN

1. Item given free by thespian is a trash machine
2. Turned over material for novelist
3. Lake island almost measured lengthwise
4. Sporting a beret with dress down