

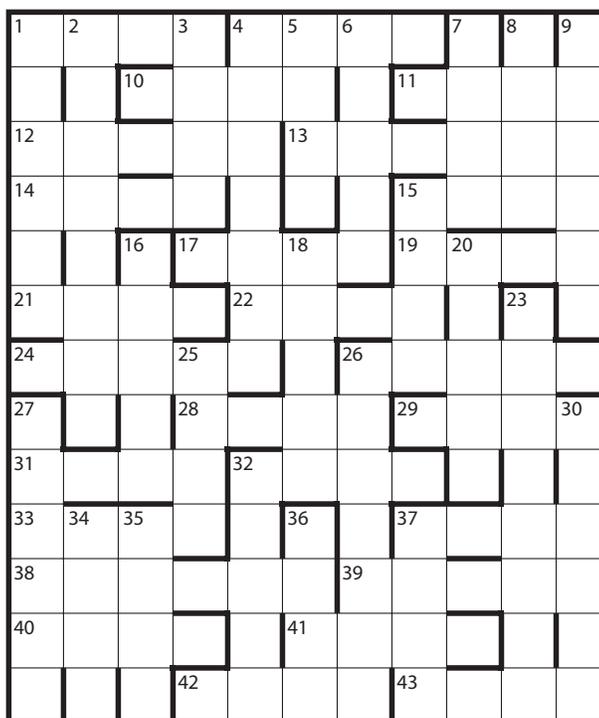
THE PUZZLER

BY EMILY COX AND HENRY RATHVON

Splitsville

They say that breaking up is hard to do—and you can decide if that’s true in this puzzle. Each Across answer comprises two shorter elements whose letters interlock without changing their order. For example, FORESIGHT has FOES and RIGHT intermingling but in sequence; likewise FRIENDLY has FIND and RELY. Break each Across answer into two such parts, and enter them in either order in their Across row. Down answers are normal and may be used as guides. Twelve clue answers are capitalized; one new Across entry is hyphenated and another is a capitalized two-word phrase.

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. Associate a part of a trident with royal privileges (8)
10. Old *New Yorker* humorist is through with tree article (8)
12. Exact inch, dividing by a ruler (11)
14. Caribbean island group opposed returning hawk (8)
17. Southern excursion that is run with more bands (8)
21. Kind of light traveling seat for babies (8)
24. Moe’s intern splattered Italian dish (10)
28. For sport, flag maker put in ornamental braid (8)
31. Nice piece of land maintained by simple farmer (8)
33. To learn through books or figure in a public performance (8)
38. Alert new people organized under one flag for successive change (11)

40. Having patrons strangely enticed around end of fall (8)
42. Stranger is sedate and reserved (3,5)

DOWN

1. Pull up in Oldsmobile carrying actress (6)
2. Capital city is home to a fabulous racer (8)
3. NBA team with turnaround shooter? (4)
4. Art of promoting a stock item in a sweet shop (7)
5. A doctor hemming one in (4)
6. Something important to a grammarian on edge (5)
7. Love... love backing Lena in films (4)
8. Cookware that’s beginning to seem worn out (4)
9. Ignoring first of hazards, tees off (6)
15. Wine-producing area in Castile (4)
16. Hard workers out in corrals (5)
18. Fruit Loop’s top is sort of white (5)
20. Part of a joint active after midmorning (5)
23. Put another way, country with Communist takeover? (8)
25. #14 next to #15 in strategic group (4)
26. Spotting the first person in the role of Mr. Paul (7)
27. Corolla features rings around planet’s back (6)
30. Unruly voters were in contention (6)
32. First poet’s first verse, according to Coleridge (5)
34. Offensive tackle is big name in lifting (4)
35. Tied one of the Barrymores (4)
36. People occupying earliest couple of caves (4)
37. Split a Broadway musical show (4)