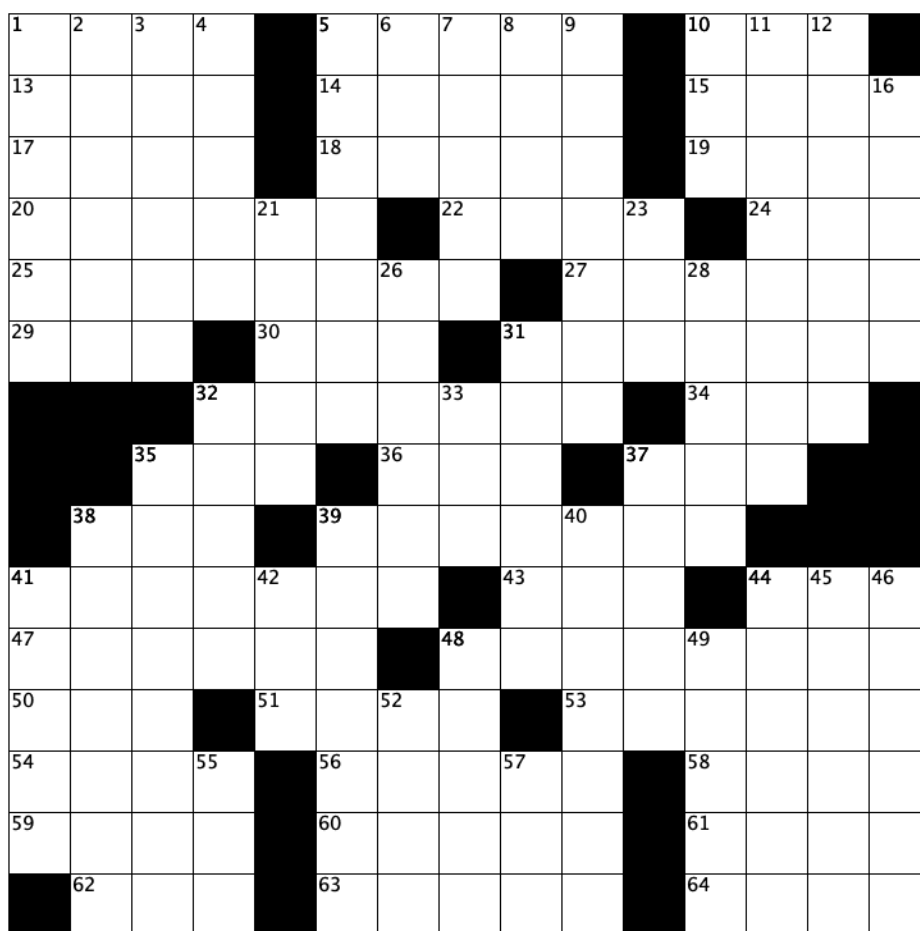


By the Head or the Tail

Mark Morin

ACROSS

1. * Largest instrument in the string section
5. First programmable, electronic digital computer, compl. in 1945
10. 6th sense (abbr.)
13. Le Vermont ou la Californie, e.g.
14. The best is ___ come (2 wds)
15. Rear section of a 64-across
17. Operatic song for solo voice
18. Art supporter
19. Length x width, for a rectangle
20. * Boat that washed ashore on TV's "Gilligan's Island": The SS ___
22. ** Mate for a bolt (2 wds)
24. 1960's TV medical drama role for Richard Chamberlain, for short (2 wds)
25. Plant used as fodder, or in smoothies (2 wds)
27. Evil intent, as in the 1981 film "Absence of ___"



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29. Baseball's National League East division (inits.)
30. Seasonal viral affliction
31. Device to build a 6-pack (2 wds)
32. Mauna Loa or Vesuvius
34. Stop sign colour
35. Never in Nuremberg
36. Old West outlaw Billy the ___
37. Monastery bros. or priests (abbr.)
38. ** Bugs' address, often with "what's up"
39. Wed again
41. More calm
43. 1st Premier of the People's Republic of China: Zhou En___
44. AOL or Starlink, e.g.
47. Took care of Fido for while (2 wds)
48. Tried to score a run by skidding under the catcher's tag (2 wds)
50. 10th book of the New Test. a Pauline epistle (abbr.)
51. * Captain of the USS Enterprise prior to Kirk
53. Roofer's power tool

54. One of Canada's largest First Nations peoples, numbering somev 350,000
56. Do a new voice-over
58. Surrealist painter Salvador ___
59. Actress Deborah ___ of "The King and I" and "From Here to Eternity"
60. Muse of love poetry in Greek myth
61. LOTR tree-like creatures... or MDs to see about a sore throat, sinusitis or otitis
62. Genetic material first described by Watson and Crick
63. Tendon
64. The theme of this puzzle caught by the starred clues, by the head (*) or the tail (**)

DOWN

1. Coming directly from the side (naut.) (2 wds)
2. Of an incoming chamber of the heart
3. Holy "femme", as in ___ Marie or ___ Thérèse

4. Sporty Ford model, for short (dropping the first 2 letters)
5. ** The most violent part of a hurricane, at the edge of the calm center (2 wds)
6. National Endowment for the Arts (inits.)
7. "___ if I never left!" (nothing has changed) (2 wds)
8. "I wouldn't touch that with ___-foot pole" (2 wds)
9. TV detective played by Peter Falk
10. GPS guess (abbr.)
11. * Packed in like ___ (very crowded)
12. Punctured
16. * Los Angeles NBA player... or freshwater freighter ship like the Edmund Fitzgerald
21. Are you friend ___? (2 wds)
23. Body ink, for short
26. * Lollipop... or a gullible person
28. Truck driving on the left

31. Merry Christmas to one ___! (everyone) (2 wds)
32. Bad habits or moral depravities
33. Objective
35. * Boreal
37. 2003 biopic starring Salma Hayek about Mexican artist ___ Kahlo
38. Burgundy or crimson (2 wds)
39. Stops working to collect a pension
40. * It's caused by water droplets in the sky refracting sunlight
41. * Tiny dot, of dust, say
42. Brief snooze
44. Honolulu's ___ Palace
45. * Heats ore to extract metal
46. Academic adage: Publish or ___
48. Car style with a trunk
49. HD, but not quite so abbreviated
52. Actress ___ Russel (anagram of Erik) of "August Rush" and "The Diplomat"
55. The E in BCE
57. The U in SUV, for short