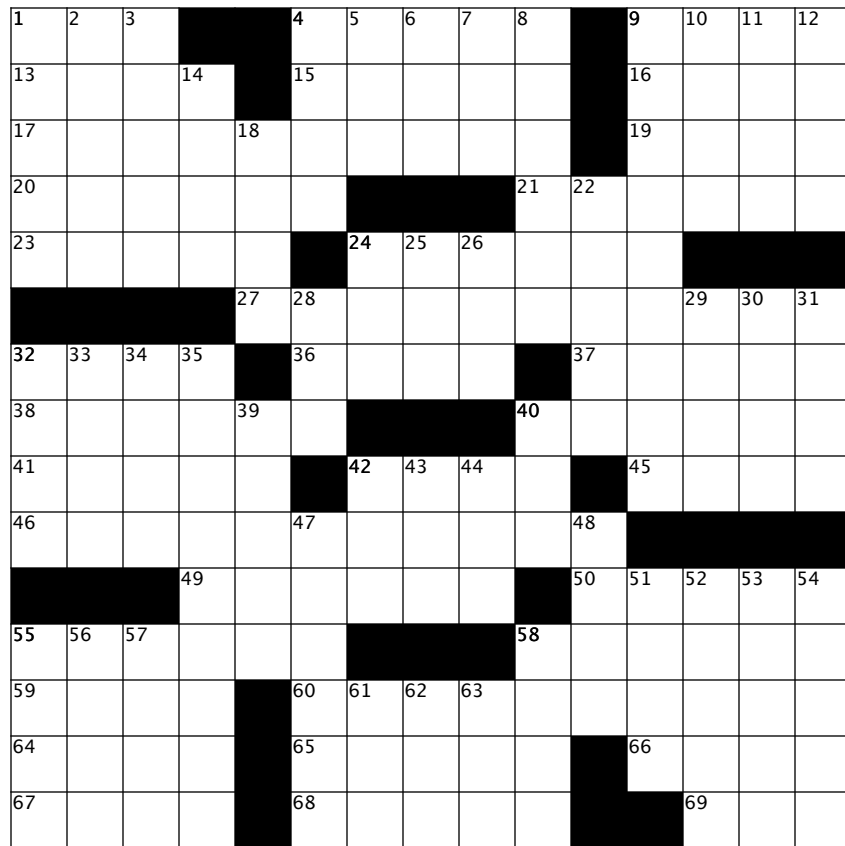


ACROSS

1. Locale for this puzzle's starred clues
4. The M of MTV
9. Tactically wait, as with time
13. ___ Scarlet of hit anime Fairy Tail
15. Elgort of Hollywood
16. Agitate
17. *When I walked in, two big cats splitting a meal occupied almost all of the feline exhibit...
19. "Used to be..."
20. Yankee legend "___ Baseball"
21. On a hot streak?
23. "Slippery as ___"
24. Blue pill?
27. *At the avian exhibit, an employee discreetly whispered to me that a new chick had hatched...
32. Tennis legend Nadal, to fans
36. Summer dessert drink whose straw has a spoon at the end
37. She came after Hillary and before Michelle
38. Notifies
40. Key daal ingredient
41. Step
42. Backside of Britain?
45. Record for later viewing
46. *At some point, a large mammal had been in the area, but I'd been too busy joking around to catch a glimpse...
49. Jake of CNN
50. Within: prefix
55. Up and down state?
58. Orchestral compositions
59. Just a tad
60. *As I was leaving, a fowl escaped its cage and landed near me, but I got too scared to approach it...
64. Revealing tic, in poker
65. Southeastern Asian capital home to French colonial architecture
66. Domed church recess



67. Natural soothing agent
 68. Most populous Middle-Eastern country
 69. Suffix with election or rocket
- ## DOWN
1. "Legendary" video game sold almost 20 million times
 2. Standout stars?
 3. Atmospheric layer
 4. Late 90's rapper homophonous with tear gas
 5. World's largest healthcare conglomerate, on Wall Street
 6. Notable F.D.R. achievement
 7. Comparative suffix
 8. Bisect
 9. Exceptionally bright, as a light or student
 10. Its caucus generated \$44 million in 2020 ad revenue
 11. Cameron of "Charlie's Angels"

12. If's algorithmic partner
14. Auntie of pretzel fame
18. Perch outside a window
22. It's sold over 5 billion copies
24. List ender: abbr.
25. 4G: abbr.
26. Word after pale or ginger
28. Juniors
29. Scandinavian root vegetable, with "baga"
30. Leak slowly
31. Nick Carraway or Tom Buchanan alma mater
32. Reaction revealed as a reddened or raised region
33. Instrument for Charlie Parker or Johnny Hodges
34. The only thing to be afraid of, according to Roosevelt
35. Philosophical forefather with an eponymous "tradition"

39. Gift, or to gift
40. Men's name that doubles as a popular Excel function
42. Dadaist Jean
43. Sushi topper
44. "Big" state park with a winding beachside highway
47. Southwestern tribe
48. Cubes, or to cube
51. Deca- minus mono-
52. Damsel in distress or wise old man, for example
53. Second pillar of an eco-friendly mantra
54. Purple perennial
55. Information
56. Biblical shepherd slain by his brother
57. Prefix used 1,000 times?
58. One of many in an SNL episode
61. Witch
62. T-Shirt letters with a heart in the middle
63. Ticket issuer, informally