

# A Step in the Right Direction

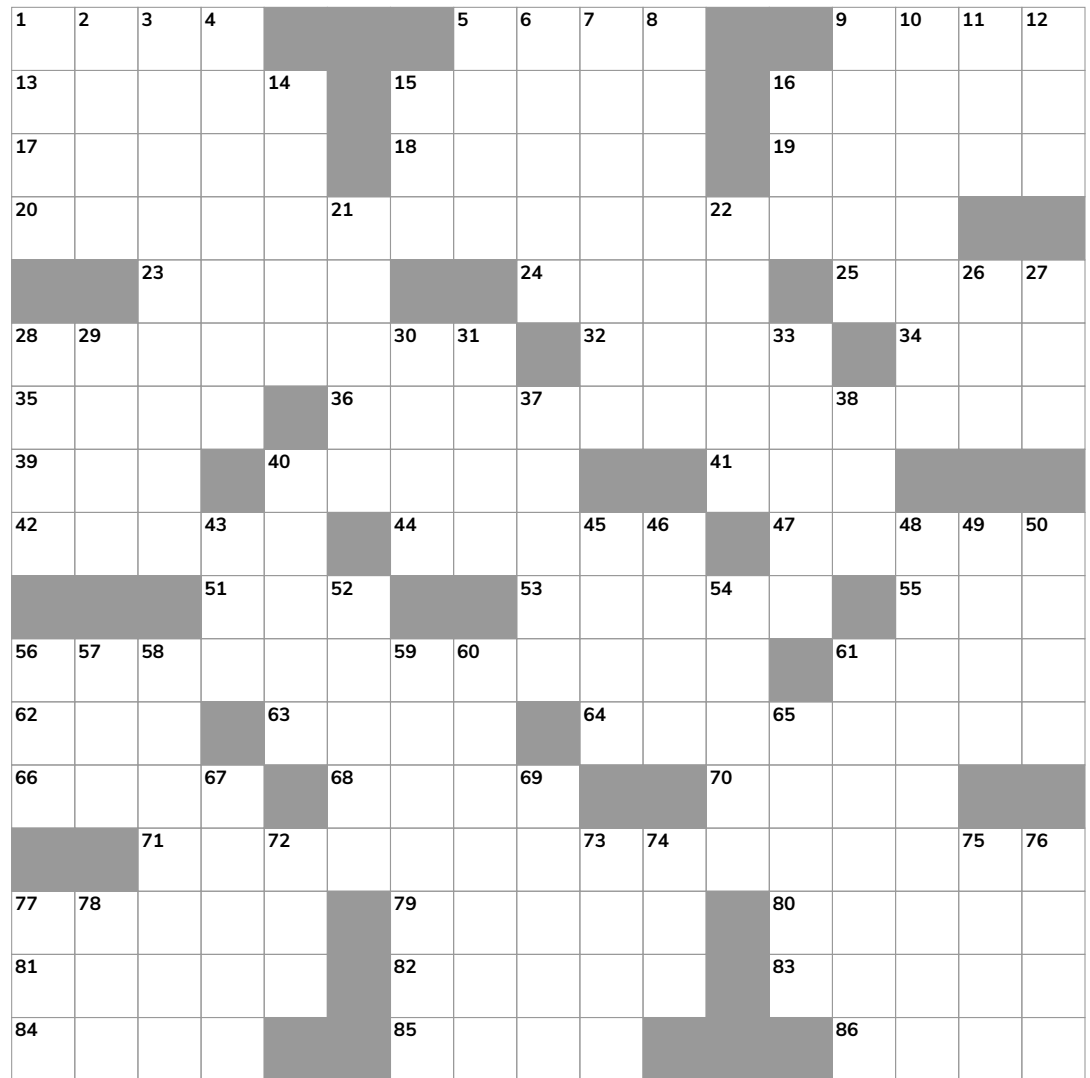
Muggle Meta Monday: July 26, 2021

Mike Graczyk

The answer to the meta is a 8-letter word.

## ACROSS

- 1 It might be fresh  
5 "I got that"  
9 This is going downhill fast  
13 Type of furniture  
15 One might require a 57-Down  
16 It can cause a stir  
17 "What a way to \_\_\_\_ living!" (What some crossword constructors might say)  
18 Art form that comes from the Italian for "work"  
19 On the origins of his first cartoon, he said, "A cat after a mouse seemed like a good, basic thought"  
20 First debate?  
23 Ship's backbone  
24 Letter of the Hebrew alphabet that's also a body part  
25 You shouldn't lie under it  
28 1937 painting that resides at the Museo Reina Sofia  
32 9:10, e.g.  
34 "But don't use this stuff / This icky sticky stuff / I just don't think that pitchers can..."  
35 Old being?  
36 Believes that things might be okay in the end  
39 Avian beast seen in Liberty Mutual commercials (LIBERTY LIBERTY LIBERTY)  
40 Type of calendar  
41 Nice little word?  
42 10th of 24  
44 1964 : Shea Stadium :: 2009 : Citi \_\_\_\_  
47 Early Christian rock band whose name literally means "rock"  
51 Org. that originally employed Wonder Woman in the comics  
53 "WHY DIDN'T I SEE THAT META STEP???"  
55 Rens \_\_\_\_ (Ikea store product I might actually buy because you don't have to assemble it)  
56 Being this won't win you many auctions on eBay (that's what I've been doing wrong!)  
61 You might see one on the Hill  
62 Body part that becomes what you do with the body part when preceded by an "H"  
63 \_\_\_\_ Cloud (source of comets named after a Dutch astronomer)  
64 "Flying Bank" from 1931 to 2002  
66 End of a buck?  
68 Yeardley Smith first voiced her in 1987  
70 Company founded in 1948 whose name literally means "skyward"  
71 "You can't play bridge with three people!"  
77 Young pupper  
79 Mount  
80 Harden: Var.  
81 Wan  
82 "\_\_\_\_ kidding!"  
83 Strength  
84 Ginger Cat prefers the Fancy Feast savory salmon variety because she's a spoiled kitty



2021

- 85 Simeon I of Bulgaria was the first to use this title  
86 Clucks disapprovingly

## DOWN

- 1 Detail, briefly  
2 "Relaxing after solving this meta feels so good!"  
3 Begins  
4 Open  
5 It may help you change keys  
6 Long takes, in film lingo  
7 What a Dumas character  
8 Response to, "You want to solve this puzzle???"  
9 Puck's place  
10 A billion years in the past, say  
11 A billion years, say  
12 It contains purines and pyrimidines, for short  
14 "The Old \_\_\_\_ Bucket"  
15 Don't let one take you  
16 "Nevertheless, \_\_\_\_ persisted"  
21 Yale of Yale

- 22 Result  
26 "You spin it right round, baby / Right round / Like a record, baby / Right round / Right round"  
27 This is groundbreaking!  
28 \_\_\_\_ chic  
29 Alma mater of Buzz Aldrin and Mike Krzyzewski: Abbr.  
30 Big Ten, e.g.: Abbr.  
31 Second half of a ball game?  
33 Curry, e.g.  
37 It might be existential  
38 "You're painting again?" " \_\_\_\_ know it!"  
40 Last name of fictional character described in a Deadspin blog post as "the coach we all need that we'll never see"  
43 He wrote the line "the tinnabulation of the bells, bells, bells"  
45 Young'un  
46 Chose a club, maybe  
48 I wasn't sure if I wanted to practice on the track team, but I decided to give it some \_\_\_\_

- 49 Journalist Bakhtiar  
50 Golden \_\_\_\_  
52 That's a wrap!  
54 You might give me it for my puns  
56 Bucolic 44-Across  
57 See 15-Across  
58 Last word in the first official Morse code message ever sent  
59 "OKAY, LET'S GO"  
60 "Apparently..."  
61 Collectively  
65 Blackthorns  
67 "Another one of this guy's puns..."  
69 It's been a CVS health subsidiary since 2018  
72 Caused the balloons and confetti to come down on a game show, say  
73 Where a "zonk" might be behind  
74 You might see one on a hill  
75 "Star \_\_\_\_"  
76 Hacks  
77 Sharon Jones and the \_\_\_\_-Kings (funk-soul revivalist band)  
78 Mama Bear, in Madrid