



Solution to Previous Issue's Puzzle—Duplicity

Across

1. ARTIST TRAITS from theme clue f
9. BART—BART(ENDER)—("Mixologist cut off")
11. SAHL—Homophone of SAUL ("Biblical king")
13. MOE—Homophone of MOW ("do lawn care")
15. TERSE RESET—from theme clue a
16. STAID—Homophone of STAYED ("remained")
17. ROLOS—Every other letter in "Froot Loops"
18. ADOBE ABODE from theme clue c
19. ANT—(PL)ANT ("Part-time plant")
20. ARM—(H)ARM ("harm no humans at first")
22. SWARM—S ("birds finally") + WARM ("get interested")
24. LARVA—Inside "spectacular variety"
27. SUE—Homophone of SIOUX ("Native American tribe")
29. ALI—"Al, I"
32. LEAST STALE from theme clue b
34. SAJAK—SAJA ("Bringing back AJ as") + K ("Jake's third")
37. GUISE—Homophone of GUYS ("People")
38. SOBER BORES from theme clue e
40. AHI—Inside "Bahia"
41. ERSE—(V)ERSE ("poem that needs no introduction")
42. AGES—Righthand side of "shortages"
43. MANTLE LAMENT from theme clue d

Down

1. ABYSMAL—Inside "Baby's male"
2. RATTAN—Inside "Democrat tantrums"
3. TREAD—Anagram of "Rated"
4. SIS—(CRI)SIS ("crisis after missing a few beats")
5. TARA—Word bank for "ratatatat"
6. ALSO—Inside "Fundamental solutions"
7. IMELDA—Anagram of "Mailed"
8. SENSE—Homophone of CENTS ("pennies")
10. TRIOS—Anagram of "Riots"
11. SEVERS—Anagram of "verses"
12. HERBS—HER ("that woman's") + BS ("drivel")
14. OTOE—Every other letter in "on those"
21. MUST BE—MUST ("mold") + B + E ("but ephemeral at first")
23. MIDEAST—Word bank for "Misestimated"
25. REJOIN—Double definition
26. ASKER—Inside "Maradona's kerfuffle"
28. LAURA—Anagram of "Aural"
30. LESSEN—Homophone of LESSON ("practice")
31. ISLAM—Anagram of "mails"
32. LASH—LAS + H ("hot")

1	A	2	R	2	T	4	I	4	S	5	T	5	T	6	R	6	A	7	I	7	T	8	S
9	B	A	R		10	T	I	11	S	12	A	H	L	13	M	O		14				E	
	Y	15	T	E	R	S	E	R	E	S	E	T		N									
16	S	T	A	I	D	V	A	17	R	O	L	O	S										
	M	18	A	D	O	B	E	A	B	O	D	E	E										
19	A	N	T		20	S	A	R	21	M	S	W	A	R		23	M						
24	L	A	R	25	V	26	A	27	S	U	E	28	L	29	A	30	L	I					
31	I	32	L	E	A	S	T	S	T	A		33	L	E	D								
34	S	A	J		35	A	K	36	A	T	G	U	I	S	E								
	L	38	S	O	B	E	R	B	39	O	R	E	S	A									
40	A	H	I		41	E	R	S	E	V	42	A	G	E	S								
43	M	A	N	T	E	L	L	A	M	E	N	T											

33. LIEGE—Inside "Ellie gets"
35. ABET—A ("one") + BET ("risky thing")
36. ARSE—(CO)ARSE ("company may bugger off")
39. OVA—(N)OVA ("A little late for lox")

Solvers: Steve Alpert, Dean Apps, Jack Brauner, Bob Campbell, Lois Cappellano, Laura Cremerius, Jared Dashoff, Todd Dashoff, Christopher Dickens, Mick Diede, Deb Edwards, David Handelman, Jason Helbraun, Pete Hepokoski, Catharine Hornby, Max Jackson, Ruth Johnson, Joe Kilroy, Paul Kolell, Mike Kosciuk, Ken Kudrak, George Levine, David Lueck, Tim Luker, Ben Lynch, Michael Manos and Eric Whitescarver, Mathew Marchione and Marika Brown, Dave McGarry, Becky Moody, Jim Muza, Todd Pierce, David and Corinne Promislow, Ram Raman, Jay Ripps, Bill Scott, Andrew Shewan, Sally Smith, Zig Swistunowicz, Tim Tebbe, T. O. C. E. (Josh DenHartog and Sean Donohoe), and Betsy and James Uzzell

TOM TOCE is an FCAS and a seasonal director at KPMG. He is a member of the Jeopardy Hall of Fame. Solutions may be emailed to ttoce@nyc.rr.com. In order to make the solver list, you should send him your solutions by Oct. 1, 2026.