Solution to Previous Issue's Puzzle-Nine Five-By-Fives

Square One

Across clues

- 1. TAKES—Anagram of "steak"
- 4. AWFUL—(L)AWFUL ("legal after one")
- 5. STAIN—Hidden in "Gangsta involved"

Down clues

- 1. TRAPS—Anagram of "parts"
- KAFKA—KA ("western Kansas") + F "(Friday") + KA ("Alaska upon returning")
- 3. SALON—Anagram of "loans"

Square Two

Across clues

- 1. PLAIN—Homophone of PLANE ("piper")
- 4. LUIGI—Reversal of I ("one") + GI ("private") + UL ("soul"—"so")
- 5. SILKY—Reversal of I ("Indigo") and S ("Girls at last") + L ("fifty") + K ("thousand") + Y ("Emily's Closer")

Down clues

- POLES—Homophone of POLLS ("popularity contests")
- 2. ARIAL—Anagram of "a liar"
- 3. NOISY—NOSY ("obtrusive") around I ("me")

Square Three

Across clues

- ERROR—(T)ERROR
 ("Intimidation largely")
- 4. REGAL—Reversal of LAGER ("Beer")
- 5. ENTRY—ENTR(EAT)Y ("Prayer, but eat less")

Down clues

- 1. EERIE—Homophone of ERIE ("The water around Toledo")
- 2. RIGHT—Homophone of RITE ("Custom")
- 3. RALLY—Double definition

Square Four

Across clues

- 1. ANGER—Anagram of "range"
- 4. AHEAD—A + HE ("a pronoun") + A(N)D ("and no name")
- 5. METRO—Anagram of "Tormé"

Down clues

- 1. ALARM—Anagram of "Marla"
- 2. GREAT—Homophone of GRATE ("be like nails on a chalkboard")
- 3. RADIO—Anagram of "do air"

Square Five

Across clues

- 1. AUDIT—First letters of "any upright delivers impure tones"
- 4. ROGET—Reversal of OR ("Anagram") + GET
- 5. WEAVE—Homophone of WE'VE ("our side has")

Down clues

- ARROW—(D)ARROW ("Scopes's lawyer, after opening")
- 2. DOGMA—DOG ("Fido") + MA ("mom")
- 3. TITLE—First letters of "tarnish if the libel emerges"

Square Six

Across clues

- 1. RIFLE—Hidden in "Sharif leads"
- 4. TREAT—THREAT

 ("blackmail")—H ("without cash, ultimately")
- 5. OTHER—OT ("More than forty," as in overtime hours) + HER ("she")

Down clues

- RETRO—Reversal of PORTER—P ("powerless")
- FRESH—Outside "from Marrakesh"
- 3. ENTER—PATIENTER ("more job-like") "after four"

Square Seven

Across clues

- 1. MOTEL—Reversal of LET TOM—T ("waste time")
- 4. EXTRA—Hidden in "Sex trafficking"
- 5. SONGS—SONS ("Some children") around G ("good")

Down clues

- 1. MEETS—Homophone of METES ("Dispenses")
- 2. TITAN—Anagram of "T'ain't"
- 3. LEADS—Double definition



Square Eight

Across clues

- 1. SLUGS—Double definition
- 4. BLEST—Hidden in "cobblestone"
- 5. RADAR—Palindrome ("both coming and going")

Down clues

- SOBER—SOMBER
 ("Solemn")—M ("without the
 head of management")
- 2. UPEND—U ("Texting, you") + PEND ("stay")
- 3. SITAR—Anagram of "Rita's"

Square Nine

Across clues

- 1. BELTS—Anagram: (AWFUL BLEST be SLUGS)
- TENET—Palindrome: (DOGMA from the RIGHT or the OTHER way)
- 5. SIREN—Charade: (ANGER between both POLES LEADS to ALARM)

Down clues

- 1. BATES—Homophone: (NOISY TRAPS at EERIE MOTEL)
- 2. LONER—Hidden: (Introvert exposed by SALON ERROR)
- 3. SATIN—Anagram: (FRESH STAINS on SILKY WEAVE)

Solvers

Steve Alpert, Dean Apps, Bob Campbell, Laura Cremerius, Jared Dashoff, Todd Dashoff, Christopher Dickens, Dave Dougherty, Deb Edwards, David Handelman and Matt Gruskin, Jason Helbraun, Pete Hepokoski, Catharine Hornby and Bruce Harvey, Max Jackson, Ruth Johnson, Eric Klis, Paul Kolell, Ken Kudrak, Ben Lynch, Mathew Marchione and Marika Brown, Dave McGarry, Jon Michelson, Jim Muza, David and Corinne Promislow, Jay Ripps, Giacomo Santangelo, Bill Scott, Zig Swistunowicz, T. O. C. E. (Josh DenHartog and Sean Donohoe), Betsy and James Uzzell, Bonnie Veenschoten