

☆☆☆ THE AMERICAN VALUES CLUB CROSSWORD ☆☆☆

July 7, 2021
"Tag Team"

puzzle by Paolo Pasco and Banksy, art by Ricky Cruz; edited by Ben Tausig
Difficulty level: ●●●●○

A note from Paolo:

Banksy and I tried to collaborate on this puzzle, but he hasn't been helpful at all. After writing some terrible clues, he proceeded to tag the middle three rows of the grid in red and black, obscuring those squares. Anyway I'm fuming, and I need to do something about Banksy. Hey, now he's pouring brown oil in the shape of the ExxonMobil logo on my beautiful green lawn! I'm afraid he won't leave until I can find a pithy name to describe his little pranks ... —P

Meanwhile, a note from Banksy:

Why don't you try printing this puzzle instead of staring at your computer, inhaling the toxic fumes of conformity? Send the solution to the meta to tagteam@avxwords.com by the end of Sunday, July 11 for a chance to win a prize, or just whisper the answer quietly into an envelope and then bury it for a more meaningful experience. —B

ACROSS

- 1 Drink you always order, with "the"
- 6 Between dry and drenched
- 10 Residue of a bonfire (or the name of a piece where I burned D*sney merchandise at the stake —B)
- 15 Helper who might need to be CPR-certified
- 16 Falco of the upcoming "Impeachment: American Crime Story"
- 17 Bell tower sound
- 18 "The Good Place" moral philosophy professor
- 19 *Dessert whose name means "cooked cream"*
- 21 *Style for Selena and Shakira*
- 23 Mountain
- 24 Preceding, in poetry
- 25 ;, in analogies
- 27 Phrase on a gift tag
- 31 "You hate to see it" elicitor (also how I react to the state of today's culture —B)
- 34 *Perils for some soldiers?*
- 36 Rita who's the subject of the "Who? Weekly" segment "What's Rita Up To?"
- 37 Nickname that's "-art"-less?
- 38 Littles' counterparts in sororities (don't overthink this)
- 39 Stuff that could clean up the center of this grid, as well as the answers to the six italicized clues
- 43 "Now!"
- 45 JFMAMJJASOND makeup, for short

- 46 "___ Night in Miami"
- 47 *Flatbread snack bit*
- 50 Everything remaining
- 54 God in the Egyptian pantheon
- 55 Feng ___
- 57 Glide around in the winter
- 58 Hardly a positive impression?
- 60 *Battle that led to the Emancipation Proclamation*
- 63 *With everything in its place*
- 67 Item in a buffet stack
- 68 Strut your stuff
- 69 Tiny, tiny bit
- 70 Fall flower (ahh, but do people even know flowers anymore? Or do they only know ... phones —B)
- 71 She played Angelica to Philippa's Eliza
- 72 Good at being bad
- 73 Documents at the center of some murder mysteries

DOWN

- 1 Some family reunion parties
- 2 Desert home to rock art
- 3 Part of USA (surprised the answer to this isn't "corporate greed" —B)
- 4 "___ quote ..."
- 5 "Why the F*ck You ___" (Vine song)
- 6 See out of a seat?
- 7 Gain opposable thumbs, maybe
- 8 "Pachinko" author ___ Jin Lee
- 9 They're often chained to bank counters (that just gave me a great art piece idea —B)
- 10 Not turn away
- 11 Shampooer's suds?
- 12 Resonate
- 13 "House" party?
- 14 Home for a salt, or word that can precede "salt"
- 20 Mountains and mountains
- 22 One whose city has a towering reputation?
- 26 "Frick!" and "Crud!"
- 28 Grooming brand that anagrams to a country
- 29 Low fig. for a gas guzzler
- 30 Start of something?
- 32 Formal dress code requirement, for some
- 33 "34+35" artist, to fans
- 35 Rapa ___
- 37 Subway map nodes
- 39 Fancy spread in a fancy spread
- 40 Likely reaction to hearing about the art piece where they simulated birth with a live greased hog (it was actually very deep and good —B)
- 41 Totally shut down, as the other baseball team's lineup
- 42 22.5 deg.
- 43 "Undress to your level of comfort" place
- 44 Robinson of "I Think You Should Leave"
- 48 Be expressive, perhaps
- 49 "___ of the Southern Isles" ("Frozen: The Musical" song)
- 50 You can dig it!
- 51 Will concern
- 52 Glided around in the winter
- 53 Chess tournament devices
- 56 Country that is home to Sans-Souci Palace
- 59 Like "frick" or "crud," swear-wise
- 61 "Tablet" that isn't medicinal (but some people depend on it like medicine ... that they're addicted to —B)
- 62 "Failing that ..."
- 63 Negative conjunction
- 64 Female sheep (but maybe the *real* sheep is ... the office drone —B)
- 65 "Parks and Rec" character who eventually moves to ___ Arbor
- 66 Perspective, for short

