ACROSS

- 1. Clever, as a zinger
- 7. Walkman successor
- 11. "The ____ Must Be Crazy"
- 15. Lacking range
- 16. Edmund Hillary or Lorde, colloquially
- 17. Harris, to Howard, e.g.
- 18. *Sonoran shawls
- 19. *Gossett-Quaid "buddy" flick?
- 21. Made varsity
- 23. Patella
- 24. Where some RNs save lives
- 25. Medicates
- 27. "Do the Right Thing"'s eponymous pizzeria owner
- 28. Top 40 title for Rihanna,
- ABBA, and the Jonas Brothers
- 29. Precursor to "bake" in stoner lingo
- 32. Model/volleyballer Gabrielle
- 36. *John McCain Sr., Jr., or III
- 40. *Set off
- 42. Elec., e.g.
- 43. Comfy boot that sounds unpleasant
- 45. Prattle on
- 46. Suspicious
- 47. *Can't miss
- 50. *Telly on the telly
- 52. Threadlike
- 53. Barbary ____ (only extant deer native to Africa)
- 55. Spider-Man aunt portrayed on film by four different Oscar nominees
- 56. First album to have five songs top the Billboard Hot 100
- 58. Burr to Hamilton, famously
- 60. 2015 movie in which Melissa McCarthy channels James Bond
- 63. When pledges are put to the test
- 68. Dismayed Jean-Luc Picard gesture in a popular meme
- 70. *Hank who hit 58 in '38
- 72. *Truly from the heart?
- 73. Associations
- 74. Bug out, as the kids say
- 75. HuffPo's namesake founder
- 76. Device the MPAA's head described as "clearly designed to assist pirates"
- 77. Sammy who hit 66 in '98
- 78. Looks after

DOWN

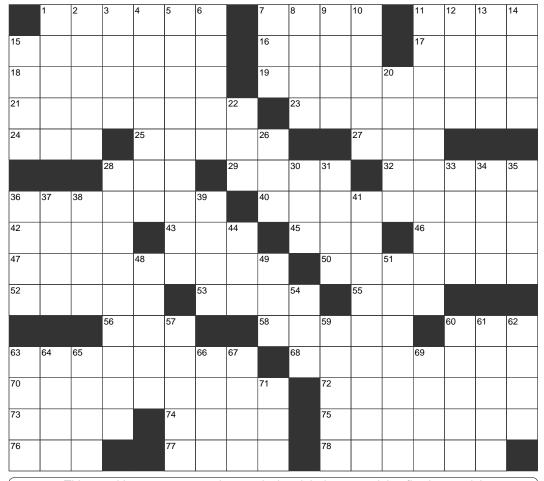
- 1. Contemptuous remark
- 2. "Poppycock!"
- 3. Subj. for a future doctor or artist
- 4. Urban iurisdiction?
- 5. Jurassic Park flyer
- 6. Willing ones
- 7. Columbia pres. who stepped down on 1/19/1953
- 8. S!nger tired of being compared to damn Britney Spears
- 9. Brother of Luke and Andrew Wilson
- 10. Assists, in basketball slang
- 11. Squander on the slots, perhaps
- 12. Collection of crosswordese?
- 13. Colton of "Superstore"
- 14. Hook's first mate

- 15. Capital once found in the center of a Central European nation?
- 20. Pine
- 22. Condensed morning mist
- 26. Like those in a blue state?
- 28. Goldilocks trio
- 30. Pony, for one
- 31. Pair found in Crete... in Crete
- 33. "I could go on..." indicator
- 34. George Michael portrayer
- 35. Rocky Road purveyor found east of the Rockies
- 36. said
- 37. Yours, in Yonne
- 38. Cello cousin
- 39. WWF and Doctors without Borders, e.g.
- 41. Statute that, at its heart, is the ACA
- 44. Acquired

- 48. Muppet Pepé, for one
- 49. Distant
- 51. 51-Down star Harper
- 54. Acronym whose creator pronounces it like a peanut-butter brand
- 57. What chargers hold
- 59. Animales que dicen "mu"
- 60. Siena athlete
- 61. Dallas suburb home to Pizza
- Hut and Frito-Lay headquarters
- 62. 1978 hit about an org.

formed in 1844

- 63. "House Hunters" home
- 64. Idle of stage and screen
- 65. Not a good look
- 66. Saarinen who designed the world's tallest arch
- 67. Kim Kardashian's mother and later ex-husband?
- 69. '90s Newtons, e.g.
- 71. NCAA eligibility consideration



This month's contest answer is a particular eight-letter word that fits the puzzle's theme. Submit your answer to beyondwordplay.newsletter@gmail.com by December 31st.