



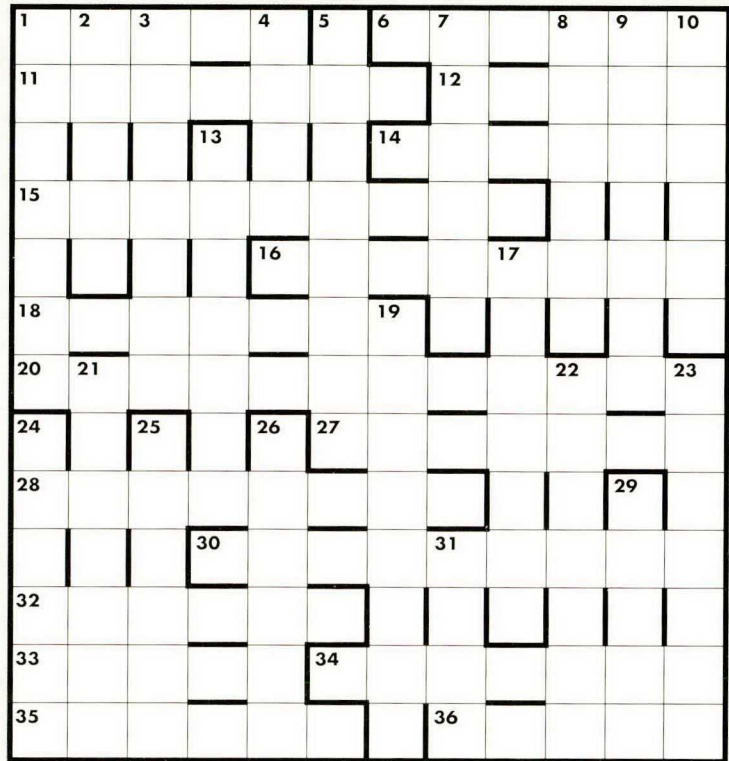
# THE PUZZLER

by Emily Cox and Henry Rathvon

## Celebrating the First

In this puzzle we invite solvers to 20 Across with us. Each time a clue answer is too short for its place in the diagram, you must scramble that word and *add one letter* to forge a longer word or phrase. The added letter is the same throughout the puzzle, giving you a 20 Across. Clue answers include five capitalized words; the anagrammed longer entries include four capitalized words, a hyphenated word, and two two-word phrases; the entry at 19 Down is an uncommon word made of common elements.

*The solution to last month's Puzzler appears on page 102.*



### Across

- 1. Delighted group around the first of Ninety-Eight (4)
- 6. Russian space station, used without US, bogged down (5)
- 11. Clever, like Egyptian king and England's leader (6)
- 12. Mayor in DC has thick skin (4)
- 14. Commotion about a flight (5)
- 15. Collectively, actors in *Heartless Gals* ejected stuff (8)
- 16. Valet is off during the summer (7)
- 18. In answer, German makes cross (6)
- 27. Sea god's torn it apart (6)
- 28. Star in *Mission Impossible* runs squad car (7)
- 30. Melvin is in pain, working in a foundry (8)
- 32. Tips in dividing kitchen vessels (6)

- 33. Designer doesn't have autograph, or does? (4)
- 34. Story about no-good mass of confusion (6)
- 35. Leave pie or ice cream in your ear (6)
- 36. Minister loses head in burning desire? (5)

### Down

- 1. Flower planted in the center and toward the rear (6)
- 2. Feign a temperature, having a bug (4)
- 3. Native found refreshment in back of tavern (6)
- 4. Bribe as described by chief of police (3)
- 5. Five and Ten quit moving (7)
- 7. Transparent pair of leotards confiscated by coach (5)
- 8. Corrects about 100 laws (6)
- 9. I mostly stick with guys who keep cool (6)
- 10. To put your foot down is/isn't rude (6)
- 13. Want carpet brought back with hospital cot (6)
- 17. Plastic material in top-notch art gallery (7)
- 19. Spoils infested by ten furry critters (7)
- 21. Painter regarding *Parisian Black* (6)
- 22. Bug popular religious group (6)
- 23. Drank fermented grape juice (including bit of gin) for shot in the arm (6)
- 24. Investigated police error in South Dakota (6)
- 25. Arab redistributed US aid (5)
- 26. Terri—confused essayist? (5)
- 29. After introduction, talk in the street with director Fritz (4)
- 31. NASA mismanaged capital (4)

**Note:** The instructions above are for this month's puzzle only. It is assumed that you know how to decipher clues. For a complete introduction to clue-solving, send an addressed, stamped long envelope to The Atlantic Puzzler, 77 North Washington Street, Boston, Mass. 02114.