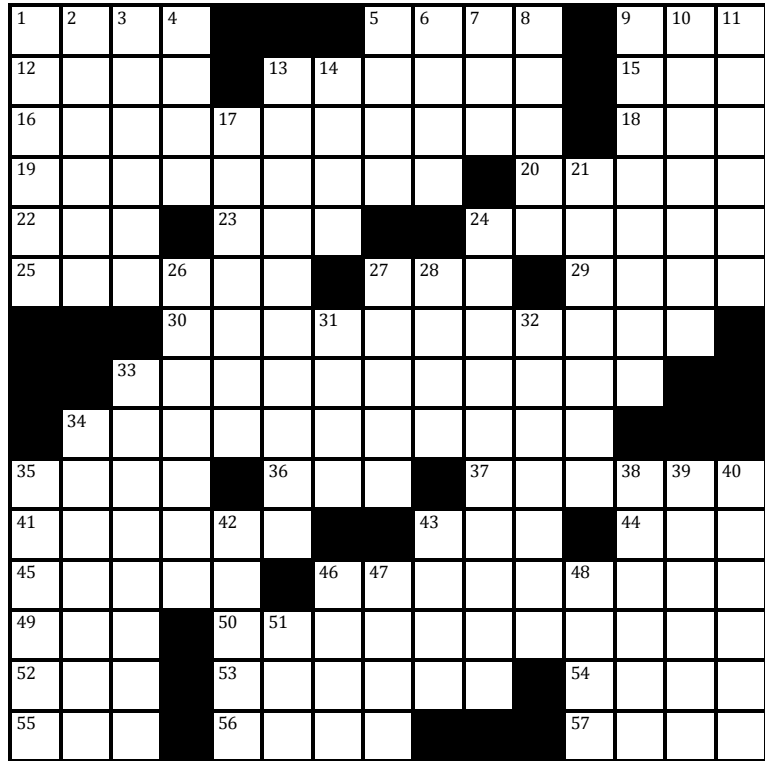


Puzzle 252 – Freestyle 217

Tim Croce, club72.wordpress.com

Across

- 1 Truth ____ (tools in some crime investigations)
 5 Drastically
 9 Blue-collar sector: Abbr.
 12 Suggestible
 13 Nation through which the Great Rift Valley runs from north to south
 15 Stand
 16 Tool named for its resemblance to a certain rodent feature
 18 Subj. of the 17th Amendment to the US Constitution
 19 Boneheaded
 20 Fix
 22 Nickname for Baseball Hall-of-Famer Dennis (or a Cockney alternative to "darn"?)
 23 One often working with grinders, for short
 24 Live rent-free, say
 25 Nickname for a Southeastern US metropolis
 27 Gelsenkirchen grandpa
 29 React to a good crack
 30 Seemingly insignificant item that eventually becomes a major plot device, in drama
 33 Nuisance figure at some urban intersections
 34 Patty material
 35 [I gotta get this outta my mouth!]
 36 From Ft. Wayne, IN to Cincinnati, OH
 37 Trials conducted peacefully under the code name Project Plowshare
 41 Inducement
 43 Don't restrict
 44 Adjective on many Ancestry.com pages
 45 Pam of "The L Word"
 46 "Sounds like a really risky plan..."
 49 Culinary preposition
 50 Exercising, abstaining from drugs, dieting, etc.
 52 Something you can't go under, for short
 53 Beck album whose cover features a dog jumping over a hurdle
 54 What a champion often feels
 55 Many characters in Adult Swim's "Rick and Morty", briefly



- 56 Listening when one shouldn't, say
 57 Painful-sounding trumpeter?

Down

- 1 Häagen-Dazs choice
 2 Church official leading an Eastern Orthodox diocese
 3 Offer from a generous professor, maybe
 4 Against at the start
 5 Museo Storico ____ Romeo (Milan museum)
 6 Put in position
 7 One of two Lear characters who "went to sea in a beautiful pea-green boat"
 8 Use a 39-Down on
 9 Word that's not countable, as "luck" or "dirt", in grammar (or, punnily, what "Eucharist", "priest", or "Communion" is?)
 10 Frequent user of recycled material
 11 Many a complainer about millennials
 13 Where Christianity was born
 14 Toasters often hold them
 17 "Therefore..."

- 21 Boolean logic circuit that only "opens" if both of its inputs are false
 24 Not leave the door open, say
 26 Come into
 27 "Well, fancy that!"
 28 Word from the Greek for "to compose"
 31 Lineup at a bust
 32 Speak superficially
 33 Chameleons, geckos, and iguanas, biologically speaking
 34 Clear and dark, say
 35 Myst, notably
 38 Homophonically self-descriptive child carrier brand
 39 Chain
 40 Octave follower, to a sonneteer
 42 Fabric mentioned in a New York Times ad with the caption "The Great American Knits Fall 1965"
 43 Insect species named for the crescent-shaped marks on its wings
 46 Christian's successor as head fashion designer of his eponymous house
 47 Lubricous
 48 Way for something to draw
 51 Volunteer's exclamation