



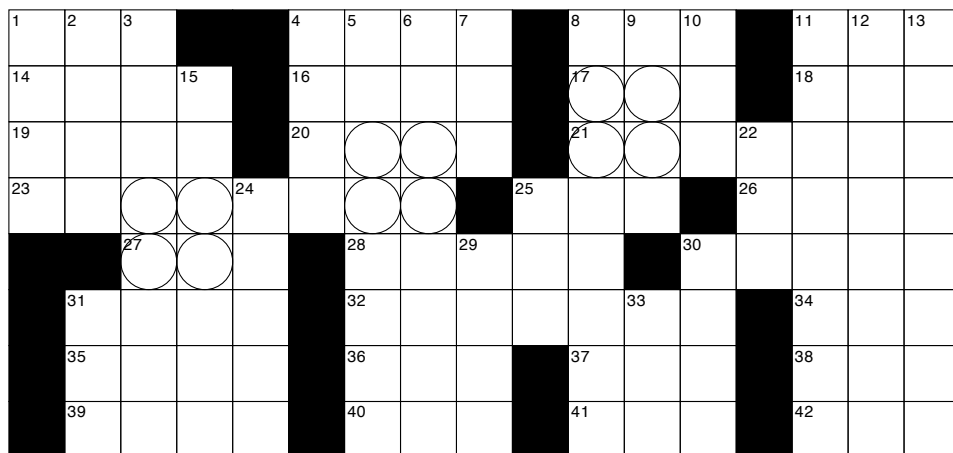
July 1, 2024 - "Two-Eyed Empty Squares" - Kareem Ayas, edited by Will Eisenberg

ACROSS

- 1 "This is your brain on drugs," e.g.
4 Canadian fill-up station
8 Like some wipes
11 Web access company, briefly
14 "Nothing ____ Matters" (hit by Metallica)
16 Down

- 17 Sprite that's a little saucy
18 Damage
19 Part of seawater, chemically
20 Spinners, e.g.
21 "We truly belong together!"
23 Burkini, e.g.
25 Early hrs.

- 26 Nights before
27 TV's hirsute cousin
28 Location of the body's protective cage
30 Helps in a bad way
31 "Mad as a March ____"
32 In neutral, maybe
34 Short end?
35 Side x side, for a square
36 ____ Von D ("Miami Ink" artist)
37 Ricotta source
38 Prelude to a texter's "two cents"



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- 39 Inedible part of an apple
40 Features of Lollapuzzoola? (I'll see you there in August!)
41 Immature high score initials on an arcade game
42 "Cowboy"

DOWN

- 1 Drawers you can't wear?
2 Short side?
3 Character piece?
4 Cream-ish
5 Meaty mushroom commonly used in stir fry
6 Contents of an Excel cell that adds up all the cells in its column
7 Real ones
8 Game controllers that strap to the wrist
9 First responders, for short

- 10 Covers a house with squares, in a way
11 "Can't deal with this crap no more...," or a hint to this puzzle's theme
12 Use a microwave instead of an oven, perhaps
13 Lightning reports may come from here
15 Liner on Central Park's "Literary Walk"
22 Arab country whose unique landscape and climate lets you ski and swim on the same day: Abbr.
24 Iron product
25 Immature high score initials on an arcade game
29 Maze runners
30 High point
31 Gives birth to
33 Need to start a payment plan, maybe