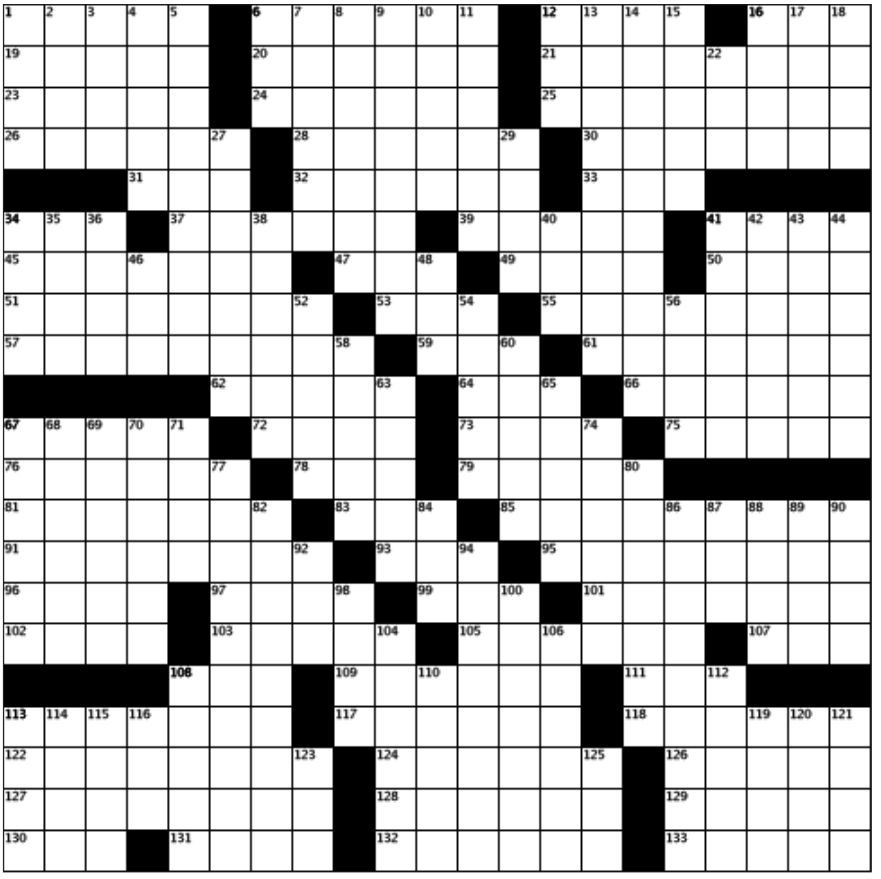
27th Letter of the Alphabet



Across

1 Medalworthy behavior
6 Pool strategies
12 Blocking nos.
16 Power source
19 ___ resin (organic adhesive)
20 Hedge shrub
21 Blood-sucking genus of bug
23 Ornamental shrub
24 Give the nod to
25 Cooperative settlements in Israel
26 Messi, Suárez, Neymar
28 Transport
30 Typhon and Echidna offspring
31 Typically large budget expenditure
32 Chevy classic
33 Louis Jordan and Ruth Brown were pioneers of the genre
34 It's "the word"
37 Miscreant
39 A victim of Cortés
41 Causerie
45 Dating material?
47 Kernel
49 Kelly Clarkson *My December* song
50 Jane Rochester's maiden name
51 Accusation attributed to 62 across
53 "How about that!"
55 Grow pale
57 Propagandist
59 16 ___ 3 = 1
61 "Casablanca" screenwriter Julius
62 One accused of 51 across
64 DuckDuckGo result
66 Madrigues
67 32 across, for example
72 Bloody
73 Exigency
75 ___ good (amazing)
76 Savoir-faire
78 Roman crowd?
79 Light green plums
81 "The ___," Handel opus
83 Prod
85 Man-in-the-Moon flowers
91 Office hookup
93 Homburg, for one
95 Common rodents of the Andes Mountains
96 Carnival attraction
97 Noted German composer Carl
99 Even number
101 Multiplication, to division
102 "No one ___ willingly" (Socratic thesis)
103 Celecoxib, e.g.
105 An ethnic group of China, Laos, Thailand, Burma, and Vietnam
107 Remote letters
108 Court Cam airer
109 Carbohydrate-binding protein
111 Analysts concern
113 Hen and pen
117 "___ Alley," classic bebop recorded by Miles Davis
118 Truffaut's "___ Kisses"
122 Crepuscule
124 Inert virus particle
126 Visibly stunned
127 Potomac River landmark
128 In a monotone
129 California natives
130 Many ETS customers
131 Map abbrs.
132 Swamp things
133 Demonstrate in a way

Down

1 Like the ocean
2 Manchurian river
3 It can move stars
4 Place to walk
5 Coined by Alan Freed
6 Gene Wilder's occupation in "The Producers"
7 World's smallest ocean
8 Nabob
9 Plethora
10 Fourth estate
11 Vivien in "A Streetcar Named Desire"
12 Divinity deg.
13 Form a group, you might say
14 Often served with malt vinegar
15 "Sir" to Gunga Din
16 Cote dweller
17 "The Kite Runner" hero
18 One of the Berenstain Bears
22 Aberdeen topper
27 Converting device
29 "The ___ Song": Bruno Mars
34 Borneo seaport
35 "The people of the land have ___ oppression" (Eze. 22:29)
36 Propose or suggest
38 "If I Had a Hammer" cowriter
40 Driving need
41 ___ Sea between Ireland and England
42 Pack animal: Var.
43 More affected
44 Hard to detect
46 Langston Hughes poem "I, ___"
48 Mahjong suit
52 City featuring the Palm Islands
54 Juvenescent
56 Sugary endings
58 Unearthly
60 Dokken "___ Warriors"
63 1940 and 1952 Oscar winner
65 De jure
67 Loose tunic
68 Key
69 Long overcoat
70 Models or puzzles
71 Sharjah dignitary
74 Frustrate
77 Diner staple
80 Enrollments
82 Hipposandal
84 Pass
86 Political strategy not seen today
87 Gray matter?
88 It carries over 80 million passengers per yr.
89 Famous Italian actress
90 Eurasian duck
92 Theater deg.
94 Horatio Alger's Tom
98 ___ Brasileiro
100 Mizzling
104 Goes deep
106 Brogan cushion
108 Butch Cassidy or the Sundance Kid, e.g.
110 ___ Staples Lewis
112 Utah city
113 FileZilla, WinSCP, and Cyberduck
114 It may have a fat lip
115 Deg. divisions
116 Supermodel Carol
119 Eastern title
120 Sweeping
121 Smart
123 Measures of wt.
125 FDR's domain circa 1931

Solutions may be emailed to puzzles@actuary.org. In order to make the solver list, your solutions must be received by Dec. 1, 2026.

Previous Puzzle: Word Salad

F	A	C	T	S	■	U	P	T	O	■	W	A	R	S	■	C	A	R	O	L	
A	Q	A	B	A	■	P	R	E	P	■	E	S	E	S	■	A	C	A	R	I	
R	U	R	A	L	■	S	O	M	A	■	D	S	L	S	■	M	A	G	M	A	
C	A	P	R	E	S	E	■	P	L	A	G	U	E	■	■	S	C	I	O	N	
■	■	■	S	E	T	■	L	I	B	E	R	A	L	S	■	I	N	L	A		
M	A	N	A	M	A	■	■	E	Z	O	■	E	S	O	P	H	A	G	U	S	
B	R	A	C	E	L	E	T	■	E	V	E	■	E	R	I	E	■	■	■	■	
A	S	P	E	N	■	P	E	A	■	E	N	D	■	E	N	L	A	C	E	S	
S	E	E	D	■	C	H	E	S	S	■	G	R	I	N	■	P	R	O	L	E	
■	■	■	■	P	O	A	■	S	E	L	L	E	R	S	■	F	A	B	L	E	
H	O	T	P	A	D	■	N	I	C	O	I	S	E	■	D	U	B	B	I	N	
A	D	U	L	T	■	E	N	G	R	O	S	S	■	U	R	L	■	■	■	■	
L	O	N	E	R	■	G	E	N	E	■	H	E	N	R	Y	■	S	C	O	T	
T	R	A	D	I	N	G	■	S	T	M	■	D	O	G	■	B	O	O	N	E	
■	■	■	C	A	N	T	■	S	I	T	■	D	E	M	A	N	D	E	D		
B	L	A	C	K	P	O	O	L	■	G	H	B	■	■	A	S	S	E	S	S	
L	O	G	O	■	A	G	R	A	P	H	I	A	■	D	Y	E	■	■	■	■	
A	C	E	R	B	■	■	N	E	A	T	E	N	■	W	A	L	D	O	R	F	
M	A	N	N	A	■	H	A	L	S	■	V	A	S	E	■	E	U	L	E	R	
E	L	D	E	R	■	E	D	I	T	■	E	N	O	L	■	S	C	E	N	E	
D	E	A	R	S	■	N	O	A	A	■	S	A	U	L	■	S	T	A	T	E	

Solvers: Steve Altschuld, Dean Apps, Todd Dashoff, Sarah Decker, George Levine, Ken Kudrak, Jim Muza, Ray Niswander, Gregory Scruton, and Madhumathi Windon.