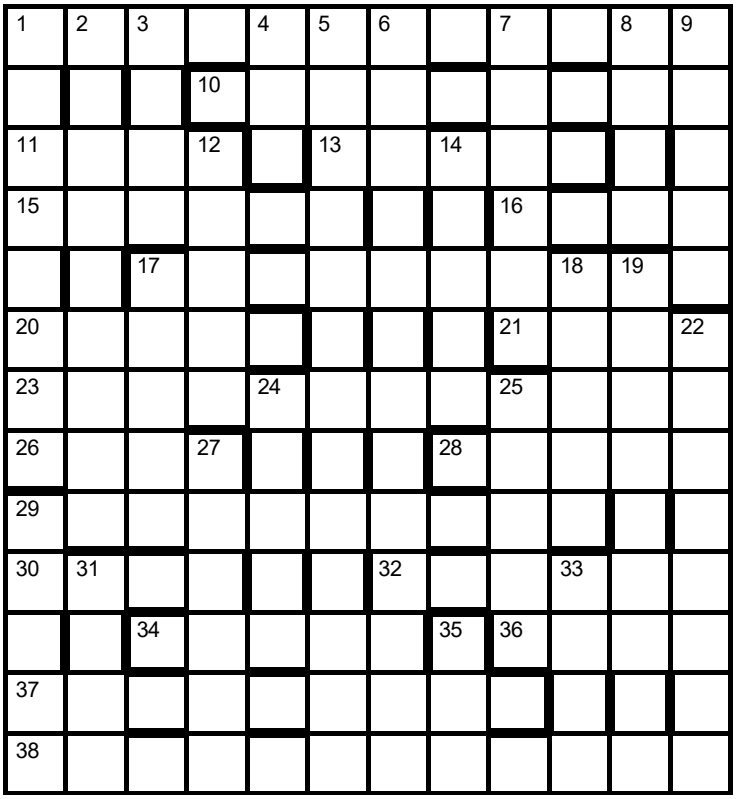
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# THE MYSTERY OF DR. FRANKENSTEIN

This puzzle presents a genuine mystery. While cleaning up computer files, I found this grid and these clues, titled Dr. Frankenstein. No construction file. No solution grid. No instructions. No notes to self. The files were last opened in 2017, likely the construction date. So I had to reverse-engineer the premise by solving the puzzle with only that information. IMO this proved to be a feature not a bug, so FWIW here it is if you relish an offbeat solving experience. Folks familiar with my construction approach may notice a feature of the puzzle that is not something I would do nowadays.



## Across

**1** A mustang or brown cow with no flecks of white

**10** "Tea in Paris", second best Munch painting (2 wds.)

**11** So, we effed up and must pay

**13** Interstate 5-East bisects railroad dock site

**15** Cleric lost ring

**16** Don't eat quickly

**17** Potential differences with Victor? Lots, unfortunately

**20** Skilled leader of Agriculture Department

**21** A man of high principles left doctors' org.

**23** *See instructions* (2 wds.)

**26** Love is the essence of generosity

**28** An ogre of a termagant dismissing Bush and King

**29** Advisory groups of Romney and Christie ultimately dividing issues

**30** Erase inappropriate sounds

**32** Tiny, repulsive, tailless beetle

**34** Was a bicyclist right to go with a Western skills show?

**36** Declare film genuine

**37** I governed an oil-rich nation

**38** Stuff just mentioned is plastic sheet

**Down**

**1** Sack last of police hiding a tuft of hair, for obstruction

**2** Criminal skinned a marsupial

**3** Guard blows top again

**4** Snow White's second year with Bashful

**5** An apostate is, at this point, a jerk

**6** Republican duo entering famous old ship, a museum piece

**7** Intensely angry if rule is broken

**8** From the speaker, produce crow sounds

**9** Tom is spreading leaves out

**12** Range displayed by disco performer

**14** Drive off an opera composer

**17** Cleaned up oven with a dab of margarine and a toxic substance

**18** A smidgen of instruction contributed to good golf scores for Couples

**19** They don't remember names CIA's changed

**22** Silver certificate's back is gray

**24** Saw a tart in South Dakota

**25** Guevara gutted Ecuador's spirit

**27** Single debatable point of honor is sophisticated

**29** 18 inches or so of copper scrap

**31** #1 hit for late night host Trevor

**33** Versace's clothing with chic style

**35** Pickle topping for toast