SOFTENING UP  Brendan Emmett Quigley (www.brendanemmettquigley.com)

ACROSS
1. Fiver
4. LEDTV maker
11. Hold up
14. 100 square meters
15. Gas mask?
16. Prefix with skeleton
17. Shark Ace?
19. Grp. based in Ramallah
20. Grammatically correct answer to "Who's there?"
21. "Jersey Girl" actress, for short
22. Flies and such
23. Snitches (on)
25. Excursions taken to leave your betrothed at the altar?
27. The Yellowhammer St.
28. Important chip, briefly
30. Merry-go-round figure, to a child
32. Blue-ribbon
34. 21-Across, to friends
35. Smoothie made of bananas, pineapples and honey?
39. Some corp. execs
40. Like gazpacho
41. Number on a face
44. Bicker
47. Departure announcement
48. "Reliable Sources" channel
49. What's posted on a karaoke screen when someone is singing "Uptown Girl"?
53. One way to run
55. Inevitability
56. E.R. pronunciation Abbr.
57. Sale words
58. Some E.R. cases
59. Unknown witticism?
63. Up to this point
64. More lustrous
65. Rapper Kool ___ Dee
66. Very
67. Craft
68. Lapse

DOWN
1. Tex-Mex meals
2. In heat?
3. Song by The Shins that will "change your life" according to the movie "Garden State"
4. Coca-Cola Co. brand
5. ___ first-name basis
6. RR place
7. Meccan pilgrim
8. Poker phrase
9. Intolerant person
10. Suffix with grape
11. Fix
12. Primrose flowers
13. Collins of '70s funk
14. Part of R.S.V.P.
15. "Some nerves!"
16. Word said during an operation
17. "Reliable Sources" channel
18. Part of R.S.V.P.
19. Bucker
20. Romantic interlude
21. Inquisitive
22. Mos. and mos.
23. Squeeze (out)
24. Much of an ed.'s in-box
25. 34-Down predecessor
26.cona Now longer on the plate
28. "Can I chime in?"
29. Reproductive cell
30. ZipRecruiter listings
31. Direct mail abbr.
32. 25-Down successor
33. Sci-fi capsules
34. 34-Down predecessor
35. Reproductive cell
36. Direct mail abbr.
37. Tel. listing abbr.
38. "Can I chime in?"
39. Some corp. execs
40. Like gazpacho
41. Number on a face
42. Golfer Juli
43. He tied with Mario Andretti for A.P.'s Driver of the Century
44. Truckers competition
45. Bugs
46. Romantic interlude
47. Inquisitive
48. "Reliable Sources" channel
49. What's posted on a karaoke screen when someone is singing "Uptown Girl"?
53. One way to run
55. Inevitability

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