It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas in Hermiston.

Over the weekend, nearly 100 volunteers ushered in the season with the interactive Journey to Bethlehem tour, while over at the Hermiston Conference Center the Festival of the Trees raised thousands of dollars for charity.

And on Monday, the city of Hermiston erected a giant Christmas tree that will be lit during a special festival Thursday.

Holiday Photographs

1) We Wish you a Merry Grinchmas was the theme of this tree, sponsored by Rogers Toyota of Hermiston and designed by Caressa Bastian, Laurie Adkins and Misty Davison for the Hermiston Festival of the Trees. 2) Sheila Botti talks to Phil Rand before they go into character on the Journey to Bethlehem tour Saturday. 3) Shera Hopper decorates a tree with Katie Fetterhoff, not pictured, with a Twelve Days of Christmas theme sponsored by Wheatland Insurance for Hermiston's Festival of the Trees. 4) A donkey and a pony await their turns as stars in the Journey to Bethlehem last weekend.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY LIZ MARVIN

STAFF PHOTO BY JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN

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STAFF PHOTO BY JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN

CRYPTOQUIP

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: **L** equals **R**

CIPXP BQZX V DLPOPL XNGKDCGLP SHPL DQVUCVUM. V MGPXX ZSG NSGKB XQZ V'HP IQB Q NIQUMP SO QLC.

CryptoQuip answer

These days I prefer sculpture over painting. I guess you could say I've had a change of art.

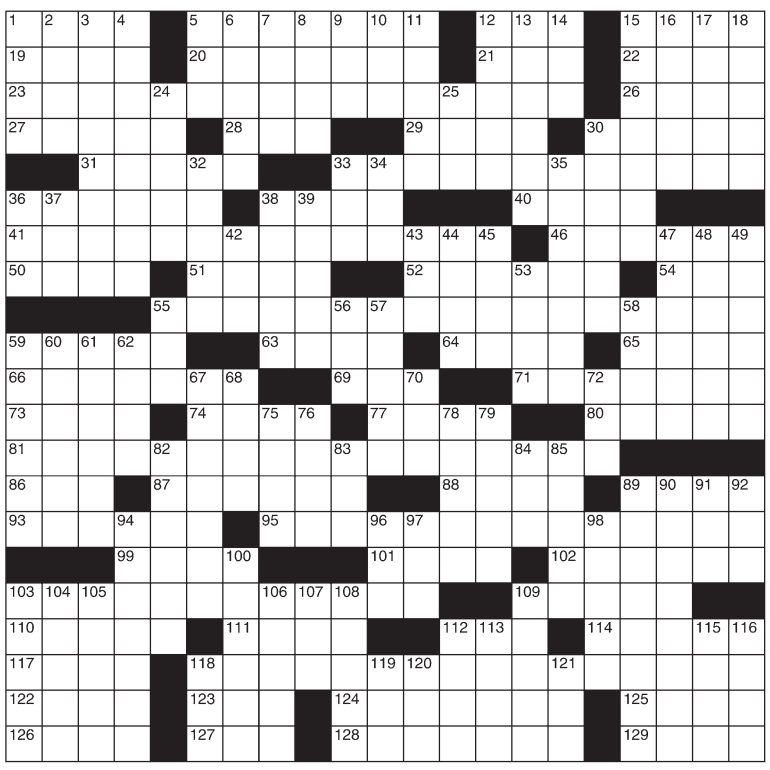
SUPER CROSSWORD: STICKING TO THE GOAL

ACROSS

1 Roman god with a bow
5 Knotting craft
12 Move like a kangaroo
15 Overquick
19 Be a wanderer
20 Moral
21 Actress Gasteyer
22 Comical Kett
23 Jack London novel
26 Dumbfound
27 Flynn of films
28 Prone (to)
29 Big name in credit cards
30 Cake coater
31 Writer Verne
33 Easy targets to attack
36 Lacking a musical key
38 Writer Bellow with a Nobel
40 Mystery novelist — Stanley Gardner
41 Relative of soul
46 Infuse with oxygen
50 Sphagnum, e.g.
51 Cookie with a "Thins" line
52 One-masted sailboats
54 Chic, '60s-style
55 Really, really quick
59 Drive off
63 Pretty low grades
64 "That is — ask"
65 "Picnic" playwright William
66 With 13-Down, giant in internet service
69 Sports org. with the eight teams featured in this puzzle
71 Trip to a rain forest, maybe
73 Vicious
74 Eban of Israel
77 Foreboding
80 Shimon of Israel
81 2011 Jim Carrey comedy
86 Head sweller
87 Tie up again, as shoes
88 Don't skip, as an event
89 Oaf's cry
93 Waters off Eritrea
95 2007-13 pickup truck model
99 Clearasil treats it
101 Designer Saarinen
102 Old TV tube
103 Be engulfed in fire
109 Ate
110 Writer Bret Easton —
111 Know — fact
112 Actor's help
114 The blahs
117 Rake feature
118 Hawaiians and Tongans
122 Tennis' Lendl
123 TV producer
124 In a very angry way
125 Filmdom's — Lund Laszlo
126 Bird setting
127 Sinuous fish
128 Vilify
129 Gambol

DOWN

1 Johnson of "Laugh-In"
2 Comic actor Jay
3 Elates
4 Tells in detail
5 Ex-Giant Ott
6 Gazetteer shelfmate
7 Hew
8 Falling-out
9 Masquerade
10 — -jongg
11 Chosen few
12 Papa Doc's place
13 See 66-Across
14 Inflate falsely
15 Hero, often
16 Top-floor storage site
17 Reeked
18 With 56-Down, surfs like a pro
24 God, in Islam
25 Clever type
30 Most lazy
32 "St. — Fire" (1985 film)
33 Hero in a deli
34 Fluish, say
35 Shown with explicit detail
36 It has biceps
37 However, informally
38 Golf's Sam
39 — of one's own medicine
42 Dog cry
43 Naval vessel abbr.
44 Fitzgerald of song
45 Loam, e.g.
47 Key of "Für Elise"
48 Mouth organ
49 Lawn care tools
53 Eye creepily
55 — Baba
56 See 18-Down
57 "... woman who lived in —"
58 Evening, casually
59 Rear-ending car, e.g.
60 Arise
61 Natural legume case
62 Cube maker Rubik
67 Peninsula northeast of Boston
68 Brother in Genesis
70 Pre-O trio
72 Mil. missions
75 Bric-a- —
76 Yiddish writer Sholem
78 Actress Samantha
79 Italian for "new"
82 Summary
83 16th letter
84 "Don't make — habit"
85 Nick of "Warrior"
89 Potato chip topping
90 Singer Helen or actor Jerry
91 Univ. award
92 Envision
94 Wise
96 22nd letter
97 "Indubitably"
98 "Grease" actress Eve
100 Erase
103 Gain entry
104 Drab color
105 Forelimb bones
106 Close-by
107 "Exodus" protagonist
108 Don's group
109 Cuts down, as a tree
112 Refer to
113 Tech support seeker
115 Bear, celestially
116 "By Jove!"
118 Adolescent leader?
119 Taxing org.
120 Beret, e.g.
121 Senate vote



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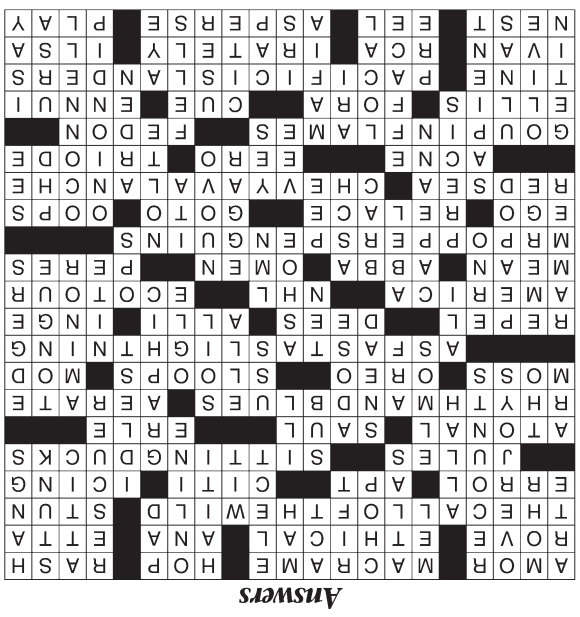
Super Crossword Answers



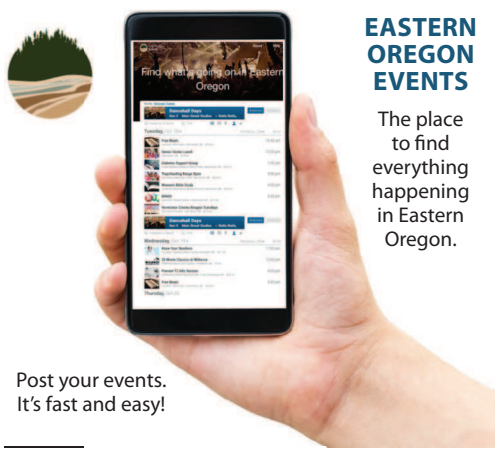
SUDOKU

		5			9			8
	8		5				4	
1	4			6		9		
		7	8	4				2
5					6		1	
	2			7		6		
	6				2		5	
8				5		3		1
		3	9				7	

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK ★

Weekly SUDOKU Answer

3	7	5	4	2	9	1	6	8
9	8	6	5	3	1	2	4	7
1	4	2	7	6	8	9	3	5
6	1	7	8	4	3	5	9	2
5	3	8	2	9	6	7	1	4
4	2	9	1	7	5	6	8	3
7	6	1	3	8	2	4	5	9
8	9	4	6	5	7	3	2	1
2	5	3	9	1	4	8	7	6



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