New year starts with a bang

Staff photo by Ben Lonergan

People watch as the ceremonial watermelon is lowered to the ground after failing to ignite during the New Year's fireworks display in Hermiston in the early minutes of the new year on Jan. 1, 2020. After failing to ignite in the air, organizers lit the display at ground level as the finale of the event.

Staff photo by Ben Lonergan

Fireworks explode over the Hermiston City Hall during a New Year's celebration in the early minutes of the new year on Jan. 1, 2020.

Staff photo by Ben Lonergan

People watch as the ceremonial watermelon shoots fireworks. The watermelon, which was initially supposed to ignite high above the crowd, failed to do so, requiring city workers to lower it to the ground and light it by hand.

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: **B** equals **R**

OMBBWIZ "LPMB JMBL" AFNNL XMDI LCKWP FC. CMKL CBGUKMWO "OMQ ZWDGBUI AI JWPX QGF!"

split up. Pals proclaim "may divorce be with you!"

Cryptoquip answer

Married "Star Wars" buffs have

SUPER CROSSWORD: APT OCCUPATIONS

ACROSS
1 Ship parts
6 One in a veil
11 Very small: Prefix
15 Sealed, say
19 Early TV's Stu
20 Posteriors
21 Stick — in the water
22 Songwriter's creation
23 Martin the ticket collector?
26 Actor Bana or Stoltz
27 Pay to play poker
28 Game with Wild cards
29 Clinton the doctor?
31 Caught at a rodeo
33 Pollen lover
34 Hardly fresh
35 Worldwide
38 Ellington the Peppermint Pattie factory worker?
45 More greasy
49 Ending for Israel
50 Ilk
51 Car owners' org.
52 Kelly the minister?
54 "Let's go!"
55 Former Apple messaging software
57 See 64-Down
58 Primate studier Fossey
59 Benny the golfer?
61 Markey and Bagnold
63 Actor Hinds of 2017's "Justice League"
65 Negligent
66 Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand's purview
67 Bailey the philosopher?
72 Folder flap
75 Meal tie-on
76 Rice-based Spanish dish
77 Ivory's counterpart
79 Benatar the dairy owner?
85 Fuzzy stuff
87 Departure
88 Standoffish
89 Karmann — (bygone VW sports car)
90 Nolte the clockmaker?
92 Skeleton part
93 +
94 Ariz.-to-Kan. dir.
95 Girls in the family
96 Liotta the lamp designer?
100 Gets dilated
102 Basic deg. for designers
103 Supermodel Carangi or actress Scala
105 End profit
110 Behar the chef?
116 Airport stat
117 Hotel chain
118 Morales of film and TV
119 Arden the demolition contractor?
122 Shady giants
123 Get-out-of-jail money
124 Super-mad
125 "The Flea" poet John
126 Blog addition
127 Pot for stew
128 Lauder of makeup
129 Evil smile

DOWN
1 Get gold, e.g.
2 Target Center, e.g.
3 Smacks
4 Spork parts
5 — -cone
6 "Viva Zapata!" star
7 Alter totally
8 Reply to "Who's in charge here?"
9 Bounced down the court
10 Actress Davis of two "Matrix" films
11 Spam, say
12 Langston Hughes poem
13 Athletic team assoc.
14 Film anew
15 Not wobbly
16 Throw
17 Troop body
18 Pt. of MIT or STEM
24 Nuclear reactor tube
25 Polar vehicle
30 Polar pixie
32 Curved arch
36 High jump on a skateboard, informally
37 Lacking a key, in music
39 "Semper Fi" mil. branch
40 Weirdo
41 Rubik of cube fame
42 Aiea's island
43 Broccoli —
44 Kit — (candy bars)
45 Poet Nash
46 Twisted wit
47 — lazuli
48 Frosted
53 Abbr. on a pay stub
54 "Please, Mommy, will you let us?"
55 "Veni," in English
56 Nero's 160
59 Villain in Disney's "Aladdin"
60 Waitress on TV's "Alice"
62 Spruce (up)
64 With 57-Across, Ali ring strategy
68 Abate
69 "Fighting" Big Ten team
70 Cut, as pizza
71 Cold and wet
72 Like poison
73 Japanese cartoon art
74 Measures of memory
75 Scaring cry
78 — noire
79 One of Henry VIII's Catherines
80 Et —
81 Mug in a pub
82 Jamaican citrus fruit
83 Mean ruffian
84 Wife on "The Addams Family," to her hubby
86 Cover for a truck bed
90 Crystal rubbers, perhaps
91 Jab deliverer
93 Control in a clinical study
97 Certain wind player
98 Very loudly, musically
99 9-to-5er's weekly cry
101 Main dish
104 Art house film, often
106 Went aboard
107 Nitrogen compound
108 Words after all or hole
109 San Fran gridder
110 All-terrain vehicle
111 Fjord city
112 Tasty tubers
113 Egg-shaped
114 Eye, in Paris
115 Nut with caffeine
116 Rock finale?
120 Perched
121 LP replacers

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SUDOKU

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK ★

Weekly SUDOKU Answer

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

Super Crossword Answers

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

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