

Keeping spirits up



Staff photo by Jade McDowell

A sign on Highland Avenue in Hermiston proclaims that hope hasn't been cancelled.

COLUMN

I never expected this to happen to my generation

The first 13-year-old has died two days prior to me writing this. With no overall health conditions, while being young and healthy, COVID-19 caught up to her and she passed away in Panama, South America.

parent's sanctuary. My dates now have been "Call of Duty" dates, which is indeed very romantic.

I have been to the store three times recently. Each time people put more clothing to their fragile bodies whether it be gloves, masks, or both. Our family has begun to wear gloves and, on some occasions, masks. At Walmart they herd us like cattle through one entryway, I suppose to see how many go in. When we finally make it inside, it is different each time; there are either fewer people than horses in the East, or more people than the battle of Waterloo.



Armstrong

They say that there have been no new cases in China, which raises the eyebrow. They also say that there had been cases before China spoke about it and that the great country had kept it hidden, which also causes speculation — though my dad and I agree it was so it wouldn't get a freak-out from the world, and mainly America, which failed.

They tried to keep it contained from the public and history books, and now there are rumors of China starting a pandemic. Some sources say that people from China snuck over here trying to give it to us, which is your choice to believe or not.

While we're living with an economy now with no jobs nor toilet paper, we have politicians in Washington who are arguing if the term "Chinese Virus" is racist. We were already split in two and now a virus tears through us like an invasion.

I never expected something like this to happen in my generation, but it did. I may tell my grandkids or even show them this. In history there have been plagues and epidemics, but never like this. The reason it is so wide-scaled is because of transportation. Our world has never had the advanced technology it does now, and we have changed so much in the past century. Nowadays we are able to reach another continent in less than a day. The faster we travel, the faster COVID-19 travels.

We have found recently that most kinds of masks are doing no good and COVID-19 can get through it. Coronavirus also isn't always on the surface and in the air around us. It has infested our planes, and ships. This fight is in the water and in the air. This is a war, not for money nor land, but for mankind.

Benjamin Armstrong is a freshman at Hermiston High School.

Editor's note: We have asked Hermiston-area students and teachers to submit writing about how COVID-19 has affected their school year. This is the latest submission in that series. To submit an essay, email editor@hermistonherald.com.

COLUMN

Making climate change understandable, approachable

By TIM TRAINOR GUEST COLUMNIST

The brutal coronavirus pandemic has demonstrated that we live in an interconnected world. When things go haywire in some small place, its repercussions can soon be felt on the other side of the globe.



Trainor

So it is with our climate. The dryland wheat fields of Umatilla County connect to the roiling sea at the Columbia Bar, Mt. Bachelor's snowy slopes connect to the Painted Hills, the alpine meadows of the Wallows connect to the Amazon rainforest and the Australian outback.

Climate is a worldwide phenomenon — too large to easily comprehend. Yet, it is as local as your backyard garden, as intimate as the air you breathe.

For decades, it has been difficult for media organizations to connect global climate implications to local lives. We're just not designed for it.

For plenty of good reasons, newspapers focus on what occurred today and what you need to know to get through tomorrow: how the Senate voted, how the judge ruled, who won the big game. The daily temperature increasing steadily, but at a relatively unnoticeable amount from day-to-day, rarely met the newsworthiness requirements to make the front page.

That means we've been ill-equipped to cover perhaps the biggest story currently pulsing through our planet: the consistent creep of a changing climate.

That change has massive implications for our daily lives. The world around us is increasingly hostile to human life — a petri dish capable of moving a deadly virus across the world in a few months, with unnatural forests sitting a lightning strike away

from inferno, levees straining against 100-year floods each spring, air so foul it is taking years off our lives.

The systems of agriculture, infrastructure and technology that undergird civilization are at risk. And that's front page news.

Yet, this change has manifested in dribs and drabs. For most people, it won't be noticeable — it won't be real — until they see it in their garden or feel it in their lungs.

EO Media Group, imperfect though it may be, is well organized to attempt to stitch the local impacts to you and your community into a wider story of the region and the world.

We have done it before, to acclaim. In 2007, our organization won the prestigious Grantham Prize for excellence in reporting on the environment.

That project included traditional, local reporting on climate change by our newsrooms — from the sandy spit of Long Beach, Washington, to the dry pine forests of John Day, Oregon. It offered views on the issue from diverse people in diverse locations. We shared the diverse demands those people made on their water, soil and air.

Placing disparate stories alongside one other in 2007 helped readers get a sense of climate change in a new way. By watching people deal with different issues in different communities, readers were able to see the larger context of climate at play.

This year we're embarking on a similar project. Climate issues have changed dramatically in the intervening 13 years, so we're looking back on what has changed, we're looking at the facts on the ground now, and we're looking ahead to what is still to come.

It's not the most opportune time. COVID-19 has devastated the world econ-

omy and the local news ecosystem has been no exception. Many people are out of work, out of the office, out of daily routine.

But for a project like this, our current moment has its benefits. We can now clearly see the invisible threads that connect the world. If airplane traffic can clearly help spread a virus, we now understand that it can also spread pollution that affects Northwest communities — even if the flight was between Dubai and Tokyo. We now see clearly that it costs lives to ignore, downplay and be ill-prepared for a disaster that science tells us is approaching.

Despite the constraints in our world and in our newsrooms, we're moving forward with this important work. In EO Media Group papers, such as this one, you'll see stories written by your local reporters about climate issues in your community. And you'll see reporting from other locations — places you've visited, places where you have family, places you haven't heard of.

We have no desire to make this political. And, while our reporting will be backed by science, we're not going to inundate you with data.

We will cover climate change like we would cover every other local issue: We'll talk to your neighbors and representatives about what they are doing about it, we'll get advice from local experts, and we'll tease out the impacts on local industry and community life. Our goal is to make climate change understandable and approachable. We want it to be an issue that you can get your head around and do something about.

Tim Trainor is the former opinion editor of the East Oregonian and is helping spearhead the climate change series by EO Media Group, the parent company of the Hermiston Herald.

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: H equals D

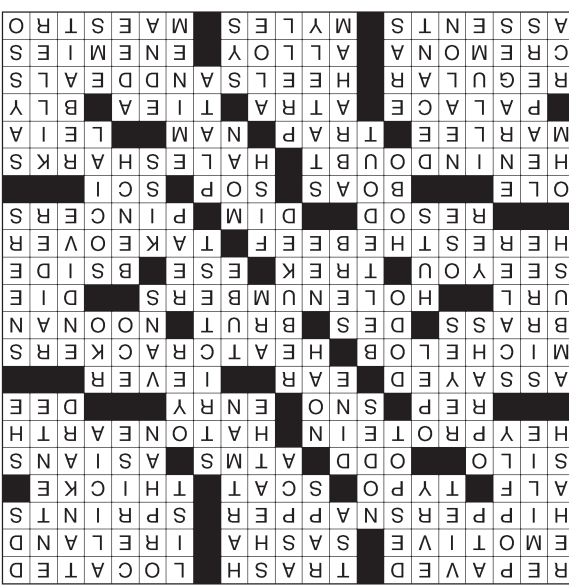
R CKILF COULI AJWI BWIU R QKE

EKI ARL IUXH IU XJRPJ.

IOJF HBHW'I LJZPJ LQBZBIL IOJZJ.

They didn't serve spirits there. but was told to leave. A gutsy ghost went into a pub

Cryptoquip



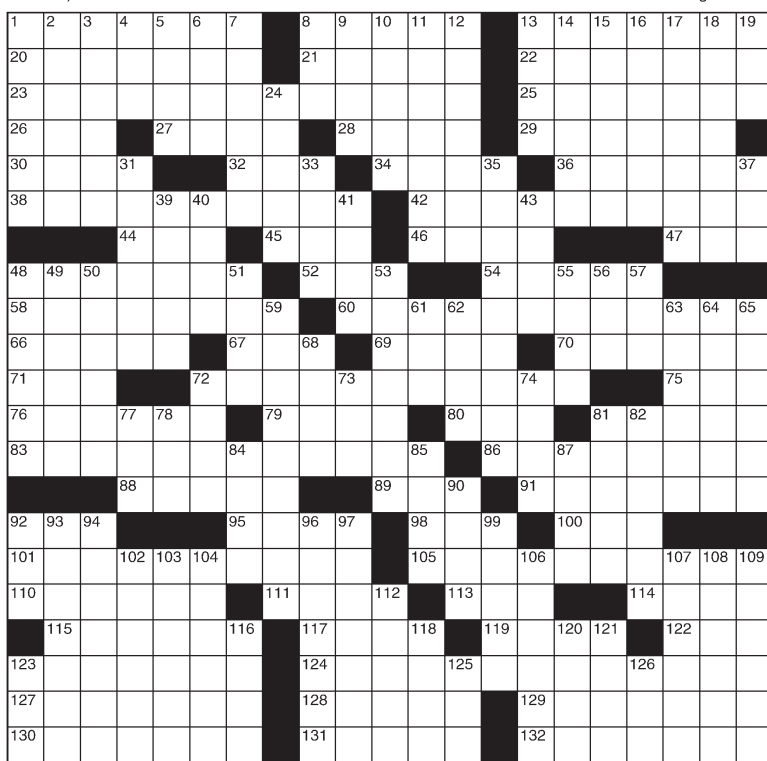
Answers

Super Crossword

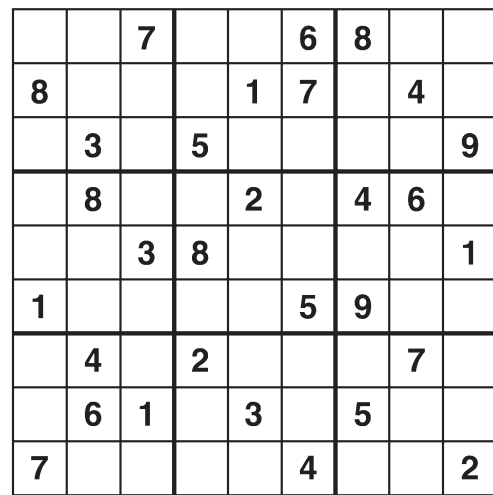
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SUPER CROSSWORD: WHOO-HOO

- ACROSS 1 Laid fresh concrete on 8 Waste 11 Found 20 Like gushing azzos 21 Malia's sister 22 Kildare locale 23 More with-it red fish? 25 Runs fast 26 1980s NBC sitcom 27 "Teh" for "the," for one 28 Jazzy singing 29 "Growing Pains" actor Alan 30 Tower for fodder 32 Uncanny 34 24-hr. money sources 36 Japan natives, e.g. 38 "Lookie there, muscle-building stuff!?" 42 Terrestrial chapeau? 44 Dem.'s opponent cheer (frozen treat) 46 "Just you wait, ... eggs..." 47 Near-failing mark 48 Analyzed 52 Cochlea site 54 "Will — learn?" 58 Beer brand 60 Microwave saltines? 66 Orchestra section 67 — Moines 69 Old Spice alternative 70 Reagan speechwriter 71 "Peggy" Cyberspace address 72 Pars? 75 Lose power 76 "Later!" 79 Arduous trip 80 Suffix with Japan 81 45 half 83 "My gripe is as follows..." 86 Coup, e.g. 88 Lay new turf on 89 Not well-lit 91 Crab claws 92 Bullfighting cheer 95 Gaudy scarves 98 Be soaked 100 Zool. or ecol. 101 Skeptical egg layer? 105 Disease-free sea predators? 110 Actress Matin 111 Rat catcher 113 '60s conflict site 114 "Star Wars" royal 115 Royal home 117 Gillette 119 "—yellow ribbon round ... 122 Journalist Nellie 123 Not unusual 124 Things found at discount shoe stores? 127 Italian city 128 Steel, for one 129 Adversaries 130 Agrees (to) 131 "Black Velvet" singer Alannah 132 Orchestra leader 133 Eat in style 135 Least lenient 2 Mrs. Oskar Schindler 3 Easy-to-catch hit 4 Org. for Rafael Nadal 5 — Cong 6 "—Time We Say Goodbye" 7 Dictator 8 Air marshal's org. 9 Copies Dr. Dre 10 U.S. humane org. 11 Put away, as a sword 12 "NewsRadio" co-star Phil 13 Shopping aid 14 Oliver Twist, e.g. 15 Bright red 16 Silverstone or Keys 17 Tall ale mug 18 International compact 19 Cavity filler's deg. 24 Branching-out points 31 — Next Chapter (Winfrey series) 33 Eat in style 35 Least lenient 37 "— loves me..." 39 California's Point — 40 Astra automaker 5 — Cong 43 — and terminator 48 Waylay 49 "Yes, —!" 50 Peak climber, e.g. 51 Dumbbell 53 Chastised 55 SUV cousins 56 Prefix with warrior 57 "Bringing Up Baby" studio 59 Sang loudly 61 Radius site 62 Part of CRT 63 Alternative to lettuce 64 Oakland footballer 65 Smiles villainously 68 Dinar earmer 72 Hovels 73 Once named 74 Lop the crop 77 "— goin' down!" 78 Suffix of sugars 81 Pianist's seat 82 Communal 84 Boxcar rider 85 Bait biter 87 Smack 90 Complain 92 Unit of resistance 93 Frogs and kangaroos 94 Angers a lot 96 Patriarch of Judaism 97 Majestic 99 Juan's silver 102 Enlighten, in poems 103 Kevin of "Saturday Night Live" 104 Pour gently, as wine 106 "Relapse" rapper 107 Hang a new worm on 108 Word with app or bee 109 Makes the assertion 112 Green shampoo 116 Periods 118 Burn balm 120 Ferber or Krabappel 121 Chick chaser? 123 Nipper's co. 125 Procedure: Abbr. 126 Dash lengths



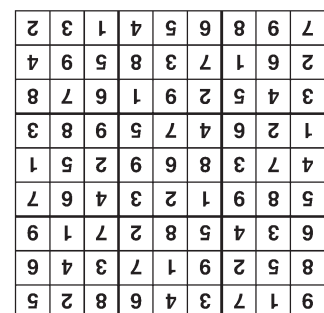
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