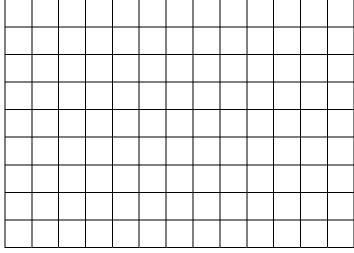
## Puzzle #128 — January 2012 "The Strait"

Instructions: Guess the words defined by the cryptic clues (answers vary in length from three to eleven letters, eight are capitalized, and one is a prefix) then enter them in the grid one after another in the same order as their clues, starting in the upper left corner. Across words that don't end at the right continue on the next row, and down words that don't end at the bottom continue in the next column. Five across words and five down words won't fit in the grid unless one of their letters is removed. Those ten letters, taken in order as



they occur in across and down words, spell a word related to the mystery entries. Thanks to Kevin Wald for test-solving and editing this puzzle.

## Across

- 1. Mystery entry
- 2. Loosen noose around Zeke's head for sleep
- 3. Discover a dartboard concealing a detection system
- 4. Commercial flue coming
- 5. Nothing and everything sent back in pot
- 6. Boy covering range with fat
- 7. Hide/replace nail in fissure with tip of drill
- 8. See about King getting time for Olympic event
- 9. Deny creativity about poetry
- 10. Swell in the avenue
- 11. Fabled garment covering a character in *King Lear*
- 12. Gambler cried in distress
- 13. Lead one is out of step
- 14. Strange surrealistic painter
- 15. Fuel weight for a Chevrolet
- 16. Saw about King getting nailed
- 17. Wound up cobra died in closet
- 18. Singer's false note initially recorded
- 19. Security officer trashed a drug
- 20. The scales used in calibrating
- 21. Mystery entry

## Down

- 1. Pretty woman is all right in funny role
- 2. Turf auctioned without land
- 3. Arizona: a meadow and a flower
- 4. Stem's shadow
- 5. Lift to reveal movement
- 6. Insect biting rodent in rebuke
- 7. Arabian dromedary carries man up front
- 8. Frontal garment is hard to change
- 9. Camouflaged darts and banner
- 10. Grain's protective covering
- 11. Mystery entry
- 12. In Alaska, radar ranging encompasses venerable burrowing animal
- 13. Good god! A vegetable
- 14. Clever Gertrude collars usher in church
- 15. Duck disturbed deer eating wapiti's tail
- 16. Doctor having advantage with coat
- 17. Provisions will include sheep
- 18. Assume section of bone is made right
- 19. Choice of course lectures
- 20. Spain threatens to impound oil, for instance
- 21. She has a tree
- 22. Block eastern strip