

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 surrealist 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