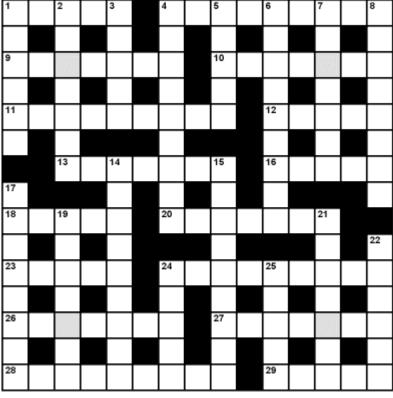
Around This Time of Year by Kegler

Each clue contains an extra word, the first letters of which identify squares in the grid to be shaded. When completed, the shaded squares (including the four already provided) contain a message.



Across

- 1 Was in charge of Baptist church's style of dressing (5)
- 4 Pack one's blade carelessly in retreat (9)
- **9** Shrewdly tactful X-ray snapshot captures old drunk (7)
- 10 Thus far, father goes after attorney with drink (4,3)
- **11** Frilly border surrounding St. Peter's impressive entrance, note, and cellar (4,5)
- 12 Single virgin, while sexy, heartless and fresh (5)
- **13** Eponymous Greek character takes in unendingly bleak picture (7)
- **16** Top story: Telephone company eventually starting to improve average performance (5)
- **18** Boy isn't running backwards near a vertex (5)
- **20** Finds another purpose for keeping grainy blue picture puzzles (7)
- 23 Close off heavy molded wall footing (5)
- 24 Build up true belief about perfume, for the most part (9)
- **26** Delightful aliens agilely dancing around club (7)
- **27** Tract of nearby pasture left out (7)
- **28** Kennedy's holding snare with first of distinctly odd four-footed creatures (9)
- **29** Extract Western portion of secret nickel deposit underground (5)

Down

- **1** Spread like cheap wine, once (6)
- 2 Explicit lines in lively tunes there's nothing to it? (4,3)
- **3** In vile joint, a couple of turkeys ask for money (3,2)
- **4** Again stage "Time Out", young reporter's entertaining retrospective for Floridian NFLer (9)
- **5** National prestige of troupe mentioned (5)
- 6 Supports friends riding wild steed, obviously (9)
- 7 Meet nightly behind silly dope's place (7)
- **8** Per Rev. Spooner, taste England's sausage and pretend to sing (3-5)
- **14** Actresses Lucille, Victoria and Moran with a dancer (9)
- 15 Elongated shaded areas around wing covered ribs?(9)
- 17 Nervous to the extreme, one rattled tenor cut siesta short (8)
- **19** You'll make clear where de body is? (7)
- **21** Embattled financial institution to back urban baseball diamond (7)
- 22 Dingy, second-rate western hat (6)
- **24** Cut to graphic section of a long poem (5)
- **25** Cover one relative of a European raccoon (5)