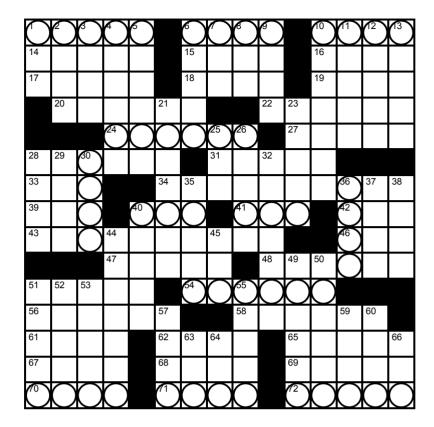
Across

- 1. Start of a word chain
- 6. Step 6 in the chain
- 10. Step 7 in the chain
- 14. Rest atop
- 15. Where China is
- 16. E. Coast highway
- 17. Commence
- 18. Nukes
- **19.** Hang around in the shadows
- **20.** Retired star NFL receiver Shannon ____
- 22. Hard to find
- **24.** Step 5 in the chain
- **27.** Ancient alphabet characters
- 28. Fix, as a pump
- 31. October ad target
- 33. Oft-broken promise
- 34. Clash directly
- 39. Maria
- **40.** Step 8 in the chain
- **41.** Step 9 in the chain
- 42. It has strings attached
- **43.** Pinpoints
- **46.** Spy's org.
- **47.** Unit of petrol
- **48.** Ebert's former partner
- **51.** Taters
- **54.** *End of the word chain*
- **56.** "Spill it!"
- **58.** Ideally
- **61.** Lead-in for boy or girl
- 62. Bankrolls
- **65.** Shows to a seat, slangily
- **67.** Eggheady sort



- 68. Send out
- **69.** Collar and jacket styles
- **70.** Step 4 in the chain
- **71.** *Step 2 in the chain*
- 72. Step 11 in the chain

Down

- **1.** "Treasure Island" author's inits.
- 2. Successes
- 3. "Awright!"
- **4.** A coach may try to boost it
- 5. Access
- **6.** In a fog
- 7. Olympics chant
- 8. Edge
- 9. Sweetheart

- **10.** Popular advice-giver Schlessinger
- 11. About-face
- **12.** Choreographer Cunningham
- 13. Two-wheelers
- 21. Line judge?
- 23. Hardly Mr. Right
- 25. WALL-E's girlfriend
- **26.** Avoid
- **28.** Ostentatious display
- 29. Singer Brickell
- **30.** Step 3 in the chain
- **32.** Not laid on thick
- **35.** Mideast leaders
- **36.** Step 10 in the chain
- **37.** Tom Joad, for one
- **38.** "Hud" Oscar winner
- **40.** Basic religious belief

- **44.** Wife, in the presence of the guys
- 45. IBM competitor
- **49.** Steeped
- **50.** Takes care of
- **51.** Ford muscle car for short
- **52.** Fizzle, with "out"
- **53.** Ne plus ____
- **55.** Hurry-scurry
- **57.** Still-life piece
- **59.** Not barefoot
- **60.** One-hundredth of a mil, to a hood
- **63.** Pal for Pierre
- **64.** Slow-witted
- 66. Mariner's dir.

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