Once this diagramless barred cryptic is done, its overall shape will have standard crossword symmetry, its internal bars won’t, and two symmetrically arranged columns will form an important message.

ACROSS
1. Money Store is discussed (4)
4. English actor John, who plays Sulu’s parrot (4)
7. Second-rate computer in 2001 turned boring (4)
9. “Subatomic particle”’s inappropriately long u (5)
10. On or alongside West Italian river (4)
12. Georgia peach unenergetically eating the last bagels and soups (9)
14. Caught hiding one error of a specified magnitude (5)
15. Talked endlessly about police from Keystone? (4)
16. Flipped over a sun god with the head of Mickey Rooney, the film star (4)
17. Tres horrible term formerly used for “formerly” (4)
18. That fellow recited religious verse (4)

DOWN
1. Twisted rope in shy barrel-maker’s shop (7) [NI3]
2. Excited Elks can relax (7)
3. Egyptian deity that is to laugh at Norse deity (6)
4. Urges for caviar and the like (4)
5. About one dollar, say (5)
6. Pair of humans with ZZ Top mark start of Hanukkah with “Yippee!” (6)
8. Henry sits on my bad earrings (5)
11. Papa’s jacket of scarlet is an attention-getter (4)
13. A brothel-keeper beheaded the first guy (4)