

Cold Front by Barbara Lin

Universal Crossword edited by David Steinberg

Grid for Cold Front crossword puzzle with numbered squares.

- ACROSS
1 Expense
5 Statement after a disappointing game
10 Prepare, like some potatoes
14 "The Handmaid's Tale" home
15 Love to ___ (adore)
16 Purina brand
17 Get-to-know-you event
19 Enter
20 Where Oedipus was king
21 Brian who left Roxy Music
22 German currency
23 Word after "ball" or "bottomless"
24 Bury, as with homework
26 Travel from Topeka to Terre Haute, say
28 Peevish mood
29 With 43-Across, bustle
31 Relaxes, as pressure
35 Tennis do-over
36 It's between words ... or worlds

- 39 Dennings of "2 Broke Girls"
40 Some 20 Questions answers
43 See 29-Across
46 Fashionable
49 Mercedes model whose name sounds like an online course
50 Money often used for bribery
54 Pale or amber brew
55 Schooner pole
56 ___-la-la
57 Away from the waves
60 POANG chair seller
61 Ancient Roman salute
63 God with a thunderbolt
64 Sharp as ___
65 "Star Wars" character modeled after Einstein
66 Award for gymnast Katelyn Ohashi
67 Cuddly bear
68 Complication

- DOWN
1 Note that may say IOU
2 "That hurts!"
3 Nighttime backyard events
4 More rotund
5 Time to beware
6 Thompson of "Back to the Future"
7 Like many whiskey barrels
8 Court reporters
9 Given, as a party
10 Printer cartridge color
11 How a book may be read
12 Cathedral topper
13 "On my ___ ..." (Girl Scout promise)
18 Pave again
24 Finish pulling over
25 180
26 Joy
27 The "S" of GPS: Abbr.
29 Travel by jet
30 Org. that regulates black boxes
32 When many visit

- 33 Has Mongolian beef, say
34 Slob's room, metaphorically
37 Looped in, in a way
38 And so on, briefly
41 Feeling upon winning the lottery
42 "It's a secret!"
44 Comedian Glazer
45 Yosemite and Napa
47 "Maybe even less"
48 Oversee, like a museum
50 Facial expression coined by Tyra Banks
51 Crater and Huron
52 Exhaust the supply of
53 Water nymph that anagrams to "Diana"
57 Really gross
58 Nothin'
59 ___ race (contest on a straight track)
62 PC monitor type

HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 2021 Moon Cycle Closer



People have palpable, if unspoken, expectations of one another now. Whether paying for a certain result, anticipating one inside a personal relationship or just wanting something from life, knowing what to expect and what is expected of you (plus whether or how to deliver) will be the main focus on the final day of this moon cycle.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). People only take risks in hopes of achieving goals they think are possible. You'll paint a picture of your vision with well-chosen words and provide the inspiration others need to move forward.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Are glamour and authenticity at odds? Of course. Don't let that stop you from moving forward with both at the same time. The best things in life are mixed bags.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Both sides of the argument can't be right, but there is a rightness in each stance. It will bring you good fortune to look for it. Do it quietly, gingerly and with great respect.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). If you don't have an "elevator pitch," then this is the perfect time to come up with one. It's not for the influential people you might meet; rather, it's your clarity of purpose.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You're efficient and impressively productive, appearing to balance many things at once, when really you are balancing one thing at a time, giving your full attention to each, however briefly.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Too-good-to-be-true almost always is, but sometimes the karma of one situation pays for the karma of another. Be a little open-minded on the matter today.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). People fear their vulnerability and imagine far worse outcomes than would typically occur. Opening yourself to

vulnerability is the most admirable, attractive and relaxing response to the day's challenges.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Others don't know what they want, so how are you supposed to? You'll either have to help them find out what they want or create a new appetite from scratch.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The sky is a masterpiece we take for granted because it's always over us. But you won't make that mistake today. You'll choose your moments for appreciating the sky outside as well as a reflective appreciation of the sky inside you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're influential. Maybe you won't detect it, but you can be certain that people believe something different after they've interacted with you than what they believed before they encountered you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). It's all about thinking ahead today. You'll anticipate potential pitfalls and either avoid them or, if they are unavoidable, deal with them as quickly as possible.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The foundation of friendship is important, and you'll lay it well. It takes several more months and years to build the rest, especially the shelter that you can live inside that will weather the storms of life. Be patient and keep building.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 12). Your creativity soars high. This year, you'll follow a wild idea to full realization. The golden question is this: Which one? You have so many! The criteria your idea must meet to be successful: It helps others, is needed and doesn't exist in the world already, and there's a clear vision to the first dollar you'll make to sustain it. Libra and Leo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 18, 44, 17 and 30.

Universal SUDOKU

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

9x9 Sudoku grid for Friday, March 12, 2021.

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Grid for SOLUTIONS of the Friday Sudoku puzzle.

SOLUTIONS

9x9 grid showing the solution for the Friday Sudoku puzzle.

Unexpected Turns of Events by Paul Coulter

Universal Crossword edited by David Steinberg

Grid for Unexpected Turns of Events crossword puzzle with numbered squares.

- ACROSS
1 Monster such as Shrek
5 5 + 5 = 10, for instance
8 Barber's quick job
12 "Me too!"
14 Creole vegetable
15 Sandwich also called a grinder
16 Builder's sign on a vacant lot?
18 Cheese in a ball
19 Say yes to
20 Beautyrest mattress maker
22 Like pigs in a blanket?
23 Dove call
24 Green Hornet's sidekick
27 Sport where everyone dresses like a catcher?
33 Balances (out)
35 Actor Diggs
36 Earl Grey, say
37 Bleat
38 Modernizes
41 Some run between Olympic races
42 "We ___ to please"

- 43 Kid's query
44 Divination deck
46 Political group focused on supplying schools with building toys?
50 Is victorious
51 Cheer in Spain
52 Carnival attraction
54 Arctic shipping hazard
58 Peter or Paul, but not Mary
62 Fly high
63 Small bathroom fixture?
65 Flow that may be 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit
66 Rental company that used the slogan "We Try Harder"
67 Essential acid variety
68 Split personalities?
69 Acquire
70 Terminates

- DOWN
1 Fed. workplace watchdog
2 Gunk
3 Freeway entrance
4 Boston college
5 Make tracks in the snow
6 Coffee dispensers
7 '90s optical illusion fad
8 Group with family ties?
9 Overhaul
10 Country known for rug weaving
11 Some PTA members
13 Clickable image
14 Alpha's opposite
17 Egg cell
21 Unlikely to brag
24 Food that a chef might skewer
25 Be of use
26 Latin lover's line
28 Step in a flight
29 Kit ___ (breakable candy)
30 Classic video game company
31 Strung along
32 Stands the test of time

- 34 Nurse, like a piglet
39 Sack lunch holder
40 Chain letters?
45 "Very cool!"
47 Deadly snakes
48 School lunch holders
49 Sharp barks
53 Qatar's capital
54 Little bit of land
55 Cajole
56 Gutter site
57 ___ a hoot (cared)
59 Perfect choice for a body double, perhaps
60 Allow to borrow
61 Cupid, to the Greeks
64 Boring thing?

HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 2021 New Moon of Empathy



How much emotional resonance do you experience on a daily basis and with whom? Can you extend your care to people who are very different from you? These are the challenges wrapped into the next moon cycle which begins with today's new moon in Pisces, the sign of augmented (and even uncanny) powers of empathy.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You are rewarded for fulfilling the expectations of others, whereas serving yourself comes with very little fanfare. This is why you sometimes put yourself last, but should instead incentivize for prioritizing yourself.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Something you just found out about will keep showing up in multiple places. It's as if the universe is saying, "Hey, this is for you." Even so, ask to try before you buy or go in for a sample size.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). It takes a big person to recognize that you don't always have a good reason for not wanting to do something. A willingness to challenge yourself, fight laziness and generally motivate yourself will pay off big-time today.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). While most people don't like being bossed around, they do appreciate a person with a vision who is willing to take charge and execute it. You'll be that leader-type today.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). In your quest for truth and justice, stay aware of the silence. The quiet packs the most honesty per second than any words you'll hear. Pay special notice of when and where it's placed and how long it lasts.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You're friendly to everyone and you don't need a reason to be. There's love in you and you want to give it - that's reason enough. Tonight you get the feeling that your luck could spring from anywhere, and you're right!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Close relationships

become competitive for stakes that are obscure to all. Vicinity and familiarity can be a threat to control and autonomy. Suffice it to say, everyone needs dominion over their space.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Encouraging someone to change is an act of hope that will be spurred on by a positive response. Your chances of the change really happening are especially good when the "someone" happens to be you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The day's plot hinges on discerning truth. Lies of omission are harder to detect than those told out loud because they do not come with any tell-tale variances that give their recipient a fighting chance at detecting them.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your intuition is spot-on this weekend, so all you have to do is follow it. That's harder than it sounds though, with social influencers around you trying to impose their own agenda.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). When you think you might be missing something, you double back, pat yourself up and down, and ask questions out loud. Do that today even when you're sure you've got it all together. There's luck in the double-check.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). It's one or the other: Take a leap of faith on a reality you can't see, or accept the fact of the current one. It sounds dramatic, but the choice comes in details so small they are commonly overlooked.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 13). You are constantly promoting the happiness and success of others this year, an endeavor that splashes back on you in waves of abundance. You'll learn a territory inside and out, becoming confident, quick and sure. The hesitation of others will be an opportunity for you and you'll make money acting fast, and then repeat the success. Leo and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 4, 44, 10 and 17.

Universal SUDOKU

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

9x9 Sudoku grid for Saturday, March 13, 2021.

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Grid for SOLUTIONS of the Saturday Sudoku puzzle.

SOLUTIONS

9x9 grid showing the solution for the Saturday Sudoku puzzle.