

HALOANAKA SOLUTION – CHRONIC

The grid can be filled as shown.

T	A	P	E	R	O	F	F	A	D	L	I	B
E	B	E	L	A	I	R	E	U	R	O	P	A
S	Y	C	O	P	H	A	N	T	K	N	O	W
T	S	U	I	T	S	C	T	U	R	G	I	D
P	S	I	S	C	H	A	R	M	C	I	T	Y
R	A	C	E	G	O	S	A	N	G	R	I	A
E	L	A	M	E	R	I	C	A	N	O	S	S
P	O	L	E	N	T	A	T	L	S	N	A	P
B	A	L	T	I	C	S	E	A	E	R	N	E
M	U	U	M	U	U	M	S	P	L	I	T	R
O	O	P	S	S	T	A	T	E	F	L	A	G
C	L	O	V	E	S	R	E	L	I	E	F	E
S	I	N	U	S	F	A	S	T	E	N	E	D

Clue explanations are grouped below into clues with extra letters in the definitions, clues with extra letters in the wordplay, and "rematched" clues. * = transposal; " " = homophone.

Extra letters in definitions

CLUE	EXPLANATION	YIELDS
Unusually pure ring inside a notably [F]rigid sphere	PURE* holding o +a	F
Clai[l]ms, diamonds, etc.	double definition	I
Exhalations announced characters ten steps behind [N]us	"sighs"	N
Make a bundle taking in jerks, per bo[D]y surrounded by Finns and Swedes, etc. (2 wds)	bal[tics]e+a	D
Skewer holding slice of lamb, as [S]ever	sp[[]]it	S
E.g. used past[E] tense incorrectly amid craze	fa[TENSE*]d	E
Muddied by wad of crud[E], amusingly	BY WAD*	E
Taxonomic categories including, essentially, various shrew[D] types	gen[i]uses	D
At first slightly worried, I feel something [S]hot using a stick	s+I FEEL*	S

This yields the goal "Find seeds".

Extra letters in wordplay

CLUE	EXPLANATION	YIELDS
Fi[R]sts of angry deckhand land, instigated by off-the-cuff remark (hyph)	initials of "angry ... by"	R
Brownozer f[O]jully acts phony	ACTS PHONY*	O
OverInflated setback for burro[W] (same old, same old)	DIG+RUT rev.	W
[A]l'd given to the needy, host assumed, in Baltimore (2 wds)	char[MC]jity	A
[T[One pal cooking cornmeal mush	TONE PAL*	T
Marine flier to deserve [O]rally	"earn"	O

Capitol building's standard stor[M]y gets flat "A" (2 wds)	GETS FLAT A*	M
[C]Alvin chiefly adores pieces of garlic	c+loves	C
Succor from firm Lee managed, with [O]mission of mercy primarily	FIRM LEE*[-m]	O
Dredge up part of g[L]assy bayou that's extremely deep	gLASSY BAYou rev.	L
Outré lingo [N]or item sometimes used by drivers (2 wds)	LINGO NOR*	N
[T]Art scene rewritten for more than one interlude	TART SCENE*	T
Vault with t[O]iling being found inside arid locale (2 wds)	s[ant]jafe	O
Hide from [Z]any temple that excludes me	TEMPLE*[-me]	Z

This turns the grid into a "map" by assigning the letters A - M to rows and N - Z to columns. Finally,

Rematched Clues

CLUE	EXPLANATION	YIELDS
Kensington dandy ingesting rotten pear / to gradually relax (2 wds)	t[PEAR*]off	KX
Ariel's shaken after bad / Peacock soap (hyph)	b+ARIEL*	AP
Ken and / nary at all on the radio	"no"	KO
Forget supporter's starting / event for a pit crew	[-b]race	FW
Grains mixed with a / concoction in a wine cup	GRAINS*+a	GP
Coffee order's / nice aroma that's stirred up	NICE AROMA*	CP
Woks and the like: on reflection, / break	PANS reversed	WK
Mother Hubbard's / loud couple of comments from a cow	"moo moo"	MW
Chickens go into them, after earliest / word from a klutz	[-c]oops	CZ
Congested site often / an offense against me and you	sin+us	CU
Eccentric stepparent eschewing an / effort to be ready for a quiz (2 wds)	STEPARENT*[-an]	EZ
Childrens' book girl's / geese ultimately don't keep entertaining leader of Iraq	e+lo[+i]se	CQ
Completely absorbed / part loco	PART*	CO
Quarrel / failing as car's crashing	f+AS CAR*	QG
Weird aunt embracing, well, almost everything in / fall	AUNT* holding um+a[-l]	WL
The Reverend's tribunal closes down / ways to save time	"court shuts" spoonerism	TE
Invoke / fattened fowl around lower left at back of menu (2 wds)	ca[ll+u]pon	IU
Besprinkled with holy water / Ed's pager is on the fritz	ED'S PAGER*	BZ
Like actress Rooney's / African municipality	as+Mara	LY
Quarterbacks often / style hair back with bit of scrub	COMB rev. +s	QB

Using the letter pairs yielded by the first and last letters in these clues as coordinates highlights the squares shown below.

	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z
a	T	A	P	E	R	O	F	F	A	D	L	I	B
b	E	B	E	L	A	I	R	E	U	R	O	P	A
c	S	Y	C	O	P	H	A	N	T	K	N	O	W
d	T	S	U	I	T	S	C	T	U	R	G	I	D
e	P	S	I	S	C	H	A	R	M	C	I	T	Y
f	R	A	C	E	G	O	S	A	N	G	R	I	A
g	E	L	A	M	E	R	I	C	A	N	O	S	S
h	P	O	L	E	N	T	A	T	L	S	N	A	P
i	B	A	L	T	I	C	S	E	A	E	R	N	E
j	M	U	U	M	U	U	M	S	P	L	I	T	R
k	O	O	P	S	S	T	A	T	E	F	L	A	G
l	C	L	O	V	E	S	R	E	L	I	E	F	E
m	S	I	N	U	S	F	A	S	T	E	N	E	D

This gives the message "Play Conway Game of Life". Using these as starting "seed" squares, run a simulation of John Conway's Game of Life simulation (via a website such as <https://conwaylife.com/>). This stabilizes in the (life-giving) shape called "loaf", the letters of which give the answer CHRONIC.

	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z
a	T	A	P	E	R	O	F	F	A	D	L	I	B
b	E	B	E	L	A	I	R	E	U	R	O	P	A
c	S	Y	C	O	P	H	A	N	T	K	N	O	W
d	T	S	U	I	T	S	C	T	U	R	G	I	D
e	P	S	I	S	C	H	A	R	M	C	I	T	Y
f	R	A	C	E	G	O	S	A	N	G	R	I	A
g	E	L	A	M	E	R	I	C	A	N	O	S	S
h	P	O	L	E	N	T	A	T	L	S	N	A	P
i	B	A	L	T	I	C	S	E	A	E	R	N	E
j	M	U	U	M	U	U	M	S	P	L	I	T	R
k	O	O	P	S	S	T	A	T	E	F	L	A	G
l	C	L	O	V	E	S	R	E	L	I	E	F	E
m	S	I	N	U	S	F	A	S	T	E	N	E	D