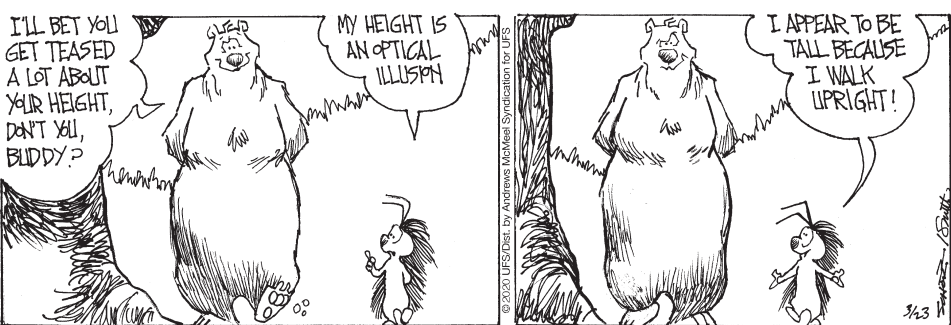


THE BORN LOSER by Art Sampson



GRIZZWELLS by Bill Schorr



PEANUTS by Charles M. Schulz



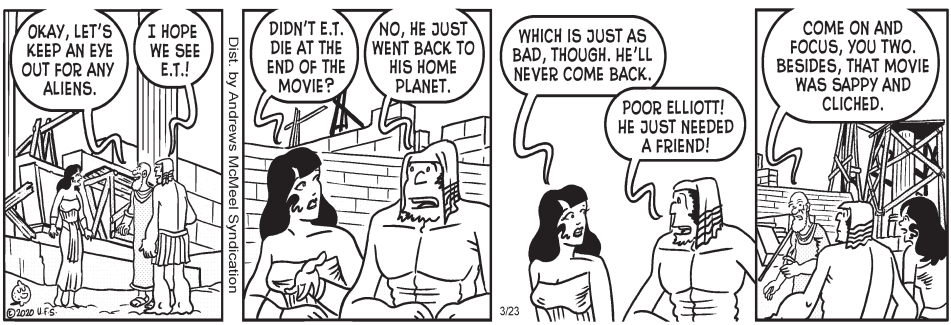
BETLE BAILEY® by Mort Walker



BLONDIE® by Dean Young



ALLEY OOP® by Dave Graue and Jack Bender



FRANK AND ERNEST® by Bob Thaves



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE® by Dik Browne



GARFIELD® by Jim Davis

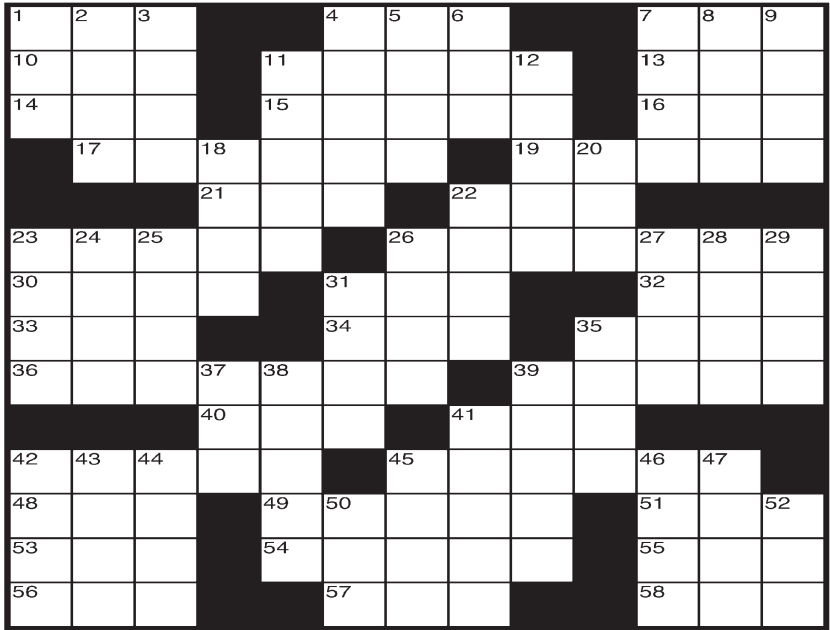


NEA Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 Conclusion
  - 4 Colorado tribe
  - 7 Chaotic spot
  - 10 Me, to Marie
  - 11 Traffic tie-up
  - 13 Eggs, to Ovid
  - 14 Ms. Hagen
  - 15 Starry prefix
  - 16 Beauty salon item
  - 17 Showy flower
  - 19 Near-adults
  - 21 Dove's aversion
  - 22 Quid pro —
  - 23 Use a grater
  - 26 Choosier
  - 30 Cultivated
  - 31 Tibetan gazelle
  - 32 Gun lobby grp.
  - 33 Tarzan companion
  - 34 "Have you — wool?"
  - 35 Wedding band
- DOWN**
- 1 Nonflying bird
  - 2 — cloud in the sky
  - 3 Fiona's voice in "Shrek"
  - 4 Al of Indy fame
  - 5 Cheerio! (hyph.)
- 36 Craziest**
- 39 Tiny specks
  - 40 Jungfrau
  - 41 Kiwi's extinct cousin
  - 42 Hormone producer
  - 45 Cheap and showy
  - 48 Head movement
  - 49 Clear a disk
  - 51 Long time
  - 53 Can. neighbor
  - 54 Gossip's delight
  - 55 Summer quaff
  - 56 Farm abode
  - 57 Finger count
  - 58 Tiny bit
- 6 Mess up**
- 7 District
  - 8 Kitchen appliance
  - 9 Cereal grains
  - 11 Caesar —
  - 12 Pond blossom
  - 18 Wowed
  - 20 Daughter of Hyperion
  - 22 Wharf
  - 23 Irish playwright
  - 24 Arizona tribe
  - 25 Lurch
  - 26 Typeface
  - 27 Monogram pt.
- 28 Fish-eating bird**
- 29 Tatters
  - 31 Pant
  - 35 Highway
  - 37 Mr. Quayle
  - 38 Kind of statesman
  - 39 Grass cutter
  - 41 Brick worker
  - 42 Wildebeests
  - 43 Utterly confused
  - 44 "An apple — ..."
  - 45 Blah
  - 46 Perused
  - 47 Jedi master
  - 50 Furrow
  - 52 Midwest st.

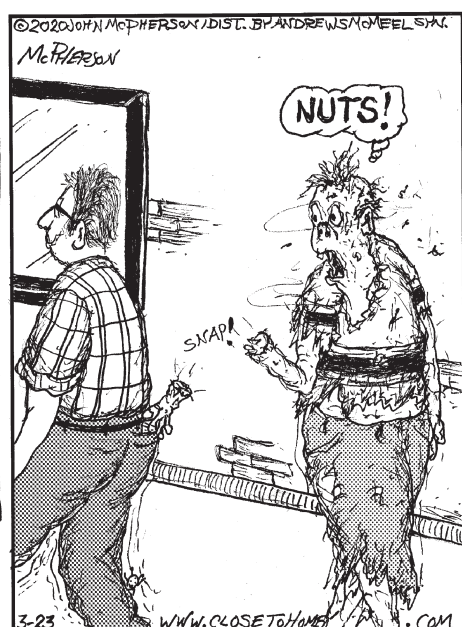
Answer to Previous Puzzle

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



3-23 © 2020 UFS, Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication for UFS

CLOSE TO HOME by John McPherson



Zombies are lousy pickpockets.

THE LOCKHORNS by Bill Hoest



Astrograph

Nothing will be free today, so be prepared to dig in and do whatever is necessary. Relying on others will lead to disappointment.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) -- If you keep things in perspective, you'll gain ground. A change will boost your morale and bring you closer to your goal. What you do for others will enhance your reputation.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Focus on maintaining good relationships with your friends, family and peers. A business trip or meeting will lead to benefits if you are willing to compromise.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Follow a path that encourages you to take care of your emotional and physical needs. Don't let others' actions or words negatively affect you.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Preparation is essential. Charm will not seal a deal if you don't have the skills required. Don't exaggerate your ability or underestimate the extent of a job. Proceed with caution.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Observe and take action.

Insight into what others are doing and how best to get what you want will lead to success. Make plans to get together with someone special.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Make adjustments to your living space. Be careful whom you trust when it comes to emotional situations. Someone will feed you false information. Limit how much you share.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Learn from the past and make the present better. If someone tries to limit what you can do, counter his or her intrusion and commence your journey. Physical improvement is favored.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Do what you do best. Put in the time required to get choice results. Fair play and a good plan will lead to victory. Be a leader, not a follower.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Use your persuasive way with words to get what you want. A change you make will lead to compliments and proposals. A romantic gesture will be worth considering.

Your Birthday

**MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2020**

Take care of unfinished business. Clear the way for new beginnings. Preparation will be necessary to ensure that you have the qualifications you need to pursue your dreams. Make progress, jettison what you no longer need and make room for the people and pastimes that bring you joy.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) -- Set yourself up for advancement. Whether it's a better-paying job or something you'd prefer to be doing with your time, choose what will bring you the most satisfaction. Argue less and achieve more.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) -- Offer a detailed analysis of what you want to be done or what you expect. If you speak from the heart and explain your position, you will get the support you need to reach your goal. Romance is featured.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) -- If you want more, do more.

Bridge

**FINESSE WHEN IT CANNOT COST**

Lord Macaulay wrote, "Finesse is the best adaptation of means to circumstances." You could be forgiven for thinking that he was penning a bridge book, except that he died in 1859, some 40 years before the game was devised.

In today's deal, South has to be adaptable. West leads the spade queen against 3 no-trump. How should South plan the play? Also, if some misbidding left South dangling in 5 diamonds, would that change his line?

In three no-trump, South has seven top tricks: 2 spades, 2 hearts, 1 diamond & 2 clubs. The other two winners must come from the diamond suit. If the diamonds are breaking 3-2, all plays work. But what if they are 4-1?

If West has king-fourth, declarer will fail. If East has king-fourth, South will be safe by finessing. However, if declarer takes a first-round finesse and loses to a singleton king, he will perish. South should first cash the diamond ace. If only low cards appear, he crosses to dummy with a club or a heart & plays a diamond toward his honors. Here he makes an overtrick, but he is home even if East has king-fourth of diamonds.

In 5 diamonds, South should anticipate a loser in each rounded suit. True, if he finds a 3-3 split, he can avoid one loser, but that is against the odds. If South does have 2 rounded-suit losers, he cannot afford a diamond loser. He must hope that East has king-doubleton or king-third. Declarer wins trick one on the board and takes a diamond finesse. Assuming it wins, he returns to dummy and leads another trump, planning to finesse again.

North		03-23-20	
♠	K 3		
♥	A 7 5 2		
♦	6 5 3		
♣	K 6 3 2		
West		East	
♠	Q J 10 8	♠	9 7 6 5 2
♥	J 9 8 6	♥	Q 10
♦	K	♦	10 9 8 4
♣	J 9 8 5	♣	Q 10
South			
♠	A 4		
♥	K 4 3		
♦	A Q J 7 2		
♣	A 7 4		
Dealer: South			
Vulnerable: Both			
South	West	North	East
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass
Opening lead: ♠ Q			