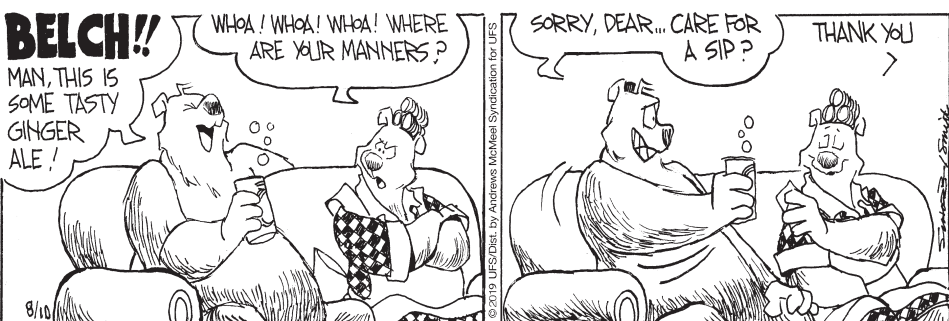




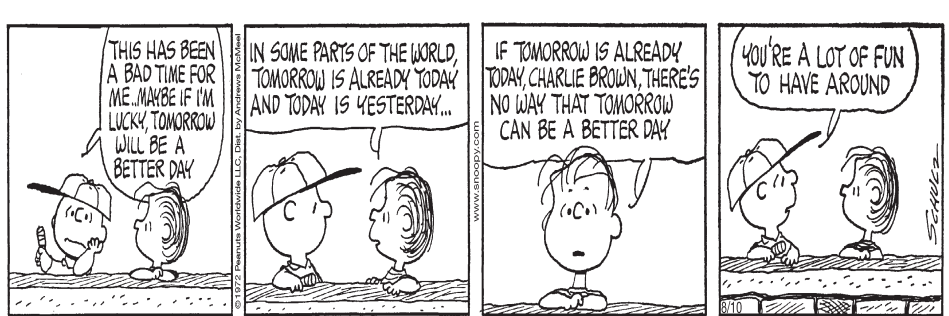
THE BORN LOSER by Art Sampson



GRIZZWELLS by Bill Schorr



PEANUTS by Charles M. Schulz



BETLE BAILEY® by Mort Walker



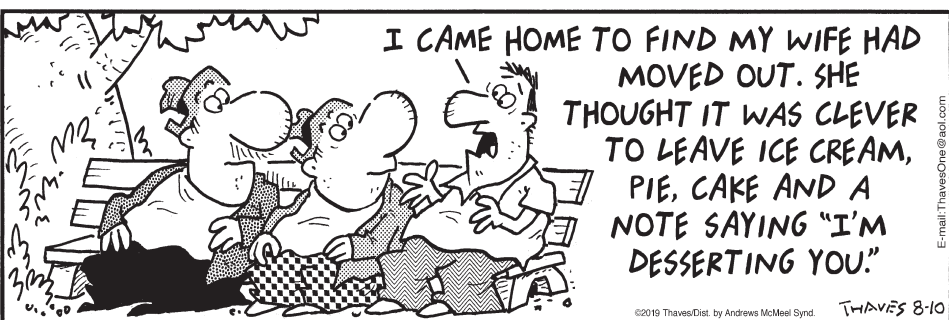
BLONDIE® by Dean Young



ALLEY OOP® by Dave Graue and Jack Bender



FRANK AND ERNEST® by Bob Thaves



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE® by Dik Browne



GARFIELD® by Jim Davis



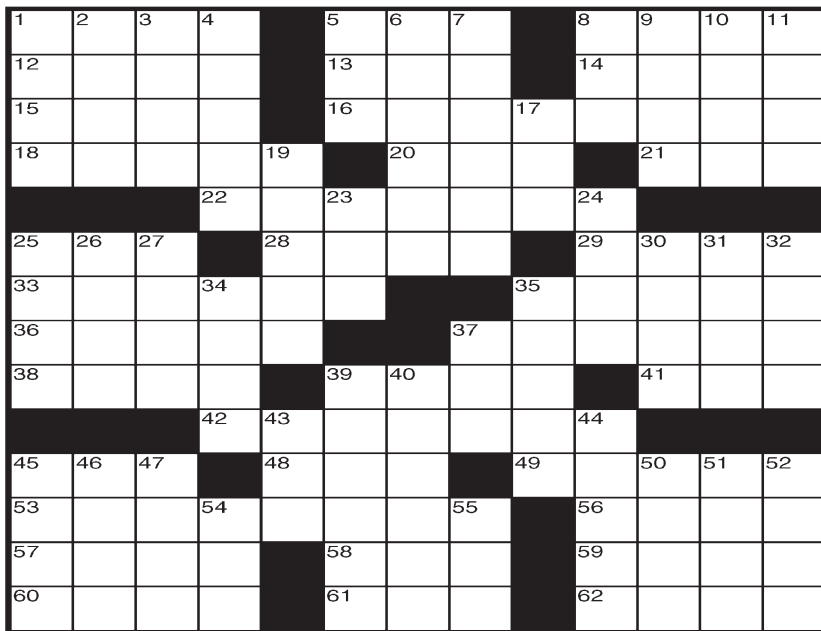
NEA Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 — du jour
 - 5 Corp. officers
 - 8 Iceberg
 - 12 Waikiki setting
 - 13 Long sigh
 - 14 Slave girl of opera
 - 15 Hot place
 - 16 Novices
 - 18 Word on an invoice
 - 20 Fast food chain
 - 21 Function
 - 22 Fudged
 - 25 CSA defender
 - 28 Mr. Perot
 - 29 Be a bookworm
 - 33 Gotten up
 - 35 Brains club
 - 36 Move crabwise
 - 37 Facial cosmetic
 - 38 Pedro's coin
 - 39 Arab VIP
 - 41 Japanese honorific
 - 42 Weakest
 - 45 Astonish
- DOWN**
- 1 Penniless
 - 2 Wash
 - 3 Polite cough
 - 4 Roman garment
 - 5 Big tub
 - 6 Warm jackets
 - 7 Mine passages
 - 8 Stadium filler
 - 9 In — of

Answer to Previous Puzzle



- 10 Byron's works
- 11 Alleviate
- 17 Road hazard
- 19 A crowd?
- 23 Long time
- 24 Made a sketch
- 25 Coarse file
- 26 Old barge canal
- 27 Competes at an auction
- 30 Boundaries
- 31 Off shore
- 32 Repair a tear
- 34 Horrible food
- 35 Code inventor
- 37 Homey dessert
- 39 Make angry
- 40 Reflect
- 43 Yuck!
- 44 Lovers' meeting
- 45 Help with a heist
- 46 Hull plank
- 47 "Cope Book" aunt
- 50 Metric prefix
- 51 Persia, now
- 52 Competitive advantage
- 54 Mountain pass
- 55 Playground game



8-10

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CLOSE TO HOME by John McPherson



A team of top marketing executives brainstorming dish washing soap names.

THE LOCKHORNS by Bill Hoest



"OKAY, LORETTA, I'LL DANCE WITH YOU ... BUT IT PUTS ME IN AN AWKWARD POSITION."

Astrograph

a more suitable direction.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Protect against someone trying to control or manipulate you. Be secretive regarding your beliefs, plans and prospects. Take care of responsibilities to avoid someone overreacting or becoming suspicious.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Make sure you can afford what you plan to do before you get started. Traveling, attending a reunion or going on a romantic adventure will lift your spirits. Share your feelings.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Money matters should be handled personally. If someone is too nosy, consider it a red flag. Keep your private life to yourself and your assets and possessions somewhere safe.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- What you offer will be well received. Don't be afraid to ask for something in return. If you make romantic plans with a loved one, it will bring you closer together.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Remain cautious. If something sounds too good to be true, take a pass. Protect yourself against loss, being taken advantage of, indulgence and someone's poor behavior.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Jump at a chance to make a lifestyle change. Spend more time with the people you love and those who have always looked out for your best interests. Romance is on the rise.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- Watch what others do and make choices that will help keep the peace without giving up on your needs. A decision someone makes will change the way you view him or her.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Put personal relationships first. If someone tries to meddle in your affairs, be blunt and put an end to whatever is causing the disruption. Romance the one you love.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- Be careful how you handle your money. If someone is looking for a handout, think twice and consider offering suggestions, not your hard-earned cash. Be smart and avoid being emotionally manipulated.

Your Birthday

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 2019

If you want something, make it happen. Don't feel compelled to rely on others. You can reach your destination on your own steam with time and effort. Put your plans in place and make sure you are protected from theft. This is a year of progress, so work hard and reap the rewards.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Personal accomplishments will make you feel good about who you are and how you look. Love and romance are highlighted, and personal plans and promises can be made.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Keep track of what others do and say. You may need support to offset someone who is trying to pin the blame on you for something you didn't do.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Look at all possibilities before you agree to something that isn't sitting right with you. If someone is demanding, make your position clear and head in

North		08-10-19	
♠	J 7	♥	A 4
♦	J 10 9 8 7 6	♣	Q 9 2
West		East	
♠	Q 10 9	♥	K 8 4 3
♦	K 9 8 6 3	♣	Q 7 5 2
♠	5 4 2	♥	3
♣	6 5	♣	K 8 7 4
South			
♠	A 6 5 2	♥	J 10
♦	A K Q	♣	A J 10 3
Dealer: South			
Vulnerable: Both			
South	West	North	East
1♠	Pass	1♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass
Opening lead: ♥ 6			

Bridge

IF THAT WON'T WORK, TRY THIS ALTERNATIVE

Woody Hayes, who is in the College Football Hall of Fame as a coach, said, "The five big mistakes in football are the fumble, the interception, the penalty, the badly called play, the blocked punt -- and most of these originate with the quarterback. Find a mistake-proof quarterback, and you have this game won."

If you find a mistake-proof declarer, you have bridge won. In today's deal, we have a blocked suit. Can declarer punt to circumnavigate the problem? West leads his fourth-highest heart against three no-trump. What should South do?

South might have upgraded and opened two no-trump, not that that would have altered the final contract -- North would have raised to three no-trump. Yes, five diamonds

makes, but with no singleton or void and insufficient points to consider a slam, it is better to go for the nine-trick game.

South seems to have nine top tricks: one spade, one heart, six diamonds & one club. However, now that the heart ace has been removed from the dummy, declarer has no immediate dummy entry left and cannot enjoy six diamond tricks. Instead, he must go for these nine winners: one spade, one heart, three diamonds and four clubs. But that might require three winning club finesses. To take those finesses, South needs to stay in the dummy while taking the first two finesses. In this situation, he should lead the lowest card that can win the first finesse. So, declarer must call for the club nine. He continues with the club queen, takes a third club finesse and runs for home.