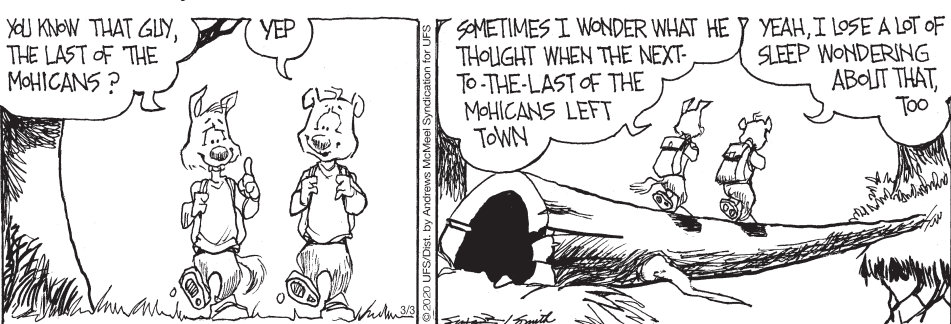


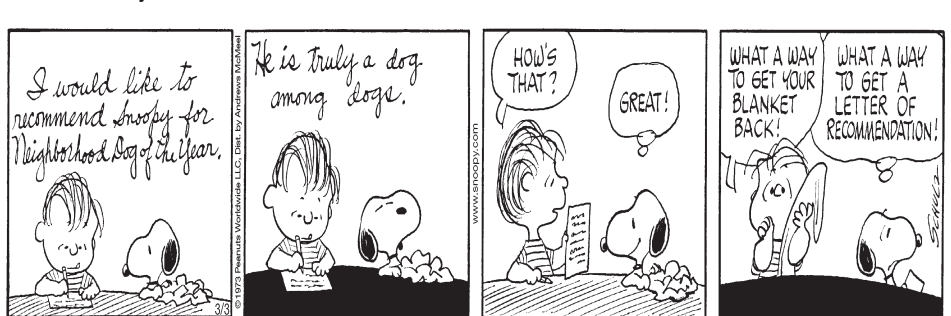
THE BORN LOSER by Art Sampson



GRIZZWELLS by Bill Schorr



PEANUTS by Charles M. Schulz



BEETLE BAILEY® by Mort Walker



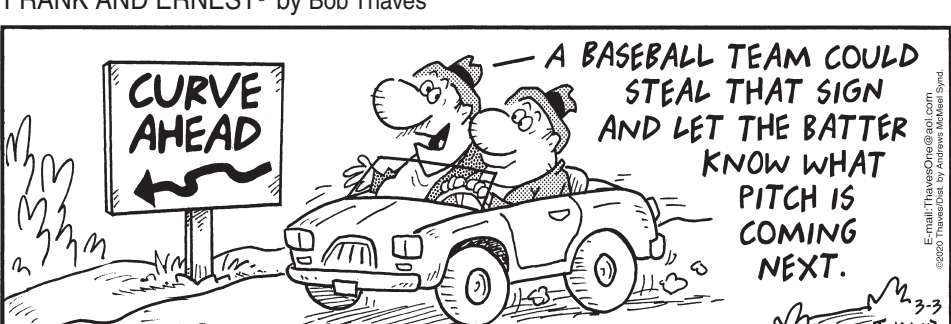
BLONDIE® by Dean Young



ALLEY OOP® by Dave Graue and Jack Bender



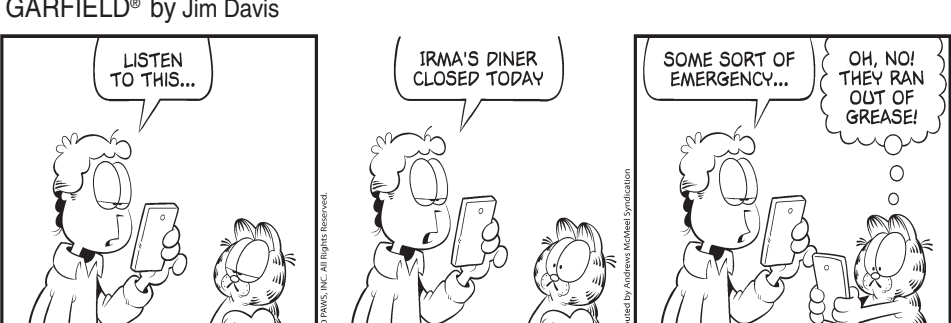
FRANK AND ERNEST® by Bob Thaves



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE® by Dik Browne

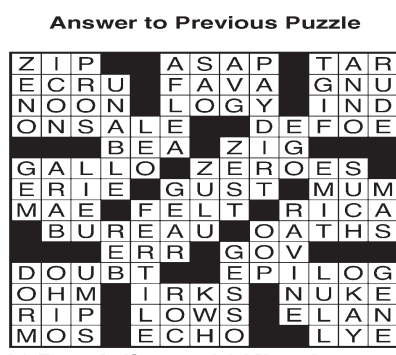


GARFIELD® by Jim Davis

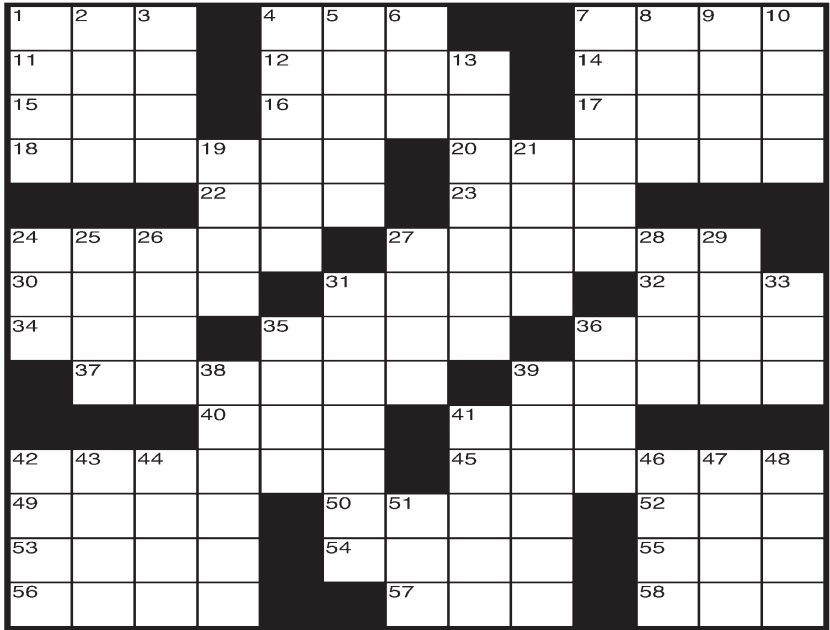


NEA Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 Ticked off
  - 4 Tempe inst.
  - 7 Huffed and puffed
  - 11 Hydrocarbon suffix
  - 12 Halftime marchers
  - 14 Distant past
  - 15 Had dinner
  - 16 Kind of gin
  - 17 Missing
  - 18 Paper in chem lab
  - 20 Honked
  - 22 Historical period
  - 23 Aleta's son
  - 24 Showed fright
  - 27 Steak cut
  - 30 Got off the plane
  - 31 Is not well
  - 32 Luau strummer
  - 34 Chinese chairman
  - 35 Moppets
  - 36 Writing on the wall
  - 37 Money earned
  - 39 Fills with cargo
- DOWN**
- 1 Ground corn
  - 2 Not pro
  - 3 Bug repellent
  - 4 Ridiculous
  - 5 Chili pepper dip
  - 6 Numero —
  - 7 Former
  - 8 Booty
  - 9 Sea eagle



- 10 Dandelion, to many
- 13 Particulars
- 19 Shake hands
- 21 Regal symbols
- 24 Ms. Shriver of tennis
- 25 Asian mountains
- 26 MGM mascot
- 27 Take a bus
- 28 Arizona city
- 29 Just scraped by
- 31 Lacking a goal
- 33 Annapolis grad
- 35 Zen question
- 36 Klutz's mutter
- 38 Armor defects
- 39 Jacket feature
- 41 Not as wild
- 42 Hearty swallow
- 43 Pliny's bear
- 44 Bell sound
- 46 Cross a shallow creek
- 47 Former spouses
- 48 "Cathy's Clown" singer
- 51 Want-ad abbr.

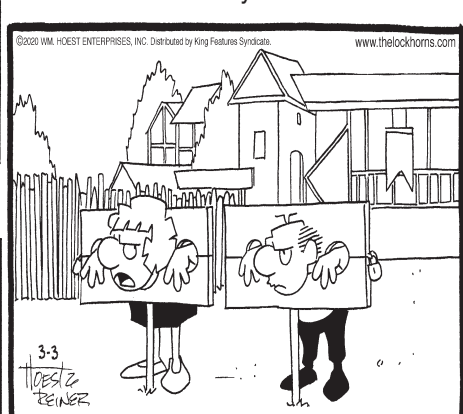


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CLOSE TO HOME by John McPherson



THE LOCKHORNS by Bill Hoest



Astrograph

**Your Birthday**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2020**

Financial gain is within reach. Be aware of hangers-on looking for a handout. Pick your associates carefully and avoid get-rich-quick schemes. Your popularity will grow if you are a straight shooter. Handle emotional situations with intelligence and common sense. Steer clear of organizations trying to control your life.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-March 20) -- The less running around you do and the more time you put into getting things done, the better off you'll be. Take better care of money matters.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) -- Look to friends for advice. A personal change will give you the confidence to step outside your comfort zone and try something new. Keep passwords and private matters well-hidden.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) -- Concentrate on professional gains. Do whatever it takes to raise your profile or update your qualifications. An opportunity to earn more money could develop. Make a positive lifestyle change.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) -- Don't make unrealistic promises. If you are misleading, you will be held accountable. Make personal improvement, fitness and better health your priorities. Problems will arise while traveling or dealing with bureaucracy.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) -- Change may cause uncertainty, but, in the end, you will benefit from what transpires. An open mind will lead to knowledge that will help you take advantage of an opportunity.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Don't take anything or anyone for granted. An unpredictable situation will leave you questioning where you stand and what's going to happen next. Observe how others respond before you take action.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Be part of the solution, not part of the problem. Stand up for what you believe is right and make your voice heard. You can and will make a difference.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Charm will be your secret weapon. If you listen attentively, you'll find out information that will help you navigate a tight situation. Leave nothing to chance.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Be the best you can be. Engage in exercise or in any other activity that will make you feel stronger, better and ready to conquer whatever comes your way.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Treat domestic matters carefully. A mistake will be emotionally and financially costly. Consider your options and search for a realistic compromise. Focus on accumulating cash -- not on spending it.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- If you consider what the people around you want, it will be easier to persuade them to see things your way. You'll profit from someone else's reluctance to recognize a decent offer.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- If you make a positive lifestyle change, it will put your mind at ease. Face facts and strive to incorporate things into your life that will result in better health.

Bridge

North 03-03-20

♠ A Q 9

♥ 5 3 2

♦ A K 7 4 3

♣ A 4

West

♠ 10 8 6 5

♥ J 4

♦ Q 9

♣ K Q J 9 2

East

♠ K J 2

♥ 8

♦ J 10 6 5

♣ 10 8 7 5 3

South

♥ 7 4 3

♠ A K Q 10 9 7 6

♦ 8 2

♣ 6

Dealer: South

Vulnerable: Both

South West North East

4♥ Pass 6♥ All Pass

Opening lead: ♠ K

**SUCCESS ISN'T ALWAYS AMAZING**

A.N.onymus quipped, "Behind every successful man there stands an amazed woman." But sometimes success isn't such a surprise: It is etched in stone -- as in today's deal.

North shot his partner into 6 hearts. When the dummy came down, South saw that they might have missed seven. But he had been taught when balancing precariously on his grandmother's knee to concentrate on the actual contract.

After winning trick one with dummy's club ace, declarer drew 2 rounds of trumps. He continued with a diamond to dummy's king & a club ruff. Next came a diamond to dummy's ace & a diamond ruff. If the suit had broken 3-3, South would have claimed all 13 tricks. But West discarded a club.

South wasn't displeased, though. It gave him a chance for a pretty play. He led a low spade & finessed dummy's 9. East won with the jack, but had no winning ripoise. If he returned a club, it would have conceded a ruff-and-stuff, allowing declarer to discard his spade loser. If East played back a spade, it would have been into dummy's ace-queen tenace. So East tried the diamond jack. But South ruffed, played a spade to dummy's ace and threw his last spade on the established diamond seven.

Note that West couldn't help by inserting the spade 10. Dummy's queen would be played, and the ace-nine would remain as a tenace around East's jack.

The contract is defeated by a spade lead and a club switch, but that is impossible to find.

Any time you see an A-Q-9 or A-Q-10 combination, consider an endplay.