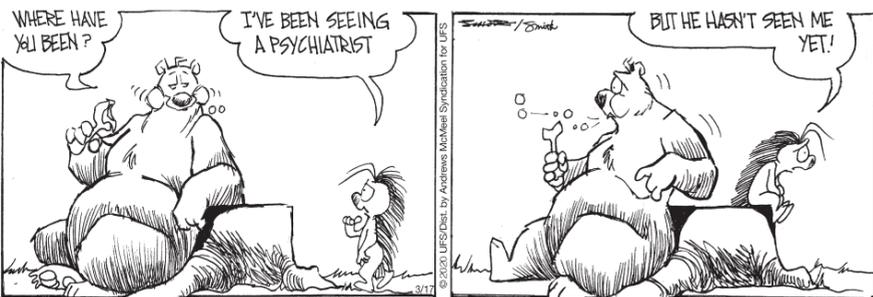


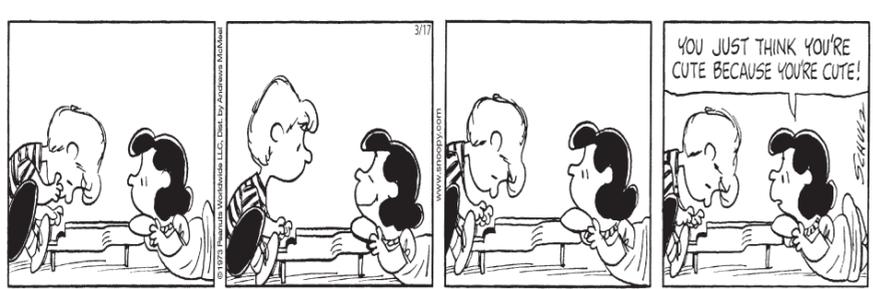
THE BORN LOSER by Art Sampson



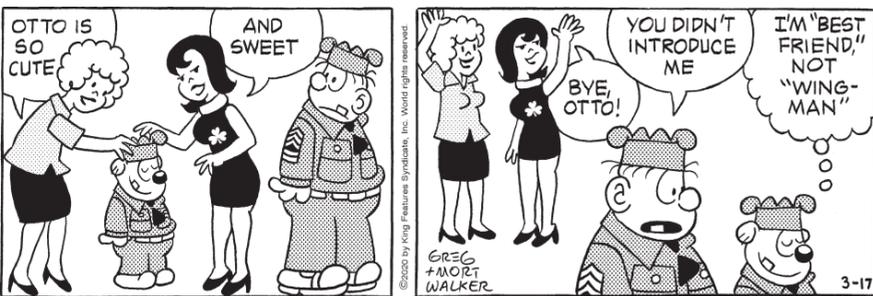
GRIZZWELLS by Bill Schorr



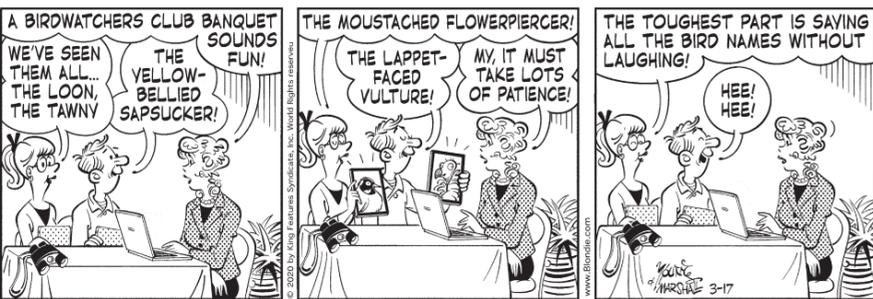
PEANUTS by Charles M. Schulz



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 Islet
- 4 Paddle
- 7 Court case
- 11 Frat letter
- 12 Fossil fuel
- 14 Thunder god
- 15 Dad
- 16 Sea eagle
- 17 By heart
- 18 Slur
- 20 Island welcomes
- 22 Flightless bird
- 23 Shark feature
- 24 Rested up
- 27 Made a sharp sound
- 30 Many centuries
- 31 Bard or minstrel
- 32 Noon, to Caesar
- 34 Frazier foe
- 35 "The King and I" actress
- 36 Prow projections
- 37 Hold closely

39 Night sky streaker

- 40 Cowboy's affirmative
- 41 Everybody
- 42 Happened to
- 45 Embellished
- 49 River in England
- 50 Limerick locale
- 52 Sleet-covered
- 53 Jazzy — Horne
- 54 Mutant heroes of comics (hyph.)
- 55 That girl
- 56 Finales
- 57 Favored
- 58 Ocean fish

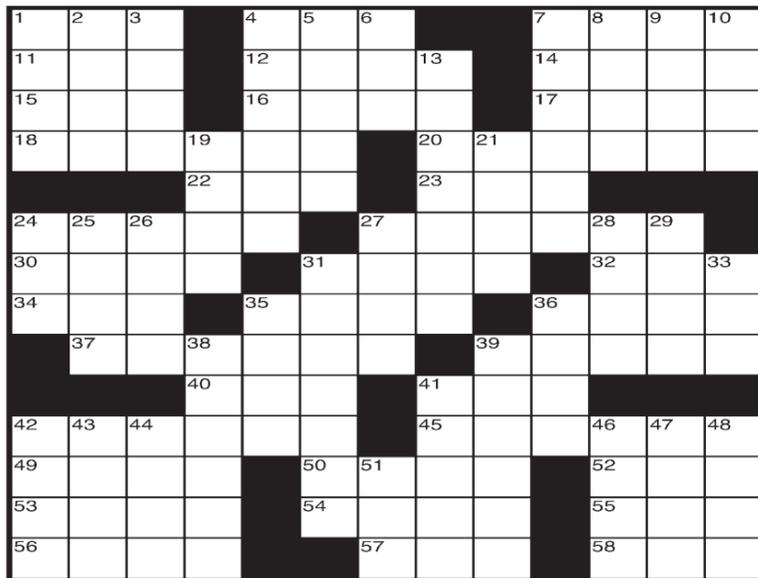
DOWN

- 1 Flat-topped cap
- 2 Harrow rival
- 3 Shrill barks
- 4 Wild feline
- 5 Ventricle neighbor
- 6 Competed in an election

Answer to Previous Puzzle



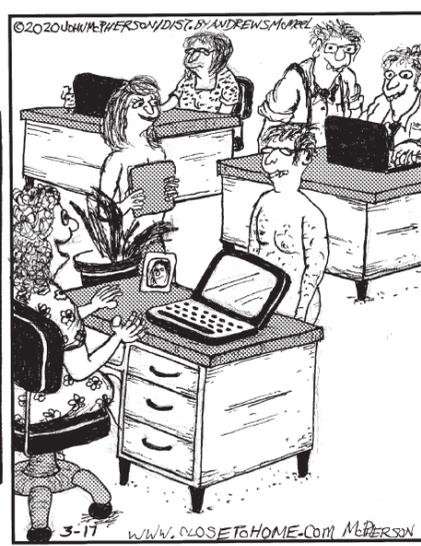
- 7 Powerful
- 8 Yikes! (hyph.)
- 9 Greek letter
- 10 Crowd, in Madrid?
- 13 More verdant
- 19 Ballpark figs.
- 21 Fabric fuzz
- 24 Jellyfish habitat
- 25 "Whatever — Wants"
- 26 Novelist — Bagnold
- 27 Gaze intently
- 28 Reason to cram
- 29 Thinnest coin
- 31 Confuse
- 33 Devotee's suffix
- 35 Hull part
- 36 Bagel, e.g.
- 38 Carrion feeders
- 39 Lawyer's customer
- 41 See eye-to-eye
- 42 Hay unit
- 43 Not bumpy
- 44 Crazy about
- 46 Half of DJ
- 47 Parrot
- 48 Changed color
- 51 Brat



3-17

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CLOSE TO HOME by John McPherson



After the success of 'Naked and Afraid,' the Discovery Channel adds 'Naked and Afraid in the Office' to its lineup.

THE LOCKHORNS by Bill Hoest



Astrograph

Your Birthday
TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2020
 Life is yours to discover. Slow down, take in everything that you see, smell, touch, hear and taste, and observe what life has to offer. Your priorities will change, along with your long-term plans. Clarity will lead to decisions that provide the happiness you desire. Love, laugh and live.
PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Take advantage of a financial opportunity that offers greater security. Someone from your past will be a stepping stone to a brighter future. Personal improvements will boost your ego.
ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Look at the facts. Don't get upset over something you cannot change. Either prepare to stand up and fight for what you want or get out of the line of fire.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- Think big and follow through with your plans. Get whatever concerns you out of the way.

Your effort will be impressive and will draw the help you need to exceed your expectations.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Easy does it. Be careful what you say and whom you trust. Look at your options and make a change that encourages professional, personal and financial success.
CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- You'll have more choices than anticipated. Refuse to let the number of options confuse you. Take a systematic approach to help you fine-tune an important decision. Seek out what will bring you the greatest happiness.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Be honest with yourself and others to avoid walking down the wrong path. Just because something works for someone else doesn't mean that it's right for you.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- If you network, you will make a connection with someone who interests you personally or professionally. A trip or educational pursuit will give you a more extensive range of options.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) --

Forget about your worries and do something with someone who makes you smile. Reminding yourself of all that you have will help you rethink how you want to move forward.
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Put your creative ideas and talents to the test. Discuss an innovative partnership in detail. Draw up an agreement that will seamlessly blend what you and your partner have to offer.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Pick up skills that will help you follow a path that excites you. Don't limit yourself just because someone is not in favor of the changes you want to pursue.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Don't be so hard on yourself. If you stand up for your beliefs and do what you feel most comfortable doing, you will excel. An idea you have is worth fleshing out.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Discretion will be required to avoid interference. An authority figure may pose a problem for you if you don't abide by the rules. Don't take a risk.

Bridge

North 03-17-20
 ♠ A 4
 ♥ Q 7
 ♦ A K Q 8 6
 ♣ K 10 9 3

West ♠ K 3
 ♥ J 9 6 5 4
 ♦ J 7 5
 ♣ 6 5 4

East ♠ Q J 10 9 8 6 5 2
 ♥ A
 ♦ 10 3
 ♣ J 2

South ♠ 7
 ♥ K 10 8 3 2
 ♦ 9 4 2
 ♣ A Q 8 7

Dealer: East
 Vulnerable: North-South

South West North East
 ♠ Pass Pass Dble Pass
 ♥ Pass Pass Pass Pass
 ♦ Pass Pass Pass Pass
 ♣ Pass Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: ♠ K

IRELAND'S FAVORITE DAY OF THE YEAR
 Today is St. Patrick's Day, named, as you all know, for the patron saint of Ireland. Despite Ireland's being the butt of countless jokes in Britain, many great things come from that country. Waterford glass and Guinness stout spring to mind. There have been many talented Irish bridge players. Surely the most colorful was Monty Rosenberg, who died in 2002. He was a little guy who sat very quietly at the table, picking his opponents clean. Away from the table, he had a devious sense of humor. The Irish finished third in the 1979 European Championship. This deal was Monty's best from that event. At the other table, the Dutch North cautiously passed out East's four-spade opening. That contract drifted down two:

poor compensation for a laydown slam in clubs or diamonds. However, reaching either slam was easier said than done. Would you and your partner have managed it? Monty was in five hearts: at first glance, a hopeless-looking contract. But Monty loved challenges. After winning the first trick with dummy's spade ace, Monty judged it was likely that East had a singleton heart seven. So, he led the heart seven from the dummy, East's ace collecting only low cards. East continued with the spade queen. Monty ruffed, played a heart to the queen and cashed his six minor-suit winners. West was left with 3 trumps. The lead of another club forced West to ruff & lead away from his J-9 of hearts into declarer's K-10 tenace. Five hearts bid & made.