

THE BORN LOSER by Art Sampson



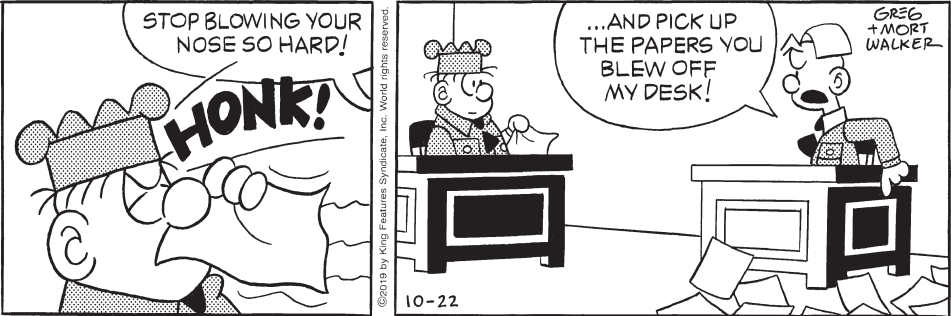
GRIZZWELLS by Bill Schorr



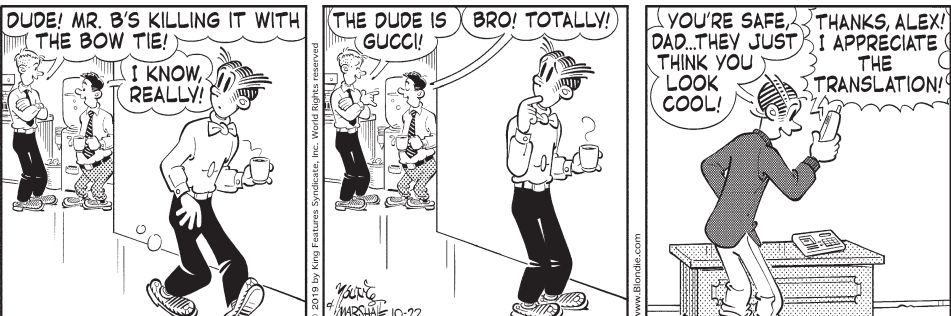
PEANUTS by Charles M. Schulz



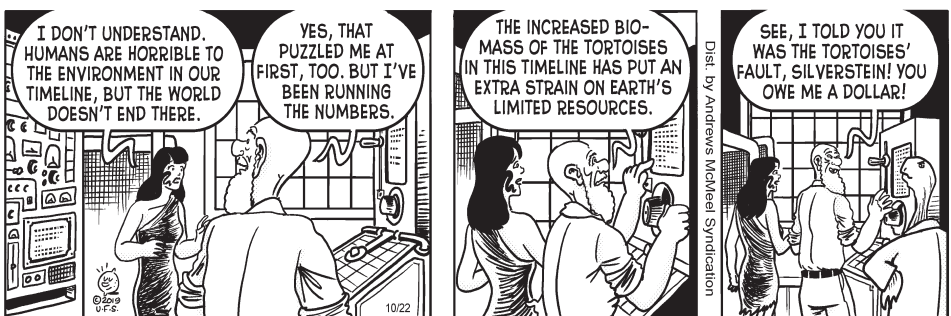
BEETLE BAILEY® by Mort Walker



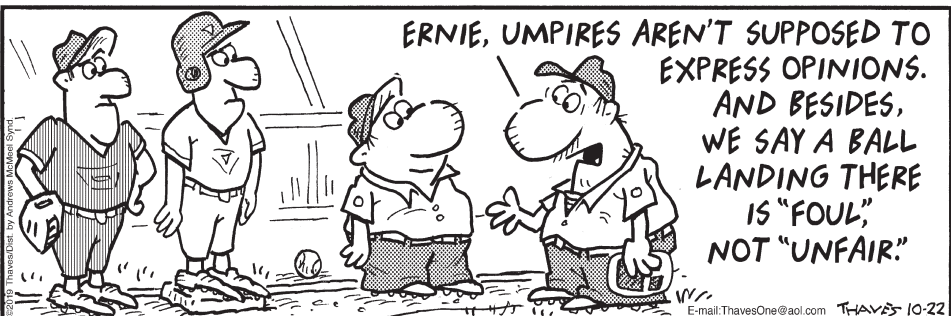
BLONDIE® by Dean Young



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 Weather systems

5 Town near Lake Tahoe

9 Sooner than

12 Suggestion

13 Confirm

14 Porker

15 Pepper grinder

16 Arguing

18 Desert nomad

20 In poor taste

21 Hosp. scan

22 Crew member

23 Hardened

26 Mole cousins

29 Bronze or Iron

30 ASU rival

32 Gloom's partner

34 Pat a baby

36 Attendee's shout

38 Gold, in Baja

39 Taped over

41 Veinlike deposits

DOWN

1 Arm or leg

2 "Garfield" dog

3 Fuse together

4 Seven veil dancer

5 Wheel spokes

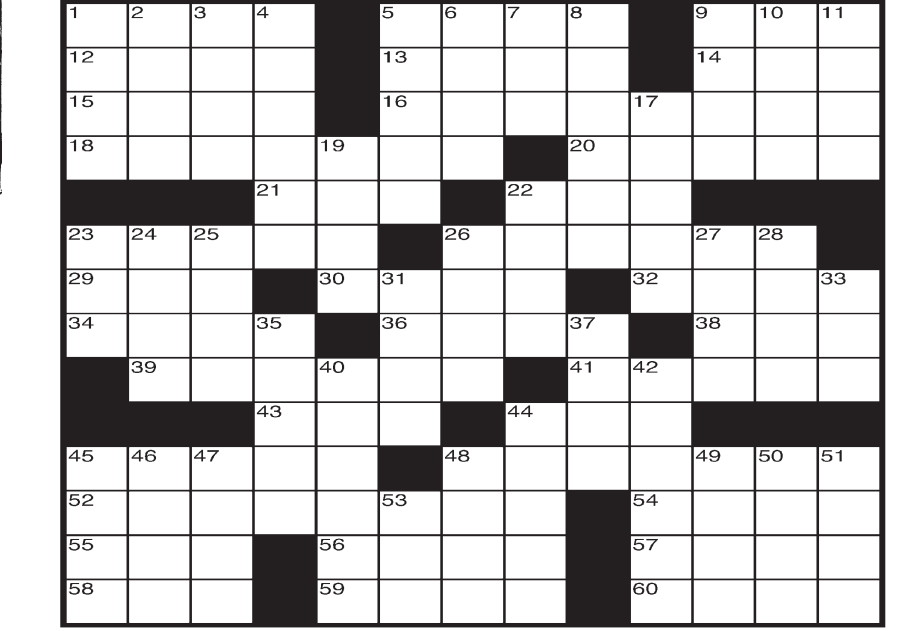
6 Level

7 Omaha's st.

8 Soapbox mounter

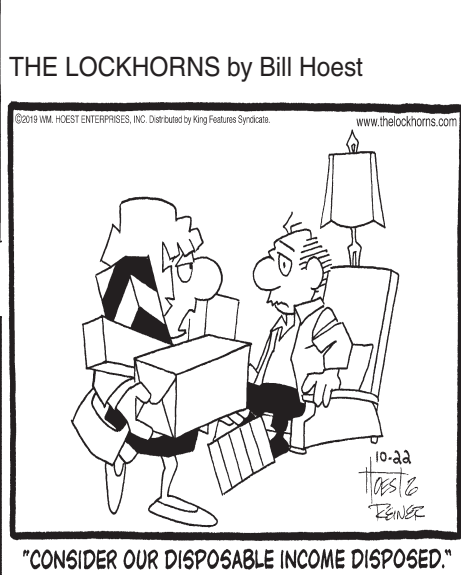
Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

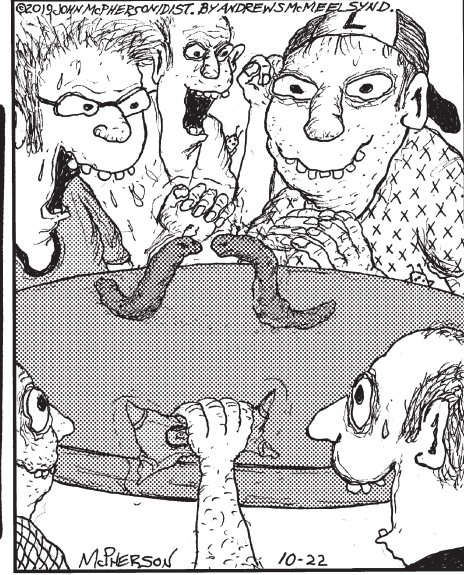


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THE LOCKHORNS by Bill Hoest



CLOSE TO HOME by John McPherson



In the seamy little back rooms of Clavner County, hundreds gathered to throw money down on the brutal sport of slug fighting.

Your Birthday

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2019
Participation will be the name of the game this year. Get involved, do your thing and evolve. If you take an innovative approach to all that you do, you will attract people who are as progressive and passionate as you are about life, love and achievement.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Consider your position and the changes you want to initiate. You have more options than you realize. Don't limit your potential due to a lack of confidence.
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Keep moving forward. Say less and do more. Be practical and put your emotions aside when dealing with people who can influence the outcome of what you are trying to achieve.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Stick to the facts. If you exaggerate, you will end up being interrogated by someone doubtful of your contributions. Slow down and choose

your words carefully.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Go over financial, legal or medical statements in detail. A joint venture isn't what it appears to be. Before you commit to anything, make adjustments that will protect your interests.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Partnerships will be difficult if one or both parties isn't willing to compromise. Don't make promises you can't keep. Focus on how to best handle money matters.
PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Look over contracts, proposals or work-related matters carefully. Hidden costs will turn what appears to be a good deal into a money pit. You should avoid impulsive purchases.
ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- You'll learn a lot about your peers if you mix business with pleasure. Listening and observing will help you make a good case for your plans.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- Refuse to let an emotional issue you have with a loved one or co-worker disrupt your concentration or ability to take

care of your responsibilities. Don't choose sides; stay neutral.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Take care of personal business, domestic chores and family matters. A change at home should prompt you to stay in shape, eat properly and maintain a healthy attitude and lifestyle.
CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- Participate in events that allow you to show off what you have to offer. Mix business with pleasure to gain ground at work and at home. Romance is featured.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- If you fail to live up to your promises, you will disappoint a loved one. Be willing and ready to support what's fair. Expand your knowledge and do your best.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- A discussion will lead to answers and positive change. If you make plans to celebrate with a like-minded soul, it will bring you closer together.

North 10-22-19

♠ 3

♥ A K Q

♦ 6 3

♣ K J 8 7 6 4 2

West East

♠ 8 7 6 5 2 ♠ 4

♥ J 10 7 4 ♥ 9 6 2

♦ 2 ♦ A Q J 10 9 8

♣ 9 5 3 ♣ A Q 10

South

♠ A K Q J 10 9

♥ 8 5 3

♦ K 7 5 4

♣ —

Dealer: North

Vulnerable: East-West

South West North East

1♠ 1♣ 1♦

2♠ 2♥ 2♦

Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: ♦ 2

KEEP YOUR WINNERS SAFE AND SOUND
In the 1890s, H.G. Wells made a prediction about air travel. After mentioning some early pioneers, he added that he "will be inclined to believe that long before the year A.D. 2000, and very probably before 1950, a successful aeroplane will have soared and come home safe and sound."
An excellent prediction! Now, how should South play in four spades to bring home his contract safe and sound? West leads the diamond two to his partner's ace, and East returns the diamond eight.
The bidding did not reach the best contract. Maybe South should have rebid three no-trump.
Still, South cannot worry about that now. What losers does he have? There seem to be only three in diamonds. How

about winners? Again, at first glance, there are no worries: declarer has six spades, three hearts and the diamond king. What might go wrong?
South should read West's lead. Given East's having bid diamonds twice, West's diamond two must be a singleton. So, if declarer covers East's diamond eight with his king, West will ruff. Then South will have only nine winners. Yes, he might get lucky & ruff down a singleton or doubleton club ace, but why take the risk?
At trick two, South should play a low diamond, not the king. And when East continues with a third diamond, he must play low again. Then West will have to ruff to stop declarer from trumping on the board.
West will shift to a club, but declarer can ruff, draw trumps and claim those 10 winners.