

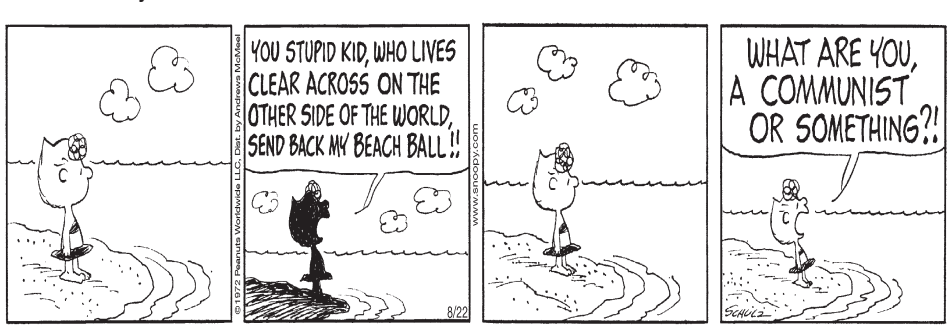
THE BORN LOSER by Art Sampson



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 Long, easy stride
5 Sheltered
9 Many times
12 Fore-warning
13 Swerve
14 Taro product
15 Hospital floor, maybe
16 Inventor — Sikorsky
17 Before, to bards
18 Marshal's badge
20 Golden statuette
22 Jai —
23 —Magnon man
24 Return the favor
27 Fly, to a spider
31 Puppy sound
34 DEA operative
35 Boxcar rider
36 Former flames
38 Giza's river

DOWN

1 Rainy weather systems
2 D-Day beach
3 Hazard
4 Win over
5 Hungry for more
6 Limb

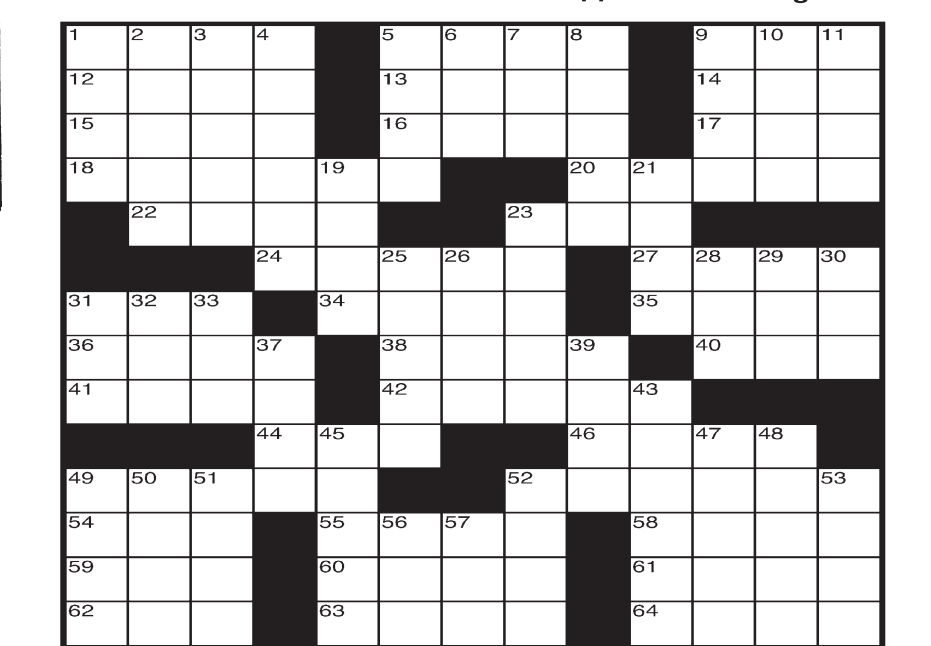
40 Computer pioneer
41 First-quarter tide
42 Optimal
44 Handy abbr.
46 Suit part
49 Owned apartment
52 Distinct stages
54 401(k) kin
55 Box office
58 Low-cal
59 Bar bill
60 Stratford's river
61 Millay or Ferber
62 Raised railways
63 Cliques
64 Take 10

Answer to Previous Puzzle

CLUB	DOT	ALL
OPTIC	ARE	PIE
GNASH	SON	SEE
OUCH	SCOUR	
JUNTA	HER	
JON	EGGY	ASPS
OWL	SIAM	BALI
SLID	EINE	BUT
ESTA	NAP	EMU
LET	LARS	
CREEP	ISLE	
LEA	OLD	OSAKA
IDS	COO	GOFER
POE	HAL	PRAM

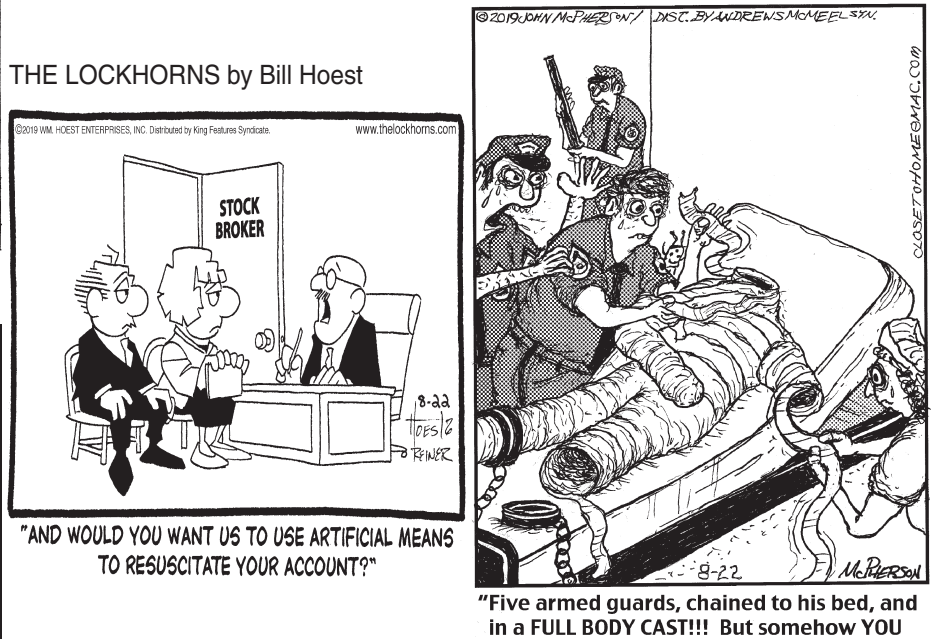
7 Want ad letters
8 Fielder's blunder
9 Sheik's cartel
10 Public meeting places
11 Wedding cake part
19 Bank holding
21 After frosh
23 Bike
25 Take fright
26 Moisture-less
28 Pierre's monarch
29 Recede
30 — Kippur

31 Craving
32 Stone Age tool (Var.)
33 Legume
37 Rushed
39 Per
43 Stevedore
45 Forum attire
47 Put — (save)
48 Young adults
49 Make a footnote
50 Kind of surgeon
51 Snatches
52 Markers
53 RBI or ERA
56 Forum hello
57 Youngster



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CLOSE TO HOME by John McPherson



Astrograph

you feel about what you do that counts.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Take the plunge and make a change you've been considering for some time. Follow your creative instincts and turn your dream into reality. Romance will enhance your life.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Explore your options, test your knowledge and communicate with people who can offer insight into the dos and don'ts that will make your journey stress-free. Implement a healthier lifestyle.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Home improvements will enhance your relationship with a loved one. Do as much of the work yourself as you can to save a bundle. A commitment will add to your security.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Refuse to let emotional instability take the reins. If you are uncertain, ask questions. If you feel left out, say so. If you want something, make a request.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Don't be fooled by the hype. If something sounds too good to be true, take the time to do

some thorough research. Positive change is the result of hard work, discipline and practicality.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Take a moment to go over all the little details that could pose a problem if they're not implemented properly. Trust the facts, not what others try to lead you to believe.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- Slow down and enjoy the moment. You have plenty to look forward to, so relax and lower your stress for now. Refuse to let anyone rile you up emotionally.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- You'll have a choice to make, but first consider the validity or source of the information you have been given. Keep your life simple and frugal, and surround yourself with trustworthy people.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- If you make a change, you'll make a difference. How you use your knowledge, experience and skills to help others will influence the way you are viewed. Earn respect and gain popularity.

Bridge

EACH SIDE CAN MAKE NICE PLAYS

Who said, "Everyone wants to be Cary Grant. Even I want to be Cary Grant?"

In today's deal, what do you think of the auction? How should the play proceed in three no-trump after West leads the diamond five?

The first round of the auction is fine. But North should not rebid a nonforcing one spade. He should either jump to two spades, which guarantees at least four spades & five clubs, or two no-trump, according to choice. (I slightly prefer two no-trump.)

It is sensible for West to lead the unbid suit, & he selects the five because the 10 is technically an honor-card (although I tend not to count it as such after trick one).

South starts with only four top tricks: two diamonds and

two clubs. He can get at least two more winners from spades and two or three more from clubs. The best line is to take the first trick with the diamond king and immediately play a club to the 10. If that finesse loses, the contract was probably always failing. Here, though, the finesse wins. Declarer continues with a spade to his king. If that wins, he takes a second club finesse. In this layout, though, West takes the trick and leads another diamond. However, when the club queen drops, South makes an overtrick.

At the table, declarer played a club to the king at trick two, followed by a spade to the king. Now West won with his ace and carefully led the diamond 10 to unblock the suit. South went down two.

The initial observation was made by ... Cary Grant!

North 08-22-19

♠ Q J 8 3
♥ K 4
♦ A J
♣ A K J 10 5

West East

♠ A 7 2 ♠ 10 9 6
♥ A 8 7 3 ♥ J 6
♦ 10 6 5 ♦ Q 9 8 7 3 2
♣ Q 9 3 ♣ 7 4

South

♠ K 5 4
♥ Q 10 9 5 2
♦ K 4
♣ 8 6 2

Dealer: West
Vulnerable: East-West

South West North East

Pass 1♣ Pass
1♥ Pass 1♠ Pass
1NT Pass 3NT All Pass

Opening lead: ♦ 5

Deal:

North: ♠ Q J 8 3, ♥ K 4, ♦ A J, ♣ A K J 10 5

West: ♠ A 7 2, ♥ A 8 7 3, ♦ 10 6 5, ♣ Q 9 3

East: ♠ 10 9 6, ♥ J 6, ♦ Q 9 8 7 3 2, ♣ 7 4

South: ♠ K 5 4, ♥ Q 10 9 5 2, ♦ K 4, ♣ 8 6 2

Dealer: West, Vulnerable: East-West

South: Pass, West: 1♣, North: Pass, East: Pass

South: 1♥, West: Pass, North: 1♠, East: Pass

South: 1NT, West: Pass, North: 3NT, East: All Pass

Opening lead: ♦ 5