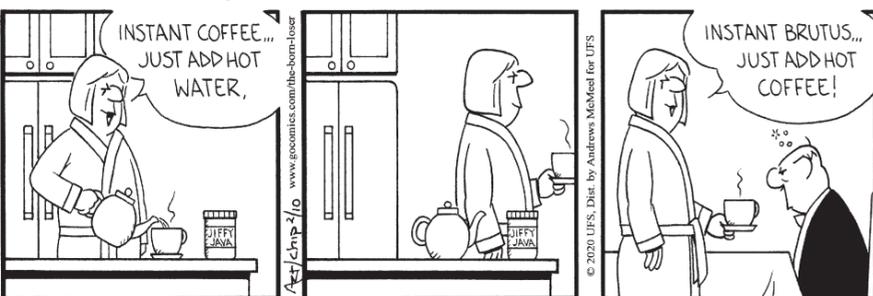
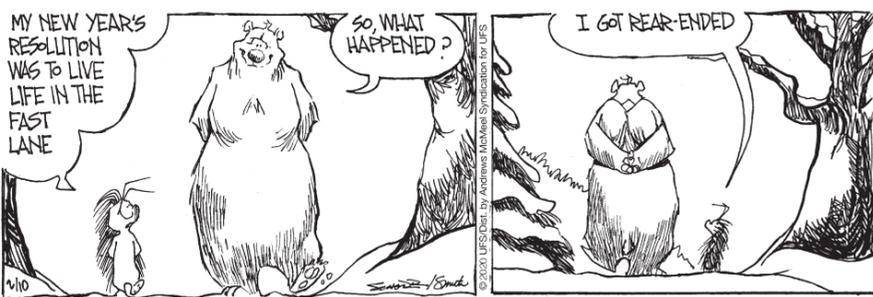




THE BORN LOSER by Art Sampson



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 Jupiter's wife
- 5 Simile center
- 8 Kid's ammo
- 11 Pupil's place
- 12 Wire fractions
- 14 Grassy field
- 15 Prohibits
- 16 Lahore language
- 17 Website addr.
- 18 Dens
- 20 Not in class
- 22 Agent's take
- 23 Weight rebate
- 24 TV trophies
- 27 Morays
- 29 One — time
- 30 Repair place (2 wds.)
- 34 Mythical beasts
- 37 Planet
- 38 Makes public

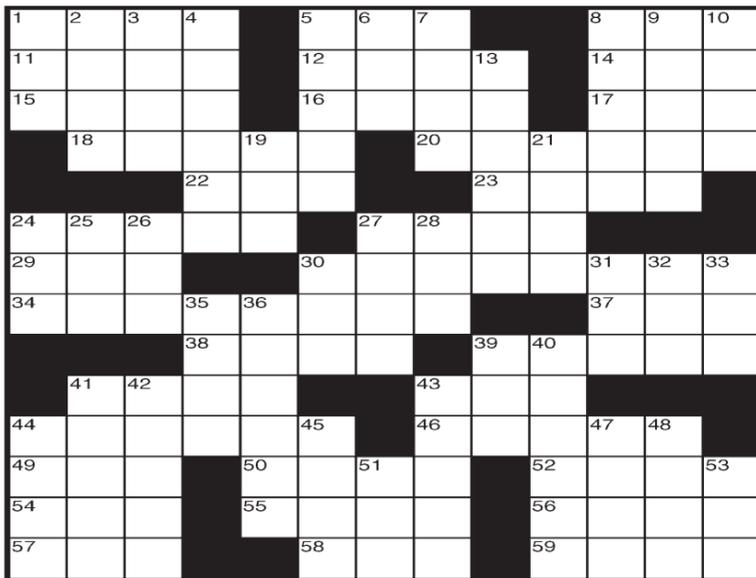
DOWN

- 1 Triangular sail
- 2 Caspian Sea tributary
- 3 Ship of 1492
- 4 Become bone
- 5 Entertain
- 6 Army address
- 7 Tynan portrayer
- 8 More downcast

Answer to Previous Puzzle



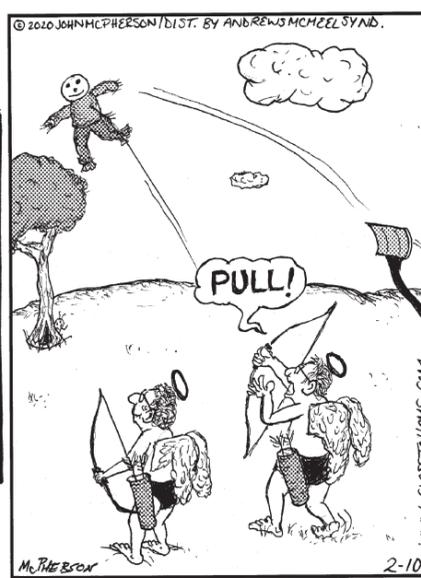
- 9 Swiss capital
- 10 Ocean tang
- 13 Not blatantly
- 19 Musical notes
- 21 Talk back
- 24 Paris thirst- quencher
- 25 Atlas abbr.
- 26 — tai
- 27 Practically forever
- 28 Newspaper execs
- 30 Subzero comment
- 31 Sweetie-pie
- 32 Blast furnace input
- 33 "Sesame Street" channel
- 35 Crow's cries
- 36 OPEC vessels
- 39 Chaotic place
- 40 Buyers
- 41 Contradict
- 42 — rings
- 43 Panorama
- 44 Duration
- 45 Equinox mo.
- 47 Soldering tool
- 48 Nebr. neighbor
- 51 "— upon this quiet life!"
- 53 Hem



2-10

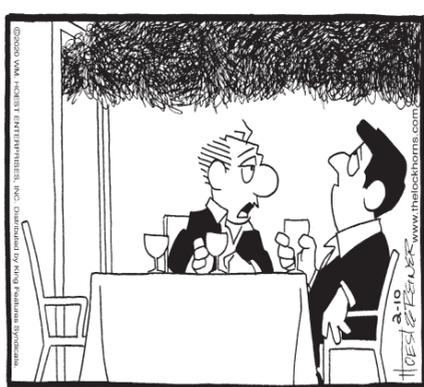
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CLOSE TO HOME by John McPherson



At the International Cupid Training Center

THE LOCKHORNS by Bill Hoest



Astrograph

Your Birthday

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020

People and pastimes that have something unique to offer will grab your attention. Positive change will be your objective. If you stick to a routine, success will follow. Embrace life, love and happiness and use your intuition to choose what will bring out the best in you.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Challenge yourself physically and question your current lifestyle. Aim for a healthier and more practical way to take care of yourself and whatever is essential to you. Romance is in the stars.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Proceed with caution. Minor accidents will occur if you aren't mindful of what's going on around you. Arguments will erupt if you aren't willing to compromise. Look for solutions.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) -- Make travel plans. Whether a proposed trip is a spiritual,

educational or physical journey, it will be a learning experience that will improve your life. Love is encouraged.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) -- You'll have to be realistic if you want to accomplish your goals. Look at your current surroundings and consider the adjustments required to make your life better. A partnership looks promising.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) -- Look at what's in front of you and consider what's required for you to take advantage of an unfolding situation. Underhandedness is evident. Don't overreact or do something you'll regret.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) -- Get involved in activities that help others or will bring you in contact with people from your past. A promise will come to fruition.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Keep your money tucked away someplace safe. Your generosity may bring joy to others, but, in the end, it will leave you stressed out and in debt. You cannot buy love.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Aggressive behavior will make

matters worse. If you don't like what's happening, find a solution that will counter the problem. Use your intelligence and intuition to guide you.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Give your time, not your cash, when dealing with charity events. What you have to offer will be appreciated. The people you meet will enrich your life.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- New romantic opportunities may cause uncertainty due to the sudden and unpredictable changes that occur. Look for the positive in everything and everyone, and you'll come out on top.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Get involved in social functions, educational pursuits or travel, and you'll get a different perspective on the way others operate. Be diplomatic, but don't let anyone take advantage of you.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Keep an open mind and a closed wallet. Don't pay others' way. Offer suggestions, but get physically involved. A change should be to your advantage, not for someone else's benefit.

Bridge

North		02-10-20	
♠	Q 5	♥	7 4 2
♦	A K 8 6 3	♣	A J 10
West		East	
♠	10 9 8 7	♠	J 4 2
♥	A Q 8 5 3	♥	9 6
♦	5 2	♦	Q J 10 9
♣	7 2	♣	Q 6 4 3
South			
♠	A K 6 3	♥	K J 10
♦	7 4	♣	K 9 8 5
Dealer: South			
Vulnerable: Both			
South	West	North	East
1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	??	
Opening lead: ♥ 5			

TRYING TO CLEAR THE FOURTH CONFUSION

Gail Godwin, a novelist & short-story writer, said, "Good teaching is one-fourth preparation and three-fourths theater." Humor in classes is excellent, but it shouldn't totally distract your audience. So, let's look at the North hand. South opens 1 club, North responds 1 diamond, & South rebids 1 spade. What should North do now? He seems to have no good bid. He cannot support clubs with only 3, or rebid diamonds with only 5, or raise spades with only a doubleton, or bid no-trump with no heart stopper. What does he do? Here's where fourth-suit game-forcing rides to the rescue. North rebids two hearts, which says that he has an opening bid too, and asks partner for more information about his hand. His No. 1 priority is to bid no-trump

if he has a stopper in the fourth suit. Here, South does have a good heart holding, so he continues with two no-trump. (Note that there is no need to jump to three no-trump, because the auction is game-forcing.) After North raises to game, West leads the heart five: two, nine, jack. How should South continue? Declarer has eight top tricks, including the heart trick just won. So, one more trick is needed. That is easily available in clubs, but South must make sure that East doesn't get on play to push a heart through. Declarer should lead a club to dummy's ace, then run the jack through East. Here, at least one overtrick results, and a second is available by cashing winners and endplaying West with the fourth spade.