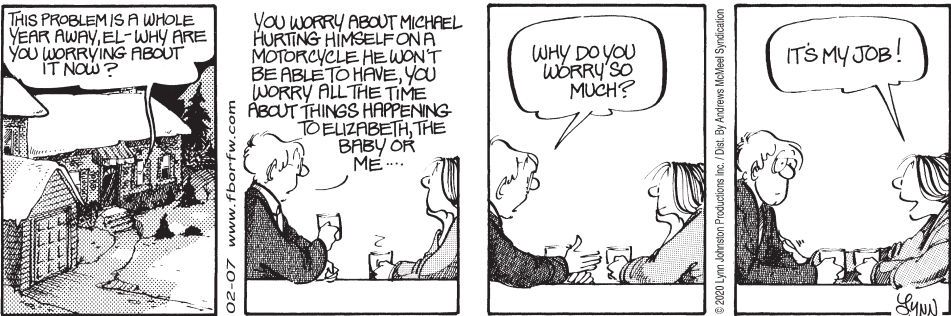
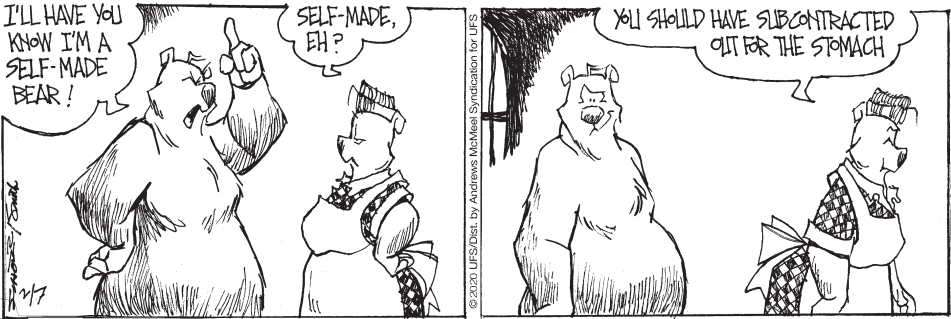




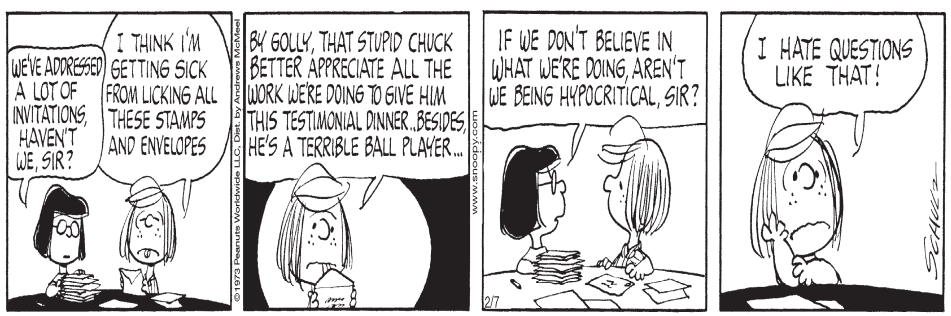
THE BORN LOSER by Art Sampson



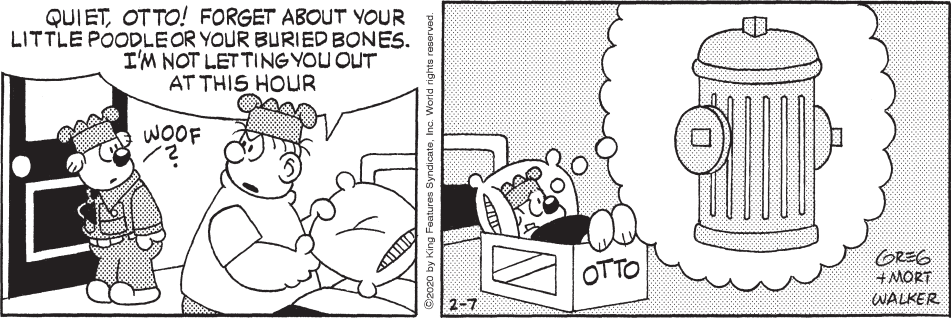
GRIZZWELLS by Bill Schorr



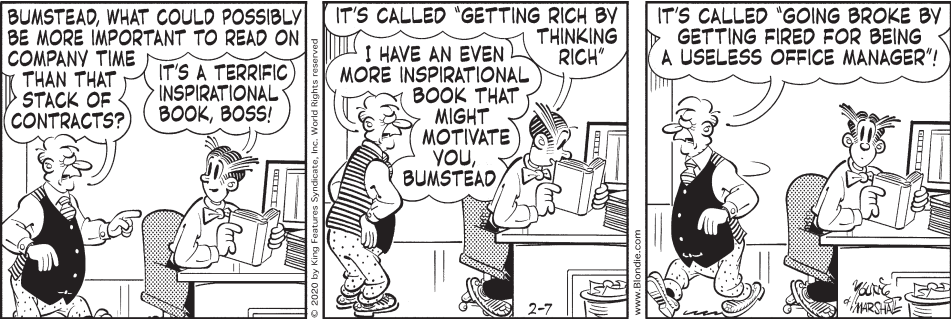
PEANUTS by Charles M. Schulz



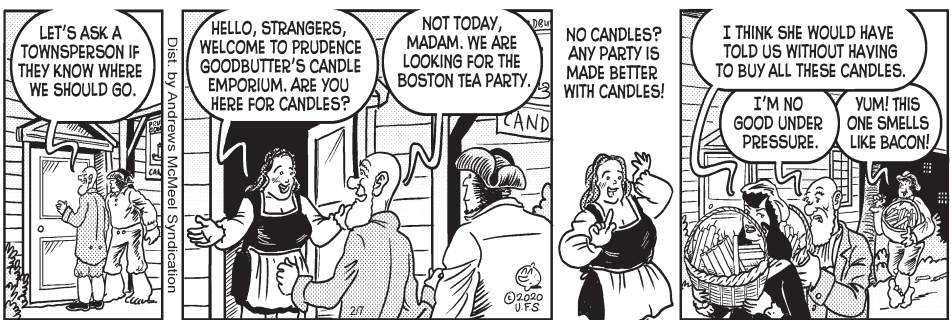
BEETLE BAILEY® by Mort Walker



BLONDIE® by Dean Young



ALLEY OOP® by Dave Graue and Jack Bender



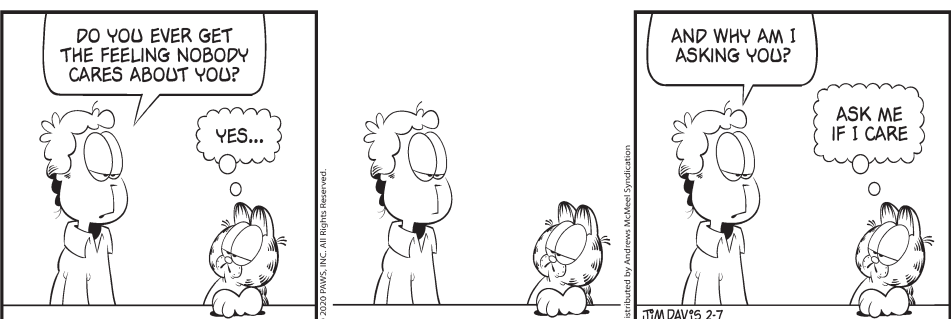
FRANK AND ERNEST® by Bob Thaves



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE® by Dik Browne



GARFIELD® by Jim Davis



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Bear constellation
5 Infuriated
8 Wish for
12 Largest of the Marianas
13 Yes, to Pierre
14 Girlfriend in Cannes
15 Rescue
16 No —, ands or buts
17 Ceremonial garb
18 Views as
20 Office furniture
22 Nonsense!
23 Turkish honorific
24 Plant firmly
27 Important person
30 Call — — cab
31 Switch positions
32 French monarch
34 Web addr.
35 — out (relax)

DOWN

1 Nasty!
2 Felt sorry about
3 Red-tag event
4 Unit of current

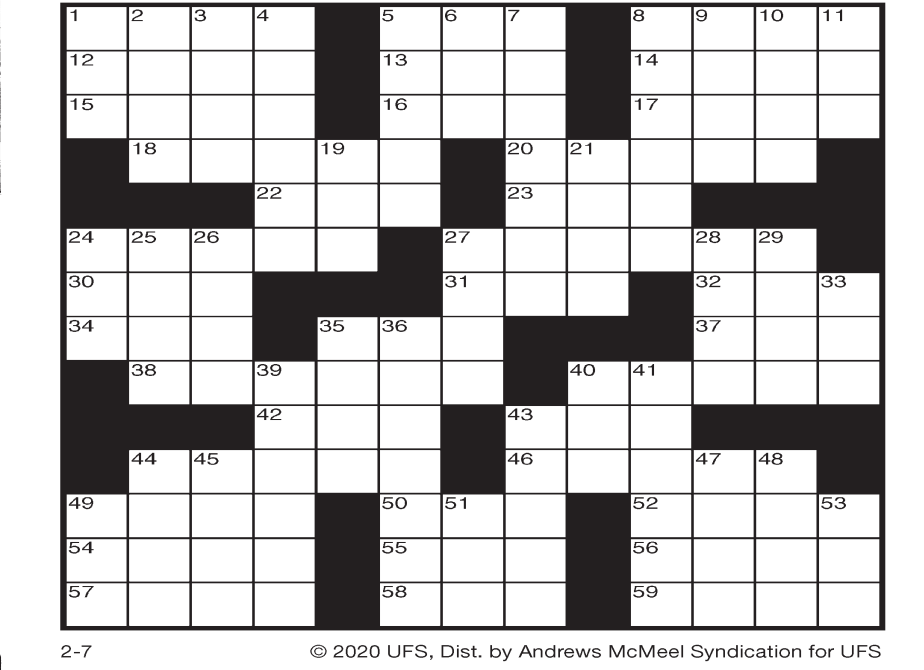
37 Chicago airport code
38 Parish priests
40 Scourges
42 Hotfoot it
43 Chatter
44 White, in Paris
46 More scarce
49 Jokey magic word
50 T, in Athens
52 All excited
54 Blackthorn fruit
55 Bonn single
56 "Soft Watches" painter
57 Sorts
58 Prohibited insecticide
59 Paradise

Answer to Previous Puzzle

F	E	L	T				T	A	S	K	S	
M	A	R	I	O	N		D	O	C	I	L	E
P	A	C	T		V	A	T	O	M	E	L	E
				H	I	A	L	E	A	H		
G	A	S		M	I	D	S		D	O	M	E
P	A	N	A	M	A		A	N	I	S	E	
S	H	A	M	A		A	G	E	N	T	S	
	S	P	I	N		O	D	E		D	A	P
		D	E	F	R	O	S	T				
A	R	N		E	B	B		H	A	F	T	
R	O	A	D	I	E		E	R	A	S	E	R
A	S	P	E	C	T		S	E	N	T	R	Y
B	E	A	C	H				S	K	I	N	

5 Clammy
6 — Wiedersehen
7 Spurn
8 City in Poland
9 In a frenzy
10 Robin beaks
11 Links gizmo
19 Trendy
21 Future turtles
24 Flightless bird
25 TV's — Griffin
26 Island near Java
27 Cranberry locales
28 Metallic element

29 Mr. Vidal
33 Egos' counter-parts
35 Arrogant
36 Built
39 Makes sore by rubbing
40 Meadow murmur
41 Scrape
43 Foot soldier
44 Seed pod
45 Peek
47 By Jove!
48 Part in a drama
49 Frat letter
51 Relief
53 Tonic partner



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THE LOCKHORNS by Bill Hoest



CLOSE TO HOME by John McPherson



Your Birthday

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2020

Do all the things you love to do. Travel will entice you, and your thirst for knowledge will draw you into situations that will help you figure out what you want to do next. If you expand your friendships to include people who offer something unique, you'll enrich your life.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Keep a low profile, do a good job and don't make any rash decisions or changes. Accomplishing what you set out to do and living up to your expectations should occupy your time.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- You may crave adventure, but caution should not be cast aside. If you think before you act, you will have the best of everything at your fingertips. Romance is on the rise.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Moderation and simplicity are required. Emotions will flare up quickly, leaving you in an awkward position.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- Make interesting plans that will promote fun, romance and adventure. How you display who you are and what you have to offer will determine whom you attract and what transpires.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Double-check information. Deception or false data is likely if you are too accepting. Question whatever seems sketchy. It's up to you to protect your interests and reputation.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- Dig in and get your responsibilities done on time. Make plans that will please a loved one. Romance is in the stars and will encourage a better relationship.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Take better care of your physical and emotional well-being. Don't change what's working fine; instead, focus on adjusting what is no longer to your benefit. Protect your interests.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- You will enhance your reputation if you are willing to go the extra mile at work and home. What you do for others will make a lasting impression and leave you feeling good.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Emotions will surface if you try to tackle sensitive issues. A misunderstanding will leave you in a vulnerable position. Keep your life simple and practice moderation and precision.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Trust what you see and hear firsthand. Express your thoughts and opinions carefully. Offer love, romance and kindness to individuals who share your life, space and point of view.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Joint ventures will fall short of your expectations. Pour your energy into something constructive that will benefit you personally, physically or financially. Avoid anger and physical confrontations.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- If you share with a loved one, you will be able to make plans and map out a sound strategy. A creative venue will prove entertaining and enlightening.

Astrograph

ward position. Keep busy, focus on fitness and health, and avoid getting into a debate.

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Bridge

WATCH OUT FOR UNUSUAL FINESSES
Bruce Dickinson, who is best known as the lead singer for the heavy metal band Iron Maiden, said, "One of my earliest ventures was when I was 9 years old. I realized there was a shortage of pencils at school, so I started Rent-a-Pencil. But I made a fundamental mistake. Everybody stole my pencils."

Declarer should always try not to have any of his tricks stolen by the defenders. In today's deal, how should South play in three no-trump after West leads the heart queen?

South's opening bid is close. But these days, most players, liking the full complement of aces, would open 2 no-trump. If you are going to make this upgrade, make sure that your hand contains at least 3 aces and 1 king or 2 aces & 3 kings. Declarer starts with five

top tricks outside of clubs (2 spades, 2 hearts & 1 diamond), so needs four winners from the lowest-ranking suit. But how should he proceed?

If clubs are 2-2 or 3-1, everything sensible works. But what if they are 4-0?

If West has four, cashing the club ace first is fine. But that is not the case when East has all of them.

South must realize that this is not a finessing position. Instead, he should win trick one (don't risk a diamond shift) and lead a low club toward the board.

When West discards, declarer plays dummy's jack. East takes the trick and returns a heart (or the diamond king). South wins, plays a spade to the king, returns a club to his nine, cashes the club ace, runs the suit and pencils plus 600 into his scorecard.

North		02-07-20	
♠	K 6		
♥	7 3 2		
♦	7 6 2		
♣	Q J 7 6 2		
West		East	
♠	J 7 5 4	♠	Q 9 8 2
♥	Q J 10 9 8	♥	6 5
♦	J 9 4 3	♦	K Q 10
♣	—	♣	K 10 8 3
South			
♠	A 10 3		
♥	A K 4		
♦	A 8 5		
♣	A 9 5 4		
Dealer: South			
Vulnerable: Both			
South	West	North	East
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass
Opening lead: ♥ Q			