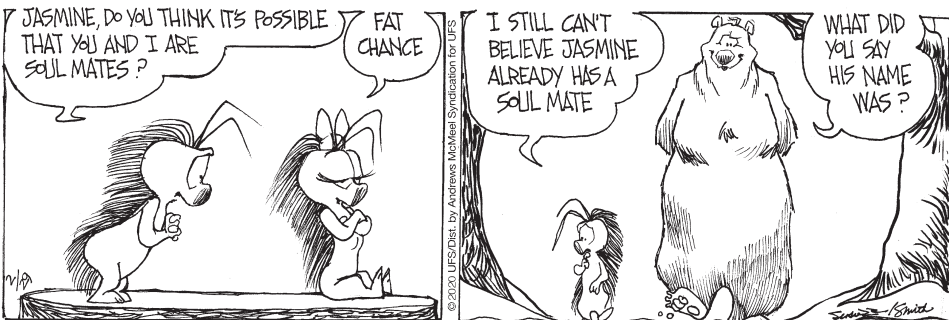




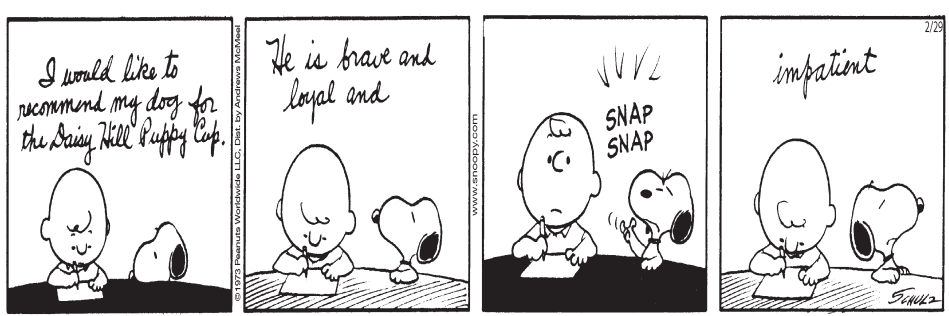
THE BORN LOSER by Art Sampson



GRIZZWELLS by Bill Schorr



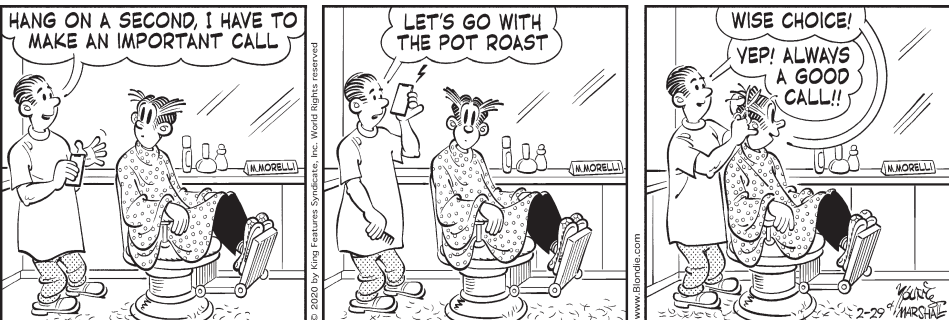
PEANUTS by Charles M. Schulz



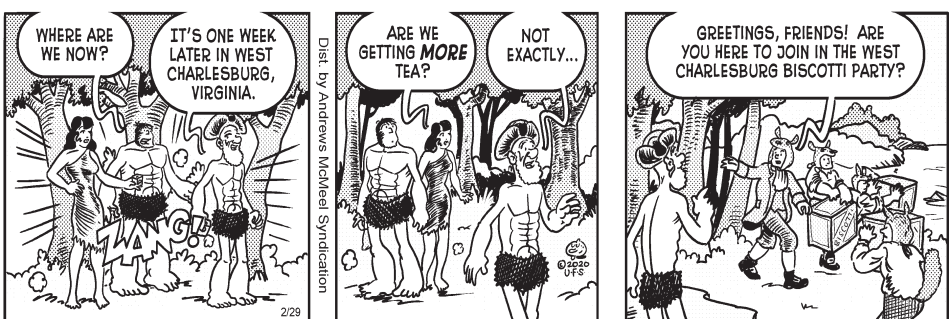
BEETLE BAILEY® by Mort Walker



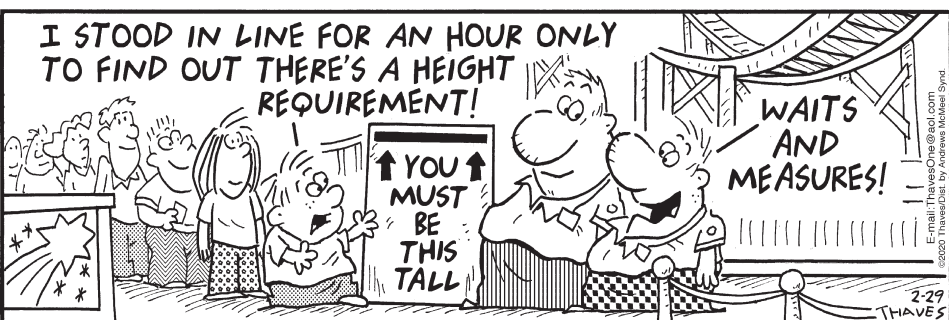
BLONDIE® by Dean Young



ALLEY OOP® by Dave Graue and Jack Bender



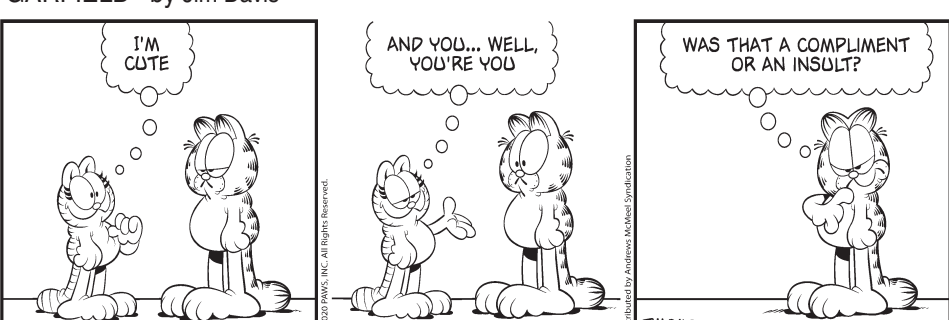
FRANK AND ERNEST® by Bob Thaves



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE® by Dik Browne



GARFIELD® by Jim Davis



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 File label
4 Pickling ingredient
8 Daddy
12 Ms. Gabor
13 Coolidge or Hayworth
14 Not closed
15 Vexed
16 Parent
17 Stepped on the gas
18 Racing bird
20 Sundae topper
22 Melancholy poem
23 Bart, to Lisa
24 "Anyone home?" (hyph.)
28 Coq au —
31 Shed tears
34 Camp-ground initials
35 Romantic island
36 Spiciness
37 Sports "zebra"
38 Mr. Trebek
39 Authorizes
40 Long-eared hound

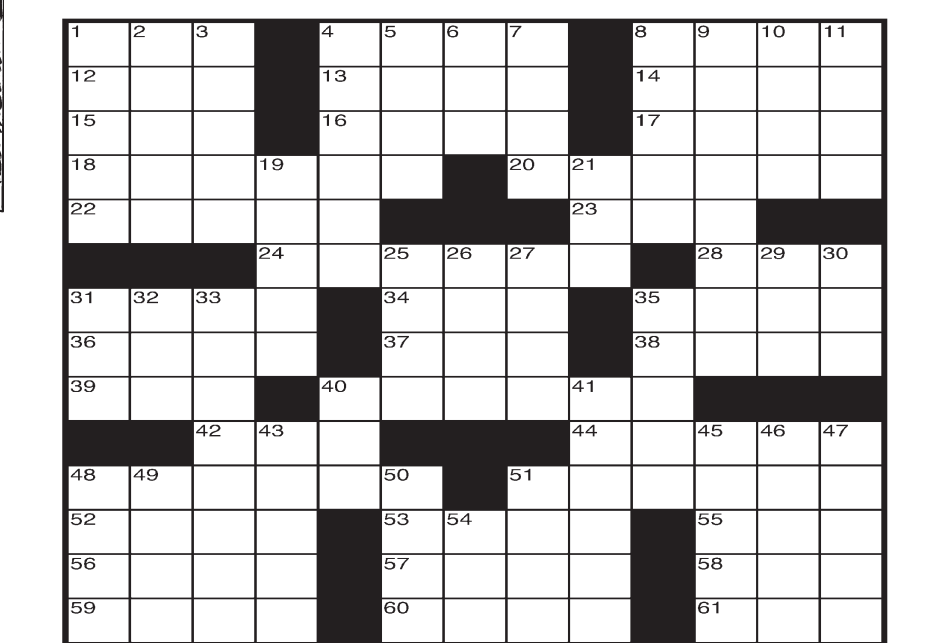
42 Water-power org.
44 Courtyards
48 Watch out!
51 Being nosy
52 School near Windsor Castle
53 Build up
55 Mink or chinchilla
56 Nefertiti's god
57 Writer — Rice
58 Rail securer
59 Dramatic intro (hyph.)
60 Did Easter eggs
61 Fem. saint

DOWN

1 Fiesta
2 Bowl site
3 Take advantage of
4 Cop's ID
5 Dry gully
6 Claim on property
7 Actress — Hagen
8 Stumper
9 Permission
10 Squint at
11 Gibb or Rooney
19 Pharaoh's land
21 Cinemax rival
25 Gumbo ingredient
26 Toolshed items
27 Ill-mannered ones
29 Percent ending
30 Veto
31 Reporter's query
32 Startled cry

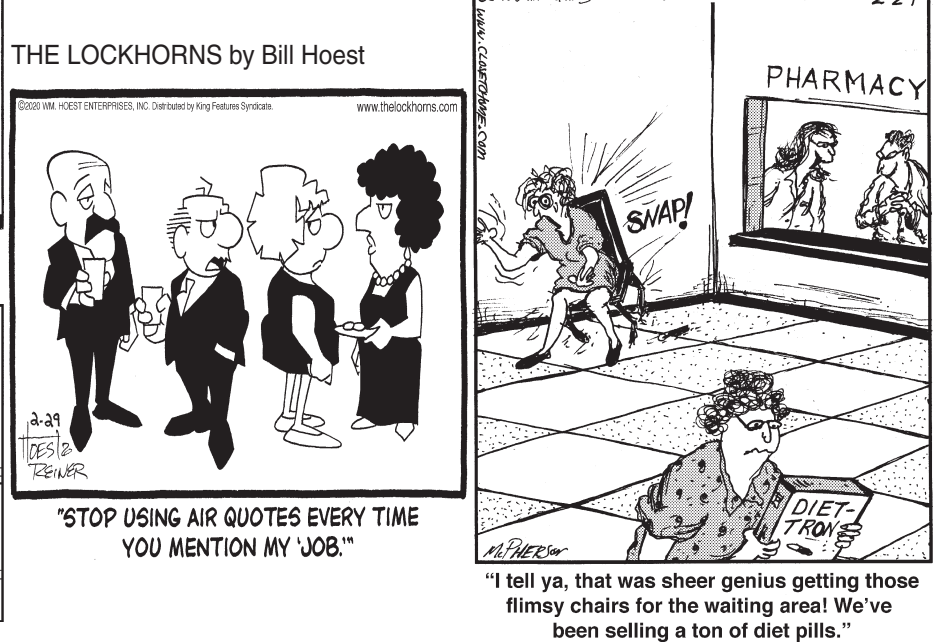
Answer to Previous Puzzle

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



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CLOSE TO HOME by John McPherson



Astrograph

Your Birthday

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2020

Understanding what's best for you and how to go about getting it will be second nature if you use your intuition. The changes you bring about will position you for a better future and encourage you to make your happiness a priority. A positive change is within reach.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- You'll meet interesting people if you participate in unusual events. Helping out will lead to an opportunity and a positive lifestyle change. Make a move and don't look back.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Discuss your goals with someone you trust. Leave room to backtrack if necessary. Refrain from taking on too much and avoid excessive behavior or overspending.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- Getting along with others will make life easier. If you listen to other people's opinions and check out different cultures, you'll come up with a lifestyle

that suits your needs.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Spend more time fixing what's gone wrong and less time revealing personal information. Don't trust anyone else to take care of your affairs. Someone will let you down and cost you financially.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- Stick to basics, be moderate and use your imagination and creativity to come up with a plan that will help you achieve whatever you set out to do. Don't mix business with pleasure.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Keep your promises and avoid hurting your reputation. Take time to relax with someone you care about, discuss expectations and map out a plan that you can work toward together.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Travel, learning and social activity will be enlightening. You will be able to express yourself with finesse, adding to your popularity and drumming up support to reach your objective.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Property investments or home-improvement projects will need

careful monitoring. Going over-budget will cause stress and could lead to a disagreement and major delays.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- You'll crave change. Think creatively to come up with a plan that will excite you. Join forces with someone as creative as you are to maximize your potential.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Don't believe everything you hear. Be careful who you trust, how much you spend and what you offer to do for others. Tackle self-improvement projects instead of trying to change someone else.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Step out on a limb and try something new. You'll discover a skill you didn't know you had. Expand your interests, friendships and horizons, but don't overspend in the process.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Before you get involved in someone else's plan, consider what's best for you. Invest in what you have to offer and don't feel guilty. Be kind to yourself.

Bridge

BRIDGE IS STILL NO PASSING FANCY

The death knell of bridge has been sounded several times. When the game was first invented, many claimed it would be a quickly passing fancy. Nowadays, with fewer young players coming into the game, some are saying that bridge in the United States will die with the elderly in 20 years or so. Let's hope not. If only bridge were being taught in high schools, the game's longevity would be assured.

We have heard about passing in the auction. But what about passing in the play? If you thought that was impossible, look at today's deal.

The contract was four spades. West led the heart jack: three, ace, queen. Back came the heart six to declarer's king. South cashed the spade ace-king, receiving a shock when West

discarded a low diamond on the second round. Suddenly South was faced with 4 losers: 2 spades, 1 heart & 1 diamond. However, he didn't throw in the towel. He realized he might win 10 tricks after all.

Declarer played a club to dummy's king & ruffed a heart in hand. Then he led a club to dummy's ace and ruffed a club. Next he cashed the diamond ace before playing a diamond to dummy's king. That gave declarer nine tricks. He could lead dummy's last heart or club & leave East with no answer. If he didn't ruff in, South would ruff for his 10th trick; whereas if East did ruff in, South would discard his diamond loser and be assured of one more trump trick with his remaining doubleton six-four.

This play, which generated an extra trump trick, is called a coup en passant.

North		02-29-20	
♠ 7 5			
♥ 8 7 4 3			
♦ K 6 3			
♣ A K 4 2			
West		East	
♥ 8		♠ Q J 10 9	
♦ J 10 9 2		♥ A 6 5	
♠ J 9 7 4		♦ Q 10 2	
♣ 9 8 6 3		♣ Q 10 5	
South			
♠ A K 6 4 3 2			
♥ K Q			
♦ A 8 5			
♣ J 7			
Dealer: South			
Vulnerable: North-South			
South	West	North	East
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
3♣	Pass	4♠	All Pass
Opening lead: ♥ J			