

THE BORN LOSER by Art Sampson



GRIZZWELLS by Bill Schorr



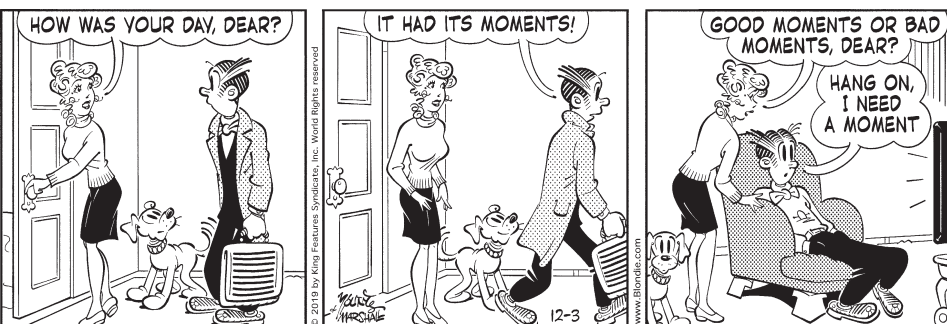
PEANUTS by Charles M. Schulz



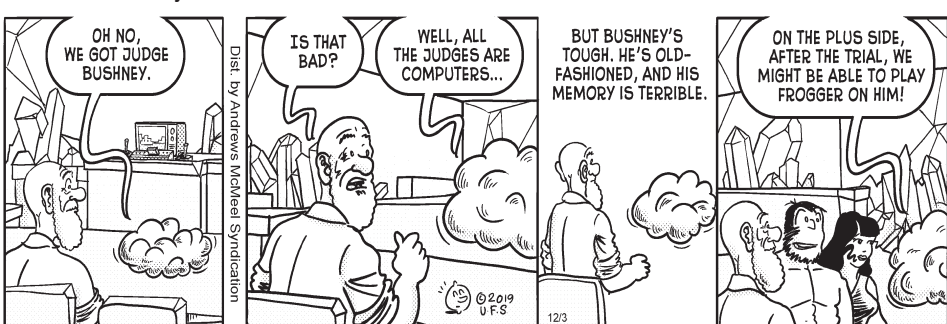
BEETLE BAILEY® by Mort Walker



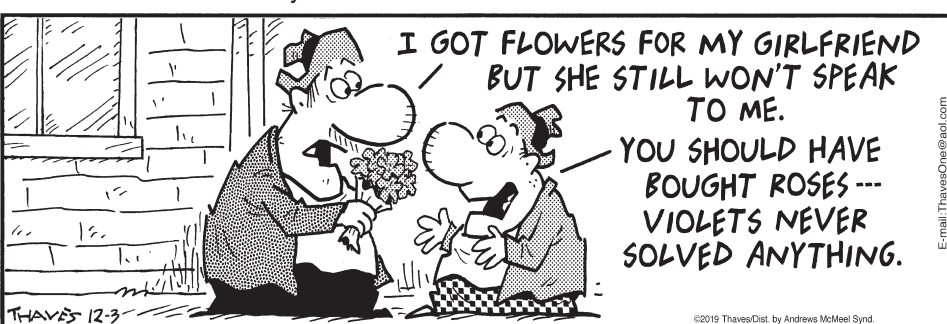
BLONDIE® by Dean Young



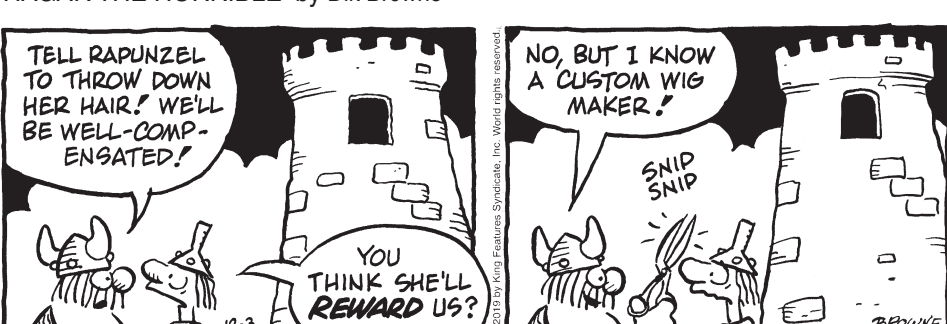
ALLEY OOP® by Dave Graue and Jack Bender



FRANK AND ERNEST® by Bob Thaves



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE® by Dik Browne



GARFIELD® by Jim Davis



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- 1 Eavesdrop
- 4 Phooey!
- 7 Audacity
- 11 Cake alternative
- 12 Zenith
- 14 Play award
- 15 Ms. Hagen
- 16 — & the Gang
- 17 Author's need
- 18 Serving of bacon
- 20 Greek capital
- 22 Coffee maker
- 23 Golf peg
- 24 Rough, as fabric
- 27 North Sea structure (2 wds.)
- 30 Fiesta cheers
- 31 Billiards
- 32 Machine tooth
- 34 Forensic sci. tool
- 35 "WNBA Tuesday" ainer
- 36 — fide

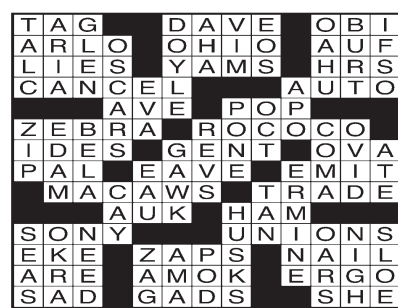
37 Puts on display

- 39 Harmful things
- 40 Equator segment
- 41 Feeling lousy
- 42 Charm
- 45 Says out loud
- 49 Rhea cousins
- 50 Golf club item
- 52 Cookout intruder
- 53 Row
- 54 Wood unit
- 55 Yes, to Angus
- 56 — bien, monsieur!
- 57 "So long!"
- 58 Tot's snooze

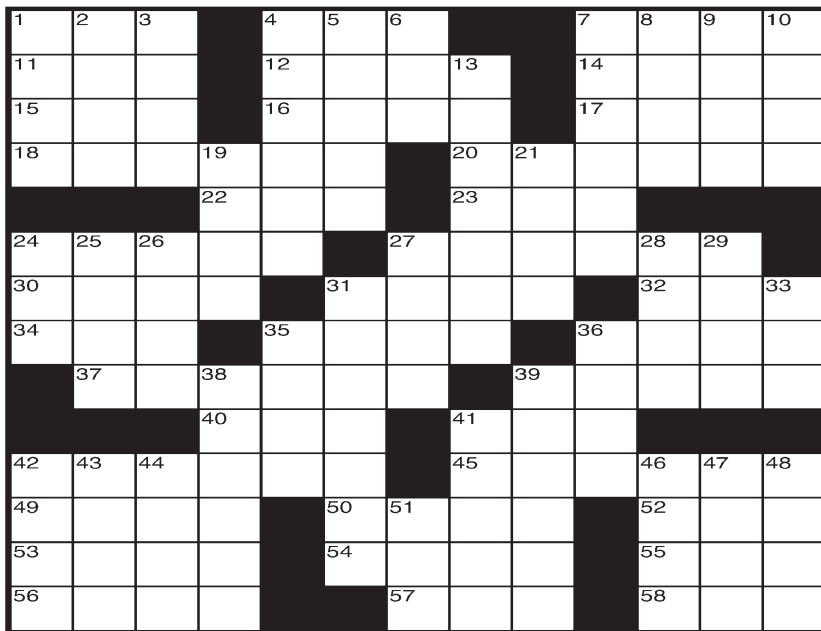
DOWN

- 1 San Antonio cager
- 2 Pocket bread
- 3 Stadium shouts
- 4 Sweet roll source

Answer to Previous Puzzle



- 5 Oak nut
- 6 Med. plan
- 7 Burrowing rodent
- 8 Skilled grinder
- 9 Detroit
- 10 Authorizes
- 13 Glee
- 19 Wheel parts
- 21 Kiss and —
- 24 Agree silently
- 25 Arm bone
- 26 Withstand
- 27 Sorry!
- 28 Screen image
- 29 Not here
- 31 Mind reader
- 33 Invisible substance
- 35 Corn servings
- 36 Island near Java
- 38 Jacks up
- 39 Not brunette
- 41 Walrus tusk
- 42 Matted wool
- 43 Arab VIP
- 44 Fix a piano
- 46 "Brian's Song" star
- 47 One-named singer
- 48 Dance movement
- 51 Be a thief



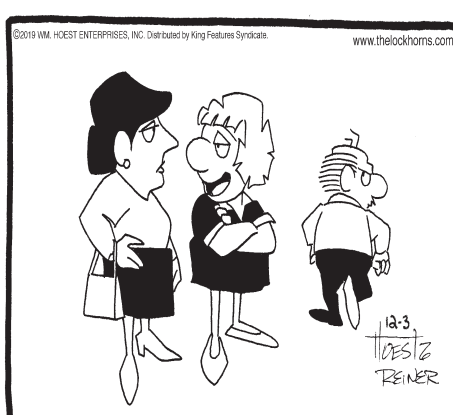
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CLOSE TO HOME by John McPherson



Fed up with boastful Christmas letters, the Remeleys decided to have some fun with theirs.

THE LOCKHORNS by Bill Hoest



Astrograph

Your Birthday

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2019

Shake off the past and prepare to move in a new direction. It's time to bring moderation into the mix, along with stability. Rethink your strategy for how you earn and handle money. Cut out what's excessive, and nurture what's important to you, if you want to ease stress.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Keep your ideas secret. Pay less attention to criticism and more to taking care of your responsibilities. Emotional pressure is best ignored, and personal growth should be your focus.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Ask someone you have helped in the past to reciprocate. Taking a proactive approach to making your voice heard and having your wishes granted will raise your profile and reputation.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Offer creative input. A chance to try something new will give you a different per-

spective when an opportunity comes along. Choose a path that challenges you to do your best.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Your intuition will not lead you astray. Make changes based on how you feel and what you want. Discuss your plans with a loved one.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) -- Don't be surprised by what others decide to do. Do not feel that you must follow the crowd or get involved in something that doesn't interest you. Do your own thing.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) -- If you take pride in what you do, you'll make a good impression. Someone special will grant you a wish or offer you something unexpected. Romance is on the rise.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) -- A change someone makes will make you think twice. Don't be too quick to respond to this alteration. Gather the facts before you make your position clear. An attempt to mislead you is apparent.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) -- Do something that makes you happy. Working on a cre-

ative project or attending an event that interests you will help you make an important decision. A relationship will take a positive turn.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) -- An impulsive purchase will leave you short of cash. Try altering your living space to accommodate your budget. Less worry will help improve your health.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Ask and you shall receive. If you are diplomatic and discreet, you will get your way. Being attentive will enhance your life and a meaningful relationship. It's time to initiate romance.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Follow a path that will lead to a better lifestyle. Proper diet, exercise and rest are encouraged. Stop worrying about what you cannot change, and make the most of what you've got.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Let your imagination lead the way. You'll be in a high creative cycle, and you should focus on whatever brings you the most joy. Share your dream with a loved one.

Bridge

North 12-03-19  
 ♠ 6 5  
 ♥ J 5 2  
 ♦ A K J 10 9  
 ♣ A 10 9

West East  
 ♠ A 9 7 4 2 ♠ K J 10  
 ♥ 10 3 ♥ Q 9 7 6 4  
 ♦ 7 6 4 ♦ 5 3  
 ♣ K 7 3 ♣ J 5 2

South  
 ♠ Q 8 3  
 ♥ A K 8  
 ♦ Q 8 2  
 ♣ Q 8 6 4

Dealer: South  
 Vulnerable: Both

South West North East  
 1♣ Pass 1♦ Pass  
 INT Pass 3NT All Pass

Opening lead: ♠ 4

THE LEAGUE HAS MATERIAL FOR ALL

Even if you do not play in duplicates, you will benefit from joining the American Contract Bridge League. Apart from its website having lots of teaching material, you will receive the monthly "Bulletin," which is edited by Paul Linxwiler. This contains articles aimed at all levels of player. Today's deal is one of the monthly challenges. Look at only the North-South hands. You are in three no-trump. West leads a fourth-highest spade four. East takes the trick with his king and returns the spade jack. What would you do? The bidding followed a predictable path. North was nervous about spades but knew that it was so unlikely five of a minor would make and three no-trump go down. Should you cover the spade

jack with your queen? Things look grim, but you have a genuine chance to make the contract if East started with the spade K-J-10. West takes your queen with the ace and returns the suit to his partner's 10, but West does not have a fast entry card. Suppose East shifts to low heart. Win with your ace and play a club to the nine. East takes that trick and tries another heart, but you win with the king and take a second club finesse. When that works and the king drops under the ace, you can claim 10 tricks: two hearts, five diamonds and three clubs. Did you wonder if East had the spade king-jack-doubleton? That cannot be the case if West led an honest fourth-highest spade four. Given that you hold the three, West can have at most a five-card suit. Details at acbl.org.