

THE BORN LOSER by Art Sampson



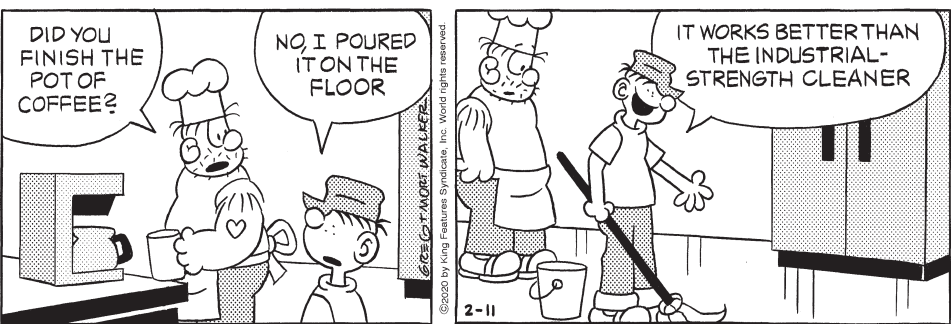
GRIZZWELLS by Bill Schorr



PEANUTS by Charles M. Schulz



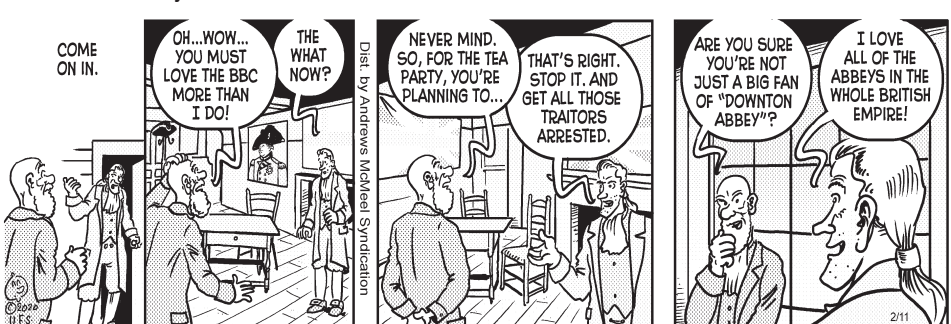
BETLE BAILEY® by Mort Walker



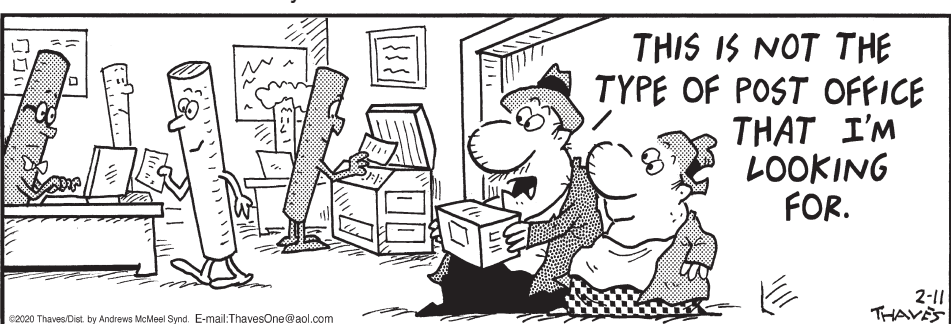
BLONDIE® by Dean Young



ALLEY OOP® by Dave Graue and Jack Bender



FRANK AND ERNEST® by Bob Thaves



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE® by Dik Browne



GARFIELD® by Jim Davis



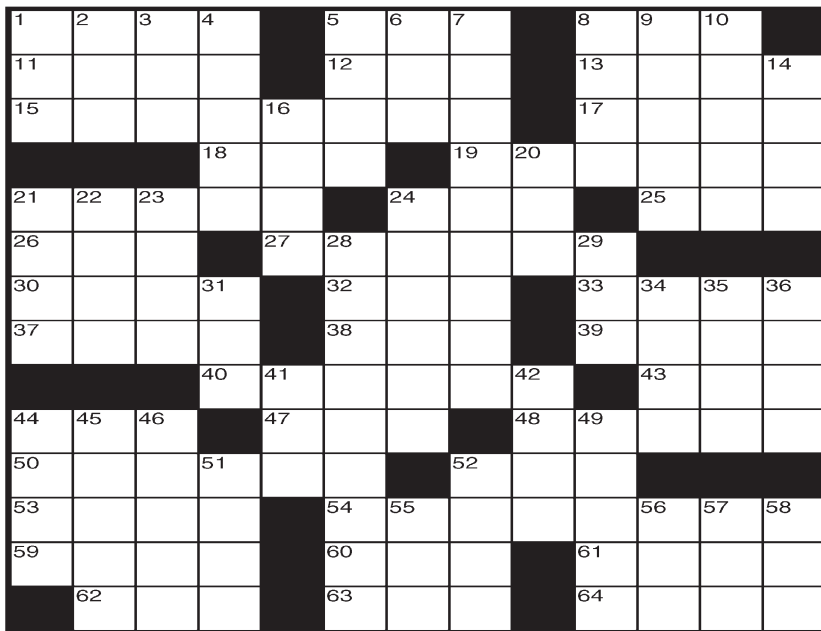
NEA Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 Sharpen
 - 5 Steal from,
 - 8 Cash giver, for short
 - 11 Psychics may see it
 - 12 Golf peg
 - 13 Find fault
 - 15 Hems and haws
 - 17 Karate studio
 - 18 Aurora, to Socrates
 - 19 Wealthy industrialist
 - 21 Acquire knowledge
 - 24 Pine cousin
 - 25 Meddle
 - 26 Note-taker's need
 - 27 Reluctant
 - 30 Take hastily
 - 32 Boat implement
 - 33 Compass point
 - 37 Mme. Gluck of opera
 - 38 Anger
 - 39 2.2 pounds
- DOWN**
- 1 Used to be
 - 2 Lean-to
 - 3 Hurler's stat
 - 4 Less exciting
 - 5 Hwys. above, in verse
 - 6 Roused to action
- 40 Ebb**
- 43 Monk's title**
- 44 Actress** — Farrow
- 47 Florid**
- 48 Vistas**
- 50 Notify**
- 52 Large receptacle**
- 53 Dove into second**
- 54 South Australia's capital**
- 59 Garr of "Tootsie"**
- 60 Not Dem. or Rep.**
- 61 Roulette color**
- 62 Bo Derek movie**
- 63 Refrain syllables**
- 64 Boundaries**

Answer to Previous Puzzle

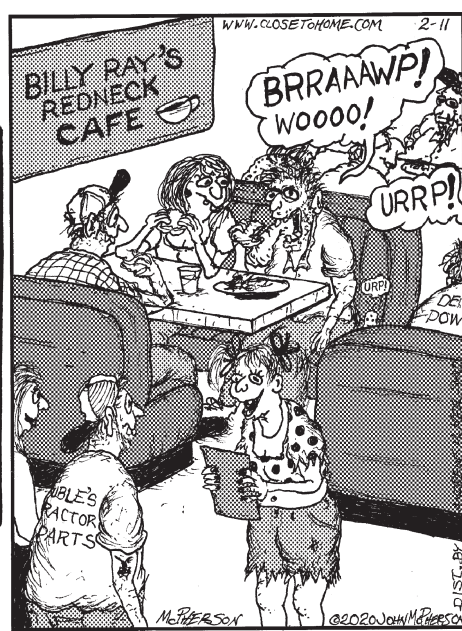


- 8 "Back in Black" group
- 9 Crowd in
- 10 Army officer
- 14 Gaunt
- 16 Actress — Freeman
- 20 Mo. multiples
- 21 Org. for Annika Sorenstam
- 22 Titled man
- 23 Father of Cain
- 24 Suspected
- 28 Phone message system
- 29 Cartoon shriek
- 31 Exclude
- 34 Nurse's helper
- 35 Sluggish
- 36 Many turkeys
- 41 Screw things up
- 42 Like Mr. Hyde
- 44 Light rain
- 45 Fjord
- 46 In flames
- 49 Shallow
- 51 Norse Zeus
- 52 Sleepers' spots
- 55 Double helix
- 56 Cl- or Ca++
- 57 Carried out
- 58 Um cousins

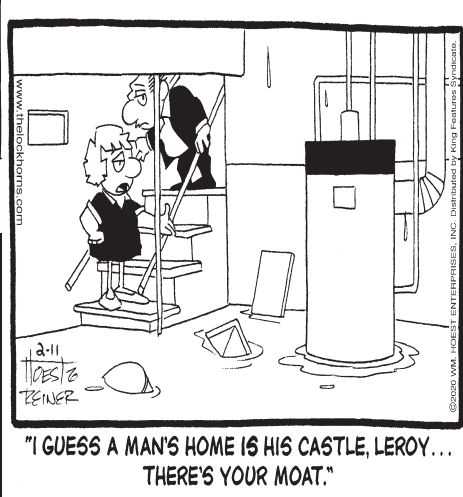


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CLOSE TO HOME by John McPherson



THE LOCKHORNS by Bill Hoest



Astrograph

your ideas or consider starting your own business. Make interesting plans with a loved one.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- Make plans with people who bring out the best in you. Your ideas will be well received, and a joint venture will intrigue you. Listen and learn.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Physical improvement is featured. Whether it's a change of location or an update to your image, the adjustments you make will inspire you to excel. Romance will enhance your life.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- Stick to basics, finish what you start and be true to your beliefs. The changes others make should not tempt you to follow suit. Your intuition is trustworthy.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- An impulsive move will be disappointing. Keep a low profile, listen, learn and adapt to the changes going on around you. You must make the most out of whatever situation you face.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Emotions will surface if you are too sensitive or let someone bully you. Get involved in social functions or activities that deal with children or seniors to find some inspiration.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Refuse to let what others do or say confuse you. Focus on what you can do to make a difference and how you can improve your life. A romantic gesture is encouraged.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Getting involved in events that will spark business opportunities or romance is encouraged. You will gain valuable information from someone very different from you. Expect your beliefs to be tested.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Keep personal information to yourself. Step into the spotlight if you can clarify a situation that others find confusing. An idea you have looks promising, and romance is featured.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Travel will be informative and rewarding. You will gain insight into intriguing lifestyles that suit your current frame of mind. Don't hesitate to make a move. Romance is on the rise.

Bridge

North 02-11-20
 ♠ A 7 4
 ♥ 6 3
 ♦ A K 7 6 3 2
 ♣ J 5

West East
 ♠ K J 3 2 ♠ Q 10
 ♥ Q J 10 9 8 ♥ 7 5 4 2
 ♦ 4 ♦ Q J 10 9
 ♣ 8 6 3 ♣ Q 10 9

South
 ♠ 9 8 6 5
 ♥ A K
 ♦ 8 5
 ♣ A K 7 4 2

Dealer: South
 Vulnerable: East-West

South West North East
 1♠ Pass 1♦ Pass
 1♥ Pass 2♥ Pass
 2NT Pass 3NT All Pass

Opening lead: ♥ Q

THE FOURTH RESULTS IN UNUSUAL PLAY

Dr. Seuss claimed, "The main problem with writing in verse is, if your fourth line doesn't come out right, you've got to throw four lines away & figure out a whole new way to attack the problem. So the mortality rate is terrific."

In an uncontested bidding sequence, if the fourth bid is in the fourth suit to be named, it usually helps responder to solve his strain problem. Fourth-suit game-forcing announces that responder has an opening bid and is, usually, seeking a stopper in that fourth suit from partner.

Here South, with 2 solid heart stoppers, bids 2 no-trump, & North raises to game. After West leads the heart queen, what should declarer do?

South starts with seven top tricks: one spade, two hearts,

two diamonds and two clubs. The other two tricks might come from either minor.

At first glance, it looks right to lose a diamond trick immediately. Then, when the suit divides 3-2, as it will 67.8% of the time according to the mathematicians, declarer will romp home with an overtrick. Instead, playing on clubs requires a 3-3 split, which is much less likely at 35.53%.

Here, though, the diamonds are not 3-2 & the clubs are 3-3 -- how unlucky can South be?

If dummy did not have the spade ace, ducking a diamond would be right. But with that dummy entry, declarer can test both suits. He should start by cashing the top diamonds. If they are 3-2, he continues with a third round. But when they are 4-1, South switches to clubs. Overall, he has a 79.2% chance of success.