

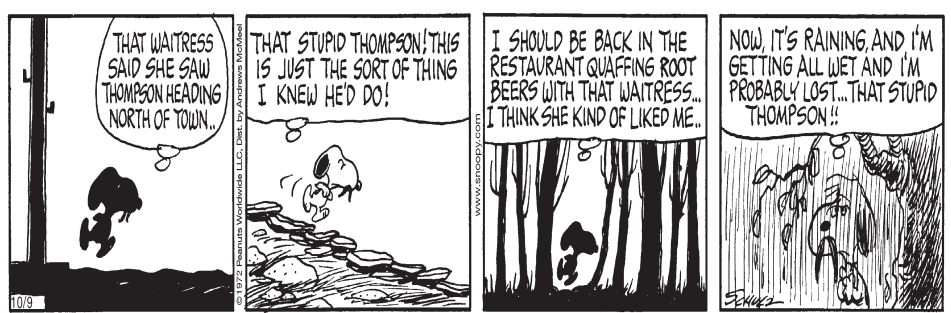
THE BORN LOSER by Art Sampson



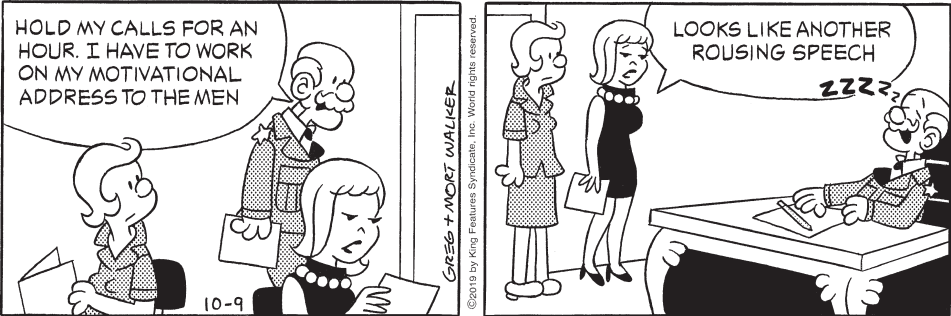
GRIZZWELLS by Bill Schorr



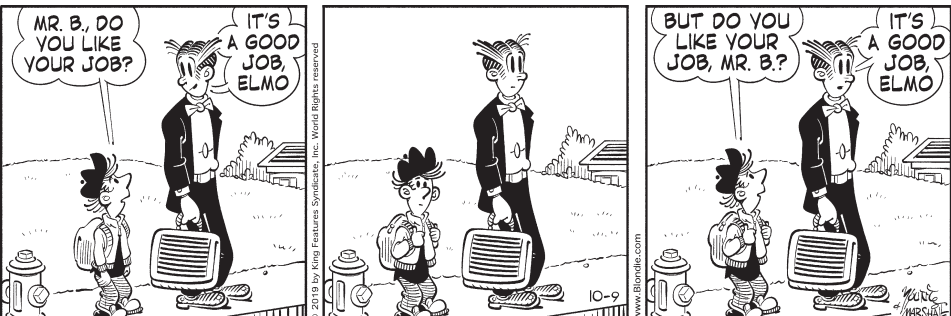
PEANUTS by Charles M. Schulz



BEEBLE 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 Li'l Abner's creator
5 Long-plumed heron
10 Group of signs
12 Not ready to be eaten
13 Geronimo's tribe
14 Like some crystal
15 Mineral finds
16 Point
18 Service charge
19 Be filled with longing
21 Lasso loop
25 Fell short
29 Matterhorn echo
30 Sponge features
32 Peep
33 Committee
34 Nasty laughs
37 Grinding material

38 Gave medication
40 Youngster
43 — nutshell
44 Switch positions
48 Antenna
50 Rue the day
52 Aspects
53 Expression
54 Swap
55 Used email

DOWN
1 Manage
2 Mr. Sandler of film
3 Snapshots
4 "Hog-wash!"
5 Chemical suffix
6 Court great Steffi —
7 Saddle up
8 "En garde" weapon
9 Turner or Koppel
10 Zig's opposite
11 Give up territory

Answer to Previous Puzzle

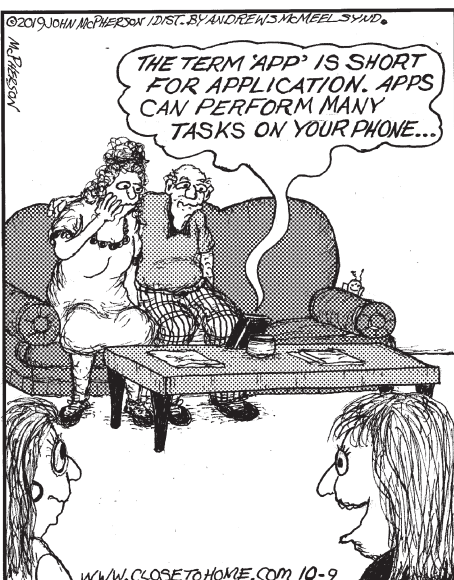
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S	A	R	I	H	I	E		A	S	E
P	A	S	T	E	U	P	S		C	U
			L	O	G		S		C	O
C	O	V	E	N		O	A	R		Y
A	N	A		S	E	C	T	O	R	
G	U	S	H		L	E	I		T	S
E	S	T	A		L	A	O		E	L
		S	K	I	N	N	Y		A	L
A	D	S		O	N	S		E	X	P
J	E	T	L	A	G		T	A	E	
A	L	A	I		T	H	O	R	N	I
R	I	M	S		O	U	I		O	S
S	P	A		N	H	L			N	U

12 Beyond the limit
17 Slow-witted sort
19 Squealed
20 Bit
21 The Big Apple
22 They accompany aahs
23 Thor's father
24 Parched
26 Potting soil
27 Seacoast eagle
28 Wapiti
31 Cunning
35 Makes turbid
36 9-digit no.
39 Marshal Wyatt —
40 Rip
41 Porpoise relative
42 Dead-locked
44 Man-eating giant
45 Funny — Lebowitz
46 Gala
47 Sault — Marie
48 Near the stern
49 Nibbled on
51 Codgers' queries

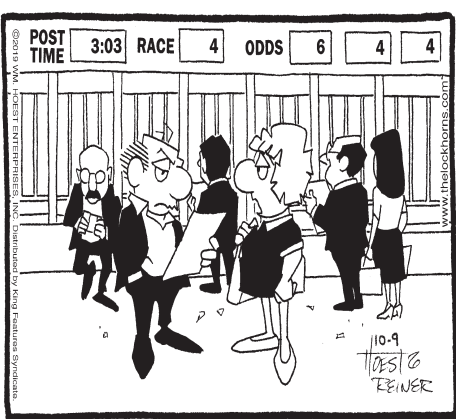
	1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9
10					11		12			
13							14			
15					16	17		18		
				19				20		
21	22	23	24			25		26	27	28
29								30		31
32								33		
	34				35	36		37		
				38			39			
	40	41	42		43			44	45	46
48				49			50	51		
52							53			
54								55		

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CLOSE TO HOME by John McPherson



THE LOCKHORNS by Bill Hoest



Astrograph



Your Birthday

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2019
Consider what it will take to follow your heart and dreams. Refuse to let anyone or anything stand between you and what you want. Keeping the peace is only worthwhile if you get something out of it.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Consider what it will take to stabilize situations that could disrupt your life. Someone will put demands on you that could wreak havoc on your personal life. Proceed with caution.
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- The personal touch will be necessary when dealing with sensitive situations. Words matter, and the way you articulate what you want to see happen will make a difference.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Listen to what others say. If you don't agree, go about your business. If you force your opinion on others, you will waste time and damage your reputation.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Make changes at home or work that will align you with the people you need behind you. A positive change is heading your way.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Spend more time making sure everything is up to date. Look over personal documents, bill payments and contracts. Adjustments you make will save you a bundle. Don't settle for less.
PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- The help you offer others will benefit you as well. Someone you encounter will give you something to think about. Love and romance are in the stars, and a commitment can be made.
ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Be careful whom you spar with today. You'll tend to bite off more than you can chew, leaving you in a poor position. Take care of your responsibilities and lie low.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- The barter system will benefit you. Learning to give and take will provide you with a better understanding of what you can gain as well as what

you can offer. Romance is encouraged.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Expect emotional manipulation if you get into a debate. Focus on getting things done, not on talking about what you want to do.
CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- Participate in events that will help you further your goals. A partnership proposal will be worth checking out. An interesting take on how you can use your skills more effectively will be offered.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Keep moving forward. Learn all you can and establish what you want. Don't let the changes others make distract you from focusing on your objective.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Speak up, get things done and make a difference. Use your experience to make sensible conclusions and choices that will further your interests. Romance is encouraged.

Bridge

North		10-09-19	
♠ 7			
♥ J 8 5 4			
♦ A Q J 3			
♣ Q 7 6 2			
West		East	
♠ K Q J 10 6 5		♥ 9 4 2	
♦ 6 3		♥ Q 10 9	
♦ K 7		♦ 9 8 6 2	
♠ A 9 8		♣ K 10 5	
		South	
		♠ A 8 3	
		♥ A K 7 2	
		♦ 10 5 4	
		♣ J 4 3	
Dealer: South			
Vulnerable: Both			
South	West	North	East
1 ♠	1 ♠	Dbl.	Pass
2 ♥	2 ♠	4 ♥	All Pass
Opening lead: ♠ K			

IF PARTNER OVERBIDS, YOU MUST OVERPLAY
Emily Dickinson wrote, "Luck is not chance, it's toil; fortune's expensive smile is earned."
That is usually true. At the bridge table, unless you and your partner are excessively cautious in the auction, you will often need some luck to make your contract. This is especially true if you have pushed into a thin game.
In today's deal, South is in 4 hearts. When the dummy comes down, declarer cannot count 10 top tricks. How should he try to get lucky after taking the first trick with his spade ace?
The 1-club opening wouldn't bring a smile to anyone's face (because the suit is so poor), but when you have ace-king, ace, you should strain to open. North makes a negative double to show his heart length, South "raises" his partner's suit, and

North hopes for the best.
Declarer realized that he could not handle bad breaks. He needed either a doubleton heart queen or no diamond loser.
Since time was of the essence, South immediately led a low diamond to dummy's jack. When the finesse worked, declarer played a heart to his ace and continued with his remaining low diamond. When the king appeared, South won with dummy's ace, played a trump to his king, ruffed a spade on the board, played a diamond to the 10, ruffed his last spade, discarded a club on the diamond queen and claimed. Declarer took 1 spade, 3 hearts, 4 diamonds & 2 spade ruffs.
Finally, note that South had to resist the temptation to run his diamond 10; otherwise, West would have covered with the king and held declarer to three diamond tricks.