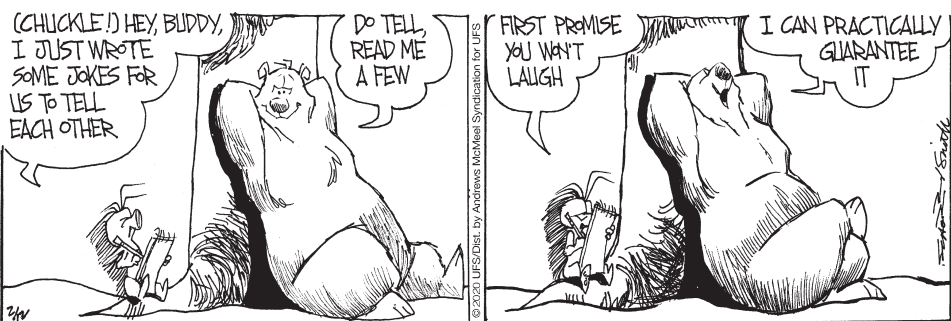




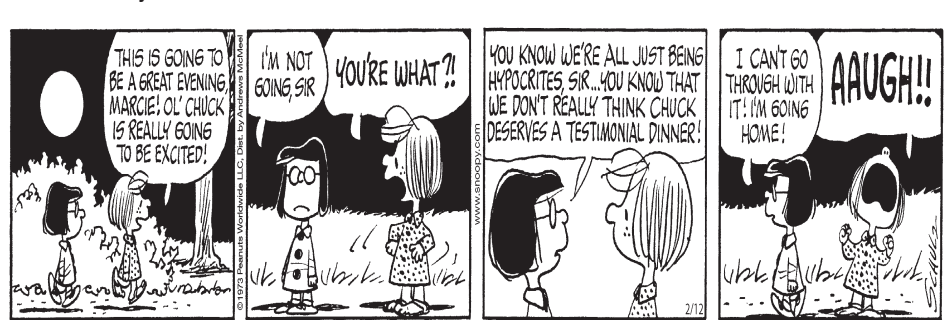
THE BORN LOSER by Art Sampson



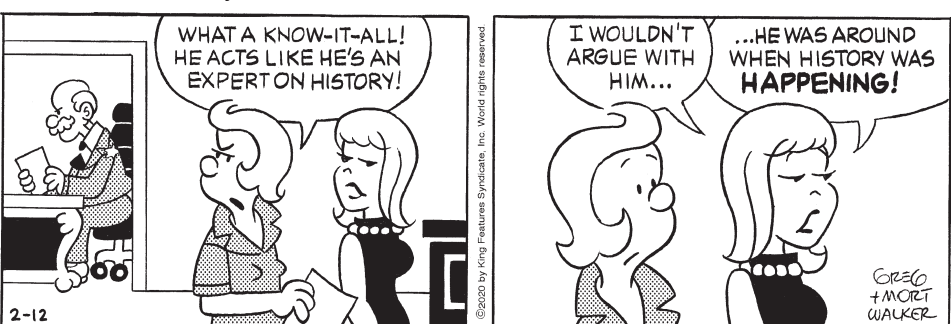
GRIZZWELLS by Bill Schorr



PEANUTS by Charles M. Schulz



BEETLE BAILEY® by Mort Walker



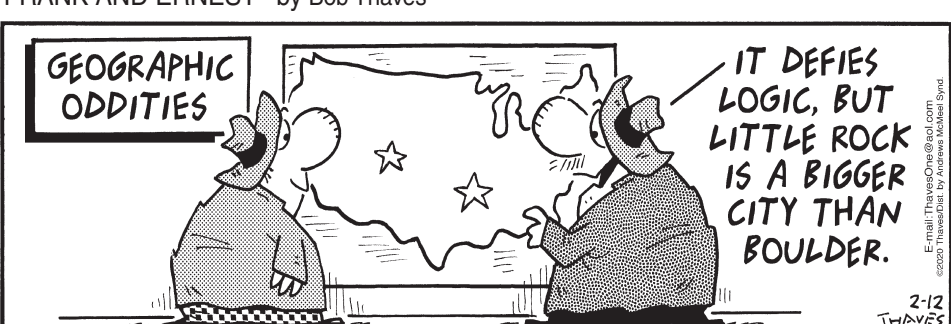
BLONDIE® by Dean Young



ALLEY OOP® by Dave Graue and Jack Bender



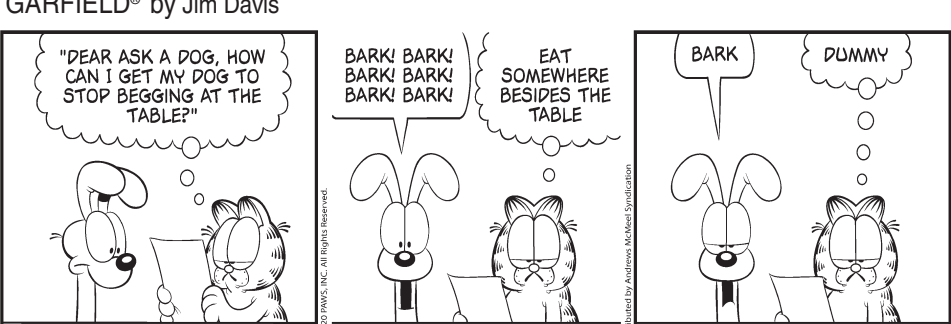
FRANK AND ERNEST® by Bob Thaves



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE® by Dik Browne



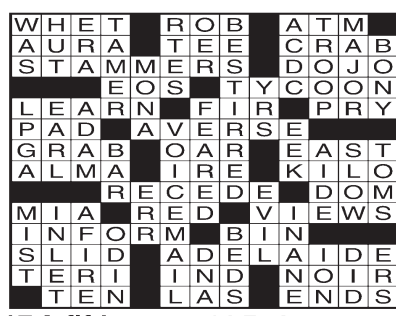
GARFIELD® by Jim Davis



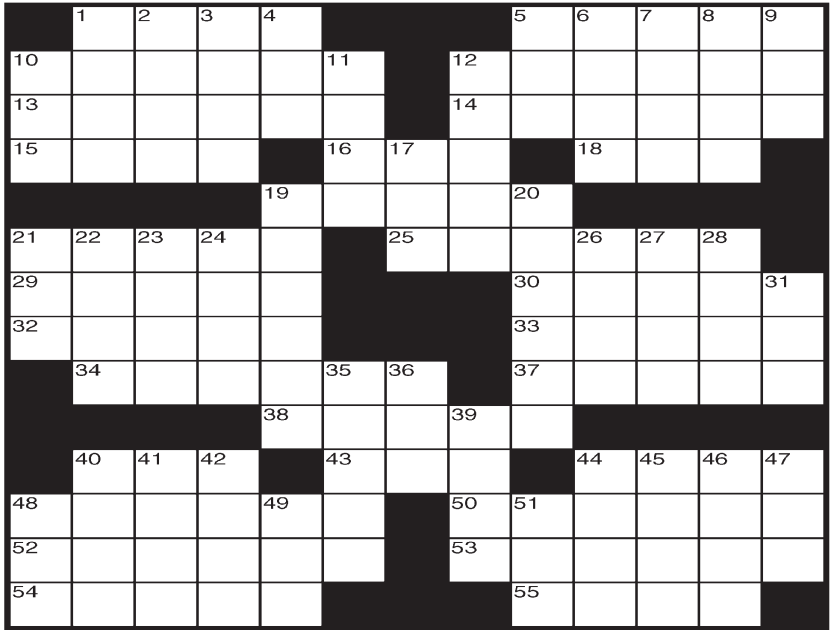
NEA Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 Livy contemporary
 - 5 Tobacco plugs
 - 10 Low-budget film (hyph.)
 - 12 Christie sleuth
 - 13 Plan
 - 14 Traffic circle
 - 15 Men's accessories
 - 16 Italian writer
 - 18 Sault — Marie
 - 19 Feminine principle
 - 21 Nash of humorous poems
 - 25 An antiseptic
 - 29 San Antonio landmark
 - 30 Honshu port
 - 32 Longest bone
 - 33 Ward off
 - 34 Term papers
 - 37 Lacks
- DOWN**
- 1 Former Atlanta stadium
 - 2 Show of hands
 - 3 Folksinger
 - 4 Uproar
 - 5 Cote d'Ivoire
 - 6 Sellouts
 - 7 Was, to Caesar
 - 8 Became frayed
 - 9 Pigpen
 - 10 Harness part
 - 11 Shangri-la
 - 12 Ad

Answer to Previous Puzzle

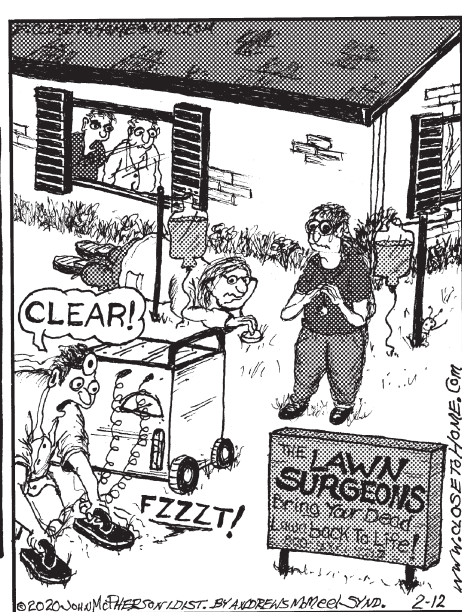


- 17 A fifth of DX
- 19 Parka
- 20 Makes pretty
- 21 Clumsy one
- 22 Merriment
- 23 Stops up
- 24 Rhea cousins
- 26 Aha! (2 wds.)
- 27 Back of the neck
- 28 Made do with
- 31 Hirt and Gore
- 35 Words of approval
- 36 Body of water
- 39 Rule of thumb
- 40 Feel great affection
- 41 In a frenzy
- 42 Stage award
- 44 Prohibition (hyph.)
- 45 Klempner or Preminger
- 46 Istanbul resident
- 47 Pollution control org.
- 48 Ray gun blast
- 49 Freudian subjects
- 51 Acorn bearer



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CLOSE TO HOME by John McPherson



THE LOCKHORNS by Bill Hoest



Astrograph

relationship with someone special. Share your intentions.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- Don't be shy. Share your creative ideas and present what you have to offer. Take courses related to the arts. Get involved in projects that will improve your life.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Your ability to work with precision and focus will help you stand out. You can improve your surroundings if you redecorate or renovate your space to accommodate your pursuits.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- Partnerships are featured. Reach out to someone you enjoy spending time with and make plans that will enhance your relationship. Helping others will be gratifying.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Update your appearance and make personal changes that will raise your self-esteem. Stop worrying about what others do or think, and focus on what's important to you. Romance is encouraged.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- If you take on a challenge, you will make an impression. Mingle, network and share your vision. The people you attract will benefit you as you move forward. Follow your heart.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- You will get ahead if you concentrate on your objective instead of letting someone mess with your mind and upset your plans. Personal growth, physical improvements and financial prudence should be your priorities.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Travel and learning are featured. Mix business with pleasure to impress a loved one. If you speak your mind, you will get the results you desire. Don't be afraid to be different.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Displaying a poker face will serve you well when dealing with fast-talkers. The less you let others know about you, the better. Make personal improvements and romantic plans.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Precision and attention to detail will help you surpass any competition you face. Spend extra time perfecting your skills. Refuse to let an emotional matter cause distress and ruin your day.

Your Birthday

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2020

Push fear aside and forge ahead. Trust and believe in your ability to get things done correctly. Pay close attention to what works best for you and to the people you feel most comfortable being around. A combination of loyalty and trust will protect what matters most to you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Share your thoughts and feelings with a loved one, and together you'll build a better future. Making personal improvements or living arrangements will save you time and money.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- A unique approach and a good work ethic will help you stand out. A competitive person will give you a hard time. Don't ignore a problem; fix it.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- A chance to make extra cash is evident. Consider doing your own thing. Take heed of financial advice someone offers you. Romance will enhance your

Bridge

USE THE SPACE TO INVESTIGATE

Clifton Fadiman, who was an author, editor, anthropologist & media personality, said, "Cheese -- milk's leap toward immortality."

"We have all heard the expression 'look before you leap.' That can apply at the bridge table. Do not choose the final contract if you are in doubt & have a chance to make a more informed decision.

In today's deal, look at South's hand. North opens one club, South responds one heart, and North rebids one spade. What should South do now?

There is a temptation for South to leap to 3 no-trump. However, it is possible that partner has 3-card heart support. Also, if North has some help in diamonds, 3 no-trump might play better from his side.

South should rebid 2 diamonds, the infamous fourth-suit game-forcing.

North jumps to 3 hearts to describe his 4=3=1=5 (or 4=3=0=6) distribution & some 15-17 high-card points. Then South will obviously raise to 4 hearts. East wonders about doubling, but wisely decides against it.

After West leads the diamond king, how should South continue?

Whenever declarer can ruff a loser in the shorter-trump hand, it is virtually certain to be the right play. So, South wins with his diamond ace, ruffs a diamond on the board and cashes the heart king to receive the news about the 5-0 trump split.

Undeterred, declarer plays a spade to his ace, ruffs a diamond & tries to cash the spade king. Even though East ruffs, that establishes a trump trick for declarer. South claims, conceding only three heart tricks.

North 02-12-20

♠ K Q 5 2

♥ K 6 3

♦ 7

♣ A K 8 5 4

West 10 9 8 3

East 6

♠ J

♥ Q J 10 9 8

♦ K Q J 9 8

♣ 6 5 4 2

♠ 10 7 3

South

♠ A 7 4

♥ A 7 5 4 2

♦ A 10 3

♣ 6 2

Dealer: North

Vulnerable: Both

South West North East

1♥ 1♣ 1♠ 1♠

?? Pass 1♠ Pass

Opening lead: ♦ K