FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE® by Lynn Johnston



THE BORN LOSER by Art Sampson



GRIZZWELLS by Bill Schorr



PEANUTS by Charles M. Schulz



BEETLE BAILEY® by Mort Walker



BLONDIE[®] by Dean Young



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS	43 Fiesta
1 Gingiva	decor
5 Barn color	46 Japanes
8 Poodle	theater
pros	50 Teen her
12 Whitish	51 D.C. gun
gem	lobby
13 Consume	53 Shah's
14 "Da"	land
opposite	54 Not
15 "Garfield"	chubby
dog	55 Set of to
16 Sidekick	56 Makes
17 Columnist	lace
— Bombeck	57 That girl
18 Contribute	58 Lemon
20 Swallow	drink
22 Last letter	59 — machi
23 Stir-fry pan	
24 In the	DOWN
altogether	1 Yummy
27 Jacked up	2 Prom
30 Eggs	hairstyle
31 Hang 10	3 Principa
32 Matisse	4 Dirty
piece	politics
34 Funnyman	5 Madras
- Brooks	money
35 Let go	6 Spanish
36 Haul into	"that"
court	7 East Coa
37 Returned	state
the favor	8 Some
39 Topic	sweaters
41 RSVP word	(hyph.)

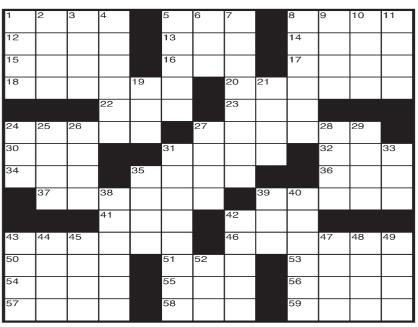
42 Briny

expanse



Answer to Previous Puzzle

33 Golf peg sch. - accompli 52 Unburden



35 -

governess

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CLOSE TO HOME by John McPherson

THE LOCKHORNS by Bill Hoest

2-24

AFTER YOU

DO GUARD

DUTY

ê j



THAT'S WHAT WE'RE DOWN TO."



While Mr. Hunter was not looking, students in his chemistry class used lab tubing to escape, one at a time.

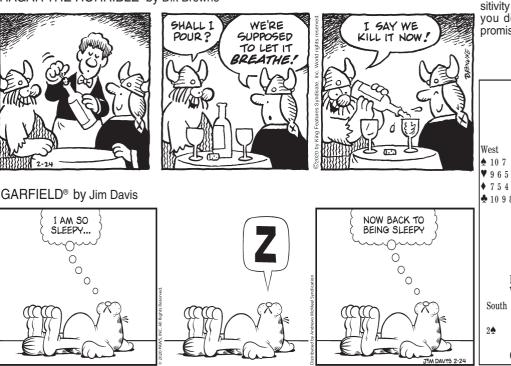
ALLEY OOP® by Dave Graue and Jack Bender



FRANK AND ERNEST® by Bob Thaves



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE® by Dik Browne



Your Birthday 0))

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2020 Your sensitivity will be admired by some and taken advantage of by others. Let your intuition help you navi-gate your way to success. You have plenty to gain if you work hard and stay focused on what's important to you. Take action and excel.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Look, observe, evaluate and find a way to help others. Your input will make a difference and will push you to make lifeimproving adjustments. ARIES (March 21-April 19)

- If you jump into something without doing your homework first, you'll end up in a vulnerable position. Be moderate and mindful. Choose love over chaos. Think things through.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Adjust whatever needs to be tweaked and keep moving forward. Your insight and sensitivity toward others will guide you down a path filled with promise.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) --Take better care of yourself mentally, emotionally and physically. Listen carefully and refuse to follow someone's impulsive action. Say no to indulgence and temptation. Be kind to yourself.

<u>Astrograph</u>

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Live in the moment, enjoy what life has to offer and prioritize happiness. You have more control than you realize. Set a precedent in order to gain popularity and support.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Use charm to your advantage. Don't jump to conclusions or make a fuss when a kind word or hug is all it takes to get what you want.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) --Take the plunge and do something that matters. If you stand up for the underdog, you will make a difference and feel good about what you accomplish

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) --Take care of responsibilities and get on with your day. Don't linger too long in any one place, or you will leave yourself open for criticism. Treat yourself to something

Bridge

beautiful.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Fix what needs to be fixed and enjoy what you accomplish. Use your creativity to bring greater joy to yourself and your loved ones. An unexpected opportunity looks

promising. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Take a moment to rejuvenate. Refuse to let what others do or say influence your actions. Focus on what brings you joy, even if it's something that you do all by yourself.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- An unusual path will lead to a learning experience that will benefit you for years to come. Give your all, and you'll get what you want. It's OK to be different.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Look inward, make a change that pleases you and take better care of yourself. Exercise, diet and rest will help clear your mind. If you feel good, you will do good.

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♦ A	QJ63		H
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Dealer: East		the	
Vulnerable: North-South		as	
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Opennig lead. 💀 10			tru

NE LOSER FINE, TWO LOSERS RRIBLE

A.N. Onymous once said, What he doesn't know would ake a library anybody would proud of." Well, anyone who knows

verything in my bridge library ould make a partner anybody ould be proud of. For sure he ould know the correct way to ay today's 4-spade contract. West guesses well, leading a

ub. After East has played ree rounds of the suit, how ould South continue?

East opened with a weak noump, promising 12-14 points, hich is popular in those parts of e world that used to be known the British Commonwealth. fter South overcalled in his ajor, North raised to game.

South has to assume that umps are breaking 3-2, but he ust avoid walking into a ump promotion.

The wrong play is a spade to dummy's king. If East can win that and lead the 13th club, the defenders must get the trump promotion.

If East has only two spades, declarer can succeed by leading a spade honor from his hand at trick four. But with the given distribution, East wins with the ace & leads the last club. West's ruff effects the trump promotion. The correct play is to cross to

the board with a diamond before leading a low trump to the queen. (The diamonds must be 3-2. If West had a singleton, surely he would have led it at trick one.) Finally, play the spade jack from hand. Now the contract is assured. You can ruff the 13th club low in hand, overruffing West on the board if necessary.

Look for a line of play that will work whatever the lie of the cards.