

THE BORN LOSER by Art Sampson



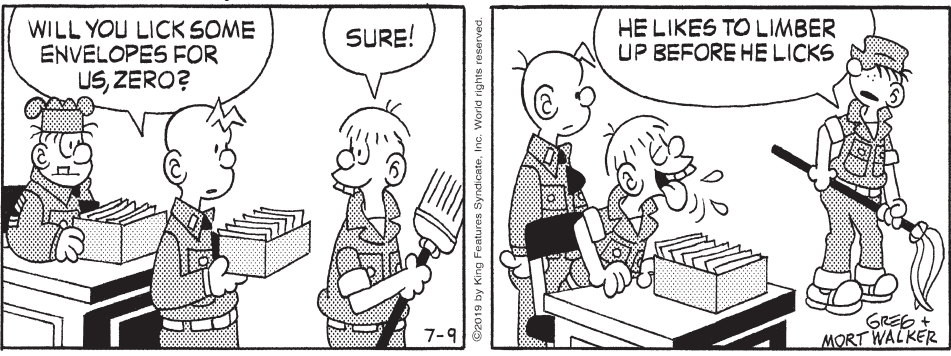
GRIZZWELLS by Bill Schorr



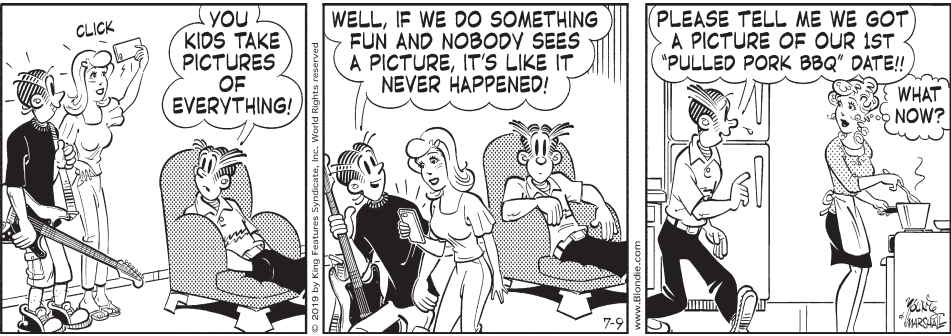
PEANUTS by Charles M. Schulz



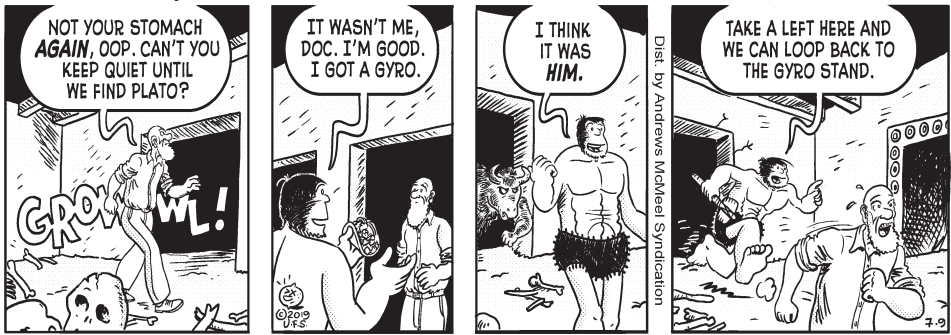
BEETLE BAILEY® by Mort Walker



BLONDIE® by Dean Young



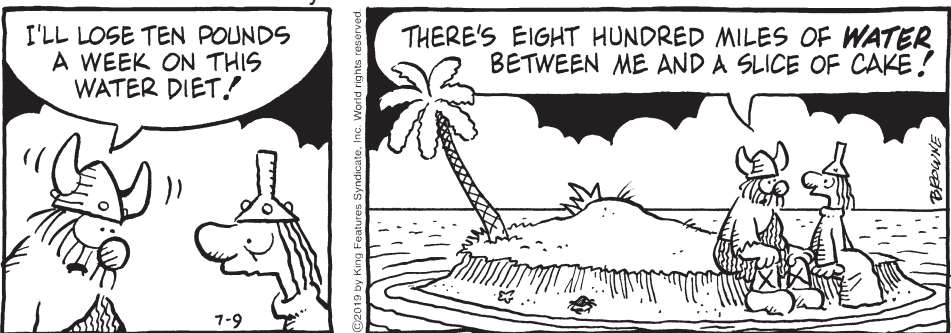
ALLEY OOP® by Dave Graue and Jack Bender



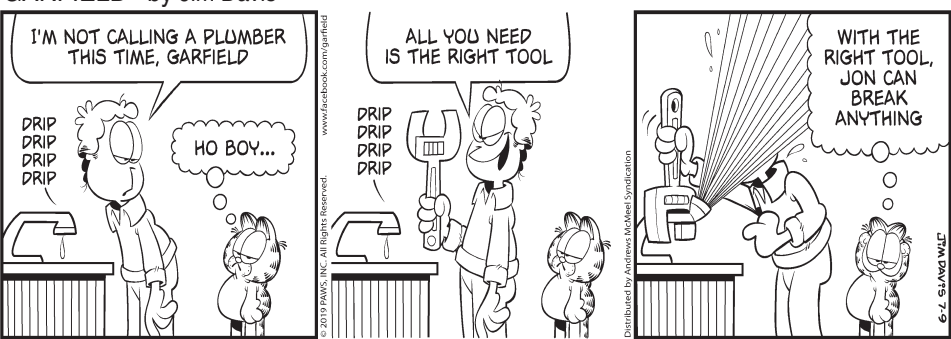
FRANK AND ERNEST® by Bob Thaves



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE® by Dik Browne



GARFIELD® by Jim Davis



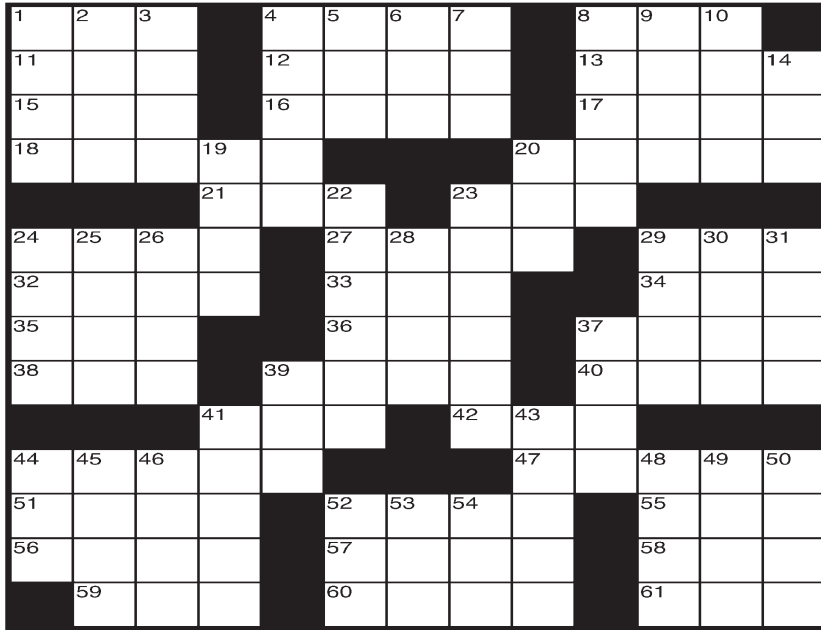
NEA Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 Chat a bit
 - 4 Gaiter
 - 8 "Mystery!" channel
 - 11 Use sparingly
 - 12 Ca++ and Cl-
 - 13 Highway
 - 15 Uprear
 - 16 Least-varying tide
 - 17 Dot on the ocean
 - 18 Where Madras is
 - 20 Guide in a theater
 - 21 Tunnel
 - 23 Doctrine
 - 24 "The Mammoth Hunters" author
 - 27 Root crop
 - 29 Spring time
 - 32 Implore
 - 33 Tear
 - 34 Lamb's mom
 - 35 Rested
 - 36 Fruit cooler
 - 37 Portent
 - 38 Windy City trains
- 39 Getz or Mikita**
- 40 Gets sleepy
 - 41 Charge
 - 42 Arid
 - 44 Line
 - 47 Tests
 - 51 — does it!
 - 52 Flying toy
 - 55 —
- DOWN**
- 1 Obi-Wan, for one
 - 2 Related
 - 3 Make one's way
 - 4 Egyptian peninsula
 - 5 "Ualume" poet
 - 6 Literary collection

Answer to Previous Puzzle

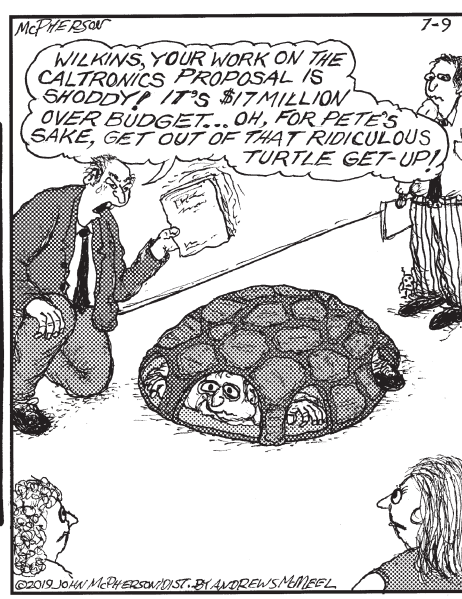


- 7 Kitchen meas.
- 8 Light refractor
- 9 Squawash!
- 10 Department store event
- 14 "— Rosen-kavalier"
- 19 Casually
- 20 — Nimitz
- 22 Turn
- 23 Loom
- 24 Altar end
- 25 River in Russia
- 26 Has a meal
- 28 Verdi opera
- 29 Brief message
- 30 Blown away
- 31 Desires
- 37 Black gemstone
- 39 Gaze at
- 41 Dorm furnishing
- 43 Atolls
- 44 Liquid meas.
- 45 Klutz's cry (hyph.)
- 46 Smooth the way
- 48 — unto itself
- 49 Wool-eater
- 50 Japanese wrestling
- 52 Camp-ground initials
- 53 Unwell
- 54 Jaunty cap



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CLOSE TO HOME by John McPherson



Overwhelmed by volatile office confrontations, some workers are opting for the new Tortoise Shell Safety Wear™.

THE LOCKHORNS by Bill Hoest



Astrograph

Your Birthday

TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2019
 Look ahead to see where the path is taking you. Don't let emotional vulnerability hold you back. Choose to move in a direction that allows you to blossom and to show your full potential. Believe in yourself and what you have to offer.
CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- Stay calm when dealing with partnerships. Before you jump to conclusions, consider every aspect of the situation and how to best make it work for everyone involved. Compromise will pay off.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Get the go-ahead before you make changes that will affect other people. Communication will help broaden your awareness about emotional issues that have been ignored for too long.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Let the past go. If you hold grudges, you will miss out on something special. Take the plunge and get involved in

something meaningful. Romance is on the rise.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Don't labor over things you cannot change. Forward motion and new beginnings will help you expand your interests and friendships, and encourage you to use your skills more diversely.
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- If change is what you want, do something to make it happen. Your actions will be what makes a difference. Stop spinning your wheels.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Listen earnestly and acknowledge what others are doing, but don't feel that you must be a follower. Use whatever information you gather to help in your own pursuit.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Don't make a fuss when you should be making a move. If you don't like something, walk away. Don't take care of someone else's business when you should be dealing with your own.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Consider what you want and how to make it happen. Check out the changes that

need to be made and decide whether the effort's worthwhile. Pay attention to detail.
PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- A minimalist attitude will help you stretch your budget and reach your goal. Distance yourself from anyone who isn't playing fair or is trying to entice you to be excessive.
ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Lay down some ground rules if you feel someone is being too controlling. Use your intelligence and have facts ready to back your feelings and decisions. Handle relationships with care.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- Keep moving and don't stop until you are satisfied with what you've done. Expect to face opposition if you make a change that will disrupt your household or plans.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Consider your options and what you'll have to contend with to pursue your goal. Rely on your skills to help you get ahead, not on someone who is making empty promises.

Bridge

North		07-09-19	
♠ A K 2			
♥ J 10 7 6			
♦ K Q J 10			
♣ K Q			
West		East	
♠ 4 3		♠ Q 8	
♥ 8 5 3 2		♥ 9 4	
♦ 9 8 7 5 4 2		♦ A 3	
♣ 3		♣ A J 10 9 7 6 2	
South			
♠ J 10 9 7 6 5			
♥ A K Q			
♦ 6			
♣ 8 5 4			
Dealer: North			
Vulnerable: Both			
South	West	North	East
		1♦	2♣
2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass
Opening lead: ♠ 3			

WINNING MIGHT BE A TWO-STAGE PROCESS

Wayne Dyer, a self-help author and motivational speaker, said, "When you dance, your object is not to get to a certain place on the floor. It's to enjoy each step along the way."
 When you play bridge, you know where you wish to reach -- the number of tricks you need to make or break the contract. If you succeed, you will enjoy yourself.
 How should East & West end this deal happily by defeating four spades?
 The auction was straightforward. South had a minimum for his 2-spade response. His 6-card suit was good, but the singleton diamond & low tripleton in clubs were minuses. North jumped to 4 spades, knowing that they had the values for game & at least an 8-card spade fit (South would have made a negative double with only 4 spades).

The defense started with a few simple steps. West led his club 3. East won with his ace & returned the club 2, his lowest card being a suit-preference signal for diamonds, the lower-ranking of the other two side suits. West ruffed and, being a well-trained partner, returned a diamond, which East won with his ace. But what did he do next?
 Counting the points, East knew that his partner presumably had no honor-card. So the only chance for a fourth defensive winner lay in the trump suit. East, remembering that when you want partner to ruff, you should lead a loser, not a winner, continued with the club 6. When West ruffed with the spade 4, it effected an uppercut. Dummy had to overruff with the spade king, & East's spade queen had been promoted as a winner.
 Well danced!