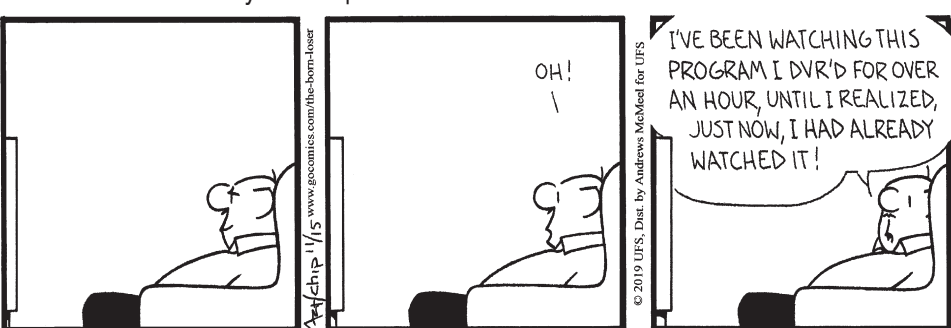


THE BORN LOSER by Art Sampson



GRIZZWELLS by Bill Schorr



PEANUTS by Charles M. Schulz



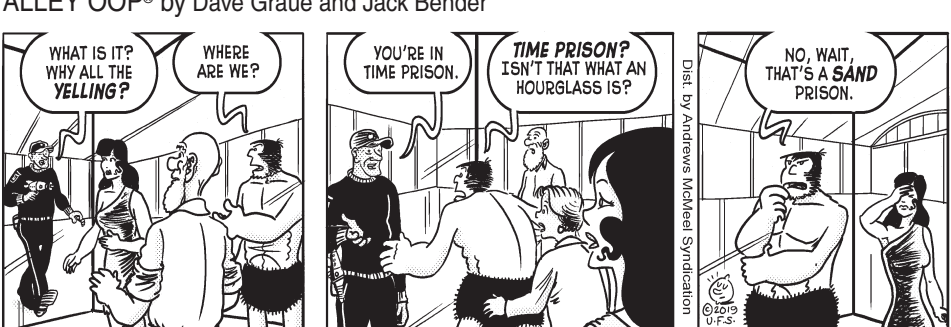
BEETLE BAILEY® by Mort Walker



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

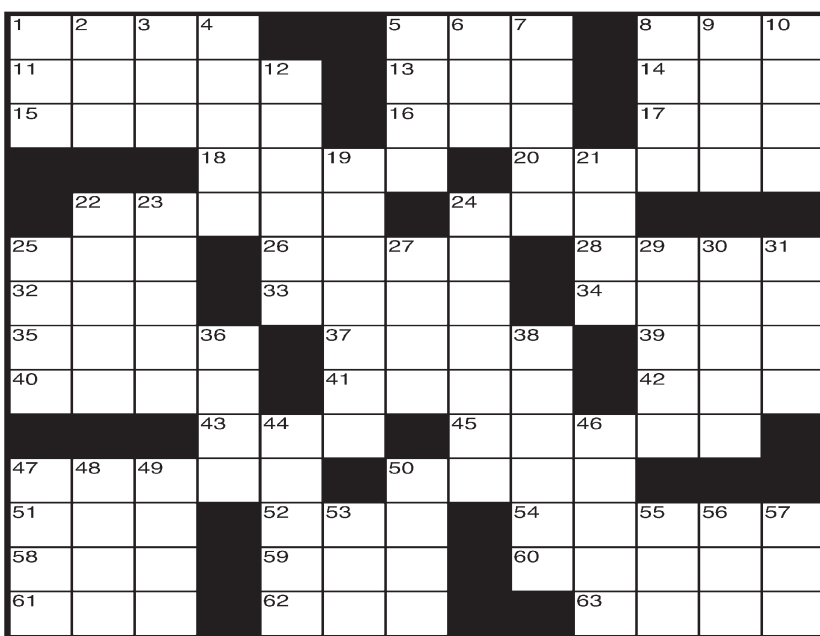
ACROSS

- 1 "Fernando" band
- 5 Brief craze
- 8 Riviera summer
- 11 Eerie
- 13 Bullring cry
- 14 X, to Cicero
- 15 Grant money for
- 16 Puppy's bark
- 17 Opposing vote
- 18 Mr. Damon
- 20 Japanese port
- 22 Disputes
- 24 Catchall abbr.
- 25 Pool stick
- 26 Elmer —
- 28 Helper, briefly
- 32 That ship
- 33 Difficulty
- 34 Toodle-oo! (hyph.)
- 35 Blue-pencil
- 37 Rug measurement
- 39 Fem. honorific
- 40 Depend on
- 41 Feline cry
- 42 Acorn bearer
- 43 Colorful carp
- 45 Open, as a bottle
- 47 Put off
- 50 Recipe direction
- 51 Ostrich kin
- 52 Chomped
- 54 Whinny
- 58 Henson or Croce
- 59 Wrath
- 60 City in Italy
- 61 Wolfed down
- 62 Jaunty lid
- 63 No-frills hairdo

DOWN

- 1 Astonish
- 2 Affleck or Vereen
- 3 Price offered
- 4 Fragrance
- 5 Unser rival
- 6 "Thrilla in Manila" boxer
- 7 Bus station
- 8 Sicily's erupter

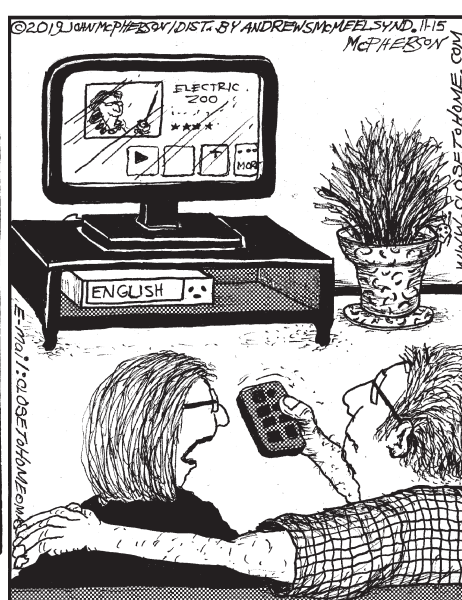
Answer to Previous Puzzle



11-15

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CLOSE TO HOME by John McPherson



THE LOCKHORNS by Bill Hoest



Astrograph

**Your Birthday**  
**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2019**  
 A low-key approach to projects will ward off interference. Joint ventures will hold you back. Concentrate on personal strengths and how best to use your attributes going forward. The experience will play a role in your success. Embrace new beginnings and let go of the past.  
**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Look for what's coming down the pipeline and make the most out of whatever situation you face. Preparation will give you the edge you need to come out on top.  
**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- If you act fast, no one will have a chance to overreact or take advantage of you. Work alone to ensure that you minimize interference and promote productivity. Romance will be rewarding.  
**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Don't fight change. Once you see what's available, it will spark your imagination and

help you make choices that excite you. An adjustment you make at home will be liberating.  
**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Don't complain. If you want something done, do it yourself. Your actions will count. Express your feelings and treat others the way you want to be treated. Romance is encouraged.  
**PISCES** (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Take care of contracts, money matters and home improvements. Teach people who don't understand what you are trying to accomplish. Share your story, your intentions and your time.  
**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) -- Don't give in to someone putting pressure on you. Be your own boss, do your own thing and strive for perfection. A personal change will lift your spirits.  
**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) -- Your instincts will tell you when to make a move. Expressing your views will help you gain respect and support. A meaningful partnership will encourage success.  
**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) -- Wait for the right moment to

haste, you will make a mistake. Focus on personal growth, love and romance, and surround yourself with trustworthy people.  
**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) -- If you share your feelings, you will get the support and input you need to make your life better. The information you are given will clear up confusion and encourage you to take action.  
**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) -- What you do will have a more significant impact on others than what you say. Take action and do your best to make a difference. Practice what you preach.  
**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Recognize who and what is right for you, and back away from harmful or negative situations and people. Trust in what's tangible and productive, not in hearsay.  
**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Learn from your mistakes and choose your words wisely. A change at home should be made with the input and approval of those who will be most affected by it.

Bridge

A COMMON CONTRACT IN A RARE SETTING  
 Ernie Kovacs said of television: "A medium -- so called because it is neither rare nor well done."  
 In today's deal, South is in 3 no-trump -- a contract that it is very rare to reach after an opponent has opened with a strong no-trump. West leads the diamond four: 3, 8, king. How should declarer continue? For the curious, what was West's more-effective lead?  
 North's double showed any long suit. East's redouble announced a runout into a five-card or longer minor. (Other bids by East would have been as per their normal system. So, two clubs would have been Stayman and two diamonds a transfer to hearts.) When South advanced with two no-trump, North happily raised.  
 South had eight top tricks: two diamonds and six clubs.

From which major could he get a ninth winner?  
 The first trick marked East with the diamond jack because West would have led the queen with both honors, and East would have put up the queen if he held her. Since there were only 17 high-card points missing, clearly West had the spade ace-queen and heart ace-king. So East had to be kept off the lead.  
 Resisting the temptation to run the clubs, declarer led the heart queen at trick two. West won and played the diamond queen, which South correctly ducked. He took the next diamond & led another heart.  
 Declarer claimed a moment later. Then West apologized for not leading the diamond queen at trick one. If South ducks, West can shift to clubs! To beat 3 no-trump, lead the opponent's long suit -- how rare.

		North	11-15-19		
		♠ 7 4			
		♥ 5 2			
		♦ A 6 3			
		♣ A K J 10 8 5			
West		East			
♠ A Q J 8		♥ 10 9 3			
♦ A K 9		♠ 8 7 6 3			
♣ Q 5 4		♦ J 10 9 8 2			
♠ 7 6 3		♣ 2			
		South			
		♠ K 6 5 2			
		♥ Q J 10 4			
		♦ K 7			
		♣ Q 9 4			
		Dealer: West			
		Vulnerable: Both			
South	West	North	East		
	1NT	Dbl.	Redbl.		
Pass	2♣	Dbl.	2♦		
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass		
		Opening lead: ♦ 4			