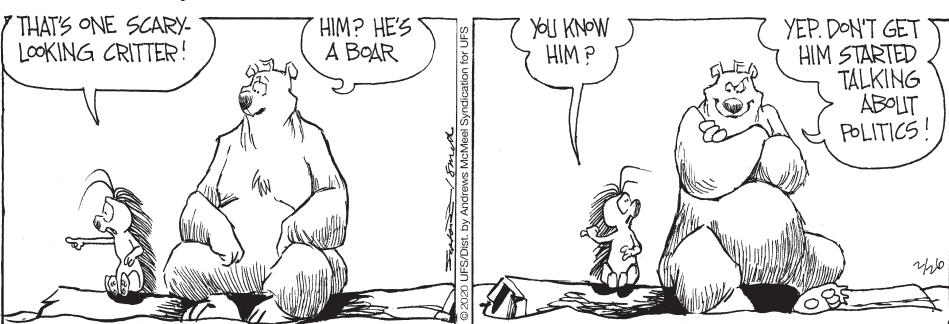


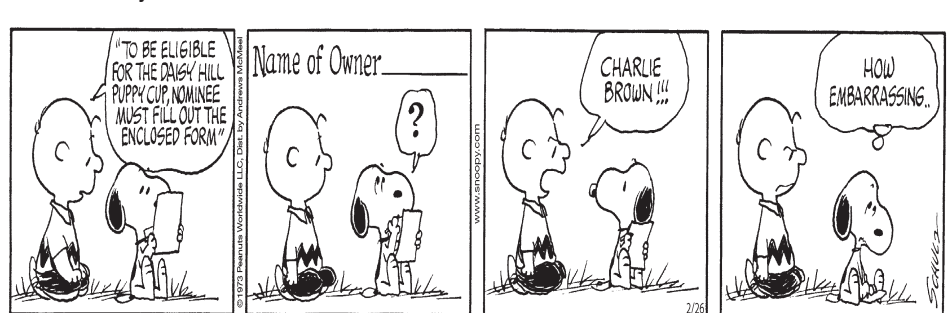
THE BORN LOSER by Art Sampson



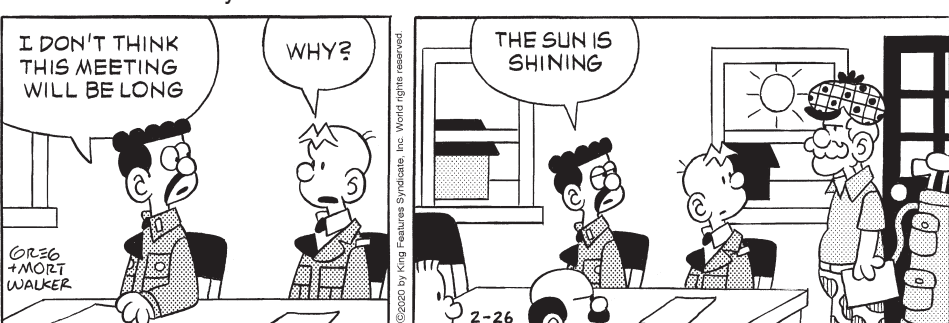
GRIZZWELLS by Bill Schorr



PEANUTS by Charles M. Schulz



BEETLE BAILEY® by Mort Walker



BLONDIE® by Dean Young



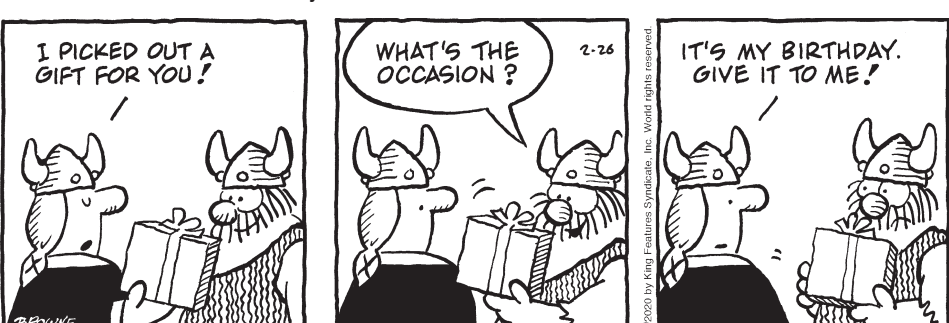
ALLEY OOP® by Dave Graue and Jack Bender



FRANK AND ERNEST® by Bob Thaves



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE® by Dik Browne

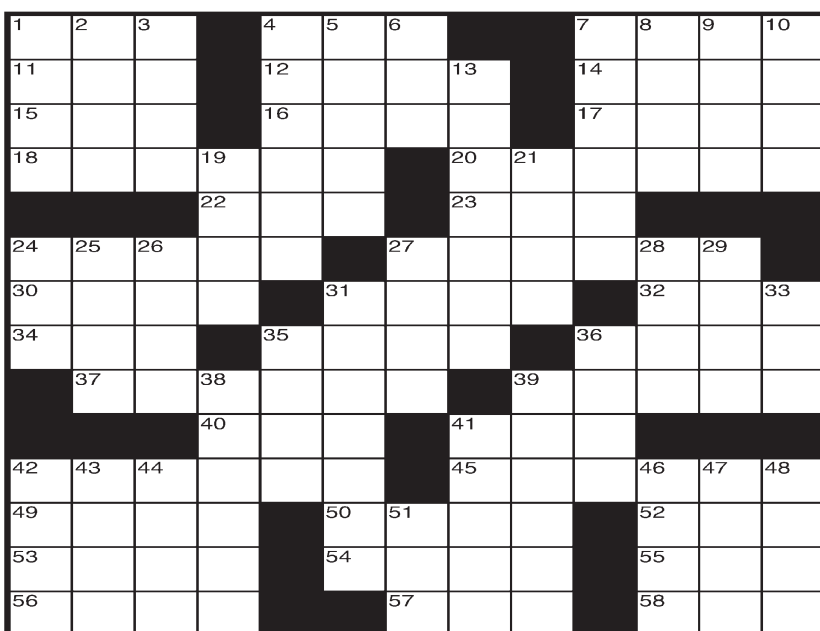


GARFIELD® by Jim Davis



NEA Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 Mongrel
 - 4 Shirt or blouse
 - 7 Bulrush
 - 11 Novelist — Levin
 - 12 Type of squad
 - 14 Robust
 - 15 Six-pointers
 - 16 "Betsy's Wedding" star
 - 17 Rainbow goddess
 - 18 Affluent person
 - 20 Miniature maple, e.g.
 - 22 Put a stop to
 - 23 "7 Faces of Dr. —"
 - 24 Shows fright
 - 27 Shah's domain
 - 30 Norwegian name
 - 31 "Woe is me!"
 - 32 Goofy
 - 34 Horse command
 - 35 Sweetheart
- DOWN**
- 1 State capital
 - 2 Karachi language
 - 3 Carpenter's tool
 - 4 Gets in shape
- 36 "Hey —" (Beatles)**
- 37 Shipboard direction
 - 39 James or Ventura
 - 40 In the past
 - 41 Bossy's chew
 - 42 Neglectful
 - 45 Dismount
 - 49 Squashed circle
 - 50 Prefix for directional
 - 52 Bleacher shout
 - 53 Half a beef
 - 54 Like a hermit
 - 55 Flight dir.
 - 56 Husky's burden
 - 57 Have a snack
 - 58 For what reason?
- Answer to Previous Puzzle**
- | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| D | I | M | S | P | U | M | A | S | O | N | |
| A | R | A | T | A | L | A | N | E | G | O | |
| N | O | T | E | I | N | V | I | T | E | S | |
| A | N | T | E | N | N | A | M | O | N | E | Y |
| L | O | S | E | R | L | E | S | R | A | W | |
| P | A | C | D | O | O | M | L | O | B | O | |
| S | H | A | G | P | O | E | M | L | I | P | |
| U | N | I | T | E | S | I | D | E | S | T | |
| C | O | N | D | O | S | L | E | R | A | | |
| P | L | A | I | B | A | L | L | E | N | E | |
| A | L | I | A | G | U | E | L | L | E | | |
| S | A | L | D | A | R | N | Y | E | L | P | |
- 5 Stopped a squeak**
- 6 Whale school
 - 7 Zoo heavy-weights
 - 8 Listener's need
 - 9 Lamb's pen name
 - 10 Mr. Arnaz
 - 13 Scene
 - 19 Glance furtively
 - 21 Skiff movers
 - 24 Violin part
 - 25 General vicinity
 - 26 Untruths
 - 27 Arrange for
 - 28 Debtor letters
 - 29 States further
 - 31 Spray can
 - 33 Joey or Kiki
 - 35 Seeks aims
 - 36 Vader, once
 - 38 Followed
 - 39 Romeo's girl
 - 41 Big blossom
 - 42 Antarctic sea
 - 43 Malicious
 - 44 Whipped up
 - 46 Ballooned
 - 47 Eatery fare
 - 48 Those guys
 - 51 Stogie with bangs

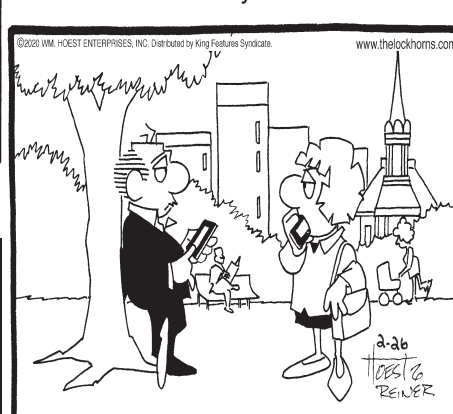


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CLOSE TO HOME by John McPherson



THE LOCKHORNS by Bill Hoest



Astrograph

and valuable information.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Keep your purchases to a minimum. Focus more on your emotional well-being, moral standards and life circumstances. Romance is in the stars.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- Ask and you shall receive. Share information and ideas, and join forces with someone who is just as innovative as you are. Don't let personal matters interfere with business.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Travel, learn, explore and make adjustments that encourage you to do your best. Don't follow someone else when you know where you can make the most significant difference.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Your quick response and eagerness to get things done will draw onlookers. Don't be shy; show off what you've accomplished. You can have a big impact on others at this time.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Networking events will lead to interesting encounters. Your open and sophisticated nature will attract people who want to pick your brain. Don't give all your secrets away. Romance is favored.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Keep moving forward until you are satisfied with the results you get. Your drive, passion and power of persuasion will work wonders when you want something.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Travel, new adventures and personal gains are prominent, but don't go overbudget. Choose self-improvement over excessive behavior. Romance is encouraged.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Keep your distance from those who are difficult to get along with or who tend to put demands or pressure on you. Keep your life simple, your spending down and your opinions to yourself.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- If you trust friends with your secrets, expect them to let you down. It is best not to depend on anyone if you want to get things done. Personal gain is within reach.

Your Birthday

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2020

If you pitch in and help, the returns will be high. What you learn will help you achieve the lifestyle you want. Choose to do things your way and to explore what entices you, but don't jeopardize your reputation, integrity or meaningful relationships. Honesty rules.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- If you put your time, effort and energy where they count, positive change will take place. Focus on raising your profile, income and standards. Use your talent wisely.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Share only what's necessary. Don't let anyone take credit for something you did on your own. Make lifestyle changes that will ease stress. Stick close to the people you love.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- Participation will encourage new beginnings. Interact with people who are already doing what you want to do. Someone from your past will offer insight

Bridge

THE REFLEXES OF A TORTOISE

Whatever else your feelings, you cannot argue that Woody Allen has written many amusing lines. I like this one: "I'm not a fighter; I have bad reflexes. I was once run over by a car being pushed by two guys."

Many bridge deals require rapid reflexes. Some declarers, when they need a misdefense to make their contract, will play very quickly. This is poor form, but it often works. However, when you are on defense, don't be hurried. Say that you want to take some time to analyze the deal.

Rather than rely on speed, it is preferable for the declarer to play his cards deceptively so that a defender doesn't see the trap in time.

Playing in four hearts, the ingenious declarer wins the first trick with dummy's club ace, draws trumps and plays a

diamond to the king. True, against some opponents this will work. West will lead a second club. Then South can ruff & discard one of dummy's spade losers on the diamond queen. But against more sophisticated defenders, it won't succeed. East will play his two trumps in the order five then two, trying to show a top honor in spades, and West will see that the club queen can wait. He will recognize the possibility of a discard and switch to the spade four at trick five.

As South knows East has the club king and is marked with a top spade (West didn't lead the spade ace or king), West must hold the diamond ace. A more deceptive approach is to lead dummy's diamond at trick two and put in the nine. If West falls for the trap, playing a second club, South can ruff out West's diamond ace & get his discard.

North		02-26-20	
♠	J 7 3		
♥	Q J 9 7 4		
♦	6		
♣	A 7 6 4		
West			
♠	A Q 6 4		
♥	8		
♦	A J 7 5		
♣	Q J 9 8		
East			
♠	K 10 5		
♥	5 2		
♦	10 8 4 3		
♣	K 10 5 2		
South			
♠	9 8 2		
♥	A K 10 6 3		
♦	K Q 9 2		
♣	3		
Dealer: South			
Vulnerable: East-West			
South West North East			
1♥	Dbl.	4♥	All Pass
Opening lead: ♠ Q			