



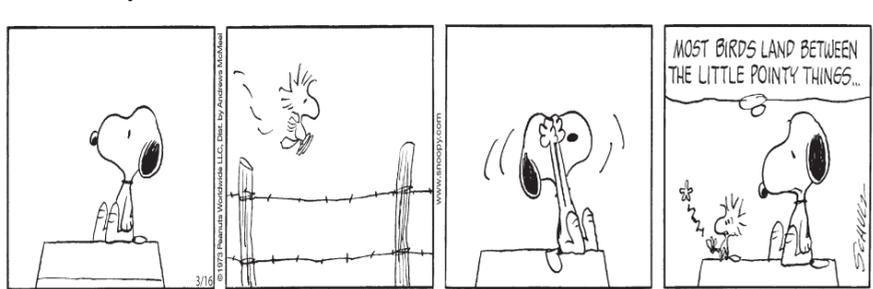
THE BORN LOSER by Art Sampson



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BETLE BAILEY® by Mort Walker



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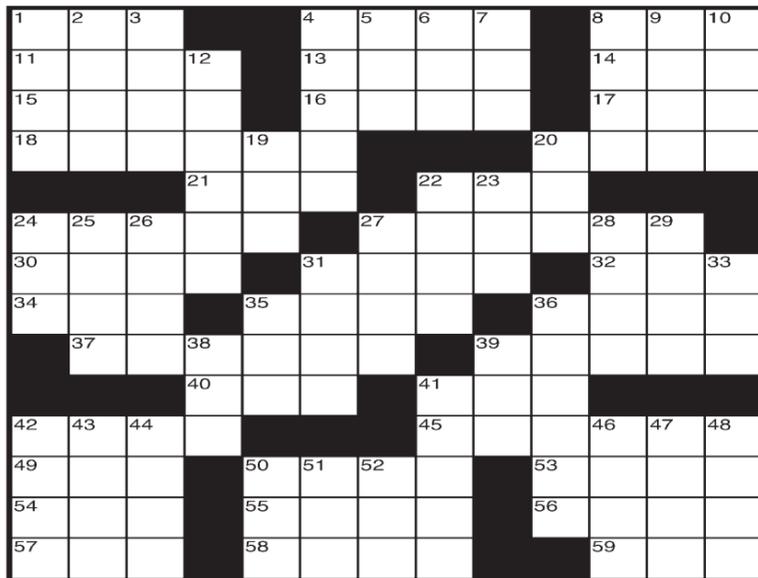
GARFIELD® by Jim Davis



NEA Crossword Puzzle

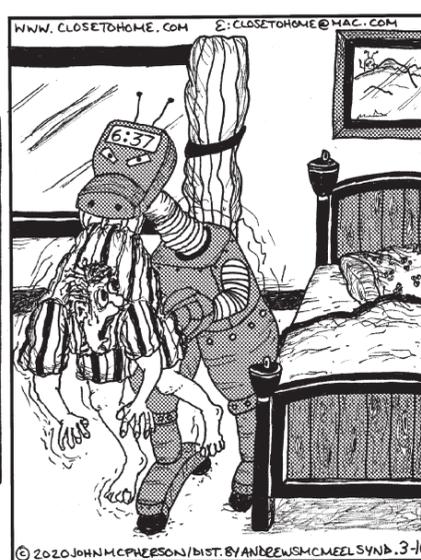
- ACROSS**
- 1 Clumsy one
  - 4 Sleek sled
  - 8 Ear of corn
  - 11 Corker
  - 13 Yves' girlfriend
  - 14 Hail, to Caesar
  - 15 Uris or Spinks
  - 16 Wet and chilly
  - 17 Impractical
  - 18 Type of skiing
  - 20 Sets
  - 21 — Antonio
  - 22 Dazzle
  - 24 Fable writer
  - 27 Fireplace flickers
  - 30 Principal
  - 31 WWW addresses
  - 32 — -de-sac
  - 34 Prince Valiant's eldest
  - 35 Just fine
  - 36 No charge
  - 37 BB shot
  - 39 Tie a turkey
  - 40 Fabric meas.
- DOWN**
- 1 Earthen pot
  - 2 Ayla's creator
  - 3 Complete failure
  - 4 Fraught
  - 5 "Pulp Fiction" name
  - 6 Clear liquor
  - 7 Startled cry
  - 8 Showed up
  - 9 Cameo shape
  - 10 Pallets
  - 12 Perfect accord

- Answer to Previous Puzzle**
- |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| H | I | D | T | A | R | S | S | C | A | M |
| A | R | E | R | I | C | A | L | A | M | A |
| R | E | V | I | R | A | N | L | O | D | O |
| S | N | I | P | P | Y | E | M | P | I | R |
| H | E | L | L | O | D | E | L |   |   |   |
|   |   | A | D | A | G | E | S | L | A | B |
| L | O | O | N | W | A | R | S | D | A | L |
| Y | O | R | E | L | P | N | U | C | L | A |
| E | P | A | A | S | S | E | N | T |   |   |
|   |   | T | E | D |   | O | C | C | O |   |
| A | L | O | N | S | O | A | D | H | E | R |
| T | O | R | T | R | I | N | D | A | S |   |
| O | B | I | E | B | O | N | E | E | L | I |
| P | O | O | R | S | U | E | D | S | S | N |
- 19 Fabric surface**
- 20 Mineral find**
- 22 Ms. McBeal**
- 23 Existed**
- 24 Rx writers org.**
- 25 Legendary marshal**
- 26 Trig function**
- 27 Toga party site**
- 28 Tan shade**
- 29 Prefers charges**
- 31 Luau strings**
- 33 Orchestra leader — Baxter**
- 35 Primeval**
- 36 Sparing**
- 38 Strong soap**
- 39 — kwon do**
- 41 Fill with happiness**
- 42 Zodiac animal**
- 43 Staffer**
- 44 EPA concern**
- 46 Length x width**
- 47 Outfitted**
- 48 Coupling device**
- 50 Sleepwear**
- 51 Hawaii's Mauna —**
- 52 Folkloric being**



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CLOSE TO HOME by John McPherson



Wade's new Robo-Alarm was failproof at getting him out of bed.

THE LOCKHORNS by Bill Hoest



Astrograph

**Your Birthday**

**MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2020**

Take advantage of opportunities that will have the most significant impact on what's important to you. It's time to fully engage in whatever you are most passionate about. If you are an innovative, aggressive participant, recognition will be yours. Significant stabilization will come from personal change and prudent investing.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Move outside your circle and interact with people who can shine a new light on something that interests you. Make adjustments that will improve your current financial and domestic situations.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) -- Turn your attention toward people and projects that excite you, and refuse to let anyone take advantage of you. Put your priorities first and do what's best for you.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) -- Fend for yourself and take credit for what you accomplish. The less contact you have with

others, the easier it will be to get things done without interference. A personal pick-me-up will boost your morale.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) -- Search for a way to raise your earning potential or boost an investment that will enhance your retirement savings. A sensitive matter will confuse you. When in doubt, reserve judgment.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) -- Follow your gut instinct and make your feelings and thoughts crystal-clear. Helping others and sharing your ideas will help you get ahead. Romance is featured.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Step into the spotlight and be entertaining, but don't share your inner thoughts or beliefs. Put a smile on someone's face instead of raising controversial issues that will be divisive.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- If you show how passionate and willing you are to put your time and effort behind a cause you care about, you will make a difference and drum up support.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Take a back seat and observe.

Once you know where you stand among your peers, you can share your opinions with those who can help further your plans.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Surround yourself with people who build you up and encourage you to excel. Loyal friends with similar interests will help you expand your ideas. Make your feelings clear to a loved one.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Alter your life or plans because you want to, not because someone is pressuring you. Do whatever you can to secure your finances and ensure that you live a healthy lifestyle.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Forge ahead energetically. If you want something, go after it, and if you desire change, take the helm and implement what you want to happen. Romance will enrich your personal life.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Express your thoughts. Discuss what you want to do and give others the freedom to do the same. Walk away from situations that limit or confine you.

Bridge

**NO LONGER CARDS OF CAPITALISM**

When the Soviet Union was the Soviet Union, bridge was an illegal game. Playing cards were considered an epitome of capitalist decadence. However, addicts managed to play in secret. The imagery of clandestine games brings to mind the intrigue of war movies. Now that the Soviet Union is many different nations, bridge has been allowed to come into the open. Since then, Russians have won world championships.

This deal took place during the Estonian Trial for a European Championship some years ago. It was beautifully defended by Kaarel Kaldjarv (West) and Yuri Aava.

At almost all tables, the final contract was four hearts by South. All the declarers except one got home on a crossruff. They took their three aces,

three diamond ruffs in the dummy and four top trumps in hand.

Do you see how Kaldjarv and Aava defeated the game?

Kaldjarv won trick one with the spade queen. He continued with the spade six, won by East's 10. Aava cashed the spade ace, on which West threw the club eight. Then Aava produced the killing thrust: He led another spade, on which Kaldjarv discarded the club jack.

Declarer could no longer score the club ace: West ruffed it.

Perhaps East was trying for a trump promotion with the fourth spade, but that doesn't detract from the successful defense.

North		03-16-20	
♠ K 9 3			
♥ 10 7 6 2			
♦ 3			
♣ A 9 7 4 3			
West		East	
♠ Q 6	♠ A J 10 8 7		
♥ 5 4 3	♥ K		
♦ K 10 8 5 4 2	♦ Q 7		
♣ J 8	♣ K Q 6 5 2		
South			
♠ 5 4 2			
♥ A Q J 9 8			
♦ A J 9 6			
♣ 10			
Dealer: East			
Vulnerable: Both			
South	West	North	East
2♥	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass
Opening lead: ♠ Q			