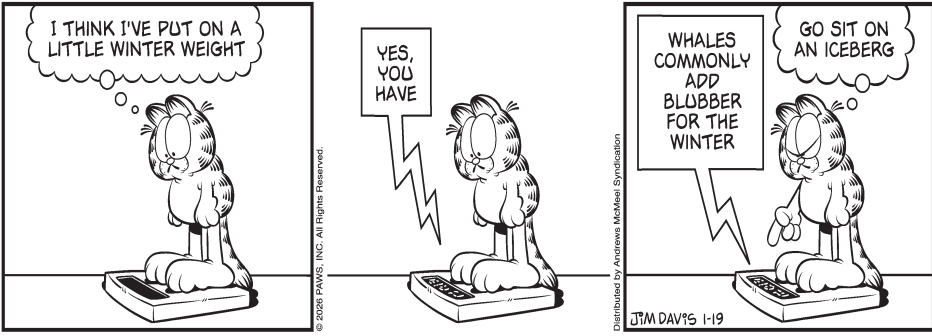
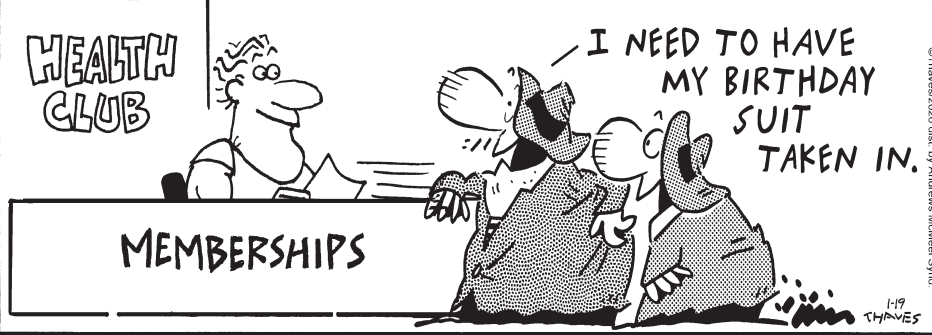


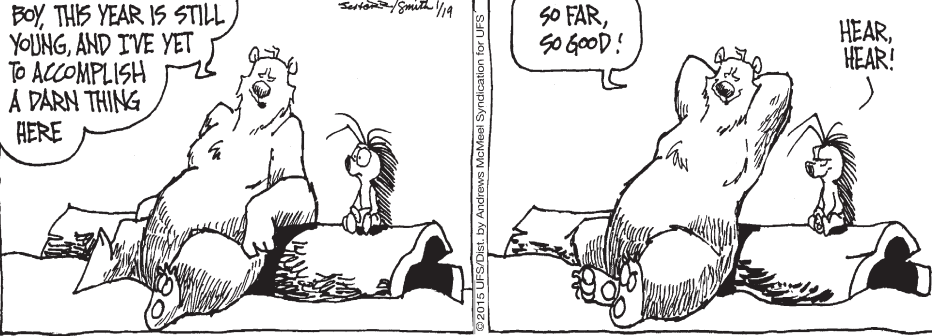
GARFIELD



FRANK & ERNEST



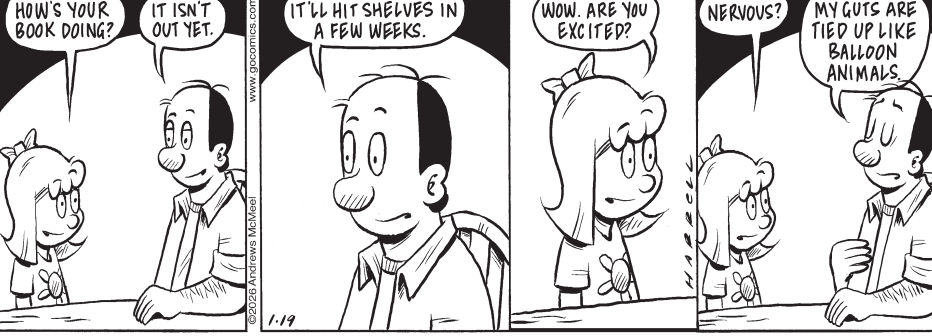
THE GRIZZWELLS



BEETLE BAILEY



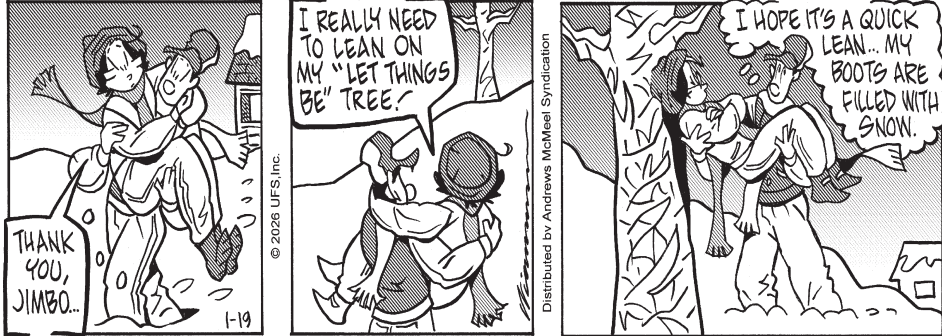
ADAM DAILIES



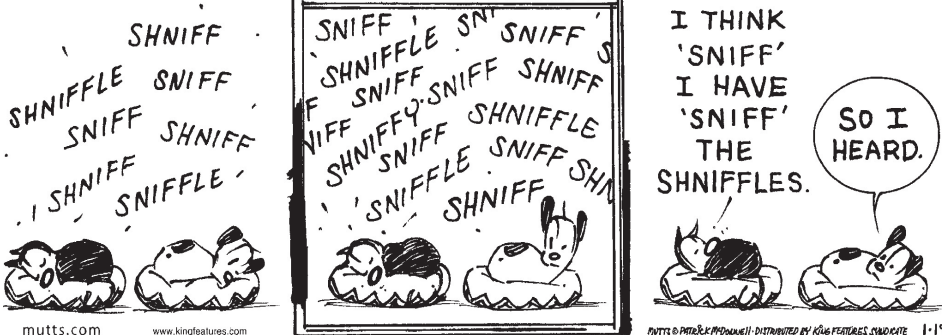
THE BORN LOSER



ROSE IS ROSE



MUTTS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



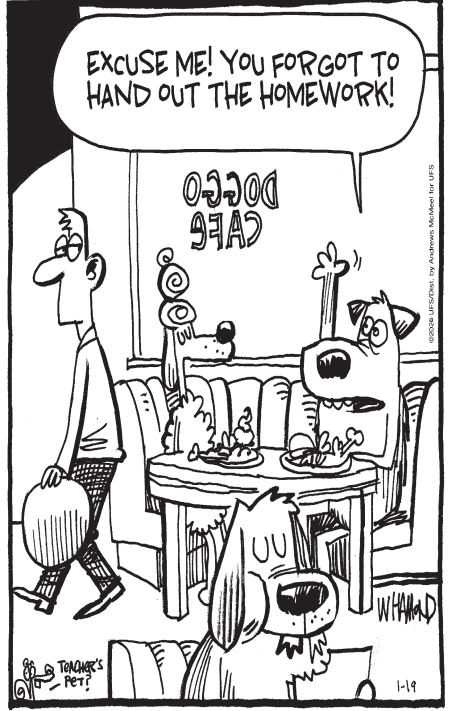
DADDY DAZE



MODERATELY CONFUSED



REALITY CHECK



**A**n avalanche is a sudden and rapid flow of snow and debris down a mountainside. Avalanches are triggered when a new weight or stress is added to the existing snowpack on the mountain slope. Once an avalanche has been triggered, it quickly grows in size as it collects more snow and debris, creating one of nature's most deadly natural disasters.

**SNOW FALL**

There are two basic types of avalanches. "Loose snow" avalanches are common and account for only a small percentage of deaths. "Slab" avalanches involve a large "plate" of snow moving as a single unit. Slab avalanches are the most dangerous type of avalanche and account for most avalanche-related deaths.

**SNOW JOB**

It is estimated that as many as 60,000 soldiers were killed by avalanches while fighting in the Alps during World War I.

In 1970, more than 20,000 people were killed when an avalanche buried two entire towns in Peru.

Worldwide, about 150 people are killed each year by avalanches.

Hundreds of avalanches occur every year in the mountainous areas of the world.

**TRAIL MIX**

Can you help these hikers avoid the avalanche?

Why doesn't anyone know about the tree buried in the avalanche? It was a coverup.

**TRAIL**

**Shortcuts**  
by Jeff Harris

**A COLD LOOK AT**

**AVALARANCHES**

This edition of Shortcuts is sponsored by Frankie Avalanche.

I buried my singing competition back in the 1950s.

How did the avalanche win the contest? By a landslide.

An avalanche may reach speeds of more than 100 km/hr (60 mph) within a few seconds.

Why doesn't the government regulate avalanches? It's a slippery slope.

Most avalanches occur on slopes with an angle between 30 and 45 degrees. Steeper slopes tend to avoid snow buildup, while less steep slopes require more force to move the snowpack.

The snow of a moving avalanche quickly turns as solid as concrete when the avalanche eventually stops.

Contrary to popular belief, loud noises will not trigger an avalanche.

If caught in an avalanche, you should try to "swim" to stay near the surface. When the avalanche slows, you should try to cover your mouth to clear a space to breathe and punch one hand skyward to help show your position to rescuers.

What meal do snowy mountains eat between breakfast and dinner? Ava-lunch.