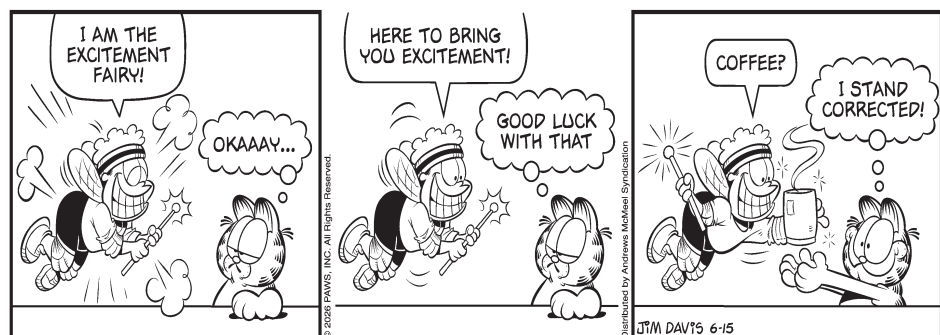
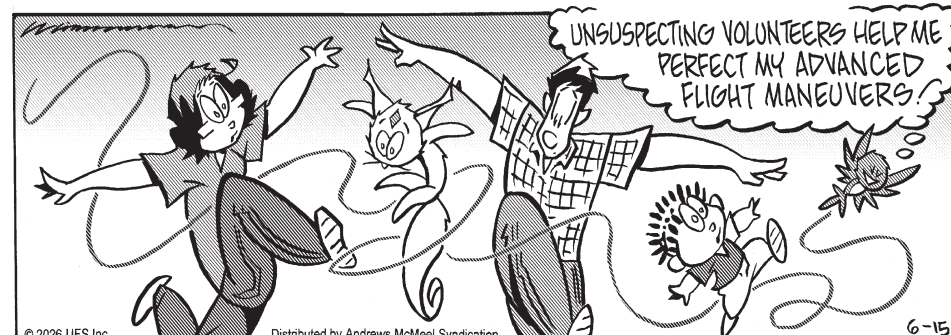


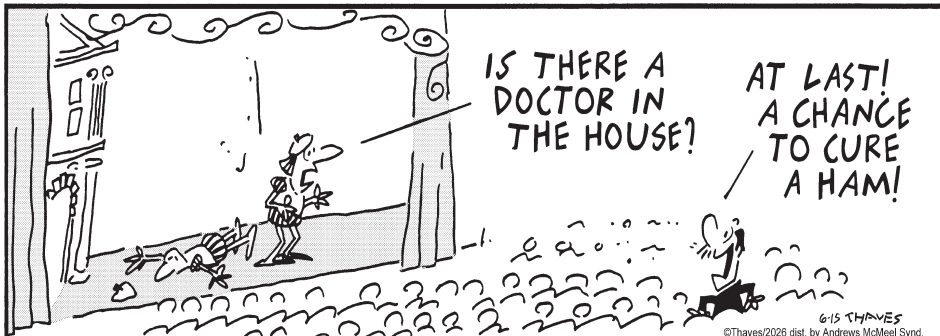
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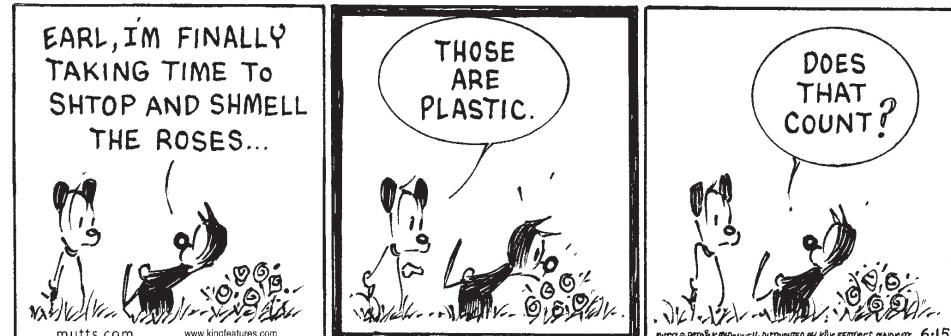
ROSE IS ROSE



FRANK & ERNEST



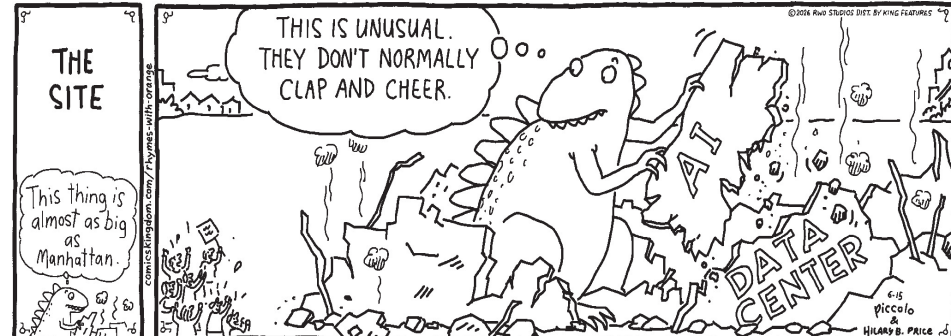
MUTTS



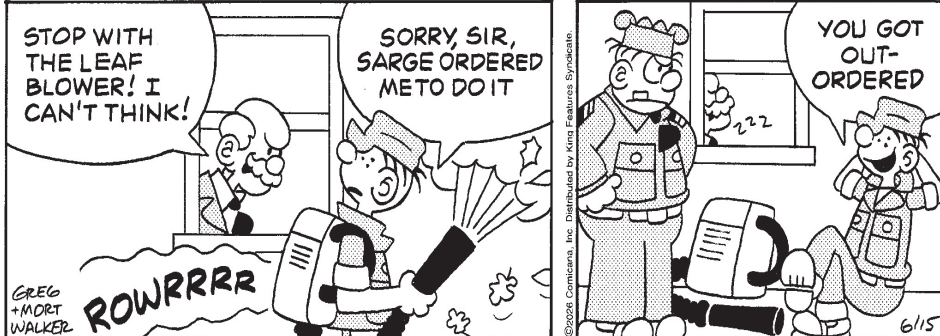
THE GRIZZWELLS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



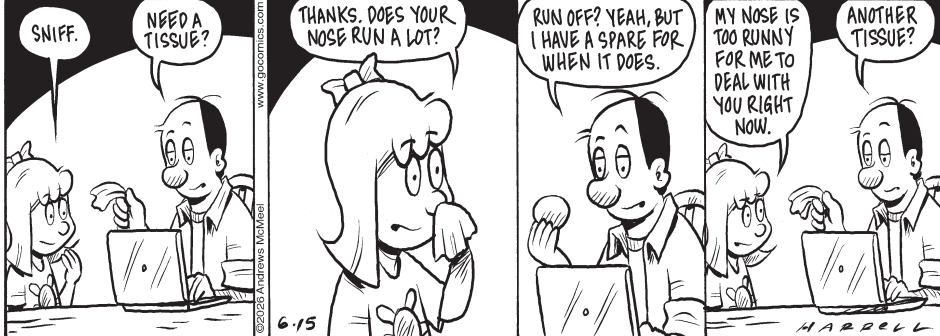
BEETLE BAILEY



DADDY DAZE



ADAM DAILIES



MODERATELY CONFUSED



REALITY CHECK



THE BORN LOSER



Shortcuts

by Jeff Harris

GETTING A GRIP ON CLAY

Clay is a type of soil that is composed mainly of fine-grained minerals. Two of the most noticeable properties of clay are its "plasticity" when wet, or the ability to be molded and shaped, and that it hardens when dried. After being dried, dry clay can then be re-moistened to become plastic again. In addition, clay can become permanently hardened when heated to high temperatures.

PAY DIRT
There are about 30 different types of clay, and nearly all clays found naturally are a mixture of these different types.

While clay soils are often more fertile than other types of soil, it is generally not well-suited for growing crops because of its poor water drainage.

This cartoon needs to shape up or ship out.

Many animals eat clay as part of their diet.

Clay is a very common substance on our planet.

CLAYMATION
Clay plays an important role in the manufacture of many products, including bricks, cement, paint, paper and tile.

Ceramics made from clay are used as heat shields for modern spacecraft.

This edition of Shortcuts is sponsored by Liz Clay Borne.

I can be fashioned into nearly any shape.

Clay is one of the oldest building materials. It takes thousands of years for natural clay to form.

WORD SEARCH
Can you find the hidden words? Search carefully because some words are backward or diagonal.

COMMON CLAY PRAIRIEDOGFUN
POTTERY HEAT OLWOWALLIEPOE
HARDEN FINE TEAMOOPIEEMOD
PLASTIC SOIL THESEEPUPTRR
TABLET ENIFTLMBOYYEA
OBJECT BOB RIDEAIACTEACH
BUILD OLD TCEJBOCLTBFUN
FIRED DRY OURLSPAENOCN
FORM WET SHIPEHYRBOOT
OFFITHAMYEARS

FIRED UP
Can you help this potter get to her wheel?

Different types of clay heated, or "fired," at different temperatures will produce a wide variety of final products, including earthenware, stoneware and porcelain.

Clay has been used for thousands of years as traditional medicine in many cultures around the world.

The Sumerians began keeping written records using tablets made of clay more than 5,000 years ago.

Archaeologists believe humans began making objects from clay more than 20,000 years ago, and clay pottery more than 14,000 years ago.

Why did the kiln say to the clay? You're fired!

Why don't cats like clay? They don't know what to make of it.

Why did the potter put her face in the clay? She fell asleep at the wheel.

What do you call a Sasquatch that likes to make bowls out of clay? A hairy potter.

More than half of the people on Earth live or work in buildings constructed using materials made from clay.