



# The Salute Online



Monthly newsletter of the Portsmouth Area Chapter, an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America, serving Portsmouth, Chesapeake, Suffolk, Smithfield, Franklin, and surrounding counties, Virginia, since 1983. Dinner meetings are the Second Thursday of each month except July and August. Although **MOAA** and **PACMOAA** actively lobby legislatures for all US uniformed services members, we are nonpartisan and do not participate in political activities.

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JULY/AUGUST 2020

## FROM THE PRESIDENT



I hope you and your families are doing as well as can be expected after so many months of our world changing. Even though we are in phase 3 of reopening, cases in Hampton Roads have been increasing as have hospitalizations but nothing like they are seeing in Florida, Texas or Arizona! Since the vast majority of our members are in the high risk category, please be careful and protect your families. Continue to practice the CDC recommendations per wearing a mask in groups,

washing your hands thoroughly, etc. seem prudent to continue to follow as well as following the Phase 3 Guidelines for Virginia. As a nurse who worked with children with a variety of infectious diseases for many years and since many of our members are in high risk categories, I have always tried to be proactive protecting my patients, family, and friends. Thus, I am writing this from multiple perspectives – President of PACMOAA, President of the Hampton Roads Chapter of the Virginia Nurses Association, and as a Pediatric Clinical Nursing Instructor. I have never been able to separate my nursing knowledge and experiences from my everyday life and I speak from that perspective, not a political one. As you all know, MOAA is nonpolitical as is PACMOAA. As our world seems to be more and more polarized, we all need to remember that politics should not impact our actions in PACMOAA.

Last month I noted that over 4400 medical personnel had been deployed to assist with COVID 19 patients throughout the country as of 29 April. We are starting to see medical units deploy again as cases and hospitalizations are rising – **740 medical personnel from the Army, Navy and Air Force were deployed on 1 July to Texas and North Carolina.**

On 14 June, in his briefing, Governor Northam noted that National Guard Troops in Virginia have been working hard moving supplies as well as assisting with screening for COVID 19 throughout the state! Part of their pay is being funded by the federal government currently but that will run out soon so Virginia is applying to have an extension on that policy.

I mentioned last month that the VA National Guard has a dual mission - A dual-status force with state and federal missions. Thus, either the Governor or President can deploy them. They usually are deployed in the state to assist with natural disasters like snowstorms or hurricanes. Most of the VA National Guard are citizen soldiers who have full time jobs in their respective professions. They are our friends and neighbors who are called up to serve, often with minimal notice and do so as needed.

**PACMOAA had its 1<sup>st</sup> virtual meeting on 9 July to recognize our scholarship winners!** It was a pleasure to see/hear the attendees – 12 members, 2 spouses, and 9 guests.

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## PACMOAA LEADERSHIP

See Online Listing



## CHAPTER NEWS

## JULY CALENDAR

01 WAC/CADET NURSE CORP (1943)	27 KOREAN WAR ARMISTICE (1953)
01 US ARMY AIR CORPS (1926)	28 WWI BEGAN (1914)
04 INDEPENDENCE DAY	29 ARMY CHAPLAIN CORPS ANN.
15 TAX DAY	30 NAVY WOMENS' RESERVE (1942)

## BELATED JUNE BIRTHDAY

Irv Lindley

## JULY BIRTHDAYS

Fred Berck Sherry Ferki  
 Roger Hirsh Andre Mayfield  
 Peggy Moran

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Henry Boschen Dolly Cherrington  
 Harold Cole Herb DeGroft Harry Miller  
 Gordon Nelson Bob Steorts  
 Steve Turner Karl Wilson  
 Jim Yandle

## FROM THE PRESIDENT cont.

The guests included our scholarship winners, their parents , 2 JROTC leaders (LTC Pete Badoian, USA, Ret., from Smithfield HS & LTC Keith Johnson, USA, Ret., from Woodrow Wilson HS, both AJROTC Leaders!), and our speaker James Zobel, Director/Archivist MacArthur Memorial discussed General Douglas MacArthur. He serves as the curator of manuscripts, librarian and caretaker for over 2million documents; 100,000 photographs, 600 films, and a 40,000 volume library within a collection of 167 record groups. Duties include preservation, cataloguing, conducting oral histories, organization of Memorial events, and providing research assistance for the more than 3500 patrons that use the MacArthur Memorial Archives and Library each year.

James has authored numerous books and articles (e.g., Victory at All Cost, KOKODA – 2017, and MacArthur: The Supreme Commander at War in the Pacific -2015. He has also written and produced multiple videos (e.g., WWI: Trench Warfare – 2016, and The MacArthur Story – 2012 as well as has been the Keynote Speaker many times.



James was one of the most interesting speakers I can remember. He discussed General MacArthur from WWI through his death. I am including a little background for anyone not familiar with Gen. MacArthur. Douglas MacArthur (January 26, 1880–April 5, 1964) was a soldier in World War I; the senior commander in the Pacific theater during World War II; and the Commander-in-Chief of the United Nations Command during the Korean War. He retired as a highly-decorated five-star general, although fairly ignominiously relieved of his duty by President Harry S. Truman on April 11, 1951. He has been honored throughout the world for his leadership in

WWII esp. in the Philippines, Australia, Japan, Korea and France. It was a great honor for the MacArthur Memorial to be built in Norfolk. His Mom was from Norfolk and he said it felt like home when he visited.

MacArthur's Dad was a COL in the Civil War and ended up raising his sons out west moving from post to post. MacArthur was a great student and felt that you had to understand the past to understand the future.

Many people remember MacArthur famously stated that "old soldiers never die; they just fade away" when addressing Congress in 1951. He was a very complex man and many videos are available on YouTube when you type in MacArthur Memorial.

Both of our scholarship recipients participated and spoke briefly to the group.



"Hi, I'm Devin Fitzgerald from Smithfield High School. I am formerly the Packer Battalion commander and Cadet Lieutenant Colonel at Smithfield High School. I am soon to be a team member of the Battalion and I will be a private no Insignia at JMU (James Madison University) and I couldn't be more excited."

"When given the PACMOAA award on the JROTC level I was honored to be selected by a program who has dedicated 37 years to protecting the interests of those who protect us by influencing state and local legislation."

"However, when I was given the PACMOAA scholarship I was more than honored. I was, or rather am, motivated and inspired to be funded by a program who epitomizes all seven of the army values that my SAI Colonel Badoian taught me.

The Army value that I see most in the PACMOAA, however, is loyalty. The Loyalty that the PACMOAA shows to the active military through protecting government interests, to Veterans through programs like retired Volunteers in medical service, and even to upcoming officers like me is awe-inspiring."

"I would like to say a broad thank you to all of you for your service to this country, for being a part of this program, and for funding scholarships. On a slightly more personal note, I would like to thank Lieutenant Colonel Peter Badoian and my parents for teaching me the skills and Leadership that I needed to develop to earn anything. I would also like to thank President Major Sherry Ferki and the scholarship committee for helping to fund my college Journey as an intelligence analysis major with a minor military science and my military career as an Army officer". *The above section was from Devin's introduction to the group at our ZOOM meeting.*



Morgan Magrisi was a Cadet LT COL, Unit Deputy Commander and was in the AFJROTC for 4 years at Nansemond River High School. He won multiple awards including a 2019 USAF JROTC Chief of Staff Flight Academy Private Pilot Scholarship (only 150 worldwide) to earn a private pilot's license! Morgan graduated from Nansemond River High School and will be attending VMI. He noted that he will be attending school on a 4 year Navy ROTC scholarship and will study mechanical engineering with a concentration in aerospace. At this time, he plans to pursue either special operations or aviation in a long-term Navy career. Morgan also thanked PACMOAA for his scholarship and really appreciated the assistance it will provide him.

An interesting correlation I noticed as I was writing about our 2020 scholarship winners was that the 2018 scholarship winners also went to JMU and VMI!!

We aren't sure what we'll be doing for our September meeting yet but will have a speaker. The Hilton-Garden Inn is anxious for us to return and will assist us in any way possible. We will keep you updated per the September meeting.

As we "**Never Stop Serving**", please remember our troops currently serving – Active Duty, Reserve, National Guard, and their families; retirees and their families; and all the veterans and wounded warriors in your thoughts and prayers. Please remember our country also during this very difficult time.

## MEMBERSHIP

### WELCOME ABOARD

PACMOAA wishes a belated hearty welcome to 2 new members from April and 1 from June.

CWO4 Larry Mellis, USN (Ret) and his wife Vicki from Suffolk.

CAPT Harold (Hal) Cole, USN and his wife Heather from Suffolk.

CDR Morgan (Blaine) Pearsall, USN (Ret) and his wife Debbie from Smithfield

**Membership is key to having an effective organization!** Even though we haven't been able to have an in person meeting since March, *PACMOAA is still conducting business*. The Board has had several virtual meetings; JROTC certificates and medals were distributed to 9 of the 13 JROTC programs we cover, 4 schools either didn't respond or didn't have a cadet selected; the scholarship committee selected 2 winners from 6 very qualified students; and we had our first Zoom program meeting on 9 July.

As was noted at PACMOAA's 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and many times since, PACMOAA objectives are as follows: **Membership, Legislative Advocacy, and Community Activities**. Some members feel like they should not belong to an organization if they cannot be an active member, attending meetings and/or participating in PACMOAA activities. Without increased membership and engagement of the current membership, we will not be able to continue being effective in legislative advocacy and involvement with community advocacy.

PACMOAA had 67 paid members, including 6 life members and 7 new members, as of 18 July 2020. There were 71 members at the end of 2019 and two of those moved and there are still 6 members that have not renewed yet. PACMOAA membership has consistently decreased every year since 1990 with the exception of 2017. This is not unique to this organization but increased membership is especially important when advocacy for the military community is so vital in the current environment!!

Hopefully, we'll be able to have a meeting in September. If so, please think about an eligible friend that you can invite as your guest. Potential members can attend their first meeting at half price.

***If you have not done so, please pay your dues as soon as possible!!*** You have probably received several emails, phone calls and a snail mail letter reminding you that dues are due!! If not sure if you've paid or not, please contact myself or Dolly Cherrington, Membership Chair. Remember the effectiveness VCOC has in the state legislature is related to chapter membership! **Adding extra money to your dues check for the PACMOAA scholarship would be very helpful in enabling PACMOAA to continue awarding 2 scholarships each year.**

## PERSONAL AFFAIRS/IN MEMORIUM

The past 4 months have been difficult for all of us but the past 2 months have been especially difficult for several of our members.



**Eleanor Parker** went into hospice in late May and died on 17 June. She and CAPT Bob Parker, USN (Ret), were married for 59 years and spent 40 of those years living in Portsmouth until they were relocated to Northern Virginia in 2017 due to health issues. They always attended the annual Christmas Gala. Bob was able to attend the funeral but had to go back into lockdown at his assisted living facility afterwards for 2 weeks afterwards.

Picture to the left and above was taken at their Assisted Living Facility in 2018.



**Paulamarie C. Turner** passed away on Monday, July 20, 2020 after a nearly three year battle with stage IV metastatic breast cancer. She and COL Steve Turner, USAF (Ret), were married for over 50 years. Interment and appropriate services will be at the historic Glebe Episcopal Church in Suffolk, VA at a later date as public health concerns allow. Shortly after Steve joined PACMOAA in 2010, he became the PACMOAA VCOC representative and he and Paula frequently attended meetings together. I

always enjoyed talking with her at meetings!! Picture above is at the PACMOAA Annual Joint Brunch in 2012 with Steve and Paula to the left.



Steve and Paula had not been able to attend and PACMOAA functions in some time due to her illness and it was great to see them last summer at our joint brunch. Picture to the left is a more recent picture of Paula.

We will miss both of these very special ladies and send our thoughts and prayers to their husbands and families.

Sherry Ferki, Personal Affairs Officer  
Home number: 686-4650 Cell: 630-5608

## LEGISLATIVE

### NDAAs Update: Where We've Been, Where We Are, and What's Next

Excerpts below from this document on MOAA website

By: Brenden McMahon July 22, 2020 *Updated July 23 with Senate passage)*

The House passed its version of the FY 2021 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) on Tuesday by a strong bipartisan vote of 295-125, and the Senate followed suit Thursday, passing its version by an 86-14 margin. While these votes mark significant steps forward in the NDAA process, it's far from over.

Here's a look at what's happened so far, where things stand, and the status of some MOAA-supported NDAA provisions, including ways you can reach out to your legislators to make your voice heard.

#### **Where We've Been**

The NDAA worked its way through the House and Senate Armed Services Committees (HASC and SASC, respectively). On June 10, the SASC voted 25-2 to advance its draft of the NDAA, pushing it to the Senate floor. The HASC followed suit and completed its committee mark-up for the NDAA just before midnight July 1.

Unlike last year, when the markup of the HASC version of the NDAA was divided down party lines, this year's version was passed by unanimous consent. This was in large part due to the bipartisan collaboration between Chairman Adam Smith (D-Wash.) and HASC ranking member Rep. Mac Thornberry (R-Texas).

The House worked through 407 amendments before passing H.R. 6395, its version of the NDAA. More than 700 amendments went to the House Rules Committee. The SASC adopted 62 amendments during its markup of S. 4049.

#### **Current State of Play**

This is a critical juncture for the FY21 NDAA, as the bill will advance to a conference committee, where members of the House and Senate will negotiate behind closed doors.

The conference committees typically begin their work as soon as possible following passage once the chambers vote on their version of the bill, so the window of opportunity to influence what is reported to conference is narrowing.

## Provisions to Note

This year, some provisions in the NDAA will benefit servicemembers, retirees, survivors, and their families, and some provisions will be detrimental. The provisions MOAA is advocating to make it through the NDAA process include: *NOTE- I am only including those related to Military Health cuts/the Virtual Storming the Hill issue this year.*

### *Military Health Care*

Despite the [success of MOAA's Virtual Storming the Hill](#), efforts to include a halt to military medical end strength cuts and the realignment of military treatment facilities (MTFs) in the NDAA remain at risk. While the House version has language supporting these provisions, the Senate version does not.

MOAA is pivoting its focus to the Senate to ensure the House provisions make it through conference. [Contact your senator today](#) to express your support for the House provisions.

**[RELATED: [Halt Military Medical Cuts: MOAA's Virtual Storm Shows Results in NDAA](#)]**

Even though the Defense Health Agency has announced a delay to all MTF restructuring and billet cuts, we believe legislation is needed to not only slow the process but also bolster reporting requirements and oversight mechanisms at every possible juncture to ensure DHA conducts qualified analysis and planning for any patient care moved out of MTFs.

## What's Next?

As MOAA continues its advocacy, you, our members, and other stakeholders have an important role to play. MOAA's annual Summer Storm is set to begin in early August.

Our Virtual Storming the Hill was exceptionally impactful, and now it is imperative that we shift our focus to the Senate as the congressional summer break is set to begin.

Over the next two weeks, we will be providing MOAA members with information about these NDAA topics, including ways you can help during the final stages of the NDAA process. Keep up with the [latest advocacy news](#) from MOAA for all the details.

## MOAA Answers Your Questions About Concurrent Receipt

By: Mark Belinsky June 29, 2020 Excerpts below from this document on MOAA website

*Note from MOAA: Below, you'll find answers to some frequently asked questions about concurrent receipt, Chapter 61 military retirees, and MOAA's advocacy work on this critical issue. For more information, including the latest on advocacy efforts, visit MOAA's [Concurrent Receipt Resources and Advocacy Updates](#) page. [Click here](#) to take action now.*

**Q. What is concurrent receipt?**

**A.** Concurrent receipt refers to when a military retiree receives both retired pay and disability pay. Retired pay is for service and paid for by DoD, while disability pay compensates for injury

and is paid by the VA. Current law requires a reduction, referred to as an offset, in retirement pay for every dollar of disability received.

The concurrent receipt problem is an acknowledged injustice. The 2003 National Defense Authorization Act granted concurrent receipt for those with 50% or greater disability. Those with 40% VA disability and below and Chapter 61 retirees receive a reduced retirement payment. Many in this group see this as an unjust cost-saving measure that forces retirees to fund their VA disability with their earned retirement pay.

#### **“Addendum from another MOAA document : Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC)**

**CRSC** is one of two forms of concurrent receipt. [CRDP](#), **Concurrent Retirement Disability Pay**, is the other form. Concurrent receipt is the restoration of Service retired pay that’s docked due to receipt of VA disability compensation. Or in other words, concurrent receipt reimburses you what the VA Waiver removes from your retired pay. You are allowed to accept one form of concurrent receipt or the other but not both. “

#### **Q. What is Chapter 61?**

**A.** Chapter 61 veterans are military retirees who were forced to retire from military service before reaching 20 years in service. The term “Chapter 61” refers to the chapter of the United States Code that defines the categories of medical separation and retirement from military service. There are approximately 210,000 Chapter 61 retirees, and 42,000 of them receive **Combat Related Special Compensation (CRSC)**.

#### **Q. Doesn’t CRSC take care of all the combat-related Chapter 61 retirees?**

**A.** For junior servicemembers forced to medically retire, CRSC may cover the entire offset, but for those with longevity, CRSC does not cover the loss.

As an example, consider an O-4 (Army/Marine/Air Force major, or Navy lieutenant commander) injured in combat and forced to medically retire at 14 years of service with a 100% VA disability.

- Under current law, that officer would receive \$1,855 in CRSC and net pay along with \$3,106 in VA disability pay, for a total of \$4,961.
- After passage of the Major Richard Star Act, that officer would receive \$2,730 in longevity pay and continue to receive \$3,106 in VA disability pay, for a new total of \$5,836 – an additional \$875 a month.

[RELATED: [Understanding Concurrent Receipt](#)]

#### **Q. Does MOAA support concurrent receipt for all?**

**A.** MOAA is dedicated to keep up the efforts to achieve concurrent receipt for all and has supported larger bills such as H.R. 333 and H.R. 303. The cost of these larger bills is the obstacle to progress on concurrent receipt and one reason there has been little progress in over a decade. **An incremental approach that breaks up the categories of concurrent receipt into smaller, less costly objectives has the potential to garner multiple small victories en route to concurrent receipt for all.**

#### **Q. Who does the Major Richard Star Act actually help?**

**A.** The Major Richard Star Act, [H.R. 5995](#) (companion bill: [S. 3393](#)), will provide concurrent receipt for approximately 42,000 combat related Chapter 61 retirees. It is part of an incremental progress strategy to achieve concurrent receipt for all, setting the conditions for achieving follow-on objectives that chip away at the larger objective.

[TAKE ACTION: [Support the Inclusion of Concurrent VA Disability Pay and Retired Pay for Combat-Related Retirees in the FY 2021 NDAA](#)]

NOTE: Concurrent receipt is rather difficult to understand but similar to the issue with SBP/DIC payments. In both cases, recipients are not receiving full military retirement benefits along with VA Disability payments. MOAA has numerous articles online and booklets available to provide more detailed information.

## **Brief Notes From VCOC Quarterly Meeting on 17 July 2020**

### **Update on 2020 Legislative Priorities**

- COL Monti Zimmerman, USA (Ret) reported on the Joint Leadership Council (JLC) Legislative Initiatives 2020. There were *six JLC initiatives. Three issues were approved #1, 2, & 4.* One sponsored by VCOC for a three-day extension to count overseas ballots and will be on the ballot on 3 November. The second was the Constitutional ballot initiative for 100% disabled veterans. The third was emergency response pay to junior enlisted members of the Virginia National Guard
- 2021 issues for JLC the Legislative Committee approved support for the JLC for initiatives 3 ( Income tax subtraction for certain low-income disabled veterans sponsored by American Legion ) and 5 (Tax credits for employers who hire VNG and Reserves sponsored by Virginia Army & Air Guard Enlisted Association) from last year. MOAA will support and sponsor JLC initiative 6 ( Microloans for Veterans Program – MVP – sponsored by AUSA and Co-sponsored with MOAA). They are being formulated and are due by 20 July.

Note: Virginia NG have been paid less than those if NC and Tenn. so some serve in NG in other states for more pay!!

### **Two positions open on VCOC Board**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Membership Chair
- 3<sup>rd</sup> VP – Legislative Chair

Submitted by Sherry Ferki, MAJ, USA (Ret)

## **COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

### **PHARMACY UPDATES FROM NMCP WEBSITE JULY 2020**

#### **NMCP Pharmacy Call Center 953- 0258**

#### **9 July 2020**

Naval Medical Center Portsmouth COVID-19 call Center Delays

We are aware that there is a significant delay in the wait times on the NMCP Pharmacy Call Center, 757-953-0258, and at the NMCP Outpatient Pharmacy. This is being caused by technical difficulties at the Pharmacy. We are currently working to shorten the wait times. We apologize for any inconvenience this might cause and thank you for your patience.

As a reminder:

- Electronic prescriptions from your nmcp provider may now be processed and picked-up at all pharmacies. Stop by the Pharmacy of your choice to initiate your prescription and return to the same pharmacy in three days to pick it up (urgent prescriptions will still be filled same day).
- Prescription refills must be called in through Audiocare at 757-953-6337, but may be picked up at any pharmacy, except Northwest.
- If your prescriptions are sent electronically by an outside civilian provider, you can initiate your prescription by calling the Pharmacy Call Center at 757-953-0258. (please allow for a three business day turnaround time). A pick up date and time will be assigned to pick up your prescription at one of the following locations (please allow for a three business day turnaround time):
  - Oceana Pharmacy Drive Thru (M-F 7 a.m.-4 p.m.)
  - Norfolk Walk-In Pharmacy (M-F 7 a.m.-4 p.m.)
  - Boone Pharmacy Drive Thru (M-Sat 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m.)
  - Scott Center Annex Pharmacy Drive Thru (M-Sat 7 a.m.-6 p.m.) **Note: Delay in obtaining refills , currently 4 days - posted 21 July.**

8 July 2020

Naval Medical Center Portsmouth COVID-19 call Center Delays

We understand that the COVID-19 Call Center, 757-953-6200, is currently experiencing longer than usual wait times. This is due to an increase in the number of calls coming in to the center. We are currently working to shorten the wait times. We apologize for any inconvenience this might cause and thank you for your patience.

### PORTSMOUTH VOLUNTEERS FOR THE HOMELESS

Excerpts from Portsmouth Volunteers for the Homeless (PVH )Update--In response to the State agency that partially supports some of our shelter operations, we are again extending our shelter services. We have been asked to avoid exiting individuals from our shelter back into homelessness so we are continuing our services through July 30th. We will re-assess and make future operations decisions appropriately.

PVH Service Center hours remain extended to help adhere to the Governor's phased openings and his encouraging people who do not need to be out to stay at home so this arrangement is home for our clients.

PVH Service New hours of operation--

Service Center: Monday - Sunday, 7 AM - 6 PM

Shelter: Monday - Sunday, 6 PM - 6AM

We thank you for your support and encouragement as we continue our best efforts to shield and shelter Portsmouth citizens who are experiencing homelessness during this pandemic.

If you have questions or need additional information, please call (757-393-0200) or email Darlene Washington, DPM, Executive Director ([pvh.ExecutiveDirector@gmail.com](mailto:pvh.ExecutiveDirector@gmail.com)).

Here's a list of items that we use regularly and need assistance in maintaining. Some are difficult to find and the reason we're running low.

<i>Disinfectant Wipes</i>	<i>Shower Shoes</i>	<i>Disinfectant Spray (Lysol or other brand)</i>
<i>Body Wash</i>	<i>Lotion</i>	<i>Bathroom Cleanser</i>
<i>Non-Latex Gloves</i>	<i>Snacks</i>	

**P.S. Donations can be dropped off or ordered on amazon smile for delivery.**

***Sharing a laugh and hopefully, brightening your day! Shared by Herb DeGroft.***

## WHAT YOUNG CHILDREN SAY

1) **NUDITY** I was driving with my three young children one warm summer evening when a woman in the convertible ahead of us stood up and waved. She was stark naked! As I was reeling from the shock, I heard my 5-year-old shout from the back seat, 'Mom, that lady isn't wearing a seat belt!'

2) **OPINIONS** On the first day of school, a first-grader handed his teacher a note from his mother. The note read, 'The opinions expressed by this child are not necessarily those of his parents.'

3) **KETCHUP** A woman was trying hard to get the ketchup out of the jar. During her struggle the phone rang so she asked her 4-year-old daughter to answer the phone. 'Mommy can't come to the phone to talk to you right now. She's hitting the bottle.'

4) **MORE NUDITY** A little boy got lost at the YMCA and found himself in the women's locker room. When he was spotted, the room burst into shrieks, with ladies grabbing towels and running for cover. The little boy watched in amazement and then asked, 'What's the matter, haven't you ever seen a little boy before?'

5) **POLICE** While taking a routine vandalism report at an elementary school, I was interrupted by a little girl about 6 years old. Looking up and down at my uniform, she asked, 'Are you a cop? Yes,' I answered and continued writing the report.

'My mother said if I ever needed help I should ask the police. Is that right?'

'Yes, that's right,' I told her.

'Well, then,' she said as she extended her foot toward me, 'would you please tie my shoe?'

6) **ELDERLY** While working for an organization that delivers lunches to elderly shut-ins, I used to take my 4-year-old daughter on my afternoon rounds. She was unfailingly intrigued by the various appliances of old age, particularly the canes, walkers and wheelchairs. One day I found her staring at a pair of false teeth soaking in a glass. As I braced myself for the inevitable barrage of questions, she merely turned and whispered, 'The tooth fairy will never believe this!'

7) **DRESS-UP** A little girl was watching her parents dress for a party. When she saw her dad donning his tuxedo, she warned, 'Daddy, you shouldn't wear that suit.'

'And why not, darling?'

'You know that it always gives you a headache the next morning.'

8) **DEATH** While walking along the sidewalk in front of his church, our minister heard the intoning of a prayer that nearly made his collar wilt. Apparently, his 5-year-old son and his playmates had found a dead robin. Feeling that proper burial should be performed, they had secured a small box and cottonwool, then dug a hole and made ready for the disposal of the deceased.

The minister's son was chosen to say the appropriate prayers and with sonorous dignity intoned his version of what he thought his father always said: 'Glory be unto the Faaather, and unto the Sonnn, and into the hole he goooes.' (I want this line used at my funeral!)

9) **SCHOOL** A little girl had just finished her first week of school. 'I'm just wasting my time,' she said to her mother. 'I can't read, I can't write, and they won't let me talk!'

10) **BIBLE** A little boy opened the big family Bible. He was fascinated as he fingered through the old pages. Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible. He picked up the object and looked at it. What he saw was an old leaf that had been pressed in between the pages.

'Mama, look what I found,' the boy called out.

'What have you got there, dear?'

With astonishment in the young boy's voice, he answered, 'I think it's Adam's underwear!'



I hope these words from the mouths of children and picture brighten your day some. Please take care of yourselves and your families and be safe!!

Sherry Ferki, Interim Newsletter Editor

**THAT'S A WRAP FOR THE SUMMER!!**