



GOLDEN AGERS

Celebrating Seniors, Enjoying Life & Laughter



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Child Care & First Pancakes

May 10th is National Child Care Provider Day. These folks perform the most important job on the planet! I was lucky enough to get to stay at home with my kids (after we had two), but that first year we had the most fabulous person around! She was so much more than a “Child Care Provider”, she was, and still is, part of the family.

When our first daughter was born, (my first pancake, if you will), I was teaching at a middle school in Columbia. Not an ideal position, but it paid the bills. She was born near the end of the school year, so I had the entire summer to stay at home with her. As the next school year approached I began to fret. I didn’t want my sweet little girl to be left in a crib all day in some impersonal daycare. That was a deal-breaker for me. I wanted *Mary Poppins* for my sweet baby!

The school year began & a USC student that worked in Mom’s gift shop came to my house everyday, but she could only work for me until school started. Mom’s best friend, Helen, called me at 7:00 one morning as I was getting ready for school. “I’ve found somebody!” She began to tell me about a mutual friend whose last child had left for college and she

needed something to do with her time. I called her. We talked. She said, “I’ve never kept anyone else’s child before. I’ll give it two weeks & I’ll let you know.” We joke all the time that I’m still waiting to hear back. Our daughter turned 35 last month.

We all have folks come in & out of our lives for a season. I’m happy to say that this woman, and her entire family, came into ours to stay! Our daughter called her “NaNa” and her husband became “DaDa” long before her actual daddy was called that. At her 1st birthday, when Elizabeth became overwhelmed with the noise and activity of the party, she didn’t run to me or Steve, she ran to NaNa—her “care giver”, her protector, her *Mary Poppins*.

Someone asked me once if I was jealous of their bond. My answer is always the same—heavens NO! You can never have too many people who love you.

Our newest grandbabies have recently found their *Mary Poppins*. Like NaNa, she reads to them, plays with them, & treats them like her own grands. She may not be in their lives 35 years from now, but that’s okay. You never forget those first people who made you feel loved & special. Thank the child care givers in your life. Their job is wild & crazy & wonderful!

Now for the important stuff:

The Week of May 5-11 is:

- Toad Suck Daze
- Be Kind to Animals Week
- Drinking Water Week
- Geek Week
- National Family Week
- National Pet Week
- National Hug Holiday Week
- National Wildflower Week

Some celebrations only last a day:

- 5th-** Cartoonists Day
- Cinco de Mayo
- International Roller Derby Day
- Lemonade Day
- National Astronaut Day
- Rural Life Sunday
- National Hoagie Day
- World Laughter Day
- National Lemonade Day
- 6th-** No Diet Day
- No Homework Day
- National Nurses Day
- Russel Stover Candies Day
- 7th-** Teacher Appreciation Day
- National Design Packaging Day
- Poem On Your Pillow Day
- 8th-** Bike & Roll to School Day
- National Golf Day
- No Socks Day
- National Have a Coke Day
- School Nurse Day
- Coconut Cream Pie Day
- 9th-** Alphabet Magnet Day
- Home Front Heroes Day
- National Moscato Day
- National Sleepover Day
- Butterscotch Brownie Day
- Lost Sock Memorial Day

10th-Child Care Provider Day

- Clean Up Your Room Day
- Hostess Cupcake Day
- National Shrimp Day
- National Hamster Day
- National Public Gardens Day
- Root Canal Appreciation Day
- Military Spouse Appreciation Day

11th-Eat Whatever You Want Day

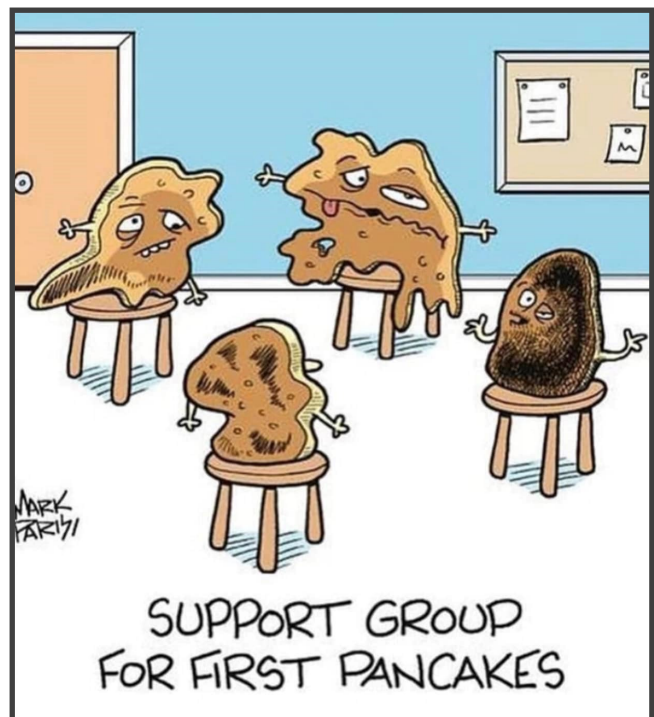
- National Archery Day
- National Babysitters Day
- National Miniature Golf Day
- National Train Day
- National Windmill Day
- World Belly Dance Day

Have a great week & call me if you need a ride to church.

Serving Him & Loving it!

Carol

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Thanks to NaNa, our "first pancake" turned out MUCH better than this.