

JULY 2021

OPENING



STATEMENTS

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July's Odd Holidays

- July 1 National Postal Worker Day
- July 2 World UFO Day
- July 3 National Strawberry Sundae Day
- July 4 Independence Day (U.S.)
- July 5 National Apple Turnover Day
- July 6 National Fried Chicken Day
- July 7 Chocolate Day
- July 8 Video Games Day
- July 9 National Sugar Cookie Day
- July 10 Teddy Bear Picnic Day
- July 11 National Blueberry Muffins Day
- July 12 Different Colored Eyes Day
- July 13 National French Fries Day
- July 14 Shark Awareness Day
- July 15 Tapioca Pudding Day
- July 16 National Macaroni and Cheese Day
- July 17 Peach Ice Cream Day
- July 18 Women's Dive Day
- July 19 National Daiquiri Day
- July 20 Moon Day
- July 21 National Junk Food Day
- July 22 Hammock Day
- July 23 Vanilla Ice Cream Day
- July 24 Amelia Earhart Day
- July 25 National Chili Dog Day
- July 26 Aunt and Uncle Day
- July 27 Walk on Stilts Day
- July 28 National Milk Chocolate Day
- July 29 National Lasagna Day
- July 30 Father-in-Law Day
- July 31 International Day of Friendship

'WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GROW UP?'



A UNIQUE WAY TO HELP KIDS EXPLORE CAREER OPTIONS

For many of us, summer is an opportunity to relax and enjoy a slower pace of life. The frenzied days of getting kids ready for school and weekly extracurricular activities (even the virtual ones!) have taken a hiatus. But for some young people, summer provides a prime-time opportunity to get work experience and make some cash. Getting a summer job was a staple of my childhood, and I think it's safe to say the tradition continues.

If you have teenagers in the house, they may be ready to earn money busing tables, lifeguarding, or doing other summer jobs. For younger kids, their pocket money can come from doing household chores like mowing the lawn or taking out the trash. But as a parent, have you ever thought, "I want my kids to do those household chores because they're an essential part of keeping the household running, not because they get paid"? After all, once they're out on their own, no one will be paying them to make the bed or clean up after themselves!

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That's what motivated Alisa Weinstein to write "Earn it, Learn It: Teach Your Child the Value of Money, Work, and Time Well Spent." As The Washington Post puts it, the concept of the book is that "Instead of paying her daughter an allowance to do chores around the house, she would pay her to test-drive real careers." Weinstein's goal was for her 4-year-old daughter, Mia, to start understanding more about different jobs and know how to manage her money. Plus, she could use the money she earned to buy herself the lip gloss she always begged her mom for and no doubt use the fun activities to explore different interests and careers as she grows up.



If your kids are bored at home this summer, or you want to help them find new things to explore and learn, you can quite literally take a page from Weinstein's book. She offers over a thousand fun and engaging activities for kids ages 4–12, which can also help instill a lifelong love of learning.

I don't know about you, but when I was growing up, I had no idea about the sheer breadth of job possibilities out there. I saw what my parents did and knew some of my friends' parents had cool jobs, but learning about different kinds of vocations at a young age would have been beneficial. Weinstein also says it helps to address issues of entitlement that can crop up with kids. Having jobs as a young person — whether you're working for someone else or for your parents — is a vital part of learning important values for the future.

If this seems too early to start your kiddos thinking about jobs and work, just remember one of the most common questions kids hear: "What do you want to be when you grow up?" Chores and summer jobs are a great place to start helping them think about the future, but Weinstein's book also broadens our perspectives about encouraging kids to be self-sufficient and responsible.

Whether you're the one out mowing the lawn, or you're able to kick your feet up while the kids push the mower around, I hope your summer is off to a great start.

Fun Facts About the Fourth of July You Can Share With Your Kids

What do your kids know about the Fourth of July? Do they know it's a day when you have a barbecue, spend time with friends and neighbors, and watch a fireworks show? These hallmarks of the holiday certainly do make it fun and memorable, but they don't really exemplify why we celebrate the Fourth of July, the anniversary of when the United States declared its independence from Britain.

So, along with the sparklers and hot dogs, here are a few fun facts about Independence Day you can share with your kids to help them understand the significance of the holiday.

The Fourth of July marks our country's independence because it's when the Continental Congress ratified the Declaration of Independence. This fact might seem like a no-brainer, but it contextualizes the holiday for kids. It's a great jumping off point to talk about why the United States wanted to be its own country, what the Continental Congress was, what the Declaration of Independence said, and what it means to "ratify" something.



Two future presidents signed the Declaration of Independence: John Adams and Thomas Jefferson. They both died exactly 50 years later, on July 4, 1826. This fact is an interesting coincidence sure to fascinate both kids and adults. It's also a great way to introduce kids to some of the Founding Fathers and share how they helped shape the United States today.

In 1776, the year the United States was founded, only 2.5 million people lived here. Today, the U.S. population is 331 million. Lots of people have been born in the United States since it was founded, and millions more came here from other places, hoping to find a better life. Many succeeded, too. Many people want to call this country home!

On the Fourth of July, around 155 million hot dogs are eaten in the United States. Okay, so this fact might not have anything to do with American history, but it's still pretty funny! If anything, the fact that we have so many hot dogs to eat on that day is evidence of the prosperity so many people enjoy in the United States of America.

THE MEOW AT 10,000 FEET

High on the slopes of Bristen, a mountain in the Glarus Alps in central Switzerland, a pair of skiers discovered something unexpected. At 4:30 a.m., the skiers climbed toward the summit of Bristen when they realized they weren't alone. They were being followed by a cat — not a lynx or a wildcat, a little mewling house cat.

How does a house cat end up on the slopes of a snow-covered, 10,000-foot mountain? This was an answer the skiers wouldn't get. They weren't even sure what to do with a cat in general. It's likely that it simply wandered away from one of the nearby towns or villages near the base of the mountain, but even for a human, that's a major undertaking.

Lost, the cat followed the only sign of civilization it could find: the skiers, Cyril and Erik Rohrer. "She started to shiver, and her paws began to bleed from the hard snow," Cyril noted. "We picked her up and carried her when she was too exhausted to walk uphill anymore. We were definitely confused. I felt really sorry for the cat. She was really exhausted on the ridge underneath the summit."

The cat stayed with them for some time before they met up with another group of hikers who were headed down the mountain. The cat joined them for what would hopefully be a journey back home. And it was! Remarkably, the cat's owners were found. They revealed that their cat had vanished four days earlier and apparently followed yet another group of hikers up Bristen. "Animals do weird things. And they are way tougher than humans. They'll never give up. Even though they are hurting really, really bad," Cyril said of his feline hiking companion. Hopefully, that will be the little feline's last trip up for some time!



The Best Texas-Style Smoked Brisket

Inspired by AllRecipes.com

Impress guests at your next barbecue with this perfectly smoked brisket. Plus, you'll have plenty of leftovers!

Ingredients

- Wood chips
- 1/4 cup paprika
- 1/4 cup white sugar
- 1/4 cup ground cumin
- 1/4 cup cayenne pepper
- 1/4 cup brown sugar
- 1/4 cup chili powder
- 1/4 cup garlic powder
- 1/4 cup onion powder
- 1/4 cup salt
- 1/4 cup pepper
- 10 lbs brisket

Directions

1. In a bowl, soak wood chips in water overnight.
2. In a large bowl, mix paprika, white sugar, cumin, cayenne pepper, brown sugar, chili powder, garlic powder, onion powder, salt, and pepper.
3. Rub spice mixture on the brisket and refrigerate for 24 hours.
4. Preheat smoker to 230 F. Drain wood chips and place them in the smoker.
5. Smoke brisket until it has an internal temperature of 165 F.
6. Remove brisket and wrap it in aluminum foil.
7. Smoke brisket further until it reaches an internal temperature of 185 F.

HAVE A LAUGH!





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Poor Safety Meets Molten Enamel *NOTHING COLD ABOUT THESE REFRIGERATORS*

If you don't know what enamel is, you've probably seen it around: It's the colorful, protective coating that covers tiles and all kinds of fancy cookware. But how does it get on to things? For that, you need heat — enough to melt enamel into a workable, molten-hot liquid. It's dangerous stuff to work with, which means facilities need to provide extensive training, personal protective equipment, and proper maintenance.

The Grand Rapids Refrigerator Company of Grand Rapids, Michigan, had not met its duty in any of those three areas when Harry Adams, an employee, was working for them in the early 1900s. The company used enamel to line the inside of its refrigerators in a process that involved introducing molten enamel to water, a hardening reaction that had a high potential for disaster.

And disaster struck in November 1906 when, in the course of Adams' normal duties, the holding tank full of molten enamel exploded while he operated it at close distance — at the instruction of his foreman who was overseeing the operation.

It's a miracle that Adams wasn't killed, although he lived in severe pain for the rest of his life. His employer attempted to dodge all responsibility, and Adams was forced into the courts to get some kind of justice. As you can imagine, the judicial system took note of the incident and, after examining everything in detail, came to some groundbreaking conclusions, at least for the day.

The chief one was that Adams' injury could not have been foreseen by an average person, because although he had experience, he



lacked understanding of the materials he was working with — an understanding that his employer had not provided.

Molten enamel has similar properties to lava, and an exploding tank full of the stuff is not a hazard anyone should have to deal with in the workplace. The shockwaves of Adams' near-fatal injury have reverberated for over a century now and provide valuable precedence when it comes to the duty employers have to their employees, whether that person has experience or not, which is why even today, when we attend ongoing, yearly safety training, we benefit from the hard lessons learned in *Adams v. Grand Rapids Refrigerator*.