



## On the Calendar

**1-31, Family Reunion Month...** July is the most popular month for families to meet. For suggestions, visit [www.reunionsolutions.com](http://www.reunionsolutions.com).

**2, Halfway point of 2010.**

**3-Aug 11, Dog Days...** the hottest days of the year. In antiquity, they're thought to be a time when dogs grew mad, wine turned sour, and the seas boiled.

**4, Independence Day...** commemorates the adoption of the Declaration of Independence by the Continental Congress in 1776. It is celebrated in cities and communities across the United States, including fireworks, picnics and athletic events.

**24, National Day of The Cowboy...** honors our Western heritage. Proclaimed in 2005.

**25, Parents' Day...** pays tribute to parents, whose devotion strengthens our country. Designated by Public Law 103-362 to be on the fourth Sunday in July.

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## What's New with BKW...

**Blackboard Buzz Blog:** What!

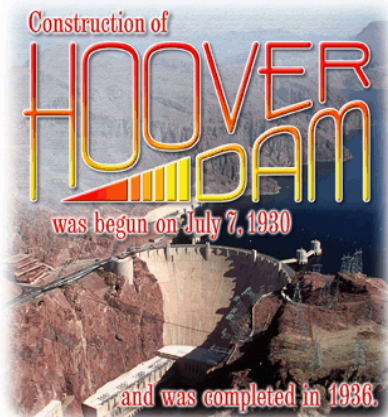
**HowTo:** (Origami Folding)

- Butterfly Tutorial
- Fox Tutorial

**From the Archives:** Plan a Summer Block Party (July '09 BuzzLetter)

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## History Matters!



## July is National Recreation and Park Month

It's hard to imagine a world without parks. Fortunately, more communities are realizing the significance of recreation, parks, and open space. And in today's economic environment you may have to forego your usual vacation-away-from-home plans. In that case, get reacquainted with what your community has to offer.

The National Recreation and Park Association says that all across the country, people are seeing the potential of parks and their contributions to a healthy lifestyle.

July is the perfect time to visit a park near you. Go on a picnic, visit the playground, play softball or tennis. Or just take a walk and enjoy the trees, flowers, and fresh air.

If camping is on your agenda, look for:

- A place with a shady spot; but, don't pitch your tent under a tree. It increases your chance of being struck by lightning in a storm. And the tent will continue to get rained on after the storm is over.
- A spot with a water source close by means you don't have to go far to fill a pan.
- If staying at a campground with cabins or premade tents, request a site that's not far from bathrooms.
- Locate a flat area for cooking that's least likely to be affected by wind gusts.



Explore the many ways in which parks and recreation make your community happier, healthier, and more livable. Promote family bonding at the same time.

## CHALK TALK

### What happened to the signers of the Declaration?

Fifty-six members of the Continental Congress signed the Declaration of Independence. Many gave their lives and their fortunes for the cause.

The British captured and tortured five. Nine fought and died in the Revolution. Two lost sons to the war. Another had two sons captured. Eleven had their homes pillaged and burned.

The British used the home of one signer, Thomas Nelson, as their headquarters. After they moved in, Nelson demanded that the patriot army destroy the home in order to drive the British out. He died penniless.

Farmer "Honest John Hart" suffered greatly. Hessian mercenaries burned his farm and grist mill and killed his livestock. Hart's wife became ill and, while the British besieged his farmhouse, he refused to leave his wife. After his wife died, and the aged Hart fled into the forest, eluding the British by living in the woods and in caves. His 13 children scattered to relatives and friends.

Richard Stockton, a judge, was captured, tortured and starved. He lost all his money and property and died soon after his release. His family lived off charity.

Of those who survived the Revolution, six signed the U.S. Constitution.

Thirteen went on to become governors of their states. Eighteen served in their state legislatures, and 16 became state or federal judges. Seven became members of the U.S. House of Representatives, and six became senators.

Five played major roles in establishing colleges and universities: Franklin and the University of Pennsylvania, Jefferson and the University of Virginia, Benjamin Rush and Dickinson College, Lewis Morris and New York University, and George Walton, the University of Georgia.



## HAVE A SAFE HOLIDAY!

### Downed Power Lines?

**Outside:** Be it a hurricane, tornado or a strong straight-line wind... *NEVER* touch one. When you are standing close to a downed line, you are grounded. If you touch it, you could be electrocuted. (In case you wondered, birds can sit on power lines because they are not grounded.)

**In a car:** If a power line falls on your car, stay inside. Use your horn to attract attention. Roll down your window when someone approaches and ask them to dial 911 to report the situation. *If you must exit the vehicle*, remove all loose clothing that could touch the outside of the car. Jump clear of the car, trying not to touch the outside of it and the ground at the same time. Try to land with both feet together.

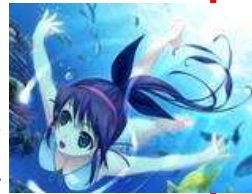
**At home:** When downed lines cause a power outage, a generator is a valuable tool. Because you don't often use it, be sure to check the manufacturer's instructions for starting and running it. In general:

- Never plug the generator directly into your home's wiring.
- Use proper power cords and proper grounding.
- *Do not* use it indoors or in an attached garage. Carbon monoxide could enter the house.
- Never refuel the generator while it's running.

### Pool safety for kids

Drowning is the leading cause of death for young children. The number rises during summer when kids spend time in the pool or at the beach. Some tips:

- Keep your eyes on the child. Do nothing else, don't read a book, talk on the cell phone or do anything that can break your attention.
- Limit time in the water. It's difficult to maintain such focus, especially if you have more than one child in the water.
- After 10 or 15 minutes, insist they come out of the water so you and they can take a break.
- Non-swimmers should not use flotation devices. They give the kids and parents a false sense of security and the devices don't teach kids how to swim.
- Be prepared for an emergency. Have your cell phone charged. Take pictures of your children in their bathing suits. If a child is missing, you can show the lifeguard what he or she looks like.
- Don't assume that a lifeguard will be watching your children. They are watching many people. At a beach, the water may not be clear and the sun could be in their eyes.



**Have a happy and safe holiday!**

## July Project

### Jigsaw Puzzle



Cape May July 4th

Here's some summertime fun for those rainy days at home, traveling by automobile, or while camping: Put together a jigsaw puzzle. It makes for fun, conversation, and family bonding (our goals at Buzzing Kids World). It's a perfect down-time activity between more strenuous activities while summer vacationing! This puzzle and others are available at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com).

Happy Vacationing!

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### Silly Stuff!

You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language, in which a house can burn up as it burns down, in which you fill in a form by filling it out, and in which an alarm goes off by going on.

English was invented by people, not computers and it reflects the creativity of the human race (which of course isn't a race at all).

That is why, when the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible.

In what language do people recite at a play and play at a recital? We ship by truck and send cargo by ship?

How can we have noses that run, and feet that smell?

How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, when a wise man and a wise guy are opposites?

And finally, how about when you want to shut down your computer, you have to hit "START"!!!!!!

~ [thepixiepit.co.uk/scrabble/silly.htm](http://thepixiepit.co.uk/scrabble/silly.htm)

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~ Editor

## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

### In July

Let us find a shady wady  
Pretty little brook;  
Let us have some candy handy,  
And a picture book.

There all day we'll stay and play and  
Never mind the heat,  
While the water gleaming, streaming,  
Ripples round our feet.

And we'll gather curly pearly  
Mussel shells while bright  
Frightened minnows darting, parting,  
Scurry out of sight.

What if, what if, - heigho! my oh! -  
All the "ifs" were true,  
And the little fishes wishes,  
Now, what would you do?

~ Evalcen Stein

### Having a family picnic?



Are you ready for it? Really ready... for some old-fashioned fun... like:

- A watermelon seed-spitting contest
- Catching fire-flies
- Block parties

To learn more about these and other fun activities see:  
July '08 BuzzLetter  
July '09 BuzzLetter  
June '08 BuzzLetter

