



July News 2026



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Happy Birthday America!

Volume: 78

Brentwood Academy News



Friday July 3
School Closed

Blue Bird of Alexandria News



Friday July 3
School Closed

Blue Bird of Vienna



Friday July 3
School Closed

July 9, 1868 - The 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified. The Amendment defined U.S. citizenship and prohibited individual States from abridging the rights of any American citizen without due process and equal protection under the law. The Amendment also barred individuals involved in rebellion against the U.S. from holding public office.



Bring it in with a bang and yell and a shout But remember to put all those camp fires out
Happy Birthday



Tiny Tots Playroom News



Friday July 3
School Closed

Blue Bird of Alexandria II News



Friday July 3
School Closed

We do not want to see your car towed. PLEASE park in the designated area ONLY. We are receiving complaints from neighbors when their spaces are occupied

5 Tips for July 4th Safety

As America celebrates Independence Day, here are some tips for a safe holiday.

Grill away from overhead power lines, buildings, decks and low tree branches.

Assume a downed power line is energized. Stay away and call 911 and PG&E.

Keep balloons, kites and remote-controlled toys away from power lines.

Keep fireworks away from power lines and other electric components.

Keep a bucket of water or a garden hose handy in case of fire.

Blue Bird Dayschool News



Friday July 3
School Closed

- Table Of
- Closings
- Happy Birthday America
- Fun facts

4th Of July Fun Facts

Americans Will Enjoy 150 Million Hot Dogs During the 4th According to the National Sausage and Hot Dog Council (NHDSC), Americans are expected to eat 150 million hot dogs over the July 4th holiday. This is part of an estimated 7 billion that are expected to be eaten during the summer season from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

Only Two Men Signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4, Charles Thompson and the infamous John Hancock were the only two men who actually signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. The other 54 delegates signed over the course of the next month.

First World Cup tournament begins

On **July 13, 1930**, France defeats Mexico 4-1 and the United States defeats Belgium 3-0 in the first-ever World Cup football matches, played simultaneously in host city Montevideo, Uruguay. The World Cup has since become the world's most watched sporting event.

After football (soccer) was dropped from the program for the 1932 Olympics in Los Angeles, FIFA President Jules Rimet helped to organize an international tournament in 1930. Much to the dismay of European footballers, Uruguay, winner of back-to-back gold medals at the 1924 Paris Olympics and 1928 Amsterdam Olympics, was chosen to host the inaugural World Cup.

Due to depression in Europe, many European players, afraid their day jobs would not exist when they returned, were either unable or unwilling to attend the tournament. As a result, some of the most accomplished European teams, including three-time Olympic gold medalist England and football enthusiasts Italy, Spain, Germany and Holland did not make an appearance at the first World Cup. However, when Uruguay agreed to help pay traveling expenses, Rimet was able to convince Belgium, France, Romania and Yugoslavia to make the trip. In Romania, King Carol selected the team members himself, gave them a three-month vacation from their jobs and guaranteed the players would be employed when they returned.



Going into the tournament, Uruguay and Argentina were the overwhelming favorites, while France and the United States also fielded competitive sides. In the first round, France's Lucien Laurent scored the first-ever World Cup goal. In its second game, France lost to Argentina 1-0 amid controversy over the referees ending the game six minutes early. Once the problem was discovered, the referees had to bring the Argentine players back onto the field to play the final minutes. After beating Belgium, the United States beat Paraguay to set up a semi-final match with Argentina, which they lost 6-1. Still, the semi-final placement was the best U.S. World Cup finish to date.

In the first World Cup final, held on July 30, 1930, 93,000 spectators looked on as Uruguay defeated Argentina 4-2 in a rematch of the 1928 Olympic gold medal game. Uruguay went on to win its second World Cup in 1950 with a 2-1 win over Brazil in Rio de Janeiro.

Medal of Honor created

President Abraham Lincoln signs into law a measure calling for the awarding of a U.S. Army Medal of Honor, in the name of Congress, "to such noncommissioned officers and privates as shall most distinguish themselves by their gallantry in action, and other soldier-like qualities during the present insurrection."



The previous December, Lincoln had approved a provision creating a U.S. Navy Medal of Valor, which was the basis of the Army Medal of Honor created by Congress in **July 1862**. The first U.S. Army soldiers to receive what would become the nation's highest military honor were six members of a Union raiding party who in 1862 penetrated deep into Confederate territory to destroy bridges and railroad tracks between Chattanooga, Tennessee, and Atlanta, Georgia.

In 1863, the Medal of Honor was made a permanent military decoration available to all members, including commissioned officers, of the U.S. military. It is conferred upon those who have distinguished themselves in actual combat at risk of life beyond the call of duty.

Skylab crashes to Earth

On **July 11, 1979**, parts of Skylab, America's first space station, come crashing down on Australia and into the Indian Ocean five years after the last manned Skylab mission ended. No one was injured.

Launched in 1973, Skylab was the world's first successful space station. The first manned Skylab mission came two years after the Soviet Union launched Salyut 1, the world's first space station, into orbit around the earth. However, unlike the ill-fated Salyut, which was plagued with problems, the American space station was a great success, safely housing three separate three-man crews for extended periods of time.



Originally the spent third stage of a Saturn 5 moon rocket, the cylindrical space station was 118 feet tall, weighed 77 tons, and carried the most varied assortment of experimental equipment ever assembled in a single spacecraft to that date. The crews of Skylab spent more than 700 hours observing the sun and brought home more than 175,000 solar pictures. They also provided important information about the biological effects of living in space for prolonged periods of time.

Five years after the last Skylab mission, the space station's orbit began to deteriorate—earlier than was anticipated—because of unexpectedly high sunspot activity. On July 11, 1979, Skylab made a spectacular return to earth, breaking up in the atmosphere and showering burning debris over the Indian Ocean and Australia.

Summer Safety Rules

Sunscreen According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, everyone should apply sunscreen if they plan on being outside for an extended period during the summer. Even on cloudy days, ultraviolet rays from the sun can burn the skin. Apply sunscreen at least 30 minutes before heading outside, and use a product that has an SPF of at least 15. The higher the SPF number, the more protection from the sun's rays the product offers.

Clothing Always wear lighter-colored clothing in the summer. Darker clothes absorb the sun's rays and can cause you to overheat very quickly.

Water Drink plenty of fluids when active in the summer heat.

Drink water at least once every 20 minutes of activity. The American Association of Pediatrics recommends that you drink at least nine ounces of water whether you are thirsty or not.

Pool Safety Monitor younger children in the pool, and do not allow older children to be physically aggressive with younger ones while swimming. Discourage running around the edge of the pool because the area may be wet and slippery.



Grilling Keep small children and pets away from the grill while it is in use. If you have a gas grill and it does not light immediately, turn off the gas supply and allow the propane gas smell to dissipate completely before turning the gas back on and trying again. Avoid wearing clothing that hangs loose when grilling, and make sure you keep your face away from the grill each time you raise the lid to check on cooking progress.

Bugs Avoid areas of standing water or dense foliage because these are breeding grounds for mosquitoes. If you plan on being in a wooded area, apply a sufficient amount of bug repellent. If you are stung by a bee and you are allergic to bee stings, get to a hospital emergency room immediately.