

THE FRANKLIN FIVE

- PRACTICE HABIT SIX**
Synergize. You've likely experienced times when working with someone else has enabled you to get more done than you ever thought possible. As you work with co-workers and family members, be sure to emphasize their strengths and contributions.
- CELEBRATE FAMILY TRADITIONS**
If you ask your friends and children to tell you their favorite Independence Day traditions, two things will happen. You'll get great new ideas to try, and you'll discover that some of the things you're already doing mean more to your kids than you think.
- MAXIMIZE YOUR YARD**
Pick a small section of your yard to update this month. It's not too late to plant something new, lay out a small patio of paver bricks, or build a small arbor. Make sure it's a project you can do in a weekend or two, so you can spend the rest of the summer enjoying it.
- TALK WITH YOUR KIDS ABOUT THE COST OF FREEDOM**
Plan to visit a war monument (almost every town has one) and talk with your children about the sacrifices soldiers and their loved ones have made for freedom. Share stories with your children to help them gain a deeper respect for the heroes around them.
- PLAN A ROAD TRIP**
Road trips are a wonderful way to experience the nuances of an area—from the flavors at the local drive-through diners to the sights and landscapes you'll see along the way. Right now is a wonderful time to take to the roads for an adventure.

MY FOCUS FOR THIS MONTH

JULY

FUN HOLIDAYS THIS MONTH

4 INDEPENDENCE DAY

Celebrate our country in style with fireworks. Sometime between 600 and 900 AD a Chinese alchemist created gunpowder. They poured this into hollowed out bamboo sticks to make the first fireworks. Over the centuries, pyrotechnic engineers have developed them into the artwork we admire today.



22 HAMMOCK DAY

Plan and complete your tasks early so you have plenty of downtime to relax today.



26 PARENT'S DAY

Celebrate Mom in May, Dad in June, and both in July. This is also a great time to thank others in your life who have influenced you for good.



30 INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FRIENDSHIP

In the rush of everyday life, it's easy to lose track of special friends. Set aside time today to reach out and reconnect.

