

AMERICANISM

The definition of Americanism was promulgated by the Commanders in the Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, United Spanish War Veterans, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, the National Commanders of the American Legion and the Disabled American Veterans of the World War at a Conference held in Washington, in February 1927.

**AMERICANISM IS AN
unfailing love of country;
loyalty to its institutions and ideals;
eagerness to defend it against all enemies;
undivided allegiance to the flag;
and a desire to secure the blessings
of liberty to ourselves and posterity.**

Patriotic holidays are an opportune time to involve the whole family and bring community attention to your Auxiliary.

Presidents Day May 1 st	Victory in Europe Day May 8 th	Loyalty Day
Day May 30 th	Flag Day June 14 th	Memorial
Day July 4 th	Patriot Day September 11 th	Independence
Day September 17 th	POW/MIA Recognition Day 3 rd Friday in September (15 th)	Constitution
	Gold Star Mothers/Family Day Last Sunday in September (24 th)	
	Veterans Day November 11 th	
	Pearl Harbor Day December 7 th	

For More Information on these holidays visit www.vfwauxiliary.org and www.vfw.org.

We can connect with so many people in our community by inviting families and other organizations to a **Family Freedom Festival** event. The Family Freedom Festival is a family-friendly, all ages opportunity to:

Show your community what the Post/Auxiliary offers and how positively impact your community.

Promote patriotism in your community.

Connect families of veterans and active-duty military with Auxiliaries.

Create awareness of and support for legislative initiatives.

Increase membership for the Post/Auxiliary.

It is a family-friendly, all ages opportunity to:

Provide youth with scholarship and volunteer opportunities -Young American Creative Patriotic Art, Voice of Democracy, and Patriot's Pen Scholarship opportunities.

Boost the number of volunteers at the Post, medical facilities, for special events/projects and for veterans and active-duty military families.

The Family Freedom Festival toolkit for steps to participate and event ideas will be available behind Member Log-in Under Program and Publicity Resources on June 30, 2017. The toolkit has suggestions of what to do at the event-Programs Booths-Games-Drawing/Raffles-Adding a charitable component- And more! Make sure to post to Social Media Posts and Event Hash tag. Not sure what to say? Check out the sample post and edit them to reflect your Family Freedom Festival. Ask Auxiliary members to share the post so more people see it! Press Release-Insert your Auxiliary's information and send it to your local paper!