PUI Assignment 4
Iteration on Implementation with HTML/CSS/JAVASCRIPT

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Features

The features from my first html/css/javascript implementation — adding a task and assigning it to a person, checking off a task, and deleting a task — are still functional (though I should note that much of the code supporting them has been updated to support the newer functions). I've updated the checking off a task function so that it can be toggled. If you click it once and cross off an item you can click it again to un-cross off the item.

I've also added an edit task functionality represented by the light grey pencil icon. I wanted to keep this icon lightly colored so as not to interfere with the readability of the actual task. This function allows a user to edit either the person responsible for a task, the text of the task itself, or both. This functionality was the trickiest to add, as once I had it partially working, I realized I needed to use variables to remember the details of the task that was being edited so that if a user does not change one or the other element, the details of the task will be intact when the user returns to the main screen.

I also implemented functionality in the menu so that the user (in this case, the user is Kim), can switch between the main "Family List" page and a "My List" page which shows only her own tasks. And I updated the page headers on the "Add Task" or "Edit Task" views, so the user is always oriented to where they are in the application.

I didn't make many changes to the appearance or css of the prototype, since I had accomplished most of the appearance I was aiming for in the first web prototype. I did make sure to include hover states for any of the clickable icons or buttons which will improve the experience for web users. I also changed the colour of the buttons from the bootstrap defaults on the add task and change task pages so that they would stand out more, better reflecting earlier versions of my prototype.

Lessons From User Testing

Both my users in the in-class user testing expressed concern that there was no warning or way to undo the deletion of a task. They both felt that the delete button was very close to the checking-off a task button, and that a user might easily hit the delete button by mistake and not have the opportunity to correct the mistake. If I had more time I would like to address this in two ways. 1) I would create a pop-up alert confirming the choice to delete the task. 2) I would experiment with the spacing of the delete and checking-off icons to find the ideal distance and placement for them to minimize the chances of error. Another change I would make if I had more time, is when the user switches to the edit task view, I would have the person currently associated with the task highlighted, as if they had been pre-selected.

External Tools and Resources

- Stack Overflow
- W3 Schools
- jQuery documentation