Comp 424 - Client-side Web Design

Fall Semester 2016 - Week 10

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- AJAX and JSON
- JSON and jQuery
- get a file
- CSS
 - grids
- flex
- AJAX and JSON continued

AJAX and JSON - part I

intro

- AJAX is a simple way to load data
 - often new or updated data
 - into a current page without having to refresh the browser window
- common form of data for work with AJAX is JSON
- many common usage scenarios and examples for AJAX
 - autocomplete in forms
 - live filtering of search queries
 - real-time updates for content and data streams
- also use AJAX to help us load data behind the scenes
 - preparing content for our users before a specific request is received
 - helps to speed up page responses and data load times
- AJAX uses an asynchronous model for processing requests
- user can continue to perform various tasks, queries, and work
 - whilst the browser itself continues to load data
- inherent benefit of AIAX should include
 - a more responsive site, intuitive usage and interface experience

AJAX and JSON - part 2

asynchronous model

- traditional synchronous model normally stops a page
 - until it has loaded and processed a requested script
- AJAX enables a browser to request data from the server
 - without this synchronous pause in usage
- AJAX's asynchronous processing model
 - often known as non-blocking
 - allows a page to load data and process user's interactions
- server responds with the requested data
 - an event will be fired by the browser
 - event can then call a function to process the data
 - often JSON, XML, or simply HTML
- browser will use an XMLHttpRequest object to help handle these
 AJAX requests
- browser will not wait for a response

JSON and jQuery - get a file - part I

initial setup

try some AJAX with a JSON file

```
{
  "country":"France",
  "city":"Marseille"
}
```

- save this content to our docs/json/trips.json file
- run on a server, local or remote
 - browser security restrictions for JavaScript
 - local server such as XAMPP, Python's SimpleHTTPServer, Node.js...

```
python -m SimpleHTTPServer 8080
```

initially use the getJSON() function to test reading this content

```
$.getJSON("docs/json/trips.json", function(trip) {
  console.log(trip);
});
```

console output is expected JSON object

```
Object { country: "France", city: "Marseille" }
```

JSON and jQuery - get a file - part 2

test with site

now use this return object to load our data as required within a site

```
//overall app logic and loader...
function loadJSON() {
   "use strict";

$.getJSON("docs/json/trips.json", function(trip) {
    //element for trip data
   var $tripData = $("");
   //add some content from json to element
   $tripData.html(trip.city + ", " + trip.country);
   //append content to .note-output section
   $(".note-output").append($tripData);
});

$(document).ready(loadJSON);
```

DEMO - AJAX I - AJAX - demo I

JSON and jQuery - get a file - part 3

array for trips...

- need to store multiple trips
 - multiple countries, multiple cities, and so on...
- need to work with JSON arrays
 - update trips.json file for cities

JSON and jQuery - get a file - part 4

load an array for trips...

update JavaScript to load array and set data as required

```
//overall app logic and loader...
function loadJSON() {
  "use strict";
  $.getJSON("docs/json/trips.json", function(trips) {
    //element for trip data
    var $cityData = $("");
    //iterate over cities array - trips.cities...
    var $cities = trips.cities;
    $cities.forEach(function (item) {
     var $city = $("");
     $city.html(item.name + " in the region of " + item.region);
     $cityData.append($city);
    //append list to .note-output
    $(".note-output").append($cityData);
 });
};
$(document).ready(loadJSON);
```

DEMO - AJAX 2 - AJAX - demo 2

HTML5, CSS, & JS - travel notes

a few extras to consider...

- alternative layouts
 - grid
 - squares
 - snippet view
 - table
 - lists...
- notifications
- snippets with expansion
- split views
 - note snippet with contextual/media per note...
- drag and drop delete
- filters
- sort options
- tags
- much more...

CSS grid layout - part I

intro

- grid designs for page layout, components...
 - increasingly popular over the last few years
 - useful for creating responsive designs
- quick and easy to layout a scaffolding framework for our structured content
- create boxes for our content
 - then position them within our grid layout
- content can be stacked in a horizontal and vertical manner
 - creating most efficient layout for needs of a given application
- another benefit of CSS grids is that they are framework and project agnostic
 - thereby enabling easy transfer from one to another
- concept is based upon a set number of columns per page with a width of 100%
- columns will increase and decrease relative to the size of the browser window
- also set break points in our styles
 - helps to customise a layout relative to screen sizes, devices, aspect ratios...
 - helps us differentiate between desktop and mobile viewers

Image - Grid Layout



CSS grid layout - part 2

grid.css

- build a grid based upon 12 columns
 - other options with fewer columns as well
- tend to keep our grid CSS separate from the rest of the site
 - maintain a CSS file just for the grid layout
- helps abstract the layout from the remaining styles
 - makes it easier to reuse the grid styles with another site or application
- add a link to this new stylesheet in the head element of our pages

```
<link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="assets/styles/grid.css">
```

- ensure padding and borders are included in total widths and heights for an element
 - reset box-sizing property to include the border-box
 - resetting box model to ensure padding and borders are included

```
* {
box-sizing: border-box;
}
```

grid.css

- set some widths for our columns, 12 in total
 - each representing a proportion of the available width of a page
 - from a 12th to the full width of the page

```
.col-1 {width: 8.33%;}
.col-2 {width: 16.66%;}
.col-3 {width: 25%;}
.col-4 {width: 33.33%;}
.col-5 {width: 41.66%;}
.col-6 {width: 50%;}
.col-7 {width: 58.33%;}
.col-8 {width: 66.66%;}
.col-9 {width: 75%;}
.col-10 {width: 83.33%;}
.col-11 {width: 91.66%;}
.col-12 {width: 100%;}
```

- classes allow us to set a column span for a given element
 - from I to I2 in terms of the number of grid columns an element may span

grid.css

then set some further styling for each abstracted col – class

```
[class*="col-"] {
  position: relative;
  float:left;
  padding: 20px;
  border: 1px solid #333;
}
```

- create columns by wrapping our content elements into rows
- each row always needs 12 columns

```
<div class="row">
  <div class="col-6">left column</div>
  <div class="col-6">right column</div>
</div>
```

grid.css

- due to the initial CSS of float left, each column is floated to the left
- columns are interpreted by subsequent elements in the hierarchy as nonexistent
 - initial placement will reflect this design
- prevent this issue in layout, add the following CSS to grid stylesheet

```
.row:before, .row:after {
  content: "";
  clear: both;
  display: block;
}
```

- benefit of the clearfix, clear: both
 - make row stretch to include columns it contains
 - without the need for additional markup

DEMO - Grid Layout I - no gutters

Image - Grid Layout I

grid test							
Grid Layout - No Gutters							

grid.css

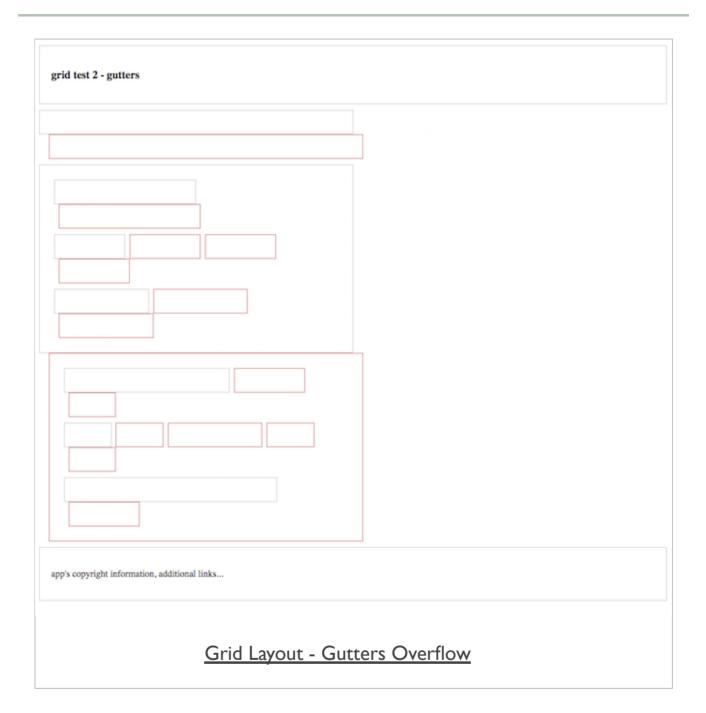
- add gutters to our grid to help create a sense of space and division in the content
- simplest way to add a gutter to the current grid css is to use padding
 - rows can use padding, for example

```
.row {
  padding: 5px;
}
```

- issue with simply adding padding to the columns
 - margins are left in place, next to each other
 - column borders next to each with no external column gutter
- fix this issue by targeting columns that are a sibling to a preceding column
- means we do not need to modify the first column, only subsequent siblings

```
[class*="col-"] + [class*="col-"] {
  margin-left: 1.6%;
}
```

Image - Grid Layout 2



CSS grid layout - part 7

grid.css

- to fix this issue we recalculate permitted % widths for our columns in the CSS
 - we now have % widths as follows

```
.col-1 {width: 6.86%;}

.col-2 {width: 15.33%;}

.col-3 {width: 23.8%;}

.col-4 {width: 32.26%;}

.col-5 {width: 40.73%;}

.col-6 {width: 49.2%;}

.col-7 {width: 57.66%;}

.col-8 {width: 66.13%;}

.col-9 {width: 74.6%;}

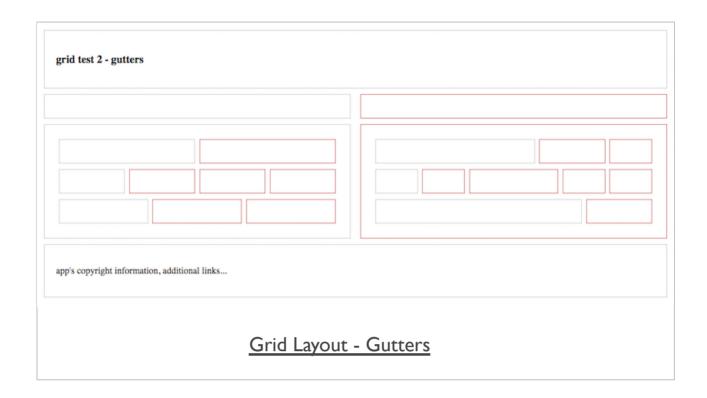
.col-10 {width: 83.06%;}

.col-11 {width: 91.53%;}

.col-12 {width: 100%;}
```

DEMO - Grid Layout 2 - gutters

Image - Grid Layout 3



CSS grid layout - part 8

media queries

- often need to consider a mobile-first approach
- introduction of CSS3, we can now add media queries
- modify specified rulesets relative to a given condition
 - eg: screen size for a desktop, tablet, and phone device
- media queries allow us to specify a breakpoint in the width of the viewport
 - will then trigger a different style for our application
- could be a simple change in styles
 - such as colour, font etc
- could be a modification in the grid layout
 - effective widths for our columns per screen size etc...

```
@media only screen and (max-width: 900px) {
   [class*="col-"] {
    width: 100%;
   }
}
```

- gutters need to be removed
 - specifying widths of 100% for our columns

```
[class*="col-"] + [class*="col-"] {
  margin-left:0;
}
```

Image - Grid Layout 4

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grid test 2 - gutters	
app's copyright information, additional links	
Grid Layout - Media Queries	
Sila Edjour Florid Quellos	

add grid layout

- update the layout of our Travel Notes application to include a grid layout
- apply this grid layout to the overall application
 - organisation and presentation of the notes
- remove the centred, fixed width for the body in our style.css stylesheet
- removes centre styling, results in content spanning full width of browser window
- add the grid layout to help us control this layout

```
<link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="assets/styles/grid.css">
```

then modify content categories, child elements to use new grid css

Image - HTML5, CSS, & JS - grid layout

travel notes record notes from various places visited	
add note	
app's copyright information, additional links	
<u>Grid Layout - Updated Header</u>	

add grid layout

 update our main content to position the note-input and note-controls

```
<!-- note input -->
<section class="note-input">
 <div class="row">
   <div class="col-12">
     <h5>add note</h5>
     <input><button>add</button>
   </div>
 <div>
<!-- note controls for delete... -->
<section class="note-controls">
 <div class="row">
   <div class="col-12">
     <button id="notes-delete">Delete all
   </div>
 </div>
</section>
```

still need to amend style.css to remove additional fixed styling

Image - HTML5, CSS, & JS - grid layout 2

travel notes	m various places visited				
add note	add				
	Delete all				
note					
app's copyright information, addi	itional links				
	Grid Layout - mixed grid and fixed				

add grid layout

 fix mixed rendering by removing width, margin, and padding for .note-controls

```
/* note controls */
.note-controls {
 border-bottom: lpx solid #dedede;
 display: none;
}
```

- continue to update Travel Notes app
 - modify output for notes
 - add further options for users

DEMO - Travel Notes - grid layout with media queries

add flex to grid layout

- an additional option to consider flex layouts
 - a recent W3 working draft
 - aims to provide efficient way to align and proportion content
- known as Flexbox Layout
 - idea is to apportion width and height for content
 - proportions relative to container even when their size is unknown or dynamic
- flex layout could, in theory, replace a full grid layout
 - considered more a complement to overall grid structure
- defined flex container expands items to fill the container's available space
 - can also shrink them to prevent any possible overflow
- think of a flex layout as supporting multiple directions
 - direction agnostic
- many properties available for flex
 - focus upon styling flex container and any flex items

add flex to grid layout

we might specify CSS properties for a flex container

```
.flex-container {
    display: flex; /* defines container as flex */
    flex-direction: row; /* defines positioning of items added to container */
    flex-wrap: wrap; /* defines whether to wrap items to another line */
    justify-content: flex-start; /* defines start point and distribution of items */
}
```

- allows us to position our container starting at the left
 - items contained in a row
 - contained items wrapping to additional lines if necessary
- many additional options available for each property
- also add rulesets for specific styling of items within a flex container
- we could add properties to a flex item such as
 - specify the order of the flex items
 - whether a particular item can grow or shrink relative to content
 - default size of an item before any remaining space is distributed
 - individual alignment for a given item...

add flex to notes

- flex container and items useful for organising and positioning our notes
- due to uncertainty about content, size, and general note requirements
 - flex positioning and styling removes the need for assumptions or fixed sizes
- we can start to modify the styling and rendering of our notes using flex

```
/* flex item */
.flex-item {
  flex-basis: 300px; /* default size before extra */
  flex-grow: 1; /* all items will be equal */
}
```

- gives us a default smallest size for each note
- then the ability for each note to grow to fill the row as required
- also work with responsive layouts
 - due to the minimum size and the option to grow for each item
 - and wrap flex items per flex container
- modify and update styles as we develop travel notes app

DEMO - Travel Notes - grid layout with flex notes

Image - HTML5, CSS, & JS - Flex Notes

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Image - HTML5, CSS, & JS - Flex Notes 2

travel notes record notes from various places vis	sited	
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search		
add note		
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app's copyright information, additional links		

Image - HTML5, CSS, & JS - Flex Notes 3

travel notes record notes from various places visited
menu
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add note
Delete all
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antibes
app's copyright information, additional links

Grid Layout - flex notes - small

add flex to notes

Notes with Flex and Media Queries

Ajax, JSON & jQuery - part I

jQuery Deferred

- jQuery provides a useful solution to the escalation of code for asynchronous development
- known as the \$.Deferred object
 - effectively acts as a central despatch and scheduler for our events
- with the **deferred** object created
 - parts of the code indicate they need to know when an event completes
 - whilst other parts of the code signal an event's status
- deferred coordinates different activities
 - enables us to separate how we trigger and manage events
 - from having to deal with their consequences

Ajax, JSON & jQuery - part 2

using deferred objects

- now update our AJAX request with **deferred** objects
- separate the asynchronous request
 - into the initiation of the event, the AJAX request
 - from having to deal with its consequences, essentially processing the response
- separation in logic
 - no longer need a success function acting as a callback parameter to the request itself
- now rely on .getJSON() call returning a deferred object
- function returns a restricted form of this deferred object
 - known as a promise

```
deferredRequest = $.getJSON (
   "file.json",
   {format: "json"}
);
```

using deferred objects

 indicate our interest in knowing when the AJAX request is complete and ready for use

```
deferredRequest.done(function(response) {
   //do something useful...
});
```

- key part of this logic is the done() function
- specifying a new function to execute
 - each and every time the event is successful and returns complete
 - our AJAX request in this example
- deferred object is able to handle the abstraction within the logic
- if the event is already complete by the time we register the callback via the done() function
 - our **deferred** object will execute that callback immediately
- if the event is not complete
 - it will simply wait until the request is complete

handling errors with deferred objects

- also signify interest in knowing if the AJAX request fails
- instead of simply calling done(), we can use the fail() function
- still works with JSONP
 - the request itself could fail and be the reason for the error or failure

```
deferredRequest.fail(function() {
    //report and handle the error...
});
```

example

- add the option to read and write from a JSON file
- we'll use AJAX for these requests
- initially we can consider our application as follows
 - read data from JSON file
 - load initial data to application
- no edit features for now
- add edit features with DB

example - JSON

- test reading and loading JSON file and data
- ignore standard AJAX pattern
- passing two callbacks, success and error
- use deferred and promise
- initial JSON for Travel Notes app

```
{
    "travelNotes": [{
        "created": "2015-10-12T00:00:00z",
        "note": "a note from Cannes..."
}, {
        "created": "2015-10-13T00:00:00z",
        "note": "a holiday note from Nice..."
}, {
        "created": "2015-10-14T00:00:00z",
        "note": "an autumn note from Antibes..."
}]
```

example - deferred

- start by submitting a query for the required JSON file
- then retain the deferred object we're using for tracking
- then indicate interest in knowing when AJAX request is complete

```
//load main app logic
function loadApp() {
    "use strict";

    var $deferredNotesRequest = $.getJSON (
        "docs/json/notes.json",
        {format: "json"}
    );

    $deferredNotesRequest.done(function(response) {
        console.log("tracking json...");
    });

};

$(document).ready(loadApp);
```

example - deferred

- done() method is the key part
- helps us specify the required logic to execute
 - when the request is complete
- if the given event has already completed as callback is registered via done()
 - deferred object will execute required callback immediately
- if not, it will simply wait until request is complete
- respond to an error
 - add fail() method for errors handling and reporting

example - work with data

- returned data
 - our response returns an object containing an array with notes
- we could simply extract the required notes
 - then append them to the DOM

```
$deferredNotesRequest.done(function(response) {
   //get travelNotes
    var $travelNotes = response.travelNotes
    //process travelNotes array
    $travelNotes.forEach(function(item) {
     if (item !== null) {
       var note = item.note;
       //create each note's 
       var p = $("");
        //add note text
       p.html(note);
        //append to DOM
        $(".note-output").append(p);
     }
    });
});
```

DEMO - ajax & json basic loader

Image - HTML5, CSS, & JS - AJAX & JSON

AJAX and JSON

a note from Cannes...

a holiday note from Nice...

an autumn note from Antibes...

app's copyright information, additional links...

AJAX & JSON - basic loader

example - work with data

- we can use simple deferred requests with our local JSON data
- with staggered API calls to data, need to use slightly modified approach
 - digging through data layer by layer
 - submitting a request as one layer returns
- we could now create a second deferred object
 - use to track additional processing requests
 - stagger our requests to the API
 - ensuring we only request certain data as needed or available
- also create multiple deferred objects to handle our requests and returned data
 - allows us to respond accordingly within the application

example - work with data

resolve()

- use this method with the deferred object to change its state, effectively to complete
- as we resolve a deferred object
 - any doneCallbacks added with then() or done() methods will be called
 - these callbacks will then be executed in the order added to the object
 - arguments supplied to resolve() method will be passed to these callbacks

promise()

useful for limiting or restricting what can be done to the deferred object

```
function returnPromise() {
  return $.Deferred().promise();
}
```

- method returns an object with a similar interface to a standard deferred object
 - only has methods to allow us to attach callbacks
 - does not have the methods required to resolve or reject deferred object
- restricting the usage and manipulation of the deferred object
 - eg: offer an API or other request the option to subscribe to the deferred object
 - NB: they won't be able to resolve or reject it as standard

example - work with data

- still use the done() and fail() methods as normal
- use additional methods with these callbacks including the then()
 method
- use this method to return a new promise
 - use to update the status and values of the deferred object
 - use this method to modify or update a deferred object as it is resolved, rejected, or still in
 use
- can also combine promises with the when () method
 - method allows us to accept many promises, then return a sort of master deferred
- updated deferred object will now be resolved when all of the promises are resolved
 - it will likewise be rejected if any of these promises fail
- use standard done () method to work with results from all of the promises
 - eg: could use this pattern to combine results from multiple JSON files
 - multiple layers within an API
 - staggered calls to paged results in a API...

example - work with data

- now start to update our test AJAX and JSON application
 - begin by simply abstracting our code a little

```
function buildNote(data) {
    //create each note's 
    var p = $("");
    //add note text
    p.html(data);
    //append to DOM
    $(".note-output").append(p);
}

//get the notes JSON
function getNotes() {
    //.get returns an object derived from a Deferred object - do not need explicit deferred object
    var $deferredNotesRequest = $.getJSON (
    "docs/json/notes.json",
    {format: "json"}
    );
    return $deferredNotesRequest;
}
```

DEMO - ajax & json abstract loader

example - work with data

- requesting our JSON file using .getJSON()
 - we get a returned **promise** for the data
- with a **promise** we can only use the following
 - deferred object's method required to attach any additional handlers
 - or determine its state
- our **promise** can work with
 - then, done, fail, always...
- our **promise** can't work with
 - resolve, reject, notify...

example - work with data

- one of the benefits of using promises is the ability to load one JSON file
 - then wait for the results
 - then issue a follow-on request to another file
 - ...
- a simple example of chained then() methods

```
getNotes().then(function(response1) {
   console.log("response1="+response1.travelNotes[2].note);
   $(".note-output").append(response1.travelNotes[2].note);
   return getPlaces();
}).then(function(response2) {
   console.log("response2="+response2.travelPlaces[2].place);
   $(".note-output").append(response2.travelPlaces[2].place);
});
```

- outputting a limited test result to the DOM and the console
- as we chain our then() methods
 - pass returned results to next chained then () method...
- DEMO ajax & json deferred .then()

add AJAX and JSON - load notes from json

- update our **travel notes** app to allow us to load some test persistent notes from a local JSON file
- initial JSON is as follows

```
{
  "travelNotes": [{
    "created": "2015-10-12T00:00:00z",
    "note": "a note from Cannes..."
}, {
    "created": "2015-10-13T00:00:00z",
    "note": "a holiday note from Nice..."
}, {
    "created": "2015-10-14T00:00:00z",
    "note": "an autumn note from Antibes..."
}]
```

add AJAX and JSON - load notes from json

- add option to load notes from JSON as app initially loads
 - use deferred promise pattern
 - checks source JSON as it loads via the promise
 - then outputs the end result
- start with the following update

```
//get the notes JSON
function getNotes() {
    //.get returns an object derived from a Deferred object - do not need explicit deferred object
    var $deferredNotesRequest = $.getJSON (
        "docs/json/notes.json",
        {format: "json"}
    );
    return $deferredNotesRequest;
}
```

add AJAX and JSON - load notes from json

- help us better manage logic of our notes from app's loading and execution
 - create two separate JS files
- our updated structure might be as follows

```
...
|- assets
|- scripts
|- travel.js
|- notes.js
...
```

• we can extend this further, as needed by app features and data

add AJAX and JSON - load notes from json

- add our .when() function to the app's loader
 - .when() function accepts a deferred object
 - in our case a limited promise
- then allows us to chain additional deferred functions
 - including required .done() function
- for returned data, use standard response object to get travelNotes
 - then iterate over the array for each property
 - for each iteration, we can simply call our createNote function
 - builds and renders required notes to the app's DOM

add AJAX and JSON - load notes from json

- simple problem existing createNote() function does not accept a parameter
- need to update the logic of that function to accept and handle a parameter
- also requires a quick update to any functions and calls to the createNote()
 - event handlers for creating a new note using the add button and keypress within the input field

```
//manage input field and new note output
function createNote(data) {
    ...
    //conditional check for data
    if (data !== "") {
        //set content for note
        $note.html(data);
        ...
    }
}
```

add AJAX and JSON - load notes from json

 update our event handlers for the note input button and input field keypress as follows,

```
//handle user event for `add` button click
$(".note-input button").on("click", function(e) {
  var $note_data = getNoteInput();
  //call note builder function
  createNote($note_data);
});
```

```
//handle user event for keyboard press
$(".note-input input").on("keypress", function(e) {
    //check code for keyboard press
    if (e.keyCode === 13) {
        var $note_data = getNoteInput();
        //call note builder function
        createNote($note_data);
    }
});
```

- our notes now load by default as the app starts
- note input button and keypress work as expected
- DEMO travel notes & JSON

Working with APIs - part I

remote api options - Flickr

- Travel Notes app loads data from a local JSON file
- add option to load different types of data using remote APIs
 - Flickr API for images, tags...
- basics and principles are similar to the patterns we've already seen and tested
- test a sample JSON return from the Flickr API
- JSON return useful properties for app
 - title
 - link
 - media (direct url for image where available)
 - description
 - ...
- public feed for searching public photos, videos, groups, recent activity...
- Flickr API Public Feed Cannes and France

Working with APIs - part 2

working with Flickr API

- query Flickr's public feed for photos
 - we can use our now familiar pattern for requesting JSON

```
//get the Flickr public feed JSON for images
function getImages() {
    //.get returns an object derived from a Deferred object - do not need explicit deferred object
    var $deferredNotesRequest = $.getJSON (
    "http://api.flickr.com/services/feeds/photos_public.gne?jsoncallback=?",
        { tags: "cannes,france,boules",
            tagmode: "all",
            format: "json"
        });
    return $deferredNotesRequest;
}
```

- need to make a few specific modifications to the request
 - JSONP to avoid browser security restrictions

Working with APIs - part 3

working with Flickr API

- Flickr's public feed includes options
 - eg: a specific user ID for photos, various tags, how tags are interpreted by the search...
- use our .when() function to load and render some test images from Flickr

```
$.when(getImages()).done(function(response) {
  console.log("done..."+response);
  //use jQuery's generic iterative function for the response...
  $.each( response.items, function( i, item ) {
    buildImage(item.media.m);
    //limit test images to 8
    if ( i === 7 ) {
        return false;
    }
    });
});
```

DEMO - AJAX and JSON - Flickr api

Demos

AJAX

- DEMO I AJAX demo I
- DEMO 2 AJAX demo 2

AJAX and JSON

- AJAX-JSON I load a JSON file
- AJAX-JSON 2 abstract code for load a JSON file
- AJAX-JSON 3 test deferred .then()
- AJAX-JSON 4 Flickr API

Grids

- Grids I Grid I with no gutters
- Grids 2 Grid 2 with gutters

Travel notes app - series 3

- DEMO I Travel notes grid layout with media queries
- DEMO 2 Travel notes demo2

Travel notes app - series 4

DEMO I - Travel Notes & JSON

References - JS & Libraries

- Flickr API
- Public feeds
- Public feed public photos & video
- jQuery
- jQuery
- jQuery API
- jQuery deferred
- jQuery .getJSON()
- jQuery JSONP
- jQuery :parent selector
- jQuery promise
- MDN
- MDN JS Objects
- W3
- W3 CSS Flexible Box Layout Module I