

# MIKE'S Tool Box

## Mike Forner's Home Services:

My mission is to treat your home with the same passion and attention to detail that I use on my own home.



### Inside This Issue:

- .....Page 1
- .....Page 2
- Upcoming Events.....Page 2
- .....Page 3
- Recipe.....Page 3
- Did you know.....Page 4
- Wise Home Owner Tip.....Page 4
- How To Win Friends.....Page 4
- Joke/Quote  
Of The Month.....Page 4

Stay tuned next month



Upcoming Events In December  
That Might Interest You...

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## Home remodeling brings return on investment

## The History of Flag Day



The Fourth of July was traditionally celebrated as America's birthday, but the idea of an annual day specifically celebrating the Flag is believed to have first originated in 1885. BJ Cigrand, a schoolteacher, arranged for the pupils in the Fredonia, Wisconsin Public School, District 6, to observe June 14 (the 108th anniversary of the official adoption of The Stars and Stripes) as 'Flag Birthday'. In numerous magazines and newspaper articles and public addresses over the following years, Cigrand continued to enthusiastically advocate the observance of June 14 as 'Flag Birthday', or 'Flag Day'.

On June 14, 1889, George Balch, a kindergarten teacher in New York City, planned appropriate ceremonies for the children of his school, and his idea of observing Flag Day was later adopted by the State Board of Education of New York. On June 14, 1891, the Betsy Ross House in Philadelphia held a Flag Day celebration, and on June 14 of the following year, the New York Society of the Sons of the Revolution, celebrated Flag Day.

Following the suggestion of Colonel J Granville Leach (at the time historian of the Pennsylvania Society of the Sons of the Revolution), the Pennsylvania Society of Colonial Dames of America on April 25, 1893 adopted a resolution requesting the mayor of Philadelphia and all others in authority and all private citizens to display the Flag on June 14th. Leach went on to recommend that thereafter the day be known as 'Flag Day', and on that day, school children be assembled for appropriate exercises, with each child being given a small Flag.

Two weeks later on May 8th, the Board of Managers of the Pennsylvania Society of Sons of the Revolution unanimously endorsed the action of the Pennsylvania Society of Colonial Dames. As a result of the resolution, Dr. Edward Brooks, then Superintendent of Public Schools of Philadelphia, directed that Flag Day exercises be held on June 14, 1893 in Independence Square. School children were assembled, each carrying a small Flag, and patriotic songs were sung and addresses delivered.

In 1894, the governor of New York directed that on June 14 the Flag be displayed on all public buildings. With BJ Cigrand and Leroy Van Horn as the moving spirits, the Illinois organization, known as the American Flag Day Association, was organized for the purpose of promoting the holding of Flag Day exercises. On June 14th, 1894, under the auspices of this association, the first general public school children's celebration of Flag Day in Chicago was held in Douglas, Garfield, Humboldt, Lincoln, and Washington Parks, with more than 300,000 children participating.

Adults, too, participated in patriotic programs. Franklin K. Lane, Secretary of the Interior, delivered a 1914 Flag Day address in which he repeated words he said the flag had spoken to him that morning: "I am what you make me; nothing more. I swing before your eyes as a bright gleam of color, a symbol of yourself."

Inspired by these three decades of state and local celebrations, Flag Day - the anniversary of the Flag Resolution of 1777 - was officially *established* by the Proclamation of President Woodrow Wilson on May 30th, 1916. While Flag Day was celebrated in various communities for years after Wilson's proclamation, it was not until August 3rd, 1949, that President Truman signed an Act of Congress designating **June 14th** of each year as **National Flag Day**.



## “Open Range” Chili Recipe

### **Ingredients**

- 1 lb pork sausage
- 2 lbs. coarsely ground chuck steak
- 1 quart water – preferably distilled
- 1 cup chopped onions
- 2 8 oz cans tomato sauce
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- ½ tsp. allspice
- 2 whole cloves, crushed
- 2 bay leaves
- ½ oz unsweetened chocolate
- 5 tbs. (or more!) chili powder
- 2 tbs. cider vinegar
- 2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
- ½ tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. ground cumin
- 1 tsp. ground cinnamon
- 1 ½ tbs. flour mixed with ¼ cup of water

### **Directions**

1. In a large skillet, brown the pork sausage and set aside. In the same skillet, brown the ground chuck steak. (Don't forget to drain the grease off and discard.)
2. In a large saucepan, combine the chuck steak, sausage, and water and simmer for 30 minutes.
3. Add the remaining ingredients, except for the flour mixed with water, and simmer for 3 hours.
4. Add the flour mixed with water, bring to a boil, and simmer for 5 minutes.
5. Remove from heat and serve or let cool and serve later after warming.



How To Win Friends & Influence People  
By Dale Carnegie

How to win people to your way of thinking:

Principle 5: Get the other person saying, "Yes, yes" immediately.

Stay Tuned...



*Wise Home Owner Tip:*

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Did You Know...

Uplifting Quote of The Month

“ “  
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Joke of The Month

