Volume XXX May / June 2012 Number # Two Hundred Eighty Three



#### RV Ordinance

The council was reminded by the administrator of the adoption of ordinance regulating the storage and use of RV's. The primary goal was restriction of the use of an RV as a permanent residence. The proposed amendment eliminates language specifically relating to personal use/storage, adding provisions restricting connections to the RV.

Offer was extended to the audience for input. Use of electricity to the RV was questioned. Another statement given was that the proposed ordinance was unconstitutional. Complaints had been received regarding residing in an RV. Some individuals use electricity to power units between trips so as not to unpack and repack each time it is used. Once again the purpose was to discourage usage as a permanent dwelling. The attorney was of the opinion that the revised ordinance is enforceable. The League of MN Cities Insurance Trust attorney are also of the opinion of enforcement. Points regarding the electricity and gas connections were legitimate, however the sanitary sewer connections should remain in the proposed ordinance.

Motion was made, but failed to adopt ordinance amending certain provisions relating to the storage and use of recreational vehicles, removing electricity connections. Further discussion was held. Once council member objected that owners could only use the RV for three to seven day periods. Preference was check out situation upon receipt of a complaint. Suggestion was made for a permit to be gotten after a week. A revised ordinance should be brought back to the council for reviewal.

Further discussion was held on the RV storage ordinance. The primary goal of the ordinance was to restrict use of an RV as a permanent residence. Revisions were reviewed from the original submission of the ordinance. Electricity restrictions were removed and language refinements regarding allowed duration and the type of 'camping'. Council member voiced opinion about directing people how to use their own property by setting limits. It was a very good ordinance another council member stated. Notation was made that an RV is not intended to be a permanent residence. Statement was submitted that most of the issues with concerns had been addressed but this individual was still uncomfortable with the ordinance. Motion was made and carried with three ayes and two nays adopting the ordinance amending certain provisions relating to the storage and use of recreational vehicles.

Carver Interceptor Project

The Carver Interceptor Project required a change order at the Main Street Bridge involving utilities the city engineer informed the council. In the original MCES planning specifications tunneling for municipal utilities under the Main Street Bridge was the plan. Due to obstruction under the bridge this idea had to be abandoned. Various alternatives have been discussed since. The deciding alternative was described as "open cut" requiring change order negotiations with SM Hentges. Additionally casings under the existing bridge are in poor condition requiring necessary replacement. This work also requires a change order with the contractor. Motion was made and carried with all ayes approving the change order. The council expressed disappointment in the number of change orders and the amounts involved. A report was requested for review involving the number of changes orders on this project.

"Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass.... ...It is learning to dance in the rain."

#### Fire Department

A previous discussion regarding fees relating to the Fire Department had been tabled. The attorney recommended creating enabling language giving necessary authority to the Fire Chief and the Fire Code Official to administer and enforce the fee schedule. Comment was submitted that the townships be asked to adopt companion ordinances.

Motion was made and carried with all ayes adopting the ordinance amending various section of the ordinances as to the Fire Department and fire regulations relating to the establishment of a fire code official. Question was asked regarding the necessity to change the ordinance. The attorney responded that it had not been done for many years and was necessary to update. Motion was made and carried with all ayes adopting the ordinance amending ordinance relating to the fire department fees.

The Fire Chief reported to the council that the department received the Center Point Energy Grant. The department is continuing to work on obtaining other grants and several other grant applications were not received the council was told.

The previously adopted ordinance regarding fees relating to the Fire Department inadvertently omitted the 'how and when' fees would be charged. The proposed ordinance essentially charges for service provided for individuals and agencies outside the 'Carver Fire District.' Motion was made and carried with all ayes adopting ordinance amendments for various sections relating to services and charges of the Carver Fire Department. The fire chief was asked where donations are appropriated to the department or the fire relief. The fire chief responded that the donated are put into special department fund for equipment.

Levi Griffin Road

The city engineer updated the council on the information relating to the Levi Griffin Road. There were some issues with the right-ofway acquisitions. Question was asked about the city's contractor doing work if the right-of-way acquisitions were completed and the engineer thought that it was feasible.

City Goals

The administrator reviewed the 2011-2012 Strategic Planning Session Action plan city goals with the council. The progress on the plan was discussed. Question was asked regarding scheduling for another planning session. The tentative dates for the future are February or March of 2013.

Broadway Proposal

The owner of the building on Broadway offered the sale of the building to the city. The structure could be utilized for additional meeting space or offices located next to the Village Hall. The council consensus was that city was interested in purchasing any more property in the downtown area. There appears to be a lot of properties in the downtown area without any long term plans. The administrator was directed to forward a letter to the owner thanking them for the offer but declining the offer.

#### Dahlgren Township

The Township held their Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting at Dahlgren Township. The county's representative proposed eliminating the appeal meeting at the township level. The process would become an open book meeting and residents would go directly to the county for appealing their taxes. The township can evaluate the decision until December of 2012.

#### Frac Sand Mining

The City Planner updated the council on the Frac Sand Mining proposals in Scott County. Two projects are in entitlement process in Scott County to commence silica sand mining. Silica sand has a variety of uses, but the market for these sites is for 'frac sand' used in the hydraulic fracturing process increasing the yield of oil and natural gas drilling from deep shale formations. Both sites are either current or previous mining activities. OSHA enforces standards relating to silica exposure. MN has not generated rules or standards relating to off-site exposure of silica dust. The MN Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) and Scott County have regulations to monitor and regulate fugitive dust in general.

Both projects will process the raw material into a finished product on site. The processing results in "reject" sands to be incorporated back into the project site for ultimate reclamation. The finished materials are then proposed to be loaded into train cars that are sealed and shipped directly from the site. The city planner told the council that the city is not likely to experience any impacts except that mining operations may be visible from bluff locations.

The council reviewed the three general location maps. The Great Plains Sand site is a former silica sand min site. Portions of the Merriam Junction site are either formerly or currently the location of existing limestone mining. The Merriam Junction Sands site is the larger of the two projects under consideration and is the closest project to the City of Carver.

The Great Plains Sand site is a former silica sand mine site operated in the 1980's. Portions of the Merriam Junction site are either formerly or currently the location of existing limestone mining.

The southern portion of the Chaska Industrial Lead Union Pacific spur line that was acquired by the Scott County Regional Rail Authority bisects the site. The length of time that the site would be mined is subject to market conditions, but it is anticipated that the connection of the regional trail between Carver and Scott Counties would not occur until after completion of mining activities unless an alternative location through state or USFWS land could be identified to make the connection.

There is a possibility Carver may experience some impacts from this project relating to noise, dust, blasting, view shed, ground and surface water, and indirect impacts to the historic district. Studies related to these items and others are being completed. If based on the modeling there are not any potential impacts identified, staff will work with Scott County staff and the Developer to incorporate appropriate mitigation measures into the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Great Plains Sand site was the proposed site previously for the Q Prime Amphitheater project. A negative declaration on the need for an Environmental Impact study meeting ended the environmental review process in the past. The project has been in the Interim Use Permit process since. A final decision will be scheduled on the Scott County Board of Commissioners agenda after some items have been resolved. The City of Carver is not likely to experience any impacts from this project except visibility from the bluff areas.

Tolleson Land Holdings The city reviewed the cost reimbursement and security agreement between Tollefson Land Holdings and themselves for development of described properties in the agreement. The council accepted the standard agreement utilized with organizations who use the city staff.

City Administrator

The council was told that the administrator's review had been completed on his performance as the city administrator. Statement was made that the administrator had been doing a spectacular job and the council consensus was that he was doing a great job for the city. Motion was made and carried with all ayes approving the adminstrator's employment agreement.

#### Disclaimer

The "unapproved" minutes of the council and the township have been referenced for the purpose of creating this information for residents in the City of Carver and the townships surrounding the city.

# Rental Inspections / Point of Sale Review

The building inspector reported results on research for rental inspections and/or point of sale reviews. The purpose of a Rental Inspection Program is to provide minimum standards safeguarding the public welfare and regulate control of the use of a building, as well as assist existing rental properties to become more code compliant. In the City of Carver the numbers were reviewed. Area cities using the program have a license for two years, and only one city inspects on complaint basis only. The conclusion was that the program involves a lot of staff time with the revenue not covering the program costs. One council member was of the opinion that this tool would assist the Heritage Preservation Commission interior view and if building codes were met. Since the program doesn't appear to break even the value and expense of the worth of the project were questioned. Comments included, city involvement and becoming referee between landlord/renter, attorney involvement not wanted and only review inspection on a complaint basis. Tenant recourse was inquired about. Checking other ordinances in other cities could be researched. The attorney stated that the type of program being discusses is a problem and expensive to start, especially if there are not any complaints. The council consensus was to not pursue implementing the plan involving rental units.

The inspector explained information involving the Point of Sale Program which would also be a challenge involving older homes meeting FEMA and HPC requirements. Statistically eighty-five percent of the city's housing was 1990 or newer. The Point of Sale program is difficult for homeowners but the purchaser's like inspections. Once councilmember was not in favor of the program. The council consensus was to not pursue implementation of this program at this time either.

#### Redistricting

The City of Carver held a special meeting with the Carver County Property Records and Taxpayer Services Division's Director and Manager. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss and inform the public of the redistricting decisions made by the County Board. 'Redistricting 2011 Carver County" defines the redrawing district boundaries to equalize representation all over the US and MN by legislatures and local governments.

Reapportionment is the process of dividing up four hundred thirty five congressional seats among the fifty states. Minnesota retained it eight representatives by eight thousand people. The State Legislature passes redistricting bills for US Congressional districts; MN Legislative districts ( Senate and House ); and Metropolitan Council districts. The cities redistrict for city wards or precincts. The County Board is responsible for Commissioner Districts.

There was a brief discussion regarding city wards and precincts. The director noted that if a city has wards, an individual is elected from each ward to represent that ward. Precincts are designated voting sites for areas of a city, but council members are elected at large.

The administrator stated that the Carver County Board will be meeting to consider action on a redistricting plan. A special meeting was scheduled in order to have the opportunity to provide input on the redistricting plan option prior to the county board action. It was the administrator's opinion that some plan options were not beneficial to the City of Carver. Suggestion was submitted that the council consider adoption of the resolution supporting the plan keeping Hollywood Township and the City of Carver as separate districts. The valid argument provided by the "communities of interest" principle for redistricting recognizes the importance of retaining communities/individuals with similar or common concerns together. This also applies to the City of Carver and Hollywood Township because the City of Carver is a growing suburb with more urban nature, issues relating to the impacts of residential, comercial and industrial development project. Hollywood Township on the other hand is almost exclusively rural in nature and in most cases will not be dealing with similar issues. The two entities are on opposite corners of Carver County facing different challenges simply due to the fact of their location from one another. Motion was made and carried with all ayes adopting the resolution relating to the redistricting of the commissioner districts by the Carver County Board of Commissioners recognizing compactness of boundaries and community of interest, includes Hollywood Township in **Commissioner District 4.** 

# Nature Rocks Boulder Play Station

The Parks and Recreation Supervisor told the council that the NatureROCKS Boulder Play Structure adds an authentic climbing experience to playgrounds and parks. She added that this is a unique structure and a great way to incorporate nature play to encourage solving, strength development, and balance and coordination skills.

The boulder structure would be placed at the Community Park on the south side of the volleyball courts and trail. The Public Works and Parks Recreation would prepare the site to include a concrete edging and wood chips for the fall surface. This project was inclusive in the Parks Dedication Study as an approved addition to the park system. The Park Board approved the addition of the Nature ROCKS Boulder Play Structure at the Community Park. The insurance coverage would fall under the city's policy like any other playground equipment. These structures are in other parks. Motion was made and carried with all ayes approving the additions of NatureROCKS Boulder Play Structure at the Community Park.

# Fourth Street Reconstruction Project

The council was informed by the city engineer that the improvements along 4<sup>th</sup> Street West form Broadway Street to Elm Drive has been identified as part of the 2013 Capital Improvement Plan. A Communication Plan was developed and one of the components of this plan is the 'walking' open house/inspection of infrastructure meeting with property owners being coordinated.

The council further reviewed past discussions considering conducting improvements on 6<sup>th</sup> Street East from Lime Street to County Road # 40 in 2013. Discussions with the staff additional improvements have been identified for 6<sup>th</sup> Street East, 5<sup>th</sup> Street East from Oak to Lime Street and Oak Street from 4<sup>th</sup> Street East to 5<sup>th</sup> Street East. The delaying improvements to 6<sup>th</sup> Street East until both, 5<sup>th</sup> Street East and Oak Street are evaluated and coordinate improvements is recommended. The staff is evaluating timing for evaluation of improvements to 5<sup>th</sup> Street East and Oak Street Iater in fall. The council consensus was to remove 6<sup>th</sup> Street East from the 4<sup>th</sup> Street project.

IT Support

The administrator reviewed the contract with Solution Builders for IT support services currently operating with the city on a month to month basis. This involves unlimited technical support for a lump sum fee, along with limited protective monitoring services. The fee structure, and service response time motivated the staff to seek another proposal for IT services. A firm named Atomic offers technical support through blocks of time on a 'pay as you go method' of payment.

The city's system is in need of replacement. Originally, the city contemplated coordinating with the county on a server/backup solution. However, at this time this option does not appear to be feasible with the estimated fiber "light up" along with the risk of the failure involved with continued operation of the existing system. The proposal from Atomic replaces the city's current system, provides critical upgrades, back-ups and network monitoring. The mayor assisted with putting the plan together. Motion was made and carried with all ayes to accept the Atomic Quote and authorize purchase of the server, related equipment and monitoring support not to exceed specified cost.

#### Resident Summary Series

The staff wanted to design an effective communication tool for complex issues and explanations of variety of services that are provided by the city. The "Resident Summary" series was created as a goal of simplifying long and complex planning documents, along with serving as a resource for commonly asked questions regarding department services. These Resident Summaries will be available at City Hall and on the city's website in the future.

Black Dox

The Black Sox extend a 'special' thanks to everyone that attended the fall Turkey Bingo and made the night a success!

Happy Father's Day!

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# Fifth Annual RiverSide Rhapsody Music Festival

The Fifth Annual RiverSide Rhapsody Music Festival plans are being finalized. The dates have been scheduled for June 13<sup>th</sup>, June 20<sup>th</sup> and June 27<sup>th</sup>. The performances will take place at 6 PM until 8 PM. You are invited to RiverSide Park, grab a chair, bring a blanket, bring the kids and have some family time in the open air. All three nights are on Wednesday evenings. The first band to entertain and delight you is Sam Kuusisto playing variety, country and rock on the 13<sup>th</sup> of June. On the 20<sup>th</sup> you will be entertained with pop, rock, and modern country performed by Shirts and Skins. Then on the 27<sup>th</sup> enjoy rock and bluegrass by Galactic Cowboy Orchestra.

Carver Lions

The Carver Lions always welcome new members and invite you to come to their meetings. They hold their meetings at the Village Hall the first and third Wednesday evening of the month. During the summer months (June, July and August) the Lions only meet once, the first Wednesday of the month. The other months of the year there are two meetings jam packed full of fun and giving. There is never a dull moment nor an idle member. Come and join in. Check it out. You don't want to be that person who says, "Why did I wait so long. I should have done this sooner."

#### Carver Current

Be sure to check out Dan's website for his news and the news from the *Villager Tower*, as well as others. There is a lot of interesting information on his website. Also, when you need to get information out, contact Dan to submit. It's another great way for transmitting information all over. What is the website again? <u>www.carvercurrent.com</u>



# MN Valley Electric Cooperative

Annual Meeting and Member Appreciation Event features election, dinner, entertainment and prizes. It's a celebration of 75 years in the making. The MVEC Board of Directors and staff invite members to celebrate 75th anniversary of MVEC. The event is Wednesday, June 13th at the Scott County FairGrounds. Registration begins at 4:30 PM with dinner served until 7 PM. Business Meeting begins at 7 PM. Scheduled is Director Tom Graham will highlight MVEC"s 75 years of history. Cooperative Information available at the information booths at the registration building includes Energy Wise, Smart Hubs, Coop Connections Card, Energy Check, Pay as you Go, Battery Storage and Renewables, and Dispatch Center. There is entertainment for all ages. The member appreciation event is all about you, our member-owners. Enjoy a pulled pork sandwich and a fun filled evening of activities for everyone in the family. New this year is an exotic animal display presented by a member from Arlington. Animals include a camel, emu, kangaroo, llama, fox and more. Other attractions you will find on the grounds include Hot line and electrical safety demonstrations, inflatables, duck pond and spin art. Also operation round up penny toss, Carver-Scott Thresher's tractors, Scott Carver Master Gardeners garden tours, chainsaw demonstrations and sculptures by Carr's Tree Service and a 7th Anniversary history display.

Online Billing

The council reviewed the concept of the online billing and how the system worked. Customers can pay for utility bills and the Parks and Recreation Programs online or come into the office paying with credit card. The council favored the online payment concept.

"When what we are is what we want to be, that's happiness." ~~~~~~~~~~ Malcolm Forbes

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Community	Ċi	dendar June 2012
June 2 <sup>nd</sup>	-	Happy Anniversary Kathy and Kerry!
June 4 <sup>th</sup> -	-	Council Meeting
June 5 <sup>th</sup> -	-	Happy Birthday Kim!
June 6 <sup>th</sup>	-	Carver Business Group (9:30 AM at Carver Country Flowers )
		Happy Birthday Gary!
		Happy Anniversary Jerad and Amanda!
		Lion's Meeting
June 7 <sup>th</sup>	-	Last Day School
		East Union 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation 2 PM
		School Board Work Session
		Happy Birthday Scott!
		Fire Drill
June 8 <sup>th</sup>	-	Graduation
		Happy Anniversary Joy and Chris!
June 11 <sup>th</sup>	-	Happy Birthday Dennis!
		Happy Birthday Jane!
		Dahlgren Township Meeting
June 12 <sup>th</sup>	-	Heritage Preservation Meetings
June 13 <sup>th</sup>	-	MVEC Appreciation Dinner
•		Happy Birthday Alexis!
		SteamBoat Committee Meeting
June 14 <sup>th</sup>	-	Flag Day
June 15 <sup>th</sup>	-	Happy Birthday Jim!
-		Happy Anniversary Sharon and Dennis!
June 17 <sup>th</sup>	-	Father's Day
June 18th	-	Happy Birthday Gwen!
		Happy Anniversary Laurie and Tony!
		Happy Anniversary Becky and Zim!
		Fire Drill
		Council Meeting
June 21st	-	School Board Meeting
		Happy Birthday Lucy!
June 22 <sup>nd</sup>	-	Garden Tour and Wine Tasting Event
June 23rd	-	Garden Tour and Wine Tasting Event
-		Happy Birthday Amanda!
June 24 <sup>th</sup>	-	Happy Birthday Greg!
June 25 <sup>th</sup>	-	Happy Birthday Bradley!
		Fire Department Meeting
		Park and Recreation Board Meeting
June 30 <sup>th</sup>	-	Happy Anniversary Terry and Shirley!
		Happy Birthday Yvonne!
		Happy Birthday James!
		5 <sup>th</sup> Saturday Events
		2 <b>7</b>

Carver Country Flowers

Graduation and parties are all starting – need flowers? Don't forget Carver Country Flowers can help with those flowers. Promote and support local businesses!

Father's Day too – some dad's like flowers and plants too. There are gifts available too in the store for dads.

And while you are there checking for dad - Did you hear about "Meeting Le Moo"? If you haven't and you are intereste4d, then stop at Carver Country Flowers and ask Annette all about "Le Moo". She'll be more than happy to explain the whole story! Trust me, it's worth it. If not for just conversation.

Don't forget about the whoopla on June 30th, the 5th Saturday!

# Excel Energy

Excel Energy will be attending a council meeting to discuss the frequency and durations of power outages experienced in the last year impacting residents in the City of Carver. The outage has become magnified. Frustrated residents question the local infrastructure and overall service reliability. Attending the council meeting is an opportunity to communicate regarding the cause of the extended and widespread outage, along with the proposed and planned solution to rectify the situation.

Carver Fire Relief Hssociation Softball

Reminder! Mark your calendars for the annual Carver Fire Relief Association Softball Tournament coming right around the corner and will be here before we know it and we just began summer. The tournament is scheduled for July 13<sup>th</sup> through the 15<sup>th</sup>! Great time and good food and most importantly good company.

Carver-on-the-Minnesota Garden Tour and Wine

#### Testing

Garden Tour will be open Friday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> from 4 PM to 8 PM and on Saturday from 11 AM to 4 PM. The cost is \$ 10.

The Wine testing event will be held at Kathy and John vonWalter's historic home and yard. Friday's schedule is 6 PM to 9 PM at John and Kathy's home including tasting of four wines and light appetizers, Tickets for both the Garden Tour and the Wine Testing are available at the Carver Country Flowers and Gifts shop. Another local business vested in the event is the wine supplier, Crofut Winery from Jordan.

Carver Garden Tour – "Come Into My Garden, Dear Friend" – Friday, June  $22^{nd}$  from 4 to \* PM and on Saturday from 11 AM to 40 PM, tickets cost \$ 10, Wine Tasting on Friday is at a cost of \$ 5. There are ten gardens to tour. For more information, contact Annette at Carver Country Flowers at 952.681.7582 or go to her website, if you can, www.carverflowers.com/community.

The first Carver-on-the-MN garden tour and wine testing event features ten gardens in the historic downtown Carver area, Carver Bluffs, Nathan Road near East union and site bordering Dahlgreen Golf Course. The garden tour fee pays for a brochure, map and access to the ten gardens on both days.

Carver Baseball Field Dedicated for

'Woody' Swanson

#### Carver Black Sox Founders

Woody Swanson, Jim Pauly and Elmer Kraemer, founders of Carver Black Sox Baseball Team.

The baseball field at Carver Community Park was being dedicated in honor of Woodrow "Woody" Swanson at 1 p.m., Sunday, June 3. The baseball field will now be called "Woodrow 'Woody' Swanson Field."

Swanson, along with Elmer Kraemer and Jim Pauly, founded the Carver Black Sox baseball team over 60 years ago. Besides cofounding the Black Sox, Swanson was also a member of the Carver City Council, Carver Fire Department, Carver Lions Club and State Baseball Hall of Fame.

Recent field upgrades and additions include a new equipment shed and electronic scoreboard.

The celebration, sponsored by the Carver Black Sox and Carver Parks and Recreation, started at 12:30 p.m. with Youth Day activities. The event concluded with a 2 p.m. Black Sox game against Brownton.

Kids will receive an honorary Black Sox team member badge; practice with the team, and receive a free hot dog and soda after practice. More info at www.carverblacksox.com.

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# Park Planning

The Parks, Trail and Recreation Element of the 2030 Comprehensive Plan is designed to provide a network of parks, trails and natural resource areas for public use. The plan is based on an assessment of need and follows a system-wide park and trail planning approach. The council was told that the parks and recreation areas are key elements defining an individual's perception of the quality of life in a city. Historically, Carver has maintained a high level of park and recreation opportunities within the city. Descriptions of differences between a Community and Neighborhood Park and the role new developments play in both types of park by either dedication of land or payment in fee-inlieu of land dedication, or a combination of these methods. The council was also updated on the 2011 Parks Dedication Study displaying future improvements of existing parks, as the city grows, and the areas of interest for future open space areas. The Park Dedication Study is on the website. The councilors would be forwarded the link.

Summer Patrol

The council was reminded of authorized funding for additional patrol coverage for law enforcement presence during the summer months. Therefore, the council reviewed the cooperative agreement for summer patrol. The agreement worked well the previous summers. The opportunity was available again to enter into another cooperative agreement for the upcoming summer. The patrol hours would follow the same schedule as last year consisting of four hours per week, The agreement would provide additional coverage through the summer months. The schedule would be flexible. Motion was made and carried with all ayes entering an agreement to sublet patrol services from the Carver County Sheriff's office.

# Construction Updates

The council was updated on the Main Street West Bridge progress. Question was asked about hours contractors were allowed to work. The usual hours of operation are 7 AM to 7 PM. The council reviewed the updates concerning the Levi Griffin Road. Completion date was anticipated tentatively June 30<sup>th</sup>. The council also inquired about county road work in the area. The council also briefly discussed the MN DOT building.



Flag Day Did You Know?

In the United States Flag Day is celebrated on June 14. It commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States, which happened that day by resolution of the Second Continental Congress in 1777.<sup>[1]</sup> The United States Army also celebrates the Army Birthday on this date; Congress adopted "the American continental army" after reaching a consensus position in the Committee of the Whole on June 14, 1775.

In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation that officially established June 14 as Flag Day; in August 1949, National Flag Day was established by an Act of Congress.

Flag Day is not an official federal holiday, though on June 14, 1937, Pennsylvania became the first (and only) U.S. state to celebrate Flag Day as a state holiday, beginning in the town of Rennerdale. Title 36 of the United States Code, Subtitle I, Part A, CHAPTER 1, § 110 is the official statute on Flag Day; however, it is at the President's discretion to officially proclaim the observance.

One of the longest-running Flag Day parades is held annually in Quincy, Massachusetts, which began in 1952, celebrating its 59th year in 2010. The 59th Annual Appleton Wisconsin 2009 Flag Day Parade featured the U.S. Navy. The largest Flag Day parade is held annually in Troy, New York, which bases its parade on the Quincy parade and typically draws 50,000 spectators.

Perhaps the oldest continuing Flag Day parade is at Fairfield, Washington. Beginning in 1909 or 1910, Fairfield has held a parade every year since, with the possible exception of 1918, and celebrated the "Centennial" parade in 2010, along with some other commemorative events.

The week of June 14 is designated as "National Flag Week." During National Flag Week, the president will issue a proclamation urging U.S. citizens to fly the American flag for the duration of that week. The flag should also be displayed on all government buildings. Some organizations hold parades and events in celebration of America's national flag and everything it represents. Other organizations and tribal groups hold counter-celebrations and protests National Flag Day Foundation holds an annual observance for Flag Day on the second Sunday in June. The program includes a ceremonial raising of the flag, recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, singing of the national anthem, a parade and more. The Betsy Ross House has long been the site of Philadelphia's observance of Flag Day.







