

“Public sentiment is everything. With it, nothing can fail; without it, nothing can succeed.”

Abraham Lincoln

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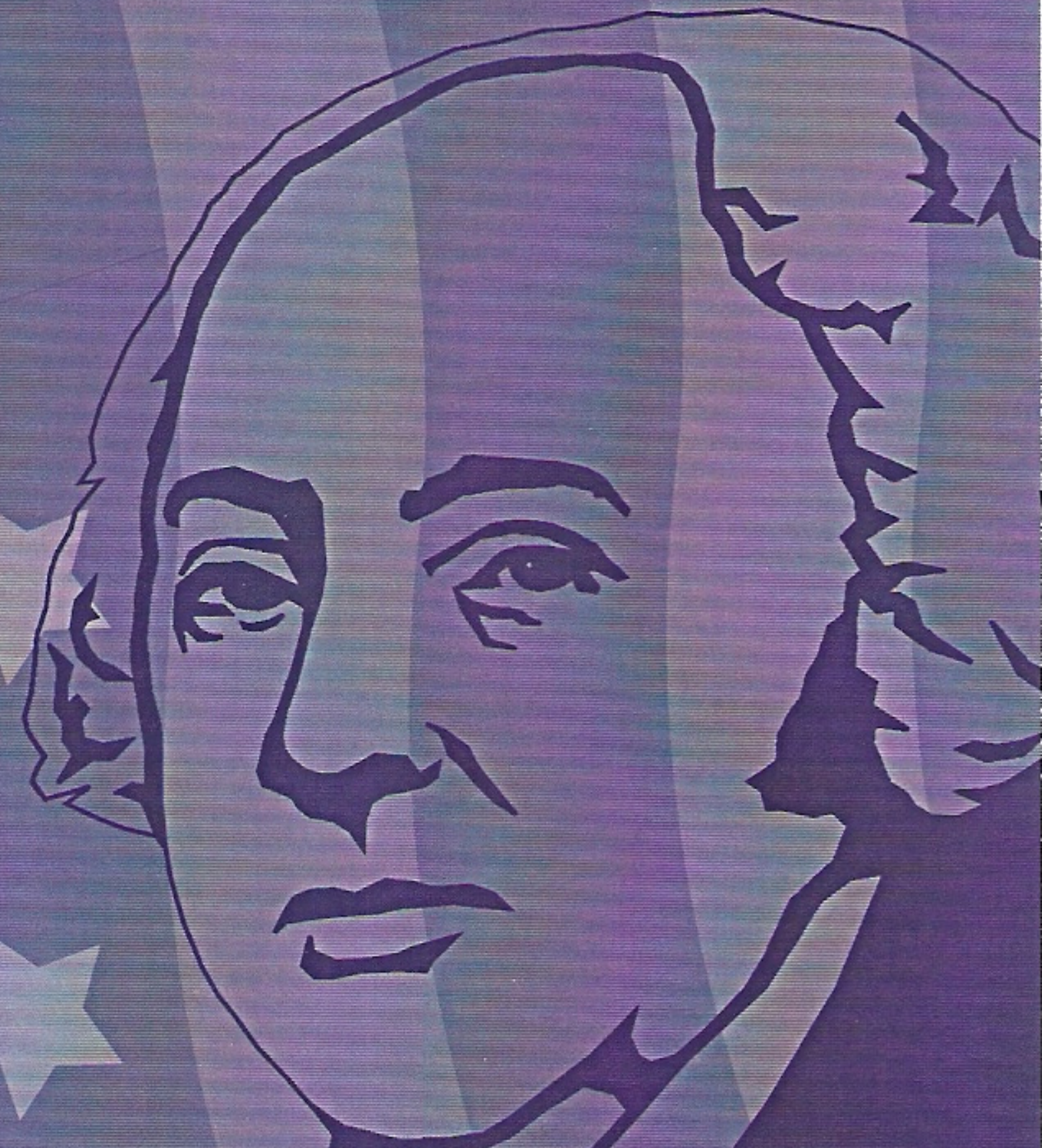
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Happy
Birthday!
AMERICA



**July
4th**

Who would've thought?

No.1 on today's bestseller list:

John Adams

“I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires and illumination, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forevermore.

You will think me transported with enthusiasm, but I am not. I am well aware of the toil and blood and treasure that it will cost us to maintain this Declaration and support and defend these States. Yet, through all the gloom, I can see the rays of ravishing light and glory. I can see that the end is more than worth all the means. And that posterity will triumph...”

*John Adams
July 3, 1776*

As we sit among friends and family
Letting fireworks fly,
We may forget the real meaning
Of the Fourth of July.

Some Americans see it as a nice day off
As we pour our drinks tall,
While others eat apple pie,
Watch TV or do nothing at all.

But if we turn back the forgotten
Pages of time,
We'll find heroes, soldiers and scholars
Who put their lives on the line.

Washington, Adams, and Franklin,
To name a few,
And many more patriots
None of us knew.

Imagine today if the same thing took place,
Would we feel sympathy for America
Or join England's side for safety,
Just in case?

That's a test of courage none of us
Will hopefully see,
So what a great day to thank
The Americans who came before we.

And as crowded town halls of the young
Nation echoed “No taxation without
Representation!”
Somewhere in the back of the room was heard,
“Maybe England needs
Better public relations!”

HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY!

**Polly, Steve, & Lindsay Kaufman
with
Oliver the Wonder Cat**

