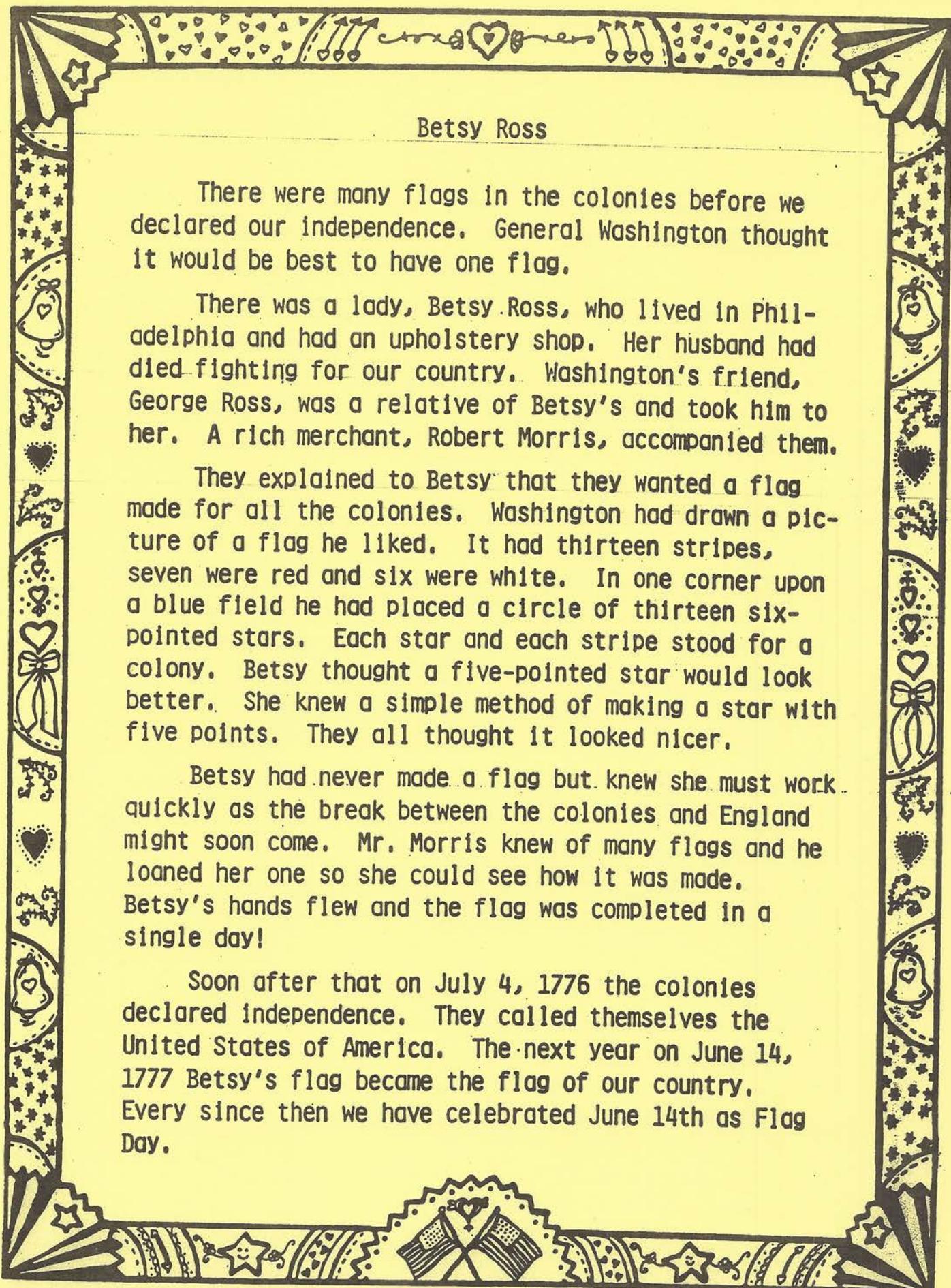


Stitching a nation's dreams



Marina 1980



## Betsy Ross

There were many flags in the colonies before we declared our independence. General Washington thought it would be best to have one flag.

There was a lady, Betsy Ross, who lived in Philadelphia and had an upholstery shop. Her husband had died fighting for our country. Washington's friend, George Ross, was a relative of Betsy's and took him to her. A rich merchant, Robert Morris, accompanied them.

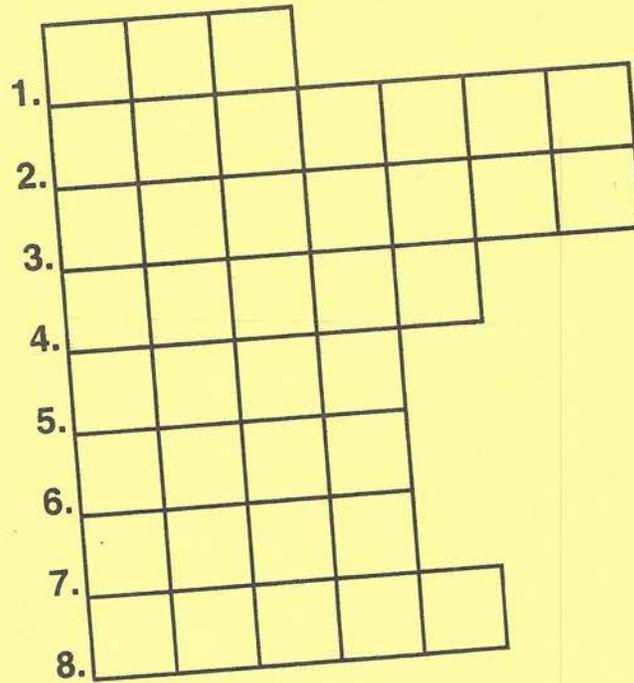
They explained to Betsy that they wanted a flag made for all the colonies. Washington had drawn a picture of a flag he liked. It had thirteen stripes, seven were red and six were white. In one corner upon a blue field he had placed a circle of thirteen six-pointed stars. Each star and each stripe stood for a colony. Betsy thought a five-pointed star would look better. She knew a simple method of making a star with five points. They all thought it looked nicer.

Betsy had never made a flag but knew she must work quickly as the break between the colonies and England might soon come. Mr. Morris knew of many flags and he loaned her one so she could see how it was made. Betsy's hands flew and the flag was completed in a single day!

Soon after that on July 4, 1776 the colonies declared independence. They called themselves the United States of America. The next year on June 14, 1777 Betsy's flag became the flag of our country. Every since then we have celebrated June 14th as Flag Day.



# Our Flag



Fill in the puzzle. Use words from the Word List.

1. Some stripes are \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Everyone loves \_\_\_\_\_.
3. They are red and white.
4. Some stripes are \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Our \_\_\_\_\_ is red, white and blue.
6. Flag Day \_\_\_\_\_.
7. The stars are on a \_\_\_\_\_ field.
8. The \_\_\_\_\_ are white.

