



CHARTER

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## I Like You, America

—Denny McCammon Steamboat Village C.C.

While shopping the other day, I found some fabric which had in its design a red apple with a bite taken out. Where the bite was supposed to be was written, "I like you, America."

I bought a piece of the fabric and hung it on my wall. It was pretty to look at, but more important, it is a wonderful reminder to me that I do like America.

When I was in junior and senior high school, American history was pioneers, cherry trees, wars, and wagon trails. But now that I am in college, I can see America is much more.

"I like you, America" is not our tall buildings and our concrete highways. It is my mother and father's house, where I was brought up and where they had the right and freedom to bring me up in their philosophy.

"I like you, America" is the church I went to, not because I had to go but because I could if I wanted to.

"I like you, America" is the police force that worked for me, and the school which was not only a place for me to go during the day but also where my parents went to vote and to share in the activities of the community.

"I like you, America" is the courthouse and the city hall — not that I went there — but because they were there looking out after American justice. I was free to do anything I chose to do as long as I didn't infringe on any of the rights of my neighbors.

"I like you, America" has nothing to do with the commentators on television who think that because they comment they are the lawmakers. It has nothing to do with Watergate or lying or any of the other forms of deception that dominate our news.

In that small yard of fabric with the shiny red apple with the bite taken out there is 200 years of work and growth. Yes, there is sadness in our history, but our sadness had as its purpose, compassion, justice, tenderness, understanding, and individual respect.

And in my shiny red apple there is a spirit that was taken directly from the Bible, that simply states that all things are possible to him that believeth in God . . . and in himself.

—Zonda Montgomery, Purdue freshman in humanities from Indianapolis, in letter to the editor, The Purdue Exponent.

## Lightning

credit — Chicago Newsletter

The occurrence of rainfall brings positive charged ions from the air to the ground, leaving a surplus of electrons in the air. When the potential difference between the earth and the surrounding air builds to a certain limit, an arc is formed as the electrons move at the speed of light toward the positive charge. Ionization of air between the two areas of positive and negative charge generates the flash of light and discharge of energy called lightning.

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## President's Message

With the Bicentennial Fourth of July celebration almost upon us, I'll add my few lines in behalf of our country's two hundred years of independence. I'm sure many of us are all full up with hearing the commercialism of the advertising media but we'll only have to live through this one. I stand corrected, I just saw a full page ad last night in the Washington Star looking for suggestions on how to celebrate the Tricentennial in 2076. I haven't been a fanatic about the Bicentennial and I haven't been waving my flag at everyone I pass, I haven't even mentioned that one of my ancestors of long past was a Minuteman at Lexington. What I do have is a great feeling of thankfulness that our Maker has given this country the strength for these past two hundred years, to survive so that you and I can come to work everyday and enjoy our work and our freedom. There are those that would take away everything we have if it wasn't for a country full full of "Minutemen" who will spring into action at a Moment's notice when our freedom seems in jeopardy. I feel we all have that makeup inside and even though we might not be flag wavers and commercialism fanatics, we feel a shiver up our spine when we see our flag waving in the breeze or hear our National Anthem. Let's enjoy our Bicentennial Fourth of July celebration in any manner that we personally wish and be proud of the freedoms which we have. Happy Birthday America!

David Fairbank