



POSTAL NEWS

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(Note: To obtain a downloadable 300 dpi image of the stamp visit the 2007 Commemorative Stamp Program release link at <http://www.usps.com/communications/newsroom/2007stamps/>.)

Celebrating an event that changed the world

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The U.S. Postal Service commemorates the 400th anniversary of the settlement of Jamestown, Va. by English colonists on May 11 with the issuance of the 41-cent *Settlement of Jamestown* stamp. Jamestown’s celebration sets sail tomorrow when the Postal Service launches these stamps from the site of the nation’s first permanent English settlement. The three-sided stamp — only the third in U.S. Postal Service history — represents the three sided fort raised there and depicts the three ships that brought colonists from London to the banks of the James River four centuries ago.

The first-day-of-issuance ceremony will be led by Katherine C. Tobin, member of the Postal Service’s presidentially appointed Board of Governors beginning at 10 a.m. at Jamestown Settlement. Tobin will also highlight the stamp during the 4 p.m. “Welcome America” program at Historic Jamestowne, a rededication of the original Jamestown site. All events for Anniversary Weekend are ticketed and require advanced purchase. Further information can be obtained by visiting www.americas400thanniversary.com.

On the front of the double-sided sheet is a First-Class Mail stamp featuring a painting of the *Susan Constant*, *Godspeed* and *Discovery* — the three ships that carried the first settlers to Jamestown. Artist Griffith Baily Coale completed the painting in 1949. The

stamp is shaped like a triangle, as was the fort raised by the Jamestown settlers shortly after their arrival in 1607. The selvage area on the front of the sheet includes a painting of Jamestown by artist Richard Schlecht. On the reverse side of the souvenir sheet are 19 more stamps.

"The Postal Service has a long tradition of honoring milestone moments in our history, and this is certainly one of them. This stamp underscores the importance of Jamestown as the place where the foundations of our nation were established, including democracy, free enterprise and a culturally diverse society," Tobin said. Joining Tobin in dedicating the stamp will be Dr. Edwin (Ned) Logan, director, Jamestown 2007 Stamp & Cachet Project who was instrumental in initiating and working closely with the Postal Service on the stamp issuance; Daphne Maxwell Reid, vice president, New Millennium Studios and co-chair, Communications Committee, Federal Jamestown 400th Commemoration Commission who will emcee the event; and Bob McDonnell, attorney general, Commonwealth of Virginia who is providing the welcome.

Starting May 11, the stamp patterned after the 32-cent Pacific 97 Sailing Ship and Stagecoach triangular designs, can be purchased online at the Postal Store on www.usps.com/shop, by calling toll-free 1-800-STAMP-24, at philatelic centers nationwide and local Post Offices. Additionally, the stamp will be available through May 13 at Postal Service retail mobile units located at Jamestown Settlement, Historic Jamestowne, and Anniversary Park.

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An independent federal agency, the Postal Service is the only delivery service that visits every address in the nation — 146 million homes and businesses — six days a week and also has 37,000 retail locations. It relies on the sale of postage, products and services to pay for operating expenses, not tax dollars. USPS has annual revenues of \$73 billion and delivers more than 46 percent of the world's mail volume.

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