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## **Folk Art Eagle Stamped Envelope** *Continued Symbol of Patriotism and Pride*

MILWAUKEE, WI — Today, the U.S. Postal Service continues a proud tradition of depicting eagles on postage by dedicating the new Folk Art Eagle Stamped Envelope. Both elegant and bold, this stamped envelope features a photograph of a plaque that shows an eagle carrying two American flags and a shield. The new stamped envelope was dedicated at the American Philatelic Society Stamp Show.

“The Postal Service’s stamp program provides a unique platform for recognizing this Nation’s legacy,” said dedicating official and Postal Service Director, Stamp Services and Corporate Licensing, Susan McGowan. “For more than 150 years, it has focused attention on events, ideals, and people who have made this nation great. These include national symbols like the bald eagle, which has long been depicted on postage.”

Joining McGowan at the ceremony was American Philatelic Society President-Elect Steve Reinhard; American Philatelic President, Past President, and Citizens’ Stamp Advisory Committee Member, Janet Klug; and Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship Alum.

This stamped envelope features the image of a carved American eagle wall plaque. Made from pinewood by an unknown carver, the plaque is finished with red, white and blue paint and appears to have its original gilding. Whether shown on the Great Seal of the United States, portrayed majestically in flight, or seen while perched atop a mountain ledge, the eagle has long been associated with patriotism. After the eagle was adopted as a national symbol in 1782, Americans used its image as a decorative device to express their patriotism and pride in the new country. Weather vanes, pottery, amateur paintings, furniture, courthouse decorations, quilt patterns and wood carvings are just some of the media that incorporated the eagle motif.

The envelope is being issued at the Forever rate. As with Forever stamps, the value of the postage on Forever stamped envelopes is always equal to the value of the current First-Class Mail 1-ounce rate. Stamped envelopes are available in three standard sizes: #10 regular and window, #9 regular and window, and #6-3/4 regular and window. The Folk Art Eagle Stamped Envelope was designed by Richard Sheaff, one of the stamp program’s art directors.

Customers may purchase the Folk Art Eagle Stamped Envelopes at [usps.com/stamps](http://usps.com/stamps), at 800-STAMP-24 (800-782-6724) and at Post Offices nationwide. Many of this year's other stamps may be viewed on Facebook at [facebook.com/USPSStamps](https://facebook.com/USPSStamps), via [Twitter @USPSStamps](https://twitter.com/USPSStamps) or at [beyondtheperf.com/2013-preview](http://beyondtheperf.com/2013-preview).

### How to Order the First-Day-of-Issue Postmark

Customers have 60 days to obtain the first-day-of-issue postmark by mail. They may purchase the new stamped envelopes at The Postal Store website [usps.com/shop](http://usps.com/shop) or by calling 800-STAMP-24. They should address the envelopes (to themselves or others), and place them in larger envelopes addressed to:

Folk Art Eagle Stamped Envelope  
Main Office Window Unit  
PO Box 5066  
Milwaukee, WI 53201-5066

After applying the first-day-of-issue postmark, the Postal Service will return the envelopes through the mail. There is no charge for the postmark up to a quantity of 50. Customers have to pay 5 cents for each additional postmark. All orders must be postmarked by Oct. 9, 2013.

### How to Order First-Day Covers

The Postal Service also offers first-day covers for new stamp issues and Postal Service stationery items postmarked with the official first-day-of-issue cancellation. Each item has an individual catalog number and is offered in the quarterly *USA Philatelic* catalog, online at [usps.com/shop](http://usps.com/shop) or by calling 800-782-6724. Customers may request a free catalog by calling 800-782-6724 or writing to:

U.S. Postal Service  
Catalog Request  
PO Box 219014  
Kansas City, MO 64121-9014

### Philatelic Products

Twelve philatelic products are available for this stamp issue:

- [214416, #10 Regular WAG First-Day Cover](#), \$0.70.
- [214516, #10 Window WAG First-Day Cover](#), \$0.70.
- [214616, #9 Regular WAG First-Day Cover](#), \$0.70.
- [214716, #9 Window WAG First-Day Cover](#), \$0.70.
- [266116, #6 ¾ Regular WAG First-Day Cover](#), \$0.70.
- [266216, #6 ¾ Window WAG First-Day Cover](#), \$0.70.
- [232116, #10 Regular PSA First-Day Cover](#), \$0.70.
- [232216, #10 Window PSA First-Day Cover](#), \$0.70.
- [232416, #9 Regular PSA First-Day Cover](#), \$0.70.
- [232516, #9 Window PSA First-Day Cover](#), \$0.70.
- [271116, #6 ¾ Regular PSA First-Day Cover](#), \$0.70.
- [271216, #6 ¾ Window PSA First-Day Cover](#), \$0.70.

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For reporters interested in speaking with a regional Postal Service public relations professional, please go to [about.usps.com/news/media-contacts/usps-local-media-contacts.pdf](http://about.usps.com/news/media-contacts/usps-local-media-contacts.pdf).

A self-supporting government enterprise, the U.S. Postal Service is the only delivery service that reaches every address in the nation: 152 million residences, businesses and Post Office Boxes. The Postal Service receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations. With more than 31,000 retail locations and the most frequently visited website in the federal government, usps.com, the Postal Service has annual revenue of more than \$65 billion and delivers nearly 40 percent of the world's mail. If it were a private-sector company, the U.S. Postal Service would rank 42nd in the 2012 Fortune 500. The Postal Service has been named the Most Trusted Government Agency for seven years and the fourth Most Trusted Business in the nation by the Ponemon Institute.

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