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Washington 2006 to Present 'Postman Pat(R),' 'Stamp Camp USA' and Other Activities- Offering Fun and Education for Kids, Schools, Youth Groups and Families.

Article Details

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Publication: PR Newswire

Date: Apr 5, 2006

Words: 713

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WASHINGTON, April 5 /PRNewswire/ -- Washington 2006-the largest philatelic exhibition ever held in the United States-and the U.S. Postal Service are calling all kids to discover the magic and fun of stamps and stamp collecting during the week of May 27 to June 3 at the Washington, D.C. Convention Center. Children will be able to participate in cool, daily educational activities and become whiz kids on stamps knowledge; play interactive electronic games; work toward earning Boy and Girl Scout badges; attend the U.S. Postal Service's historical stamp dedication ceremonies; and learn the ins and outs of stamp collecting, a hobby that transcends age groups and is a rich and vibrant part of the cultural heritage of the world.

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Each day contains a theme such as "Wonders of America Day," where kids will discover the largest, fastest, loudest, longest and deepest man-made and natural wonders; "Family Day," a day to bring kids and parents together; and "Wildlife Day," which is scheduled to feature appearances by Ranger Rick(R) as well as nature-related crafts projects led by experts from the National Wildlife Federation.

Pre-registration for groups of 25 or more is required. The first 80 schools or youth groups to register will receive subsidized transportation and a goody bag filled with stamp collecting materials. Contact stampsintheclub@yahoo.com or visit http://www.washington-2006.org/ to find out more.

During this weeklong gala, a beloved TV character on HBO Family(R), Postman Pat (R), will be leaving his friendly, fictional town of Greendale and adding Washington, D.C. to his postal mailing route. There will be a screening area where children can

stop off and enjoy the antics of Postman Pat(R), Jess the Cat and residents of Greendale who teach children about important issues such as the value of community, sharing and helping others. Postman Pat(R) fans will also be able to pick up free Postman Pat(R) giveaways and participate in coloring and letter-writing activities. For more information on involvement in Washington 2006 and Postman Pat(R) visit <http://www.washington-2006.org/wyouth.htm>.

"Stamp Camp USA" is calling all kids between the ages of 8 and 14 who are eager to jump-start the camp season. This one-day experience for children will be given each day from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. from May 27 through June 3, 2006. "Stamp Camp" is designed to boost children's skills and knowledge through the use of worldwide stamps and envelopes, and give them the chance to win Stamp Camp Cash, which they will use to purchase prizes at the end of camp auction. This fun and educational camp will give kids the opportunity to learn the basics of stamp collecting, the proper care of a stamp collection, the use of cool stamp tools and much more.

The registration deadline for "Stamp Camp USA" is May 15, and the fee for each camper is \$15. To register, contact Stamp Camp USA, PO Box 377, Knoxville, PA 16928-0377; phone 814-326-0810; or email stampcampusa@intergate.com.

Other children's activities are planned. For the most up-to-date information, see the Washington 2006 website at <http://www.washington-2006.org/>.

Since 1775, the Postal Service and its predecessor, the Post Office Department, has connected friends, families, neighbors and businesses by mail. It is an independent federal agency that visits 144 million homes and businesses every day, six days a week and is the only service provider delivering to every address in the nation. The Postal Service receives no taxpayer dollars for routine operations, but derives its operating revenues solely from the sale of postage, products and services. With annual revenues of more than \$69 billion, it is the world's leading provider of mailing and delivery services, offering some of the most affordable postage rates in the world. The Postal Service delivers more than half of the world's mail volume - some 212 billion letters, advertisements, periodicals and packages a year - and serves seven and a half million customers each day at its 37,000 retail locations nationwide. Its website, usps.com, attracts more than 21 million visitors each month.

CONTACT: Mary Dlugasch of U.S. Postal Service, +1-202-268-3964, or Mary.E.Dlugasch@usps.gov

Web site: <http://www.washington-2006.org/> <http://www.washington-2006.org/wyouth.htm> <http://www.usps.com/>

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