

# WNY PCC NEWSLETTER

January 2019



Greater Rochester PCC





# Mark Your Calendar

»» UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday January 16, 2019 11:30 am  
Buffalo P&DC 1200 William Street  
And January 17, 2019 11:30 am  
Rochester P&DC 1335 Jefferson Road  
Mail Design with Don Stuhler

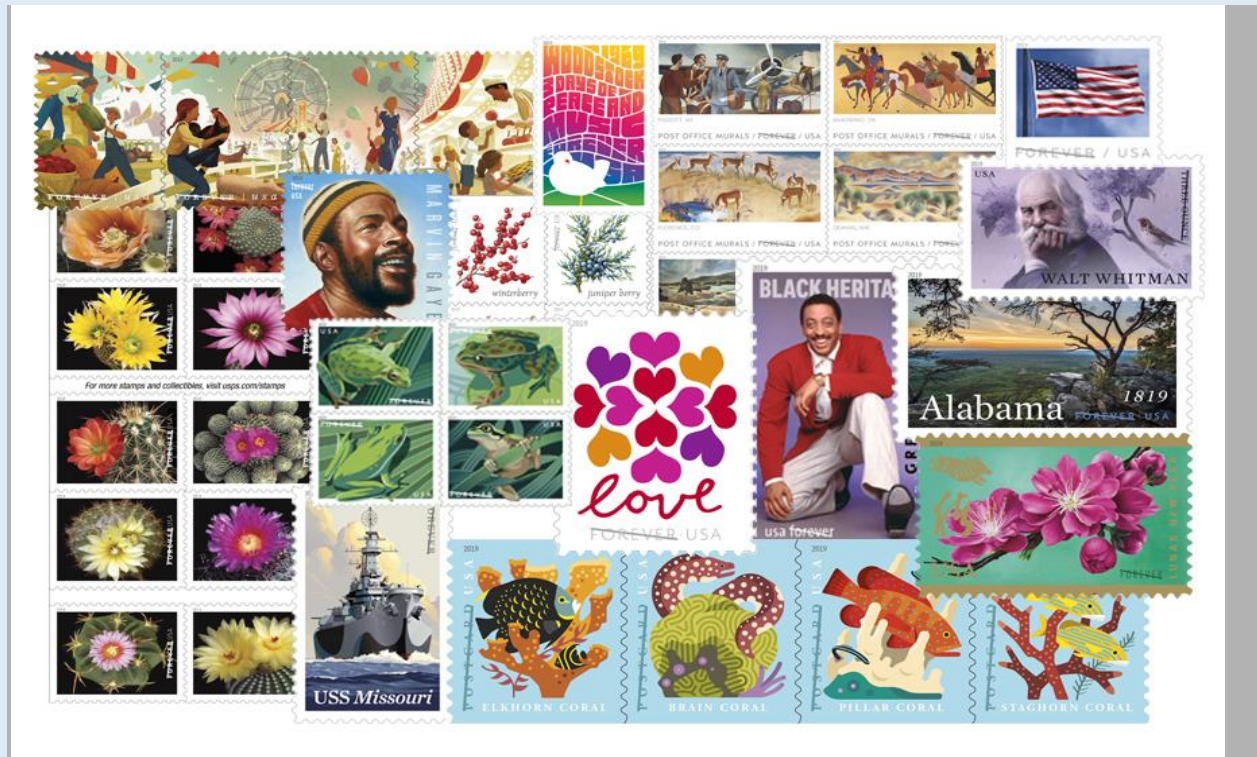
Don has been a Mailpiece Design Analyst for the USPS for many years and always has something of great importance to share as Mail Design relates to successful mailings. You are guaranteed to return to the office with something of value.

[Register for the Buffalo Event](#)

[Register for the Rochester Event](#)

# Coming soon

USPS previews select 2019 stamps



USPS has announced some of next year's planned stamp releases.

The Postal Service has announced some of its planned stamps for 2019, including releases that honor poet Walt Whitman, entertainers Marvin Gaye and Gregory Hines, Post Office murals, and the nation's scenic rivers. Here's what's coming:

- **Hearts Blossom**, the latest stamp in the Love series
- **Year of the Boar**, the 12th and final stamp in the Celebrating Lunar New Year series
- **Gregory Hines**, the 42nd stamp in the Black Heritage series
- **Cactus Flowers**, a booklet of 20 stamps that feature 10 images
- **Alabama Statehood**, which celebrates the state's bicentennial
- **Marvin Gaye**, a Music Icons stamp
- **USS Missouri**, which honors the 75th anniversary of the battleship's commissioning in June 1944
- **Post Office Murals**, a pane of 10 stamps that feature five Great Depression-era murals
- **U.S. Flag**, the latest stamp to honor the nation's most recognizable symbol
- **Wild and Scenic Rivers**, a pane of a dozen different designs
- **Walt Whitman**, the 32nd stamp in the Literary Arts series
- **Frogs**, a booklet of 20 stamps that showcase four designs
- **State and County Fairs**, four se-tenant stamps that work together as a panorama and also as individual images
- **Woodstock**, which celebrates the 50th anniversary of the August 1969 music fair
- **Winter Berries**, a booklet of 20 stamps that feature four designs
- **Joshua Tree**, a Priority Mail stamp that depicts a desert scene
- **Bethesda Fountain**, a Priority Mail Express stamp that commemorates one of the most iconic statues in New York City's Central Park
- **Coral Reefs**, four postcard stamps
- **California Dogface**, the seventh nonmachineable butterfly stamp for use on irregularly sized envelopes

## Hidden history

Acclaimed film has postal connection



Viggo Mortensen, left, and Mahershala Ali star in “Green Book,” a critically acclaimed film inspired by a travel guide that a postal worker began publishing in the 1930s. Image: Universal Pictures

“Green Book,” a critically acclaimed new film about a memorable road trip through the Deep South in the 1960s, has a postal connection. The movie is based on a travel guide that Victor Green, a New Jersey letter carrier, began publishing in the 1930s. The publication, originally titled *The Negro Motorist Green Book*, listed businesses that would welcome African-American travelers.

“It helped thousands of African-Americans travel through unfamiliar cities during difficult times,” said Jenny Lynch, the Postal Service’s historian and manager of the corporate library at USPS headquarters in Washington, DC.

“Green Book,” set in 1962, tells the real-life story of an unlikely friendship that developed between Don Shirley (Mahershala Ali), a black jazz musician, and Tony Vallelonga (Viggo Mortensen), an Italian-American nightclub bouncer who used the book to chauffeur Shirley on a concert tour.

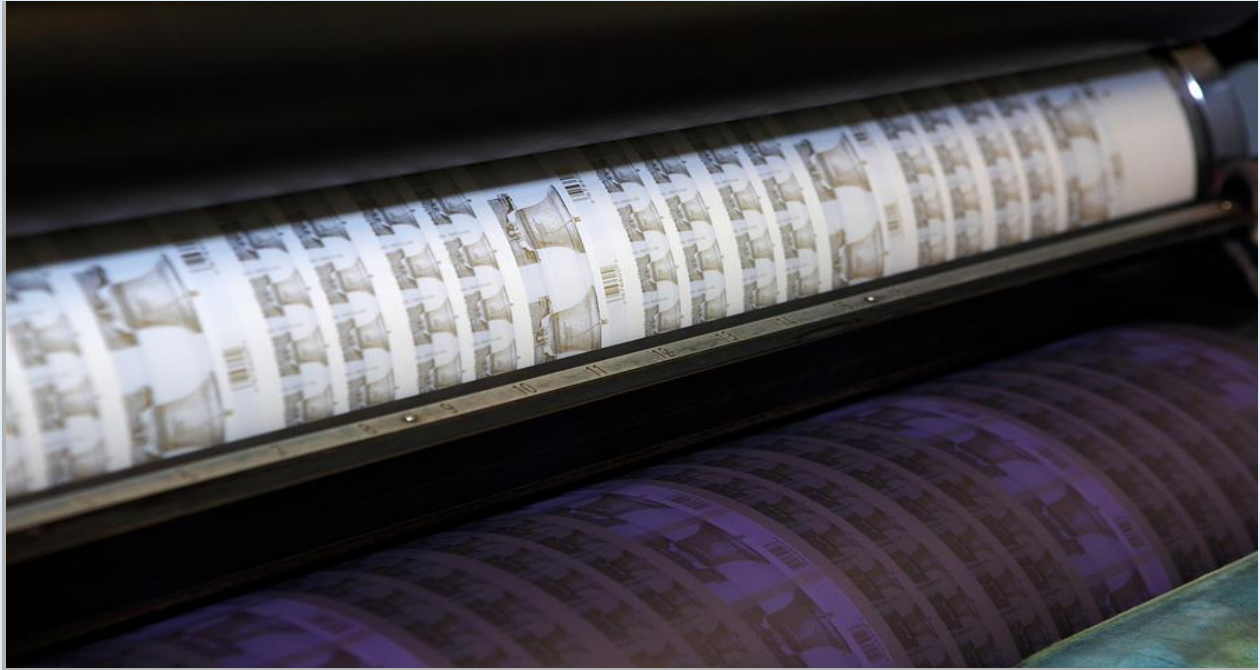
“[Green’s guide] was something that gave a lot of African-Americans a little bit of peace in traveling because they could plot their journeys [and] they knew exactly where they could stay,” Ali *told* ET Canada recently.

In addition to the film, Green’s travel guide has inspired a *stage play* and a *documentary*.

The movie, which received five Golden Globe nominations last week and is an early favorite in next year’s Oscar race, is bringing renewed attention to Green’s publication, as well as the role of postal employees during the civil rights era. In addition to supplying Green with information for his guide, black postal employees broke barriers in the workplace and helped pave the way for the creation of an African-American middle class. Said Lynch: “Many African-American postal workers were leaders in effecting positive change in their communities.”

# New prices

Changes to take effect Jan. 27



*Regulators have approved the Postal Service's proposed price changes for 2019, including a 5-cent increase in the price of a First-Class Mail Forever stamp.*

The Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC) has approved the price changes that [USPS proposed in October](#).

The changes will raise Mailing Services product prices approximately 2.5 percent. Shipping Services price increases vary by product. For example, Priority Mail Express prices will increase 3.9 percent, while Priority Mail prices will increase 5.9 percent.

Here are the current and new prices, which will take effect Jan. 27:

- First-Class Mail single-piece letters (1 ounce): 50 cents (current), 55 cents (new)
- First-Class Mail letters (additional ounces): 21 cents (current), 15 cents (new)
- First-Class Mail letters (metered 1 ounce): 47 cents (current), 50 cents (new)
- First-Class Mail outbound international letters (1 ounce): \$1.15 (no change from current price)
- First-Class Mail domestic postcard stamps: 35 cents (no change from current price)
- Priority Mail small flat-rate box: \$7.20 (current), \$7.90 (new)
- Priority Mail medium flat-rate box: \$13.65 (current), \$14.35 (new)
- Priority Mail large flat-rate box: \$18.90 (current), \$19.95 (new)
- Priority Mail Army/Air Post Office and Fleet Post Office large flat-rate box: \$17.40 (current), \$18.45 (new)
- Priority Mail regular flat-rate envelope: \$6.70 (current), \$7.35 (new)
- Priority Mail legal flat-rate envelope: \$7 (current), \$7.65 (new)
- Priority Mail padded flat-rate envelope: \$7.25 (current), \$8 (new)

## National Postal Forum (NPF) 2019

We live in a high-tech world. The NPF is the ideal way to stay in sync with all the advances and trends that affect the rapidly progressing and changing mailing and shipping industry.

The NPF is the premier mailing and shipping conference that works directly with the US Postal Service to provide the most comprehensive educational and networking platform for meeting the needs of the industry. Offering 130+ educational workshops, providing US Postal Service Officer-led sessions and being the largest mailing and shipping industry trade show, the NPF is the ideal opportunity for the industry professional to learn, collaborate and grow their business.

This is also the only event that brings together all senior level US Postal Service executives, leaders of the mailing and shipping industry, as well as major industry supplier and shipping partners. You can't afford to miss this opportunity.

For information please visit [NPF.org](http://NPF.org).

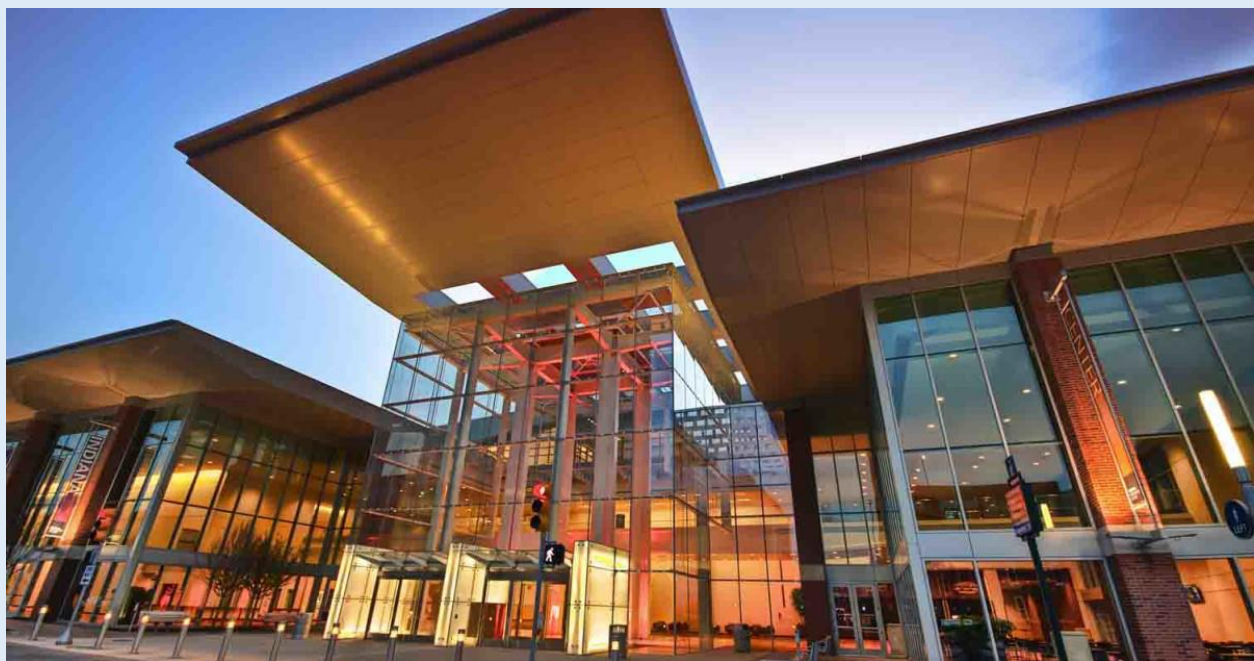
We hope to see you at:

**The Indianapolis Convention Center**

100 South Capitol Avenue

Indianapolis, IN 46225

**From: Sunday, May 5 to Wednesday, May 8, 2019**



## Contact Information

**Buffalo Niagara PCC**  
Email: [BNPCC@usps.gov](mailto:BNPCC@usps.gov)  
<http://buffaloniagarapcc.org>

**Greater Rochester PCC**  
Email: [GRPCC@usps.gov](mailto:GRPCC@usps.gov)  
<http://greaterrochesterpcc.com>



**Terri Ringler**  
Customer Relations Coordinator  
(716) 846-2536  
[Therese.R.Ringler@usps.gov](mailto:Therese.R.Ringler@usps.gov)



## Online Resources

**Business Customer Gateway**  
<https://gateway.usps.com/eAdmin/view/signin>

**Zip Code**  
<https://tools.usps.com/go/ZipLookupAction!input.action?mode=0&refresh=true>

**Quick Service Guides**  
<http://pe.usps.gov/text/gsg300/q000.htm>

**Mail Service Updates**  
<http://about.usps.com/news/service-alerts/welcome.htm>

**PostalPro**  
<https://postalpro.usps.com/>

**National Customer Support Center**  
**1-800-238-3150**

Article suggestions or ideas for upcoming newsletters please email either PCC.