

U.S. Postal Service Celebrates 150 Years of West Virginia Statehood



June 20, 2013

CHARLESTON, WV — The U.S. Postal Service today dedicated the West Virginia Statehood Forever Stamp on the steps of the Capitol Building commemorating the state’s 150th anniversary.

Known as the Mountain State, West Virginia was admitted to the union on June 20, 1863, in the midst of the Civil War. West Virginia is one of only two states created during the war. . .

“The Postal Service is pleased to bestow this unique honor upon West Virginia,” said General Counsel and Executive Vice President Thomas Marshall. “West Virginia has enhanced the greatness of America and has a special place in our nation’s history. Blessed with great natural beauty of wind-swept mountains, waterfalls and picture-perfect landscapes, this state also has given the rest of America a deep reservoir of human talent and achievement, including Nobel and Pulitzer Prize-winning writer Pearl Buck, sound-barrier breaking pilot Chuck Yeager, former Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and Olympic gold medal gymnast Mary Lou Retton. We salute you West Virginia with this new commemorative Forever Stamp.”

“I’m honored the Postal Service has partnered with us to commemorate the celebration of our state’s sesquicentennial. The West Virginia Statehood Forever Stamp will provide people from around the globe an opportunity to experience West Virginia’s natural beauty through this mountain vista in Pocahontas County. It’s a little slice of ‘Almost Heaven’ that we can share with the world,” said West

Virginia Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin, referencing the lyrics in John Denver's hit song, "Take Me Home, Country Roads."

Joining Marshall to help dedicate the new stamp were West Virginia Governor Earl Ray Tomblin, Sens. John D. Rockefeller IV, and Joe Manchin, West Virginia Sesquicentennial Commission Chairman Kay Goodwin, and photographer Roger Spence.

West Virginia was previously honored on a U.S. postage stamp in 1963 and in 2002.