

Stamp features dog sled

A 1920s dog sled is featured on the latest stamp in the U.S. Postal Service's Transportation Series, and it will be released after a ceremony in Anchorage Wednesday.

Assistant Postmaster General Walter E. Duka will be the principal speaker at the 11 a.m. first-day ceremony at the Anchorage Museum of History and Art. Robert J. Opinsky, field division general manager/postmaster for the Anchorage Division of the Postal Service in Alaska, will preside over the activities.

The 17-cent stamp will go on sale nationwide on Thursday. The denomination represents the rate for the second ounce of first-class mail, and the stamp will replace the 17-cent Electric Auto Coil Stamp issued in 1982.

The design features a frontal view of a dog sled shown without reins or harness. "Dog Sled 1920s" and "17 USA" appear in two lines of type at the top of the design. It is printed in blue.

Lou Nolan of Arlington, Va., who

designed the stamp, based his pen and ink rendering on archive photographs and on an actual sled displayed during the Smithsonian Institution's 1984 Festival of American Folk life held in Washington, D.C.

The dog sled shown on the stamp is representative of a type that was common in the early 20th century and continues to be built today.

A similar sled will be on display as part of the Anchorage Museum's display of Alaska artifacts.

First-day-of-issue cancellations will be available at the ceremony.

The Dog Sled stamp will be sold at the ceremony; however, those wishing to receive a first-day cancellation are reminded that they need to provide their own envelope to which they must affix the 17-cent Dog Sled Stamp plus five cents additional postage to meet the minimum First-Class letter rate.

Requests should be mailed to: Customer-Affixed Envelopes, Dog Sled Stamp, Postmaster, Anchorage 99502-9991.