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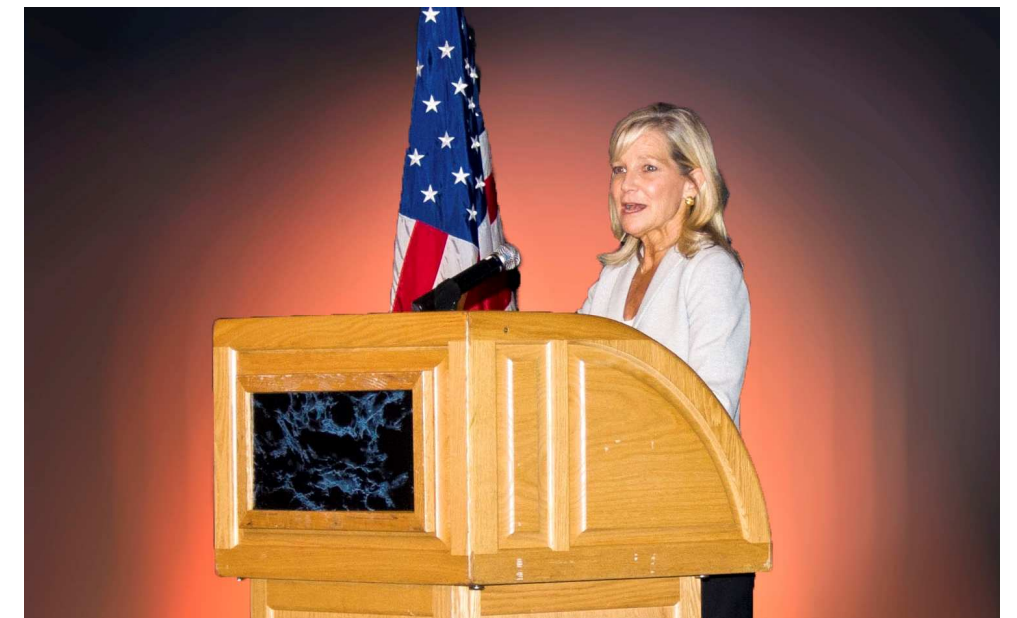
James J. Holland, USPS  
George Kippenhan, USPS  
Tim Gallagher, USPS  
Michael Sullivan, USPS  
John Powers, USPS

## Boston Goes to the Lake

In the tradition of supporting other Postal Customer Councils, two members of the Greater Boston PCC Executive Board presented at the Central Missouri PCC's 2016 Mailers Conference in October at the Tan-Tar A Resort on the Lake of the Ozarks. Mark Fallon of The Berkshire Company presented "It Begins with the Address" as one of their workshops. For his support over the last 10 years, the Central Missouri PCC presented Mark the Zen Thomas Friend of the PCC Award.

Karen McCormick (below), of the USPS Office of Inspector General, was the featured keynote speaker at the Thursday luncheon. The subject of her talk was the recently launched virtual exhibit at the Smithsonian National Postal Museum titled, "America's Mailing Industry". The 100+ attendees were educated and entertained as Karen regaled them with tales of mailing pioneers, including L.L. Bean, Williams-Sonoma and the Maryknoll Sisters. Be sure to check out the exhibit on the museum's website: <https://postalmuseum.si.edu/americanmailingindustry/>.

Great job by Karen and Mark!



## PCC Closes Out 2016 In Style!

On Wednesday, December 15, 2016, The Greater Boston PCC had their year-end event at American Legion Post 440 in Newton. To open the event, Mark Fallon gave a presentation on the new postage rates going into effect in January 2017. Mark explained how organizations should prepare for the change, and how mailers can take advantage of the new weight allowances.

Next, Nicolas Francescucci, the Postmaster of Boston, led the unveiling of the 2016 Military Service Cross stamps. Joining Nick was Mike Powers, USPS District Manager; Francisco A. Ureña, Secretary of the Department of Veterans' Services of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; Dan Clark, retired State Trooper and Marine veteran; and Adam Lewenberg, PCC Co-Chair (pictured left)

After the unveiling, the PCC presented Secretary Ureña a special gift to honor and assist local veterans in the Commonwealth. The PCC donated custom sets of note cards, Military Service Cross stamps and pens for veterans. The pens were hand-turned, wooden barrel writing instruments crafted by our own Al Silverstein. Thanks Al!

Our special guest, Dan Clark (pictured right), is also known as "The Singing Trooper". Dan performed a special rendition of the National Anthem, other patriotic songs and Christmas carols. It was a fantastic way to close out a great event – and an exciting 2016!



For more information about the Greater Boston PCC, visit us at: [www.bostonpcc.org](http://www.bostonpcc.org)



## Nick Franciscucci Sworn in as Postmaster

On September 16, 2016, Nicolas R. Franciscucci stood in front of 200 guests (including governments officials, colleagues, friends and family) in the flag room of the State House, placed his hand on the Bible (held by his wife Theresa) and took the traditional oath, administered by Mike Powers, District Manager (pictured). With this, Franciscucci was officially sworn in and became the 53<sup>rd</sup> Postmaster of Boston, Massachusetts.

As Postmaster of Boston, Franciscucci will oversee 100+ stations, branches, retail units and carrier annexes encompassing zip codes 021, 022 and 024 (with the exception of Cambridge). This includes over two million customers and approximately 708,000 delivery points. He will manage over 4000 employees.

Postmaster Franciscucci's installation was emceed by Michael Haggerty, former Postal Executive. Guest Speakers included: Daniel J. Ryan, Massachusetts State Representative, 2nd Suffolk District, Chief John Barros, Chief of Economic Development under Mayor Martin J. Walsh and Michael Rakes, Senior Plant Manager, Greater Boston District. The National Anthem and God Bless America were sung by Michelle Kippenhan, wife of George Kippenhan, Manager of Consumer & Industry Contact, while the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by their daughter Mary. Frederick White, Korean War Veteran and Retired USPS Supervisor delivered the Invocation. Mike Powers, District Manager, shared stories of Nick's leadership and his dedication to the Postal Service and their customers before swearing in the new Postmaster.



## New Postage Rates Effective January 22, 2017

Postage rates will be changing in January, and while no one wants to see rates increase, there are some areas which will actually see a decrease in cost. The cost of a First-Class stamp will increase from \$.47 to \$.49, but for business mailers, single pieces metered mail will actually decrease from \$.465 to \$.46. Presorted First-Class mail will increase about 1%. It is also important to recognize that the "Second Ounce Free" pricing for mail pieces has been extended for presorted letters weighing up to 3.5 ounces.

Standard Mail will now be known as USPS Marketing Mail, and increases for Marketing Mail vary by the type of mail piece being sent. Letter sized pieces will see a 2.0% increase, while flat size pieces will see their costs rise approximately 2.5%. Marketing Mail Parcel rates will increase on average 1.6%.

Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail and Parcel Select prices are also increasing and these increase vary by product and the type of piece being mailed.

For more information on the new rates, please check the USPS RIBBS website at: <https://ribbs.usps.gov/intelligentmail/schedule2017/releases/jan2017/docs/January2017PriceChangeFactSheet.pdf>



- **Most Common Post Office Names** — Clinton is the most common Post Office name with 26 locations. Madison is second with 25. Franklin and Washington are third with 24. Chester and Marion are next with 23 each.
- **Most Common City Names** — Franklin is the most common city name with 31 locations. Clinton and Washington are second, with 29 each. Arlington is third with 28. Chester, Georgetown, Madison and Salem are next with 27 each.
- **Most Common Street Names** — the five most common street names in the country are Main, 2nd, Maple, Oak and Park — in that order.
- **Longest Main Street** — the longest Main Street in America is located in Island Park, ID (83429) — it's 33 miles long.

# Greater Boston

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## Halloween Stamp Unveiling

George, Kippenhan, PCC Executive Board Member and Manager of Consumer & Industry Contact for the United States Postal Service travels to many elementary schools in the Greater Boston District which encompasses zip codes 014-026, from Worcester to Cape Cod. George speaks to the students about the value of letter writing and written communication. In October, George took his fun and entertaining PCC co-sponsored program to the Highlands Elementary School in Braintree, Massachusetts. George shares stories about the value of mail, whether it be writing fan mail to their favorite athletes, a thank you card to your Grandparents or get well cards to less fortunate children in hospitals. He also explains that you can send a letter anywhere in the country for less than 50 cents much to the amazement of the grade schoolers. At the end of the presentation, a few excited children were invited on stage to unveil the new USPS Jack O' Lantern stamp. A commemorative plaque was presented to the Highlands Principal in recognition of their participation in the stamp unveiling ceremony. It is now proudly hung in the School Hallway outside the Principal's office for all to see.



The world premier of the new Halloween stamp took place at Highlands Elementary School! Thank you to @USPS



## Upcoming PCC Events—Join Us!

PCC Night at the Celtics

- 1/16/2107 TD Garden Boston Celtics vs. Charlotte Hornets 7:00 p.m.