

Rep. Adrian Smith (R-NE) recently announced the American Red Cross will again deliver holiday cards to American military personnel, veterans, and their families across the country and around the world. Smith's district offices in Scottsbluff and Grand Island also will serve as collection points.

Last year, the Red Cross's Service to the Armed Forces staff and volunteers delivered more than 1.4 million cards for military men and women and their families.

Holiday cards must be received by Dec. 7. The Red Cross and Pitney Bowes will then sort and package the cards and deliver them to military bases, veterans hospitals and other locations in the U.S. and abroad during the holidays.

Cards should be sent to:

Holiday Mail for Heroes

P.O. Box 5456

Capitol Heights, MD 20791-5456

Postage free cards may also be dropped off at either of Smith's District Offices:

416 Valley View Dr.

Scottsbluff, NE 69361

or drop off at:

1811 W. 2nd Street, Suite 105

Grand Island, NE 68803

To ensure cards reach their destination, the following guidelines apply:

- All cards should be postmarked or dropped off to Smith's offices no later than Wednesday, Dec. 2.

- Participants are encouraged to limit the number of cards they submit to 15 from any one person or 50 from any one class or group.

- If mailing a large quantity, cards should be bundled and placed in large mailing envelopes. Each card does not need its own envelope or postage.

- All cards should be signed.

- Cards should be addressed to: "Dear Servicemember, family or veteran."

- Cards may not contain inserts, photos, long letters, or e-mail or home addresses.

"As we prepare our holiday greetings this season, let's remember the men and women who each day answer the call of duty. This is a perfect way to show our appreciation and support for those who serve our country," Smith said.