## HOLIDAY MAIL FOR HEROES PROGRAM

Sending Christmas cards to soldiers is the perfect holiday activity for classrooms or families. One easy way to ensure that your cards end up in the hands of an active duty or recovering soldier is by sending it through an program called "Holiday Mail for Heroes" which is operated by the American Red Cross. The Red Cross

began the program in 2007 and works in conjunction with Pitney Bowes to collect cards from all across the United States and distribute them to soldiers, veterans and their families.

Entitle your card with a generic term such as "Dear Soldier" or "Dear Service Member, Family or Veteran." Consider including a short message of gratitude to the soldier for his or her service. Express your appreciation for his sacrifice. If you



like, you can purchase a Christmas card through the American Red Cross for \$25.

The \$25 is a donation that goes to support the U.S. military.

Address your envelope as follows: Holiday Mail for Heroes P.O. Box 5456 Capitol Heights, MD 20791-5456

## Postmark your card no later than Dec. 10. Cards postmarked after Dec. 10 will be returned to the sender.

Ensure that your card meets all "Holiday Mail for Heroes" guidelines. Don't send letters, care packages or monetary gifts. Don't include your personal contact information. Keep your card free of glitter and additional inserts of any kind.