

Eastern Idaho Chambers of Commerce  
Re: Welcome Home to the 116<sup>th</sup>  
Eastern Idaho State Fair

Businesses of our Local Chambers:

In just a few short weeks over 450 service men and women from eastern Idaho will be returning home from a one-year deployment overseas. These soldiers have given of themselves to serve the United States with great sacrifice to their friends and families at home. We want to welcome them home with an outpouring of support and we are asking for your help.

In cooperation with the Military Affairs Committees of The Greater Pocatello and Greater Idaho Falls Chamber of Commerce, we are asking for a donation to be put into a welcome-home packet. We're hoping businesses around the area will donate a gift certificate or discount coupon for the packet. Then when these fine soldiers come home they will have an enormous Thank You in the form of an array of offers, discounts or freebies to businesses all over the area. We hope you will want to be a part of this.

In total there are roughly 463 members of the 116<sup>th</sup> from the area that will be coming home. In the upper valley that means 249 soldiers. For the lower valley it's 214. Businesses can choose to give coupons or gift certificates to all of the soldiers or to the ones in their geographic region.

KPVI News 6 and members of the two military affairs committees will also be manning a booth at the Eastern Idaho State Fair. At that booth fair goers will have a chance to record a message of gratitude for our soldiers. Those messages will be compiled and given to the 116<sup>th</sup>. There will also be a chance for fair goers to sponsor all or part of a packet. We'll set one packet at a price of \$5. People can donate whatever they want to help with the packet. The money that is collected will then be split between the two military affairs committees as a fundraiser for their efforts.

If you would like to participate please immediately email Todd Blackinton at [tblackinton@kpvi.com](mailto:tblackinton@kpvi.com). We will then need your coupon or gift certificate submitted to Mike McLendon, ESGR, 208-243-1045 or Jennifer Bowen Greater Pocatello Chamber of Commerce, 208-681-3132 no later than August 31<sup>st</sup>. This will give us time to assemble the packets and have them ready for the returning troops in the middle of September.

Please consider this opportunity to show gratitude to our local soldiers while also attaching your business to a worthy cause.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Bowen  
Mike McLendon  
Todd Blackinton

