

Sunflower *Legionnaire*

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KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

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FLAG DAY JUNE 14

**By Alejandra Trujillos, Student Stevenson Middle School
Why the Flag is Important to Me**

The Flag is important because it represents freedom. Freedom is important because not long ago everybody did not experience it. Our country is very lucky to have the right to be free. Our Flag is also important because the stars symbolize the 50 states, and the stripes stand for the 13 original colonies. The Flag represents the history of how we fought for freedom. We show pride and appreciation by saying the Pledge of Allegiance every day. Our Flag represents and symbolizes a lot of things to different people and that is why the Flag is unique and important.

The blind and visually impaired should have a Flag that they can appreciate. Some people who fought in the war for our country are now blind. We should show our appreciation to them by having a Braille Flag. The Flag is important and if we can see it then the blind and visually impaired should have the right to have a Braille Flag that they can feel and be proud of also.

Braille Flag Program Endorsed

In 2004 the American Braille flag was created in Kansas by the son of a now deceased blind WWII veteran. In 2007 Congressman Todd Tiaht introduced House Bill 4169, the American Braille Flag memorial Act in Congress calling for its installation at Arlington National Cemetery which passed unanimously and a bronze version of the Braille Flag cast in Wichita was installed at Arlington the following year.

The Department Convention endorsed Kansas Braille Transcription Institute's card stock reproduction of the flag in Braille for distribution to schools, nursing homes, sight impaired veterans and others. The flags are 7.5" by 9.5" and fit in an 8 x10 frame. Each flag includes a printed or Braille description and Braille alphabet card.

For more information or to place an order visit www.kbti.org, or telephone 316-265-9692.