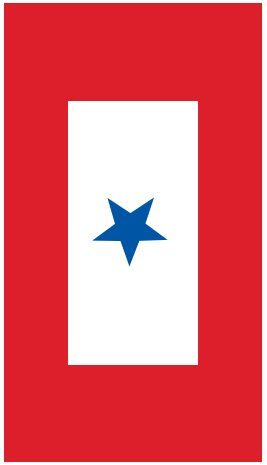
The Blue Star Program



The Blue Star Service Banner was designed and patented in 1917 by World War I Army Capt. Robert L. Queissner of the 5th Ohio Infantry who had two sons serving on the front line. It quickly became the unofficial symbol of a child in the service.

On Sept. 24, 1917, an Ohio Congressman read the following into the Congressional Record: "…The Mayor of Cleveland, the Chamber of Commerce and the Governor of Ohio have adopted this service flag. The world should know of those who give so much for liberty. The dearest thing in all the world to a father and mother - their children."

During World War II, the Department of War issued specifications on the manufacturing of the flag as well as guidelines indicating when and by whom the service flag could be flown and the service lapel button could be worn.

The Department of Defense updated the guidelines on December 1, 1967 with DoD Directive 1348.1, which implemented an Act of Congress authorizing a service flag and a service lapel button (U.S.C. 179-182).

Today Blue Star Service Banners are displayed by families who have a loved one serving in the armed forces including the National Guard and Reserves of all military departments. The banner displayed in the front window of a home shows a family's pride in their loved one serving in the military, and reminds others that preserving America's freedom demands much.

The City is proud to have the opportunity to honor those family members.

By completing and returning the application in this brochure, City residents with immediate family members in the military will receive a Blue Star Service Flag, lapel pin and window decal from the City for each immediate family member currently serving in the military. A banner with the honoree's name will also be placed along Whittier Boulevard.

Information on your family members and the other honorees will be displayed on the City's website for public viewing.

The City of Whittier wants to recognize families with members serving in the United States Armed Forces. Please complete the application and submit with photographs and other information. The pictures, names, and military branch will be available to view on the City's website, www.cityofwhittier.org.

Blue Star Program

Application

Please print, complete form, and submit to:

City of Whittier Community Services
Blue Star Program
13230 Penn Street, Whittier, CA 90602

Photos will not be returned.

Your Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Honoree's Name _____

Home Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Branch/Rank _____

Honoree's Relationship to you _____

May we pass on your contact information to local social service and charitable agencies? Yes / No

Would you like free care packages "Hands Across The Battlefield" sent to your family member?

Yes _____ No _____

If Yes, Honoree's APO/FPO

_____

_____

_____

_____

High School Attended _____

Year Graduated _____

Banner Location _____

More information on honoree: Where is he/she stationed, current and past duties, hobbies, high school attended, etc.

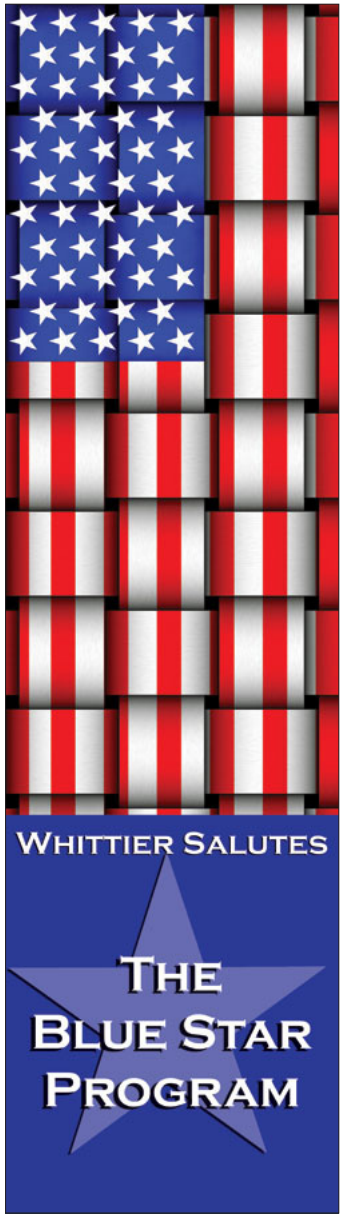
City Council

Owen Newcomer, Mayor
Bob Henderson, Mayor Pro Tem
Joe Vinatieri
Cathy Warner
Fernando Dutra

Jeffrey W. Collier, City Manager
Nancy Mendez, Assistant City Manager
Fran Shields, Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services

For more information on the Blue Star Program, please contact the City of Whittier Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department at (562) 567-9400 or visit the City's website, www.cityofwhittier.org.

City of Whittier
13230 Penn Street
Whittier, CA 90602



City of Whittier