



Evansville Regional Airport

For immediate release

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**Evansville Regional Airport sponsors aviation-themed camp
EVV partners with area children’s museum to provide first-hand aviation
experience, includes interaction with pilots and other aviation professionals**

EVANSVILLE, Indiana – Some 50 tri state-area students grades 1st – 7th are getting a flying start on aeronautics and aviation careers this week, as part of a week-long aviation-themed summer camp at the Koch Family Children’s Museum of Evansville (cMoe), sponsored by Vectren and Evansville Regional Airport.

Evansville Regional Airport and Tri-State Aero, Inc. will host the campers one day on Friday, June 24, as part of the camp’s “finale” and provide the students with a behind-the-scenes look at the two facilities’ operations, personalized interaction with Shriners Fest Air Show Pilots and aircraft tours.

“The camp is a fun, interactive week of learning more about the world of aviation through a variety of experiences,” said Leslie Fella, Evansville Regional Airport spokesperson. “Professional, military and civilian experts will introduce campers to the principles of flight, teamwork, pre-flight safety, building model aircraft and much more.”

Now in its third year, the museum’s Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) camp provides students the opportunity to explore physics, chemistry, engineering and electricity. And for the first-time ever, this year’s camp also lends exploration in aviation and the building of airplanes and taking on real world challenges.

“As an educator and lover of all things science, this week is my favorite week of the summer. It

allows campers to learn in an environment that is often different than school or home,” said Ben Baker, Koch Family Children’s Museum of Evansville, Director of Education and Experience. “Campers are challenged and guided in a way that sparks and fosters a passion for learning, exploring and construction.”

Baker said that the museum’s camps are structured to tie the student’s activities back to the real world, whether it be a challenge, profession, or area of study. And having the airport’s support, he said, allows the museum to provide the campers with an experience outside of the museum to see real world applications of what has been discussed throughout the week.

“Our partnership with EVV also allows our campers to explore newfound interests in a setting that encourages a passion for new and exciting things,” said Baker. “The campers’ visit to EVV will not only further our opportunity to educate and help ignite interest in aviation, it will also create memories that campers will cherish for years to come.”

According to Fella, studies show the continued growth of the aerospace industry could be hampered by a severe shortage of trained aviation professionals if the aviation community doesn’t step in and reach out to young people.

Although the airport visit’s emphasis is on igniting interest in aeronautics and careers in aviation, the important social and major economic role aviation plays in region and the importance to fly local, will also be stressed.

Note to Assignment Editors, Aviation, and Education Reporters: With local aviation as a rich backdrop, these activities are highly visual, featuring a diverse mix of presenters and facility tours. Media interested in covering program activities should contact Leslie Fella, EVV, at 812.421.4401.

Friday, June 24 at Tri-State Aero

9:30 a.m. Behind-the-scenes tour of the facility

11 a.m. Meet and greet with Air Show pilots; first-hand look at their aircraft

12 p.m. Students sit inside the cockpits of two Cessna aircraft and have pictures taken.

About Evansville Regional Airport

Evansville Regional Airport is served by Allegiant, American Airlines, Delta and United, which connect passengers hundreds of domestic and international destinations daily via direct flights to five top-rate hub cities – Atlanta, Charlotte, Chicago, Dallas, Detroit and Orlando. Evansville Regional Airport generates more than \$900 million in economic benefits annually, per the Economic Survey completed by the Aviation Association of Indiana in 2012. Evansville Regional is owned and operated by the Evansville-Vanderburgh Airport Authority District, who also owns Thunderbolt Pass Golf Course and leases other buildings and parcels of land around the airport. In all, the airport authority owns and maintains approximately 1,700 acres, with total property employment exceeding 500 employees.