



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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N E W S R E L E A S E

Vintage B-17 Bomber Displayed in Conjunction with Veterans' Honor Flight.

SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS..... Sentimental Journey, the christened name of the vintage B-17G Flying Fortress WWII bomber will be on display from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. on June 22nd and 23rd at Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport. The display is in conjunction with another Honor Flight scheduled to depart Springfield on Tuesday, June 22nd.

The bomber is completely restored to its wartime capabilities and is operated by the Arizona Wing of the Commemorative Air Force (CAF). The Boeing B-17G, *Sentimental Journey*, is one of the nearly 13,000 B-17s built during WWII. There are only eight restored and flying in the United States. The Arizona Wing of the CAF has been entrusted with the restoration, preservation, and operation of the B-17 that now visits an average of 60 cities across the United States each year. Staffed by an all-volunteer crew, a small donation is accepted for ground tours when the aircraft is on display. The public is invited to tour the aircraft while grounded and can enter the airfield through the security gate at Landmark Aviation. Parking is free in the airport's main parking lot off of J. David Jones Parkway. Cost for a ground tour is \$5; current military personnel and Veterans are free. The B-17 will also make flying passes over the airport area. Flying tours are also available for \$425. For more information or to schedule a flight tour, contact the CAF at 602-448-9415 or visit them on the web at www.arizonawingcaf.com.

On Tuesday, June 22nd, 95 central Illinois World War II Veterans will board the fourth Honor Flight from Springfield's Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport. Bound for Washington D.C., the Veterans will visit the National World War II Memorial, Arlington Cemetery and other memorials and return home that same day.

The Honor Flight, funded by generous donations from individuals, organizations and businesses, and arranged for by Land of Lincoln Honor Flight, Inc., provides WWII Veterans an opportunity to visit the National Memorials that commemorate their service to America. Land of Lincoln Honor Flight is

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just one part of the national Honor Flight network, whose mission, in part, is to provide round trip transportation and accommodations from Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport in Springfield, Illinois for any central Illinois World War II Veteran who wishes to visit the World War II Memorial and other memorials in Washington, D.C. This day trip is provided completely free of charge to the veteran in honor of his/her service to our country.

The 95 central Illinois Veterans will depart Springfield at approximately 7:00 a.m. on a charter aircraft operated by Sun Country Airlines and will fly non-stop to Washington D.C. 67 guardian volunteers will accompany the World War II Vets to ensure their safety and comfort throughout the day. The flight will return to a “Welcome Home” ceremony at Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport in the main passenger terminal on the same day, June 22nd, arriving at approximately 9:15 p.m. The public is invited to the welcome home ceremony at Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport, which will include a formal Military Honor Guard.

NOTE: For more information about the arrival of the historic B-17 Bomber, please contact Rick Senffner, Public Information Officer for the Commemorative Air Force at (480) 924-1940, or via email at pio@ascaf.org.

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