

Wings Over Waukegan, a D-Day anniversary tribute, to be held on Sept. 6

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The two-runway Waukegan National Airport — a general aviation-reliever airport facility for O'Hare International Airport — is located on 535 acres near the heart of the city of Waukegan at 3580 North McAree Road. This year, for one day only on Saturday, Sept. 6, Waukegan National Airport will host the annual Wings Over Waukegan, featuring a D-Day anniversary tribute. Gates open at 9:30 a.m. The air show begins at noon.

Viewers will witness great flight performances by world-renowned aerobatic pilots. Eye-catching vintage military aircraft, such as the P-51 Mustang and the F-86 Sabre, will take the skies during flight demonstrations. Every year, Wings Over Waukegan stands up as the country's best air show. Past highlights have featured: a Canadian Snowbirds demonstration, a F-18 SuperHornet, static aircraft displays, classic Warbirds, parachute teams, formation flights, living history events, a Jet Bus and military aircraft.

"Since 2000, we have watched Wings Over Waukegan evolve from its first small show to recently showcasing the Canadian Snow Birds for the North Shore community in 2012," said Grant B. Farrell, president of the Waukegan Air Show. "This event has continued to grow in size each year due to the many volunteers who give their time and from the generosity of loyal supporters."

Last year, the air show brought approximately 20,000 people to the event, according to Jim Stanczak, airport manager, and this year more visitors are expected.

"The organizers of the air show maintain our mission to share our passion for aviation and educate youth about the history of flight and its contribution to society," Farrell said. "In 2013, it had been 40 years since the signing of the Paris Peace Accord, and we were proud to honor the military veterans of the Viet Nam conflict at that year's show. As a group, we felt it was time to give those veterans special recognition."

Families will love this value-inspired regional event; kids under



12 years old are admitted for free. Enjoy food and beverages while viewing the amazing aerial feats of historic aircraft. Afterward, kids can get their photograph taken with some of the brave pilots while adults can shake hands and drill the pilots with any burning questions.

"This year we will commemorate the 70th anniversary of D-Day, an event in our history, which

changed the course of WWII and set the Allied Forces on their path to victory," Farrell said. "We hope to help the younger generations understand that air power was an integral force in the Allies' success and instill an appreciation for aviation."

To purchase tickets, visit www.wingsoverwaukegan.com or call (847) 244-0055.

