



## NEWS RELEASE 18-08 CORRECTED

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### **JOIN US FOR AVIATION DAY THIS SATURDAY - DONATE A NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEM -**

FORT MYERS, Fla. (March 19, 2018) – Aviation Day 2018 will be held Saturday, April 7 at Page Field from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. with free admission and parking. Aviation Day is an annual community event hosted by the Lee County Port Authority with the purpose of increasing community awareness of our airports. The event is held on the ramp on the north side of Page Field off North Airport Road, east of U.S. 41 and south of Colonial Blvd. Parking is available off North Airport Road and U.S. 41 with complimentary shuttle bus transportation to the event.

There will be two featured aircraft at this year's event - a Douglas C-54E, sponsored by Owen-Ames-Kimball Company, and a rare Douglas SBD-5, sponsored by Kimley-Horn. The C-54E "Spirit of Freedom" is a flying museum and memorial housed in the original aircraft used in the historical Berlin Airlift that took place in 1948-49 and is commemorating its 70th anniversary this year. The SBD-5 "Dauntless" was a World War II carrier-based scout, dive and torpedo bomber.

In addition, there will be free children's activities, including inflatable slides and bounce houses, sponsored by Suncoast Credit Union, and clowns and face painting, sponsored by HMSHost. Other attractions will include antique, experimental and general aviation aircraft, airplane and helicopter rides (for a fee), airport police and fire department demonstrations, aviation-themed shopping, food and more.

**We are asking those coming to Aviation Day 2018 to help our local community by bringing a non-perishable food item to benefit The Harry Chapin Food Bank of Southwest Florida.**

Additional Aviation Day 2018 sponsors are: Southwest Airlines, Bob FM 102.9, Gator Country 101.9, Mix 104.7 and Naples' FM Talk 98.9; Cooper Hotels, MISSION BBQ, SP+ Airport Services; AECOM, ATKINS, Costco Wholesale, Chris-Tel Construction, Creative Events & Rentals, Hertz, Hilton Garden Inn Fort Myers, Hole Montes, Manhattan Construction, Passarella & Associates; AAA Auto Club South, Allied Portables, Cohen & Cohen Catering, Culver's of Fort Myers S. Cleveland Ave., Florida Blue, JetBlue Airways, KJ's Steakhouse, Paradies Lagardère and Waste Pro.

Southwest Florida International Airport served more than 8.8 million passengers in 2017 and is one of the top 50 U.S. airports for passenger traffic. No ad valorem (property) taxes are used for airport operation or construction. For more information, visit [www.flylcpa.com](http://www.flylcpa.com) or Like Us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/flyRSW](https://www.facebook.com/flyRSW).