

Momentum 2020 plan brings airport into the future

Mt. VERNON OUTLAND AIRPORT HAS IMPLEMENTED A MULTI-YEAR PLAN TO BRING FURTHER REVENUE TO NOT ONLY THE AIRPORT, BUT IT'S SURROUNDING COMMUNITY.

By EMILY ROTH

SENTINEL NEWS STAFF

The Mt. Vernon Outland Airport will soon embark on another proactive capital development plan titled Momentum 2020. According to information provided by the airport, Momentum 2020 will implement FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) mandated projects, increase needed aircraft storage capacity, and further the revitalization of airport areas that will be needed for future economic development. Momentum 2020 will be funded through general obligation bonds, airport improvement program entitlements and possible FAA discretionary grants.

"It's been a big honor in my life to have this job, to try to make my community a better place," said Airport Director Chris Collins. "These are always exciting times whenever we launch into a new phase of trying to fix things at the airport that need fixed and then also prime the airport for the future."

It is the goal of the Mt. Vernon Airport Authority (MVA) to make capital improvements to the airport with little to no increase of property taxes. To date, the MVA has accomplished this goal, indicated Collins.

MOMENTUM 2020 PROJECTS

New "T" Hangar: Since 2006, aircraft storage buildings at the Mt. Vernon Outland Airport have been full. Engineering work has been ongoing over the years in preparation for a new row of "T" Hangars northeast of the current "T" Hangar area. Increased capacity is needed for storage of based and transient aircraft. The last row of "T" Hangars built at Mt. Vernon Outland Airport was constructed in the 1990s.

Aircraft storage capabilities contribute direct benefits to the local economy through aircraft fuel sales, maintenance, and storage fees (monthly, weekly, daily rent). Presently, 15 percent of based aircraft are owned by pilots living outside of Jefferson County. Owners base their aircraft at Mt. Vernon Outland Airport for many reasons — infrastructure, aircraft services, non-congested airspace, safety and the positive energy provided by business tenants and fellow pilots. Increased storage capacity results in more economic activity in the areas described above. Another attribute to increased storage capacity is

that it allows the airport to attract additional business leaders who own aircraft to the Mt. Vernon area.

Runways/taxiways: Mt. Vernon Outland Airport's main runway, rehabilitated and painted in 2005, will undergo mid-life

maintenance in the summer of 2016. Longitudinal paving lane joints will be excavated and filled with sealer and the entire runway surface will be paved to updated FAA standards. Concurrently, fillets will be added to the Taxiway "A" inner surfaces near Runway 05. The fillets will allow for safer taxi operations for larger aircraft such as the McDonnell Douglas MD-80. Seal coating of Taxiway "B2," one of two carrier taxiways last rehabilitated in 2007, should extend its life another 10 years. Supporting pavements to and around the new five place "T" Hangar is slated for the fall of 2017. The rehabilitation of Taxiway "A1" and new pavement leading to the airport Fuel Farm Ramp in the fall of 2018, rounds out the aircraft movement surface projects included in the Momentum 2020 plan.

Innovation Park: Innovation Park, the southwest quadrant industrial park initiative, will be bolstered by three projects. The automotive side entry drive will be oiled and chipped in the summer of 2018. Electrical upgrades required prior to the construction of privately built Hangar #2 will also be completed in summer of 2016. The electrical upgrade will consist of relocating America's main transformer to the Innovation Park Utility Corridor, rerouting the snow removal equipment and farm fuel feeds and installing a new multi-unit meter base. The concrete ramp serving Hangar #2 is the last Innovation Park project listed. This project assumes that Hangar #2 is built and relies on the availability of a state/local program for its funding.

The Innovation Park Initiative we've been working on ever since all of us have been here, we started that," stated Collins. "I think that actually was thought of by four airport directors ago. That is that old southwest quadrant that was abandoned back in 1975. It's prime real estate right on the highway with its own road going in both directions already there, although we're having to change some utilities around, which is part of this plan. It always excites me to think about what we could do down there."

According to Collins, Innovation Park was built to attract employers and create job growth within the area. While he encourages aviation companies to use the space, he indicated that others who would provide jobs in Jefferson County would be welcome.

"Innovation Park is the new southwest corridor that used to be the terminal area," said Collins. "In the early 1950s 'til about 1975, this was the Mt. Vernon Airport. And in the early 1970s when the



Submitted Photo

VIEW FROM ABOVE — An aerial view of the Mt. Vernon Outland Airport in September shows the flightline filling up with vendors. More than 40 various vendors flew in from across the country for the Light Sport Aircraft Expo.

airport was trying to land bigger airplanes, the FAA said that the setbacks were not correct for bigger aircraft to take off and land here. So everything had to be moved further back off the taxiway and runway for the big airplane wingspan and the approaches coming in and out."

Collins said, "The complex was conceived and built in, probably about '75. So since 1975 this old area has just laid dormant, weeds growing up through the cracks and building foundations that aren't there anymore. So the Innovation Park project in 2013 was that one shining moment where we got federal money to fix all of this, and we had to build one building to get it."

Machinery and signage: Momentum 2020 includes the upgrade of some key airport components. The airport's only mowing tractor, a 2000 New Holland TS-110 has nearly 7,000 hours. The plan calls for replacement of this machine with a similar or greater horsepower machine. Momentum 2020 also includes the acquisition of an ATV for weed and wildlife control.

The airport's wooden, externally lighted entry sign (circa 1975) will be replaced with a modern, attractive, and welcoming unit. One electronic remote gate operator will be installed at Gate #4 serving corporate tenants accessing Hangar #100 or the Commercial Hangar.

"Other things that you'll see in this plan like the sign that's out front, continued Collins. I've kind of resisted doing anything with that for several years. It's not a major expense, we probably could have tackled it earlier, but you know, it's \$25,000 we could have used somewhere more important, but it just looks horrible. It's a bad reflection on our community and it needs to be dealt with. So it's going to be really exciting to get that out of the way."

MOMENTUM 2020 FUNDING

The current Airport port



Sentinel File Photo/EMILY ROTH

AIRPORT AIRLIFT — Troops from the National Guard board a Lockheed C-130 Hercules transport aircraft during an airlift at the Mt. Vernon Outland Airport in 2014. The transports, based in Peoria, touched down in Mt. Vernon to refuel before the soldiers boarded. Three planes were used during deployment. The airlifts occur every other year.

Improvement Program (AIP) funding proportional match is 90 percent federal 5 percent state and 5 percent local. The proportional scale requires the airport have funds on hand to match federal and state funds expended on projects. Many projects such as land acquisitions and projects mandated by the FAA that do not utilize airport entitlement funds require the airport to expend local dollars. Reimbursement is then applied for and the many cases takes years to recapture. The bottom line is that if funds are not available in the airport's Capital Projects Funds, airport projects (whether FAA mandated or not) may never initiate.

The only way that we can

capitalize the airport, is selling bonds, explained Collins. "We get a certain amount of fund-

ing from the Federal Aviation Administration for capital projects but we also have to have some shares to match those funds. So we have to sell bonds for that. That's all spentified on the books. What I did is I went back to 1998-99 to show you the tax rate. We think we've done a pretty good job of accomplishing [making little to no increase in taxes]. Now we went up just a tad in 2011... but we still kept it pretty consistent. We started out at 21 cents and now we're down to 16. So we're a board and management that wants to live within its means, and control costs.

"We also have to have some way of improving the airport also. We have to sell bonds to do that. We can't go and get a small business loan like a company can in town, this is our only vehicle of capitalization. We're very grateful for the taxpayers rallying behind us and helping us in this quest. It's our goal to them, that we're going to manage it with due diligence and, you know, living within our means also."

General obligation bonds: The airport intends to "dovetail" or extend its current bonding schedule in an effort

to provide local funding for projects and establish the matches for federal/state projects. The airport current non-referendum bond capacity is \$1.33 million. To keep projects in line with the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) Division of Aeronautics Transportation Improvement Program, the Mt. Vernon Airport Authority intends to sell bonds for the next three year period. Mt. Vernon Outland Airport's current Non-Referendum Debt Service Extension Base (DSEB) is \$230,256. The original DSEB established in 1997 by PTEL (Property Tax Extension Limitation) is \$205,900. Property tax rates are directly propor-

tional to the EAV (Equalized Assessed Value). To manage Momentum 2020 with a pledge of no property tax increases, the Mt. Vernon Airport Authority intends to sell bonds at an annual amount close to the original PTEL Debt Service Extension Base of \$205,900. Doing so is expected to keep the overall tax rate constant regardless of whether the EAV increases or decreases.

"That means that we could sell bonds without going to a referendum," said Collins. "We could sell bonds up to that amount every year. So we could conceivably [sell up to] \$690 something thousand? If we sold it up to the \$230,000 the taxpayers wouldn't see an increase in taxes, because the EAB is climbing up. Just to make sure that we don't raise taxes, we're not going to sell them at \$230,000, we're going to sell them at \$220,000. That's how we're doing the \$660,000. That way, regardless of what the EAB would have to take a mighty dip for the taxes to go up. We don't think that's going to happen. But if it does happen, if they do go down, if the EAB goes down a little bit, we're protected our taxpayers, we think anyway, by selling it at low."

Airport Improvement Program/General Aviation Entitlement: All general aviation airports without 10,000 enplanements (air carrier) per year receive \$150,000 annually for capital improvements. The airport does not receive these funds directly from the Illinois Department of Transportation, acting on behalf of the FAA, administers the funds to contractors after all work is completed and reviewed by IDOT staff. All work is placed on a state letting scheduled



Sentinel File Photo/EMILY ROTH

READY FOR LIFTOFF — Pilots and crew work to inflate their balloons at the Mt. Vernon Outland Airport in October during Balloons Over the skies. Calm weather allowed balloonists to travel across the skies.

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Entitlement funds are most often used for paving operations such as runway/taxway revitalizations.

2016 CHAMPION

Annual operations total close to \$5,000 each year. Based aircraft tenancy is over 50, including 11 multi-engine aircraft, three helicopters and one turboprop. Annual fuel sales hover around 100,000 gallons. In 2014 and 2015, Aviation Gasoline.

Some of the things that are written in the Illinois Aviation 2020 plan is to prep the airport for future operations," said Collins. "The airport derives revenue from fuel sales. Of course the bigger the airplane the more fuel they take, and so we're very fortunate to be in a position where we can make a little bit of a profit from the sale of fuel. We have a revenue-sharing program with our fixed-base operation, ISRT Aviation, and we don't sell a lot of fuel to the cargo operators because they always have to fly down to put as much freight on the actual airplane and not tanker fuel. So we don't see a whole lot from that, but we do get revenues from the cargo companies for loading the airplane. Then landing fees too."

Economic impacts: In 2012, the Illinois Department of Transportation, Division of Aeronautics commissioned and released the Illinois Aviation Economic Impact Study. The study was the estimation of numerous passenger and airport surveys conducted to determine the individual and statewide value of the Illinois Aviation System.

The study found the total economic output of the Mt. Vernon Outland Airport at \$12.9 million and total jobs at 149 when all impacts and multipliers are applied.

Airport jobs are listed at 45 with a \$7,100.00 direct economic output. These numbers are actually higher, as the study only lists aeronautical related businesses. When other airport based businesses are added, the total airport job total is 63 and the economic output is nearly \$11,000,000. With an annual tax levy of \$320,000, the \$11,000,000 direct economic impact yields a 300 percent return on taxpayers' investment.

Since the late 1990s, millions of dollars from the FAA and IDOT have been appropriated for pavement revitalizations at the Mt. Vernon Outland Airport. These projects put tradesmen to work and cost local taxpayers 5 percent of the total project costs.

"What a lot of people don't really understand, as we march into the future, we become more of a justified of the infrastructure," said Collins. "I want to try real hard to explain that we have an airport that most communities just couldn't wait to develop and something like this."

As a matter of fact, a community wouldn't get that kind of infrastructure anymore through the FAA, and the federal government, without having thousands of jobs attached to it. So here we have it. Since the federal government puts 90 percent into all the pavements and ramps and aprons and things like that, you better have something to produce for that money that they're investing.

VISIONS: WHY WE LIVE HERE

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"Our way of justifying it is the cargo, the just-in-time cargo ops coming from our five automotive suppliers that are located within 30 to 40 miles away, cargo coming off the interstates, military operations with the bigger planes like the C-130s. By having that kind of activity coming in and out it justifies having our instrument landing system and the landing gear up," he said.

"It's kind of like a chicken and an egg thing. If we let our guard down and we lose these operators, and then the government comes along and says 'Well, Mt. Vernon, you don't need a 100-foot wide runway, and you don't need that instrument landing system and then they take that away from us. Then, let's say that you have a new industry coming into the area that needs that instrument landing system or that wide runway or whatever, and we've not done it yet, then we've not done our jobs."

AWARDS

Mt. Vernon Outland Airport and its volunteers were honored for service in 2015. Airport officials and volunteers accepted the award in Springfield for the business category in Southern Illinois.

Jefferson County Hall of Honor Colonel R.D. White.

Veterans Museum and Jefferson County Heroes Memorial won the 2014 Governor's Hometown Award in December 2014. The Mt. Vernon Outland Airport won the Memorials and Monuments category.

The service of local veterans is honored by permanent tributes that are displayed at the Mt. Vernon Outland Airport.

Along the main hallway of the airport and in the banquet room, there are more than 500 custom designed picture tributes to veterans of different backgrounds and experience. Several local individuals worked to research, design and create the tributes memorializing the service of local veterans.

Airport of the Year: The Mt. Vernon Outland Airport accepted the IDOT 2015 Airport of the Year Award in May according to Sentinel archives.

Mt. Vernon Airport Authority Board Chairman Mike Ancona, Vice Chairman Greg Martin, Secretary Eddie Lee, Treasurer Gary Chesney and Airport Director Collins accepted the IDOT Division of Aeronautics General Aviation Airport of the Year Award at the 2015 Illinois Aviation Conference in Rockford.

The award is presented based on the following criteria in cooperation with IDOT and FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) officials, safety record, service to the local community and general maintenance of the facility.

This is the third recent honor for the local airport. The Jefferson County Hall of Honor and Colonel R.D. White Veterans Museum, based inside the Kozlak Terminal, won the Governors Hometown Award in December. The Governor's Volunteer Service Award was presented to the airport and its volunteers in April.

"We are very grateful for this honor," stated Collins. "The dedication to this facility and to the community by the staff, tenants and volunteers is extraordinary and has been recognized statewide as evidenced by these awards."

In addition to daily tenant activities, the airport also hosts the Military Airshow, Veterans Events, Planes and Pilots Midwest, EAA (Experimental Aircraft Association), Light Sport Aircraft Expo, EAA Airventure Cup Race, Independence Day Salute to Freedom, Balloons Over Mt. Vernon, EAA (Experimental Aircraft Association), Young Eagle Flights, YMCA Programs, school tours and field trips, weddings, civic club meetings, and the Chamber of Commerce Home Show.

"I feel this award is an extension of our outreach to the national aviation industry and to the local community," added Ancona. "Few airports host as many events and are as welcoming to residents. The airport always has the welcome mat displayed."

Collins indicated that this is an exciting time for the airport. "It's nice to be honored by your peers and the government," he said.

NEW TECHNOLOGY

Winterization: The airport maintains a full fleet of snow removal equipment, runway deicing fluids and aircraft deicing capabilities up to Boeing 777s.

After a unanimous vote from the Mt. Vernon Airport Authority Board of Commissioners, the airport purchased snow removal equipment to ensure the runway is ready for winter, according to Sentinel archives.

The reason I'm interested in this is we really have no means of deicing the runway in the event of an ice storm," said Collins. "You're probably thinking how many times has that happened here?" It's happened twice on my watch since I've been here, 10 years, and it's not an easy feeling when the runway's closed out there because it's iced over and there's nothing that we can do."

The estimated budget for the snow removal equipment which was bought and then built by airport staff is \$1,200, with the money taken from the capital projects fund. For the deicing process, the runway is sprayed with de-icer down the center for 50 feet, with the fluid then running down the sides of the runway to melt the ice or snow.

"This stuff is easily starable," stated Collins. "It will last multiple seasons, and this is not something where we say 'hey, we've got it, let's put it on the runway, we have ice.' This is only if we have a cargo opportunity or one of our tenants has to go out or the military is coming in. It's not a good feeling to be sitting here enclosed due to ice and ... that opportunity that would



Courtesy photo/EMILY ROTH

UNDER THE WING — Airport Director Chris Collins inspects the wing of a light sport aircraft during a tour of the airport last year. Throughout the month of May, Jefferson County preschoolers had the opportunity to tour the Mt. Vernon Outland Airport.

have come here going to somewhere else that's doing this. So I would like to take a shot at building this system and having it on hand."

Collins advised the board that the deicing liquid would cost more than the equipment, and he expected to spend approximately \$4,400.

"I'm looking at this like it's a commodity like fuel," Collins told the board. "The fluids would be purchased out of flightline funds [and] if we have to use it, then we charge the operator that made us use it."

Collins stated that in the event of an ice storm he would take a reading on the runway to gauge its safety and fully inform a pilot of any conditions.

"We just added deicing capabilities where we can deice airplanes," said Collins.

"We almost got to use it on the night we had the three inches. Of all things, we would have had a new operator use the airport because Evansville, Ind.'s deicing equipment was down, and so the University of Evansville men's basketball team had a Missouri Conference basketball game, and after the game was over that snow was coming down pretty good and so with the deicing equipment down at Evansville they were going to use the team over here and then fly out of here. We'd have new [operator] that opportunity without having that deicing equipment. It just so happens, we had a problem with the valve body on our truck and sent it to a local shop and they were in the middle of repairing it but didn't get it finished. I came up with an idea on how to do it without the truck ... and the company says, 'Oh that's brilliant, great plan! I'll gonna call the captain. So I take off for Florida going to

the Sebring show thinking we're gonna get this and they didn't come here. I'm sure what happened is, when they told the captain that idea they called Evansville, and Evansville's got hangars too and so they did it over there, same thing."

"We did get an op at night we had a cargo company, a freighter come in at like 4 o'clock that morning, so I mean we were prepared, we had everybody ready, and everybody recalled. I know that was a long-winded explanation but having the deicing was a big one for us."

Security cameras: A modern security camera system was added in 2015 for the recording of key airfield locations. The camera system offers peace of mind by allowing remote access viewing via smartphone or tablet.

According to Sentinel archives, the security system is a feature Collins calls "long needed."

During a July meeting of the Airport Board of Commissioners, Collins proposed purchasing security cameras to continuously record activity at five areas of the airport.

The cameras monitor the airport's Military Museum, parking lot, airline gate, fuel trucks and flight line.

"In the terminal," said Collins, "with the addition of the Military Museum, the weaponry we have, the motorcycle here, it really needs cameras."

Though Collins originally

suggested that the monitors recording the camera feeds would be placed in the security room, the board recommended that the screens be placed in an office where they may be more easily watched. Collins took the suggestion under consideration.

"After stating that he thought having cameras at the airport is a good idea, Chairman Mike Ancona questioned why no cameras had been purchased before."

"Honestly I wanted to do it and I couldn't figure out how," answered Collins. "I wanted it to be something to do to try to save money and I never could get it to work with the different locations."

As with monitoring the Military Museum, Collins was also concerned with preventing the theft of fuel.

Points of interest: Airport websites are optimized for Google searches and formatted for smart phone and tablet viewing. The airport even has its own YouTube channel containing numerous videos of past and present airport operations.

The airport now also offers certified jet maintenance capabilities.

"We sent one of our technicians to Wichita to be qualified on the Hawker Premier jet," added Collins, "and so now we have capabilities of doing jet maintenance. We always had it, we had people that could do it, but no one had the pedigree hanging on their wall that they learned in the Wichita Flight Safety International Training 20 day training course."

"So what we hope to achieve with that is bring in jet maintenance to Mt. Vernon," said Collins.

In Airport



AIRPORT OF THE YEAR — The Mt. Vernon Airport Authority accepts the Illinois Department of Transportation's Airport of the Year Award in 2015. Those at the presentation are, FROM LEFT, IDOT Division of Aeronautics Director Steve Young, Board Commissioner Eddie Lee, Board Chairman Mike Ancona, Airport Director Chris Collins and IDOT Commissioner Steve Long.

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mon. It normally goes to bigger shops and we want to take advantage of our lower wage rates. We have the same pedigree. We just have less overhead than they have at one of those huge airports across the river. So what we're hoping to achieve with that is if you own one of these airplanes in a three, four state area, you can come to Mt. Vernon and get the maintenance done at a cheaper level."

EDMUS

Every other year hundreds of Illinois National Guardsmen from the southern end of the state board multiple Air National Guard Lockheed C-130 Hercules aircraft for flights to their summer training. The aircraft and troops return 2.5 weeks later. Mt. Vernon Outland Airport is one of only two civilian airports where this type of U.S. military movement occurs.

The annual Salute to Freedom and Balloons Over Mt. Vernon events draw thousands of residents to the airport. The airport is also home to other large scale events such as the University of Illinois Extension 4H General Project Fair, Salem South Baptist Association Tent Revival, Summersville Grade School Cross Country Relays, and the occasional Continental Tire Family Picnic.

Airventure Cup Race: Also occurring every other year is the airport hosting the Experimental Aircraft Association Airventure Cup Race. The Airventure Cup Race is the country's fastest cross country air race.

"You know it's very proud, very proud to go to Sebring [to] the U.S. Sport Aviation Expo, everyone knows you and it's all these events that I go to, everyone knows me and knows the airport. We've accomplished what we set out to do and put Mt. Vernon on the map for that. We look forward to carrying those on in the future, and that's the Airventure Cup Race the EAA [Experimental Aircraft Association] does every other year, and then the Light Sport Expo. We hope to continue working with the Illinois Air National Guard doing military movements."

The race alternates each year between Mitchell, S.D., and Mt. Vernon to Oshkosh, Wis., to kick off EAA Airventure. Nearly 80 aircraft participate each year.

The Airventure cup race, I think they went up by 15-20



Submitted Photo / MARY FORTIN

IN FOR A LANDING — A Boeing 737-400 flies in to the Mt. Vernon Outland Airport on a September morning from Detroit. The aircraft arrived in Mt. Vernon to pick up automotive parts before continuing its journey to Louisville, Ky. According to Airport Director Chris Collins, the plane is much larger than what the airport typically sees, and is the same model used by Southwest Airlines.

racers on their second time here," said Collins. "There's only one starting point and there's only one finishing point, and we all know where that's happening. Having that only one place, I love being able to have that on the resume, and we host that."

Before Mt. Vernon, the starting point for the race was in Ohio.

"It was in Dayton, Ohio," explained Collins, "and the airport manager at the finishing line, Wausau, Wis., came to the very first Plane and Pilot Midwest LSA Expo. He was in the market of buying one of these airplanes. He came here and he was impressed with the infrastructure and our shuttling service back and forth to the hotels for free. It was easy and convenient and everybody was friendly. So whatever year that was, was that in 2012, when they finished the race from the western location, then [the EAA] immediately started talking about where we gonna go next year. And [the airport manager] was kinda in the background listening. He calls me and says 'Hey Chris, Hey uh, I signed you up for something, hope you're alright with it. I think you probably will be when I tell you.' He told me and I went 'Yeah! Let's do it!'

"I had to work to get it though, because that was in November and it was April before I heard anything about it. I'd sent emails and letters and phone calls and then didn't hear anything. Then I got a call in April saying 'Hey we understand you wanna host us.' 'Yes I do.' Well, tell us about yourself.' And I did. It was really easy to just say just go to [our website] and look at the photos. So I got through that hurdle. Then I had to go through two additional people with the race. We eventually won. They like it here."

Midwest LSA Expo: Each September, the Plane and Pilot Midwest LSA Expo occurs at the Mt. Vernon Outland Airport. This national event has become the place to shop, spend one on one time with aircraft representatives and take part in demonstration flights in the aircraft of choice. The event draws attendees from across the country and Canada.

Collins attributes the expo as one of the factors in gaining the Airventure Cup Race starting point.

"We probably would have never appeared on the radar without having that here and that gentleman being here,"

said Collins. "You have to work very hard to get these things, and then sometimes you just get a gift like the B-17 that came last year. I was at Sun 'n Fun International Fly-In and Expo and walked in and some ropes went up where they were bringing in airplanes, and I turned around there were two guys standing there and they saw my shirt. They said 'Hey we'd like to come to Southern Illinois with the B-17.'

Collins attributes the success of the Mt. Vernon Outland airport because of several key factors including infrastructure, location, service tenants, first responders, pilot training professionals, the in-house restaurant Wilkey's Cafe, and a team philosophy.

Various airplane owners that own a certain airplane love our facility because of having the restaurant," illustrated Collins. "There are hotels close by and the T-Hangar. It's really great to have that one appearing on the radar because we tried to do that for several years too. It's not a huge building, but having an additional five spaces for airplanes sure helps on the overcrowding."

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