

Airport to host history

B-17 bomber to be in King City July 2

BY TESA GLASS

tesa.glass@register-news.com

MT. VERNON — The Mt. Vernon chapter of the Experimental Aircraft Association is bringing the World War II B-17 Bomber "Aluminum Overcast" to the airport as part of the Salute to Freedom.

The B-17 bomber arrives at Outland Airport on Thursday, and will be available for display to the general public from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday and Sunday. It will be on display from 9 a.m. until fireworks start on Saturday.

The B-17 is also known as the "Flying Fortress" and was used primarily in Europe during World War II. B-17s flew missions lasting more than eight hours and went deep into enemy territory. Due to the long-range capability of the aircraft, formations of B-17s frequently flew into battle with no fighter escort, relying on their own defensive capabilities to ensure a successful mission. The bombers were made obsolete with the technological advances of the jet age, according to information from the Experimental Aircraft Association.

Fewer than 100 Flying Fortress airframes still exist and fewer still are in airworthy condition — Aluminum Overcast is one of less than 15 that can still fly.

The airport has hosted the Salute to Freedom and fireworks display for years, and this year the partnership brings a bit of history to the crowds, according to Tourism Director Bonnie Jerdon.

Residents who visit the historic aircraft are urged to bring cameras and to bring youth to experience the past.

6/27/15

SALUTE TO FREEDOM 2015

JULY 4TH



B-17 ALUMINUM OVERCAST
(Friday - ALL DAY SATURDAY JULY 4TH - and Sunday)

@ MT. VERNON AIRPORT

FREE ADMISSION

GATES OPEN AT 5 P.M. FOR THESE ACTIVITIES:
CONCESSIONS, KIDS ZONE, AND DJ

LASER TAG

SHUTTLE FROM PARKING AREA

&

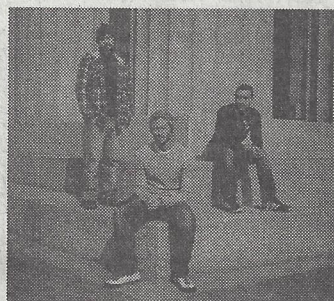
THE LAST PARADOX BAND AT 7 P.M.

FIREWORKS AT DUSK

MT. VERNON
ILLINOIS

Convention & Visitors Bureau

Creativity Redefined!



THE LAST PARADOX

618-242-3151

WWW.ENJOYMTVERNON.COM



Board EAA's Aluminum Overcast
for an unforgettable experience.
Visit **B17.org** or call **1-800-359-6217** for
more information and to reserve your flight.

Mt. Vernon, IL ★ July 3-5
Mt. Vernon Outland Airport

Step on board! Experience the B-17's unique history and atmosphere and see it all up close. Get to the Aluminum Overcast.

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