

## OUR VIEW

# Aviation event a local staple

**A** viation enthusiasts have the opportunity to get their fill this weekend when the 11th Annual Little Egypt Fly-In and Veterans Reunion is held at Mt. Vernon-Outland Airport. Additionally, the free event — which also includes free parking and free shuttle service to the runway from parking areas — will honor local World War II veterans.

Organizers expect this year's Fly-In to be well attended by those with aircraft locals likely will find appealing. Among those expected are the USAF A-10 "Warthog, an ARMY UH-60 "Blackhawk" helicopter, a USAF C-21 executive transport aircraft, at least one P-51 "Mustang," a Douglas C-47, Grumman TBM "Avenger, a C-2 "COD" and L-39 jet "Albatross," T-28 "Trojans" and T-6 "Texans." And others are expected but have yet to confirm, said airport manager Chris Collins.

In addition to the reunion and fly-in, the EAA will be hosting Young Eagle flights which will allow youth from ages 8 through 17 to have their first airplane ride. More than 2,000 local youth have been flown through the Young Eagles program at this time.

The annual Fly-In has become a staple of Mt. Vernon culture, and we look forward to another successful event at the airport.