

Convair 440 Airliner on display at Fly-In

Little Egypt Fly-In
will be held from
9 a.m. to 4 p.m. today

By TESA CULLI

tesa.culli@register-news.com

MT. VERNON — The Little Egypt Fly-In will allow residents the rare chance to tour the passenger cabin of a 54 seat Convair 440 Airliner today at the Mt. Vernon Outland Airport.

The Convair arrived in the King City on Thursday evening, and will be on display during the Fly-In which will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. today.

According to information from Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 1155 of Mt. Vernon, which sponsors the Fly-In, Convair airliners formed the backbone of the nation's short to medium haul routes during the 1960's, 70's and 80's. The aircraft features a 290 knot cruise speed, 500 nautical mile range and 50,000 pound maximum takeoff weight.

The aircraft at the Fly-In was recently used in the filming of an HBO movie which details the life of Temple Grandin, considered to be the world's most accomplished autistic adult. Actress Claire Danes plays the part of Ms. Grandin in the upcoming film. The Convair was flown to Mt. Vernon from Georgetown, Texas, where the filming

occurred.

In addition to the Convair, various warbirds from all conflicts and eras will also be on display, including the Aero Vodochody L-29 and L-39 jets and the P-51 "Mustang" in a return visit. The Aero Vodochody L-29 Delphin and the L-39 Albatross were manufactured in Czechoslovakia for Warsaw Pact countries. Both aircraft were used from the late 1960's to today as primary jet trainers, according to information from the EAA.

Since the end of the Cold War, the aircraft have been made available on the aircraft market and have made their way to the U.S. to be admired on the air show circuit. Other

see FLY-IN/Page 3A

FLY-IN

continued from 1A

warbird aircraft include the Douglas C-47 Sky Train/Gooney Bird, the C-2 COD, Navy SNB-1 Bomber, the T-6 Texan, and Yak-52/CJ5s.

A large part of the Fly-In will include Young Eagle rides. The chapter has flown more than 2,400 young people through the program, which introduces youth from ages 8 to 17 to aviation. The Young Eagle rides are free, but require the signature of a parent or guardian on the day of the flight.

Helicopter rides will be available for purchase, and

rides in a World War II advanced trainer will be offered for a fee.

The Fly-In and Veterans Reunion will get started at 9 a.m. with a flag ceremony, followed by the keynote Veterans Reunion address. Military displays and memorabilia will be in the Kozaria Terminal, and World War II reenactors will be set up north of the terminal building.