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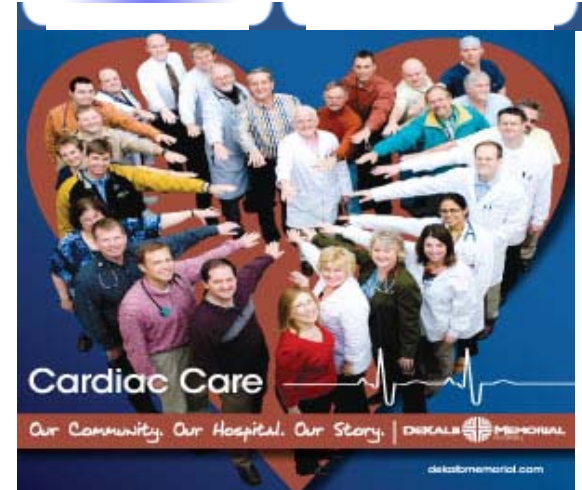
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## Web site honors DeKalb airport operator

By Jenny Kobiela-Mondor  
Monday, 18 May 2009 00:00

AUBURN — The fixed-base operator at the DeKalb County Airport was honored by a national Web site for pilots this week.

Century Aviation received the FBO of the Week award from Avweb.com. FBOs offer services, including fuel, parking, storage, maintenance and flight training, to pilots at airports.

Avweb.com readers nominate FBOs for the honor. Local pilot Joe Kobiela of Auburn nominated Century Aviation.

In his nomination e-mail, Kobiela said Century Aviation owners Tony and Lara Zook Gaerte “took over a rundown FBO and have worked hard to make this a great alternative to Fort Wayne. With a 5,000-foot ILS (instrument landing system) runway and competitive fuel prices, charts, headsets and warm cookies, these two have put their future into aviation and have shown Hoosier hospitality to all who land.”

Lara Zook Gaerte said the honor was a “really neat surprise,” and she expects a positive effect on Century Aviation’s business.

“I don’t know that it will be huge, but one person is better than no people,” she said. “I’m content with any increase in business it would give us.”

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