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Airport plans open house events July 16

By Nichole Hacha-Thomas nthomas@kpcnews.net

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AUBURN — The community is invited to get an up-close and personal look at the DeKalb County Airport July 16 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. as part of the airport's third annual open house.

A pancake-and-sausage breakfast will be served at the Hoosier Air Museum, 2822 C.R. 62, for \$3.50 per person, said airport manager Russ Couchman.

"We'll have a hayride shuttle going back and forth between the museum and the airport all day," Couchman said.

The shuttle will be driven by the DeKalb County Airport Authority president Jim Mason, which is sure to provide riders plenty of great information about the airport, Couchman said.

In addition to breakfast, Young Eagles pilots will be on hand to take children ages 8 to 17 for free flights. Pilots also will be available to answer questions from youngsters. Young Eagles is sponsored by the Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 37. Young Eagles will take flight reservations until 11 a.m., and children must have a parent or guardian present to fly.

The upstairs of the airport terminal will be transformed into a kids' fun area, and several of the airport's tenants will have their aircraft on display. The DeKalb County Sheriff's Department and Jackson Township Fire Department also plan to display their equipment during the event, and state Rep. Dick Dodge will attend.

The Civil Air Patrol booster club will sell model airplanes, and other vendors will offer ice cream, sodas and more, Couchman said. Those who attend the open house also can gain free access to the Hoosier Air Museum, on the south side of the airport.

"We really want to drive home that this is (the community's) airport," Couchman said. "The open house is really just another way to educate people about the airport."

For more information, contact Couchman at 927-8876.

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