



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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P R E S S R E L E A S E

Honor Flight for WWII Vets Scheduled for May 27 from Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport.

SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS..... On Wednesday, May 27, 2009, 12 central Illinois World War II veterans will board the first Honor Flight from Springfield's Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport. Bound for Washington D.C., the veterans will visit the National World War II Memorial and return home that same day.

The Honor Flight, funded by individual donations and area businesses, and arranged for by Land of Lincoln Honor Flight, Inc., provides WWII veterans an opportunity to visit the National Memorial that commemorates their service to America. Land of Lincoln Honor Flight is just one part of the national Honor Flight network, which boasts 69 hubs in 30 states and, as of December 2008, had a national waiting list of some 6,000 veterans.

The 12 central Illinois veterans will depart Springfield at 6:03 a.m. after a complimentary breakfast from Subway, and connect through Chicago O'Hare before arriving in Washington D.C. at 12:52 p.m. local time. A guardian volunteer who will ensure the safety and comfort of each veteran throughout the day will accompany each veteran. Upon arrival at Reagan National Airport, Senator Bob Dole and his wife, Elizabeth Dole, will greet the veterans before boarding a bus to the National Memorial.

The veterans on this inaugural honor flight from Springfield hail from Maroa, Forsyth, Bartonville, Hillsboro, Litchfield, Normal, Beardstown, Mt. Olive, East Peoria, and Springfield.

The honor flight will return to Capital Airport on the same day, arriving at 10:00 p.m.

The public is invited to the welcome home ceremony at Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport, which will include a formal military honor guard.

For additional information on the Honor Flights, contact Land of Lincoln Honor Flight, Inc., Ray Wiedle, Chairman, (217-622-1473) or on line at www.landoflincolnhonorflight.org.

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