



Contact: Melanie Friscoe
Email: melanie@scaaonline.com
Office: 877-359-7222

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fairfield County Airport encourages youth to explore careers in aviation

Airport celebrates SC Aviation Week August 15 – 22

Winnsboro, S.C. – Fairfield County Airport will celebrate the essential careers of the aviation industry during South Carolina Aviation Week by providing two local high school seniors with discovery flights on Monday, August 17 at 9:30 a.m.

For the second consecutive year, two high school students were recruited to participate in the discovery flights by Fairfield County Airport Director Denise Bryan. Sydney Boulware, a senior at Richard Winn Academy, and Rowan Luksic from Fairfield Central High School will experience flight from behind the yoke alongside a certified flight instructor.

“Now more than ever it’s important to continue to show students in our county the value of a career in aviation. Despite the COVID-19 economic impact, aviation personnel have been part of the essential workforce in recent months. From transporting medical supplies to healthcare facilities, to saving precious hours and minutes in emergency situations, aviation has kept Fairfield County and South Carolina going and will continue to do so throughout the global pandemic and beyond,” she said.

“Education and economic impact are at the core of Aviation Week. By introducing high schoolers to viable career options within our state, we strengthen the aviation industry alongside the state’s economy. There are numerous flight schools and educational institutions right here in South Carolina poised to train the next generation of pilots, aviation maintenance technicians and skilled aircraft assemblers,” Bryan added.

Owned by Brian Steed, S&S Aviation is the airport’s fixed-base operator, providing flight instruction, testing, avionics and aircraft maintenance. S&S Aviation is donating the aircraft, fuel and flight instructors’ time for the discovery flight operations, and it is the company’s second year participating in this program as well.

The airport facility is publicly owned by Fairfield County. On August 13, Fairfield County Council, Fairfield County School District and Fairfield Forward partnered to provide fresh produce free of charge to residents of the county. Fairfield County Airport was designated as one of the program’s five pick up locations.

During the pre-flight briefing, safety check and onboard the aircraft, Bryan stressed that airport employees, S&S Aviation and all participants will wear masks in observation of public health and safety guidelines.

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South Carolina Aviation Week is a statewide celebration of the economic and education impact of airports and the aviation industry. Celebrated August 15 – 22, 2020 and centered around National Aviation Day on August 19, Aviation Week is planned in partnership by South Carolina Aviation Association (SCAA) and South Carolina Aeronautics Commission. While many airports are celebrating virtually this year, a few select airports have developed events that will highlight the state's aviation industry while limiting attendance to stop the spread of COVID-19.

SCAA actively promotes and encourages aviation and airport development to meet air transportation needs and assist the state in achieving economic development goals. Its membership is comprised of airports and aviators across South Carolina, as well as aviation industry partners. For more information, please visit scaaonline.com.

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