COUNTY AGENDA REQUEST

Department:	Board of Commissioners	Presenter(s):	Chairman Charles W. Oddo
Meeting Date:	Thursday, May 28, 2015	Type of Request:	Proclamation/Recognition

Wording for the Agenda:

Recognition of Dixie Wing, designated as the 83rd Commemorative Air Force unit, and its flight over the Washington Mall in honor of the 70th anniversary of Victory in Europe Day.

Background/History/Details:

The Commemorative Air Force (CAF), based in Texas, was founded to acquire, restore ,and preserve in flying condition a complete collection of combat aircraft that were flown by all military services of the United States, and selected aircraft of other nations, for the education and enjoyment of present and future generation of Americans. More than just a collection of airworthy warplanes from the CAF's fleet of historic aircraft, known as the CAF Ghost Squadron, recreate, remind, and reinforce the lessons learned from the defining moments in American military aviation history. The Dixie Wings was approved as the 83rd CAF unit on February 28, 1987, and has since displayed its collection of vintage World War II aircraft in numerous air shows throughout the Southeast. The wing is a non-profit, tax-exempt, "flying museum" that depends on contributions of time and funds to carry out its mission. The Dixie Wind is an all-volunteer organization based at Atlanta Regional Airport- Falcon Field. The Wing has six operating aircraft, two in the process of restoration, and several other aircraft and vehicles as part of its flying museum display.

As part of the Arsenal of Democracy commemoration on May 9, 2015 in Washington, D.C., the Dixie Wing sent three aircraft- a P-51 Mustang, Corsair, and a SBD Dauntless Dive Bomber- to participate in the unprecedented display of more than 50 World War II aircraft over the Washington Mall in honor of the 70th anniversary of Victory in Europe Day. One of the aircraft carried the original Fayette County Flag, made in 1971, that was displayed in the the County Board Room for many years.

What action are you seeking from the Board of Commissioners?

Recognition of Dixie Wing, designated as the 83rd Commemorative Air Force unit, and its flight over the Washington Mall in honor of the 70th anniversary of Victory in Europe Day.

If this item requires funding, please describe:

Not Applicable.

Has this request been considered within the past two years?	No	If so, when?	
Is Audio-Visual Equipment Required for this Request?*	No	Backup Provided with Request?	Yes

**** All audio-visual material must be submitted to the County Clerk's Office no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting. It is also your department's responsibility to ensure all third-party audio-visual material is submitted at least 48 hours in advance.***

Approved by Finance	Not Applicable	Reviewed by Legal	
Approved by Purchasing	Not Applicable	County Clerk's Approval	Yes
Administrator's Approval			

Staff Notes:

About the Commemorative Air Force Dixie Wing

The Commemorative Air Force, based in Texas, was founded to acquire, restore and preserve in flying condition a complete collection of combat aircraft that were flown by all military services of the United States, and selected aircraft of other nations, for the education and enjoyment of present and future generations of Americans.

More than just a collection of airworthy warplanes from the past, the CAF's fleet of historic aircraft, known as the CAF Ghost Squadron, recreate, remind and reinforce the lessons learned from the defining moments in American military aviation history.

The Dixie Wing was approved as the 83rd CAF unit on Feb. 28, 1987, and has since displayed its collection of vintage World War II aircraft in numerous air shows throughout the Southeast. The wing is a non-profit, tax-exempt "flying museum" that depends on contributions of time and funds to carry out its mission.

The Dixie Wing is an all-volunteer organization based at Atlanta Regional Airport – Falcon Field in Fayette County. Its members have hosted World War II Heritage Days at Falcon Field for 12 years, dedicated to preserving the memories of all Americans who played a role in the war effort of the 1940s. The Wing has six operating aircraft, two in the process of restoration, and several other aircraft and vehicles as part of its flying museum display.

The Dixie Wing Hangar and Museum are open to the public on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday each week. The Wing also conducts educational programs for school groups, Scout organizations and other community groups.

As part of the Arsenal of Democracy commemoration on May 8 in Washington, D.C., the Dixie Wing sent three aircraft – a P-51 Mustang, Corsair and SBD Dauntless Dive Bomber -- to participate in the unprecedented display of more than 50 WWII aircraft over the Washington Mall in honor of the 70th anniversary of VE Day. One of the aircraft carried the original Fayette County Flag, made in 1971, that was displayed in the County Board Room for many decades.