

## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 13, 2011

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## **SPACE COAST REGIONAL AIRPORT WILL HOLD RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY FOR RALPH POPPELL AIRPORT ADMINISTRATION BUILDING** and **VALIANT AIR COMMAND WILL HOLD RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY FOR NEW VIETNAM DISPLAY HANGAR**

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The Titusville-Cocoa Airport Authority will celebrate the completion of the Ralph Poppell Airport Administration Building with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on Thursday, June 16, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. The event will take place at the front landside entrance to the new administration building at the Space Coast Regional Airport, 355 Golden Knights Boulevard in Titusville.

Funding for the Administration Building project is provided by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development and the Florida Department of Transportation. The improvements include an 8,964 square foot single story building, parking, roadways and utilities. For further information call 321-267-8780.



The Valiant Air Command will celebrate the construction completion of the Vietnam Exhibit Hangar with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on Thursday, June 16, 2011 at 11:00 a.m. The event will take place at the Valiant Air Command Warbird Museum, 6600 Tico Road in Titusville at the rear of the Warbird Museum. Partial funding was provided by the Florida Department of Transportation for this project. For further information call 321-268-1941.

The Valiant Air Command (VAC) was organized in 1977 by a group of eleven individuals with a passion for vintage warbirds. Today the VAC has over 1200 members and is dedicated to educating the public and preserving the legacy of great warbirds and the pilots that flew them. Over the years the Organization has added a museum to house a collection of artifacts and memorabilia and in 2000 a restoration hangar was added. Today the museum's collection of vintage aircraft has outgrown the facility and additional space is badly needed. As a result of the great efforts by local city and county officials, the TICO Airport Authority and the staff and members of the Valiant Air Command, land acquisition and funding was obtained to allow for a new hangar. This hangar will be dedicated to "Honoring The Memory" of those that served and sacrificed in the Vietnam War and our collection of Vietnam vintage warbirds and memorabilia will be moved to the new exhibition space. This will allow the VAC to accept additional warbirds that, in the past, have been turned down because of space limitations. The Commander of the Valiant Air Command, Lloyd Morris said "this is a great day for the VAC and the Space Coast Regional Airport. This addition will help attract more tourist dollars to the museum and to our County."

