

## WINCHESTER REGIONAL AIRPORT

491 AIRPORT ROAD WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA 22602 (540) 662-5786

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

The Winchester Regional Airport Authority Partners with Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 1031 for EAA Young Eagles Individual Program

WINCHESTER, VA, September 23, 2019: The Winchester Regional Airport Authority announces its support of the local Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) Blue Ridge Chapter 1031 Young Eagles Individual Flight Program. Launched in 1992 by EAA, Young Eagles gives youths ages 8–17 their first free ride in an airplane for the sole purpose of introducing kids to the world of aviation. Successful completion of the flight leads to complimentary FAA-approved ground school certificate for Young Eagles who wish to further pursue flight training.

Typically, a youth participates in the program through a scheduled "Young Eagles Rally" with certain restrictions on participation. The local program is now available year-round and allows flights to be scheduled on an individual basis through EAA Chapter 1031 Young Eagles Coordinator, Tim Boan. "This program is one of the cornerstones of our organization. With our individual program, we do not require youths to be enrolled in a collateral program such as DARE. We are excited to create new opportunities for kids to experience flight and inspire the next generation to take up aviation as a profession or hobby. It is fabulous that the Airport Authority has agreed to participate in this with us. The airport is a key part of the infrastructure of our community, and this is a wonderful way to make it more accessible," said Tim.

Parents and legal guardians can complete a registration form at the Winchester Regional Airport terminal building located at 491 Airport Road, Winchester, VA 22602. "This new approach to Young Eagles mitigates any scheduling constraints, and makes the discovery of flight more convenient and attainable," commented Executive Director Nick Sabo. "The airport is proud to support the efforts of our local EAA chapter."

More information about the Young Eagles program can be found here: <a href="https://www.eaa1031.com">https://www.eaa1031.com</a>

https://www.eaa.org/eaa/youth/free-ye-flights

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The Winchester Regional Airport Authority owns and manages the Winchester Regional Airport. The Authority is authorized by Chapter 687 of the Acts of the Virginia Assembly in 1987. The member localities include the County of Frederick, City of Winchester, County of Clarke, County of Shenandoah, and County of Warren.

