

*****MEDIA ALERT*****

**GEN. CHUCK YEAGER TO FLY ONE-MILLIONTH YOUNG EAGLE
ON 100th ANNIVERSARY OF FLIGHT
FOR EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION**

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WHEN:

Press conference at 9 a.m. Thursday, July 31, 2003

WHAT TO EXPECT:

Aviation legend Gen. Chuck Yeager will brief media on his plans to fly the **Experimental Aircraft Association's One-Millionth Young Eagle** over Kitty Hawk, N.C., on Dec. 17, 2003, the 100th anniversary of flight. Gen. Yeager's commemorative flight will honor the Wright brothers on the same day that EAA leads a re-enactment of the first powered flight 100 years ago near Kitty Hawk, N.C. Both activities are part of EAA's Countdown to Kitty Hawk presented by Ford Motor Company (www.countdowntokittyhawk.org).

Gen. Yeager, who flew combat missions in World War II and Vietnam and was the first pilot to fly faster than the speed of sound, is the chairman of EAA's Young Eagles program. To date, he has introduced more than 200 young people to aviation through the Young Eagles program by taking them on an airplane ride.

EAA's Young Eagles program is focused on introducing young people between the ages of 8 and 17 to aviation first-hand through a free, safe and enjoyable flight. The program, which is now in its 11th year, is administered through more than 34,000 EAA member pilots around the world. Jaguar, a division of Ford Motor Company, has been a sponsor of the Young Eagles program since 1995. The luxury automaker's financial support helps make the program a reality.

Two former Young Eagles, who are pursuing futures in aviation as a result of EAA's program, also will speak about their involvement in the program. They include:

- **Karrie Shank**, 19-year-old instrument-rated pilot, who currently is studying aviation at Ohio University and is pursuing a commercial pilots license as a result of her Young Eagles flight in May 2001.
- **Drew Baird**, 19-year-old private pilot who has personally flown 16 Young Eagles since earning his license.

Also, speaking at the media briefing is

- **Steve Buss**, executive director of EAA's Young Eagles program.
- **Richard Beattie**, executive vice president of marketing and sales for Jaguar Land Rover North America.

WHERE:

EAA's Countdown to Kitty Hawk Pavilion at Wittman Regional Airport in Oshkosh, Wis.

*The event is taking place as part of **EAA's AirVenture Oshkosh 2003**, the world's largest aviation event, where an estimated 750,000 visitors are expected. The press conference will take place in **EAA's Countdown to Kitty Hawk's 20,000-square-foot pavilion** dedicated to the past 100 years and the future of aviation.*

ADDITIONAL VISUALS:

- EAA's 1903 Wright Flyer reproduction, which is the world's most accurate and will fly at Kitty Hawk on Dec. 17.
- There will be Young Eagles flights daily, including Thursday, July 31 (weather permitting).
- At 9:15 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 2, **Gen. Yeager is schedule to fly children** visiting EAA's AirVenture Oshkosh 2003 **as part of their wish from the Make-A-Wish Foundation®.**

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