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## **Second Honor Flight Departs Monday, October 4**

(Editor's and News Director's Note- The Never Forgotten Honor Flight Hub based in Wausau serves veterans in these 19 counties: Douglas, Bayfield, Ashland, Iron, Vilas, Burnett, Washburn, Sawyer, Price, Oneida, Polk, Barron, Rusk, Taylor, Lincoln, Langlade, Marathon, Wood and Portage. )

(Wausau) The Never Forgotten Honor Flight organization has raised enough money to fly a second group of World War II veterans to the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. next week. A chartered jet with 103 veterans and 53 guardians aboard will depart Central Wisconsin Airport in Mosinee at 7 a.m. on Monday, October 4 and return the same day at 10:30 p.m. The public is invited to welcome home the veterans at the airport that evening. Veterans will be flying at no cost thanks to hundreds of donations from the public and many organizations and businesses from the 19 surrounding counties served by the non-profit Honor Flight group.

“We continue to be overwhelmed by the donations, in-kind contributions and volunteer support we receive to make these trips happen,” said Mike Thompson, co-chair of the Never Forgotten Honor Flight. “We are thrilled to be able to do a second trip, and we are hoping we can raise enough money to do two more trips next Spring.”

Jim Campbell, the other co-chair for Never Forgotten Honor Flight, enjoys his fundraising responsibilities. “As soon as we tell people what we are doing, they say ‘How can I help?’ or ‘Where do I donate?’ It’s unbelievable.”

Contributions to the Never Forgotten Honor Flight are tax deductible. Checks should be made payable to Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin with Never Forgotten Honor Flight noted on the bottom left of the check and then mailed to the Community Foundation at 500 First Street, Suite 2600, Wausau, Wisconsin, 54403. Online credit card donations also can be made at [www.neverforgottenhonorflight.org](http://www.neverforgottenhonorflight.org) A new feature on the group's Web site allows people who make an online donation to honor any veteran by listing the veteran's name on the Honor Wall.

North Central Wisconsin's Never Forgotten Honor Flight is the nation's 77th regional hub and Wisconsin's fifth group to form. Veterans all over Wisconsin can now participate. The Wausau-based organization was certified by the National Honor Flight Network office in Springfield, Ohio on December 11, 2009.

Veterans and guardians interested in taking a future Honor Flight must complete an application at: [www.neverforgottenhonorflight.org](http://www.neverforgottenhonorflight.org) or contact the organization at 715.573.8519. The veterans are selected based upon the order in which the applications are received. Preference is given to World War II veterans and to veterans who are terminally ill. Guardians should be 18-69 years old, able to lend physical assistance to the veterans and willing to pay the \$500 cost of their trip. Completed applications should be mailed to Never Forgotten Honor Flight, P.O. Box 5056 Wausau, WI 54402-5056.

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