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## Onorato Congratulates Allegheny County Airport on 75th Anniversary

*Chief Executive touts airport's role in aviation history and the facility's promising future*

**PITTSBURGH** — Allegheny County Chief Executive Dan Onorato today congratulated the Allegheny County Airport on its 75th Anniversary and recognized the role it has played in aviation history.

"The Allegheny County Airport has served our community for 75 years, and I am proud to honor the facility both for its historic past and its bright future," said Onorato. "The County Airport led the way in airmail, control tower operations, terminal design, airport retail, and customer service technologies. Today, the facility continues to support corporate flights, professional aviation clubs and more than 1,500 jobs for our region."

The County Airport opened on September 11, 1931, serving more than 7,700 passengers on its three runways. By 1952, 1.0 million passengers flew in and out of the facility, making it one of the largest airports at the time. Air Reserve and Air National Guard units also used the field as their base.

The Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics, Pittsburgh Flight Training Center, STAT MedEvac, and Allegheny Flying Club currently use the Airport as a base of operations, and plans are in the works to expand the facility.

"This truly is an exciting time for the County Airport," said Allegheny County Airport Authority Executive Director Kent George. "Recently, we received environmental clearance from the Federal Aviation Administration to move forward on a development project that will enable us to build nine additional hangars."

Allegheny County is celebrating the Airport's 75th Anniversary with a two-day "Air Fair" featuring vintage and military aircraft, plane rides, fly-ins, entertainment and a paper airplane contest for children. The festival runs Saturday, September 9 from 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Sunday, September 10 from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Allegheny County Airport in West Mifflin. Admission is free.

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