

The 2nd Annual Pocono Mountains Flight Fest Will Be Held On August 9th

By Paul Morgan

POCONO MOUNTAINS - The 2nd Annual Pocono Mountains Flight Fest will be held on August 9th from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm at the Pocono Mountains Regional Airport. The event will include Touch-A-Truck; airplane and antique car displays; a children's area with hayrides, bouncy house and a candy drop; food trucks where guests can purchase food and drink; music and paid airplane and helicopter rides benefitting the Vern Moyer Aviation Fund. Parking is \$10 per car.

The Vern Moyer Aviation Fund was established in memory of aviation advocate and mentor in the Mid-Atlantic region – Vern Moyer. Paul Morgan of Moyer Aviation, comments, "We established the event last year in memory of Vern to raise money to provide scholarships for students interested in pursuing a career in aviation whether it be flying or mechanics. We raised over \$30,000 for the Fund and have selected it again for 2025 to be the primary beneficiary."

Morgan continues, "Vern loved bringing the community into the airport to get them involved with aviation. We have created the day to include kids activities, an area to purchase from food truck vendors, displays of trucks, antique cars, and aircraft, and the opportunity to see the Pocono Mountains from the sky with helicopter and airplane rides."

The Vern Moyer Aviation Scholarship Fund has been established to support the development, educational opportunities, and preservation of aviation across Pennsylvania. It seeks to elevate public awareness and inspire individuals to pursue careers in aviation, offer scholarships to individuals pursuing a career in aviation, provide resources and technology to support learning in aviation, endeavors that safeguard aviation heritage, and promote advancements in aviation technology.

Sponsors of the event include Papillon & Moyer Construction, Moyer Aviation, Hi-Tech Helicopters, Kalahari Resorts, Besko Outdoor, Pocono Manor Investors, Pocono Kangaroo, Pocono Roof, and TreeTrails Adventures. The event will be staged on the north side of the airport located on Rt. 611 at Hangar Lane, Tobyhanna, PA. For information, vendor applications, sponsorship information, and the schedule for the day, go to PoconoFlightFest.com or call 570-839-7161.



LeadingAge Awards

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Paul P. Haas Lifetime Achievement Award, Robert Bertolette, Phoebe Ministries, Allentown, Pennsylvania. Robert Bertolette began his commitment to aging services at 16 as a caregiver for his adoptive parents. With a 45-year career, he has served as a social worker, nursing home administrator, and leader, including 25 years as President & CEO of Riddle Village, interim President & CEO of LeadingAge PA, and currently as a Governing Board member of Phoebe Ministries. His initiatives include developing a Special Care Unit for individuals with advanced dementia and launching wellness programs, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Leader of the Year, Lauren Clark, United Church of Christ Homes, Camp Hill, Pennsylvania. Lauren Clark has dedicated over 34 years to aging services, beginning as a Director of Nursing and currently serving as Executive Director of Community and Home-Based Services at United Church of Christ Homes in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania. She chose this field to positively impact and connect with older adults and their families.

Manager of the Year, Albert Vega, Garden Spot Village, New Holland, Pennsylvania. After serving in the U.S. Coast Guard and working as an educator, Albert Vega joined Garden Spot Village, drawn by its strong community and mission to enhance the lives of older adults. As the Director of Environmental Services, he focuses on honoring past generations and creating a space where residents feel valued and at home.

Innovation of the Year, Baptist Senior Family and Carnegie Mellon University. Baptist Senior Family in Pittsburgh has been dedicated to enhancing the care of older adults for over 115 years. In 2023, they partnered with Carnegie Mellon University's Robotics Institute to develop assistive robotic technology designed to enhance the quality of life for seniors, particularly those with challenges related to limb control and memory.

Volunteer of the Year, Tyler Youngkin, Morningstar Living in Moravian Hall Square, Nazareth, Pennsylvania. For the past nine years, Tyler Youngkin has volunteered 5,315 hours at Morningstar Living. His journey in aging services began assisting elderly neighbors and continues with family members today. Tyler enjoys building strong relationships with residents and staff, ensuring everyone feels cared for and has reasons to smile.

Direct Caregiver of the Year, Bradley Davis, Presbyterian SeniorCare Network, Washington, Pennsylvania. Bradley Davis has worked at Presbyterian SeniorCare Network in Washington, Pennsylvania, for 28 years, starting as a Certified Nursing Assistant and advancing to Certified Nurse Aide Team Lead. His commitment to aging services began when he cared for his grandmother, which fostered a passion for supporting older adults.

Licensed Caregiver of the Year, Sharon Stephens, Tel Hai Retirement Community, Honey Brook, Pennsylvania. From a young age, Sharon dreamed of becoming a nurse to help others during tough times. She began her career as a nursing assistant in senior care and later pursued her Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) certification. Sharon enjoys the work.

Staff Member of the Year, Beth Royster, Fellowship Community, Whitehall, Pennsylvania. Beth Royster's journey into aging services started when she cared for her sister-in-law after a stroke, revealing her true calling. As a housekeeper at Fellowship Community, she feels blessed to make a difference in the lives of residents through engaging conversations and shared laughter. Her compassion, energy, and heart make her work incredibly rewarding.

Outstanding Business Partner of the Year, Affinity Health Services. For nearly 30 years, Affinity Health Services has provided consulting and management services to organizations in Pennsylvania and the Mid-Atlantic region. Under the leadership of CEO Denise McQuown-Hatter, the company strives to impact every life it touches positively.

