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90 More Area Veterans Will See WWII Memorial Monday, September 19

(Editor's and News Director's Note- The Never Forgotten Honor Flight Hub based in Wausau serves veterans in these 12 counties: Marathon, Portage, Wood, Taylor, Langlade, Lincoln, Oneida, Vilas, Iron, Barron, Price and Rusk.)

(Wausau,WI) The Never Forgotten Honor Flight organization based in Wausau and the many organizations, businesses and individuals who fund it will fly 90 more World War II veterans to the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. on Monday, September 19. A second flight on October 17, sponsored exclusively by Mid-Wisconsin Bank, will take another 90 veterans to the nation's capital. Sixty guardians will accompany the vets on each trip to assist them on their whirlwind one-day round trip that departs Central Wisconsin Airport at 7 a.m. and returns at approximately 10 p.m. The public is invited to the Central Wisconsin Airport to welcome the veterans home Monday night and will be admitted to the gate area starting at 9 p.m.

“We have said it many times, but these trips simply would not be possible without the generous support of the many area businesses, organizations and individuals who provide the funding,” said Jim Campbell, co-chair of the Never Forgotten Honor Flight.

“We continue to be overwhelmed by the donations, in-kind contributions and volunteer support we receive to make these trips possible,” said Mike Thompson, co-chair of the Never Forgotten Honor Flight. “We are thrilled to be able to do our fifth and sixth trips this fall, and we are hoping we can continue to raise enough money to do more trips next spring. We encourage any World War II and Korean War vets to submit an application as soon as possible.”

Veterans receive a free round-trip flight on each Honor Flight trip, which costs the organization approximately \$80,000 to charter a jet, pay transportation costs and fund other amenities such as meals, jackets, shirts and caps.

Contributions to the Never Forgotten Honor Flight, a 501c3 corporation, are tax deductible. Checks should be made payable to Never Forgotten Honor Flight and mailed to Never Forgotten Honor Flight, P.O. Box 5056 Wausau, WI 54402-5056. Online credit card donations also can be made at

www.neverforgottenhonorflight.org via the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin. Individuals who make an online donation are invited to honor any veteran of their choosing on the Never Forgotten Honor Wall that's posted on the website.

North Central Wisconsin's Never Forgotten Honor Flight is the nation's 77th regional hub and one of six Wisconsin Honor Flight hubs. 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 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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