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For Immediate Release:

Thunder in the Valley Air Show to Donate \$48,500 to 10 Youth Organizations
More than \$64,000 in total contributions

Columbus, Ga., July 11, 2011 – Ten youth organizations in the Chattahoochee Valley will receive checks from the proceeds of the 2011 Thunder in the Valley Air Show. Checks will be presented during a celebration breakfast July 21 at 7:30 a.m. at the Columbus Airport. A total of \$48,500, a 48% increase over last year, will be presented to the executive directors of the following youth organizations. All media, sponsors, committee members and volunteers are invited to attend.

- Anne Elizabeth Shepherd Home
- Chattahoochee Council, Boy Scouts of America
- Children's Miracle Network
- Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation
- Kids Café
- Literacy Alliance
- Outdoor Therapeutic Program
- PAWS Youth Development and Education Program
- Russell County's Child Advocacy Center
- Storybook Farm

Thunder in the Valley Air Show management is thankful to all the spectators, sponsors, vendors and volunteers for making the 2011 event another successful air show. Donations are based on the attendance at the air show. Nearly 30,000 spectators attended this year's air show.

"The mission of the Air Show is to raise funds for youth organizations throughout the Chattahoochee Valley. It is very rewarding when we can give back to so many youth organizations," says Phaedra Childers, Event Coordinator. "We want to see our contributions grow more each year."

Thunder in the Valley Air Show also provides fund-raising opportunities for youth groups through the operation of air show concessions, carnival activities and other needed duties. This year, Thunder in the Valley Air Show provided tickets to Ft. Benning's training brigades and youth groups to afford trainees and underprivileged youth the opportunity to experience the show. More than \$16,000 in contributions and tickets were donated to 16 youth groups and 860 trainees.

The 15th Annual Thunder in the Valley Air Show will be Saturday, March 17 and Sunday, March 18, 2012 at the Columbus Airport. The line-up of performers and static displays will be announced in January 2012.

About the Thunder in the Valley Air Show:

The Thunder in the Valley Air Show began in 1997 as a local fly-in for aviation enthusiasts and has grown to become one of the largest outdoor family events in the Chattahoochee Valley. The air show brings in top performers from across the United States. National attention has been given to the Thunder in the Valley Air Show by the International Council of Air Shows for excellence in marketing. The Thunder in the Valley Air Show is a fun, family, friendly event that is both alcohol and tobacco free. Proceeds from the air show are donated to youth organizations in the Chattahoochee Valley. For more information, visit www.thunderinthevalleyairshow.com.

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