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For Immediate Release

Contact: Michelle Tokan
Michigan Challenge Director
517.546.3920
mtokan@howell.org

NASA and Yankee Air Museum fly into 2011 Michigan Challenge Balloonfest in Howell

Want more aviation?

In addition to the beautiful hot air balloons flying over Livingston County during the Michigan Challenge Balloonfest, June 24-26, guests to the event have a chance to experience the moon and B-25 bombers.

"The Michigan Challenge Committee welcomes NASA and the Yankee Air Museum to the 2011 event," said Michigan Challenge Director Michelle Tokan. "Balloonfest features some of the nation's best hot air balloon pilots. This year we have a chance to add to our world-class flight reputation."

Balloonfest guests will experience a visual journey through the past, present and future of space exploration at the NASA Exploration Experience. They will learn why we explore, and the challenges of human space exploration through 3-D imagery and video technology. Along the way, visitors will have the opportunity to touch a real moon rock and receive a souvenir photo as an astronaut.

The Yankee Air Museum will have a booth on site, and sell rides in a B-25 taking off from the Livingston County Spencer J. Hardy Airport. Flyovers are also planned during balloonfest weekend.

"The Yankee Air Museum is pleased to be teaming up with the balloonfest and the airport to bring our B-25 to Howell for a great weekend of aviation history. We are happy to be included in this well known and popular Michigan summer event," said Bob Hynes, public relations director, Yankee Air Museum.

Major sponsor of the Michigan Challenge is PNC Bank. For more information, visit michiganchallenge.com or call 517.546.3920.