

News Release

Contact: Greene County Commissioners

724-852-5210

sapenich@co.greene.pa.us

Balloon Glow Event Scheduled for Waynesburg Airport

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WAYNESBURG – The Greene County Commissioners are excited to announce a new, one-of-a-kind event in Greene County this October as the Balloon Glow Tour stops at the Greene County Airport in Waynesburg.

The West Pennsylvania Balloon Festival will take place October 1st - 3rd, 2021 and will feature a nightly mass inflation, tethered balloon rides, food vendors, retail vendors and activities for the whole family. As a first-year event, organizers will limit the number of tickets each day but hope to grow the event over the coming years to be one of the signature events here in Pennsylvania.

Balloon Glow Tour Director Richard Garvie says he is delighted to add an event in Pennsylvania, and is particularly excited about the prospect of working at the Greene County Airport. "The Greene County Airport is actually set up really nicely for this type of event. We look to have a nice, wide open grassy area for the balloons and ample parking for guests. The site also has a great access point at one end of the airport, so for us it is pretty perfect."

Balloon Glow Tour Balloon Director Patrick Fogue says the event is unique in that it inspires everyone who attends. "This kind of event is really different in that we keep the balloons on property and guests can walk around and among the balloons, talk to pilots and even take a short-tethered ride. It doesn't really matter if you are young or old, male or female; when you get up close to these aircraft, they just have the 'WOW' factor".

For Greene County, an event like this can bring thousands of people into the local area each day generating much needed economic benefits such as hotel room nights. County Commissioner Mike Belding says that welcoming new visitors to the area and providing new events for the local community is important.

“We are extremely pleased to bring this unique, family friendly event to Greene County. We are always looking for new opportunities for Greene County and we’re so glad to have found a partner in this Balloon Glow event. Increasing opportunities to entice visitors as well as residents to new events is one area, we have focused on to diversify our economic drivers. Local food and retail vendors will also be able to participate in this event.”

Tickets for this event will be available from the Balloon Glow Tour website at 5pm on Friday 6th August. Admission is charged \$20 per vehicle which covers parking and entry to the event for everyone in the vehicle. Tickets are limited and will not be available at the gate. Tethered balloon rides will be available weather permitting and are charged \$25 per person. Anyone participating in the tethered balloon rides must have a ticket and sign a waiver before riding. More information and tickets can be found at www.theballoonglowtour.com.

To participate in this event, local food, wine and craft vendors, may call the Greene County Parks and Recreation Office at 724-852-5323.