OUTLAND NEWS - June, 2024

Welcome to the latest edition of Mt. Vernon Outland Airport News (Outland News). The

first six months of 2024 were incredible with regard to aircraft, events, visitors from across the nation. We will let the photos below tell the story!

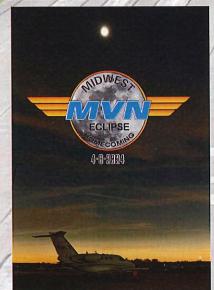
















FLIGHT TRAINING ACHIEVEMENTS











First Solos Jesse Warner, Jacob Klausman, Gunnar Shroyer, and Commercial Pilot Dr. Ahmad Samadzai (top row). All were instructed by Aviation Programs Director Jay Grafton. New Sport Pilot Keith Barr (right) with FAA DPE Steve Goetz. Keith was instructed by Stan Blank (CFIS).



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The excitement of the first two quarters was throttled back on June 24, 2024 with the closure of Runway 5/23. For airports, the photo to the right represents progress toward the future but comes at a cost to aircraft operations and significant impacts to tenants. Quarters three and four will bring new LED airfield lighting, a new Air Evac Joint Operations Base, a modernized Fixed Based Operations Facility, and rehabilitated parking lots and entrance roads. Total costs for all projects is just over \$5,000,000 with the local share approximately \$457,843 (9%).





(Left) Old runway edge lights (circa 1960's) are piled high. (Right)
New LED runway and runway edge lights. (Far Right) Ryan Watts and Brett Giacamo of Brown Electric insert conduit into a concrete encapsulated runway light "light can".





AIR EVAC JOINT BASE JEFFERSON



In late July/early August 2024, Air Evac #11 & Air Evac #172 will join forces at Air Evac Joint Base Jefferson. Air Evac Joint Base Jefferson is located at #500 Firebaugh Drive in the airport's Innovation Park Development. The current Air Evac #11 facility located on Aviation Drive will become a company maintenance facility.

SCHOLAR GIVES BACK

Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) Chapter 1155's first James C. Ray Scholarship winner, Nekoda Colvin, flew 21 Young Eagles at the Saturday, June 15th Young Eagle Rally at MVN.

The EAA Ray Aviation Scholarship is a merit-based scholarship program that is funded by the Ray Foundation, managed by EAA, and administered through the EAA Chapters network. Through the generous support of the Ray Foundation, EAA provides up to \$11,000 to deserving youths to help cover their flight training expenses, totaling \$1,800,000 in annual scholarship funding.

Nekoda achieved his Private Pilot Certificate in October, 2023. He is currently working on his Instrument Rating. Nekoda's aviation goal is to serve a Part 91 (Corporate) or Part 135 (Charter) flight department.

FBO MODERNIZATION PROJECT



Along with a new airside
entrance, the project also
includes a new parking lot,
curbside entry, and sidewalks.
New flooring, sales counter, and
interior furnishings await all
visitors.







YOUNG EAGLES PROGRAM

Twice yearly, EAA Chapter 1155 hosts Young Eagle Rallies for children ages 8-17. One hundred eighteen kids were flown on June 15, 2024 at MVN. Since 1998, EAA Chapter 1155 has flown over 3500 Young Eagles. The main goal is to inspire kids to see beyond perceived limitations and embrace STEM curriculums. If a few new pilot starts are realized at a rally - the industry benefits too.

The next rally is scheduled for Saturday, October 12, 2024.