



For Immediate Release
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For Airport information contact:
Marie Frank, Director of Marketing
Office: 480-988-7606

T-38 park fundraiser to be launched at WGAA Board meeting

MESA, Ariz.- A community fundraiser for park amenities will begin Monday at the Williams Gateway Airport Authority meeting with the presence of commemorative pavers to board members.

Brick pavers with a personalized inscription will be available for a \$50 donation. The bricks will be paved under the T-38 static display at the recently dedicated Lt. Charles L. Williams Memorial Park. Proceeds from the fundraiser will be used for landscaping, park benches and ramadas. Refurbishing of the T-38A and initial park development was funded through a State of Arizona grant and with donations from local businesses.

The T-38A Talon static display will be the centerpiece of the new park that honors fallen aviators. The park is located on Sossaman and Tahoe roads, adjacent to the Arizona State University Simulator Building and the Cimarron XIV office complex, and across the street from the Airport Administration Building. The project is a cooperative effort of the Airport, Arizona State University and Chandler-Gilbert Community College.

The Lt. Charles L. Williams Memorial Park was dedicated March 22 to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Airport's opening in March 1994. Lt. Williams, an Arizona native and namesake for the Airport, was killed in 1927 while flying for the Army Air Corps near Honolulu.

The aircraft is still in use as a trainer by the U.S. Air Force and remains a strong presence at Williams Gateway. The plane in the static display was once located at the entrance of Williams Air Force Base at Williams Field and Power roads, and is on permanent loan from the U.S. Air Force.

Williams Gateway Airport is owned and operated by the Airport Authority that includes Gila River Indian Community, Gilbert, Mesa and Queen Creek.

For information, call the Airport at (480) 988-7606, or visit the Web site at www.flywga.org and click on "What's New."