



June 2026 Newsletter

A Message From Sharon



As we close out the month of June, I simply want to say thank you.

The past several weeks have been filled with activity, excitement, and progress. From the Rum River Festival and Lions Pancake Breakfast to aircraft displays, youth activities, volunteer workdays, fundraising efforts, and countless behind-the-scenes projects, none of it would have been possible without the support of so many dedicated people.

To our volunteers, students, parents, sponsors, community partners, pilots, aircraft owners, and supporters; **thank you** for giving your time, talents, resources, and encouragement. Whether you spent hours helping at an event, donated materials, sponsored a program, shared our mission with others, or simply showed up to lend a hand, you have helped make every success possible.

I also want to extend a special thank you to everyone who has been assisting with our new hangar project. Watching this vision become reality has been nothing short of incredible. Every volunteer hour, donated service, piece of equipment, and word of encouragement has helped move us closer to a facility that will serve students, aviation enthusiasts, and our community for generations to come.

Because of your support, we remain on track for our goal of occupying the new hangar by September 30, 2026. This milestone represents much more than a building—it represents expanded opportunities for aviation education, aircraft preservation, workforce development, youth programs, and community engagement throughout Central Minnesota and beyond.

Together, we are building something truly special.

Sharon





PO Box 155, Zimmerman, MN 55398
1101 19th Avenue South, Princeton, MN 55371
www.flightexpo.org; flightexpoinc@aol.com
763-568-3360

Building Update

Progress on the new building has been going very quick. Since last month the walls and roof have been almost fully sheeted and they are currently preparing to pour the concrete floor.



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Inspiring the Next Generation of Aviators and Aviation Mechanics

Princeton Parade

The Princeton Parade was a great success this year! We would like to thank everyone who marched with us and everyone who helped with the setup. We had our Wag-Aero CUBy on display; a kit plane based on the Piper J-3 Cub. It was built by a World War II B-17 gunner who passed away before it ever flew and it was donated to us in 2022 from New Jersey.



Pancake Breakfast

The airport pancake breakfast was very successful; we had an estimated 1200 people attend! We extend a huge thank you to all the volunteers and we would also like to extend gratitude to the T-6 Thunder group for their flyover. They exceeded our expectations by showing up with 6 planes and putting on a great show.



New Pilots

This month we had one student receive their private pilots license, congratulations to Ashley for this achievement. Additionally we had four students complete their initial solo flights, now moving forward to solo cross-country flight. One of which must include at least a 150 nautical mile flight with three stops at different airports along the way. The private pilots license test includes a 65 question written test as well as a 3-4 hour check ride that includes one's ability to understand and perform various flight maneuvers, emergency procedures, including takeoff and landings, etc...

Gaining your private pilots license doesn't just allow you to fly planes, it will also build character. We come home from a lesson and find ourselves applying things such as critical thinking, good decision making, and self-reflection to our everyday ventures.



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