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Mural, Mural on the Wall

Fort Worth, Texas (March 9, 2011) – Alison Letnes has a big job with the City of Fort Worth - some times as big as 145 feet long by 6 feet high. Alison is a Senior Administrative Assistant with the City of Fort Worth's Parks and Community Services Department's Graffiti Abatement Program, and some of her biggest jobs are painting murals around our city. The program's motto is "Graffiti Wipe It Out" and that is what Alison intends to do with a special twist this year. Late last year, when the North Texas Aviation Centennial was announced, she had an idea to use aviation as the theme for this year's projects. She got in touch with the North Texas Aviation Centennial committee through the Fort Worth Air & Space Museum Foundation and a collaboration was quickly formed.

Alison already had as many as seventeen locations for murals identified and six groups of willing volunteers to do the work, but she needed artists. Ann Shelton of the Fort Worth Air & Space Museum Foundation put her in contact with Jim Hodgson of the Veterans Memorial Air Park and together they began a search for artists to design aviation themed murals. As of today, five artists have been recruited to help: April Lintz, a local elementary school teacher, noted aviation artists Alex Durr and Gerry Asher, members of the local Civil Air Patrol - 388 Phoenix Composite Squadron, and Austin artist Cyla Baron-Huber.

Work will begin this week on Friday, March 11th at 9 AM in Westcreek Park's Woodmont Trails. Twenty volunteers from the Church of Christ will do the painting after City Parks personnel prepare the site. Next will be a big project at Trail Drivers Park that will be painted by one hundred volunteers from the TCU Leaps, a campus-wide service organization of students, faculty, staff and alumni. Leaps participants spend a Saturday each semester

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volunteering with local agencies, then return to campus for reflection. More murals are planned for April, May and June.

“This will be a great way to bring awareness of the history of aviation in Fort Worth,” said Jim Hodgson. “It’s one more way we are collaborating with local groups to celebrate the rich aviation history of the area and hope to inspire some of our youth to careers in aviation and aerospace,” Hodgson continued. “Alison’s work not only adds beauty and value to local properties, but it also can educate and inspire.”

To learn more about this aviation mural project or a full schedule of activities, contact Alison Letnes at CFW Graffiti Abatement Program, 817-212-2701, or Alison.Letnes@fortworthgov.org. Funding for the projects is made possible through the Crime Control and Prevention District. The city's Graffiti Abatement Program helps residential and commercial property owners comply with the law by offering no-cost graffiti removal services. For more details, go to, <http://www.fortworthgov.org/pacs/graffiti>

This is another story of the heritage of aviation in Fort Worth presented by the North Texas Aviation Centennial committee, a collaboration of the Veterans Memorial Air Park, the B-36 Peacemaker Museum and the Fort Worth Air & Space Museum foundation. Visit our web site for more information about our yearlong celebration activities.

www.FTWAviation100.com

www.FACMuseum.org

www.B-36PeacemakerMuseum.org

www.FWASM.org