

# The Triumph of Flight<sup>®</sup>

Bringing an Icon to Ohio - The Birthplace of Aviation

Branding America's Only National Aviation Heritage Area  
Symbolizing the Achievement of FLIGHT!

May 2020  
Volume 12  
Issue 2

Soaring 270 feet above the intersection of I-70 & I-75 and seen by thousands of vehicles daily, this 144-foot wingspan monument will symbolize humankind "slipping the surly bonds of earth."



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## Land for Site Secured

In March the Wright Image Group signed a three-year option with Singer Properties securing the planned site for the Triumph of Flight at the southwest corner of the I-70/I-75 interchange just north of Dayton. Singer Properties will transfer the property, through a combination of gifting and purchase, when WIG raises funding for construction of the monument. Shayna Kolodesh, president of Singer Properties, has been a loyal supporter of the Triumph of Flight from the very beginning and served as a Director for many years. The parcels from Singer, along with a small plot to be gifted to WIG by Butler Township, will bring total acreage for the site to just over 12 acres.

This site has been the preferred location for the Triumph of Flight for many years, because of the high traffic through this intersection of two major interstates. Over 65 million vehicles per year will view the Triumph of Flight, for up to three miles away. It will stand from 100 to 300 yards of all that pass by, and it will tower 270 feet above the intersection. Because of this roadside prominence and its unique design, the Triumph of Flight will attract a lot of attention. We fully expect it to become the gateway to the sites in the National Aviation Heritage Area that surround that location.

We give special thanks to attorney Bill Fulker of Faust, Fulker, and Schlemmer who led us through a maze of legal considerations concerning the rights and consent of property owners in the development that includes our site. Thank you, Bill.

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## Covid-19 Update

Like much of the rest of the country, we have gone on hold while the Covid-19 pandemic continues its onslaught, and the world tries to figure out how to deal with it. Our efforts to raise funds for the Triumph of Flight consisted of making presentations at aviation gatherings and meetings with potential donors. Since there are no gatherings, aviation or otherwise, and many of those we would meet with are working from home, our efforts are at a standstill. Even the grandest of the airshows, the Airventure in Oshkosh, cancelled the 2020 event for the first time since 1953. Further complicating our efforts is the fact that our most promising prospects for funding were companies in the aviation industry, one of the hardest hit by the pandemic. Many of these companies now have funding issues of their own and brand-new priorities that do not include the Triumph of Flight.

All of this came at the same time that a clock started on our fundraising efforts. Under our new three-year site option, we have until March of 2023 to secure the funds to build the monument. We have some strategizing to do. We have identified our options, and our executive committee will be meeting at the end of May to re-assess our project in view of the different world in which we suddenly find ourselves. We will let you know our plans once our board of directors has had time to consider the options and determine our way forward. However, one thing is certain. It will be months before we are able to gain the attention of those we need to help make the Triumph of Flight a reality. Until then we will be building the tools and laying the groundwork for moving forward.

## Saying Goodbye to Zell Doe Nutter

Our local community, aviation, and the Triumph of Flight all lost a good friend with the recent passing of Zoe Dell Nutter. She died at age 104, tempting one to say that she had a good, long life, but the fact is she had many, many lives. As a dancer, model, actress, pilot, and philanthropist, she lived those lives to the fullest.

Beyond being a pilot, she worked in the aviation industry and throughout those years and for the rest of her life was an active ambassador for aviation. Her support for the Triumph of Flight never faltered. She was always there for us, not only with financial support, but also with her valuable contacts in the aviation industry.



**Zoe Dell Nutter addresses guests at her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration benefitting the Triumph of Flight**

The WIG is a proud partner of the National Aviation Heritage Alliance.

As such, we ask our donors to make checks out to the Aviation Heritage Foundation and mark them so that it is clear the donation is specifically intended for the Wright Image Group.

By flowing our donations through the foundation, the federal government will match a portion of them. This additional funding goes to support the aviation heritage of the entire region. (See instructions below)



**Make checks payable to:  
Aviation Heritage Foundation, Inc.**

With the following comment  
on the "For" line:

**"Restricted for WIG"**

and mail to:

**Triumph of Flight®  
1605 N. Main St Dayton OH 45405**

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Newsletter Published by:

**Wright Image Group, Inc.**  
**1605 North Main St**  
**Dayton, OH 45405-4198**

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