COUNTY DEPARTMENT AGENDA REQUEST

Department:	Board of Commissioners	Presenter(s):	Carol Chandler
Meeting Date:	Thursday, September 10, 2009	Type of Request:	Presentation/Recognition

Wording for the Agenda:

Proclamation recognizing September 19, 2009 as "Honor Flight Fayette Day".

Background/History/Details:

Gail Sparrow, President of Honor Flight Fayette, and Mrs. Brenda Smith have organized another flight of World War II veterans to Washington, D.C. on September 19, 2009, in an effort to allow the veterans to view their War Memorial. Since 2008, Honor Flight Fayette have provided four previous trips to Washington, D.C. This flight is the fifth flight. When this fifth flight is accomplished, Honor Flight Fayette will have provided this opportunity to approximately 350 veterans.

Mrs. Sparrow and Mrs. Smith are asking that Fayette County once again honor the World War II veterans by proclaiming September 19, 2009 as "Honor Flight Fayette Day'.

The proclamations presented by the Board of Commissioners are framed and used as part of a display for the "send off" events for veterans on the morning of their flights.

What action are you seeking from the Board of Commissioners?

Present proclamation declaring September 19, 2009 "Honor Flight Fayette Day".

If this item requires funding, please describe:

No funding is required for this request.

Has this issue come before the Commissioners in the past?	Yes	If so, when?	Thursday, April 23, 2009
Do you need audio-visual for the presentation?	No	Back-up Material Submitted?	Yes

STAFF USE ONLY

Approved by Finance	Not Applicable	Reviewed by Legal	Yes
Approved by Purchasing	Not Applicable	Approved by County Clerk	Yes
Administrator's Approval	Yes		

Staff Notes:

PROCLAMATION
"HONOR FLIGHT FAYETTE DAY"

Whereas, Honor Flight Fayette Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit organization created to recognize and pay homage to our local World War II Veterans in appreciation for their great sacrifices and faithful service to our County; and

Whereas, Honor Flight Fayette is part of the National Honor Flight Network which was founded in 2004 to honor Veterans throughout America, with their primary goal to fly veterans to Washington, D.C. to visit their War Memorial, particularly World War II Veterans; and

Whereas, Because Honor Flight recognizes that our nation is losing World War II veterans at a rate of 1,200 per day and that sadly most of them will never have had the opportunity to visit their National Monument in Washington because it was not built until 2004, Honor Flight Fayette has taken on the urgent mission of honoring local World War II Veterans by providing them cost-free flights to visit their National Memorial; and

Whereas, On September 19, 2009, Honor Flight Fayette will host its fifth flight to Washington, providing 70 more veterans of the greatest generation with an opportunity to visit the National World War II Memorial and to spend the day as "Guests of Honor", and to talk and share memories of service and sacrifice for our Great Nation;

Now therefore, we, the Board of Commissioners of Fayette County, Georgia, are hereby proud to proclaim September 19, 2009,

"HONOR FLIGHT FAYETTE DAY"

and in doing so we thank the founds of Honor Flight Fayette who selflessly initiated this effort that will mean so much to so many in our community; and further, though words cannot adequately express the gratitude, admiration, and respect we hold for the Veterans who will participate in the history-making fifth flight to Washington on September 19, we wish this band of brothers and sisters a day of camaraderie, sharing, and tribute in recognition of a willingness to serve and sacrifice those many years ago that protected our Homeland, preserved our freedom, and reinforced America's position as the Greatest Nation in all the World.

So proclaimed this 10th day of September, 2009, by the

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FAYETTE COUNTY, GEORGIA

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Jack R. Smith, Chairman