

FWB Chamber of Commerce PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Doolittle Raiders Homecoming Event in Fort Walton Beach Florida, May 28-31. Presented by Beach Community Bank

The Doolittle Raiders will be returning to Eglin Air Force Base in Fort Walton Beach, FL to participate in a re-enactment of their historic training for the Raiders mission to Japan, one of the most significant bombing missions of World War II.

The Doolittle Raiders trained for their top secret mission at Eglin Field in March of 1942. Several outlying satellite fields near Eglin were earmarked for training. Flags were spotted along the runways at every 100 feet so pilots could perfect short distance take offs. Considerable time was also spent in practicing bomb runs over water at minimum altitude using water slicks as targets and with mock air attacks from other Eglin aircraft.

66 years later, the Doolittle Raiders (all 11 surviving members have been invited) are returning to the Eglin area to take part in a re-enactment of this training. Events include

- Re-enactment of training – Saturday, May 31, 9am – 11am (admission via gala dinner ticker purchase only)
 - Full historical review of Raiders training and mission
 - Four B-25s participating in re-enactment of training and fly-bys
 - Photo opportunities with B-25s and their crews
 - Limited to first 1000 people - controlled access
- Post Launch Gala Dinner – Saturday, May 31 at the Emerald Coast Conference Center (\$100 per person), Business/Service Dress attire
- Lunch with the Raiders – Friday, May 30, 11am – 1pm at the Emerald Coast Conference Center (\$40 per person), includes panel discussion with Raiders and the Raiders Historian
- Book Signing – Thursday, May 29 & Friday, May 30, 2-4pm at the Emerald Coast Conference Center (\$5 minimum purchase)

Proceeds from the event benefit The Fisher House of the Emerald Coast,
www.fisherhouseemeraldcoast.org

Contact the Greater Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce of further information,
www.fwbchamber.com or 850-244-8191. Tickets available at all Beach Community Bank branches and the Greater Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce.