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FreeStar Financial to Unveil Historical Plane Donation to Selfridge Military Air Museum

August 17, 2026, Mt. Clemens, Mich. — A legendary aircraft is ready for its comeback.

FreeStar Financial Credit Union is proud to announce the upcoming unveiling of “**Jenny**,” a fully restored replica of the Curtiss JN-4, one of the most recognizable and influential aircraft of the World War I era.

Affectionately known as the “Jenny,” the Curtiss JN-4 was mass-produced by the Curtiss Aeroplane and Motor Company beginning in 1915. It became the primary training aircraft for an estimated 95% of American pilots who served during World War I, earning its place as one of the most famous aircraft in aviation history.

In 2024, FreeStar Financial purchased the Jenny replica with a meaningful purpose: to restore the aircraft to its original brilliance and create a lasting symbol of the connection between the credit union, its members and Michigan’s military community.

Following its restoration, FreeStar Financial donated the aircraft to the Selfridge Military Air Museum. The replica is one of only eight Jenny aircraft displayed in museums across the country.

The aircraft is especially significant to Selfridge’s history. It resembles the Jenny that completed the first official flight from Selfridge Airfield on July 8, 1917.

Today, known as Selfridge Air National Guard Base, the installation has played a major role in the history and development of American military aviation. The base was named in honor of Lt. Thomas E. Selfridge, the first U.S. military officer to die in an airplane crash.

FreeStar Financial has its own deep connection to the base. The credit union was founded there in 1957 as **Selfridge Air Force Base Credit Union**, initially serving military personnel and supporting staff stationed at Selfridge.

After an extensive three-year restoration, the Jenny has officially returned to its former glory. The aircraft will be permanently displayed inside the museum’s **Aviation Education Hangar**, where future generations can experience an important piece of aviation and military history.

“This project is about more than restoring an aircraft,” said FreeStar Financial President and CEO, Drema Isaac. “It represents where FreeStar Financial began, the military community that helped shape our organization and our commitment to preserving that history for the next generation.”

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The official unveiling ceremony will take place on **September 15, 2026**, during the Selfridge Base Community Council meeting at Selfridge Air National Guard Base.

To learn more about the Selfridge Military Air Museum and the Jenny aircraft, visit selfridgeairmuseum.org.

About FreeStar Financial Credit Union

FreeStar Financial Credit Union was established in 1957 at what is now Selfridge Air National Guard Base as Selfridge Air Force Base Credit Union. During its early years, the credit union served military personnel and supporting staff assigned to Selfridge Air Force Base.

As the organization grew and expanded its membership, it operated under several names, including Joint Military Services Credit Union, Joint Military and Veterans Credit Union and Central Macomb Community Credit Union.

Today, FreeStar Financial serves individuals and families throughout Michigan, including military members across the state. The credit union has eight full-service locations, provides access to more than 30,000 ATMs nationwide through the CO-OP Network and proudly serves more than 22,000 members.

For more information, visit FreeStarFinancial.com.



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