



# **Gulfport-Biloxi International Airport**

*We Make Flying Easier.*

**Media Advisory**

**November 10, 2010**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**

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## **John C. Robinson “Brown Condor” Association Public Lecture and Bust Unveiling**

**WHAT:** A free publicly held program, lecture, and bust unveiling hosted by Gulfport-Biloxi International Airport and John C. Robinson “Brown Condor” Association. The program is the kick-off effort to build the Mississippi Aviation Heritage Museum on the grounds of the airport. Featuring guest speaker Dr. Robert Van Der Linden, the Director of the Aeronautics Division of the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum in Washington, will be speaking on “The Passion for Flight.” The first life-sized bronze bust of Gulfport’s Col. John C. Robinson will be unveiled and dedicated to the inspiration of our youth and displayed in the Gulfport-Biloxi International Airport terminal building until the final completion of the museum in years to come.

**WHEN:** 7:00pm on Thursday, November 11, 2010. (Veterans Day)

**WHERE:** Gulfport-Biloxi International Airport 3<sup>rd</sup> floor conference room. Complimentary parking passes will be provided to all guests upon arrival.

**DETAILS:** The night will celebrate the leadership of the United States in aviation since 1903, recognizing all the veterans who have fought to defend freedom, and will celebrate all of those who have persevered in their dreams and have succeeded against the odds. The bust of John C. Robinson will be unveiled at the conclusion of Dr. Van Der Linden’s address. Those in attendance will be given the opportunity to help the Brown Condor Association select the next Mississippi aviator or astronaut to be honored with a bust. Recognition and credibility goes to John C. Robinson on his life story is a success against all the odds. He became the commander of the Ethiopian Air Force in 1935 as that small nation courageously defended itself against aggression in one of the opening gambits of World War II. Dr. Van Linden is also nationally recognized for his authority on the history of flight, author of several books, and known for his expertise on Charles Lindbergh.

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