By EARL WATT • Daily Leader Since the beginning of time, children have looked to the heavens and dreamed of flight. At this year's AirFair 2010, kids will receive a chance to live that dream, and it is free courtesy of the Experimental Aircraft Association. In an effort to interest youth in flight, the EAA is providing free flights for children between the ages of 8 and 17. The Young Eagles program has provided free flights for 1.5 million youth in more than 90 countries by more than 42,000 volunteer pilots.

Prior to the flight, a registration form must be completed and signed by a parent or guardian. After the flight, each child will receive a Young Eagles Certificate and each flight will be listed in the World's Largest Logbook.

Lyddon Aero Center Office Manager Laura McComb will be coordinating the event.

The flights will take place from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. and then resume from 3:30 p.m. until 5 p.m. There are a limited number of slots and are offered on a first-come first-serve basis. To reserve a slot, please call McComb at Lyddon Aero Center, Inc. at 624-1646. Each child must be present 20 minutes prior to their appointed time or will forfeit their slot.

The flights will be a part of AirFair 2010, a free air show that has been organized by a group of local volunteers who have scheduled entertaining acts and events that will take to the skies as well as providing a free day at the Mid-America Air Museum and additional display on the ground including a car show.

Ronda Maxwell, who has organized air shows in Liberal and other communities in Kansas, said she was excited about this flight opportunity for children.

"One thing that makes this show unique is the family experience," Maxwell said. "That's the reason we've worked hard to make it free so that we can give a nice experience to families. A child being able to fly that has never flown before, what an incredible experience."

The AirFair takes place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 2.