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Kroger Discount Tickets and Blue Sky Go On Sale Today Mammoth B-52 Joins Vectren Dayton Air Show Lineup

Dayton, Ohio – The Vectren Dayton Air Show Presented by Kroger announced today the longest-serving bomber in U.S. military history, the Boeing B-52 Stratofortress, will appear as a static display at this year's show on July 18th & 19th. The B-52 will also provide a flyover during the show on Saturday, July 18th. First flying in 1952, the massive B-52 sports a 185-foot wingspan complete with eight jet engines. With a gross weight of more than 480,000 pounds, the Stratofortress is affectionately called "BUFF", short for Big Ugly Fat Fellow.

Interestingly, the concept for the B-52 was developed in Dayton during an October weekend in 1948. Since jet engines were in their infancy at that time, Boeing's original contract for an experimental long-range bomber called for turboprop engines. After Boeing engineers met with Wright Air Field Air Base officials, they learned that the Air Force preferred to have jet engines in the proposed bomber. After an exhaustive weekend of work at the Hotel Van Cleve in Dayton, the Boeing engineers presented a plan that Monday which is essentially the same B-52 spectators will see at the air show. With its long lineage, some of the B-52's flown by Air Force pilots today are the grandchildren of early B-52 pilots. The B-52 flyover will come from the 93rd Bomb Squadron, Barksdale AFB, Louisiana, while the static B-52 hails from Minot AFB, North Dakota.

Also beginning today are two great discount ticket programs which will help Air Show spectators save money. Discounted General Admission tickets go on sale today at all area Kroger stores, the exclusive advance ticket outlet for the Vectren Dayton Air Show presented by Kroger. Patrons will enjoy a \$3 savings for adult, senior citizen and child tickets purchased at Kroger. This means that advance adult tickets are available for \$16 while senior citizen and child advance tickets are \$12 at Kroger.

For Air Show spectators desiring the best seats in the house, the all-inclusive Blue Sky Chalet, goes on sale today for \$89, a discount of \$15 off the regular price. This is an exclusive 2009 show year offering. The popular Blue Sky chalet includes a continental breakfast, catered luncheon, afternoon snacks and unlimited beverages. Best of all you can enjoy the show from the comfort of an umbrella table seat, and air-conditioned tent with bathrooms. Patrons also receive free parking and shuttle service.

"The addition of the B-52 is a great development," stated Michael Emoff, Chairman of the USATS Board of Trustees, producers of the annual air show. "That along with these terrific ticket packages really allow everyone to come out to this fabulous family event," he added.

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Previously announced the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds will headline the 2009 Vectren Dayton Air Show and will be commanded by Lt. Col. Greg Thomas, a Cincinnati native and graduate of Anderson High School in Cincinnati and Wright State University in Dayton. The Thunderbirds will be joined by a special appearance of the Brazilian Air Force Smoke Squadron, the Esquadilha da Fumaça, a seven-ship formation team. Also announced earlier this year were, a US Air Force A-10 Demonstration, a US Navy Super Hornet Demonstration, Tora Tora Tora, an eight aircraft dramatic reenactment of the bombing of Pearl Harbor; Patty Wagstaff, three-time US National Aerobatic champion and 2004 National Aviation Hall of Fame enshrinee; the US Army Golden Knights; a US Air Force C-17 Demonstration; and Sean D. Tucker, a world-famous aerobatic pilot and a 2008 National Aviation Hall of Fame enshrinee.

Air shows are among the most cost-efficient family entertainment alternatives available today. With today's discount announcement the Vectren Dayton Air Show Presented by Kroger is no exception. Please visit our website www.daytonairshow.com to learn more about Dayton's premier summer event and other seating options available.

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Founded in 1975, the Vectren Dayton Air Show Presented by Kroger is one of America's premier air shows. The Air Show showcases world-class aerobatic champions, military jet demonstrations and entertainment for the whole family celebrating Dayton's aviation heritage as home of the Wright Brothers, National Museum of the US Air Force and Wright Patterson AFB. For more information visit www.daytonairshow.com