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XENIA — The Xenia Community Festival is honored to announce that Charles Feaster has been chosen to be the 2011 Xenia Community Festival Parade Grand Marshal.

During World War II, Feaster had an opportunity to join the 99th Pursuit Squadron, later known as the 99th Fighter Squadron, and today revered as the Tuskegee Airmen.

Upon completion of his military tenure, he graduated from Central State University. He retired from Wright-Patterson Air Force Base after 36 years of employment and was presented the Air Force Award for Distinguished Federal Civilian Service.

Feaster and other members of the 332nd Fighter Squadron (Tuskegee Fighter Squadron) were awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, March 27, 2007 which is the most distinguished award bestowed by the United States Congress.

To honor Mr. Feaster and all of our community's current and past service men and women, the Festival committee invites all active-duty and veterans of any branch of the Armed Services to join Feaster in the parade, by walking behind the grand-marshal float, allowing the community to recognize and appreciate the contributions each of them have made to our country.

The Parade will be held Sept. 17 at 9 a.m. It will start on N. Detroit Street at the corner of Weaver Street (near the armory) and move south turning onto W. Main Street, and ending at the intersection of Church & Main Streets. All for and not-for-profits organizations are encouraged to participate in the parade.

Applications are available online at www.xeniacommunityfestival.com or by clicking here. If you have any questions please call the Xenia Area Chamber of Commerce at 937-372-3591, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.