CLINTON — The Clinton Area Chamber of Commerce and Convention and Visitors Bureau is gearing up for one of the more unique events that has come to the area recently.

Fly Iowa, a statewide annual event held to highlight the role and benefits of aviation in Iowa communities, will be held in Clinton for its 2016 festival. Performers will make their way eastward for the Sept. 23 and 24 event.

The festival will kick off the evening of Sept. 23, beginning with the revival of the Fall Steak Fry. The steak fry is scheduled to run from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Clinton Municipal Airport. Tickets are one
for $35, or two for $65.

"We are delighted to work in conjunction with Fly Iowa to bring back our classic event, the Fall Steak Fry," said Maureen Miller, Chamber president and CEO. "After several years of hiatus, the steak fry is back and better than ever."

The revival of the steak fry also will serve as a pilot/performer meet and greet, giving area residents the chance to get to know some of the stars of the Saturday show.

"Come celebrate Fly Iowa being in our community by enjoying local food, talent and a night packed full of entertainment," Chamber Member Engagement Coordinator Kadina Hodges said.

The real show, however, will start Sept. 24 when airplanes of all kinds will take to the skies at the airport, performing various daring stunts and displays beginning at noon. Preceding the air show will be a fly-in breakfast at the airport from 7 to 11 a.m.

The festival certainly isn't just for casual observers wishing to see some entertainment, though. For serious aviation buffs, there will be plenty to do as well. A hyper-realistic flight simulator, vintage airplanes on display, and an FAA continuing education seminar for trained pilots also will be available for knowledgeable aviation enthusiasts.

A classic car show also is scheduled, with no pre-registration necessary.

For questions or comments, community members are encouraged to contact Convention and Visitors Bureau Director Carrie Donaire at (563) 559-2193 or Clinton Municipal Airport Manager Mike Nass at 242-3292.