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Media Advisory

Come and get it ... Arapahoe County celebrates grand opening of Fairgrounds Saturday

ARAPAHOE COUNTY, CO --- With the clang of a triangle, Arapahoe County will celebrate the grand opening of its new Fairgrounds and Events Center during a “bandana” ribbon-cutting ceremony 11 a.m. Saturday and kick off the 2006 Arapahoe County Fair, presented by Wells Fargo.

With the grand opening of the Arapahoe County Fairgrounds and Events Center, the Arapahoe County Fair returns to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of this great community tradition. The Fair has been without a permanent home since 1986 when the fairgrounds at Windermere and Littleton Boulevard in Littleton was closed.

The \$8.5 million fairgrounds, which sits on 236 acres of grass prairie lands at 25690 E. Quincy Ave., in unincorporated Arapahoe County, features a 45,000-square-foot multipurpose events center that includes a livestock wing, 171-foot tall water tower, meeting rooms, ticket office, warming kitchen, parking and temporary horse arena. About 110 acres is set aside for parks, open space and trails.

Built with Conservation Trust Funds (Colorado Lottery dollars) and Designated Heritage Funds, which only can be used for parks, recreation and open space projects, the new Fairgrounds and Events Center is designed to serve a variety of uses throughout the year. In addition to being the venue for the Arapahoe County fair, the Center will host craft fairs, conferences, meetings, trade shows, receptions, equestrian events, dog shows and science fairs throughout the year.

For a full schedule of activities and entertainment at the 2006 Arapahoe County Fair, visit www.arapahoecountyfair.com.

WHEN: 11 a.m., Saturday, July 22, 2006

WHO: Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners, 4H youth, CSU’s mascot CAM the Ram, Sheriff’s Office Honor Guard, Wild West Express Comedy duo

WHERE: Arapahoe County Fairgrounds and Events Center, 25690 E. Quincy Ave., Aurora. The Ceremony will be held at the north entrance to the events center.

Media Note: When arriving on the fairgrounds, check in with the information booth to get access into the fairgrounds, or call Andrea Rasizer at 303-882-1909.