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Arapahoe County Fair earns international recognition *Communication Services, Fair staff win top honors for the 2010 County Fair*

ARAPAHOE COUNTY --- For the third year in a row, Arapahoe County earned international recognition for the Arapahoe County Fair through the International Association of Fairs and Expositions. The County won two first place awards for its 2010 Barnyard Boogie marketing campaign and a first and second place award for its agricultural programming.

The International Association of Fairs and Expositions is a non-profit with 1,300 organizations that promotes the development and improvement of fairs, shows and expositions, and sponsors an award contest to showcase excellence in fair marketing and agricultural programming.

“Year after year, employees demonstrate their dedication to the residents of Arapahoe County by putting on an incredible community event that celebrates our agricultural history and provides fun for the entire family,” said Arapahoe County Commissioner Rod Bockenfeld, who serves as Board Chair. “Our fair not only teaches children that milk and eggs don’t come from the store but from animals, and we give them a chance to experience it – with the opportunity to milk a cow and so much more.”

Marketing of the County Fair is overseen by the County’s Communication Services Department, which includes Andrea Rasizer, Nichole Parmelly, Haley McKean, Liz Ellis, Mindy Edstrom and Tory Kaufmann. The Fairgrounds is run by Jim Abendschan, Debbie Galle, James Lacrue, Rick Smith and Cathy Hoganson.

In the John Deere Agriculture Education Competition, for fairs with attendance of up to 100,000, the Arapahoe County Fair won the first place Agricultural Award of Excellence for the ‘Overall Agricultural Program for the Non-Agricultural Fairgoing Public’. In addition, the Fair won second place for their ‘Fair and Sponsor/Partner Joint Exhibit Program’ which featured Royal Crest Dairy and the Farmer Brown’s Mini Farm and Petting Zoo where folks could milk a cow, shell corn and interact with pigs, goats and other farm animals.

Mark your calendars for the 2011 Arapahoe County Fair July 20 – 24 at the Arapahoe County Fairgrounds and Regional Park, 25690 E. Quincy Ave., Aurora. For more information, visit www.arapahoecountyfair.com to sign up for the e-newsletter, become a friend on Facebook or follow us on Twitter.

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Photos are available for download at ftp://www.co.arapahoe.co.us/Pub/CM/Photos/IAFE_Awards/

Photo Cut lines:

AgAward: Arapahoe County won a first place award and second place award for agricultural programming at the 2010

International Association of Fairs and Expositions conference. (from left) Arapahoe County employees Cathy Hoganson, Dale Edwards, Debbie Galle and Jim Abendschan.

MktgAward: Winning two marketing and advertising awards from the International Association of Fairs and Expositions are (from left) Arapahoe County Communication Services employees Liz Ellis, Nichole Parmelley, Mindy Edstrom, Andrea Rasizer and Tory Kaufmann.