



For Immediate Release

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GROWING • HEALTHY • FAMILIES

The Rock Ranch Strawberry Festival Saturday, April 13, 2013

THE ROCK, Ga. (April 4, 2013) – The Rock Ranch Strawberry Festival is a free event for families that will be held Saturday, April 13, 2013 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This event will mark the beginning of the strawberry picking season at The Rock Ranch Produce Stand.

Guests will enjoy picking fresh strawberries from the strawberry patch and eating homemade strawberry ice cream. There will be tasty strawberry treats like strawberry shortcake, stuffed strawberries and chocolate dipped strawberries. The produce stand also sells fresh produce, honey, jellies, all natural pork products and The Rock Ranch steroid free, antibiotic free beef. From 10 a.m. to noon the produce stand will be drawing names to give-away some premium beef and they'll be sampling jellies and ice cream.

The festivities include corn hole games, a children's bounce house, face painting and a bluegrass band providing some banjo pickin' to accompany all the strawberry pickin'. Families may also meet and take pictures with The Rock Ranch Strawberry Princess. All of these activities are free.

The "Cow-A-Bunga" zip lines will be open for those who are not too chicken. These amazing attractions transport guests at tree top level across the corn field and over two ponds at speeds of 30 mph. The cost is \$7 to ride the fast lines (800 ft.) or \$12 to ride the long lines (1300 ft.).

Other ranch attractions will be available, as well. Guests that purchase a wrist band for \$10 may enjoy unlimited rides on the locomotive train, pony rides, paddle boats and pedal carts. The wrist band also allows guests to enjoy the giant jumping pillow, Tiny Town, slide hill, cane pole fishing, the corn box, spider webs, petting zoo and more. Concessions will be sold and menu options include Chick-fil-A sandwiches, hot dogs, pizza, sno cones, and fresh strawberry and walnut salad.

Strawberries are sold for \$2.00 a pound U-Pick or \$3.00 pre-picked. The produce stand, U-Pick produce area and new playground are open every Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. from now until November. After strawberry season, The Rock Ranch will offer fresh crops of sweet corn, raspberries, blueberries, blackberries and grapes.

The Rock Ranch is located at 5020 Barnesville Highway (Highway 36), The Rock, Ga. It is a 1330-acre ranch owned Chick-fil-A founder by S. Truett Cathy and dedicated to "Growing Healthy Families". For more information, visit www.therockranch.com, call 706-647-6374 or find them on Facebook.

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MEDIA ADVISORY

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Postal Service Opens ‘Village Post Office’ in The Rock, GA *Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Celebrates Grand Opening at The Rock Ranch Produce Market*

- What:** A ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the grand opening of a Village Post Office (VPO) in The Rock, Georgia.
- Where:** On the grounds of The Rock Ranch, 5020 Barnesville Highway, The Rock, GA 30285.
- When:** Saturday, April 13, 2013, at 10:00 a.m.
- Who:** Jeff Manley, General Manager, The Rock Ranch; Nancy Ross, Marketing Manager, U.S. Postal Service; J.R. Lowery, Manager, Post Office Operations, USPS.
- Background:** The Postal Service launched the Village Post Office concept in July 2011 as a way to expand access to postal products and services in communities that do not have a post office or where the current post office hours may have been reduced. VPOs are located within existing businesses and are operated by the management of those locations. VPOs can offer a range of services including Forever Stamps, Pre-paid Priority Mail Flat Rate envelopes, mail collection boxes and post office boxes.

The Rock Ranch is owned by Chick-fil-A founder S. Truett Cathy and is dedicated to “Growing Healthy Families.” The VPO will operate Monday – Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., during The Rock Ranch’s Open Season, March - November. The grand opening of the VPO will be held in conjunction with The Rock Ranch Strawberry Festival.

The Rock, Georgia is a community rich in postal service history. The town was named because of a granite rock that served as the region’s first mail drop location. In the early 1800’s, The Old Federal Stage coach deposited mail in a hole in “the rock” and it became a landmark and destination. After the turn of the century, the rock was dynamited to make way for the railroad and a post office was erected to receive the mail being addressed to “the rock” in Georgia. In recent years, The Rock zip code has been one of the busiest in the state with the distribution of publications printed by local business Quad Graphics. The small post office in The Rock has been an important part of community life and Betty Starling, long time post master, has befriended many. Mrs. Betty, as locals know her, had a career with the U.S. Postal Service than spanned 5 decades and served as post master well into her 80’s. Betty Starling still resides in The Rock, GA. The Rock Ranch is proud to have a small part in the legacy of the post office in The Rock.