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**For Immediate Release:** June 5, 2007

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## CENTRAL PA 4<sup>TH</sup> FEST RALLIES AROUND THE FLAG

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. – This year's Central Pennsylvania 4<sup>th</sup> Fest promises to be the most patriotic ever, as organizers and participants "Rally Around the Flag" on Wednesday, July 4, on the grounds of Penn State's Bryce Jordan Center.

"From a special collection of spectators' worn and tattered flags to the 'rocket's red glare' during the 45-minute fireworks show, patriotism will be front and center," said Bernie Keisling, executive director. "We'll be celebrating our nation's birthday in grand style this year."

At each merchandising booth, spectators can drop off American flags that are no longer fit for display. Boy Scout Troop 367 of Houserville will collect the flags for proper disposal later during a dignified flag-retirement ceremony conducted in accordance with the U.S. Flag Code, Keisling said.

As part of the "Rally Around the Flag" theme, the first 4,000 ticket-holders at the 1 p.m. State College Spikes game will receive free small American flags. Then starting at 4:00 on the 4<sup>th</sup> Fest grounds, kids can make their own flag-related crafts, while a military honor guard will conduct a flag ceremony in the VIP viewing area just before the fireworks kick off at dusk with the national anthem. One of six ground fireworks displays this year will be a U.S. flag.

As always, the entire fireworks show is choreographed to patriotic songs, show tunes, movie soundtracks, and classic rock and country songs, all broadcast simultaneously on 93.7 "The Bus" radio and televised live on WJAC. The day begins with the bang of the starter's pistol in the Firecracker 4K race in the morning and continues in the afternoon and evening with children's activities, musical performances and refreshment vendors, plus the Family Playground inside the Bryce Jordan Center.

Tickets for the VIP fireworks viewing area and VIP parking are on sale at the Bryce Jordan Center ticket office or by phone at (814) 865-5555. Because general admission to the 4th Fest is free, the event's budget is supported entirely through individual, corporate and parking donations. To make a contribution or for more information, call (814) 278-2782 or go to [www.4thfest.org](http://www.4thfest.org).

Central Pennsylvania July 4th Inc. is a non-profit organization in its sixth year of operation.