



Press Release
For Immediate Release
Photo Opportunity
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Celebrate the Season – Free Fall Festival in Cripple Creek, October 5-6, 2024

Cripple Creek, Colorado – Crisp mornings and gently changing leaf colors symbolize the arrival of fall in Colorado. Top off your “leaf peeping drive” in the mountains with a free Fall Festival featuring live music, professional wood carving demonstrations, vendors, food trucks and attractions, pie baking and chili contests, and pumpkins galore. Bennett Avenue in Cripple Creek will teem with activity on October 5 and 6, between 2nd and 5th Street starting at 10:00 am each day. The Two Mile High Club, caretakers of the Cripple Creek Donkeys since 1931, and the City of Cripple Creek invite you to “Fall Fest.”

“Fall Fest concludes our Donkey Summer of Fun,” said TMHC President Brandon Westhoff, “and what a summer it’s been! These events honor Gold Camp history and serve as a ‘thank you’ to the community of Cripple Creek and surrounding cities for their support and to raise money for our 501c3 non-profit that cares for the donkey herd all year.”

During this family friendly weekend, sign the kids up for a pumpkin carving contest on Saturday and Sunday. See the pumpkin display between 4th and 5th streets on Bennett Avenue. Fun and spooky prizes await! When the kids aren’t busy carving pumpkins, check out the Kid’s Zone at the Pocket Park and the Colorado National Guard display on Bennett Avenue and 5th Street.

Put on your baking or chef hats in the spirit of a County Fair and enter the pie baking contest or the chili cookoff. Both contests are free to join and take place on Saturday only. Contact Lori Hankins for more information: secretary@tmhc-cdd.org. Judges will award prizes.

Shop at various vendors and satisfy cravings at food trucks on Bennett Avenue. Adults enjoy a remarkable fall-themed beer garden near the live music stage at 2nd and Bennett. Sponsored by the Golden Nugget Hotel and Casino, bands such as JustUs, Mimic, and the Tenderfoot Bluegrass Band will entertain from 11 am – 5 pm both days.

View professional wood carvers on the lower level of Bennett Avenue across from City Hall, between 3rd and 4th Avenue, from 10 am-5 pm on Saturday and Sunday. Purchase a carving or authentic Two Mile High Club “Cripple Creek Donkey Merchandise” as a keepsake. While here, commemorate the occasion with a keepsake photo at the custom-made fall photo booth, sponsored by Sky Line Insurance! Photographers will use your phone camera to take the photos for a donation to the Cripple Creek Donkey Fund.

“We’re looking forward to this final salute to summer after one of the best Donkey Release Celebrations in May, complete with a visit from President Teddy Roosevelt, followed by the ‘best Donkey Derby Days in history’ in June,” said Laura Piccolo, vice president of the Two Mile High Club. “Now it’s time to celebrate the beautiful fall season and all it has to offer here in the mountains of Colorado.”

Are you interested in volunteering for Fall Fest? Sign up here: <https://volunteersignup.org/APJ49>.

The Two Mile High Club meets on the third Thursday of each month and welcomes volunteers of all ages and interests: <https://www.cripplecreekdonkeys.com>. Follow us on <https://www.facebook.com/CCDonkeys>, <https://www.instagram.com/ccdonkeysofficial/> and <https://www.tiktok.com/@ccdonkeysofficial>

The TMHC thanks all the sponsors for their support, especially to the Tri Sponsors: The Golden Nugget Hotel and Casino, Wagner Rents, Predator 4WD, the City of Cripple Creek, ERA Environmental, The Cripple Creek Hospitality House and Campground, Creations Everlasting, Pine Ridge Seamless Gutters, Taylor Built, Community Banks of Colorado, and Ardent Precision.

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