



Wheat Ridge Hosts 46th Annual Carnation Festival August 14-16, 2015

-Festival celebrates city's rich agricultural history-

Wheat Ridge, Colorado (April 1, 2015) – Wheat Ridge will celebrate its rich agricultural heritage with the 46th Annual Carnation Festival August 14-16, 2015. The three-day affair has been revamped this year and features a variety of new elements, including an expanded beer garden and food court, exotic Italian car show and improved kids activities with full size carnival rides. The festivities, which typically draw 25,000 attendees, will run from 4 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. on Friday, August 14th, 12:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 15th and 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 16th at Wheat Ridge's Anderson Park (4355 Field Street).

The Zoppe' Italian Family Circus will once again serve as the festival's main attraction, entertaining audiences in the same grand tradition as their ancestors did over 160 years ago. The Zoppe' Circus special engagement in Wheat Ridge runs from August 14-16, 2015 offering 7 public performances plus the Automezzi XXV Italian Exotic Car Show on Sunday, August 16th from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. to compliment the Sunday circus performances. The festival also offers a range of entertainment and attractions, including:

- Live music
- A neighborhood parade on 38th Ave.
- A fine arts show
- KidsZone with carnival rides, midway games and inflatables
- Chili cook-off
- Craft & artisan exhibits
- Nightly fireworks

The festival also provides plenty of opportunities for residents to connect through such events as a pancake breakfast, spaghetti dinner (featured on both Friday and Saturday nights), a community softball game and a chili cook-off.

One of the state's longest running celebrations, the festival pays tribute to Wheat Ridge's history as the "Carnation Capital of the World." During the 1960's, the city boasted 32 different carnation growers and sent a bouquet to the White House every Monday morning, which was displayed in the front foyer with a card stating: "With compliments to our nation's capital, Wheat Ridge Colorado, Carnation City." The Carnation Festival was created when Wheat Ridge was founded in 1969 to celebrate and honor the carnation industry's accomplishments.

"The Carnation Festival is an event that reminds residents of Wheat Ridge's agricultural roots and offers the chance to celebrate our proud traditions," said Wheat Ridge Mayor Joyce Jay.

For more information about the festival, visit www.thecarnationfestival.com.

About The City of Wheat Ridge

The City of Wheat Ridge, located west of Denver with a population of 31,000 citizens, is home to a mix of retail/commercial businesses and unique residential neighborhoods. Wheat Ridge is a vibrant community in a prime location, providing easy access to the Denver metropolitan area.

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