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Idaho Falls Rotary Club Host World Polio Day Event

Idaho Falls, ID., September 30, 2011—In honor of World Polio Day on October 24th, the Idaho Falls Rotary Club will host a community screening of the film “*The Shot Felt Round the World.*” The film tells the story of Dr. Jonas Salk, and his research team who developed the vaccine that would conquer the most-feared disease of the 20th century: polio.

The event, cosponsored by Rotary and EIRMC is free to the public, is scheduled for Monday October 24, at the Colonial Theater in Idaho Falls. The viewing will start at 7:00 p.m. with a hosted reception at 6:30 p.m. in the Carr Gallery.

The film which was produced by Pittsburgh’s Steeltown Entertainment Project, is filled with interviews with the participants including Jonas Salk, who as a boy had “prayed that he could do something good for humanity.” Following the 40 minute film Rotarians Dr. Charles Boge and Dr. Ron Lechelt will host a short Q and A session.

“I hope parents and grandparents will bring their children and grandchildren to the view the film, and see an actual iron lung” said Lane Allgood, Idaho Falls Rotary Club President. “The historical footage in the film graphically shows just what a horrifying disease polio was in the United States and still continues to be in other parts of the world”

Rotary, a humanitarian service organization with nearly 33,000 clubs in more than 200 countries, made polio eradication its top priority in 1985. As the volunteer arm and lead private sector contributor in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, Rotary has since contributed more than \$900 million, and its members have logged countless volunteer hours to help immunize more than two billion children in 122 countries.

Allgood views Rotary’s fundraising efforts as a way to fulfill the organization’s promise of a polio-free world. “Twenty years ago, we made a pledge to end polio once and for all. As we stand on the brink of victory, we will continue to do everything within our power to fulfill this promise to the children of the world.”

"The film viewing and reception is free and open to the public with Rotary asking for a "free will offering" from the audience."

About the Idaho Falls Rotary Club

The Idaho Falls Rotary Club is proud to have been serving our community, state and world since February 4, 1918. The club -- 380th of the 33,000+ -- and it's members have long been involved in nearly every charitable and non-profit activity in Idaho Falls and the region. Our membership of 165 helps us maintain a great cross-section of the community's leaders.