



CITY OF POST FALLS POLICE DEPARTMENT

1717 E Polston Ave.
Post Falls, Idaho 83854
Phone 208-773-3517
Fax 208-773-3200

Press Release

Release Date: December 20, 2011
Contact: Charlene Holbrook
Phone: (208) 773-3517
Tip Line: (208) 777-COPS (2677)

December 20, 2011 – The coordinators for Holidays & Heroes Annual Event would like to extend a Thank You and acknowledge the contributors, law enforcement agencies, and hundreds of volunteers who made the December 11th event an incredible success. Raising over \$35,000 in cash, food and in-kind donations, Holidays & Heroes was able to help 91 children and their families. This is always accomplished using no public funds. As mentioned, the giving extends to the entire family of the children selected. Police officers, firefighters, and emergency personnel pick up the child from their home in an emergency services vehicle and personally take a child shopping for their family while a “Secret Shopper” shops for the child. In addition, several large baskets of food are provided for each child and family to help with the holiday meals.

This is an area-wide project crossing stateliness and includes the following agencies: Post Falls Police Department, Kootenai County Sheriff’s Department, Coeur d’Alene Police Department, Coeur d’Alene Tribal Police, Kootenai County Fire & Rescue, Rathdrum Police Department, Spirit Lake Police Department, Idaho State Police, MedStar and Spokane County Sheriff’s Department. Hundreds of volunteers,

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firefighters, and police officers gave their time on Sunday, December 11th to help prepare lunch, wrap presents, and shop for these kids and their families!

Special thanks to Mid-Way Nissan and the Arrotta Family for their generous support of this annual program with their contribution of \$5,000. The Arotta Family's gift has allowed this program to thrive year-after-year financially. Walmart continues their gracious support each year both financially and their friendly and cheerful staff!

We are very thankful for the continued support of the Greyhound Park Event Center for the use of their facility for this event; the Trinity Lutheran Church – Women's Circle for providing each child a warm handmade quilt to take home; the Coeur d'Alene High School Key Club for providing an amazing number of "Elves" to help wrap gifts; our fabulous photographers Lisa Conradi, Kerri Thoreson and Kristie Kiley; Office Depot for wonderful printing service; WBC Entertainment and Ward Crawford as our MC and announcer; the Post Falls High School Boys Basketball Team for their strong backs and help with tear down; and no holiday event would be complete without Santa Claus!

Many individuals help support the efforts of the event both financially and with their time. As is often the case, we are unable to identify each person, but would like to send a big "thank you" to all those who join in the efforts to make this event successful year-after-year.

If you have any information, questions or comments you may contact Charlene Holbrook, Communication Director for the Post Falls Police Department at (208) 773-3517 or contact the Police Department through our website www.postfallspolice.com.

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