



PRESS RELEASE

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Mormon Meteor Makes Pit Stop in Downtown Salt Lake City
Public invited to view racing's historic car on Ab Jenkins Day

SALT LAKE CITY – Salt Lake City Mayor Ralph Becker and Salt Lake County Mayor Peter Corroon will join former Salt Lake City mayors on Wednesday, August 24, 2011, to honor and celebrate one of their own: David Abbott "Ab" Jenkins, mayor of Salt Lake City from 1940-1944 and record-setting race car driver who pioneered Utah's Bonneville Salt Flats as the "Fastest Place on Earth." The mayors will be gathering at 6 p.m. outside the Rose Wagner Theater, 138 West Broadway, to unveil Jenkins' restored racing car, the Mormon Meteor III, and proclaim August 24, 2011, as "Ab Jenkins Day."

"Ab Jenkins Day" precedes the August 26 theatrical premiere of "Boys of Bonneville: Racing on a Ribbon of Salt," a new documentary film profiling racing and the life of Jenkins, who died in 1956. The movie tells the story of an unsung American hero and self-made man who set out to single-handedly break every existing land speed and endurance record on his beloved Bonneville Salt Flats. Narrated by actor and racecar driver Patrick Dempsey, the film features pristine archival footage of Jenkins, his son Marv and their races – as well as recently shot HD interviews with a stellar list of car and racing aficionados, including Jay Leno and Col. Andy Green, the current land speed holder. The film will have a limited two-week release at area theatres throughout the valley.

When he and his Mormon Meteor retired from racing in the 1950s, Jenkins donated the world-famous racing car to the state of Utah and placed it in the State Capitol, where it was enjoyed by generations of visitors. The car has not been widely viewed by the public for over 15 years. Wednesday night's event marks the last time the Mormon Meteor will be on public display until summer 2012 when it will travel to the Utah Museum of Fine Arts exhibit "Speed: The Art of the Performance Automobile."

In addition to the Mormon Meteor, 40 GT Fords will be publicly displayed along 300 South, between West Temple and 200 West, from 6 – 8 p.m. on August 24.

For more information visit www.boysofbonneville.com. Also, you can contact Art Raymond at 801-547-2659 for access to some amazing photographs of Mayor Jenkins and the Meteor on the Salt Flats some 60 years ago chasing the land speed record.

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