



## **Idaho / E. Oregon Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation Press Release**



### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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#### **NEWS MEDIA CONTACT**

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#### **TITLE:**

### **“Providing Idaho with a Permanent Gift of Sight by means of an Idaho Edition of Monopoly Fundraiser”**

The Idaho / E. Oregon Lions Sight and Hearing (S&H) Foundation is pleased to announce that it is in the process of creating an Idaho Edition of Monopoly as a fundraiser to acquire enough funds to purchase a permanent location for its Idaho Lions Eye Bank. This will be a fully authorized and licensed version of the Parker Brothers game of Monopoly through game manufacturer Hasbro similar to the National Parks Edition.

The Idaho / E. Oregon Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation is a Non-Profit 501(C)(3) organization.

The main mission of Lions Clubs International and for all Lions Clubs is for sight and hearing conservation. Melvin Jones in Chicago, Illinois founded Lions Club International on June 7, 1917. At their convention in 1925, Helen Keller charged the Lions Clubs with the following:

***“Will you not constitute yourselves Knights of the Blind in this crusade against darkness?”***

The S&H Foundation and its Idaho Lions Eye Bank help fulfill the mission of Lions Clubs International and meets the challenge by Helen Keller. Our Idaho Lions Eye Bank was established in 1969 and has grown tremendously since that time. The Eye Bank was started to eliminate the wait list of patients awaiting cornea transplants and sight restoration surgeries. The wait list for cornea transplants in Idaho have been eliminated. We currently meet all needs for cornea transplants in Idaho and provide corneas for transplant in other US States and overseas. Last year, the Eye Bank provided corneas for 266 sight restoring transplants. Our Eye Bank receives its corneas through the generous donation of individuals through their “Gift of Sight” by having signed up for organ donations at the Idaho Donor Registry at [yesidaho.org](http://yesidaho.org),

Since 1969, the Idaho Lions Eye Bank has been in donated space in the Boise area with donated equipment to run the eye bank. In the past 10 years, the eye bank has been moved 3 times. It is now time for a permanent location with permanent equipment to ensure that this valuable service is continued in Idaho. To purchase the new facility in the Boise area and new equipment will require approximately \$200K. We are looking for any and all sponsors to help meet our

fundraising goals through sponsorship of game board property, grants, direct donations and any other type of sponsorship offered.

The Idaho Edition of Monopoly game board will have a broad spectrum of what Idaho is about. Half the “properties” will be by sponsorship by highest offers – 3 for Idaho based businesses and corporations, 3 for tourists related resorts and attractions, 3 for Idaho based associations, the 4 railroads will be for Colleges/Universities, the two utilities will be Native American Tribes, and the Monopoly money will be customized for the financial institution that provides the best financing option for the manufacture of the game board. The remainder of the board will be Idaho symbols, historical places, scenic places and historical people. The Lions Clubs International symbol will be on all the Chance spaces and Chance cards. The S&H Foundation symbol will be on the Community Chest spaces and Community Chest cards. There will be space available on the back of the game board and game box bottom for company logos for those companies that help sponsor this fund raising effort.

Boardwalk and Park Place will be up for silent auction starting on February 3, 2006 and ending on March 3, 2006. Entrance into the silent auction will require a \$25 entrance fee with the highest bid being on Boardwalk and the second highest bid on Park Place.

In addition, we are looking for commercial establishments that would be willing to resell the Idaho Edition of Monopoly as their sponsorship. The games will be available at county and state fairs starting in August 2006, through local Lions Clubs in the southern part of Idaho, and through resellers throughout the state of Idaho.

The schedule for manufacture and delivery for the Idaho Edition of Monopoly is as follows:

February 3, 2006 to March 3, 2006 - Silent Auction for Boardwalk and Park Place

March 17, 2006 – Finalize sponsorship and placement on game board

April 2006 – Pre-orders of game board taken. Pre-order price of \$27 w/ prepayment, \$30.50 w/o prepayment. Resellers will be \$27. Prices do not include shipping/handling and 5% sales tax

July 31, 2006 – End pre order phase, game boards available

August 1, 2006 – Start full retail price for Idaho Edition of Monopoly at \$35.95 plus ship and handling and 5% state sales tax

For more information on this fund raising effort, please contact:

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