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Lions Eye Bank of New Jersey honors Brandel, Polgar, LensCrafters

CLARK – The Lions Eye Bank of New Jersey has announced its 2010 Visionaries of the Year: **Al Brandel**, Lions Clubs International Foundation Chair and Past International President; **Eugene Polgar**, Lions Past District Governor and President and CEO of the Lions Eye Bank of Delaware Valley; and **LensCrafters**. They will be honored on **Wednesday, October 13**, at the Eye Bank’s Visionary of the Year banquet at Mayfair Farms in West Orange. The event begins at 6:30 p.m.

“The Lions Eye Bank of New Jersey provides a service to the community that no one else can provide,” notes Margaret Chaplin, the Eye Bank’s Executive Director. “Our Visionaries are people like Al Brandel and Gene Polgar, as well as benevolent organizations like LensCrafters, because they have done what others could not. They have stepped up and made miracles happen for those who might otherwise face blindness.”

Brandel, known for his inspirational and motivational personality, will be honored for his years of community leadership through Lions Clubs International. Polgar, a fellow Lion, will be recognized for his contributions to eye banking and his work in the communities served by the Lions Eye Bank of Delaware Valley. And, finally, LensCrafters will be recognized for its ongoing collaboration with Lions Clubs to provide low-cost and free optometric services to those in need.

The Eye Bank will also pay tribute to the late Lion **Horace Brown**, who passed away last year after many years of supporting the organization’s sight-restoring mission.

Tickets to attend the Visionary of the Year event are \$75 per person. For more information or to make a reservation, contact Cathy Coursen at (732) 382-3060, ext. 212, or ccoursen@lionseyebanknj.org.

The Lions Eye Bank of New Jersey is a charitable, not-for-profit organization dedicated to the restoration of sight. It recovers, evaluates and distributes human eye tissue for transplantation. It also supports research into the causes and cures of blinding eye conditions, promotes donation awareness through public and professional education, and provides humanitarian aid to people in need of corneal transplantation throughout the world. Visit www.lionseyebanknj.org or call (800) 653-9379 for more information.

