

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

LIONS NEWS BRIEFS

PAST PRESIDENT DEVORSS DIES

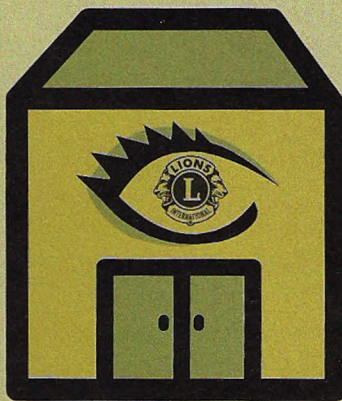
Past International President President **Claude M. DeVorss**, of Wichita, Kansas, has passed away. He was elected to the association's highest office at the 47th annual international convention in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, in July 1964. A



former mayor of Wichita, Past President DeVorss was recognized for his numerous professional, civic and Lions responsibilities. While serving as mayor of Wichita, he was elected president of the World Congress of Mayors in Italy. He also served as a member of the Leader Dog board and as a member of the board of regents of Wichita State University. A Lion since 1945, Past President DeVorss had sponsored more than 380 new Lions and belonged to the Wichita Downtown Lions Club.

EYE CLINIC OPENS IN NEW ORLEANS

Lions made possible the first new eye clinic to aid the underserved in post-Katrina New Orleans. The Lions Clubs International-**LSU Eye Clinic** was inaugurated in December with Past President Jimmy Ross in attendance. Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) provided \$500,000 to the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center's Department of Ophthalmology to establish the clinic. "For the first time since Hurricane Katrina, there is a facility devoted specifically to the provision of eye care for people in the greater New Orleans area who do not have health



insurance, thanks to this generous gift from LCIF," said Dr. Bruce A. Barron of the Department of Ophthalmology of LSU. "This facility has state-of-the-art equipment that allows diagnosis and treatment of devastating eye conditions. The patients have been through a lot of stress since the hurricane, and this clinic has relieved their anxiety about eye care."

LCIF DEEPENSTIES WITH EUROPE

The European Union's "Development Days" brings together humanitarian and development leaders, and Past International Director **Philippe Gerondal of Belgium** attended the meeting in November in Strasbourg, France, as the LCIF



representative to the EU. European and African heads of state discussed the world's development challenges and weighed how governments and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) can partner together better. Gerondal discussed LCIF's programs in youth education, public health, blindness prevention and disaster relief. The world's biggest donor of development aid, the EU seeks responsible NGO partners such as Lions. "Now more than ever, we as Lions need to further develop ties with the EU," says Gerondal. "They know Lions are true humanitarians and volunteers with direct contacts in our communities and countries worldwide."