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Lions member makes donation box for glasses, hearing aids

**Community asked to make donations to
to help underprivileged around world**

Bob Brown, a Hoopeston Lions Club member for over 45 years, has created a community drop box where people can recycle old eyeglasses and hearing aids.

The purpose of this project is to have a convenient location where citizens can drop used glasses and hearing aids so that they can be recycled. The result is underprivileged children and adults around the world, can put the old glasses and hearing aids to work for them.

Through his membership in the Hoopeston Lions Club, Brown has helped with various projects such as this for years. Lions Clubs International has collected glasses for their Sight Conservation program for over 80 years.

When Brown identified there was a need for an easy way for citizens to donate their old glasses, he began working with the club to see if he could come up with a plan. He talked with several employees of the Hoopeston Post Office who were able to help him make his goal a reality. Postmaster Connie Drake, as well as employees Steve Unger and Rita Carter all helped in getting a retired post office box donated to the club. Brown then sanded, refinished and painted the box. Sign painter Danny Brown donated his services to label the box. Once the drop box was prepared, Brown worked with the Chittick Family Eye Care to see if they would provide the location for the box. They graciously agreed to have it installed in their parking lot.

Today the box is ready for citizens to make a quick stop and drop off their old eyeglasses and/or hearing aids. It is as simple as mailing a letter. According to



Photo contributed

Bob Brown at eyeglass and hearing aid donation box.

Brown, "It seems to be going quite well so far. Lion, John Reed, is our pick up man who collects the donations which are boxed and sent to Lions Clubs International where they are recycled and given to people in need."

You can help. Check around your home for all glasses or hearing aids no longer being used. Simply wrap them up so they will not break and drop them in the box in the parking lot of Chittick Family Eye Care, 851 East Orange, Hoopeston, Illinois. (Route 9/just east of Hoopeston Hospital.) This way you will be helping those who could function much better with glasses or hearing aids.

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