



**NEWS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**August is Cataract Awareness Month**

August 4, 2008...St. Louis, MO - Raising cataract awareness through education and outreach programs takes on special significance during August, National Cataract Awareness Month in the United States for Clarkson Eyecare.

A cataract is a cloudy area on the eye's lens that can cause vision problems. The lens is the part of the eye that helps focus light on the retina, allowing visual images to reach the brain. A clear lens helps produce sharp visual images. When a cataract forms, less light reaches the retina and vision can become dull and blurry.

Symptoms of cataracts in the early phases of development may not be very noticeable. As time progresses, vision gradually worsens over time. Symptoms include cloudy vision, sensitivity to light, poor night vision, colors that appear faded, frequent prescription changes, double vision, and temporary improvement in near vision. Detection can be made during an annual eye exam and is frequent in more than half of Americans ages 65 and over.

"The best way to protect your sight from cataracts is to have annual eye exams," says Dr. James Wachter, clinical director of Clarkson Eyecare.

Founded in 1979 by Dr. Lawrence Jehling, Clarkson Eyecare currently offers comprehensive medical eye care services at 38 metro St. Louis locations: 79 Crossing-St. Peters, 141 and Olive, Arnold, Ballwin, Brentwood, Chesterfield, Chesterfield Valley, Creve Coeur, Ellisville, Eureka, Fenton, Festus, Florissant Dunn Rd., Florissant Hwy 67, Harvester, High Ridge, House Springs, Kirkwood, Maplewood, Mid Rivers, O'Fallon-North, O'Fallon-South, Pacific, Rock Hill, South County, Town & Country, Troy, Union, Warrenton, Washington, Webster Groves, Wentzville, Wildwood, MO, Belleville, Columbia, Edwardsville, Fairview Heights and Shiloh, IL, and LASIK Surgery Center in Chesterfield Valley and Fairview Heights. Go to [www.ClarksonEyecare.com](http://www.ClarksonEyecare.com) or call 888-EYECARE for more information.

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