Congressional Medal of Honor Recipients Memorialized in National Exhibit Commissioned by Simon Property Group

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Photographic Exhibit Inspired By Photographer Tom Casalini's Ordinary Heroes Book

Simon Property Group (NYSE: SPG), the nation's largest owner and manager of shopping malls, has created an original, multi-faceted program entitled "Ordinary Heroes." This national program will celebrate the extraordinary accomplishments of Congressional Medal of Honor recipients through a traveling photographic exhibit, commissioned by Simon Property Group and created by award-winning photographer Tom Casalini, and through a national essay contest.

The museum-quality exhibit is a three-dimensional interactive display featuring images and written excerpts that bring to life the experiences of 48 Congressional Medal of Honor recipients chronicled in the photographic essay book, Ordinary Heroes, conceived, photographed and published by Casalini. The Congressional Medal of Honor is the highest award for valor in action against an enemy force that can be bestowed upon an individual serving in the Armed Services of the United States.

The exhibit will open on Independence Day, July 4, 2002 at Lenox Square Mall in Atlanta, Ga., travel to nine Simon malls across the country, stopping for a ten-day period at each mall and conclude with the Indianapolis Veteran's Day celebration on November 11, 2002. On each stop of the tour, community members will have the opportunity to meet one of the Congressional Medal of Honor recipients and Casalini. The exhibit will be in a centrally located area within each mall, inviting shoppers and community members to come together to experience this original work.

"Community involvement is an important cornerstone to Simon's philosophy. By commissioning this exhibit, we want to showcase these seemingly ordinary individuals who accomplished extraordinary feats and gave of themselves to defend our country," said John Neutzling, executive vice president of property management, Simon Property Group. "We hope this exhibit will touch our customers and our communities and inspire them to recognize the 'ordinary heroes' in their own lives."

To find local "Ordinary Heroes," Simon Property Group will sponsor a national essay competition. Shoppers are eligible to nominate the people in their lives who have served as an inspiration or a role model. Nomination forms will be available at participating Simon malls at the Simom Marketplace (customer service center). A list of participating Simon malls is available at www.shopsimon.com.

From July 2, 2002 through November 11, 2002, shoppers can submit their nominations with a brief essay to a designated P.O. Box. Participating Simon malls will each choose a local winner who will receive a $100 Simon mall gift certificate. A national winner, which will be chosen by a panel of judges from the pool of local winners, will be announced at the end of November. The national winner will receive a $1,000 Simon mall gift certificate. Winning essays will be posted to www.shopsimon.com.

"Words cannot describe what an amazing labor of love this book was for me," said award-winning photographer and exhibit creator, Tom Casalini. "To work with Simon Property Group and showcase Ordinary Heroes nationwide is not only an honor for me but also an honor for all of the people this exhibit will touch and who will now know the sacrifice the members of our armed forces made to ensure that Americans can enjoy our many freedoms."

Shoppers who are interested in purchasing a copy of the Ordinary Heroes can do so at participating Simon malls throughout the duration of the program. The cost of the book is $20.

About the Congressional Medal of Honor

The Congressional Medal of Honor is the highest award for valor in action against an enemy force that can be bestowed upon an individual serving in the Armed Services of the United States. The award is generally presented to its recipient by the President of the United States of America in the name of Congress. Introduced into legislation in 1861 the Medal of Honor bill was signed into law by President Lincoln in 1862.

About Tom Casalini

Tom Casalini is a nationally recognized photographer of 30 years. His work has become well known in the commercial advertising field where he has created images for national clients such as Chevrolet Cars & Trucks, McDonalds, Timex, Eli Lilly, John Deere, Life Magazine, Fannie Mae Mortgage and Schaffer Pens Worldwide, among others. Casalini created and published Ordinary Heroes, a photographic tribute about the recipients of the nation's highest honor for valor -- The Congressional Medal of Honor. Casalini's work consistently receives notable awards such as "The One Show," "Print," "Clips" and "Communication Arts." Casalini resides in Carmel, Indiana, an Indianapolis suburb.

About Simon Property Group

Simon Property Group, Inc. (NYSE: SPG), headquartered in Indianapolis, Indiana, is a real estate investment trust engaged in the ownership and management of income-producing properties, primarily regional malls and community shopping centers. Through its subsidiary partnerships, it currently owns or has an interest in 251 properties containing an aggregate of 187 million square feet of gross leasable area in 36 states, as well as eight assets in Europe and Canada. Additional Simon Property Group information is available at www.shopsimon.com.
SOURCE Simon Property Group, Inc.

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