



The Grand Rapids Lions Club Proudly Presents

# blind dinner date

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David & Leslie Hooker  
David & Melissa LaGrand  
Mark & Pati Sheldon

## Co-Chairs

Robert Lalley  
Mark Oberlin

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**YOUR NAME  
HERE**

**Tom Sullivan**

Sponsored by Allergan

Dear Friend,

If you can read this letter, consider yourself fortunate. More and more adults, and children, are becoming limited by their vision loss. That is, until now.

The Grand Rapids Lions Club is proud to announce the 5th annual **Blind Dinner Date**. Your physical and *fiscal* participation will give adults and children living with severe vision loss independence and opportunities that would otherwise be limiting. All money raised will benefit local residents through the following non-profit service providers:

- Cherry Street Vision Clinic
- Ken-o-Sha Early Vision program
- Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired
- Welcome Homes

This uplifting and inspiring gala event will be held on Thursday, March 11, 2010 at the Grand Rapids Hilton. Your unforgettable evening begins with drinks, dinner and sparkling conversation, only to be capped off with more inspirational thoughts from actor, singer, author and producer Tom Sullivan. We will also be granting recognition awards to deserving members of the vision community.

Help us make this event a **huge** success! Please spend a moment reviewing the various sponsorship and participation levels on the attached sheet. For more information, please contact co-chairs Rob Lalley at 616-459-6117 or Mark Oberlin at 616- 974-3003.

As an eye care professional this is the "must attend" event of the year. Thank you for sharing our vision of the future!

Sincerely,

## Tom Sullivan

Tom Sullivan, known to many as an actor, singer, entertainer, author, and producer, lives and works by "Sullivan's Rules." Blind since birth, Tom found himself fenced in his back yard, but he refused to be fenced in by his blindness. "Sullivan's Rules" were invented by Tom and his father, Porky Sullivan, so he could play baseball with the neighborhood boys without the benefit of seeing the ball.



One of Sullivan's first rules is that "Any negative can be turned into positive." The "inconvenience" of being blind has never kept Tom Sullivan from competing in a world where he realized that to be equal, for him, meant that he must be better. Tom is an excellent golfer: "I've never seen a water hazard. I always have an open shot to the green." He's an avid snow skier and a marathon runner, and has recently been inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in Stillwater, Oklahoma.

In 1975, Tom's autobiography, *If You Could See What I Hear*, is an inspirational story of Tom's childhood in Boston, his neighborhood friends and their antics, and the lessons and resulting wisdom from his family experiences

In his latest title *Adventures in Darkness*, Tom takes readers through his monumental eleventh summer. This book is a hair-raising, heart-warming experience that culminates in Tom's determination to realize his dreams of a "normal" life.

As a special correspondent for ABC's *Good Morning America*, Tom has become a regular morning fixture in millions of American homes.

Over the years he's made a number of guest starring appearances in shows such as *Designing Women*, *Highway To Heaven*, *Fame*, *M.A.S.H.*, *Mork & Mindy*, and *WKRP In Cincinnati*. Tom has also been nominated twice for Emmy Awards.

It is only fitting that with his wealth of experience and commitment he would become one of the most sought after motivational speakers on the circuit. Tom has communicated his tailored message of hope and possibility to over 1,000 corporations and universities. What he gives of himself is returned in abundance by his audiences with responses like, "Your wit and wisdom and, most of all, your high spiritual consciousness reached out and touched all of us in a most beautiful and meaningful way."

[www.sullivanSpeaks.com](http://www.sullivanSpeaks.com)

Thursday, March 11, 2010 \* Hilton Hotel \* The Grand Rapids Lions Club



# *blind*

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## *dinner date*

### More about what we do...

The **Grand Rapids Lions Club** has been helping the greater Grand Rapids area since 1919. As part of Lions Clubs International, the largest service organization in the world with 1.4 million members, we work to prevent vision loss and provide resources for those who live with impaired vision. With extended life spans, macular degeneration, cataracts, glaucoma, and other vision threatening diseases affect more and more of our friends in the community. Our philosophy is put 100% of the proceeds of our fundraisers into charitable activity.

The **Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired** advances the independence of people who are blind or visually impaired and helps prevent vision loss through services and education. For over 95 years, we have been offering vision rehabilitation services throughout West Michigan. We assist people of all ages who are visually impaired. With our help, our clients develop skills that allow them to live life with dignity and independence.

### **ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND & VISUALLY IMPAIRED**

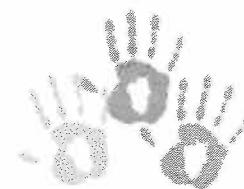


QuickTime™ and a  
TIFF (Uncompressed) decompressor  
are needed to see this picture.

**Cherry Street Health Services** operates 13 health centers in the Grand Rapids area and is largest provider of comprehensive eye care for uninsured and low-income individuals in West Michigan. Recently, we expanded our Vision C

and established a Pediatric Vision Clinic where children, birth through five years of age, are seen. These changes allow us to help even more people in the community.

**Ken-O-Sha's Center Program** helps children from birth through six years of age who may benefit from special education services and who live within the Kent Intermediate School District. Our services enhance the developmental growth of each preschooler, and we work with families to help them understand their child's current and future needs. Since 1966, we have been working to insure that our preschoolers receive services that let them reach their full potential.



### **Ken-O-Sha Center**

### **Welcome Homes**

*residential services for the visually impaired*

**Welcome Homes Residential Services** The premier provider of training and educational programs, services, and resources to residential communities to improve the quality of life for the visually impaired. Welcome Homes stands

committed to assist and enable individuals with vision loss maintain their independence and remain active and involved in their community. Providing assessments, training and support for residents, staff and caregivers. Offering services and support to the visually impaired and blind since 1952.



# *blind*

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## *dinner date*

**Visionary/Title Sponsor                    \$9,000.00**

Program listing and verbal mention  
Recognized as event sponsor on the Grand Rapids Lions Club website  
Title sponsor signage at the event  
Podium recognition at news conference  
News release announcing company as title sponsor  
Mention in other news releases  
Additional recognition at sponsors request  
Highlight company at Grand Rapids Lions meeting as a guest speaker and/or with a table top display  
One table of eight proudly recognizing the company as a sponsor

**20/20 Sponsor                                    \$5,000.00**

Program listing and verbal mention  
Recognized as event sponsor on the Grand Rapids Lions Club website  
Mentions in news releases  
Highlight company at Grand Rapids Lions meeting as a guest speaker and/or with a table top display  
One table of eight proudly recognizing the company as a sponsor

**Large Print Sponsor                            \$3,000.00**

Program listing  
Mentions in news releases  
Highlight company at Grand Rapids Lions meeting as a guest speaker and /or with a table top display  
One table of eight proudly recognizing the company as a sponsor

**High Contrast Sponsor                        \$1,000.00**

Program listing  
One table of eight proudly recognizing the company as a sponsor

**Individual Tickets                              \$75.00**

# LARGE SPONSOR



*blind*  
**dinner date**

## Sponsorship Form

\_\_\_\_ **Individual Dinner Ticket(s)** x \$75.00 \$\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ **Visionary Sponsor** \$9,000      \_\_\_\_ **20/20 Sponsor** \$5,000 \$\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ **Large Print Sponsor** \$3,000      \_\_\_\_ **High Contrast Sponsor** \$1,000 \$\_\_\_\_\_

Total: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please Check One) Check Enclosed \_\_\_\_ Invoice Please \_\_\_\_  
MasterCard \_\_\_\_; VISA \_\_\_\_; AmEx \_\_\_\_; Discovery Card \_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_; Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

### Table Guests

- |          |          |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 5. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 8. _____ |

Please make checks payable to the **Grand Rapids Lions Club**  
and return with form via mail to: ABVI - 456 Cherry Street, SE - Grand Rapids - MI - 49503  
Thank you for supporting Blind Dinner Date.  
Please call Rick Stevens with any questions 616.458.1187  
Fax 616.458.7113





# SAVE THE DATE

# *blind*

*dinner date*

Thursday March 11th, 2010

6:00 PM Cocktails

7:00 PM Dinner

The Grand Rapids Hilton

Guest Speaker: Tom Sullivan

The Grand Rapids Lions Club is proud to announce the 5th annual **Blind Dinner Date**. Your unforgettable evening begins with drinks, dinner and sparkling conversation, only to be capped off with more inspirational thoughts from Emmy Award Nominee Tom Sullivan.

## Tom Sullivan

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For more information, please contact :

Rob Lalley 616.459.6117

Mark Oberlin 616.974.3003

**RAYMOND JAMES**  
& ASSOCIATES, INC.  
GRAND RAPIDS  
6000 NEW YORK STREET, EASTWATER SQUARE



Mercantile Bank

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The Grand Rapids Lions Club

456 Cherry St SE,

Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503

616.458.1187 or 800.466.8084