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“Blind” Tug-A-Jet Challenge Set for Take-off At Republic Airport in Farmingdale

May 15 Event Benefits Foundation for Sight & Sound

Teams comprised of three men and three women will compete to see who can pull a 15,000-pound Lear jet 100 feet in the fastest time while blindfolded at Republic Airport in Farmingdale. The fifth annual “Blind” Tug-A-Jet Challenge, benefiting the Smithtown-based Foundation for Sight and Sound, is set to take-off at noon on Sunday, May 15, outside the Air East Airways hangar.

Competitors will include teams representing presenting sponsor North Fork Bank, defending champions 84 Lumber (who clocked in at 19.26 seconds in 2004), A.G. Edwards, Broadview Networks, ExecuLeaders, Grassi & Co., Hauppauge Industrial Association, Long Island Commercial Bank, New Millennium Capital, Serino Building Industries, Inc, Smithtown Nissan and Special Olympics.

Besides pulling a jet, the teams will compete in a multi-challenge “sensory obstacle course.” Blindfolded competitors will take a wild ride on a tricycle, milk a wooden cow, bat beeper balls, walk around cones with a cane and engage in wheelchair basketball.

The family-friendly, charitable event, for which admission is \$10, also will include an indoor midway featuring games of challenge, a roving magician, face painting, a gyro ride and a Spiderman Bounce. Hamburgers, hot dogs, barbecued ribs and chicken; Italian specialties; gourmet wraps, soups and salads; popcorn, cotton candy, beverages and desserts will be available for purchase.

The Foundation for Sight & Sound seeks to enhance the quality of life for individuals with visual and hearing impairments. More information is available online at www.mitchsdream.org.

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