

From: Christopher J. Davies [mailto:cdavies@winecountrynetwork.com]
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To: Mitch Shapiro
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The Gift Of Hearing
Mitch Shapiro and The Foundation For Sight & Sound

Mitch Shapiro comes from a legendary Long Island catering & restaurant legacy. His family ran the world-famous Swan Club overlooking Roslyn Harbor.

Mitch and his older sister are afflicted by Usher Syndrome, a rare condition characterized by hearing loss or deafness and progressive vision loss. Mitch is legally blind and requires the help of a guide dog to get around. While he was progressively becoming deaf, he has managed to greatly improve his hearing with colloquial implants.

A positive and fun loving individual, Mitch has devoted his time to raising money an awareness for finding a cure and helping individuals improve their quality of life.

As The CEO & Co-Founder of The Foundation For Sight & Sound, Mitch has produced numerous fundraisers, such as Long Island's "Blind Wine Gala", a popular annual wine tasting & network event, "The Tug-a-Jet" which involves corporate sponsors and their employees pulling a jet on airport runway and a new event called "Over The Edge" that involves Mitch actually propelling down a 6 or 12 story building!

This past spring Mitch and his girlfriend Donna purchased a bicycle built for two and participated in the 42 mile, 5 borough bike tour in New York City. This past summer, Mitch and Donna rode their bike 100 miles to Montauk, Long Island.

Mitch is also an accomplished motivational speaker who travels nationally with his guide dog. For this year's Denver International Wine Festival he will be flying by himself to Denver on a red-eye flight from New York.

A portion of the ticket proceeds and 100% of all silent and live auctions at the Denver International Wine Festival benefit the Foundation For Sight & Sounds, Help America Hear Program (HAHP). Established in 2009, HAHP has fitted 190 disadvantaged people in the US with hearing aids, 41 Colorado residents have receive hearing aids. On Wednesday November 2, 2011, Mitch plans a Day Of Giving Hearing Aid Mission. His organization will be fitting 18 Colorado residents with hearing aids at the Lakewood Hearing and Speech Center. <www.FOUNDATIONFORSIGHTANDSOUND.ORG>