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## **Countryside Cone & Coney partners with Michigan Eye-Bank**

FENWICK – The Michigan Eye-Bank has announced that Countryside Cone & Coney in Fenwick has been welcomed as its newest Community Partner.

The Eye-Bank's Community Partner program allows businesses from around the state to team up with the Eye-Bank in support of eye, organ and tissue donation and the Michigan Organ Donor Registry. For Rick Strubel, the owner of Countryside Cone & Coney and a member of the Greenville Lions Club, partnering with the Eye-Bank to promote the Donor Registry seemed like a natural fit. Both he and his wife are long-time proponents of donation.

"Most people don't know that signing the back of their driver's license isn't enough," explains Alison Claerhout, the Eye-Bank's Community Engagement Coordinator. "If you don't have a red 'DONOR' heart sticker on your license or state I.D., you're not on the new, computerized, confidential Registry."

As a Community Partner, Countryside Cone & Coney is allowing the Greenville Lions Club to continue its outstanding record of community service by setting up Michigan Eye-Bank Donate Life Stations twice a month at the restaurant. These stations feature a laptop computer that enables volunteers to sign people up on the Donor Registry via the Internet. Strubel is promoting the Donor Registry on the sign out front, and is allowing the Eye-Bank to give coupons good for 10 percent off an order at Countryside Cone & Coney to those who join the Donor Registry at a Donate Life Station in the Greenville area.

"Rick has been wonderful to work with," says Claerhout. "He has really gone above and beyond, because he believes so strongly in helping others through organ, tissue and eye donation."

Countryside Cone & Coney is located at 10155 South Sheridan Road, in Fenwick. The phone number is (989) 248-3288.

Other businesses and community groups interested in becoming Michigan Eye-Bank Community Partners should contact Alison Claerhout at (734) 887-2304 or [aclaerhout@michiganeyebank.org](mailto:aclaerhout@michiganeyebank.org), or visit [www.michiganeyebank.org](http://www.michiganeyebank.org) for more information.

The Michigan Eye-Bank, a division of Midwest Eye-Banks, is a charitable, not-for-profit organization dedicated to the restoration of sight. It recovers, evaluates and distributes human eye tissue for transplantation. It also supports research into the causes and cures of blinding eye conditions, promotes donation awareness through public and professional education, and provides humanitarian aid to people in need of corneal transplantation throughout the world. For more information, visit the Michigan Eye-Bank online at [www.michiganeyebank.org](http://www.michiganeyebank.org) or call (800) 247-7250.

