Peconic Landing announces winners of 6th Annual Veterans Day Wedding Giveback

GREENPORT, N.Y., May 13, 2016 — Peconic Landing and Brecknock Hall are honored to announce the winners of the 6th Annual Veterans Day Wedding Giveback.

Boatswain Mate First Class Patrick Rogers of the United States Coast Guard and his fiancée, Jessica Peters of Sayville, have been selected as the winning couple. Patrick Rogers, of Manorville, is currently serving aboard the Cutter KEY LARGO, out of Gloucester, MA.

Patrick has served in the United States Coast Guard for the past 13 years and has received more than 15 honors and awards throughout his military career, including a Commendation for his part in rescue and recovery efforts during the 2009 Hudson River plane crash.

His commanding officer, LT David W. Stutt, said, “Patrick is always willing to go above and beyond general expectations and assume new roles and duties. His technical expertise, positive attitude, and exceptional work ethic are essential to the success of KEY LARGO and her missions.”

Patrick and Jessica began dating in 2011 after meeting at a Long Island restaurant where Jessica had been working at the time. Jessica is now a producer with Telecare. The couple was engaged in March atop a snow covered mountain during a skiing trip.

“We’re grateful for the opportunity and so thrilled that we are actually going to be getting married on Long Island. It’s amazing that we have this opportunity and that there are so many supporters who want to give back to veterans,” said Patrick. “It can be very stressful being in the military and being separated from your loved one. Now we have something amazing to look forward to.”
Jessica said, “winning this, to me, is mostly due to Patrick’s efforts in his career. He has been so dedicated to his career for so long and winning this wedding is just a display of all of his hard work.”

“I am proud to be his fiancée and his future wife, and I think his family and my family are going to be forever grateful,” she said.

Sponsored by Peconic Landing, the annual Veterans Wedding Day Giveback began in 2011 as an opportunity to thank our military personnel and recognize them for their service. Now in its sixth year, it has become a community affair, made possible through sponsorship and contributions from local businesses and organizations who donate the time, talents and services that help to make the dream day a reality.

“We are honored to be able to provide Patrick and Jessica with this special day,” said Robert J. Syron, President and CEO of Peconic Landing. “This giveback would not be possible without the support of our many sponsors and business partners.”

The couple was surprised with the good news following an interview with the voting committee on May 12.

The winning couple was chosen by a panel of Peconic Landing members with military ties, who judged the contest based on the number of years served, special military honors, and each individual couple’s personal love story. Valerie Tirelli-Hallock, Brecknock Hall Events Coordinator, oversees the sponsorship and application process as well as coordination of vendors and event.

This year’s Committee includes Denis Bischoff, Keven Bridge, Jan Harting-McChesney, Stan Noble, and Vivian Noble, all residents of Peconic Landing. The committee reviewed five applications and unanimously selected Patrick Rogers as the recipient of the 2016 Veteran’s Giveback Wedding.

"After meeting with Patrick and Jessica, it is our belief that these two young people exemplify the values the residents of Peconic Landing wish to reward. Patrick and Jessica are Long Islanders who give back to the community (locally and nationally), support one another, and work to improve the quality of life wherever they find themselves,” said Jan Harting-McChesney. “We are proud to play a part in the beginning of their life together as man and wife. We wish them a lifetime of adventure together, joy in one another, and continual support of one another.”

The wedding will take place Sunday, November 13, in celebration of Veterans Day weekend and will accommodate up to 80 guests.

North & South Fork Weddings and Times/Review Media Group have signed on as the media sponsor of the event with additional vendors and sponsors still being sought out. Those wishing to contribute can contact Valerie Tirelli, Brecknock Sales & Events Coordinator at info@brecknockhall.com.

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Peconic Landing is an innovative, not-for-profit CCAC-CARF-accredited continuing care retirement community (CCRC) located on the waterfront in Greenport, N.Y., on the North Fork of Long Island. Among its long list of achievements, Peconic Landing is the only equity-based LifeCare community in the state of New York. It is a member of LeadingAge and LeadingAge New York and embraces a healthy, active lifestyle infused with a sense of exploration, creativity and generosity of spirit.