

For immediate release:

Big Time Comic Helps Hometown Veterans

May 20, 2014, Brewster, NY. National headlining comedian PJ Walsh has his small town roots in Brewster, NY, yet he keeps coming home to make a difference for local veterans and their families. Mark your calendars: This June 27th, Friday 7:30pm, PJ Walsh performs his crowd-pleasing stand-up comedy at Brewster High School's Performing Arts Center to honor, benefit, and bring attention to what local veterans and organizations are up to as they take care of their own.

Brewster VFW Post #672 celebrates their 75th Anniversary Jubilee this coming September and to honor the accomplishments of, and bring attention to, local Brewster veterans helping local veterans and their families for 75 years, H. G. Fairfield Arts presents the launch of their 4th Courage Continues At Home Comedy Tour with PJ Walsh to benefit three veterans projects with Brewster roots: Brewster VFW Post #672, Semper Fi Odyssey, and BHS' Semper Fi Students.

Ed Todd (SGT. 20th Infantry, PA ARNG RET) Commander of Brewster VFW Post #672 tells us: "Join us for a hilarious night out with PJ Walsh. It is important to keep the Post's Relief Fund healthy for cases of either personal tragedies or emergencies that our veterans and their families face. We are here to help veterans; it's what we do. *'The VFW – nobody does more for veterans.'* If you are a veteran who lives in the Town of Southeast or the Village of Brewster and who has served overseas in wartime, or in conflicts or in hostile fire zones, bring your DD214 to our table at the June 27th PJ Walsh Comedy Show and join the VFW. Remember, you earned it."

June 27th Comedy Show with PJ Walsh also benefits another Brewster High School graduate's project: (Lt. Col. USMC RET) John Folchetti (USMC) is a Team Leader with the unique program "Semper Fi Odyssey." Mr. Folchetti explains: "[Last July] I returned from a week at the Semper Fi Odyssey, run by MGen Tom Jones USMC (Ret). ... General Jones runs this camp as a transition process for wounded Marines, Sailors and Soldiers who are nearing discharge from the Wounded Warrior Regiments, both east & west coast. It is a phenomenal process. 35 [angry] PTSD/TBI/Amputee Marines, who want to stay in and continue to be Marines, but can't, showed up on Monday. You name it, they had it: prescription pill abuse, alcoholism, a combination of both, marital issues, suicide attempts, etc. By Friday each of them had written both a personal & a professional mission statement that were tied to the Preamble of the Constitution and had identified a dream they wanted to pursue, and had written a full mission statement, complete with identification of obstacles & support to overcome those obstacles, on how they would accomplish their dream. All underwent a series of mock employment interviews from active professionals in industry, construction, IT, medical, and manufacturing fields. The reviews these professionals gave of the youngsters they interviewed Friday were glowing. The General typically runs 7 of these weeklong events every year [which are free to the participants from any branch of the military and funded mainly through the Semper Fi Fund]. I have never seen anything like it. There is not another program like it in this country." Your attendance is

encouraged to support such an extraordinary program helping our wounded veterans re-enter civilian life successfully.

The third group to benefit from the talents of PJ Walsh is PJ's alma mater's, Brewster High School's, Semper Fi Students. Advisor Rob Gallacher (BHS History teacher) tells us "Semper Fi Students was created to support our active duty troops and veterans. This active group sends care packages overseas & locally, and has raised funds for "Wounded Warriors Project," "Help our Military Heroes," and "Tunnel to Towers." Students volunteer with local VFWs and help individual elder veterans with yard and home improvement projects. We help with the "Bob Palmer Project" placing flags for every Memorial Day at Brewster veterans' graves in 10 or 11 cemeteries. And these are only a few things Semper Fi Students get involved with. Please come to the comedy show to support our local men and women in the military and to support their families."

H. G. Fairfield Arts is proud to launch Courage Continues at Home IV Comedy Tour with PJ Walsh Friday June 27th 7:30pm at Brewster High School's Performing Arts Center to benefit programs for veterans and their families with Brewster roots. The national veterans suicide prevention run "Riding for Our Lives" with the U.S. Military Vets Motorcycle Club NY4 will also launch at this community celebration of veterans. For more information call 845-363-1559, email office@HGFairfieldArts.org, or go online to www.HGFairfieldArts.org or to their Facebook pages. \$20 tickets will be available online at www.brownpapertickets.com and at the door.

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