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**PECONIC LANDING PRESENTS THE 7<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
VETERANS DAY WEDDING GIVEBACK REVEAL – 2017**

GREENPORT, N.Y., May 1, 2017 — Peconic Landing and Brecknock Hall are honored to announce the winners of the 7th Annual Veterans Day Wedding Giveback.

U.S. Navy Lt. junior grade John Dunne (age 25) and his fiancée Katie Anthony (age 27) have been named this year's winning couple. John, originally of Southold is currently serving as a U.S. Navy MH-60S helicopter pilot stationed in Norfolk, Va. The couple was notified during a surprise reveal Monday morning. (Video highlights at: <https://youtu.be/PG8tCqADV4>)

John is a graduate of Southold High School and SUNY/Maritime College who has committed to ten years of Navy service but plans on making it his career. He was awarded the National Defense Service Medal and was a member of the Southold NJROTC. He received a four-year Navy scholarship to SUNY Maritime College where he went on to become Battalion Commander of the college's NROTC Unit.

Katie, of Cantonment, FL, is a graduate of Florida State University with a degree in Psychology who currently works for the Navy Federal Credit Union at their Corporate Operations Center. Katie hopes to one-day assist veterans living with post-traumatic stress disorder.

John's Commanding Officer, R. T. Keys said, "[John] continues to strive every day to be the best Naval Officer and professional Naval Aviator he can be, as well as being an integral part of the outstanding team mentality that our squadron prides itself on. I believe his character, steadfast and unwavering dedication to duty, service, and country, as well as his deep roots of making positive impacts on the local community make LTJG Dunne an outstanding candidate for your Veterans Day Wedding Giveback."

John and Katie were engaged January 1, 2017, after meeting in Pensacola, FL where John was assigned for training to become a Naval Aviator. The couple currently resides in Norfolk, VA with Katie's four-year-old son Maddox.

"Katie and I are so incredibly thankful and blessed at this opportunity we have been given. This allows us to start our lives together with an amazing wedding surrounded by even better people," John said. "We are now able to have the wedding of our dreams and with the unpredictability of

deployments and military life in general, we are now able to look forward to getting married in a beautiful venue and are so excited to have the time of our lives.”

Katie said, “John and I want to thank you from the bottom of our hearts. We cannot begin to explain how thankful we are for your generosity and compassion. It is truly an incredible thing you all have done for us. We are so excited for this wedding and all of the amazing donations and hard work by the donors that will make our special day absolutely perfect.”

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 seventh 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.

“Peconic Landing would like to thank all of the event sponsors who dedicate their efforts to this worthwhile cause. This giveback would not be possible without your support,” said Robert J. Syron, President and CEO of Peconic Landing. “This is a special project to be a part of. We are honored to help provide John and Katie with their dream day, and wish them a future of happiness together.”

The couple was surprised with the good news during a web-conferencing interview with the voting committee on May 1. John’s parents, Ed and Donna Dunne, were in attendance to help with the surprise.

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, Brecknock Hall Events Coordinator, oversees the sponsorship and application process as well as coordination of vendors and the event.

This year’s committee includes Ted Webb, chairman of the Brecknock Hall Foundation, as well as Peconic Landing members Stanley and Vivian Noble, Jan Harting-McChesney, and Denis and Patricia Bischoff. Peconic Landing received eight applications from highly qualified candidates, narrowing it down to the top three and eventually a winner throughout the interview process.

The wedding will take place on Sunday, November 12 – in celebration of Veteran’s Day Weekend – at Brecknock Hall, an 18th Century Italianate mansion, now a not-for-profit historic landmark used as an event venue and community hub. Donations will accommodate up to 80 guests.

Vendors who have committed to the 7th Annual Veterans Day Wedding Giveback so far include: A Flippin Good Time, Allison G. Pressler Professional Skin Care, Anchor & Lace Photography, Beautiful by Dina, Blue Duck Bakery, Christopher Michael Catering, East End Events Catering, Fire Monkey Hair Design, Greenport Harbor Brewing Co., Greenporter Hotel, Ivy League Flowers, Councilwoman Jill Doherty, Kim Jon Designs, Lieb Vineyards, Macari Vineyards, Make Some Noise DJ's, Moments In Time Floral Design, Moriches Main Street Flowers, North Fork Bridal Shoppe, North Fork Chocolate Company and the Southold-Mattituck-Greenport NJROTC.

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