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Golf/Tennis Classic to Benefit Wounded Soldier

Brendan Marrocco Road to Recovery Trust event will aid Staten Island soldier

NAVESINK, NJ - On Monday, May 23, 2011, volunteers will hold the **Brendan Marrocco Road to Recovery Golf/Tennis Classic** at the Navesink Country Club, Middletown, NJ. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Brendan Marrocco Road to Recovery Trust, which was established to provide financial assistance to Army Private Brendan Marrocco who lost both arms and both legs in a 2009 roadside bombing in Iraq.

Brendan is the first quadriplegic amputee to survive his wounds, and to the amazement of everyone but himself, he is recovering and learning to walk with prosthetics. His road to recovery will be long, but not nearly as boundless as Brendan's courageous and uncompromising will to survive.

On hand to lend their support will be boxing great Gerry Cooney, as well The Classic Rock Station Q104.3 on-air personalities Ken Dashow and Ian O'Malley. Other celebrity guests may be added.

The event will feature a buffet lunch, golf with shotgun start, tennis tournament, cocktail reception and awards dinner at one of the Northeast's most exclusive private clubs. The event is sponsored by the FealGood Foundation, a non-profit group that assists ailing 9/11 Ground Zero first responders, The Coca Cola Company, Hess Corp. and Hershey's.

Tennis registration is \$150 for singles and \$300 for doubles, and golfer registration is \$275 for individuals and \$1000 for foursomes. Sponsorships and journal advertising is available on a variety of levels.

Those wishing to attend just the dinner portion of the event will be treated to a fabulous meal, open bar, entertainment, celebrity guests, and auction. The cost of dinner is \$80 per person.

For more information, log on to www.BrendanMarrocco.org and click on Fundraising Event, or contact Judi Giordano at Judi.Giordano@gmail.com or by phone at 732-740-0734.

ABOUT BRENDAN: On Easter Sunday 2009, U.S. soldier Brendan Marrocco's life changed in an instant. While rooting out terrorists in Iraq, the 22 year-old Army Private First Class from Staten Island lost both arms and legs and received multiple lacerations and shrapnel wounds in a roadside bombing.

Following the attack, Brendan was kept alive by his platoon's medic and fellow soldiers long enough to be transported to the US Army trauma hospital in Tikrit, Iraq where he underwent emergency surgeries. Following the surgeries, Brendan was transported to two other hospitals before landing at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. ...all in just three days.

The first quadriplegic amputee to survive the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, Brendan is currently recovering and undergoing physical and occupational therapy at Walter Reed Hospital where he is expected to remain for an extended period of time. His brother, Michael, quit his job as an IT professional with Citigroup and moved in with Brendan to assist in his recovery. He is Brendan's non-medical assistant and is with him 24/7.

Says a dedicated Brendan of his tragic ordeal, "There is not a part of me that would change anything that happened. I would go back today and do the same thing all over again."

But Brendan is not just dedicated, he is truly inspiring. He encourages and motivates hundreds of other wounded service members at Walter Reed Hospital, and is preparing for a very rare and risky double arm transplant surgery. He may have lost his arms and legs, but he never lost his will to survive and has maintained an extremely positive yet realistic attitude about his recovery and life after recovery. He knows that his recovery will be long, setbacks will occur and that his future will be challenging. Regardless, he continues to focus and channel his energies on his recovery and is looking forward to the future.

Brendan was nearly killed doing his duty to protect the freedoms that many Americans take for granted—just as we take for granted the ability to walk, feed ourselves, or write a

note. We must, however, honor the selfless sacrifice that Marrocco made and aid in his new mission: an independent life.

For more information, visit www.BrendanMarrocco.org.