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Wild for Life Foundation Los Angeles, CA March 20, 2014

THE COALITION TO SALUTE AMERICA'S HEROES PARTNERS WITH WILD FOR LIFE FOUNDATION TO PROMOTE EQUINE ASSISTED LEARNING PROGRAMS FOR MILITARY VETERANS AND DISADVANTAGED YOUTH

Los Angeles, CA- The <u>Wild for Life Foundation</u> (WFLF) is pleased to announce a new partnership with the <u>Coalition to Salute America's Heroes</u> (CSAH) for the upcoming "Charity Spring Benefit Wine Tasting Reception" on Saturday, March 29, 2014 from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in San Diego, CA. The evening will feature special guest entertainer, famed tenor <u>Anthony Kearns</u>.

Coalition representatives, <u>Corporal Donny Daughenbaugh</u>, U.S. Marine Corps (Ret), the Coalition's Regional Vice President East and its national spokesman, and Sergeant Matthew Pennington, U.S. Army (Ret.), who writes the "<u>Matthew Pennington Blog Series</u>" for the Coalition website, will attend the event on behalf of the organization.

"We are thrilled to work with the Coalition to Salute America's Heroes for this wonderful event to raise funds for our new <u>Wild for Life Foundation Charity Sanctuary & Wellness Center</u>, which will provide programs with a focus on its community enrichment equine wellness activities, and robust equine assisted programs for disadvantaged youth, active duty military, and veterans and their families," said Katia Louise, Founder, President and Volunteer Executive Director, <u>WFLF</u>. "We are honored to stand together with CSAH to embrace healing through horses."

"The Coalition to Salute America's Heroes is proud to support WFLF and their extraordinary work to help veterans find healing through horse-assisted therapy. This is a great program that aligns well with our goals of supporting young war-wounded veterans effectively and successfully transition to civilian life," said <u>David Walker</u>, President and CEO of the Coalition.

Walker said that Corporal Daughenbaugh and Sergeant Pennington are uniquely suited to represent the Coalition. As a National spokesperson, Daughenbaugh has served as an inspiration to other veterans through his story of resilience. Daughenbaugh lives with a bullet lodged at the base of his skull near his brain, the result of being shot in the face while on night foot patrol with his patrol in Mahmoudiyah, Iraq.

Pennington has also taken his message of struggle and survival to other veterans, and also to medical practitioners who are refining methods for dealing with injured veterans, especially those with PTSD. Besides writing for the Coalition, Pennington was featured in a New York University documentary, "<u>A Marine's Guide to Fishing</u>," about a wounded veteran struggling to readjust to civilian life.

The new facilities will align with the EAGALA Military Services Designation (MSD) and will be managed by the WFLF BOD, including Rob Pliskin, MSSA, LSW, an EAGALA Dual

Certified Professional, who has been gentling wild horses for over 15 years. Pliskin will also attend the event.

The event will feature an exclusive live auction with custom artwork donated by one of the Nation's most famous living artists, <u>Peter Max</u>, who is also a pop culture icon. Mr. Max has painted for six U.S. Presidents, and his art is on display in Presidential Libraries and U.S. Embassies.

Tickets are \$125 per person. RSVP online through the <u>WFLF website</u>. Reservations are limited. For questions and additional information, contact 310.439.9817 or email <u>gala@wildforlifefoundation.org</u>.

The Coalition, a leading not-for-profit organization dedicated to rebuilding the lives of severely wounded veterans of the War on Terror, was recently a part of a successful event on March 1, 2014 at the new, equine-inspired <u>Salamander Resort & Spa</u> in Middleburg, VA, located amidst Virginia's wine and horse country. The event was a stirring tribute to U.S. military and their families, and featured Kearns as the headliner. Famed steeplechase jockey, <u>Sean Clancy</u>, who became the 10th highest winner of all time upon his retirement in 2000, was the evening's emcee. Among other projects, The Coalition is a proud supporter of the <u>Horses Helping Heroes Project</u> to fund equine-assisted activities for wounded veterans in Virginia.

The <u>Wild for Life Foundation</u> (WFLF) is a 501 (c)(3) U.S. registered tax exempt nonprofit charity. The WFLF has been at the forefront of efforts to rescue and provide safe harbor for at risk animals, providing the space, natural habitat and quality of care which they deserve. The WFLF is also dedicated to community enrichment equine wellness activities, and robust equine assisted programs for disadvantaged youth, active duty military, and veterans and their families through the healing power of horses. <u>www.WildforlifeFoundation.org</u>, <u>https://twitter.com/savingamehorses</u>, <u>https://twitter.com/savingamehorses</u> #savingamehorses

The Coalition to Salute America's Heroes, based in Leesburg, VA, has provided an invaluable lifeline to thousands of America's wounded veterans since its establishment in 2004. The Coalition is distinguished from other veteran-focused organizations by its direct financial assistance to America's wounded heroes. Its Emergency Financial Aid program has stopped foreclosure proceedings on veterans' homes and kept their vehicles from being repossessed. The organization regularly provides gift checks to cover meals, medical and utility bills, clothing, car repairs and even baby diapers. To learn how to support its mission, visit <u>www.saluteheroes.org</u>, <u>www.facebook.com/SaluteHeroes</u>, @SaluteHeroes.

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