



MEDIA ADVISORY

June 27, 2011

**Bay Area Builders Association Support Our Troops/Operation FINALLY HOME,
Log Homes of America, Inc, Marlo Construction, and NAHB Building Systems Councils
to Give Mortgage Free Home to Wounded War Hero
*Charity partners with John Boy and Billy Big Show to surprise veteran and family***

Jacksonville, North Carolina – Bay Area Builders Association Support Our Troops/Operation FINALLY HOME, Log Homes of America, Inc, Marlo Construction, and NAHB Building Systems Council will donate a new mortgage free home to one of the nation's wounded heroes on June 27th, 2011 at 9am. United States Marine Staff Sergeant (retired) Vincent Gizzarelli sustained severe injuries while serving in Iraq and has been dealing with them since returning home. Vincent and his family are not only dealing with their recovery, but have also taken on being foster parents for 3 brothers. Bay Area Builders Association Support Our Troops/Operation FINALLY HOME, Log Homes of America, Inc, Marlo Construction, and NAHB Building Systems Council with support from the local community, will be surprising the Gizzarelli family live on the air with John Boy and Billy "The Big Show" with the announcement that they will be receiving a custom made mortgage free home.

PARTICIPANTS:

Bay Area Builders Association Support Our Troops/Operation FINALLY HOME (<http://www.babasupport.org/>)

Dan Vargas, Operation Finally Home -- Dan has been working with our wounded servicemen and women and on wounded-veterans issues since 2001, most recently as the executive director of **Operation Finally Home**. As a 20 veteran of the United States Air Force, Dan has a firsthand understanding of the sacrifices necessary to serve one's country and has felt called to help make our troops' post-service lives a little easier.

Log Homes of America, Inc (<http://www.loghomesofamerica.com/>)

Nicole Robinson, Log Homes of America -- Having grown up in the log home business, Nicole knows all the facets. At an early age, her father (founder Charlie Maney who established **Log Homes of America** in 1987) showed her the ropes from operating the backhoe, to stacking logs, to the mill operations. Ten years of outside sales, as well as college degrees in marketing and management, round out Nicole's expertise. In 1995, Nicole and her husband, Joel (a retired USAF Master Sergeant himself), expanded the business by adding dealers and improving products. They are thrilled to contribute to this worthy cause.

Marlo Construction (<http://www.marloinc.com/>)

Lori and Martin Aragona, Marlo Construction -- Martin is a third-generation home builder, learning his trade from his grandfather, Angelo, and father, Marty. Together, the family has built hundreds of home throughout New York, Maryland, and North Carolina. Martin's parents founded the subdivision, **Aragona Village**, where our Operation Finally Home project is being built. Since starting their own general contracting business, Marlo Construction, in 1997, Martin and his wife, Lori, have been named Onslow County (North Carolina) Home Builder of the Year (2002) and are one of the few **NAHB Certified Green Professional** building outfits in the area.

NAHB Building Systems Council (<http://www.nahb.org/page.aspx/category/sectionID=454>)

The Building Systems Councils (BSC) is the leading resource for the **concrete**, **log**, **modular**, and **panelized** home building industries. Whether you are a manufacturer, builder, vendor, or **consumer**, the BSC is here to serve your needs. Target a specific council, or explore general systems-built home information. The BSC aims to educate and inspire through consumer-friendly documents and interactive learning tools. All members of the BSC are active members of NAHB via their **local HBA** or **NAHB International**.

John Boy and Billy (<http://www.thebigshow.com/>)



RECIPIENTS:

Vincent Gizzarelli, USMC, Staff Sergeant (retired) – Severed two deployments. Severely injured on his second deployment (Iraq/November 2004) and was medically retired in February 2009.
TIME IN SERVICE: 10 years/4 months/15 days

INJURIES:

Traumatic Brain Injury, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, and Shrapnel wounds

FAMILY MEMBERS:

Majane “Jamie” Gizzarelli (Spouse/36 years old)
Chotla Madden (Step-daughter/19 years old)
Jonathan Brebrich (Step-son/13 years old)
Alyjhia (legal guardians/4 years old)
Xavier (legal guardians/3 years old)
Tremayn “T.J.” (legal guardians/23 months old)

WHEN:

June 27, 2011/9AM

WHERE:

The Big Show -- <http://www.thebigshow.com/>

About Bay Area Builders Association Support Our Troops/ Operation FINALLY HOME

Operation FINALLY HOME is an award winning program created by Bay Area Builders Association Support Our Troops. Bay Area Builders Association Support Our Troops was established in 2005 as a non-partisan/non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Bay Area Builders Association Support Our Troops mission is to provide custom made mortgage free homes to wounded and disabled veterans and the widows of the fallen in an effort to get their lives back on track and become productive members of their communities. Bay Area Builders Association Support Our Troops partners with corporate sponsors, builder associations, builders, developers, individuals contributors, and volunteers to help severely wounded heroes and their families’ transition from the battlefield to the home front and help them succeed in their challenging new world so they may ultimately enjoy a productive and rewarding life. <http://www.babasupport.org/>

HOMES COMPLETED:

12 Homes completed

HOMES IN THE BUILDING PROCESS:

4 Homes in the building process

HOMES GETTING READY TO START BUILDING:

7 Homes in the permitting/planning stage

NOTE: TOTAL OF 23 HOMES

AWARDS Operation FINALLY HOME has received:

BABASOT – 2009 Newman’s Own Award
Dan Wallrath – 2010 Top Ten CNN HERO Award
Dan Wallrath – 2010 VFW Ladies Auxiliary “It’s Time for America’s Military Heroes Award”
Dan Wallrath – 2010 Texas Association of Builders philanthropist of the year

NETWORK EXPOUSER:

CNN News, CNN Heroes, Extreme Makeover; Home Edition, and Fox News

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