COUNTY COUNCIL OF BEAUFORT COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING 100 RIBAUT ROAD POST OFFICE DRAWER 1228 BEAUFORT, SOUTH CAROLINA 29901-1228 TELEPHONE: (843) 255-2180 FAX: (843) 255-9401 www.bcgov.net

AGENDA

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Monday, June 20, 2011

2:30 p.m.

**Executive Conference Room** 

Administration Building

GARY KUBIC COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

BRYAN J. HILL DEPUTY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

> LADSON F. HOWELL COUNTY ATTORNEY

> SUZANNE M. RAINEY CLERK TO COUNCIL

Staff Support Bryan Hill, Deputy County Administrator David Starkey, Chief Financial Officer

**2:30 p.m.** 1. CALL TO ORDER

## 2. DISCUSSION / FUNDING REQUEST LT. DAN WEEKEND (backup)

## 3. DISCUSSION / COUNTY FY 2011 / 2012 BUDGET PROPOSAL

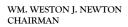
- Library System
- Tax (Hurricane) Anticipation Note
- Transfers from Operations Budget to Debt Service

## 4. ADJOURNMENT

County TV Rebroadcast	
Monday	9:00 a.m.
Wednesday	1:00 a.m.
Thursday	7:00 p.m.

Finance		
Date	Time	Location
July 18	2:00 p.m.	BIV #2
August 15	2:00 p.m.	BIV #2
September 19	2:00 p.m.	BIV #2
October 17	2:00 p.m.	BIV #2
November 21	2:00 p.m.	BIV #2
December 13	2:00 p.m.	BIV #2

A quorum of Council may be in attendance at all Committee meetings. Please silence your cell phone during the meeting.



D. PAUL SOMMERVILLE VICE CHAIRMAN

COUNCIL MEMBERS

STEVEN M. BAER RICK CAPORALE GERALD DAWSON BRIAN E. FLEWELLING HERBERT N. GLAZE WILLIAM L. McBRIDE STEWART H. RODMAN GERALD W. STEWART LAURA VON HARTEN

> Committee Members: Stu Rodman, Chairman Rick Caporale, Vice Chairman Steven Baer Brian Flewelling William McBride Paul Sommerville Jerry Stewart

# >> bcgovsc





# Lt. Dan Weekend, 2 (LDW2)

## 14 - 18 September, 2011

www.ltdanweekend.com

Prepared for: The Beaufort County Council Prepared by: The Independence Fund, Inc.

June 13, 2011 Proposal number: 1-A



#### Date 6/13/11

To Whom It May Concern,

The Independence Fund, a South Carolina registered 501(c)3 organization, is sponsoring a second Lt Dan Weekend (LDW2) in Beaufort, SC from 14-18 September, 2011. We are proud to announce that this year again, Gary Sinise and the Lt Dan Band will headline the event. Your sponsorship will help ensure the success of this very noble community effort.

The City of Beaufort, which will be celebrating it's 300th Anniversary during the time of the Lt. Dan Weekend, is the proud home to the Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Beaufort, the Marine Corps Recruit Depot (MCRD) Parris Island, and the Beaufort Naval Hospital. Beaufort County is also home to more than 20,000 retirees of all branches of the armed services.

According to the Beaufort Chamber of Commerce, the military generates over \$1.2 Billion annually to the Beaufort economy—with a significant amount being spent at local businesses. Like last year, many of the more than one thousand North of the Broad hotel rooms will be filled by attendees of LDW2.

LDW2 will provide an opportunity for more than one hundred severely wounded veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and their tireless caregivers to:

- · bond in fellowship with their wounded comrades-wonderful therapy
- participate in athletic events (golf, bike ride and road race—as they are physically able with special equipment, often provided with Independence Fund)
- · enjoy recreational activities provided in the Lowcountry of South Carolina
- be entertained by military-advocate Lt Dan and his great band

Our severely wounded warriors deserve the continuing support of our grateful Nation. We hope you would be honored by the opportunity to participate in this event by allocating the necessary funds to pay for the Lt. Dan Band concert stage. Please feel free to contact me at anytime if you have any questions which I may address.



The Independence Fund, Inc. EIN (Tax ID Number): 26-0322088 W:434.409.0506 www.independencefund.org

The Independence Fund, Inc. PO Box 1171 Beaufort, SC 29901 T 434.409.0506 independencefund@mac.com www.independencefund.org



# Executive Summary

## Objective

The Objective of LDW2 is to become the nations premiere "Support the Troops" event highlighting the natural beauty of the South Carolina Lowcountry while bringing to bear the strengths and talent of the local population in a manner which best honors the service and sacrifice of our severely injured veterans.

## Goals

The goals of LDW2 are to bring more than one hundred severely injured veterans and caregivers to Beaufort County for a four day event in which a minimum of \$200,000.00 is netted to provide direct support for the unmet needs in the disabled veteran community.

## Solution

For LDW2 to be successful the support of the Military, Corporate and Governmental agencies will be required. The core support for LDW2 will come from the extraordinary volunteer support inherent in the community.

### The Need

More than 50,000 veterans have been seriously injured in the War on Terror. When factoring in training and non-hostile fire mishaps that number is significantly multiplied. Non-profits, like the Independence Fund, and events like LDW2 are important steps in bringing both the physical and emotional healing that is lacking in many of these veterans lives.

## What makes the Independence Fund unique?

In its fourth year since inception, the Independence fund has raised and distributed more than \$1,000,000 in grants and services to severely injured veterans while fully maintaining its core values of:

- · Providing the tools, therapies and guidance that severely injured veterans are otherwise not receiving.
- Having no paid staff members.
- Maintaining a Board of Directors comprised entirely of combat veterans.
- · Championing the value of physical activity no matter what the level of disability.
- · Promoting the use of art as a tool of healing.
- Breaking down the barriers between the disabled and able bodied communities through veteran speaking engagements and community based events like LDW2



# Schedule

Date	Task
Day 1	Veterans and caregivers arrive at CHS and SAV and are transported to Palm Key. Welcoming committee briefs new arrivals and provides them with welcome aboard package. Veterans all join one another at the "meet and greet" welcoming dinner.
Day 2	Veterans and caregivers meet at first scheduled briefing and are given an overall outline of the four day event. Caregivers separate afterwards for a caregiver spa and luncheon sponsored by a local women's organization. Veterans spend day in seminars and participate in bike fittings.
Day 3	Veterans speak at local schools with major event taking place at Beaufort and HHI High. Remaining veterans and caregivers participate in activities including boating, kayaking, golf and horseback riding. Lt. Dan Classic takes place at Parris Island "Legends" golf course. Pre-concert dinner with the Lt. Dan Band takes place in prior to the show.
Day 4	Veterans and caregivers participate in either the 5K or the Lt. Dan Bike Ride and Gary Sinise serves as Grand Marshal of the Beaufort 300 parade.

## TYPE

In-Kind amount

**Cash Amount TYPE** 

### Non-local personal

Name

Bill Songster	\$50.00 Non-local personal
Bill G	\$500.00 Non-local personal
Sara Noon	\$50.00 Non-local personal
Jan Easterling	\$25.00 Non-local personal
Elizabeth Gallagh	\$100.00 Non-local personal
Paul Rennisen	\$50.00 Non-local personal
Robert Thompson karla Markus	\$25.00 Non-local personal \$50.00 Non-local personal
jeanette Curtis	\$50.00 Non-local personal
Tracy Lynn Raffaele Karla Markus	\$25.00 Non-local personal
Mark Boudroux	\$500.00 Non-local personal <sub>\$100.00</sub> Non-local personal
Rob Moore	\$1.00 Non-local personal
William John Whelehan	\$1,000.00 Non-local personal
Nancy wellons Justin Minyard	\$500.00 Non-local personal \$446.90 Non-local personal
James Nottingham	\$100.00 Non-local personal
Katrryn Parker	\$50.00 Non-local personal <sub>\$50.00</sub> Non-local personal
catharina Henderson	\$50.00 Non-local personal
Jordan Minyard Chris Pollock	\$1,000.00 Non-local personal
JD Owens William Fulton	\$100.00 Non-local personal \$500.00 Non-local personal
Joe Messerly	\$570.00 Non-local personal
Mary Sommerville	\$100.00 Non-local personal \$6.392.90 Non-local personal
Corporate	\$6,392.90 Non-local personal
VGI	\$5,000.00 Corporate
Pratt and Whitney	\$1,500.00 Corporate
Boston Scientific	\$10,000.00 Corporate
Instil Healthcare 5-18-10	Corporate \$10,000.00

\$6,392.90

MacDonald's ASMBA STAR
rosenburg foundation GEICO NFCU Hanger ortho
Wristbands/T-Shirts
Donnie Beer phil wasiloski Carol Nowell
Dennis Dempsey Robert Imholz Maribiz marion stade
April Baughman kim evans Ted Van Tuył Karla Markus m adamson jack nischil Arlene Faul Donnie Beer Taylor Bufkin Taylor Bufkin Glen Raxter taylor Bufkin Jessie Salas Luker
Marti Hohmann
Cravings by the Bay Donnie Beer T-shirts Walt Ledbetter Donnie Beer
Benny Fontenot
Robert DeTreville Paul Earnst
Claire Ketcham B of A Deposit Ms. Beer

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wrist bands 5/19/10	\$115.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Wristbend (april)	\$115.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Tshirt(april)	\$1,105.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Steve deposit (april)	\$210.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Ray cording paypal	\$355.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Donnie Beer Wristbands 5/14	Wristbands/T-Shirts \$45.00
Steve schultz	\$300.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Zimmerman, Sara	\$20.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Donnie Beer	\$35.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Sue proctor Michau	\$160.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
	\$20.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Donnie	\$60.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Donnie	\$55.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Shirley parsons	\$10.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Michaela Salon	\$221.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Young Marines	\$310.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Various	\$210.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Lowring	\$60.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Corps Store	\$230.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Michael's Salon	\$145.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Lindsay Zoeller	\$25.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Taylor	\$5.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Taylor	\$15.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Youn Marines	\$244.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Waterfest 17 July	\$305.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Waterfest 18 Jul	\$248.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Waterfest 20 July	\$155.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Waterfest 20 July	\$368.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Young Marines 7/16	\$400.62 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Youn marines	\$568.15 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Young marines 7/17	\$385.17 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Young marines 7/17	\$373.71 Wristbands/T-Shirts

Waterfest Booth tshirt sales T-shirts etc Papke Rehman Donnie beer Edna Horne Robin Boozer Norma Duncan Donnie Beer He shears Waterfest cash 7/25 **Donnie Beer** BFD Waterfest 7/24 Waterfest 7/23 Various sales Len Klopp Munzig Eveler Guilfovle Sheats Donnie Beer truesdale Stewart Goodwin Presnell Proctor Boozer Porter Gutherie Munzig Brown Steves Green Young Marines **Donnie Beer** Donnie beer Donnie beer S phillips Joan trammel 15111 glade dr silver spring. 20906 Todd host D beer Dr Durante

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\$30.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts

Leonard klopp	\$70.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Patrick Williams	\$115.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Steve flemming	\$25.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Tammy Buchanan	\$30.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Richard Windsor	\$5.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Mary Rudisil	\$20.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Donnie Beer	\$562.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Liz Lake	\$20.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Elmer McKena	\$20.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Donnie Beer	\$290.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Donna Eubanks	\$20.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
pat Thomas	\$20.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Kasey Johnson	\$40.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Marie Kozitza	\$40.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Jeff Regoli	\$20.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Mark Heister	\$50.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Don Hartmen	\$50.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Donnie Beer	\$480.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
tamara ragsdale	\$30.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Cynthia Ackerman	\$20.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Julie Pigao	\$30.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Scot Oakes	\$50.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Jason Sullivan	\$30.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
James Wathen	\$20.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Cesar Navarro	\$30.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Kathie Bennet	\$30.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Jay Weidener	\$10.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
liz Palmer	\$40.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
neal Towery	\$40.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Pam Burns	\$30.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Corps store	\$150.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Deposit	\$3,883.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Cash Deposit	\$2,277.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Debra Welch	\$20.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Rosanne	\$300.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Taylor Bufkin	\$30.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Steele	\$30.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
Michaels	\$377.00 Wristbands/T-Shirts
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Local Business or \$200.00 Organization

Local Business or \$200.00 Organization

\$1,185.00 Local Business or Organization \$367.25 Local Business or Organization \$250.00 Local Business or Organization

Parris Is Rod and Gun

Local Business or Organization

Bike/5K Bike/5K

Local personal

ed Finley Allison Hooge Foundation

Walt Ledbetter

Selph Name John Landry Barfuri Pinto Kathy Kim Jerry Ashmorr Paul Fuetterer

Nottoli Ashmore

Parker

Bill evans Cole proctor William Howell Patrice Moody

Memorial donation in

Duncan/Bradshaw

LTG Earl Hailston

Frederick Cosco Walt Ledbetter Col Tom brett

Tom heaterington Fred peters Charles tryig Col Fred krill

Republican Men of Beaufort

Exchange club Panninis MOPH

Linda's Nursery Dr HL Lafitte	\$100.00 Local Business or Organization \$50.00 Local Business or Organization
Exchange club flags 4th July Mil Nurses	Local Business or Organization \$300.00 \$200.00 Local Business or Organization
KFI Mechanical	\$1,000.00 Local Business or Organization
Honeytree Preschool	\$100.00 Local Business or Organization
David Craft (Geico)	\$1,000.00 Local Business or Organization
Parris Island Museum and Historical Society Carolina walk Corps Store	Local Business or Organization \$2,000.00 \$1,000.00 Local Business or Organization \$1,000.00 Local Business or Organization
AMVETS post 2000	\$100.00 Local Business or Organization
Macloskie law form	\$150.00 Local Business or Organization
Mazzana's Lawn Service	\$500.00 Local Business or Organization
Dan Vaden Chevrolet	\$500.00 Local Business or Organization
Beaufort Kayak Tours	\$410.00 Local Business or Organization
Dataw Golf assc Military nurses Non-local business or	\$500.00 Local Business or Organization \$300.00 Local Business or Organization \$11,412.25 Local Business or Or \$11.412.25
organization	

**Driver villiage** Apopka VA Mr markus Mike Williams Ironwood Us military vets

veterans leasing finance

Savanah 82nd ABN Buckeye club

### Local Fundraiser

Piace Pizza The office Jack Worrell

\$180.00 Non-local business or organization \$100.00 Non-local business or organization \$500.00 Non-local business or organization \$1,000.00 Non-local business or organization \$2,500.00 Non-local business or organization \$35.00 Non-local business or organization

Non-local business or organization \$50.00

\$100.00 Non-local business or organization \$1,000.00 Non-local business or organization \$5.465.00 \$5,465.00 Non-local business c

\$180.00 Local Fundraiser \$250.00 Local Fundraiser \$805.00 Local Fundraiser

Two Sues Plums	\$104.00 Loca \$1,000.00 Loca		
Evan Stiner-Yard Sale	\$650.00 Loca	al Fundraiser	
AMVETS Post 70 Jack Carter	\$11,405.00 <sup>Loca</sup> \$125.00 Loca		
Kendall and Shannon Erickson	Loca \$630.00	al Fundraiser	
Berry island ice cream	\$800.00 <sup>Loca</sup>	al Fundraiser	
Pizza inn	\$127.00 Loca	I Fundraiser	
Pizza inn	\$46.00 Loca	I Fundraiser	
Pizza inn	\$5.00 Loca	I Fundraiser	
Henry Jackson	\$180.00 Loca	I Fundraiser	
Pizza inn	\$143.54 Loca	I Fundraiser	
	\$16,450.54 Loca	al Fundraiser	\$16.450.54
Golf Golf Tourny	\$4,578.52 Golf		\$4.578.52
Golf Online Registration Louis Holliday William Howel T.A. Yelton	\$120.00 Golf	Online Registratio Online Registratio Online Registratio	n
Terry Thompson	• • • • • • •	Online Registratio	
Michael Williams	\$120.00 Golf	Online Registratio	n
Lenard Fox	•	Online Registratio	
Leonard Mokan		Online Registratio	
Joe Jones	\$120.00 Golf	Online Registratio	n
Rob Semmler	\$60.00 Golf	Online Registratio	n
Joe Copeland	\$60.00 Golf	Online Registratio	n
Pat Saeger f	\$60.00 Golf	Online Registratio	n
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	\$1,260.00	- 0 /	\$1,260.00
	*.1==		\$129.835.12



## State of South Carolina Office of the Secretary of State The Honorable Mark Hammond

Apr 27, 2011

Integendence Fund, Inc. Mr Stevel Durylok 45 NATIONAL BLVD IE ALFORT, NC 299971755

#### RE Republication Confirmation

Unarray Public ID (P20249)

#### Dear Mr Steve, Dirighte-

This letter confirms that the Secretary of State's Office has received and accepted your Registration, therefore your charitable organization is in compliance with the registration requirement of the "South Carolina Sobeitation of Charitable Funds Act." The registration of your charitable organization will expire ee. May 15, 2012. It my of the information en year Registration torus changes throughout the coarse of the year, please contact our office to make updates. It is important that this information remain updated so that our office confidence of any effect your charitable organization.

If you have not yet filed your annual financial report or an extension for the annual financial report, the annual financial report is still the 4-1 months after the close of your fiscal year. Annual financial reports must either be submitted on the Internal Revenue Service Form 900 or 900-FZ or the Sactetary of State's Annual Financial Report Form. There is no fee associated with filing an annual financial report with our office. If your organization files IRS Form 500 or 900-FZ and you wish to extend the filing of that form with us, please submit a copy of your IRS form 5005. If your organization files the Secretary of State's Annual Financial Report Form, and you wish to extend the filing of that form with us, please submit a copy of your IRS form 5005. If your organization files the Secretary of State's Annual Financial Report Form, and you wish to extend the filing of that form with us, please submit a written request to the Division of Public Charties. Failure to submit the annual financial report may result in an administrative fine of up to \$2,000.

If you have any questions or conterns, please visit our Website at www.sesos.com and teview the Public Charities seenen or contact our office at (803) 734-1790.

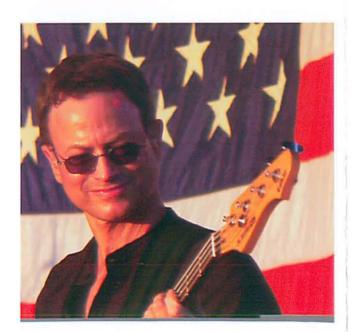
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Eldward M. Hadgett Division of Public Chambes Well known entertainer and supporter of the troops, Gary Sinise, will honor the service and sacrifice of our severely injured military heroes and their caregivers at the 2nd Annual, Lt. Dan Weekend taking place from Sept 14th - Sept 16th, 2011 in Beaufort, SC. Gary will lead his "Lt. Dan Band" in an Benefit Concert for the troops at Beaufort's historic Waterfront Park on Friday, Sept 16th, at 830pm.

In addition to the concert, the weekend's festivities will include the 2nd Annual Lt. Dan Golf Classic, a family 5K run in historic downtown Beaufort, a bicycle ride with the wounded veterans on the Marine Corps Air Station, a Combat Photography Art exhibit at City Hall, and a series of veterans related workshops to be held throughout the weekend. Gary will also serve as Grand Marshal of Beaufort's 300th Birthday Parade following the September 17th, 5K run.

This will be the third time that Mr. Sinise has performed for the Independence Fund. "It's impossible not to be deeply moved by something like that," said one attendee of last years event.



To date, 6000 service members have been killed on the battlefields of Iraq and Afghanistan. Close to 50,000 have been wounded.

All proceeds raised by the Lt. Dan Weekend will be applied towards the Independence Fund's core mission of providing the tools, therapies and quidance for those veterans severely injured in the Global War on Terror that they otherwise are not receiving.

The Independence Fund also fulfills a valuable service by nominating qualified veterans for acceptance into world-class rehabilitative hospitals like the Shepherd Center in Atlanta. The Independence Fund is an all volunteer, 501(c)3 not-for-profit corporation that is entirely led and managed by combat veterans. Since its inception in 2007, the Independence Fund has distributed more than \$1.25 million in grants to qualified veterans.

www.independencefund.org

## Contact

Ms. Staci Wolfe

## The Independence Fund

PO Box 1171 Beaufort, SC 29901 (434) 409-0506 independencefund@gmail.com

Staci\_Wolfe@polarispr.com



lence Fund



The Independence Fund, Inc. EIN Tax ID Number: 26-0322088 Designation: 501 e 3

www.ltdanweekend.com

# The 2011 Lowcountry Lt. Dan Weekend

## (14-18 Sep, 2011)

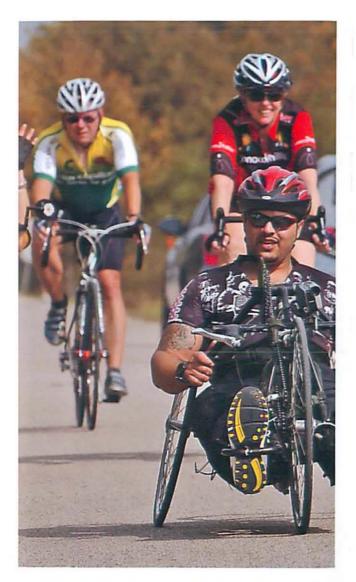
A community based event supporting some of the most severely injured troops from Irag and Afghanistan

#### www.independencefund.org



www.ltdanweekend.com

# **Healing through Sports**



We have found cycling to be one of the best ways to break down the barriers between the disabled and the able-bodied communities. The Independence Rides have the secondary benefit of breaking down barriers between our military and civilian communities. The Independence Ride is one of the core activities of the Lt. Dan Weekend. The number of Iraq and Afghanistan veterans suffering the effects of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) is estimated to be over 300,000. The Independence Fund, partnering with the National Veterans Art Museum in Chicago, IL, has found that creating art and working with images taken during the service members deployment can mitigate many of the effects of PTSD. Without the support of the City, County and State governments, these events would not be possible. We hope to build on this support for the Lt. Dan Weekend, 2 and provide the veterans with an even more memorable experience than past events have provided. 40% of Iraq and Afghanistan veterans served as members of the Reserve or National Guard Forces. Unlike their active duty counterparts who generally return to a large military base with an inherent support structure, these "parttime" warriors return to an environment where the ability to share their experience may not exist.

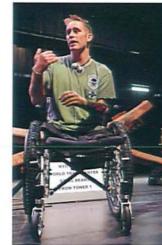
The Veterans who participate in the Lt. Dan Weekend want to give back to the community. During our last event, wounded veterans spoke at six different area schools. Each of the assemblies were an enormous success that we hope to repeat with LDW2.



#### Conflict Zone

The Independence Fund's Conflict Zone traveling exhibit will show at Beaufort's City Hall throughout the Lt. Dan Weekend.

"The Independence Fund's set of documentary photographs produced by veterans of recent conflicts in the Middle East offers a refreshingly understated effort ....." Washington Post, 29 August, 2008.



#### Education

Although they have already given much, the Independence Fund has found that our veterans still want, and find value in continuing to give. One way they do this is through the Independence Fund's education initiative where veterans and first responders from the local community come together to share their experience at the middle and high school grade levels.



Art Night

The Independence Weekend events provide a relaxing weekend where the veterans and their families can share in the camaraderie with their fellow veterans and be embraced by the warmth of an appreciative community.

"I am a Marine and I adapt to whatever happens and I overcome that," he says with obvious pride. "I intend to live a full life – I am already living a full life with my kids and my wife in our home. I also want to contribute beyond those four walls to my community and my society. I am an American, and no disability can change that." ..... Cpl Robin Griffith.



Army Ranger Sgt Josh Lindsey in a \$25,000 iBOT® robotic mobility device.

The Independence Fund provided 20 iBOT® devices to paralyzed veterans before the program was discontinued in 2009. If our elected officials freely use the rhetoric "nothing but the best for our injured troops," then we would like to see them held accountable for those words. One way they can do this is by re-instating the iBOT® program.

"We want to bring awareness that as we depart, we don't always come home the same, and that we are not the only ones injured, our families are injured also." ....Army Sgt. Major Jesse Acosta.

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