



CLEARWATER MARINE
AQUARIUM™

MEDIA ADVISORY

Winter to meet American Heros, U.S. Army Specialist Four, Tyler “TJ” Jeffries and U.S. Marine Master Sergeant, David “Davey” Lind.

Clearwater, FL (June 2nd, 2014) – Join us **Wednesday, May 21 at 11:30**, as Retired Buccaneers Fullback **Mike Alstott**, his wife **Nicole**, and The **Mike Alstott Family Foundation** will host two **Wounded Warriors** during a visit to the **Clearwater Marine Aquarium**.

The Wounded Warriors, who are in town for the Wounded Warrior Amputee Football game against NFL Alumni and Tampa Bay Buccaneer greets that night, of which Alstott will also participate in, will have a chance to meet **Winter the Dolphin**, tour the Aquarium, and eat lunch with the Alstotts.

U.S. Army Specialist Four Tyler "TJ" Jeffries, a 2007 Zephyrhills graduate, was critically injured when someone set off an IED on Oct. 6, 2012 as Jeffries' unit patrolled the dusty streets of Afghanistan. The injuries eventually led to the amputation of both of his legs. Jefferies endured nearly 30 surgeries in all, the last of which was on November 20, 2012. It took him about a month and a half after the accident for him to take his first steps. He was essential confined to a wheelchair for about 8 months. TJ now thrives with the help of his prosthetic legs and his service dog "Apollo". Jefferies was once told "Tyler, one day your life's gonna flash before your eyes. Make sure it's worth watching". His response and outlook on life? "I'm going to do exactly that." he said.

U.S. Marine Master Sergeant David “Davey” Lind is a 1989 graduate from Titusville area High School in North Western, PA. He attended boot camp immediately following graduation at Parris Island, SC. On June 14th 2007, while on his third deployment to Iraq, GySgt Lind’s vehicle struck and activated a Pressure Plate IED. The blast from the device amputated his legs from the knee down. Making a fast recovery, GySgt Lind continued to surpass expectations by taking his first steps 2 months to the date of his injuries. Promoted to his final rank, Msgt Lind continued his road to recovery while filling duties as Operations Chief, A Co, 1st Reconnaissance Battalion. Lind retired in 2009, but continues to contribute to the defense of the nation in the private sector. He and his wife Lisa have 4 children; a daughter, Riley and 3 sons Jakob, Keith, and Justin. Master Sergeants Lind’s Personal awards include; the Purple Heart, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with Combat “V” , the Naval Achievement Medal with Combat “V” and 4 Gold Stars and the Combat Action Ribbon with 2 Gold Stars.

The Mike Alstott Family Foundation was formed to allow the Alstott’s to assist others in uplifting the minds, hearts and spirits of families and children on their way to realizing their full potential through various events, assistance programs, and celebrations.

Visit www.SeeWinter.com to see lectures planned for this year.

About Clearwater Marine Aquarium:

A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, Clearwater Marine Aquarium's mission is to preserve marine life and the environment while inspiring the human spirit through leadership in education, research, rescue, rehabilitation and release.

CMA is home to dolphins, sea turtles, river otters, stingrays, nurse sharks and more. Winter the dolphin's story of survival and inspiration has touched millions of people around the world. A movie, *Dolphin Tale*, about her life story was a #1 box office hit in theaters, and is now available in DVD. Produced by Warner Bros.-based Alcon Entertainment, *Dolphin Tale* stars Morgan Freeman, Harry Connick, Jr., and Ashley Judd. A sequel, *Dolphin Tale 2* is currently in production and scheduled for a September 19, 2014 North American release. Her documentary, *Winter, the Dolphin That Can*, is available at www.SeeWinter.com. The documentary takes viewers on an extraordinary journey through her rescue, fight to stay alive and extensive rehabilitation. Scholastic published *Winter's Tail: How One Little Dolphin Learned to Swim Again* in October 2009.