

# HERO NEWS



Hilton Head Island/ Bluffton Chamber of Commerce Organization of the Year 2010

Angel Charity for The State of South Carolina 2015

"Making a Difference!"

2017

## Hurricane Heroes

by Gregg Russell

October turned out to be quite an eventful month for our island and for Hilton Head Heroes. We eagerly awaited the Inaugural Gregg Russell Children's Classic Golf Tournament to be held on the newly redesigned Atlantic Dunes Course in Sea Pines. We were excited to be the first to ever play this new Davis Love gem, but we had no idea that we would also be the last to play the course for quite some time. Little did we know that everything would soon be turned upside down by Hurricane Matthew.

A couple of days after our sold out tournament, the predictions by the Weather Channel of a dangerous storm approaching the low country were fully realized when our Governor called for a mandatory evacuation of the island. We buttoned up our homes, including the Hero House, and headed inland for higher and safer ground. And although the hurricane did make landfall on our shores, the general sentiment amongst the islanders was that we were grateful that we had escaped with no loss of life or no greater damage to our beloved community.

Town officials estimated that well over a hundred thousand trees had been knocked down by the high winds and the rising storm waters had caused massive damage. In fact, much of the golf course that we had played on just days before had been covered by the rising tide. Luckily for us, the Hilton Head Hero House survived the storm with minimal damage, but the yard was piled high with a huge number of downed trees and a mountain of debris.

We did our best to make a dent in the clean up by ourselves, but our efforts were overmatched by the enormity of the task ahead of us.

And then, like a scene from out of a Hollywood movie, the cavalry arrived! Pick up trucks full of volunteers arrived at the House with chain saws, heavy equipment and strong backs. Without being asked, Shawn Young from Cross Schools in Bluffton, accompanied by Kevin Lapinski and Ryan Berg assembled a hearty group of volunteers who jumped in and began the enormous task of restoring the property to its pre-storm condition.

After a full day of hard work, we invited the group into the Hero House for a cold drink and a few moments of rest. We told them the story behind the House they had worked so diligently to help us clean up. There were tears on both sides of the room as we shared what this special House has meant to so many sick children and their families. Before loading up their trucks and leaving, the group joined hands and offered up a prayer of thanks for being allowed to serve by giving of their time, energy, strength and heart.

This, in a nutshell, is also our prayer of thanks at Hilton Head Heroes. That we may continue to serve these children and their families with grateful hearts, knowing that for one brief moment in time, our community reaches out to families in need and makes a remarkable difference in their lives.



"Heroes stand when they would most like to fall."—Gregg Russell



# Elegant Evening & Silent Auction

presented by  
**TIDEPOINTE**  
a Community

Friday, November 10, 2017 • 6:00-9:00 pm  
at the TidePointe Clubhouse

Join us for an evening of Food, Drink,  
Entertainment and Enjoyment.

Your \$100 donation includes:  
Cocktails, Dinner and a Silent Auction.

Jackets are required.

RSVP to Leila Nelson at 843-298-0433  
Silent Auction items to Lindy Russell at 843-422-6343

All Proceeds go to Hilton Head Heroes,  
a non-Profit 501(c)(3) Organization



Thank you to our supporters of the 2017  
Birdies for Charity program.

This program sponsored by The Heritage Classic Foundation  
collects pledges annually on the number of birdies scored during  
the RBC Heritage presented by Boeing PGA golf tournament.

**We appreciate your pledges and donations.  
Donate at [www.heritageclassicfoundation.com](http://www.heritageclassicfoundation.com).  
Please list Hilton Head Heroes as your charity  
of choice!**



The One Hundred Hero  
program continues to be an  
outstanding success. Over  
the past several years, we have  
asked our friends to commit to  
supporting HEROES with a  
gift of at least \$1000 during the

calendar year. Those who participate become members  
of One Hundred Heroes and are invited to attend special  
intimate events throughout the year.

Please contact Gregg Russell at: [gruss3027@aol.com](mailto:gruss3027@aol.com)  
for more information about this special program.

## Through The Lens

*By Faith Seiders, Photographer*

When I look through my camera during a Hero family photo shoot, I do not see the daily struggles of endless doctor visits, injections or medical intervention. Rather, I get to see children laughing, parents smiling, and kids who love to pose for the camera. It is my hope to be able to capture the unique and amazing personalities of our Hero children and those special family moments that create a lasting memory. To see more family photos please visit [www.faiithographyphoto.com](http://www.faiithographyphoto.com)



Photos provided by Faithography

# Inaugural Gregg Russell Children's Classic Golf Tournament

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Inaugural Gregg Russell Children's Classic Golf Tournament at Atlantic Dunes in Sea Pines and the After Party at the Poseidon Restaurant on October 1, 2016.

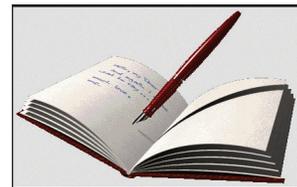


**SAVE THE DATE**  
for our  
**Annual Dessert Party**  
**December 10, 2017 • 2-4 p.m.**

The Hilton Head Hero House  
One Spanish Moss, Sea Pines

Guests are asked to bring a gift card to Publix to share with our arriving 2017 Hero families.

## Our Guest Book



Guest book entries from our Hero families:

*"We have never been on a vacation, or stayed in a home as nice as this. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for this amazing week."* –The S. Family

*"Our Hero child has been through so much, having a chance to do something together as a family is a true blessing."* –The B. Family

*"Our son is a double lung transplant survivor, sick since birth. This is our first vacation ever. Thank you."* –The R. Family

*"We made lifelong memories this week, spending quality time together for seven days of normal. We had the time of our lives."* –The S. Family

*"We had almost forgotten how to laugh until this trip. Some of the past heartache and the pain our daughter has endured disappeared this week"* –The M. Family.

*"Having a break from the constant chemo and hospital visit has been a true gift for all of us. Our return for more needed treatments will be with renewed hope and energy."* –The R. Family

*"This has been the perfect way to spend precious time with our child. She relapsed after two years in remission; it is with broken hearts we prepare to say good-bye to her. This trip and our photos will be a memory we will forever cherish."* –The L. Family

## Amazon Smiles



You can support Hilton Head Heroes by using Amazon Smiles next time you purchase items for yourself or business on Amazon. Simply

designate Hilton Head Heroes as your charity of choice and they will send us a percentage of sales monthly, you can still use your Amazon Prime account for free shipping.

Contact: [Smile.amazon.com/57-1076391](http://Smile.amazon.com/57-1076391).



**Board Members 2016/2017**

Gregg Russell  
Lindy Russell  
Rob Bender  
Nancy Conder  
Paul Griz  
Mark Hammond  
Marilyn Healy  
Nancy Kelly  
Elizabeth Millen  
Leila Nelson  
Jan Raisch  
Faith Seiders

**Honorary Board 2016/2017**

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Barrie Bergman  
Jim and Courtney Nantz  
Lisa and Corey Pavin  
Norman and Dana Schuld  
Stan and Margie Smith  
Chuck and Nan Strauch  
Jack and Jean Ward



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Hilton Head Island, SC 29938  
843-422-6343  
www.hhheroes.com

Non-Profit  
US Postage  
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Hilton Head, SC

**Mission Statement**

Our mission is to bring families with a child suffering from a life-threatening illness to Hilton Head Island for a resort vacation. All of our families stay in the Hilton Head Hero House located in the Sea Pines Resort.

**Donation program**

Hilton Head Heroes has a program in place to accept donations in memory or honor of a loved one, family member or friend.

Donation cards are mailed to your recipients as well as having their name recognized on our website under contributions. You will also be mailed a notification card and a tax receipt for your records.

We welcome contributions from business groups and can arrange to have notifications sent to your clients or customers.

**Tours of the  
Hilton Head Hero House**

**Sundays at 2 pm**

By appointment for individuals or groups.  
Call Nancy Kelly to arrange an informal tour 843-686-6856.



For the most up-to-date happenings, be sure to join our FACEBOOK page

[www.facebook.com/hiltonheadheroes](http://www.facebook.com/hiltonheadheroes)

*“Anyone who does anything to help a child in his life is a hero to me.” – Fred Rogers*

**YES, I will help a family make memories to last a lifetime.**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ \$25, \$50, \$100, \$500, \$1,000, \$2,000, \$5,000

Donor Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Contribution Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card  Visa  M/C Number \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_ CVC \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Donations in name(s) of \_\_\_\_\_

Occasion: Memorial / Holiday / Birthday / Anniversary (Please circle one)

Donation card mailed to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Donation in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

*\*please use a separate sheet for multiple donors and donations.*

Please mail to: Hilton Head Heroes, P.O. Box 6689, Hilton Head Island, SC 29938

Donations will be recognized on our website [www.hhheroes.com](http://www.hhheroes.com)

**Hilton Head Heroes is a registered non-profit 501(c)(3) organization**