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Thank You!

Thank You to all of our sponsors, donors, volunteers and friends. We have helped more than 40 local families in the past 5 years and, with ***your continued support***, we look to double that effort in the next 5 years.

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The Compassionate Assist

The Newsletter of The Harvey Bernhardt Foundation **Volume Four, 1st Edition**

Dear Friends & Family,

As we enter the 5th year of The Harvey Bernhardt Foundation, I am continually amazed at all of the support we receive from our friends and strangers.

Our 4th year was great and we ended the year with an exciting Holiday Program providing \$1000 to 14 families. This was the 3rd year of our Christmas program and the best yet! Working with the United Way, Catholic Charities, Success by 6,

Achievers for Life, Episcopal Children's Services and other organizations, we came up with 14 families from Yulee to Macclenny and everywhere in between to give something extra. There are so many families that do all the right things, but just



don't have enough left to provide anything extra at the end of the year to their children.



I was fortunate enough to help deliver 10 of the gifts to the families that we met at the United Way offices. These families had no idea what

was going on and were quite nervous. Some of the stories of struggles they had gone through were truly moving. One young lady had 7 kids and had recently lost her husband. She did not know where she would find the money for food for the holidays, let alone gifts. When we announced to these families the gifts they were receiving, it was truly a tear

jerker. Talk about the meaning of Christmas. It was an awesome feeling and it reminded me as to how important my job is with the foundation.

We are proud to support these hard-working, community-oriented families in their time of need and, ***with your support***, look to help other local families in the coming months. As we move into our fifth year, The Harvey Bernhardt Foundation will continue to uphold our father's spirit and belief in assisting others. We know there are

many great causes and charities and we appreciate you supporting The Harvey Bernhardt Foundation.

Warm regards,

Westley J. Bernhardt, Chairman

Neighbors in Need

It's been 5 years since we lost our father. We were so fortunate to have been given the opportunity to know him and learn from him. He always dreamed of starting a foundation to help those in our local community that are so many times forgotten. Many people fall out of the umbrella of federal funding because they "make too much". Many of these persons need help more than anyone. Typically they don't want the help and have too much pride to ask. They might have faced a medical emergency, crime or natural disaster, which has left them in a dire position. As I mentioned before, they typically don't want a handout, but badly need it. We have given several one-time grants to persons that have met these criteria. In 2011 we met two amazing families.

On New Year's Eve 2010 the Akerstrom family was heading home from vacation. They'd had a great time and were looking forward to starting a new year.

Mad About March

What a great time we had at our 4th annual Harvey's March Hoopla! This was the first year we offered a cash grand prize of \$5000 for the reverse raffle. Christie Simpson from Fidelity National Financial was the grand prize winner. Christie generously donated \$500 back to the foundation out of her winnings.

The basketball contest proved to be the most competitive we've had this year with Bob Crouch taking it with a score of 72. Richard Howard and Sarah Spelsberg better get their game on if they want to win this year.



Matt McAfee, Pat Rhodin

Brandi (the mom) turned to her son in the car and Luke was in a catatonic-like state. Luke had suffered from a very rare form of encephalitis. After many doctors and many months, the diagnosis was made. Luke was still not talking and his left side of his body had become paralyzed. We met Luke in June and he was improving slowly, but still in need of many treatments to help him move forward. We purchased a stander for Luke that would give him freedom at home to stand up, increase blood circulation to his legs and also give his parents a rest from having to carry him. In the fall, Luke had improved so greatly that he walked to centerfield with the Jaguars to do the coin toss. We are so proud of his improvement and his family's dedication.

In another dire situation over the Holidays, we received a call from

Catholic Charities that one of their families was in desperate measures. Kelgernon Wyche had been injured on his job over the summer and his company was disputing his workers compensation. He had used all of his funds to pay for his bills and was running out of time. He and his family of 5 children were going to lose their home over the holidays because of this legal situation. We stepped in and paid for the 2 months back rent and utilities as well as 2 months forward to give the Wyche family a chance to get back on their feet.

These are the types of emergency programs we offer and try to assist with throughout our community. We hope that with your continued support we will be able to help many more families throughout the Northeast Florida area. ❤️

23 (yes it's a Friday night) to watch some great basketball and have a great time for charity. It is at the Sheraton Jacksonville (Gate Parkway & Deerwood Park) and will be our best event yet. For tickets or information, please contact any of our board members. ❤️

-Photography by Naturally Photography



Raquel Crummit, Stephen Ossi, Sarah Claire Bernhardt

We had a great host at the Marriott Southpoint and amazing silent auction items from spa treatments to sports autographed memorabilia and a skeet shooting adventure. Kris Parnell of Footloose Entertainment donated his time to offer up his DJ & emcee services and Gary Denman of Naturally Photography donated his time to take some pictures of our party.

The Hoopla raised more than \$18,000 to benefit the community of Northeast Florida and will go a long way in our mission. Many thanks go out to our sponsors, Olympus Printing Design & Mail, Footloose Entertainment, Naturally Photography and of course our committee: Lisa Driver, Lara Siewart, Emily Rhodin, Amy Watterson, and Nader Farhat.



Melissa & Brad Bernhardt, Donna & Tom Zaccour, Vanja & Jean Ann Vukota



TF Jenkins, Don Nicol, David Wicker, Adams Ropp



Alexander Forsbrand and Ron Weaver, Sr.



Sheldon Bryan, Pat Rhodin, Bruce Westerman and Anders Forsbrand

Scenes from the green...



Jim & Charlie Bishop, Laura & Tom Nolan



Fred Page, Chris Hodge, Wes Bernhardt



Matt McNulty & Chris Hodge



Wes Bernhardt, Jeff Klauk



Shelly Davidson, Deb Filby

Golf to Give

What a great tournament we had this year. The weather was beautiful and it was a great day of golf. Fidelity National Financial was our presenting sponsor for the 2nd year in a row and with the generosity of all of our sponsors and golfers, this was one of our most successful events raising more than \$18,000 to help our neighbors living and working in the North Florida community. Jeff Klauk of the PGA Tour once again joined us in our

mission and helped golfers along the way with the \$10,000 putting contest. This year was very exciting with a four-way tie and playoff. Mark Taylor took the final shot and just missed his chance at the grand prize. Golfers had two chances at cars this year with hole-in-one competitions sponsored by Lucas Honda and Lexus of Orange Park & Lexus of Jacksonville

As we have each year since the start of the tournament, we were fortunate to sponsor a team of active servicemen from the Naval Station. We are always thankful to our men and women who serve and hope that this is just one small thing we can do for them.

The proceeds raised from this year's golf tournament were the funds we used to expand our holiday giving project. We were able to give to several more families this year (you can read about that the Chairman's Letter under Holiday Giving). ❤️

-Photography by True Zen Photography.

Save the Date!

This year's golf tournament is scheduled for **November 5, 2012.** We can't wait to see you there.