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THE SEA PINES RESORT HONORS GREGG RUSSELL AT NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATIONS *Popular Musician Named 2019 Ball Dropper*

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, S.C. (Dec. 4, 2019) — [Gregg Russell](#), the legendary singer who has entertained children and adults alike for more than 40 years in Harbour Town, has been selected to drop the ball for



[The Sea Pines Resort](#)'s two New Year's Eve celebrations on Tuesday, Dec. 31. For the first time ever, the resort accepted nominations from the public and Russell, who can be found throughout the year performing under the old Liberty Oak tree in Harbour Town, earned the ball-drop honor.

"There were many deserving candidates as we discovered but our selection committee unanimously deemed Gregg the perfect nominee for 2019," said Rob Bender, The Sea Pines Resort's director of recreation and marine operations. "His timeless concerts have bridged generations here — children who heard him decades ago now bring

their children to hear him sing. Our time-honored tradition of dropping the ball from the Harbour Town Lighthouse will be well served with Gregg at the helm."

Over the years, the New Year's honor of dropping the nine-foot, inflatable golf ball has gone to the likes of an active serviceman, a town official, a representative from the RBC Heritage tournament, and to Stan Smith, the resort's head tennis touring pro and former No. 1 player in the world. Joining the list is Russell, who arrived at Hilton Head in 1977 and is estimated to have entertained more than 3 million people over the past four decades.

A native of Alabama, Russell is a songwriter, singer, performer, actor and entertainer. His credits include television specials for the USA Network, and writing and performing original music for both CBS and NBC. In 1995, Russell and his wife, Lindy, founded [Hilton Head Heroes](#) to benefit seriously ill children and their families.

For the ninth consecutive year, the Resort will be holding two, [New Year's Eve ball-drop celebrations](#) — one at 7 p.m. geared for families with younger children, and the other at the more traditional time of midnight. The early event starts at 6 p.m.; the later event at 11 p.m.

Bender said the ball-drop festivities again will include live music, a DJ, face painting, juggling and more. "It gives you chills to watch and is the perfect way to say goodbye to the past year and hello to the new year," Bender said. "We have many families, community members, and guests who make it an annual tradition."

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