

Wish kid's
legacy helps
others in need
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Wish Kid
finds new
best friend
☆☆☆ pg. 4

Leave behind
a Legacy of
Wishes
☆☆☆ pg. 8

We are dedicated to making every eligible child's wish come true.

The **WISH.** Summer 2014
wire

Wish Kid Kylie (right), 8, and her younger brother Ryan during Kylie's wish trip to Walt Disney World®.

A MAGICAL WEEK

Wish gives proof to 'good things in life'



Noah, 2 1/2, of Lewiston is a stage-four cancer survivor. His wish was to go to Walt Disney World® Resort to have lunch with his favorite Disney characters. That's when we sprung into action and made this a once-in-a-lifetime journey for the courageous little boy.

Noah's wish was granted in honor of Union 797 in recognition for their Adopt-A-Wish gift of \$6,000. The Auburn Fire Department hosted



I wish to meet Disney characters at Disney World.



We had such a magical time together!

“ Make-A-Wish gives proof to the good things in life.

There are people who care , great adventures to have, & reasons to celebrate life .

Thank you for confirming this to my family! ”

- Jenna, wish mom

Noah's celebratory send-off party at the fire station, where he was an honorary fireman for the day and got his own fire gear.

A few weeks later, Noah and his family spent a full week in the warm Florida sun and enjoyed a magical lunch with his favorite characters.

“This trip gave us the opportunity to celebrate Noah's life and his courageous journey to remission. We had an amazing week full of treasured memories,” recalls his mom.

The family returned from their trip recharged and ready to help other wish kids in Maine. Late last month, Noah's mom became a wish granting volunteer and soon will be granting the wishes of kids just like Noah.

FANTASY AUCTION 2014

Friday, July 18



Come in your country best and be ready to bid on fabulous items like a trip to Italy, tropical getaways, and much more.

Visit maine.wish.org for more information or to RSVP. Advance registration required.

President's Chair



Record Number of Wishes Granted

There are so many great things happening with Make-A-Wish Maine and I want to thank you for helping to make it all possible! Most importantly, we are just wrapping up the busiest three-month stretch of wishes in the history of our chapter. Twenty-nine (yes, that's 29!) Maine children received the life-changing power of a wish between March and May. We are well on our way to fulfilling the wishes of over 70 Maine kids in 2014. You'll see inspiring stories and photos of how these wishes have changed the lives of our wish children and their families throughout this newsletter.

So many of you have stepped up to support our cause in recent months and we are most grateful! Whether you've made a direct contribution, supported our events, organized your own event, or volunteered your time to grant a wish or to help raise funds, we sincerely thank you.

There are always many more upcoming wishes and ways to help. We hope to see you at one of our upcoming events and we always welcome you as a member of our Make-A-Wish family to stop by our office in Portland. Your support brings our mission to life and we thank you!

Executive Director

Wish Kid Passing Benefits Other Kids in Need

Spencer Bean was only 9 when he received his wish to go to Disney World. He was an infant when diagnosed with cystic fibrosis and 8 when surgeons removed a lobe from his right lung.



Courtesy Boston Globe

While in college, the young man received a living-donor double-lung transplant thanks to his mother and aunt. This highly experimental procedure proved successful and during the 17 years that followed this rare operation, "He lived life to the fullest," says his cousin.

Spencer graduated college, landed a job and started a family. "He was so excited to have a second chance, and he did not shy away from expressing that 'wow,'" his mother said.

When asked if he was bitter about CF, Spencer stated, "It has defined who I am." It was with this grounded optimism that Spencer took his last breath in April. His organs were donated, reflecting a "True testament to his spirit. He will live on around us," says his doctor.

In lieu of flowers, donations were be made to Make-A-Wish so a wish could be granted in his honor. \$5,205 has been donated to date - just \$795 shy of granting a wish to a Maine child!



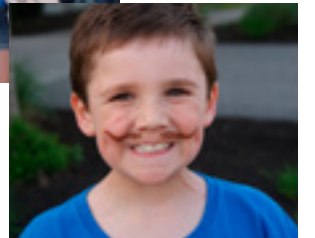
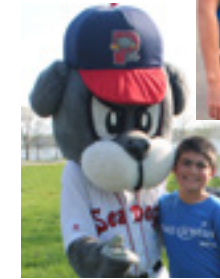
Help reach the \$6,000 goal in Spencer's honor.

Donate today at www.maine.wish.org or submit the enclosed envelope.

walk FOR wishes

We just wrapped up our Walk for Wishes in seven communities and are pleased to announce participation this year was as strong as ever. Supporters, sponsors and volunteers raised funds to grant 13 wishes!

Special thanks to our 2014 lead sponsors:



Recent Wishes

Here are just a few recent wishes we've granted.

- Chris, Corinth "I wish to meet NASCAR's Brad Keselowski"
- Ethan, Kennebunk "I wish to have my own boat"
- Ursula, Gorham "I wish to take surfing lessons in Hawaii"
- Aaron, Old Town "I wish to meet Rhett and Link"
- Paden, Rockland "I wish to have my own therapy room"
- Summer, McFalls "I wish to go to a movie premiere"
- Paige, Buxton "I wish to meet Cinderella at Disney"
- Jayden, Berwick "I wish to meet Tom Brady"
- Owen, Auburn "I wish to have a pirate ship tree house"
- Sara, Pittston "I wish to see koalas in Australia"



Upcoming Events Calendar

Proceeds benefit Make-A-Wish Maine.*

July	August	September	October
<p>15 ♀ ALEX AND ANI Charmed by Charity Event Portion of purchases benefits MAW. Commercial St., Portland</p> <p>18 Fantasy Auction Come in your country best and enjoy our saloon, bull riding, live music, and fabulous auction. Samoset Resort, Rockport</p>	<p>2 Motorcycle Ride Hosted by Augusta Eagles Club</p> <p>3 Tractor Fun Day Hosted by So. ME Garden Tractor Club. 448 Boom Road, Saco</p> <p>16 Wayne's Wiffle for a Wish Enjoy a game of wiffle ball in Bangor</p>	<p>9 Golf Tournament Hosted by Weather-vane Restaurant. Somersworth, NH</p> <p>10 Golf Tournament Hosted by Pepsi. Natanis Golf Club, Vassalboro</p> <p>18 Golf Tournament Hosted by The Ledges Golf Club. York</p>	<p>4 Ring Family Farm Day Enjoy wagon rides and horse demos. 1833 Hill Rd., Canaan</p> <p>17 Chips 'N' Dips Hit the card tables at our casino-themed party. Enjoy music, dancing, cocktails and more. Portland Country Club</p>

*Visit www.maine.wish.org for complete event information.

Wish Kid Spotlight



“I wish to have my very own service dog”

Tess, 10, of Vinalhaven battles a complex genetic disorder and severe seizures.

When Make-A-Wish spoke with Tess and her family, it became clear that a seizure assistance dog would offer tremendous reward to Tess and would greatly improve her quality of life.

Seizure alert dogs provide a level of emotional support above and beyond that of a traditional family pet. They provide a measure of comfort for the child and are a soothing distraction during medical procedures. Most importantly, these specially-trained dogs alert parents when a seizure is imminent.

In February, Tess and her family took a road trip to Ohio where they spent two weeks training with their newest family member, Oreo the service dog.

During their first meeting day, Oreo alerted the family of three seizures. While most of Tess’ seizures are mild and don’t require any attention, Oreo’s ability to detect when a seizure is coming enables the family to prepare if the seizure is a major one. In one instance, Oreo alerted Tess’ parents of a seizure 40 minutes before physical symptoms could be noticed.

“I can’t explain what it’s like to see and trust this dog so much. There simply are no words. We can’t thank Make-A-Wish enough for a wish come true,” says her mom.

Make-A-Wish thanks Petco Foundation, Avis, and Wish Granting Volunteers Doug Theobalds and Scott Freeman.

Volunteer Spotlight



This month we’re pleased to feature a trio of super-star volunteers: Faith Jones, Mildred Foster and Lillian Hall. These sisters are not only wish granting volunteers but also have helped to revamp the Walk for Wishes in Auburn, which just wrapped up a record year.

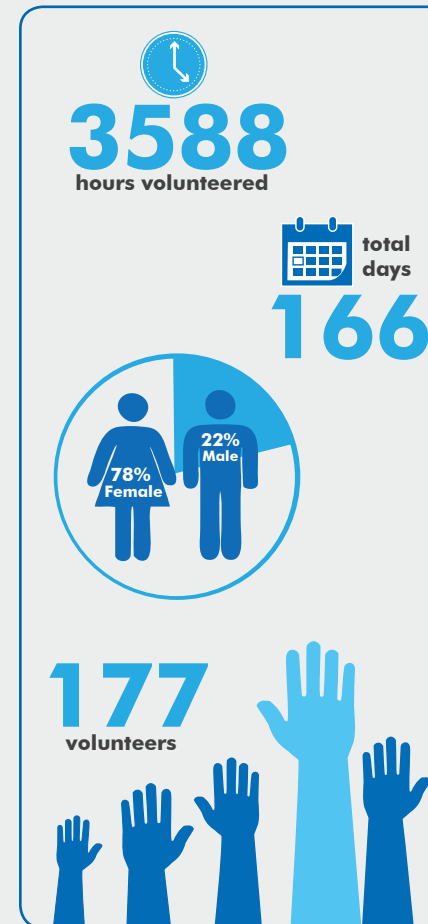
The sisters were inspired to volunteer with Make-A-Wish when their mother passed. “She dedicated her life to those in need and truly embodied the mantra ‘love thy neighbor,’” explains Lillian.

“It’s an honor to support the mission, sharing life experiences with those needing added strength and joy during difficult times. It’s not just the families that reap the rewards and heartfelt joy, it touches the lives of all the volunteers,” the sisters say.



Volunteers Make the Wish World Go Round!

Volunteers are essential to our commitment to bring hope, strength and joy to Maine kids. They’re the faces of Make-A-Wish to kids and families and we could not do what we do without them! Here are 2013 numbers:



Portland, Maine-based Kepware Technologies became an Adopt-A-Wish partner for the seventh time. Their donation put more than a smile on a child’s face, it enabled him to move freely once more.

Nate, 8, of Sweden has Sanfilippo Syndrome, a condition with no treatment and no cure.

Nate’s condition prevents him from walking and riding his bike. He wished for an adaptive bike so he can ride once more with his best friend - his brother. His wish was granted thanks to Adopt-A-Wish partner Kepware Technologies. Nate immediately took to riding, moving the pedals all by himself.

“He was humming while he rode. I didn’t know he could still hum,” recalls Nate’s mom.

When asked why his company supports Make-A-Wish, Kepware CEO, Tony Paine, says, “The tangible impact on children inspires and motivates us to make our state a better place to work, play and grow up.”



“I wish to have an adaptive bike”

Visit our site to learn more about becoming an Adopt-A-Wish Partner.

Welcome New Staff

We're pleased to announce the addition of two new friendly faces to the Make-A-Wish team.



Sonya Purington

Marketing and Communications Director



Whitney Miller

Office Manager

Sonya recently joined the team after nearly a decade at Maine-based Acorn Footwear. While working for an organization with such deep and profound impact on the local community is a relatively new venture, elevating brand awareness and loyalty with consumers is not. When asked what brought her here, Sonya explains "I was eager to focus my passion for marketing and communications in an area that really leaves a mark on our Maine community."

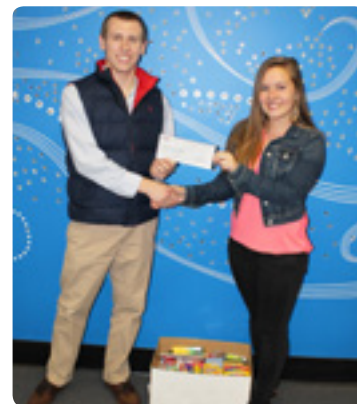
Whitney has managed the Make-A-Wish office since late last year. With five years prior of experience as an accounting assistant and a degree and background in social work, you can be sure Whitney offers the perfect blend of organization and compassion. She's always wished to be part of an organization she was proud to work for, and she says she's found it. "The reach and impact of Make-A-Wish amazes me. When I mention Make-A-Wish, everyone has a story to tell."

We need Wish Closet supplies!
207-221-2306

Make-A-Wish Star

Brooke Steele's brother Nathaniel was granted his wish to go to Disney over 10 years ago. Since that time, Brooke's become a super star at Make-A-Wish Maine.

This dedicated teen recently dropped off a check for \$1750 that she raised in the Spruce Mountain school district. Also in tow was a box full of Wish Closet supplies, like crayons, toys, books and goodies that are given to wish kids during their first visit from Make-A-Wish. These small but impactful tokens ease kids' nerves and enable them to open up as they dream of what their one wish might be. Thank you Brooke for your outstanding support and commitment to Maine kids!



"I wish to go to Maldives"

When Kelsey, 19, of Newburgh and her family first learned they were eligible for Make-A-Wish, they were wholly consumed by the rigors of her cancer treatments.

Her dad recalls, "the ability to dream had left us completely."

Nonetheless, Make-A-Wish wish granting volunteers encouraged Kelsey to dream big. The family had no idea how powerful a dream could be.

On a cold winter afternoon, Kelsey longed for a warm, tropical island with beaches, warm sand and exotic fish. A few months later, that's just what she got. The family arrived in Maldives and enjoyed a day of guided tours and snorkeling lessons. The days

that followed were just the respite this family was longing for.

"We got to explore, relax, laugh and heal as a family," says Kelsey's dad.

After all the family had been through, the best part of the trip, according to Kelsey's parents, was the true emotional healing that happened.

"How powerful dreams are when they can provide such hope and healing," says Kelsey's dad.

Make-A-Wish thanks Hampden Floral, Overstock.com, Four Points Sheraton, Kurumbo Maldives, Viking Lumber, and Wish Granting Volunteers Tracy and Mark Beauregard.



25,000 consumers were surveyed in Harris' EquiTrend poll. We're pleased to share how we ranked among the **top 95 U.S. non-profits:**

Trust #5 **most trusted non-profit**

Quality #4 **overall quality**

Performance #5 **exceeding expectations**

Connection #5 **emotional connection**



Donate your frequent flyer miles to help kids take flight.

Donated miles never expire and are easy to donate at: www.maine.wish.org



477 Congress Street, Suite M1
 Portland, Maine 04101
www.maine.wish.org
 207-221-2306

address goes here

LEGACY of WISHES™

A deferred gift can help balance your financial goals and your charitable interests - all while achieving significant tax benefits. A planned gift, such as a bequest in your will or trust, life insurance designations, or stock donation ensures your support for the children we serve well into the future. You'll do more than help grant wishes, you'll create a legacy that will impact wish kids for years to come.

Wish Mom Cathy of Saco became a Legacy of Wishes donor after her son's wish to meet legendary skier Shane McConkey was granted. She explains the impact of that wish at that moment and throughout his whole life: "When Adam's wish was granted he stood taller, smiled longer and forgot about all the pain. Little did we know this wish would turn into a lifelong connection with the McConkey family. Adam wouldn't be where he is today if it wasn't for the wish he was granted all those years ago. That's why I donate to Make-A-Wish Maine."

Help kids by naming us a beneficiary of your estate.

Membership in the Legacy of Wishes Society is accomplished by simply notifying us that you have named Make-A-Wish as a beneficiary of your estate. Your information will be confidential and you have the option to keep your membership anonymous. By joining the Legacy of Wishes society, we are able to recognize your generosity today. Your commitment to the future of Make-A-Wish will provide a lifetime of joy to wish kids.

In Memory

We are saddened by the loss of the following wish children since our autumn Wish Wire.

NAME	AGE	HOMETOWN
Emily	20	Newport
Anonymous	17	-
Anonymous	22	-
Tristan	14	S. Portland
Kobe	14	Auburn
Makenna	6	Houlton
Sarah	18	Greene