

A publication of
Make-A-Wish®
GREATER PENNSYLVANIA
AND WEST VIRGINIA

Fall 2025

Wishing Well

*I wish to attend a royal ball at
the Walt Disney World® Resort*

Lila, 4
respiratory disorder



Read about
Lila's wish
on page 2.

The Princess Who Never Gave Up: LILA'S ROYAL WISH



"Once upon a time in a magical kingdom not so far away, Disney Royals heard of a wish for a princess-themed day..."

Four-year-old Lila squealed with delight as her mom read to her aloud from a book they had received in the mail that morning. "YOU are cordially invited to a Royal Ball," read the bottom of the page.

Lila knew just how special this invitation was— she had dreamt of this very moment forever. Who knew what the Walt Disney World® Resort's Once Upon a Wish Party, an exclusive two-day event just for 50 lucky wish kids and their families, held in store for her?

Lila, her big sister and their little brother are all diagnosed with the same debilitating respiratory disorder. Every day includes many, many medications and breathing treatments, but from looking at Lila and the joy she carries with her everywhere she goes, you would never know she was sick.

From the moment their plane touched down in Orlando and she ran over to high-five her airport greeters, Lila powered through every moment of her wish trip with boundless enthusiasm. She bounced around at the dance party with all her favorite characters, did her best princess twirls at her dress fitting and when the Fairy Godmother took Lila and her sister into her arms and helped them recite "Bibbidi-Bobbidi-Boo,"— it was time for the royal ball!

"Everything about this wish is just magical, special... and almost a miracle," said their mom, Jenny. "Because being a medically fragile family— income and money are difficult. So being able to come here with no stress or worries is amazing."

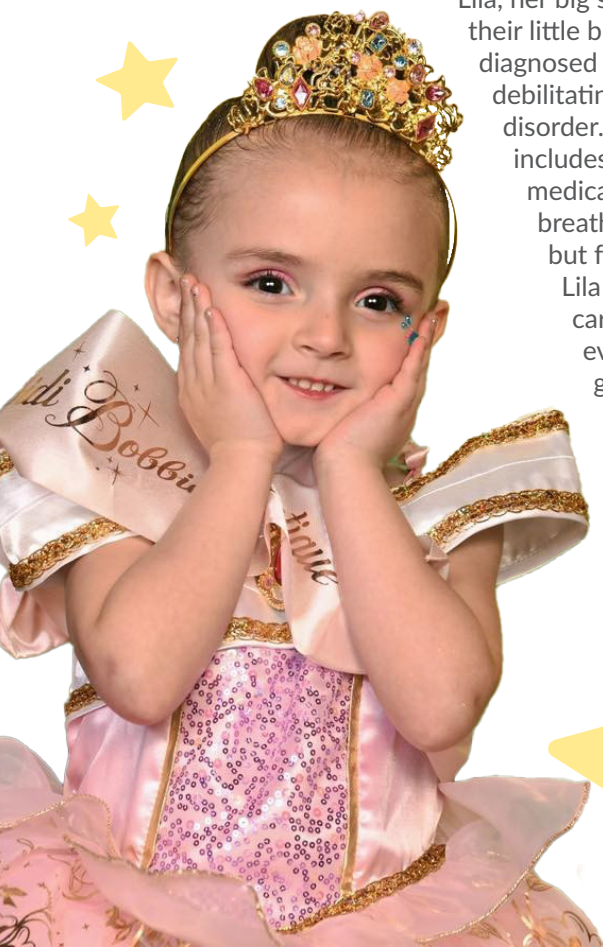
As she watched her newly crowned little princess twirl around at the ball, it was hard not to be emotional. "Just picturing this moment right now and seeing all that joy is just magical, because you don't know what the future's going to be like for them," said Jenny. "And I know she's young, but I hope she will remember this moment for the rest of her life."

Watch Lila's Wish

If you know a child diagnosed with a critical illness, refer them today at:
wish.org/refer

Referrer:
Kristen Myers

Volunteers:
Kim Cabrera and
Amy White



Events Recap

Waffles & Wishes

Jonah's Epic Universe Wish



Photo by Jaime Carmosino Photography, LLC

On April 25, 2025, Make-A-Wish held its annual Waffles & Wishes event in Erie, PA.

It was an incredible morning of wishes — both old and new. Attendees listened to stories of wish alumni and volunteers and reveled in the reveal of Jonah's wish to go to Super Nintendo World at the brand new Epic Universe theme park at Universal Studios. Jonah was on stage with his family, talking about his medical journey, when suddenly a video call came in from Bowser himself! After triumphing over a series of challenges from Bowser, Jonah was rewarded with an invitation to the new park during its opening week.

Waffles & Wishes would not have been possible without the incredible generosity of our Wishmaker sponsor, Siebenbuerger Club and our signature sponsors, The Plastek Group and UPMC Health Plan, and our media sponsor, WQLN. We wish to extend a huge 'Thank You' to Traci Teudhope of Erie News Now for emceeing the event and adding even more magic to the day.

Check out the photo from Jonah's wish on page 4.

If you want to attend amazing events like Waffles & Wishes and Light Up A Child's Life®, visit our [website at wish.org/greaterpawv/our-events](https://www.wish.org/greaterpawv/our-events) to find out more.



Light Up A Child's Life® CAMPAIGN

2025 Campaign Schedule

DuBois

December 1- 5

Mon. - Thurs. : 7 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Fri. : 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunny 106

12 W. Long Ave. | DuBois, PA 15801

Punxsutawney

December 8 - 12

Mon., Wed. - Fri. : 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Tues. : 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Make-A-Wish®

Punxsutawney Regional Office

219 W. Mahoning St.

Punxsutawney, PA 15767

St. Marys

December 17

Wed. : 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

The River 98.9

6 Franklin Center | St. Marys, PA 15857

Erie

December 5, 11 & 19; 3-5:30 p.m.

Star 104

One Boston Store Place | Erie, PA 16501

December 20; 7 p.m.

Erie Insurance Arena

Erie Otters' Winter Wonderland game

809 French Street | Erie, PA 16501

Be sure to listen to our broadcasts on STAR 104 from Dec. 5 -12 and Dec. 15 -19 for our prize-packed giveaways.

Wishes Come True



*I wish to go to
Super Nintendo World*
Jonah, 8 ↑
heart transplant
Erie, PA



*I wish to go to
North Carolina*

Adam, 12 ↑
nervous system
disorder
Bluefield, WV

*"Everything went
amazingly great.
The zoo was an exceptional
experience. It was beyond
what I expected! They made
us feel like we were the only
ones there. This is a lifetime
memory that will never
be forgotten!"*

- Misty, Adam's mom



*I wish to have
a hot tub*

Keira, 12 ←
liver transplant
Cambridge Springs, PA



*I wish to go to the
Walt Disney World®
Resort*

Amelia, 5 ↑
endocrine disorder
Pittsburgh, PA

*I wish to have
a playset*

Annie, 3
cancer
Beaver, PA



Annie's Slide into Sunshine



Annie came into the world as a healthy, happy baby girl. But when she was just a year old, one month before her baby brother was born, she was diagnosed with a rare form of cancer in the back of her eye. Suddenly juggling a newborn and a toddler in chemotherapy, her parents had to rely on the support of their community more than ever.

That's when Annie's doctor introduced the family to Make-A-Wish®.

"[The wish] gave her something to look forward to," said her mother, Katie.

Annie spent lots of time talking and dreaming about all the possibilities of what her wish could be. Her favorite thing to do is play outside at the playground, so she chose to have her very own playset.

Annie is now three years old and in remission from her cancer, and her parents have loved every moment of watching Annie and her brother create lifelong memories playing on her special playset.



THANK YOU

FOR MAKING THESE WISHES COME TRUE!

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Sheetz for the Kidz
Snee Reinhardt Charitable Foundation
Pete Tolman

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Judson Lehman
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Ronald Natale
Judith Oswald
Marye Phillips
Sharon Ramer
Brandon Ryan
Heidi Sauble
Jan Stork
Mary Yearsley
Joe Yost



*I wish to have an OxeFit XS1
Peak Workout Machine*

Gabby, 17↑
kidney transplant
Bethlehem, PA

*I wish to have a
gaming computer*

Nyiel, 12 ↓
blood disorder
York, PA





*I wish to go
to Hawaii*

Dylan, 14 ↑
kidney disease
Reading, PA



*I wish to have a
swimming pool*

Legion, 6 ↑
congenital heart disease
New Oxford, PA



*I wish to have a
home theater in my
basement to spend
time with my family*

Stella, 11 ↑
cancer
Lower Burrell, PA

*I wish to meet the
Altoona Curve
baseball team*

Isaac, 5 →
congenital heart
disease
Altoona, PA



*I wish to have a
Toy Poodle puppy*

Elsbeth, 12 ←
brain tumor
Chambersburg, PA



Donors Make it Happen



The Learning Experience
- Nazareth, PA



WVU Chi Omegas
Wish Week
- Morgantown WV



Navy & Pearls Fashion Show
- Pittsburgh, PA



Youth Leadership Council fundraising at
the 2025 Pittsburgh Pierogi Festival - Pittsburgh, PA



Wabtec's Bids for Kids with
wish kid Cole and Pittsburgh
Steeler, Connor Heyward
- Pittsburgh, PA



Waterside Campground and
RV Park Make-A-Wish® Weekend
- Lewistown, PA



Steel City Ride for a Wish
- Washington, PA



BNY Employees made
bracelets for wish kids
- Pittsburgh, PA



Jared S. Peters Memorial
Golf Tournament
- Myerstown, PA



Wish kid Clinton and his family at
ShopRite® of Westfall Town Center - Matamoras, PA



Inaugural Dice Run with wish kid Lauren and her family - St. Marys, PA



Wish kid Winnie and her mom at the 2025 Walk For Wishes - Morgantown, WV



Complete Chaos Softball Team Beverage Bingo - Pottsville, PA



Erie Steelheads' Annual Make-A-Wish Weekend - Erie, PA



Fairway Subaru Share the Love Event - Hazle Township, PA



Wish kid Gabriel and his family with students of West Pocono Mountain High School at Red Robin - Bartonsville, PA



Sheetz Internz helped make wish gifts at their annual training at company headquarters - Claysburg, PA



JamOff 2025 with Presenting Sponsor, Liz Martin, LLC - Charleston, WV



Wish kid Greta and her family at Applebee's - Sayre, PA

Thanks to Our Donors

The next newsletter will be sent in Spring 2026 but the donor list on our website - wish.org/greaterpawv - is always up-to-date. In the meantime, don't forget to send us your email address for news and events. We will keep your address private.

The following lists cash and in-kind donations, totaling \$5,000 and above for the months of January through August 2025. Tribute honorees totaling \$500 or more are also listed. We extend our deepest appreciation to all of you. Should you discover an error or omission, please call us at 412.471.9474.

Whenever you donate online, please be sure to go through wish.org/greaterpawv. If you do, we will receive 100% of your donation - less a nominal administration fee. If you go directly to our national organization's website, we will only receive 80%.

\$100,000 or more

412 Gives Back
Estate of Robert I. Estill
Give Kids the World
Grapevine - A Wine Tasting Event
Luttner Financial Group, LLC
Pittsburgh Investment Professionals
Estate of Ann Stahlman
Truck Convoy for Wishes, Gettysburg

\$75,000 to \$99,999

34th Annual Mom's for Make-A-Wish Softball Tournament
Estate of Carol Ann Cummings
Marriott Vacations Worldwide
Subaru Share the Love Campaign

\$50,000 to \$74,999

Corn Dog Open
Franklin County Truck Convoy
Guardian Life Insurance Company of America
PNC Investments
Wabtec Corporation Bids for the Kids
Waffles and Wishes, Erie
Walk for Wishes, Morgantown
The Walt Disney Company

\$25,000 to \$49,999

40th Annual Make-A-Wish Golf Outing
All-Clad Metalcrafters
Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar, Sayre
Frank L. Burke IV Memorial Fund of the Scranton Area Foundation

Cans for Wishes
Convoy for Kidz
Disneyland® Resort Corporate Social Responsibility
Driveway Subaru of Moon Township
Erie Insurance Group
Fairmont State Foundation
Komax Business Systems
Krista's 26th Annual Motorcycle Event
Penn Trafford School District
Plum Borough School District
Royal Caribbean International
Shenango High School
Southwest Airlines
LeAnne Starnier Annual Fundraiser
Tudor's Biscuit World
United Airlines National Ticket Program
United States Steel Corporation
VRX Simulators
Wheels for Wishes
Wheels, Wings & Wishes
World Pizza Champions, Inc.
York Brush Brigade

\$10,000 to \$24,999

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Altour
American Airlines
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Avis Rent A Car Systems, Inc.
Bergey's Subaru
Blackwood Pipe Organ Concert
The George W. Bowers Family Charitable Trust
Estate of Mary Louise Brock
Buddy's Babes Softball Team
Calligan Family Foundation
N. David & Janet M. Campbell Family Foundation
Wheels for Wishes
Cascade Park Club
Chase Travel

Christmas Light Up Celebration
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Steel City Motorcycle Company, L.P.
Subaru of South Hills
Target Circle
TLE Let's Grant Wishes
Youth Leadership Council

\$5,000 to \$9,999

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 Waterside Campground and
 RV Park
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WE REMEMBER

We dedicate this newsletter
 in memory of the following
 wish kids. Each has touched
 our lives and hearts.

Alec
 Ashly
 Avery "Marie"
 Avery S.
 Brandon
 Braxton
 Brigid
 Christopher
 Darius
 Emma
 Eva
 Hope
 Isaiah
 Jaxyn
 Jaylynn
 Jesse
 Jett
 Landen
 Maddox
 Mason
 Michael
 Mollie
 Peter
 Quinton
 Raymond
 Ruby
 Sade
 Sadye
 Savana
 Xzavier

We've Moved...



Across the Street!

Last spring, the Pittsburgh headquarters
 moved to the Koppers Building at:
436 Seventh Avenue, 25th Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1826

All of our phone numbers and
 fax number will remain the same:
800.676.9474 (toll free) | 412.471.9474 (phone)
412.471.9705 (fax)

Make-A-Wish® Greater Pennsylvania and West Virginia

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Our Mission

Make-A-Wish® Greater Pennsylvania and West Virginia creates life-changing wishes for children with critical illnesses. We are proud to have served more than 22,000 children in 57 Pennsylvania counties and West Virginia in our more than 40-year history.



SAVE THE DATE

April 30, 2025 | 6-8 p.m.

23RD ANNUAL GRAPEVINE

A WINE TASTING EVENT

Connect with Us



wish.org/greaterpawv



email@greaterpawv.wish.org



Raise a glass to wishes at the
Wintergarden at PPG Place.