A publication of Make-A-Wish® Greater Pennsylvania and West Virginia

Wishing Well

Fall 2026

I wish to have a royal birthday celebration

Azhaar, 5
liver transplant



Read about Azhaar's wish on page 2.



Azhaar's Royal Birthday

Azhaar's hospital social worker referred her to Make-A-Wish® at just four years old, while she was recovering from a liver transplant. Azhaar's medical staff had become very close with her and loved her sweet and bubbly personality. They admired how, despite all the hours spent inside hospital walls, Azhaar's imagination never dimmed. She loved to envision herself as a princess, with a glittering tiara and floor length gown.





Azhaar had never had a birthday party before, so when she found out that she could have a wish, her imagination lit up with visions of a ballroom decked out in elegant decorations fit for a princess. She saw her friends, family and medical team dancing and enjoying delicious treats; their faces aglow with celebration, and in the middle of it all— she saw herself, beaming as she is finally coronated as a princess. And with her fifth birthday approaching, Azhaar's royal fifth birthday party was set into motion.



On the morning of her special day, Azhaar donned a mint green gown with delicate white lace details and a big tulle skirt, and her mom placed a beautiful gold tiara on her head. The venue was just as she'd pictured it, as she ascended marble steps into a room full of princess-themed decorations, gifts, activities and a big, purple throne just for her. She ran to greet her friends, and they danced, played games and decorated wands and tiaras with colorful gemstones. She was dubbed "her royal five-ness," and the princess and her guests celebrated not just her turning another year older, but the strength and courage that had brought her to this point.



Referrer:
Julia Scanlon

Volunteers:
Jeanine Brevak and
Erika McElligott

Photos courtesy of Kate Buckley Photography

Events Recap

Waffles & Wishes

Abigail's Dream on the Big Screen



Photo courtesy of Alisia Faulkner.

On April 24, 2026, Make-A-Wish held its annual Waffles & Wishes event in Erie, PA.

As always, attendees enjoyed a delicious breakfast and listened to stories illustrating the impact of a wish. A heartwarming wish reveal took place when wish kid Abigail, a high school senior, was invited onstage to talk about her medical journey and her pending wish. She wished to create a documentary about her experience with chronic illness in the hopes of helping other kids feel less alone. Abigail was stunned when, on the screen behind her, a trailer began to play for her very own movie!

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.

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 to find out more.



Light Up A Child's Life® CAMPAIGN

2026 Campaign Schedule

St. Marys

December 4
Fri. : 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

The River 98.9
6 Franklin Center | St. Marys, PA 15857

DuBois

December 7- 11
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 14 - 18
Mon. - Fri. : 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Punxsutawney Country Club
408 N. Main Street
Punxsutawney, PA 15767

Erie

December 19; 9:30 a.m. -5:30 p.m.
Millcreek Mall
5800 Peach Street | Erie, PA 16565

December 19; 7 p.m.
Erie Insurance Arena
Erie Otters' Winter Wonderland game
809 French Street | Erie, PA 16501

Be sure to listen to our broadcast on STAR 104 on Dec. 19 for our prize-packed giveaways.

Wishes Come True



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

Paxton, 6 ↑
gastrointestinal disorder
Dickson City, PA



I wish to go to a dude ranch in Yellowstone

Amelia, 8 ↑
respiratory disorder
Charleston, WV



I wish to have a French bulldog puppy

Isaiah, 17 ←
cancer
Wrightsville, PA



I wish to have a shopping spree

Abrianna, 17 ↑
lymphoma
Luzerne, PA

FROM SUPERFAN TO SUPERSTAR: Conner's WrestleMania Wish

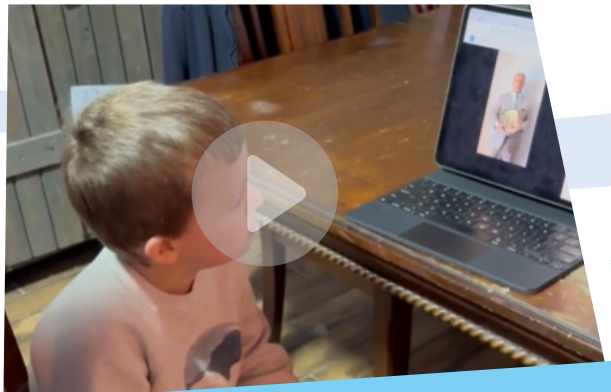


I wish to go to WrestleMania 42

Conner, 5
leukemia
Greenville, PA







Watch Conner have his wish revealed!

There are casual fans of wrestling, there are *superfans*... and then there's Conner.

Conner is a clever five-year-old boy from Greenville, Pa., who loves all things WWE. His favorite way to spend time with family is watching wrestling on TV and playing with his WWE Superstar action figures. This passion has helped keep his spirits up while being treated for leukemia. Conner can even list all the Superstars from memory.

So, imagine his surprise when his Make-A-Wish® volunteers showed up at his house with a custom video from WWE Superstar Cody Rhodes telling him that his wish to go to WWE's WrestleMania in Las Vegas was coming true!

Conner and 25 other wish kids had the time of their lives as Make-A-Wish, WWE and Fanatics, the official sports partner of Make-A-Wish, teamed up to provide a WrestleMania weekend full of surprises. From a souvenir shopping spree, and getting his very own Superstar entrance as "Conner the Destroyer," to meeting Cody Rhodes and all his favorite Superstars— it was an experience Conner would never forget.

THANK YOU

FOR MAKING THESE WISHES COME TRUE!

DONORS

Dr. & Mrs. Arthur William Phillips Charitable Trust
Cans for Wishes
Climate Control Storage Plus
Earl W. & Ina G. Tabor Foundation
Keck Food Service
Rotary Club of Wellsboro
Truck Convoy for Wishes, Gettysburg

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Genevieve Marcon
Leslie Mattinson
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Stephanie McCully
Ciana Merrigan
Sara Merrill
Meghan Miano
Susan Moore
Amanda Pearce

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Shannon Childs
Nancy Clark
Chris Courtney
William Courtney
Lori DeVoe
Becky Disney
Cindy Faust
Janet Finkelstein
Andrea Gallleur-Waldo
Sarah Harlache
Mary Meehan
Catherine Mentzer
Dennis Mickey
Janet Mickey
Karen Poletti
Angela Potter
David Skomo
Amy Smith



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

Kadijatu, 3 ↑
cancer
Allentown, PA

I wish to go to Italy to visit my family, go swimming and eat pizza

Massimo, 13 ↓
brain tumor
Wellsboro, PA





"The trip went great! He loved meeting the family and eating all of the amazing food. It was very nice to get away after everything that happened last year."

-Tony, Massimo's dad



I wish to go dig for fossils

Blayde, 13 ↑
lymphoma
Glen Rock, PA



I wish to go to Universal Cabana Bay Beach Resort

Cierra, 15 ↑
lymphoma
Omar, WV



I wish to donate toys, games and books to the Lehigh Valley Children's Hospital

Milly, 13 ↑
lymphoma
Bethlehem, PA

I wish to go to the Outer Banks and stay at a beach house

Stephen, 4 →
neuromuscular disorder
Hawthorn, PA





I wish to go to Puerto Rico

Scarlett, 16 ←
leukemia
Falling Waters, WV

Donors Make it Happen



Pocono Mountain West High School Student Council - Pocono Summit, PA



American Legion John Niedzinski Post 624- Eynon, PA



Wish kid Jonah Allgeier and his brother Isaiah with Wabtec event organizers at Erie Bids for Kids - Erie, PA



Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie 533 - New Kensington, PA



Staci Hull rallies her team for the Franklin County Convoy - Chambersburg, PA



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



Truck Convoy for Wishes with Sherri Keller - Gettysburg, PA



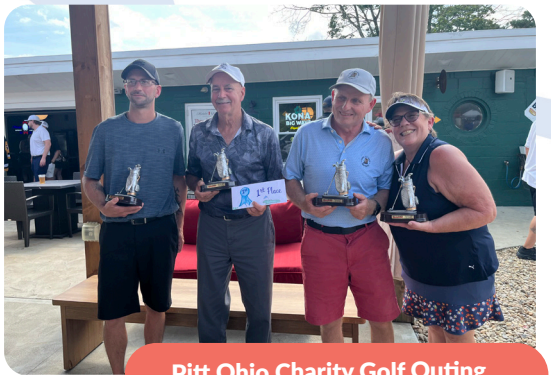
York Brush Brigade Pinstriping Jamboree - York, PA



Wishes Do Come True Softball Tournament - Alverton, PA



Altoona Curve Baseball - Altoona, PA



Pitt Ohio Charity Golf Outing - Penn Hills, PA





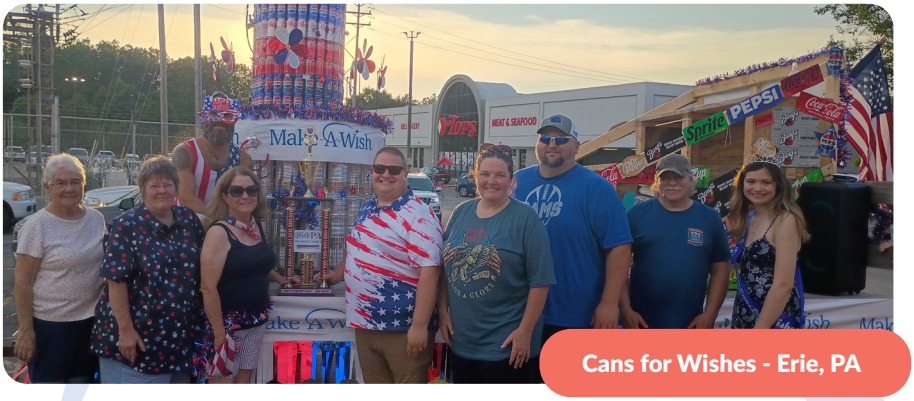


35th Annual Moms for Make-A-Wish Softball - Schuylkill, PA

Left: Buddy's Babes 2026 Fundraising Champions, Center: Werner Lady Lumber 2026 A Division Champions, Right: The Leftovers 2026 B Division Champions



LeAnn Starner's Annual Make-A-Wish Fundraiser - Dover, PA



Cans for Wishes - Erie, PA



Black Rock Rookies Lemonade Stand - Schuylkill, PA



Wish alum Jimmy at Diamond Run Golf - Sewickley, PA



New Kensington Eagles Ladies Auxiliary 533 - New Kensington, PA



Greenville Elks Club Annual Golf Scramble - Greenville, PA



BK5K Youth Fund - Scranton, PA



Kanawha Valley Chapter of the WV Credit Union League with wish kid Laken on his wish day - Charleston, WV

Thanks to Our Donors

The next newsletter will be sent in Spring 2027 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 2026. 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

Give Kids the World
Grapevine, A Wine Tasting Event
Luttner Financial Golf Outing
Estate of Marian Sipper
Pittsburgh Investment Professionals

$75,000 to $99,999

35th Annual Mom's for Make-A-Wish Softball Tournament
Disneyland® Resort
PNC Wealth Management
Royal Caribbean International
Subaru of America Share Your Love Campaign
Truck Convoy for Wishes, Gettysburg
Estate of Catherine Wreath
Estate of Geraldine Zoretich

$50,000 to $74,999

The Walt Disney Company
Franklin County Truck Convoy
Marriott Vacations Worldwide
Southwest Airlines
Wabtec Bids for Kids
Waffles and Wishes, Erie

$25,000 to $49,999

41st Annual Make-A-Wish Golf Outing
All-Clad Metalcrafters
American Airlines
Frank L. Burke IV Memorial Fund of the Scranton Area Foundation
N. David Campbell
Bill Brown
Buddy's Babes Softball Team
Cannonball Run Rally
Cheers for Wishes
Convoy for Kidz
Corn Dog Open
Erie Insurance Group
Fairmont State Athletics-SAAC
Fiserv, Inc.
Guardian Life Insurance Company of America
Jaclyn Harwi
John R. Hornbrook, Jr., Perpetual Charitable Trust
Estate of Judith Jarvis
JP Morgan Chase
Krista's 27th Annual Motorcycle Event
Jamie and Neil Laslo
Luttner Financial Group, LLC
Victoria McKenney, Esq.
Neshannock Township School District
Penn-Trafford School District
The Plastek Group
United Airlines
U. S. Steel
Walk for Wishes, Morgantown
Wheels for Wishes
Wheels, Wings & Wishes
World Pizza Champions, Inc.
York Brush Brigade
Youth Leadership Council

$10,000 to $24,999

ABC Supply Co., Inc.
Amy's Wish Motorcycle Ride
Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar, Sayre
Avis Rent A Car Systems, Inc.
Bergey's Subaru
Blackwood Arts Pipe Organ Concert
Calligan Family Foundation
N. David & Janet M. Campbell Family Foundation
Cans for Wishes
Captain Fairmont State University
Cascade Park Club
Chapman Corporation Employees
Charities For Children
Christmas Light Up Celebration
CJR Memorial Foundation
Robert and Sara S. Comloquoy Trust
Complete Chaos Softball Team
Conewago Enterprises, Inc.
Derry Area High School Bachelor Auction
Miss Duquesne Pageant, Alpha Sigma Tau, Duquesne University
Ebara Elliott Company
Enterprise Holdings
Erie County Technical School Walk for Wishes
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Fairway Subaru
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Allison and Matt Manning
Markiewicz Guest Bartending Event
Chelsea McKita Memorial Foundation
Danielle Mitchell Memorial Fund
NiSource Charitable Foundation
Omni At The Battery
PA State Police Gettysburg Association
Donn Patton
Carol Paytas
Jared S. Peters Memorial Golf Outing
Dr. & Mrs. Arthur William Phillips Charitable Trust
Poff Family Garage Sale
Premier Wealth Partners
Rebich Investments
Ride for Wishes
Salvitti Family Foundation
Joseph C. Scott Foundation
Siebenbuerger Club
Nancy R. Smith Trust
Snee-Reinhardt Charitable Foundation
Manassas and Annie Solt Memorial Fund of Berks County Community Foundation
LeAnn Starner Annual Fundraiser
Steel City Motorcycle Company, L.P.
T.E. Spall & Son, Inc., HVAC
The Learning Experience, Nazareth
Tudor's Biscuit World
Universal Studios Hollywood
Waterside Campground and RV Park
Wayne Wojdak
Wincore Windows & Doors

$5,000 to $9,999

Above Ground Pools
Leslie and Sandy Aderson
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Kerri Angeletti
The Antero Foundation
Atlantis Paradise Island Bahamas
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big Burrito Restaurant Group
Black Rock Rookies Softball Team
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Bryson Gray Golf Outing
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The Dancer's Perfect Fit
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Nadia Luttner
M&T Charitable Foundation, Altoona
The Mark and Tom Memorial Golf Outing
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Marshall Middle School
The Mascaro Family Foundation
Massey Charitable Trust
McCullough Elementary
William B. McLaughlin Charitable Trust
Mericle Foundation
Morgan Stanley Wealth Management
The Charles M. Morris Charitable Trust
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Mr. Handyman of Northern Pittsburgh, South Hills and Moon Township
National Football League
Navy & Pearls Fashion Show
New Kensington Eagles Ladies AUX 533
New Minersville Firehouse Bikers Softball Team
Paradigm Electronics, Inc.
Carisha Parrish
Margaret M. Patton Trust for Charities
Peak Integrative Medicine Softball Team
PennWest Edinboro University
Jared S. Peters Memorial Golf Tournament
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Estate of Ann Stahlman
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In Memoriam

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In Honor

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Liam Charles McCall
Clients of RBC Wealth
Kiara Izora Reinoehl

WE REMEMBER

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

Airalee
Annabelle
Ava
Braelynn
Brian
Blake
Caleb
Christopher
Daisy Rae
Daren
Elias
Ethan
Faith
Haven
Holden
Jayvier
John
Julia
Kaley
Kevin
Kennsley
Kylie
Landon
Lexi
Lilith
Maia
Maverick
Nolan
Riley
Sonya
Sylvia
Tim
Tymir

WHEELS FOR WISHES

Proceeds from the sale of your car, boat, motorcycle, SUV, RV or truck donation will help to bring joy to children with critical illnesses.

Call 855.675.9474 or visit pittsburgh.wheelsforwishes.org

Make-A-Wish® Greater Pennsylvania and West Virginia
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Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1842
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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 nearly 22,500 children in 57 Pennsylvania counties and West Virginia in our more than 40-year history.



'Tis the season to help grant wishes!

Get a head start on your holiday shopping.
If you're looking for the perfect gift for your coworkers, friends and family, then look no further. Make-A-Wish is your one-stop shop for spreading joy this season!

Shop will close at midnight EST on Monday, November 23, 2026.

Shop Now



We're fundraising with Sarris Candies to help grant even more wishes this holiday season!

Order online from **now until December 13** and our chapter will receive 25% from each candy sale.

Shop Now

Connect with Us

wish.org/greaterpawv
email@greaterpawv.wish.org