

WISHLINE

Volume 31, No. 1

Make-A-Wish® Southern Florida

AN ACTION PACKED WISH



As a Green Bay Packers fan living in Lake Worth, 13-year-old *Jordan*, who battles neuroblastoma, usually only gets the luxury of watching his beloved team on television. The dark green and gold was always a way for his family to bond, so when Jordan returned to his family's home state to watch the Packers dominate the Detroit Lions, it was a dream come true.

The weekend was full of surprises from the moment the limo drove them to Lambeau Field. There, they were taken on a behind-the-scenes tour. Jordan was invited in to break down the huddles, and he received his own locker next to the locker of his favorite player, Aaron Rodgers. Jordan got a jersey along with four autographed footballs and a signed helmet, and ended the day eating lunch just like one of the guys.

On game day, Jordan and his family tailgated with friends and family, sat in the alumni suite among retired players, appeared on the Jumbotron, met retired player Donald Driver, and went on the field. At the end of the day, Jordan said his face hurt because he could not stop smiling.

While in Wisconsin, Jordan and his family stayed at the Tundra Lodge, which has a three-story indoor water park and an arcade. Jordan's father said the best part was the feeling that the players truly cared about his son. "We literally walked in the door and half the players sprinted over to see Jordan. They really took a liking to him – we didn't expect that type of camaraderie."

Wish granters: Jacqueline Harris & Traci Kaplan

Referred by Brian Larimer, his father

Wish adopted by the Ferraro Family Foundation

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To 20-year-old **Levi** from Okeechobee, a wish was a way to gain independence. Battling spina bifida and kidney disease, and confined to a wheelchair, he is somewhat limited in what he can do. An outdoorsman, he loves to fish from the dock but he wanted to do more. Levi wished to have a pontoon boat because he can leave the dock behind. Levi was thrilled to receive his 18-foot-long red pontoon boat and simply said, "I'm glad I got it. I don't have to wait for anybody - now I can do it all on my own...this is amazing." The best part is

that now Levi can go fishing whenever he likes. "Make-A-Wish has made one of his dreams come true and we're forever grateful," his mother said.

Wish Granter: Mary Thomas

Referred by himself

Wish adopted by Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Cohen



Eleven-year-old **Alex** has always known she wanted to be a famous designer, so the fashion-forward teen stitched together the perfect wish to help her forget her rheumatologic disorder. Clad in her most trendy outfit, Alex flew out to Los Angeles to make her design debut with Trixxi Clothing Company, Inc. She spent her behind-the-scenes day with Trixxi's designers, discussing design, wearing a "happy cape" for inspiration and receiving lots of new design tools and pointers. Upon returning home to Miami, Alex received a package

from Trixxi with a beautiful outfit (named after her). Her father said her wish was one of the greatest moments in her life so far. "I thought it was a mission impossible. This was something that she really wanted. Seeing these people that actually do this on a daily basis, take the day for her, that really took my breath away."

Wish granters: Leslie Levine & Candy Norton

Referred by herself

Wish adopted by Petermark Salon

If you know of a child with a life-threatening medical condition who would love to experience a wish come true, call Make-A-Wish Southern Florida at 888.773.9474

DONATE YOUR AIRLINE MILES

Please help us grant wishes involving airline travel. Donate your unused airline miles today! For more information, visit www.sfla.wish.org.

CONNECT WITH US ONLINE!



Social networking is a wonderful platform for keeping in touch with us. You can get updates on wishes, special events and more by connecting with us on these social media sites.



Cowabunga! Four-year-old **Jayden** from North Lauderdale had a totally rad time when he wished to meet the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles at the Summer of Shell Celebration at the Nickelodeon Suites Hotel. Much like his idols, Jayden exhibits extraordinary bravery every day, but instead of taking down villains, he

uses his turtle power to battle retinoblastoma. The entire Orlando vacation was themed around his favorite crime-fighting reptiles but Jayden shelled out his best ninja moves during a private meet-and-greet with his favorite turtle, Raphael. While in Orlando, Jayden and his family also got to visit SeaWorld and *Walt Disney World*®, with front-of-the-line access to every attraction. “We loved it, we appreciate it, and he had a blast.” Jayden’s father said. “This foundation is the best I can think of.”

*Wish granters: Julie Halpern & Roni Komie
Referred by Noeline Lewis, his nurse practitioner
Wish adopted by Mr. Jack Swan*



Kirra, a 7-year-old animal lover from Pompano Beach, had a roaring good time when she traveled to San Diego for an up-close look at the San Diego

Zoo followed by a “Roar N Snore” sleepover among the animals. Kirra went beyond the ropes for close encounters with the animals. Kirra and her family enjoyed an after-hours look at the wild life of the animals, roasted marshmallows and a campfire dinner before sleeping in a special tent inside the Safari Park campgrounds. Being treated like the queen of the jungle was the perfect way to forget her daily struggle with a rheumatologic disorder. She said, “This was the best day of my life.”

*Wish granters: Leslie Levine & Candy Norton
Referred by Lawrence Fass, her doctor
Wish adopted by TooJay’s Original Gourmet Deli*



Colder weather was definitely what 8-year-old **Morgan**, who battles a congenital cardiac condition, had in mind when she wished to go to Alaska. Growing up in Fort Myers,

she wished to explore the colder climate, see the native animals, and enjoy activities she doesn’t get to do in Florida. Her favorite experience was fishing on the freezing cold river and catching tons of fish all on her own! She also cherished the opportunity to discover lots of animals and even hold some including a husky puppy. Morgan learned about dog sled racing and was amazed by the enormous mountains and pristine snow that she is not used to seeing. She was so grateful for the chance to experience this beautiful state, and hopes she has the opportunity to go back one day.

*Wish Granters: Jenny Foegen & Nannette Staropoli
Referred by Dr. Eric Eason, her physician
Wish adopted by Aston Gardens at Pelican Marsh*



Disney is proud to be a long-time supporter of Make-A-Wish® and uses its magic to grant the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions. Over the past 30

years, Disney has supported the Make-A-Wish mission, contributing more than \$9 million in cash and in-kind donations each year. With more than 7,000 wishes granted every year – including visits to the Disney Parks, Disney Cruises, meeting Disney Characters, attending sporting events and visiting TV and movie sets – Disney-themed wishes continue to be the most popular requests by Make-A-Wish children.



We recognize and thank Give Kids the World Village for helping make wishes come true.

A DAY AS A DISNEY PRINCESS



With the wave of a magic wand, 8-year-old *Giselle*, who has an immunodeficiency disorder, was transformed into a princess while on her wish to go to *Walt Disney World*® Resort. Her mother said, “She enjoyed everything from getting done up, to meeting the princesses, to even getting to be a part of a show.”

Giselle, who is from Coral Springs, visited *Disney’s Animal Kingdom*® Park, *Disney’s Hollywood Studios*™, Universal Studios and Islands of Adventure, but her favorite part was visiting the *Magic Kingdom*® and SeaWorld. She loved her princess makeover and meeting her fellow princesses and aquatic friends.

Giselle’s mother said the most memorable time was spent at the Give Kids The World Village, a royal resort designed solely for wish families. It was magical when Giselle’s personal star was placed on the ceiling in the Castle of Miracles. It was a fairy tale vacation that Giselle and her family will never forget. Her mother said, “Just seeing her being able to do things that normal kids do and actually enjoy it was the highlight. Instead of focusing on doctor’s appointments, the focus was just on her having fun. The whole experience was amazing.”

*Wish granters: Adria Minevich & Shelby Ruebens
Referred by Dr. Gary Kleiner, her immunologist
Wish adopted by Mr. Thomas Blaney*



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