

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 3, 2009

Make-A-Wish Foundation® to Grant Wenatchee Teen's Wish

Foundation also seeking Wenatchee volunteers to help make more wishes come true!



Who & What:

Fourteen-year-old (soon to be 15) wish kid Kaylee is about to live the dream; that is, her own personal dream to have an extraordinary 15th Birthday Bash compliments of the Make-A-Wish Foundation and Jewelers for Children (JFC) who is sponsoring her wish. JFC, a national sponsor of the Make-A-Wish Foundation of America, has pledged to grant a child's wish in every state, including Washington.

Kaylee has had more than her fair amount of struggles given her battle with Hodgkin's Disease so a party to celebrate her 15th birthday was just what the doctor ordered for this vivacious teen.

Kaylee chose this as her wish because she had attended a friend's Quinceanera and fell in love with the idea of having her very own celebration. However, rather than waiting until she turned 16, Kaylee wished to celebrate in the here and now because as she knows, illness can come at any time. Last year, Kaylee was unable to celebrate her birthday due to her illness so the Make-A-Wish Foundation is planning a grand soiree that'll help her make up for lost time.

From hair and make-up, to her new gown, Kaylee will be the belle of the ball. About 150 of her closest family and friends including eight of her girlfriends, donning matching gowns, who will serve as her "court," are expected to celebrate with her. Taking cues from traditional wedding ceremonies, guests will enjoy dinner, dancing and cutting of the cake.

Media are invited to attend. A special presentation by **Mike Clark**, store manager of **Clark's Jewelry**, a JFC member jeweler, will be attending the party to present Kaylee with a very special gift on behalf of the jewelry industry. Though the gift is to remain secret, it will have sapphires in it as this is Kaylee's favorite gem and also her birthstone.

Where & When:

Kaylee's family and friends will join her at the Beacon Hill Grange (located at 323 Easy St in Wenatchee – p: (509) 663-3406) for this grand celebration on June 13th from 7-11 p.m.

Volunteer Opportunity:

The Make-A-Wish Foundation is seeking volunteers in the Wenatchee area to help make more wishes to kids like Kaylee come true. Local representatives will be hosting a volunteer training on **Thursday, June 11th from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.** at the La Quinta Inn & Suites (located in Wenatchee at 1905 N Wenatchee Ave.). To register for this event, please email volunteer@nwwishes.org or call 800.304.9474.

About the Make-A-Wish Foundation:

The Make-A-Wish Foundation of Alaska, Montana, Northern Idaho & Washington grants the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy. Since its inception in 1986, the chapter has granted nearly 4,000 wishes to children in the Pacific Northwest and will grant 291 wishes this year alone. For more information about the Foundation, call 800.304.WISH or visit our website at www.northwestwishes.org.

About Jewelers for Children:

Jewelers for Children was founded in 1999 by the U.S. jewelry industry with the mission of helping children in need. Since its inception, JFC has donated more than \$30 million to programs benefiting children whose lives have been affected by illness, abuse, or neglect through charity partners St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, the Make-A-Wish Foundation, the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation and the National CASA Association, among others. This nationwide success is due to the continuing generosity of jewelry trade organizations, jewelry and watch manufacturing companies, jewelry retail stores, individual jewelry professionals, and jewelry consumers. JFC has raised over \$6.9 million for the Make-A-Wish Foundation of America, helping to grant a total of 1,053 wishes in the U.S. since its inception.

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