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Tacoma Boy to Realize his Wish to Meet Seattle Crew of Discovery Channel's *World's Deadliest Catch*

American Equity Mortgage Seattle partners with Make-A-Wish Foundation® to sponsor wish

Seattle (July 31, 2008) – If 10-year-old Gary Yost of Tacoma is not outdoors casting a line into the closest lake or river, he can most likely be caught indoors glued to the TV – hook, line and sinker – watching his favorite show: the Discovery Channel's *World's Deadliest Catch*.

Led by Seattle's own Captain Sig, Gary is enamored with life at sea on the "Northwestern" and is about experience life aboard this infamous fishing vessel thanks to American Equity Mortgage (AEM) who has partnered with the Make-A-Wish Foundation to make his dream come true.

Living with Ewing's Sarcoma, Gary's wish to meet Captain Sig and the Seattle crew will come true during Seafair (Friday, August 1 and Saturday, August 2).

Gary's wish will begin with a limo picking him up from his home at 8:30 a.m. on Friday and transporting him to the Shipyard in Ballard (located 24th Ave and Market St.). Upon arrival, Gary and his family will be escorted onto the "Northwestern" with Captain Sig and start their seaward journey around 10 a.m. Capt. Sig and his crew will take Gary and his family through the Ballard Locks on their way out to Puget Sound where they'll be on the water until about 3 p.m. While at sea, Gary will have an opportunity to run some controls, swing out the crane and fish, of course!

The festivities will continue on day two of his wish (Saturday, August 2nd) as he hangs out on the boat with Captain Sig and other crew members. The Captain will share his Seafair VIP pass with Gary giving him access to the pits and an opportunity to meet the boat drivers. Gary's wish of a lifetime will conclude on Captain Sig's boat where he and his family will "hang out" and watch the Blue Angels show and the boat races.

About the AEM and Make-A-Wish Foundation partnership

AEM conducts an annual workplace giving program with its employees in each of its 21 office locations throughout the country. AEM is helping the Make-A-Wish Foundation grant wishes to children with life-threatening medical conditions. Ninety-nine percent of AEM's employees participate with individual donations and volunteer time. For more information on AEM's partnership with the Make-A-Wish Foundation, please visit www.americanequity.com.

About the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Alaska, Montana, N. Idaho & Washington

The Make-A-Wish Foundation® of Alaska, Montana, Northern Idaho and 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 more than 3,500 wishes to children in the Pacific Northwest and will grant nearly 300 wishes this year alone. For more information about the Foundation, including how you can help *share the power of a wish*®, call (800) 304-WISH, or visit www.northwestwishes.org.

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Share the Power of a Wish®