

**November 2010**

**San Clemente, CA**

### **Merchant Services Grants Its 35<sup>th</sup> Wish!**

Merchant Services is thrilled to partner with the Make-A-Wish Foundation® of Orange County and the Inland Empire to grant the wish of Matthew to become a sushi chef - the 35<sup>th</sup> wish sponsored by Merchant Services since December 2007!

Matthew is like a lot of teenage boys - he enjoys playing video games and hanging out with friends. Unlike a lot of teenage boys, fourteen-year-old Matthew's hobby and passion is making, and eating, sushi. His love for sushi began when, during what he described as a "flare" of his illness kicked in, he had an overwhelming desire to eat sushi. He began making his own sushi and served it to his friends and family - always receiving rave reviews.

When his Wish Granters asked him what his most heartfelt wish was, Matthew knew right away that it was to learn more about the art of sushi making by attending the California Sushi Academy in Los Angeles so he could develop his skills and make even better sushi for his friends and family.

Senior Vice President of Merchant Services, Bob Parisi, was on hand for a special ceremony at the Americana at Brand in Glendale, CA. The event was part of the annual Make-A-Wish "Season of Wishes" campaign and Matthew received a gift certificate presented by Parisi to purchase the tools he would need for his classes. After speaking to the large holiday shopping crowd about his wish, Matthew prepared a variety of sushi rolls with the help of master sushi chefs from the award-winning Katsuya Restaurant. "They were delicious!" raved Parisi.

Matthew then spent five days at the California Culinary Academy learning from one of the top sushi masters, Toshi Sugiura. Chef Sugiura not only shared his knowledge with Matthew about making sushi, he also taught him about how important the art of sushi making is to Japanese culture – something else Matthew is passionate about.

“It’s exciting and heart-warming to be a part of making a child’s wish come true. The joy these wishes bring to them is priceless and we are truly honored to help support Matthew’s wish,” said Parisi.

Matthew’s experience at the Sushi Academy was unforgettable and he is now well on his way to becoming an accomplished sushi master.

“We are thrilled to partner with Make-A-Wish® to support wishes like Matthew’s. We are committed to supporting wish granting throughout the year and it is particularly meaningful to be able to help bring so much joy to these children and their families during the holiday season. It’s the perfect time to give back to the community,” shared Vice President of Merchant Services Nathan Jurczyk.

#### **About Merchant Services**

Founded in 1995, Merchant Services is a leading provider of e-commerce solutions to businesses throughout the United States. Recognized in 2009 and 2010 by Inc. Magazine as one of *The 5000 Fastest Growing Privately-Held Companies in the U.S.*, Merchant Services provides sound, reliable and cost-effective bankcard and e-commerce support to tens of thousands of business partners nationwide.

#### **About the Make-A-Wish Foundation®**

Since 1980, the Make-A-Wish Foundation® has enriched the lives of children with life-threatening medical conditions through its wish-granting work. Since its beginning, the organization has reached more than 174,000 children around the world. The Foundation's mission reflects the life-changing impact that a Make-A-Wish® experience has on children, families, and entire communities. To learn more about the Make-A-Wish Foundation® of Orange County and the Inland Empire please visit [www.wishocie.org](http://www.wishocie.org).