

MNADOPT

ZERO KIDS WAITING NEWSLETTER

September 2014, Vol 7, Issue 75



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Fab Four - Martin, Savannah, Autumn & Josie



MARTIN (10) is a friendly and quiet boy who enjoys playing video games, riding his bike, reading books and playing Legos. Martin would benefit from a home filled with love, happiness and an easy going atmosphere. He enjoys pets and would like a family that

has them. Martin would do well in a home that can provide him with set rules, boundaries and consequences - yet are fun and loving towards him.

SAVANNAH (8) is a bright, talkative and intelligent little girl. She can be very helpful and likes to interact with peers and adults. Savannah loves nature and being outdoors, especially spending time with animals. She enjoys reading, playing with dolls, riding her bike and playing board games. Savannah would benefit from structure and routine and knowing where she "fits" with the family. She would do well in a home with pets and the outdoors, where she could take great pride in caring for animals and helping out.

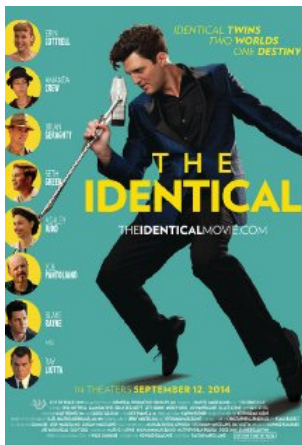
AUTUMN (7) is a talkative and outgoing girl who likes to be the center of attention. Autumn enjoys playing with dolls, coloring, reading and playing with her siblings. She also likes being outdoors, playing with animals, riding her bike and jumping on the trampoline. Autumn would benefit from a loving family in a rural environment. She would do well in a home with structure and set boundaries as well as patience and consistency.

JOSEPHINE "JOSIE" (5) is an active and silly young girl. She enjoys playing with her older siblings, family movie nights and riding her bike. She is your typical little girl who loves playing dress up, playing with dolls/Barbie's and playing house. Josie enjoys playing with animals and being able to explore the outdoors. Josie would do well in a home that offers her structure and boundaries, so that she will know what is expected of her.

Martin, Savannah, Autumn and Josie would do best in a home where they are the only children.

For more information about these siblings, contact Children's Home and Family Services Child-Specific Recruiter - Amber Herron at 651-225-2233 or aherron@chsfs.org

The Identical - Elvis and Adoption



What if Elvis had a brother who was secretly adopted? The Identical explores the themes of secrecy and adoption in this movie released September 12. While not an instant hit with critics, he Identical has some well-known actors and has been well received by

MN ADOPT in the Community

The following are upcoming community events where MN ADOPT will have a presence. If you're attending, be sure to stop by and say hello.

Children's Home Society/LSS Family Reunion
When: Sunday, September 21, 11:00am - 4:00pm
Where: Corner of Eustis and Como, St. Paul
[More Information & Registration](#)

FASD Matters Conference, sponsored by MOFAS
When: November 13 & 14
Where: Minneapolis Marriott NW
[More Information & Registration](#)

HELP Program - Providing services to all Minnesota adoptive families.

audiences. Those drawn to adoption issues may find this an interesting fictionalization of the life of a well-known celebrity.

[Watch Trailer](#)
[Find Theatre](#)

Rally for Foster Care & Adoption

The Council on Black Minnesotans is starting a new initiative, "A community outreach effort to increase the number of kinship, foster and adoptive families for African American children who are currently in need of loving families and homes." Visit their web site to find out more and get involved.

[Rally fo Foster Care & Adoption](#)

17th Annual Circus of the Heart

The 17th Annual Circus of the Heart will take place on Sunday, November 2 from 1pm - 4pm at the Prom Center in Oakdale. There will be a short program with emcee Sanni Brown from KMOJ, followed by a celebration of adoption through games, entertainment and fun. This event is open to families who have adopted as well as those who are interested in adopting a Minnesota Waiting Child. Private agencies, the Department of Human Services and counties will be there to provide information and answer questions.

We're still in need of donations for pries for teens and families who attend the event. See the link below for ideas of how you can contribute.

[Circus of the Heart Donations](#)



Looking for ways to help MN ADOPT fulfill our mission to **Promote and Support**



MN ADOPT has a strong history of promoting and supporting permanency for Minnesota children in foster care. But we also have services that are geared toward ALL Minnesota families created through adoption. Our HELP program serves all adoptive families, and approximately 50% of the families we work with in this program have adopted internationally. Our clinical specialists can help connect families to needed resources in their community.

Please contact on of our HELP Clinical Specialists to learn more:

Emily Alewine MSW, LISW
ealewine@mnadopt.org
612-746-5128

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US to allow adoption from Vietnam for first time since 2008

After a six-year ban, US families will be able to adopt children from Vietnam beginning September 16, 2014. There had previously been concerns about unethical practices in Vietnam, and since the ban placed in 2008 the country has joined the Hague Convention, which has oversights and processes in place that focus on the protection of children and prevention of child buying.

Successful adoptions for Minnesota Children and Families? Below are some ideas on how you can team with MN ADOPT to make a difference:

Social Media

Like and follow MN ADOPT on Facebook and Twitter:



Amazon Smile

MN ADOPT is registered as a nonprofit to receive donations through Amazon Smile. If you shop through the Amazon Smile portal and identify MN ADOPT as your nonprofit of choice, 0.5% of your purchase will be donated back to us!

[Support MN ADOPT through Amazon Smile](#)

Recurring Donation

Consider providing a recurring donation to help MN ADOPT achieve successful outcomes for children and families. No amount is too small, and even \$5 per month can make a difference. [MN ADOPT Donation through Network for Good](#)

At this time, families will be able to adopt children five years of age and older, those with special needs, and sibling groups. Vietnam has approved two US agencies to facilitate adoptions from Vietnam: [Dillon International](#) and [Holt International Children's Services](#).

See the links below for more information about the history and recent decision.

[Department of State Vietnam Page](#)
[Bloomberg News](#)

Foster Care & Education

Youth in foster care face an uphill battle when it comes to achieving educational goals. School changes at critical time require them to retake course or miss taking a classes that meet a key graduation requirement. This story shares the perspective of one youth: [Harold's Story](#)

The passage of the Uninterrupted Scholars Act in January 2014 is a first step in improving educational outcomes for youth in foster care by giving child welfare professionals better access to school records and information when the youth changes schools. Learn more about the [Uninterrupted Scholars Act](#)

Upcoming Educational Opportunities:

Workshop Series: RAD LABS (Reactive Attachment Disorder Learning Alternative Behavioral Strategies)

Presented by Deena McMahon, LICSW and Krista Nelson, LICSW, LMFT

Duluth Series - October 10 (6:30pm-8:30pm) & October 11 (9:00am-3:00pm)

Mankato Series - October 24 (6:30pm-8:30pm) & October 25 (9:00am-3:00pm)

This two-day training series is specifically designed to address the support and education needs of those parenting children with significant impairments and/or trauma issues with an emphasis on good self-care and humor! This training explores the unique experiences going on in your home and implements role play scenarios and class participation. [More about RAD LABS](#)

Workshop: The Mental Health Needs of Children in Foster Care & Adoption

Presented by Michele Fallon, LICSW, IMH-E, (IV)

October 28, 6:30pm-8:30pm, Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota, Minneapolis

Michele Fallon is an Infant and Early Childhood Health Consultant who provides an overview of infant and early childhood mental health and the special considerations for promoting healthy development for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers in out-of-home placements and adoption. This two hour training will provide:

- An introduction to the biology of stress in young children
- Strategies for caring for young children under stress
- Tools to help caregivers explore, interact, and develop relationships with young children who have mental health needs.

To register or for more information on any of these trainings go [here](#)

Zero Kids Waiting

Zero Kids Waiting is the monthly eNewsletter of Minnesota Adoption Resource Network, now MN ADOPT, a 34-year old organization that creates and supports lifelong nurturing families for children needing permanency.

As an email subscriber to Zero Kids Waiting, you will receive a monthly update about what our organization and others are doing to promote adoption of Minnesota children and teens.

To opt out of receiving Zero Kids Waiting and other announcements from MN ADOPT including MN ADOPT training emails for parents and professionals, please click SafeUnsubscribe at the bottom of this newsletter.

Your email is solely used for the distribution of MN ADOPT newsletters, trainings and other news and will not be shared or broadcast.

To learn more about Minnesota's waiting children and our goal to reach Zero Kids Waiting visit the [State Adoption Exchange](#)

Donate Today

The Zero Kids Waiting eNewsletter reaches people willing to adopt children who are not reached by general recruitment measures. Please consider donating as much as you are able so that we may reach ZERO - Zero Kids Waiting.

To make a secure tax deductible online donation, click [Donate](#).



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