



# Miracle



## Special points of interest:

- Conference - look out more to continued
- Shooting Star of the season 1, Sam P., 2 Brian J
- Look out for Roberta up date about voting rights
- Mary R, story about SAGE

## Falling leaves

Let Talk about SABE conference, this past Labor Day weekend, Mary R., Roberta B., and Katie M. (myself), attended the conference.

I believe I can say for every one we learned new projects we can share with the Shooting Stars groups and even Advocates Aces, we also met people national wide and made new connections.



Here we are at the SABE Conference. Roberta, Mary, Kelly Lee from ACT, my self, Jenny Sanders and Coral Robinson from ACT, just hanging out having a great time !!!!!



## Shooting Star Kyle L. Story



Hello my name is Kyle, I am still new to Merrick. I have been here for 1/2 half yr, I work at Fairview Hospital. I collect recycling in various areas in the hospital. I like the feeling I get from helping out, and getting to meet new people and the respect they give me for appreciating what I do for them. My future goal is that I would love to work

with kids maybe as a life coach and a peer mentor. My interests are writing poetry and drawing pictures of characters and landscapes. I would like to write a book and one day get it published it. So go for your dreams! I would

like add one last thing I am a passionate person with a big hear and enjoy being a mentor to others my goal is to have a career in this area.



Kyle : hanging out BP Rock kids when he & self advocates presented on anti bullying. How cool !!!!!

## *Shooting stars Meetings*



Taking a picture of Shooting Stars Group— big happy family

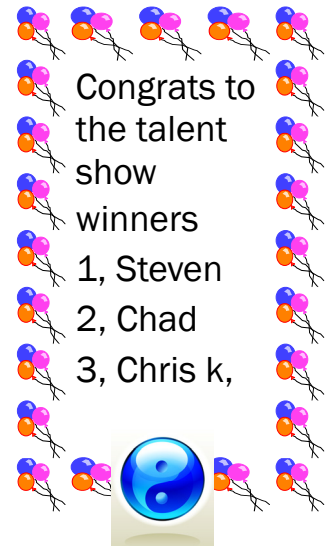


The Shooting Stars SA groups meet on:

- Tuesday afternoon 1:15 to 2:10pm,
- Wednesday 8:00 am to 9:00 am, &
- Thursday morning 8:30 to 9:30am &

Also Katie has a

J.Arthur's Self-Advocacy off site every other Thursday after noon from 4:00 pm to 5:30pm and every one is welcome, J.Arthur's coffee shop 2441 rice Roseville, MN , if questions please Contact Katie @ (651-815-2262)



Congrats to the talent show winners

- 1, Steven
- 2, Chad
- 3, Chris k,



## *Advocates Aces Open House*

Advocate Ace's would love to thank every one who came out to our open house on August 2nd on the one year anniversary. It was a big successful event - there were over 100 people who stopped by to say hello & listen to McKenna S. , who is a dear friend to Katie and the group. It is always a good time!



## Mary R. Story about SABE

Its all about Fairness that was the theme for this year SABE Conference :) it means Self-Advocates becoming in Empowered , this year Saint Paul hosted 2012 conferences at the River Center, and

Crown Plaza , Good times :) There where over 600 self advocates. They came from all over the country . I was on the planning committee - working with others was my favorite. Another

favorite was Friday when we had a human right's fair. We had fair food & Games my favorite was the photo booth :)



The Lady's at the SABE Conference

## Roberta B. \ Legislative Update

On August 6<sup>th</sup>, Katie and I (along with Colleen) attended the Voter ID Community Event that was hosted by Congressman Keith Ellison and Mai Thor was on the panel for the event. It is on video already, so if you want to see that, please let Katie or myself know and we would be able to show you the video.

The week of September 10<sup>th</sup> was when we had the Get Out The Vote Drive. The Monday & Friday sessions did not happen, but we had the 3 sessions that were tied-in with our Shooting Stars groups and I'm very proud to say that we had over 100 people attending those 3 sessions!

The Shooting Stars are now also App stars! The Minnesota Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities has come out with an app for the iPad called "Telling Your Story" and the example short stories are all from the Shooting Stars! It's a free app, so if you have not seen it yet, please let Katie, myself or any staff know (even Colleen) and we would be happy to show it to you.

I have created a wonderful Register to Vote Display in the Admin reception area, with there also being a poster out in the front lobby. The resources are for clients/self-advocates, staff & the general

public; so if you want to grab anything from there, you are more than welcome to do so.

For those of Shooting Stars who are under guardianship (just like me), Judge Donovan Frank has heard a case where the right to vote for people under guardianship was in question. He did dismiss the case, which means that he ruled in favor of the defendants-including Secretary of State Mark Ritchie. Thanks to Judge Frank for this ruling as it means that our right to vote is protected.





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[Shooting stars  
Facebook page](#)

*To submit an article for the Miracle newsletter please contact the Editor, Katie McDermott at 651-815-2262, or [katiemariemcd@gmail.com](mailto:katiemariemcd@gmail.com) or Co-Editor, Roberta Blomster at [blomstersa@comcast.net](mailto:blomstersa@comcast.net)*

**Shooting Stars Miracle is a newsletter written by self-advocates wanting to share their good news with everyone. It will published four times a year.**

If any one is Interested writing for the Self Advocate newsletter *Miracle* please send me a sample column to my email ([KatiemarieMcD@gmail.com](mailto:KatiemarieMcD@gmail.com))—deadline by Thanksgiving for the next issue. Take a chance to be who you are!!!

## STARS OF THE SEASON

**Name: Sam P**

Nominated by: Chris D

Reasons for nomination:

1. He's good friend
2. He likes to make Me laugh
3. He's hard worker

**What do you like to do in your spare time?**

I like to play board games . I also like to go self-advocacy group to learn speak up and the history of SA .

**How has self-advocacy changed your life?**

I like seeing my friends talking about my feeling having every one listen to me

**How long have you been at Merrick and what do you do here?** I work at Merrick inc since 1991 21 years , still feel young at heart , I work on pull tabs ,love my Job!

**What are your favorite foods?**

I love me some Pizza And diet coke , I also like noodles company Yummy!



[At the Holiday party  
Having fun](#)

**Name: Brian J**

Nominated. Abby H

Reasons for nomination:

1. He makes me laugh
2. He smiles at everyone
3. Strong Advocate

**What do you like to do in your spare time?**

I like working on the computer and going to the dollar store or deal smart.

**How has self-advocacy changed your life?**

I like training others and making new friends.

**How long have you been at Merrick and what do you do here?**

A long time , I work with the White Way crew. It's a great job!

**What are your favorite foods?**  
Mexican and Italian.



[Just hanging out  
with smile](#)