



VOLUME XXXXVIII No. 8 "An Employee Owned Company"

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## **RACING PASSION**

# MID MICHIGAN MOTORPLEX

A couple of GTD employees are very immersed in their hobby of auto racing, one on the drag strip and other on the oval track. Design Engineer, AJ Selleck, grew up racing with his dad, Ken, and has been drag racing now on his own for 3 full seasons. He heads to the Mid Michigan Motorplex each weekend with his new first year car. It has a light weight racing body based on the Ford 23T and weighs only 1800 lbs. AJ races both in the Pro Class as well as the Super Pro class. His top 1/4 mile time is 9.90 seconds @ 133 mph. His top 1/8 mile time is 6.20 seconds @ 110 mph. He got his first win in June and also this year has 1 runner up, 2 semi finals, and 2 quarter finals. He is planning to start

entering more of the larger races at other sites in the coming years.

His wife, Miranda, is a big help each weekend along with other family members and supporters of his racing. They typically camp at the track even though they are only 20 minutes from home.

Apprentice tool and die maker, Jesse Playter, was also strongly influenced in racing by his father, Gene, who started racing back in the 70's and 80's. Jesse actually started in mid-summer 2013 racing on the oval track and actually won the first heat he ever entered. Including that race, he has won a total of 5 heat races, was the 2013 rookie of the year at Crystal Motor

Speedway, and on July 3 this year, won his first feature race. He is currently 4th in points on the circuit.

Jesse and his father, Gene, formed their team and built the chassis for the car which is powered by a 388 Cubic Inch Small Block Chevy engine. He appreciates the help and involvement of his father and says he has big shoes to fill. They are sponsored by B. A. Wraps, Down Home Family Restaurant, Crossroads Diner, Ground Pounder Garage, and Alexanian's Central Flooring.

We congratulate AJ and Jesse and extend best wishes to them for more wins.





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## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

We would like to take this opportunity to wish the following GTD employees a Happy Birthday on:

### SEPTEMBER 2014

1Joel Palmer
3Larry Ruthruff
6Doug McKeown
9Adam Hopkins
9Ted Bush
9Jon Gigowski
9Jacob Eastwood
10Tony Ross
13Gaven Tift
17Derrick Baker
17Matt Edwards
21Tony Bannen
23Roger Rasmussen
23Matt Greenhoe
24Caleb Green
28Zac Winters
29AJ Selleck
30Ted Murray

# **SAFETY & SUGGESTION** COMMITTEE

Mark Heintzelman Joel Palmer

Tim Holland Sam Hazekamp

The next Safety & Suggestion Committee meeting will be Wednesday, August 27, 2014 at 3:30 p.m. in the large conference room.

# **SERVICE AWARDS**

This month we congratulate Dave Bean (30 years), Don Orr (25 years), and Kurt Laux (35 years) for their service milestones. Best wishes to Dave, Don, and Kurt for continued success in their careers.

# **KRISTINA BRASINGTON - 4-H SWEEPSTAKES SHOWMANSHIP CHAMPION**



**GAVEN TIFT HAS 800 SERIES** 

Congratulations to Gaven Tift on his first 800 series in bowling. A long



time bowler, since the age of 13, Gaven has a number 700+ series, but 740 had been his top Bowling in the Mixed Summer League at Park Center Bowling in SW Grand Rapids, Gaven had 265 & 236 games in the bag and was working on a 300 until he left the 6 pin in the last frame and had to settle for a 299, giving him an 800 series. He said he was nervous when he knew he was getting close. Great job anyway Gaven. You're going to get it one of these days for sure!

Kristina Brasington, daughter of our Dennis Brasington and his wife, Karen, recently won the Montcalm County 4-H Fair's Sweepstakes Showmanship Championship. Kristina, 18, is a member of the Winfield Hustlers 4-H Club and was making her fifth try at winning the championship. Each showman entrant must rotate the showing of 10 different animals (dairy cow, steer, dog, goat, chicken, sheep, horse, pig, rabbit, and poultry). Judges test them on each about the animal's health, care and feeding, parts of the animal, as well as their ability to show the animal. Kristina said that keeping her nervousness under control and not letting it show was challenging. She did very well ending up with the highest score, 93.3 points out of 100. Her father, Dennis was quick to compliment his daughter and indicated that she had worked hard for this and had earned it. She is also indebted to her grandmothers; Muriel Gundy and Sandra Buskirk who have supported her throughout her 4-H years. On a side note, 3 years ago, Kristina's sister, Lindsey, was also honored as 4-Her of the year. So, whether it is in the genes or due to the support and encouragement of her mom, dad, and grandmothers, we extend a big congratulations to Kristina for her well deserved award. Best wishes for continued success as you go forward.

## **BLOOD DONORS**

We had 50 donors at our recent Red Cross Blood Drive. As always, we sincerely appreciate all of our donors, but would like to recognize several for reaching milestones with their donations:

Mike Geister1 - GallonNick Tillottson2 - GallonsBrian Scott7 - GallonsDave Christensen8 - GallonsMarty Bush9 - Gallons

Our next Red Cross blood drive will be Tuesday, September 9, from noon until 5:30pm.

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