

*Michigan South Central Power Agency Presents:*

# *The* Spotlight



October 2013:

\*Employee Spotlight: Harold Jenkins

\*Service Awards & Birthdays

\*Member Cities & Villages Events

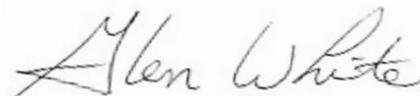
\* Inspirational father-and-son story  
offers four lessons for the workplace



It is October, and the US Government apparently has decided that they need some time off. With Congress' inability to work out a budget, a shutdown that involves all nonessential employees has begun. Forgive me for smiling, but I find it interesting that the US EPA is one of those sectors that is listed as "nonessential" and according to an article that I read this morning, furloughed employees are prohibited from using any government issued equipment, so do not expect any phone calls from the EPA until this is over.

Closer to home, our Turbine Major Outage continues with an amazing amount of work already done. (Note: no shutdown in process here!) The completion date for the turbine repair has slipped by two weeks due to some additional blade and carrier repairs that needed to be done, so we now anticipate returning to service by the end of this month. The generator rewind is complete and that unit is scheduled to return this Thursday. Most importantly, all of the repairs and maintenance are being performed safely, so keep up the good work. We are over half way through this outage, and I again thank you for all of your efforts.

When you do get time away from the job, I hope that everyone can take the opportunity to enjoy the fall season. It looks like the leaves are going to be very colorful this year!

  
Glen White, General Manager



## Member Cities and Villages Events

Marshall's Turkeyville USA will host a Haunted Adventure October 5-November 27, a Fall Festival and Arts & Craft Show October 5 and 6, plus much more! Visit <http://www.turkeyville.com> for a full list of events. Little ghosts, goblins and superheroes will be collecting candy from participating businesses during the Children's Costume Parade on October 26 at 11:00 AM; the parade begins at City Hall. If you are a little too big for trick or treating, join in the Dance of Death: Haunted Trail October 18, 19, 25 and 26, performances are from 7:30-11:00 PM each night and the cost is \$7.00 per person, pay on site at 900 S. Marshall Street (behind the power plant).

Coldwater's Little River Railroad offers a Halloween Train and Color Tours throughout October, check out <http://littleriverrailroad.com/> for more information. Tibbits Opera House hosts an Evening in Paris: 34th Annual Silent Auction on October 26 6:00 PM-10:15 PM and performances of The Crucible and Comic Book Artist - visit <http://tibbits.org/calendar/> for a times and dates.

Union City celebrates Heritage Day on October 5 with vendors, cars, live music, 5k run/walk, pet parade, pumpkin smash and much more. A Spooktacular 5k walk/run is scheduled to honor Joshua Beatty on October 26 at 9:00 AM, please visit <https://runsignup.com/Race/MI/UnionCity/JoshuaBeattySpooktacular> for registration information and be sure to dress in your best Halloween costume for the event!

Downtown Hillsdale participating businesses will have free food samples and autumn bargains on October 24, during the Awesome Autumn event. The Greater Hillsdale Humane Society's 25th Annual Wiggle Waggle Pet Walk-a-Thon is scheduled for October 5, registration begins at 11:00 AM at Pavilion 1 at Owens Park, Baw Beese Lake; free hot dogs, chips, pop and water will be provided. Hillsdale College Sage Center and The Gospel Barn will host several events throughout the month, please visit <http://www.cityofhillsdale.org/events.aspx> for a complete listing.

## Service awards

Roger Winchell 32 years  
Gary Graves 19 years

## October birthday's

Brian Bennett  
Jim Bice  
Mike Sprow

# Employee Spotlight: Harold Jenkins

Harold Jenkins began his career at MSCPA in 1998 as a temporary employee in the Maintenance Department, after two months he was hired full-time as a Laborer. He later moved into Operations as an Attendant and is currently the Safety & Training Coordinator. His job responsibilities include: administrating the Agency's safety and training program; maintaining OSHA inspection, accident, injury and illness reports; organizes and maintains MSDS binder; develops, schedules and coordinates safety programs and meetings; coordinates training for hazardous materials handling. "I love working for a small company like MSCPA", Harold said.



Harold and his wife Katryna have been married for 14 years and have a daughter (Payton, age 8) and two dogs. Outside of work, he enjoys landscaping, collecting wristwatches and spending time with family and friends, as long as they are not camping.

Actor: Will Ferrell

Harold's Favorites:

Drink: unsweetened ice tea

TV Show: anything involving History or Science

## Inspirational Father-and-Son Story Offers Four Lessons for the Workplace

by Dan Oswald – The Oswald Letter Insights on Business and Leadership August 13, 2013

Maybe you've heard the story of Dick Hoyt and his son, Rick. Rick was born so severely disabled that the doctors told his parents to put him in an institution so he could be cared for, but his parents refused and took their son home with them. Rick has been confined to a wheelchair his entire life, but that hasn't deterred him. His parents got him a computer so he could communicate. Despite all of his challenges, he graduated from high school and college.

One day Dick and Rick entered a five-mile charity run and completed the race, with Dick pushing Rick's wheelchair the entire five miles. (continued)

That led Rick to ask his father to run a marathon together. At that point in his life, Dick had already suffered a heart attack, but he agreed, and together father and son ran a marathon. Then another.

Rick's next request? To compete in an Ironman triathlon, a grueling race by all accounts. Ironman contestants swim 2.4 miles, bike 112 miles, and then run a full marathon (26.2 miles). Again, Dick agreed to his son's request. He swam the 2.4 miles pulling Rick behind him in a raft. He biked the 112 miles on a specially designed bike that allowed Rick to sit in front and enjoy the ride. And he ran the 26.2 miles pushing Rick in a wheelchair. That was the first Ironman for Rick and Dick but not the last.

So what does this story have to do with business? Maybe nothing; maybe a lot. I don't think you can separate your work life from the rest of your life. I don't think you can separate who you are at work from who you are in the rest of your life. Dick Hoyt would tell you that the lesson he hopes to share is that you can do anything if you put your mind to it—if you care enough to dedicate yourself to a goal. That's certainly a lesson we all can apply at work.

But to me there's more we can take from this inspirational story. Here are four lessons we can learn from Rick and Dick Hoyt and what they have accomplished together:

1. **Perseverance.** Both father and son have demonstrated a great deal of perseverance. Rick's life has been a testament to his ability to persevere. And Dick has certainly shown persistence as he pursued the fulfillment of his son's dreams. It couldn't have been easy for either, but they persevered and succeeded.
2. **Passion.** The passion you feel at work may not be able to match a father's love for his son, but the power of the passion you have for your work can propel you forward just the same. Dick's love for his son has helped him accomplish things he probably never dreamed of, just like your passion for your work can do the same for you.
3. **Dedication.** It wasn't Dick who dreamed of doing these things; it was Rick's vision. But Dick embraced it wholeheartedly and dedicated himself to accomplishing what Rick dreamed of. Dick was wholly committed to achieving a goal and did just that.
4. **Faith.** Rick had complete faith in his father. He had confidence that Dick could and would succeed. He trusted that his father was capable of competing and succeeding despite all the obstacles that stood in his way. It's amazing how a little faith in a person can be the difference between success and failure.

There are times at work when you must persevere. At some point, things are going to get really difficult, and the ability to persevere will become necessary. At other times, unbridled passion for what you do—that burning desire to get the job done because you truly love what you do—will be the key to your success.

In another instance, your dedication to the job at hand—committing yourself to a goal and not stopping until you achieve it—will be the difference between success and failure. And finally, your faith in those around you to do their part to allow you to succeed together will, at some time, be critical if you want to achieve your goals. At some time in your career, you will need to demonstrate all four of these qualities if you want to be successful.

The Spotlight is a monthly newsletter for the Michigan South Central Power Agency. Articles may be printed in whole or part without permission. If you wish to share any news or comments please contact Chrissy Van Kampen at

720 Herring Road, Litchfield, Litchfield MI 49252

Phone: (517) 542-2346 Fax: (517) 542-3049

Web: mscpa.net