

HMF EXPRESS

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Visual system to prevent shipping errors

Shipping is no different than any department at HMF Express — a lot happens in a very short time!

One of the perils in the rush to load trucks is that paperwork, or material, can be missed. Worse, a pallet can get loaded on the wrong truck.

A good idea

Rosa Brown had an idea and she ran it past her co-worker, Mike Corbett. Mike like the idea and Rosa made it happen. The basic idea was to provide a clear visual signal when a pallet was ready to load, and to designate the freight line.

Rosa found large colored stickers to apply to pallets that were ready to load. CC McAllister made a dispenser for the stick-

ers. With these tools in place, the entire shipping department worked on the process steps to incorporate the new visual system into their workflow.

Continuous process improvement

"This idea," noted Brandon Grant, "is another great example of our people doing things to improve our speed, quality, and service."

JD Robinson noted, "when people are willing to suggest and try new ideas it makes our company better."



Green for Wilson, Blue for AAA, Red for SE, and Yellow for Estes . . .



Have a good idea? Lets give it a try . . .

Customers love improved product labels!

This is what a customer in Pennsylvania had to say about the new HMF Express Mark Label:

"You can't imagine how much better and easier this will make things."

"This is why HMF EXPRESS is constantly growing: you respond to customer needs! Thanks!"

That is a "Thanks" to all who helped to implement the new labels!



Labels and mask go on at projection



Mask comes off—ready for customers!

Employee of the month

This program recognizes exceptional employees like:

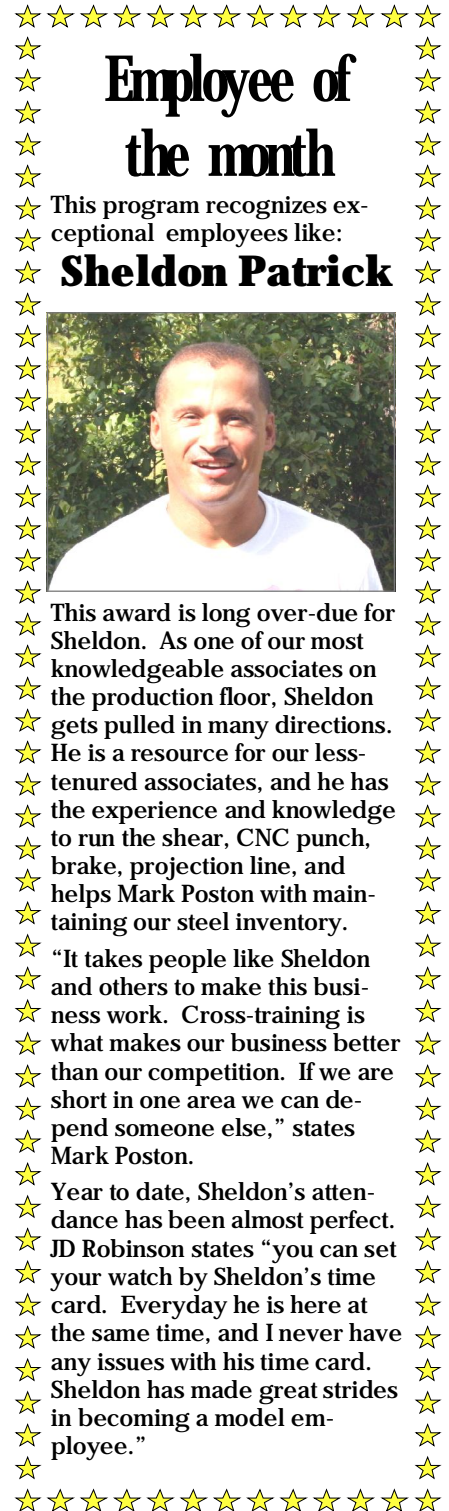
Sheldon Patrick



This award is long over-due for Sheldon. As one of our most knowledgeable associates on the production floor, Sheldon gets pulled in many directions. He is a resource for our less-tenured associates, and he has the experience and knowledge to run the shear, CNC punch, brake, projection line, and helps Mark Poston with maintaining our steel inventory.

"It takes people like Sheldon and others to make this business work. Cross-training is what makes our business better than our competition. If we are short in one area we can depend someone else," states Mark Poston.

Year to date, Sheldon's attendance has been almost perfect. JD Robinson states "you can set your watch by Sheldon's time card. Everyday he is here at the same time, and I never have any issues with his time card. Sheldon has made great strides in becoming a model employee."



Vision benefit plan facts



We have optional separate vision insurance as part of our HMF Express health package. This insurance can be a bit confusing with all its details, so this article will help you understand how to use your benefits.

First, even though our medical insurance is with Blue Cross, our optional vision insurance is with United Healthcare.

The basics of the benefits are as follows:

- \$10 eye exam every 12 months
- \$10 eyeglass lenses or 4 boxes of contacts every 12 months
- Every 24 months, you can get new frames with your lenses

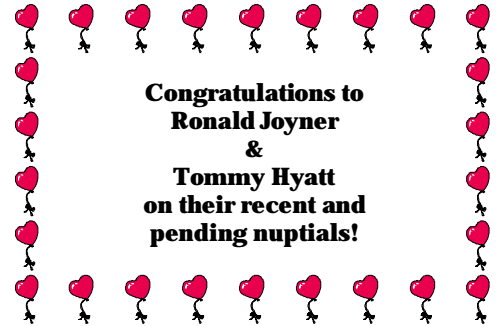
To get these benefits, you will need to use a network provider. If you choose to go outside of the network, the benefit amounts are different. You can get a provider list from Maria or visit the website at www.spectera.com.

So, if you are wondering what is the best way to pay for eye exams, here are the three options:

1. If you have selected optional vision insurance, this is the least expen-

2. Blue Cross does offer a \$20 eye exam if you chose the co-pay plan. This is an exam ONLY and does not provide coverage for any contacts or glasses.
3. If you have the HSA plan, there is no specific benefit for eye exams, but you can still use your HSA savings account to pay for exams, glasses, and lenses.

For more information see Maria, call the provider, or see their website.



Jungle Rapids fun day enjoyed by over 140

Over 140 people attended the HMF Express fun day at Jungle Rapids on August 24. Families enjoyed the Kiddie Splash while the more adrenaline-charged crown slid down the Half-pipe. Your humble author could be found lounging in the Lazy River. It was just another way we try to say thanks to the people of HMF Express . . .



Emily Express answers employment questions!

Dear Emily;

I have the separate optional vision insurance plan and when I went to the doctor, I had to pay full price for the exam and my glasses were really expensive. I thought that I got a \$10 exam every year and a discount on glasses or contacts, why did I pay so much?

Signed;

Blurry

Dear Blurry;

When we reviewed new insurance benefits this year, the best choice optional vision plan was with United Health even though our medical insurance is with Blue Cross. If you have the optional vision plan and you tell the doctor you have Blue Cross insurance or if you go to someone outside of the United Health network, you will not get the same discounts you would otherwise receive.

You do not have an ID card for your optional vision plan; all you need to tell the doctor is that you have United Health vision and give them your social security number.

For more details, see the "Vision Care Benefit Facts" article in this newsletter.

Football rivals begin!

J Gibbs drafted first in the HMF Black Fantasy Football league — and the new season was under way! 24 teams in two leagues will compete for fabulous prizes and bragging rights.

Smack talk has been low key, but that can change each progressive week as the scoreboard tells the *bitter truth*.

