



...Union racer

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release, Garrison says. It's also an adrenaline rush.

His racing category is termed "pure stock" under International Motor Contest Association (IMCA) rules. In other words, except for safety modifications, it's a standard Monte Carlo.

At Sunset Speedway in Banks, races consist of counter-clockwise turns around a quarter-mile oval-shaped dirt clay track.

"There's a lot more to it than haul ass, turn left; haul ass, turn left," Garrison says.

Garrison is part of a team with husband-and-wife racers Joey and Mandie Tardio. Several fellow union members also

race in the pure stock division at Sunset: One team of five Camaro racers consists of Local 701 members Mike Fitzpatrick and his son Brian, Brian's wife and cousin, and IBEW Local 125 member Kyle Sutton. The team is sponsored by union-signatory Loy Clark Construction, Mike and Kyle's employer.

Racing is a social event. When the flag drops, Garrison slams the accelerator to the cheers of co-workers who come out to see him race, not just fellow operating engineers but laborers and electricians. So far Garrison places mostly in the middle to rear of the pack, but he's just getting started.

"It's all about getting out there, having fun, and putting on a show for the fans," Garrison said.

Wishing all Union Members a restful and hard-earned Labor Day Weekend



IBEW Local 280

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"THOSE WHO PROFESS TO FAVOR FREEDOM AND YET DEPRECATE AGITATION ... WANT CROPS WITHOUT PLOWING UP THE GROUND. THEY WANT RAIN WITHOUT THUNDER AND LIGHTNING."

— FREDERICK DOUGLASS, 1857



"THIS LABOR DAY, LET'S CONTINUE TO FIGHT TO END WORKER ABUSES THAT DEMEAN WORKERS AND STRIP AWAY DIGNITY."

- ROBERT CAMARILLO, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY



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