



THE SUCCESS STORY

The Road to Self Sufficiency



Jack Landeis

Jack recently began working at Pizza Ranch following 10 years of employment at Happy Host. His supervisor marvels that he was a great worker, who was always so punctual that you could set the clock by him. Jack has a strong work ethic. He is a very dependable and steady employee and is

very proud of the work that he does. The quality of his work is consistently good.

When he's not working, Jack enjoys getting together with friends to visit, play cards, go out for pizza and work on cars. He enjoys lifting weights, walking, playing pool and bowling.

Jack likes to attend UND basketball and hockey games, concerts and the car races.

He likes to go to movies, once in a while, but they're expensive and he prefers to rent videos and watch them at home because, as Jack says with a smile, "better seats"!!



DO YOU LOVE YOUR JOB?

The benefits of loving your job can reach far beyond the actual hours you're on the clock. When people love what they do, they are happier and more successful. They work longer hours, make more friends at work, spend most of their time thinking about how to do things better and talk to everyone about what they do. Their job becomes intertwined in their life rather than separate from it, and they excel because of it.

Even if you don't love your job, it can still have a positive effect on your life. You may not be passionate about the job, but you can be passionate about what it enables you to do. Your job can be how you earn enough money to travel or invest in a hobby. The key is to put your job into the perspective of your passions or dreams.

Whether you're passionate about your work or what it enables you to do, there are ways to improve your career outlook by reshaping the responsibilities you hold, as well as your attitude toward them. You can make adjustments to your perspective....for example, the janitor who doesn't think her job is just to clean the office, but to help keep people happy, and who makes sure workers have clean and orderly work spaces to help them be productive. This kind of attitude can turn boring, routine tasks into challenges.

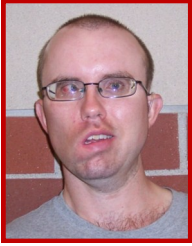
Do you connect with the vision and values of your company? Does the company purpose give you something bigger than yourself to pursue? Do you connect with friends and teammates at work? Are you passionate about helping co-workers succeed or helping to complete a big project? Can you connect with all the things you can learn on your job and the opportunities it provides?

The bottom line is to find what your job provides for you. Improving how you do your job and how you see your responsibilities is a critical first step to loving your job.

A productive employee who is kept busy working at his or her job is far more likely to be happy at that job and less likely to look for employment elsewhere...Zig Ziglar

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Haman's Highlights



Good day, true believers! This is Lynn Haman, and I make it my job to surf the world wide web to find the dirtiest, rottenest jobs just to make you, no *us*, the common man and woman, love our jobs just a little bit more. Haman's Highlights brings you "Just Another Reason to Love Your Job".

Meter Readers: With the advancement of electronic meter reading technology, this job is 'losing it'. And by 'it', I mean the opportunity. As if the angry land ladies, the dogs, the bad weather and the bribes weren't bad enough, this job is quickly on its way to extinction. Holy cow! Now there is a job that makes me want to stay indoors!

Have a great day everyone. ~Lynn~

Success-Ability

Friendship

What is a friend?

- ◆ Someone who will take time to listen to you
- ◆ Someone you can do activities with
- ◆ Someone who makes you feel good about yourself

Types of friends

- ◆ Childhood friends who you thought you would be friends with for the rest of your life, but have gone separate ways, maybe keeping in touch through social media
- ◆ College friends, who you haven't talked to in quite a while, but if you run into them, it's like you were never apart. You can pick up right where you left off.
- ◆ Friends made as an adult – these are the friends you seem to have the most day to day contact with.
- ◆ Work friends – friends you meet on the job, who you also socialize with outside of work

What are the pros and cons of friendship?

Pros

- ◆ Friends feel good when they are together
- ◆ There is excitement and anticipation about doing something with a friend
- ◆ Friends are there to help you out in a pinch (i.e. babysitting, take you shopping, etc.)

Cons

- ◆ There can be stress when friends pressure you to do things and you just don't feel like it.
- ◆ Sometimes friends let you down when they have their own agendas.
- ◆ Some people you consider friends may try to take advantage of you (i.e. borrowing money), which is never a good thing

Success-Ability is a peer support group that meets monthly at Success Unlimited. Call 701.775.3356 for more information.

Lots of people want to ride with you in the limo, but what you want is someone who will take the bus with you when the limo breaks down...Oprah Winfrey

THE SUCCESS STORY



Success Unlimited was the recent recipient of grant funds, from Walmart and Sam's Club, to be used to purchase technology to help workers with disabilities enhance their work performance.

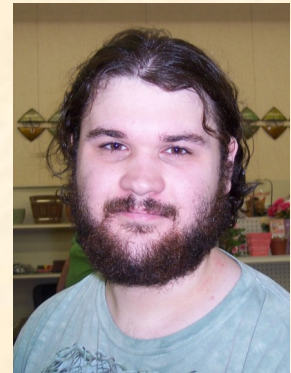
Welcome to the Work Force



Tony Schaumburg
Employed at
Walmart



Jacob Pesek
Employed at
Little Caesars



Jamison Hilts
Employed at
Valley Thrift Shoppe



Myles Stillman
Employed at
O'For Heaven's Cakes



Tina Demontigny
Employed at
Walmart





From the Desk of Tanja Kapinos, CEO

According to Dictionary.com, one of the specific meanings of the word entitlement, is 'the right to guaranteed benefits under a government program, such as Social Security or unemployment compensation'. This also includes Social Security income for those who are unable to work or perform substantial work in order to support themselves. I think most of us are familiar with this, as so many of the people we support are entitled to these benefits. There is a system of checks and balances in place to ensure that if people's health or situations improve, their benefits may end, and there are also supports in place to help a person transition from relying solely on government benefits to easing back into becoming a productive member of society. For some, this is simply not possible. Realistically, some will never show significant improvement. For others, there may be improvement, but only enough to work minimal hours. But, are there others who hang onto this sense of entitlement even though they are no longer entitled? Quite frankly, it seems some people get a little too comfortable living off of government benefits and don't do anything to strive to be better. But, unfortunately the checks and balances system is overburdened and can't keep tabs on every single case. That is why I suggest, if you are someone, or know someone, who is capable of doing more, strive to be better. Don't put limits on yourself and don't settle. New and wonderful doors will open for you. If you are now able to work, when you couldn't in the past, seek it out. There are many programs out there to assist in finding employment after having been out of the field for so long, or perhaps never having been in. *Pay it forward.* You have been supported when you needed it most, now support others, if you are able.

**We have relocated our office to
2850 24th Avenue South, Suite 302
Grand Forks, ND 58201
(Located on the 3rd floor of the Gate City Bank Building)**



2850 24th Avenue South, Suite 302
Grand Forks, ND 58201.5831

**Employment Support Services
for People with Disabilities**

Administrative Office Hours
Monday - Thursday 7:00am - 5:30pm
Telephone - 701.775.3356



**Have a safe & happy
Independence Day!**

View all editions of *The Success Story* newsletter at www.successunlimitedinc.org