

# CORD

---Collaborative Organizations Responding to Dislocation

September 1, 2011

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*---Craig Bunker*

## CRAIG BUNKER IS A 'SMOOTH OPERATOR'

Being out of school for over 20 years, when Craig Bunker of Milton was laid off from Lear Seating, returning to school was a real challenge. "It was a hard adjustment for me, but I put my mind to being successful, and it has paid off," Craig explained. He recently started working for Smooth Operators, Inc. of Darien, WI as a Diesel Mechanic, and he couldn't be happier.

He actually started there part-time before even graduating from Blackhawk Technical College (BTC), but he became full-time on May 16. The 40-year-old utilized TAA funds and Dislocated Worker funds to assist with tuition, books, and some limited help with transportation and tools. "I couldn't have gone back to school without the help," he said. Supporting a wife, one child of his own plus three step children placed a major strain on their finances. But he indicated having a light at the end of the tunnel in the form of a job was a major incentive. "Jodi Olson (his case worker) was extremely helpful," he said. "She made the transition very easy for me."

### SALARY POTENTIAL INFLUENCES CRAIG'S DECISION

Craig decided on the diesel mechanic field over auto technology because it had a better chance of a larger salary. While the company's other mechanic is working mainly on trailers, Craig's area of concentration is on the trucks. The company hauls tractors and equipment, specializing in energy-related systems and equipment, many of which are time-sensitive. "I may be looking to advance in the future, but for now I'm happy with this job at Smooth Operators and I plan to give them the best I have," he emphasized. "I'm just thankful and excited about the support I received from TAA and the Dislocated Worker programs and also Smooth Operators," he added.



"I couldn't have gone back to school without the help."

*---Craig Bunker*

## SALES CAREER APPEALS TO RYAN BUSWELL

*"He (Ryan) has the enthusiasm to succeed. His motivation is significant."*

*--Mark Warren, Owner*



*"I also now really appreciate the types of programs that assisted me and many others."*

*---Ryan Buswell*

When General Motors left Janesville, Ryan Buswell considered a transfer, but having two boys, now ages 12 and 10, he decided he wasn't going to 'chase GM.' Instead, he took the 'buyout' and then decided on pursuing a field he felt would offer numerous opportunities and fit his personality—sales. He is now working for American Awards and Promotions in Milton and he couldn't be happier.

"My brother was in sales, and we have very similar personalities, so I figured this would be a good field to get into," he explained. He found the American Awards position almost immediately following his graduation from Blackhawk Technical College in May, 2010. "I had only pursued two positions, one in insurance, and the other at American Awards," Ryan said. In fact, he was already offered the insurance job (he had previously earned his insurance license) when the American Awards position was offered. He felt that position would fit him better.

"Ryan gave the best interview, and we interviewed many," said Mark Warren, who with his wife Lori own American Awards. "He also is well-qualified, with his BTC marketing degree." Mark also cited the fact Ryan "has the enthusiasm to succeed. Rather than sitting around waiting for things to happen, his motivation is significant," Mark added.

### HE PLANS ON STAYING IN COMMUNITY

Ryan, now 38 years old, was able to complete his BTC marketing degree in one-and-a-half years, as he had earned some previous credits. He had been at GM almost 13 years. He is very involved in his community as a youth sports coach plus other activities, so he plans on remaining in the Milton-Janesville area. He has been taking additional classes and seminars through the sales industry, and even has the options of earning his bachelors or masters degrees, much of it online. He truly enjoys working at American Awards and plans on being there for a long time.

"I really appreciate the help I received from the Dislocated Worker Program through the AFL-CIO LETC assistance," he said. "I also now really appreciate the types of programs that assisted me and many others," he added, saying as a taxpayer, he likes to see that his (and others') tax dollars are being spent wisely to help those with a need such as he had. "It provided me with a number of options, and I was able to take advantage of it to help me and my sons."

## WHERE ARE THE FUTURE JOBS?

According to *Marketplace*, as produced by the American Public Media organization, the following Top 10 career fields are 'hot' or 'not.'

### Careers Adding the Most Jobs:

- |                             |                                |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Home Health Aide         | 6. Customer Service Represent. |
| 2. Waiter                   | 7. Retail Salesperson          |
| 3. Registered Nurse         | 8. General Office Clerk        |
| 4. Administrative Assistant | 9. Truck Driver                |
| 5. Teacher-K-12             | 10. Network Administrator      |

### Careers Losing the Most Jobs:

- |                   |                                   |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Machine Setter | 6. File Clerk                     |
| 2. Textile        | 7. Shipng, Receiv. &Traffic Clerk |
| 3. Farmer         | 8. Assembler                      |
| 4. Order Clerk    | 9. Data Entry                     |
| 5. Mail Sorter    | 10. Computer Operator             |

### Highest Paying Jobs:

- |                            |                           |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Physician & Surgeon     | 6. Psychiatrist           |
| 2. Dentist                 | 7. Air Traffic Controller |
| 3. Engineering Manager     | 8. Lawyer                 |
| 4. Podiatrist              | 9. Judge                  |
| 5. Informat. Systems Mngr. | 10. Pharmacist            |

### Lowest Paying Jobs:

- |                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Waiter                 | 6. Home Health Aide      |
| 2. Gaming Dealer          | 7. Animal Care           |
| 3. Cashier                | 8. Hotel Clerk           |
| 4. Agric. Products Sorter | 9. Retail Salesperson    |
| 5. Child Care Worker      | 10. Janitor/ Stock Clerk |

In the Janesville/Rock County area, as of July, 2011 (according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics), there were approximately 62,100 persons (non-farm) employed (not seasonably adjusted). Following are the numbers of persons employed in that sector and the 12-month percentage change from July 2010 to July 2011 (indicating a potential trend in that field):

<b>Sector of Employment</b>	<b>No. Employed</b>	<b>Pct. 12-Mo. Change</b>
Mining, Logging, Construction	2,500	0%
Manufacturing	8,600	6.2%
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	14,600	0.7%
Information	1,100	0%
Financial Activities	2,100	5%
Professional & Business Services	4,500	4.7%
Education & Health Services	9,800	-6.7%
Leisure & Hospitality	6,500	4.8%
Other Services	3,700	2.8%
Government	8,700	-2.2%
<b>Total 12-month % change</b>	<b>-2.2%</b>	



*Home Health Aide (while it may be a lower-paying job) and Registered Nursing (which pays very well) are but two of the health-care field occupations which have been adding jobs.*

## CHECK OUT THESE OPPORTUNITIES

There are several **Dislocated Worker** workshops that may be of interest to you (even if you are not in the WIA program—these are open to all). Call the Rock County Job Center for information or schedule a session—Julie Funk at (608) 741-3462, Carol Kohl at (608) 741-3418 or (608) 741-3578 to register.

*All Classes listed here are at the Rock County Job Center.*

<b>Java &amp; Jobs</b>	Fri., Sep. 2, 9:30 a.m.-noon, Rm. D-E
<b>Labor Day—Job Center Closed</b>	Mon., Sep. 5
<b>Ability Profiler</b>	Tue., Sep. 6, 12:30-4:30 p.m., Rm. B
<b>Dislocated Worker Orientation</b>	Wed., Sep. 7, 1-4 p.m., Rm. J
<b>Change, Choice &amp; Adjustment</b>	Wed., Sep. 7, 1-3 p.m., Rm. D-E
<b>Java &amp; Jobs</b>	Wed., Sep. 7, 1-3:30 p.m., Rm. J
<b>Destination Employment (NEG only)</b>	Thu., Sep. 8, 1-3 p.m., Rm. J
<b>Success Skills Training I</b>	Fri., Sep. 9, 8:30 a.m.-noon, Rm. J
<b>Java &amp; Jobs</b>	Fri., Sep. 9, 9:30 a.m.-noon, Rm. D-E
<b>Interviewing</b>	Mon., Sep. 12, 8:30-10 a.m., Rm. C
<b>Resume</b>	Mon., Sep. 12, 10 a.m.-noon, Rm C
<b>Choice, Change &amp; Adjustment</b>	Mon., Sep. 12, 1-3 p.m., Rm. C
<b>Destination Employment (NEG only)</b>	Mon., Sep. 12, 9-11 a.m., Rm. D/E
<b>FutureTrac</b>	Tue., Sep. 13, 1-4 p.m., Rm. J
<b>Java &amp; Jobs</b>	Wed., Sep. 14, 1-3:30 p.m., Rm. J
<b>Destination Employment (NEG only)</b>	Thu., Sep. 15, 1-3 p.m., Rm. J
<b>Success Skills Training II</b>	Fri., Sep. 16, 8:30 a.m.-noon, Rm. J
<b>Java &amp; Jobs</b>	Fri., Sep. 16, 9:30 a.m.-noon, Rm. K
<b>Destination Employment (NEG only)</b>	Mon., Sep. 19, 9-11 a.m., Rm. J
<b>Interviewing</b>	Mon., Sep. 19, 8:30-10 a.m., Rm. C
<b>Resume</b>	Mon., Sep. 19, 10 a.m.-noon, Rm C
<b>Java &amp; Jobs</b>	Wed., Sep. 21, 1-3:30 p.m., Rm. J
<b>Dislocated Worker Orientation</b>	Thu., Sep. 22, 10 a.m.-noon, Rm. J
<b>Destination Employment (NEG only)</b>	Thu., Sep. 22, 1-3 p.m., Rm. J
<b>Success Skills Training III</b>	Fri., Sep. 23, 8:30 a.m.-noon, Rm. J
<b>Java &amp; Jobs</b>	Fri., Sep. 23, 9:30 am-noon, Rm D-E
<b>Interviewing</b>	Mon., Sep. 26, 8:30-10 a.m., Rm. C
<b>Resume</b>	Mon., Sep. 26, 10 a.m.-noon, Rm C
<b>Destination Employment (NEG only)</b>	Mon., Sep. 26, 9-11 a.m., Rm. J
<b>Java &amp; Jobs</b>	Wed., Sep. 28, 1-3:30 p.m., Rm. J
<b>FutureTrac</b>	Wed., Sep. 28, 1-4 p.m., Rm. K
<b>Java &amp; Jobs</b>	Fri., Sep. 30, 9:30 a.m.-noon, Rm DE

### **FOODSHARE CAN HELP!!**

If making ends meet is becoming more and more difficult, consider applying for **Foodshare** benefits. Call either 10877-FOOD-635 (1-877-366-3636) or better yet **contact Rachael Sheets** at the Rock County Job Center. Her number is **(608) 216-7227** or **(608) 630-1181**. She can let you know if you are eligible and inform you what the program is all about.

**Foodshare** is a tax-funded food assistance program that can be used temporarily or long-term as needed. Call today!!

SEPTEMBER 2011						
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### QUOTE OF THE DAY

“Even if you fall on your face, you’re still moving forward.”  
---Victor Kiam

The CORD Newsletter is designed to provide helpful information and tips to area dislocated workers. Have comments or ideas for stories?

Contact the editor:

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