

What's your job?

Meet just a few of the people who make the Midlands a great place to live and work

PAUL WIEBELHAUS, 45, OMAHA



Job: Glazier, installing glass windows and doors
What is the best part of your job? "You get to be somewhere

different every day."

Would you still work if you won the lottery? "Probably for a while ... I am a simple guy."

What did you want to be growing up? "I think I was hatched a glazier. My family is in glass."

TEGWIN TURNER, 46, OMAHA



Job: Third-grade teacher, Standing Bear Elementary
What is the best part of your job? "I love it when the light bulb goes

off in a child's head — when they understand a concept."

Would you still work if you won the lottery? "I would continue teaching for as long as I can."

What did you want to be growing up? "I always wanted to be a teacher, since I was 5."

TODD NEWMAN, 36, COUNCIL BLUFFS



Job: Plumber and owner of Terry's Plumbing
What is the best part of your job? "Having the freedom to do what

I want to do — and being my own boss."

Would you still work if you won the lottery? "It depends on how much money. If you're going to win millions upon millions, I'd probably be done."

What did you want to be growing up? Sports star.

BONNIE CLAUSSEN, 51, SCHUYLER, NEB.



Job: Cook at Gene's Restaurant
What is the best part of your job? "I bake. I cook. I really enjoy all that kind of work."

Would you still work if you won the lottery? "I would probably work part time, not full time. I really enjoy the atmosphere and working with people."

What did you want to be growing up? Cook. "My mother and my grandmother had been in this line of work."

ROBERT PATTERSON, 40, OMAHA



Job: Assistant executive director of Kids Can!, a nonprofit support group for parents
What is the best part of your job?

"Being able to make a positive impact in the community. Omaha is a big city, but it's small enough where you can make positive changes if you put your mind to it."

Would you still work if you won the lottery? "I may go part time, but I would keep this job. To me, there is nothing better than getting your hands and feet wet in community projects."

What did you want to be growing up? Ice skater or airline pilot.

LINDSAY DONOVAN, 26, OMAHA



Job: Coffee barista, Caffeine Dreams
What is the best part of your job? "Interacting with customers. Normally, people

are really happy when you give them coffee. It's nice to brighten somebody's day."

Would you still work if you won the lottery? "Maybe. I'd probably want to travel a lot."

What did you want to be growing up? Recording artist.

BRET FRIESZ, 50, OMAHA



Job: Troop commander, Nebraska State Patrol

What is the best part of your job? "The opportunity to

serve the public and improve public safety."

Would you still work if you won the lottery? "Yes. I don't find the reward in money; I find the reward in what I do."

What did you want to be growing up? Fireman.

DEBBIE SMITH, 55, WAVERLY, NEB.



Job: Legislative transcriber

What is the best part of your job? "Learning new things every day. There is always

a new word or something you learn listening to people testify."

Would you still work if you won the lottery? "Yes. I think I would miss not learning and interacting with people."

What did you want to be growing up? Teacher.

CHESTER LINK, 66, OMAHA



Job: School bus driver

What is the best part of your job? "Dealing with the little kids. The big kids aren't any

problem, but the little kids are just so nice."

Would you still work if you won the lottery? "Yes. I get so much enjoyment from the kids — and the longest you are with them is an hour."

What did you want to be growing up? Pilot.

GINA FRICKE, 34, OMAHA



Job: Gambling addiction counselor

What is the best part of your job? "I really like seeing people improve significantly in their

lives, from devastation to finding a new way of life."

Would you still work if you won the lottery? "Yes. I think I'm called to do this job."

What did you want to be growing up? Physical therapist, doctor or nurse.

FRANCISCO "PACO" FUENTES, 51, BELLEVUE



Job: Director, Boys & Girls Clubs in South Omaha

What is the best part of your job: "The kids. They're funny. They're

vibrant. They come in with big smiles and hugs."

Would you still work if you won the lottery? "I probably wouldn't keep my job, but I'd keep connected, because I love this place."

What did you want to be growing up? "I would watch the TV shows of the time — 'Brady Bunch' and 'Leave It to Beaver' — and I wanted to have that life."

DEBORAH RUBALOFF, 61, OMAHA



Job: Veterinarian

What is the best part of your job? "The animals. I love animal faces. They just do something to your heart."

Would you still work if you won the lottery? "Yes. I would probably do what I do for free, and I'd probably do more rescue work."

What did you want to be growing up? Rodeo rider.

KIRK RASMUSSEN, 46, OMAHA



Job: Manager, electronics manufacturing

What is the best part of your job: "Diversity of customers; it

keeps it busy."

Would you still work if you won the lottery? "I would have to keep working."

What did you want to be growing up? Air Force pilot.

SUE MARTENS, 51, GRAND ISLAND, NEB.



Job: Nurse, St. Francis Medical Center

What is the best part of your job? "Seeing people get healthier."

Would you still work if you won the lottery? "Yes, because I've always wanted to work — not because I have to, but because I want to. My husband thinks I'm crazy."

What did you want to be growing up? "A nurse. I grew up in a family of nurses."

N. OMAR VALENTINE, 33, BELLEVUE



Job: Assistant director of undergraduate admissions, Creighton University

What is the best

part of your job? "It's helping to prepare students and families for higher education."

Would you still work if you won the lottery? "Yes. It (my job) is something I am passionate about."

What did you want to be growing up? Astronaut.

BARBARA PETERSON, 64, COUNCIL BLUFFS



Job: Librarian and director of Council Bluffs Public Library

What is the best part of your job? "I like talking to people, meeting

new people and telling them what we have to offer."

Would you still work if you won the lottery? "Yes. I'd get bored just being at home."

What did you want to be growing up? "When I was growing up, I used to play librarian. I'd set up a table and check out books to neighborhood kids."

TERRY DASHER, 41, PLATTSMOUTH, NEB.



Job: Ironworker

What is the best part of your job? "Helping to construct some of the better projects around Omaha. You can go back later and see the satisfaction of working on that job."

Would you still work if you won the lottery? "I would keep my (union) membership, but I'm not going to say I'd keep my job."

What did you want to be growing up? "I always wanted to be an ironworker. I grew up with ironworkers; my dad was an ironworker."

TRACY PETTENGILL, 33, OMAHA



Job: Cosmetologist, Concepts Salon

What is the best part of your job? "I love that I have the ability to make this world a more beautiful place, one person at a time."

Would you still work if you won the lottery? "I love my job, but I only play the lottery with hopes of never having to work again."

What did you want to be growing up? Police officer.

JERED SAAR, 36, BASSETT, NEB.



Job: Repairs wind turbines

What is the best part of your job? "Working with new technology in a new field. You get to experience some new things."

Would you still work if you won the lottery? "Probably not ...

I'd probably travel a lot, camping and seeing the country."

What did you want to be growing up? Airplane pilot.