

# Area man who loves his work reaches out to those who don't

BY KRISTEN HANKLA

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Before he was old enough to work, Gary Crossley decided he would have a job he loved.

As a child he observed his par-ents coming home from work. His mother loved her job as a typeset-ter at a local newspaper and ar-rived home most days happy. His father, on the other hand, walked into the house upset. He was mis-erable at the job chosen for him by the Navy.

Crossley remembers thinking, "When I get a job, I'm not going to get a job I dislike doing."

Today Crossley loves his job. He loved his last job, too, and the one before that. Now he's in the busi-ness of helping other people find jobs they're passionate about.

The 55-year-old founded Loveto- Work. org, LLC in September to help job seekers find work they enjoy and are therefore more suc-cessful at. The company also aims to help employers increase produc-tivity.

For job seekers, Crossley offers consultations to evaluate interests, skills and training needs and to as-sist in resume writing. As a career coach, he helps them look for jobs. For employers, he conducts sur-veys to determine company morale and culture, employees' skills and training needs and the best ways to motivate them.

LovetoWork.org also produces three monthly newsletters — one for workers, one for CEOs and HR managers and one for students and those looking for a career change.

Free on the Web site are a listing of upcoming career fairs, links to related sites and information and statistics on the labor force.

One of Crossley's current consult-ing jobs is career transition special-ist with Charleston County School District Adult Education. He works with people finishing their high school diplomas or working toward their GEDs to assess their interests and help them plan for their next step, whether it be getting a job, joining the military or furthering their education.

Crossley calls LovetoWork.org, "a labor of love." He launched his Web site on Labor Day, nine months af-ter he conceived the idea for the business.

Crossley recently retired from the S. C. Employment Security Commission, a decision he made based on his 13-year- old daugh-t-er's health. Christina had surgery in June to have her colon removed after being diagnosed with FAP, a rare form of colon cancer.

She is recovering quickly, and even made the basketball team at C.E. Williams Middle School.

"I was blessed that my daughter was able to go back to school, and give me the time to do other ven-tures. And I knew I was too young to retire, so I wanted to do some-thing related," he said. Crossley

has worked in the field of employment and training for more than 30 years.

Last month he became executive director of the Workforce Information Council, a body of federal and state employees whose goal is to improve the labor market and occupational data for workforce planning.

Crossley encourages people to do something they enjoy, pointing out that most of those who work spend as much time at their jobs as they do with family or sleeping. If the work is enjoyable, he says, the money and success will follow.

“Pleasure in the job puts perfection in the work,” he says, quoting Aristotle. “I think that pretty much sums it up.”

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# FYI

For more information, visit [www.LovetoWork.org](http://www.LovetoWork.org) or call 452- 412