



Celebrating Dennis Huculiak's 9th year anniversary of working at Price Chopper in Matamoras are, front row, left to right: Donna Ciancitto, (Job Coach), Dennis Huculiak, Christina Seiel (Pharmacy Manager). Back row, left to right: Joyce Trentacosta, Brandi Babcock, Matt Davis and Ivan Porratta.

Happy Nine Year Anniversary, Dennis!

MATAMORAS — Yes, it's that time of year again when Dennis Huculiak is celebrating his anniversary at Price Chopper where he works in the deli snack bar. It has been nine years now, and Dennis is just as dedicated and enthusiastic about his job as he was on the first day he started back in 2005.

This story would be almost quite ordinary if it wasn't for the challenges that Dennis meets head-on every day of his life.

Dennis is 46 years old and was born with developmental disabilities and multiple physical challenges. He is legally blind, partially deaf and has a speech impediment. Despite these significant challenges it would be hard to find a more loyal, dedi-

cated and competent employee. His Job Coach, Donna Ciancitto remarked that his happy attitude is contagious.

"I love being his Job Coach." Marge Jagel, Deli Manager, (not in photo) said he is such an asset to the business and food service dept. Even the customers know when he is not here on his days off. Jeremy Talmadge, Deli Dept., remarked we love working with him, he is such a pleasure.

The Office of Developmental Disabilities of Pennsylvania produced a video-documentary about Dennis's journey and life. "Dennis's Journey" tells his story through the voice of his mother, Mary Ohl, a natural storyteller, and her humor, experience, and

wisdom captivate the viewer and promotes awareness of the endless possibilities for people with developmental disabilities. This is a must see for everyone. Go to www.odpconsulting.net under Featured Stories to see more.

Ohl has always been a true fan and staunch advocate for her son and knows that for him to have a life like everyone else, he has to be part of his community by living and working in his own community of Pike County.

The people in Dennis' life have always focused on his abilities instead of his disabilities and have been surprised at what Dennis has imparted to them. Dennis is very proud to be a Price Chopper employee and hopes to be there for many years to come. Dennis is also a member of the Knights of Columbus #13935 of Milford ad Matamoros, and also volunteers two days a week at the Delaware and Blooming Grove Senior Centers where he helps with lunches and calling Bingo for the seniors.

So when you go into Price Chopper please stop by the food court and say hello. You'll find him cleaning the tables and restocking the counters. Not only is he proud to work for Price Chopper but he is very happy and proud to be a member of his community.

Dennis's mom remarks about a poem she recalls: "Dear Lord, your gifts are many and I'm grateful for every one. One of the greatest gifts you've given is the gift of my dear son. Thank you for his life, dear Lord. Watch over him each day. May he be safe and free from harm, as he meets each new day. Bless him through life's trials. Help him choose right from wrong. Let him be an example for all to see, standing tall, proud and strong."

Congratulations Dennis, great job! We are all proud of you and have a wonderful new year!