

Tom's father, John D'Eri, started [Rising Tide](#) so his 24-year-old autistic son, Andrew, could have a purpose and live independently into the future.

"I don't want him to sit in a room, taken care of by others once I'm gone," John says in the video [here](#). "I want him to have a job, I want him to have friends."

The business, located at 7201 N. State Road 7, is not only giving jobs to a population segment with 90 percent unemployment, it is changing people's perceptions of autism.