

# PI Events

A monthly publication of news and views at Person Industries

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## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- FROM THE DIRECTOR—STRATEGIC PLAN** 2
- WORDS OF WELLNESS** 2
- 30 DAYS OF OPERATING PCRC** 3
- ADDITIONAL POINTS OF INTEREST** 3
- SAVE THE DATE—EAP BANQUET** 3
- UP CLOSE AT PERSON** 3
- CLEARING UP PETE #'S** 4
- FACES BEHIND SATISFACTION** 4
- CALENDAR OF EVENTS** 4

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **The Craig Salter Golf Tournament raised \$1200 for Craig's Heart Transplant efforts.**
- **The PI website is in the process of getting a facelift. The site is being updated to include the MRF and many other changes. We'll keep you posted.**

## GRAND OPENING PLANNED FOR PERSON COUNTY MRF

The Person County MRF (Materials Recovery Facility) was a collaboration among many parties—citizens groups, Person County Government leadership and staff and most notably, the staff of Person Industries. Now that it has become a reality, PI wants everyone to come together for a grand opening celebration worthy of the work it entailed.

The Grand Opening Celebration

is scheduled for September 11 & 12, 2009 at the Person County Recycling Center, located at 741 Martin Street.

The two day Grand Opening Celebration will feature the traditional Ribbon Cutting Ceremony as well as vendor exhibits. Staff will be on hand to conduct tours. All interested persons are welcome.

Look for further details in next month's issue of PI Events.



Person County Recycling Center Grand Opening Celebration Friday and Saturday, September 11 & 12, 2009.

## PI MARKS 30 DAYS OF OPERATION AT THE PCRC

The Person County Recycling Center (PCRC) took over a year to establish and open to the community. Now that it has, many are wondering how things are progressing and what can be expected from this MRF in the future.

To the first question, things are progressing very well. Individual support for the site is outstanding and the number of recyclers continues to grow as a result of community awareness. The awareness is occurring because of the education done by PI staff but also because of the positive experiences of those who have visited the center. (See box, Patricia White.) Many have voiced their appreciation for the curbside service offered and the ability to comingle materials. Most notably, the Recycling Center is appreciated because of the diversity of materials being accepted. After hearing of the array of materials allowed at PCRC, one caller from Granville County had this to say, "I want to recy-

### A Personal Thank You— Ms. Patricia White

The PCRC was pleased to receive a visit from Ms. Patricia White, a Person County resident and a recycler. Ms. White wanted to thank the persons responsible for what she considered a good deed.



Ms. Patricia White Recycler

Ms. White had accidentally placed an uncashed check in a container with her recyclable materials. After a period of trying to find the check, she assumed that it was permanently lost. Then she received the very check in the mail one day from the original payer with a note saying it had been found by Person Industries in their recyclables.

"I wanted to thank you for making the effort to return it and I really don't know how you could possibly have done so with all the papers you receive," said Ms. White. "So I wanted to come and let you know how much I appreciated it," she said. She went on to say that she was very pleased with the service she receives when she drives through the center. "Your people are always so nice," she said.

PI appreciates comments from Ms. White and others in the community as we strive to make your recycling experience a positive one.

**FROM THE DIRECTOR—MEASURING OUR 2009 PERFORMANCE**

Another fiscal year has come and gone and we're still standing! Not necessarily alone, but with the support of Person County Government and the Person County Community, PI is standing with the same mission but with a new vision.

If any of you recall reading our Annual Report for the previous year, we spent a great deal of time discussing our new vision to shift from a manufacturing supporting industry to one that is green in services and practices. To

that end we determined to open a MRF right here in Person County. With one day remaining in the 2009 fiscal year, it happened! The MRF opened on June 29th and our employees began working on green jobs.

I want to take this opportunity to thank my outstanding staff for their work in helping the new vision come into focus. Like me, they started the year not as recycling experts. However, in the 12 months that followed, they have become the source for

recycling information in Person County. I thank the other members of the PI team for their part in making the vision happen—our employees.

It was very difficult for me to see our employees without work as we made the transition to recycling. They too have learned the importance of being flexible and resilient during times of change. Now, many are working a good portion of the day as greeters, sorters, dissemblers, forklift and machine operators at the MRF. Still, we are



Wanda Rogers, Director of Person Industries, gives a perspective on the 2009 Fiscal Year and Strategic Planning for upcoming years.

always looking for new contracts that will provide meaningful work to all those we serve – all day.

Finally, let me again give a sincere thanks to the parties that helped us reach our goals. In particular, we thank the leadership of Person County Government—the Board of County Commissioners, Heidi York, County Manager and Paul Bailey, Assistant County Manager. Thanks for making this a good year and be assured that we WILL make the MRF work.

Opening the MRF was a large part of our 2009 Strategic Plan but there was much more. Please see my list of highlights of our accomplishments for 2009 and what we will undertake in 2010.

**HIGHLIGHTS OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS DURING 2009 AND LOOKING AHEAD TO 2010**

- √ Received 3 year accreditation from CARF, a national accrediting body. During the accreditation review, PI received an "Exemplary" rating for the PATC Database. The PI Technology Plan was also listed as a "Strength". The CAP Program was accredited for the first time.
- √ Developed new community and production contracts from local businesses and industries. Also expanded existing contracts.
- √ For the first time, performed functional assessments for the Work First Program.
- √ Developed a separate database to track informal complaints from employees and families.
- √ Implemented a Health and Safety Program at the new MRF and other community based job sites.
- √ Participated in the Worksite Wellness Program sponsored by the NC Office of Disability Health. PI taught health and wellness classes and held health screenings for employees.
- √ Moved to the new CAP Waiver.

In 2010, a great deal of our focus will continue to be on the new vision—the MRF, namely Person County Recycling Center. We will hold a Grand Opening Celebration in September 2009 to bring forth more community awareness. For the PI Main location, we will focus on becoming a STAR site and move closer to electronic recordkeeping.

**Words of Wellness**



*Leigh Ann Creson,  
Health Promotion  
Coordinator  
Person County  
Health Department*

Eat Smart, Move More North Carolina has provided some great tips to help us not only eat smart and move more but also to help us "go green". For the next several months your Words of Wellness will include tips on how you can be environmentally friendly as you eat smart and move more. The set of tips for this month focuses on eating smart, moving more and going green as you "right size your portions".

Buy food in bulk. This reduces the amount of trash you throw away. Portion single servings into reusable containers.

Compost fruits and vegetables. Compost makes great fertilizer, and helps reduce food waste in landfills. Visit [www.p2pays.org/compost](http://www.p2pays.org/compost) to learn more.

Plan your meals ahead of time and purchase only the amount of food you plan to eat. If you find yourself throwing food away each month, buy less.

**PI MARKS 30 DAYS OF OPERATION AT THE PCRC**

**Continued from page 1**  
 ple but I feel limited in what I can recycle here. So rather than take my materials to Durham, as I normally do, I will bring them to you, since you're closer."

The center has received some criticism as well, the most consistent being the lack of directions available when driving from the Martin Street entrance. PI is aware of this problem and should have directional signs soon.

Internally, the MRF has provided work for some 25 program participants with dis-

abilities and four former program participants as well as four others. For employees who have been without work due to the loss of a major contract, the MRF has been a boon.

The one concern PI had from the beginning has become a reality in that the volume of materials received is currently not at the levels needed. PCRC receives an average of 112 cars bearing recyclables each day. Material collected before opening the MRF and during the first month of operation amounted to 176 tons. While

that number represents a large amount that ordinarily would be disposed of as trash, it falls short of the amount received by profitable MRF's and further suggests that a large percentage of the community has not yet engaged in the recycling process.

So individuals and businesses are encouraged to call or visit our site to see how recycling can be expanded in your home and business for the sake of the environment and increased job opportunities.



PCRC employees sort through materials received from individuals throughout the area.

**ADDITIONAL POINTS OF INTEREST**

- **County employees are encouraged to take advantage of Total Fitness and Roxboro Athletic Club Fitness Centers. The Senior Center is also available to County employees for a \$5 monthly fee.**
- **The Person County Recreation Dept. is offering a Women's Self-Defense Class on Saturday, August 15, 2009 from 9:00–11:00 in the Huck Sansbury Annex Building**

**SAVE THE DATE FOR THE 2009 EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION BANQUET**

The 2009 Employee Appreciation Banquet will be held Friday, September 18, 2009 at the Homestead Festival House.

The banquet, as in past years, provides an opportunity for employees and staff

to be appreciated for their work and commitment.

Although PI, like many other businesses, had a difficult year financially, the employees were very eager to work when it was available. They were also very flexible and

willing to learn new jobs skills. As recycling became the focus, our employees adapted to this change remarkably well.

These observations and others will be made at the upcoming banquet. Save the date!

**Up Close at Person**



Mark and Wanda on their wedding day— August 5, 1979.

Congratulations to PI Director Wanda Rogers and husband Mark Rogers on 30 years of marriage. Wanda and Mark were married on August 5, 1979.

In looking back over the 30 years, Wanda says she loves Mark just as much now as she did 30 years ago. She says he is a good man and a good husband.

The highlight of their 30 years has unquestionably been their two children— Ashley and Ben. With such good role models, Ashley and Ben have both married themselves, Ashley doing so this past July 11th.

To celebrate this milestone in their lives, Wanda and Mark are vacationing in Niagara Falls, Canada. We wish them many more!



Mark and Wanda, still smiling after 30 years of marriage.

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People Investing in  
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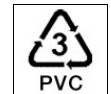
**Clearing up PETE Numbers**



Just in case we've confused you in our educational materials for the MRF, PI is accepting all plastics with numbers 1–7. That number can be obtained from the bottom of most plastic containers.

We initially referred to this number as a PETE number. Although commonly referred to as such, PETE refers only to plastic number 1. This number is actually a SPI code (Society of Plastics), created as a means of identifying the resin content in plastic bottles and containers. Other plastics may have a different designation. For example, you may see #2 HDPE or #5 PP. They refer to #2 and #5 plastics, respectively.

So, to make things clearer, look for a # 1–7 inside a small triangle. If you find it, we'll take it.



**AUGUST 2009**



**The Faces Behind our High Customer Satisfaction Rating**

After one month of operations, PCRC is receiving rave reviews for customer satisfaction at the recycling drop-off door. Above are a few of the faces behind our positive customer satisfaction rating. While other employees and staff rotate working the area, all have the common goal of expedient, courteous service.

**SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT**

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|    |    |    |    |   |                            | 1  |
| 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6   | 7                          | 8  |
| 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13<br>Bloodborne Pathogens Training<br>PCOB Auditorium<br>(10:00 & 2:00 Sessions) | 14                         | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20  | 21                         | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27<br>Cultural Diversity Training<br>PI Conference Rm.<br>(10:00 & 2:00 Sessions) | 28<br>Personality Festival | 29 |
| 30 | 31 |    |    |   |                            |    |