

Welcome Back Home.

RLF: SHORT-TERM COST, LONG-TERM GAIN

ORIGINALLY KNOWN AS the 'Recapture Fund' and co-administered by the former Indiana Department of Commerce, the Pulaski County Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) has a decades-long history of providing low-interest capital for economic-development projects. With the help of this CDBG-funded program, early infrastructure improvements were made to, and tenants occupied, the Winamac Industrial Park.

One blemish has cast a disproportionate pall over this advantageous program, unhelpfully focusing attention on one borrower — a company that, even despite its struggles, still operates in our community — and drawing it away from thriving entrepreneurs with great stories.

Four local businesses still repaying loans together employ nearly 50 people; when they each first received assistance, AdaptaSoft (two loans), Clear Decision Filtration, Winamac Lumber Yard, and T&S Recycle had a combined workforce of about 25. Once the interest on these five loans has been paid in full, the RLF will have earned about \$65,000 by helping to create a minimum 25 jobs, a 100-percent increase.

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DID YOU KNOW ...

that the Revolving Loan Fund still has nearly \$65,000 available to help to finance start-ups, expansions, and relocation projects?

Contact us to learn more!

Ivy Tech Corporate College - Kokomo Region awards certificates to local employees

Six individuals from two local manufacturers each received an Electrical Certificate for Maintenance Technicians from Ivy Tech Corporate College on 1 May 2013 after a series of courses that started in fall 2011. The employee-students met with instructor Ken Oravsky once weekly, at either the Distance Learning Lab at Winamac Community High School or Ivy Tech in Logansport, studying AC/DC Electrical Systems, Industrial Motor and Motor Drives and Controls, Industrial Electrical Troubleshooting, and Electrical Circuits for Motor Drive Installation.

Mr. Oravsky stated, "I have watched these men overcome nearly insurmountable odds to become very accomplished and informed employees. These men have worked for a long year and a half to be more valuable to their companies, their families, and lastly to themselves. What a pleasure to have known and worked side by side with these dedicated employees of Winamac Specialty Products and Braun."

For further information, please contact Janice L. Bailey, Corporate College Executive Director, at jabailey@ivytech.edu or 800-459-0561, Ext. 284.

Congratulations to all six certified employees, their employers, Mr. Oravsky, and Ivy Tech!

CONGRATULATIONS TO ...

The Patio Drive-In for 20 years of sweet treats and grilled eats!

PCED Vice-President David Broad for opening For Your Better Health, LLC!

Jones Dairy Farm for 10 years of robotic milking in Star City, Indiana!

Gilsinger Implement Co. for being recognized as world's oldest John Deere dealership!

Revolving loans yield high returns on investment

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AdaptaSoft used its loans to add furnishings, hardware and software, and server infrastructure with virtualization in its downtown office; data-center-virtualization capability allows the company to test cloud projects in a simulated environment and to operate with a high up time. Since the first loan, six new jobs have been created; one of their employees is an Illinois native who returned to the Midwest from Southern California to work for a company in Salem Township, Pulaski County, Indiana.

Now again in growth mode, AdaptaSoft is preparing to add five more white-collar positions and to release a new cutting-edge software product.

Because of the RLF, Clear Decision Filtration (CDF) was able to acquire a building and to survive the lean early years; from an initial four employees, the company has increased by eight. By 2015, CDF hopes to add another eight, bringing the total payroll to 20 sewers, laborers, and office staff.

From Francesville these two companies cater to clients from coast to coast, AdaptaSoft offering payroll software and consulting services, and CDF manufacturing industrial liquid bag filters.

With its RLF money, T&S Recycle acquired a larger building on a bigger, better-located property, and two industrial woodworking machines; this has allowed the small company to add clients and nearly to double its staff, many of whom were previously out of work. Having first focused on remodeling its shop, T&S has now begun to recycle pallets and other wood products into new pallets, pallet parts, and a number of other items, including some that had not been anticipated; a drive down County Road 200 South reveals the hum of a busy woodshop, heavy equipment moving product, and stacks of wood awaiting new life.

In 2011, All Seasons Home Center held a liquidation auction and eventually closed its doors before Winamac Lumber Yard reopened with help from the RLF; the loan allowed for the acquisition of equipment necessary to operate the business, as well as providing an avenue for the company to maintain good credit. It also ensured that Pulaski County kept its only general-public-oriented building-supplies retailer.

Now under new owners, Winamac Lumber has undergone a complete makeover, including a new line of paint, an overhaul of the store's interior, an immensely broader selection, and a new logo.

These four companies, which span across the map and across sectors, would not be as strong as they are without the RLF. Some may not even still be in business, which would mean fewer jobs, more empty buildings, and less tax money helping to fund County operations. Their trials have taught their owners lessons and helped them to sustain and to expand; these owners have also gained wisdom that they can impart to other entrepreneurs.

- Take advantage of the resources available from and through Pulaski County Economic Development and view the organization as a partner.
- Put together a solid, detailed business plan for *at least* the first five years.
- Expecting the worst will allow you to react and to continue moving forward.
- Make sure that you have appropriate training programs in place, especially if your clientele extends beyond your own community.
- If your clientele is primarily local, be sure to cultivate a positive business reputation and to be an engaged corporate citizen.

PCED reorganizes, welcomes new members

In addition to electing its 2013-2014 officers (See page 3.), PCED in March welcomed three new members. Freshman County Commissioner Larry Brady joined as his Board's appointee, and voted in as new at-large members were Greg Comoglio, recently hired as operations manager at Plymouth Tube - Cold Draw, and Krysten Hinkle, a lifelong resident of Pulaski County now with Four County Counseling Center and previously with Ivy Tech - Kokomo at the Logansport campus.

The three new members will serve through February 2016 and be eligible for one additional consecutive term. They join, among others, Lawrence Loehmer, representing the Town of Monterey, and Amy Jo Hoover, from the Chamber Board, both of whom came aboard within the last few months. All five help further to increase the diversity of the membership of an organization whose mission is to improve the quality of life and economic health of the entire Pulaski County community.

PULASKI COUNTY, HOME TO ...

- the 21-miles-long-and-growing Panhandle Pathway multi-modal trail.
- Tippecanoe River State Park (and the lovely Tippecanoe River).
- Jasper-Pulaski and Winamac Fish and Wildlife Areas.

**PULASKI COUNTY:
WELCOME BACK HOME.**

PMH celebrates 50 years of healthcare

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the fruits of community leaders' efforts to build a hospital to serve Pulaski County. A half-century later, Pulaski Memorial is still caring for its neighbors, offering a variety of services and access to specialists, continuously improving, and investing in infrastructure.

On Saturday, 11 May, PMH will holds its third annual Health Fair, commemorating both its golden anniversary and National Hospital Week. Following a free pancake breakfast from 7:00-9:00 a.m., and lasting until 2:00 p.m., the Health Fair will offer screenings, tours, and demonstrations, plus drawings for prizes.

Pulaski Memorial, with its community-driven steering committee, is also completing its triennial community-health-needs assessment, the results of which will be of help in planning new programming and improving current offerings.

**THE PULASKI ONLINE
JOB BANK**

*IF YOU'RE AN EMPLOYER IN PULASKI COUNTY
LOOKING FOR QUALIFIED LOCAL WORKERS,
THEN CONTACT PCED TO ADD A JOB LISTING,
FREE OF CHARGE, TO THE ONLINE JOB BANK.*

*([HTTP://WWW.PULASKIONLINE.ORG/CONTENT/
VIEW/178/609](http://www.pulaskionline.org/content/view/178/609)). CHECK IT OUT IF YOU'RE
LOOKING FOR A JOB IN PULASKI COUNTY, TOO!*

Keep an eye out for information about the third annual Pulaski County Economic Development Summit, which will take place later this spring or early in the summer. We will recap our successes, discuss the challenges that we face, provide an update on our projects, and probably offer a meal!

WINAMAC INDUSTRIAL PARK:

40 ACRES, SHOVEL READY, READY FOR YOU



CONTACT PCED @ 574-946-3869, OR VISIT
[HTTP://WWW.PULASKIONLINE.ORG/](http://www.pulaskionline.org/)

Our Mission

Pulaski County Economic Development holds to a mission to promote and improve the quality of economic development throughout Pulaski County in pursuit of excellence through the following endeavors:

- *Supporting the expansion and continued investment of Pulaski County businesses.
- *Recruiting new business and industry into Pulaski County.
- *Promoting tourism and the increase of transient spending in Pulaski County.
- *Developing and supporting business services such as workforce development, infrastructure, planning, financial programs, technology initiatives and entrepreneurial programs.
- *Conducting charitable and educational activities.

**Pulaski County
Community Development Commission/
Economic Development
2013-2014 Leadership**

President: Bill Champion, Fratco
Vice-President: David Broad, Alliance EMS
Secretary: David Zeltwanger, DK and Sons, LLC
First Past President: Rod Button, Town of Winamac
Membership Officer: Jamie Bales, Alliance Bank

Executive Director: Nathan P. Origer
nporiger@pulaskionline.org

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