

## PRIDE Offers Contract Services to Area Businesses

For several years the crew at PRIDE has cleaned the Draka, USA Cable Systems plant and offices in North Dighton. New locations of cleaning contracts include the Taunton Armed Forces Recruiting Station at Mill River Place and the Mayor's Office for Community Development in Taunton located on School Street. At both sites the crew cleans offices and provides janitorial services. Additionally, the crew provides grounds keeping at the School Street location. The individuals



*Cleaning services at the Taunton Mayor's Office for Community Development.*

on the crew are doing an excellent job at all locations.

Since the beginning of 2002, PRIDE's janitorial program has undergone many changes. The program has been revised and enhanced in a variety of ways. The janitorial crew is now completing their skill training at PRIDE's production facility and has branched out to a variety of community locations. The program is headed by Jessica

*Taunton Armed Forces Recruiting Station*



Grinvalsy. Jessica provides individual skills training for each individual on the crew, and the team has made remarkable progress recently.

Success is marked even further since two of the crewmembers have gained competitive employment in the

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## Newly Established Massachusetts Charitable Mechanics Award

This year the PRIDE Board of Directors voted to establish another award named the Massachusetts Charitable Mechanics Award. This award is being established to recognize the aid that Massachusetts Charitable Mechanics Association has given PRIDE over the years.



*Theresa White*

The 2001 award was given to Theresa White who works at the PRIDE facility. Theresa's nomination cited the ability to learn new jobs with very little training time and to have great patience when learning. It also cited her ability to work at one hundred percent (100% of expected productivity levels) on some of these jobs. An outstanding achievement.

Keep up the good work Theresa. You have demonstrated performance at your personal best and provide an excellent example to others.

*The criteria for the award is defined as follows. The award will be given to the individual who improved the most in their work skills during the calendar year. This includes the number of skills learned, the amount of improvement in skills, and the increase in productivity. As a way of deciding between equally qualified candidates, those achieving machine skills would be given the preference.*

## Letter from the Executive Director



The major event of the past six months has been our purchase of the building at 3 Maple Street in Taunton. This is a very exciting step, which will allow major facility renovations and

enhancements to benefit the program.

PRIDE has rented the building for the past twenty-five years and was finally able to purchase it with financing through Mass Redevelopment and the Taunton Mayor's Office of Community Development. We have started a multi-phase renovation program beginning with the bathrooms and have plans to make structural changes to the

production floor, office area, lunchroom, conference room, and building entrance.

We have also completed our picnic area renovation and have decided to name the area in honor of the late PRIDE employee Dave Latham. The picnic area has been expanded and the grounds have been landscaped. This was done through funding from the Department of Mental Retardation and private donations given in Dave Latham's name. We hope to have a dedication of the picnic area this summer.

This year has been challenging because of the state budget crisis, which has affected the funds available to us from the state. Our commercial business has suffered because of the economic downturn. We have worked hard to keep to our budget through economy and extra work.

**On July 29**, in collaboration with Barry Amaral, PRIDE will host its third annual golf tournament. The tournament will be held at the Rehoboth Country Club, 155 Perryville Road, Rehoboth. Registration will begin at 8:15 and play will commence at 9:00. The tax-deductible entry fee of \$65.00 per person includes greens fees, golf cart, tournament prizes, and a post-tournament chicken barbecue at the Portuguese American Civic Club, 175 School Street, Taunton.

**On October 24**, PRIDE will have an annual meeting open to businesses, families, and individuals served by PRIDE as well as any others who would like to attend. The event will be held at Benjamin's Restaurant and will involve the investment of the PRIDE Board of Directors and a dinner party afterwards. Please mark this on your calendar and join us.

## Best Wishes, Joyce!

Best wishes to Joyce Hudson who recently retired as the Business Manager for PRIDE following 25 years of service. Joyce will now spend part of each year in Massachusetts and the rest in Florida in her newly-found retirement. A hard worker who has dedicated many long hours to her job, Joyce began as a bookkeeper for PRIDE in March, 1977 when the organization supported about 50 staff and clients. She has seen the organization grow to more than twice the size and seen the number of programs/ services increase substantially.



*Joyce Hudson at a retirement reception with Betty Gagnon and Sue Travers.*

Within a short period, Joyce was promoted from Bookkeeper to Office Manager and has been part of the management team at PRIDE for over twenty years. In that time she has helped partner in the daily operations – knowing every aspect of the office and staff payroll, accounts receivable, payable, and financial reporting. Working closely with Betty Gagnon and Sue Travers, she played an integral part in upgrading and computerizing the office systems and supervising the office. Many changes have been made since 1977 when Joyce originally was assisted by one client to run the office and all operations were performed by hand.

Fellow workers and clients will truly miss Joyce and her presence – especially those who close up the shop each night. "Joyce's attention to detail and her dedication to PRIDE are unmatched in today's world. She was a big part of PRIDE's reputation and success. We miss her, but she is well deserving of a long, healthy retirement." said Doug Latham, Director of Operations.



*Ed Richards, President of the Board; Joyce Hudson and Justin Sallaway, Executive Director*

"Joyce has done an excellent job in every endeavor she has undertaken." said Justin Sallaway, Executive Director at PRIDE. "As Business Manager Joyce always kept up with the times and maintained the utmost accuracy and integrity in our financial business matters. We wish her much happiness and an enjoyable retirement."

## Employee of the Year Award Recipients

Each year PRIDE gives the Paul R. Mello Employment Award to an individual that the organization feels has most successfully overcome the challenges of a disability in attaining personal employment goals. This marks a significant step in the life of an individual in the process of attaining competitive employment and working independently. It represents dedication, hard work, and the achievement of a significant level of expertise. The 2001 award was presented by Ed Richards, President of the PRIDE Board of Directors, at an annual employee gathering to two very deserving recipients.

For the 2001 calendar year the Paul R. Mello award was awarded to Ed Masterson

and Alan Hannigan, both working at DATEL, Inc. in Mansfield, MA.

Ed and Alan had to overcome many obstacles to become employed. To commute to Mansfield they take several forms of public transportation and have mastered it very effectively. This includes taking a bus from Taunton to the Attleboro train station, riding the train to Mansfield, and then catching a cab to DATEL. Ed and Alan have specific capabilities and Armanda Mello, DATEL's Human Resources Director, has gone above and beyond to insure both are challenged and integrated into the natural workplace.



*Ed and Alan on their commute to work.*

Congratulations for a continued job well done, Ed and Alan. We are proud of you, and you are very deserving of this award.

## Contract Services

*continued from front cover*

community. One individual works part-time at Norwell Lighting. The other crewmember has taken a full-time job at the Holiday Inn in Taunton working in the housekeeping department.

"It is our hope," stated Justin Salloway, Executive Director of PRIDE "to give individuals the opportunity to learn skills that will make them more successful in the community. The janitorial program brings that to the table providing a valued service to local businesses and offering people the opportunity to learn here in our offices and in the community."



*BIW Cable (Draka) cleaning services provided at offices and plant.*



*Ed Masterson (far left) and Alan Hannigan at work in DATEL office.*

## New Business Manager at PRIDE

PRIDE is pleased to introduce Martin Lahue as the new Business Manager at PRIDE. As part of the management team, Martin brings many years of experience and a strong educational background. He received an undergraduate degree in Accounting from Northeastern University and a Masters of Business Administration (MBA) from Suffolk University.



*Martin Lahue*

Prior to beginning his work at PRIDE, Martin held various senior level financial management positions in both for-profit and non-profit organizations. He places a special emphasis on implementing computerized financial systems.

Residing in Plymouth, Massachusetts, Martin enjoys sailing and travel as personal interests. He considers working with computers to be a hobby as well as part of his profession. Martin began working with PRIDE in September, 2001 and was able to transition all financial matters smoothly by continuing to work with Joyce Hudson before her retirement. Welcome Martin!

# Job Placements

*Congratulations and good luck in your new positions*

<b>Craig S.</b>	Dollar Tree, Taunton	Stock Clerk
<b>Tammy J.</b>	Ames Department Store	Stock Clerk
<b>Michael F.</b>	Mobil on the Run	Friendly Serve
<b>Roger R.</b>	Taunton Daily Gazette	Independent Contractor
<b>Dawn P.</b>	Norwell (part-time)	Cleaner
<b>Kenneth M.</b>	Holiday Inn	Houseman
<b>Cheryl R.</b>	McDonalds	Dining Room
<b>Kurt A.</b>	Holiday Inn	Food Service Worker

<b>Sherri R.</b>	Allied Auto Parts	Driver
<b>Pam W.</b>	TAD - General Dynamics	File Clerk
<b>Eduardo G.</b>	Taunton Daily Gazette	Independent Sales
<b>Eddie F.</b>	Brockton Enterprise	Delivery Driver
<b>John C.</b>	Holiday Inn	Houseman
<b>Jeanne D.</b>	Life Care of Attleboro	Housekeeper
<b>John C.</b>	Angel View	Groundskeeper



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*A member agency of:*  
The United Way of Greater Attleboro & Taunton