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A Division of the WV State Building Trades, AFL-CIO | Chuck Parker, President | John Epperly, Secretary-Treasurer | Justin Williams, Director

# Union Contractor Awarded Electrical Work at Nucor

Last month, union contractor Nitro Construction Services was awarded a contract for the electrical work on the melt shop at the Nucor Steel facility, which is currently under construction in Mason County, West Virginia.

To date, the contractor has been awarded more than \$50 million worth of construction work on the Nucor Steel project, of which the latest electrical contract makes up the lion share.

According to representatives from Nitro Construction Services, hundreds of good paying union jobs will be created from the work they have received thus far. Furthermore, they anticipate many more local jobs will be created due to the relationship developed with the Nucor Steel Company.

The Nitro Construction team believes this relationship will be long-term and highly anticipate that it will lead to maintenance and outage work at the plant as well.

Sources estimate the facility is expected to cost an approximate \$4.2 billion and have the capacity to pro-

duce three million tons of steel each year.

The recent contract award of the

electrical work on the melt facility to Nitro Construction is the latest ma-

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Representatives from Nitro Construction Services meet with West Virginia State Building and Construction Trades leaders, at the Building Trades headquarters in Charleston, about upcoming work at the Nucor Steel project in Mason County, West Virginia.

# West Virginia State Pipe Trades Apprenticeship Contest Held at Morgantown Local #152

The West Virginia State Pipe Trades held their annual Apprenticeship Contest in Morgantown April 4-6.

The event took place at Morgantown Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 152 training center with 14 total fifth-year apprentices competing from all five local unions based in

West Virginia.

Contestants competed in four categories: Plumber, Pipefitter, Welder, and HVAC Technician.

During the events, apprentices were given hands-on tests in a variety of skill areas including solder, braze, isometric drawing, welding, rigging, tube bending, plumbing, pipe layout,

screwed pipe, builders level and underground layout.

In addition, apprentices were given a written test.

"This event really gives our apprentices an opportunity to display their high level of skills," said Bryan Raber, Business Manager for Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 152. "I want

to thank the event judges, all the volunteers, and our sponsors who helped make the event happen this year."

On Thursday April 6 an awards banquet was held at Touchdown Terrace at Mountaineer Field to recognize the winners in each category.

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# Annual Coatings and Corrosion Expo Held

The International Union of Painters and Allied Trades District Council 53 (IUPAT 53) held their annual Coating and Corrosion Expo at their training center in Weston, West Virginia on April 6.

The event offered a variety of activities to assist those who deal with the effects of corrosion in an industrial setting.

Classes and demonstrations were held and focused on pipeline contractors, the oil and gas industry, paint contractors, coating suppliers,

technicians, chemical plant operators, and individuals working in the Department of Transportation, tanks, bridges, concrete, and refining industries.

Class topics included Corrosion Basics and Fundamentals, Concrete Coatings, Pipeline Coatings, Bridge Assessment/Inspection, Coating Technologies for Tanks, Protective Coatings Inspection Basics, Coatings for Reducing Bridge Maintenance & Painting Costs, and many others.

The annual Expo began in 2013

to promote the IUPAT DC 53 apprenticeship program by bringing together players in the coating industry, which include paint suppliers and many others.

Over the years, it has grown to attract over 200 attendees, including vendors who provide useful information on topics relating to coatings & corrosion, as well as other industry-related business activities.

In addition to business and industry attendees, state and local public officials were on hand to tour the training site and

learn about all the IUPAT 53 has to offer to West Virginia and the entire region.

**“Our Expo has the most advanced training and demonstrations...in the region,”**

**Brian Stanley**

*Business Manager*

*IUPAT DC 53*

“Our Expo has the most advanced training and demonstrations about how to properly deal with corrosion and apply coatings in the region,” said Brian Stanley, Business Manager for the IUPAT DC 53.

For more information on this year’s event and to learn more about

the IUPAT DC 53 apprenticeship program and training center, log on to [www.ftidc53.org](http://www.ftidc53.org). ■

## IBEW 466 Holds Tour of Training Facility



Dustin Vaughn (right) gives a tour of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers 466 (IBEW 466) apprenticeship training facility in Charleston, West Virginia.

Attendees of the tour included the Charleston Mayor and City Council, representatives from renewable energy organizations, industry officials, public policy experts, and many others.

The tour was focused on the provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), which provide significant federal funding and tax credits for renewable construction projects that utilize apprenticeship and pay Davis Bacon federal prevailing wages.

In addition to the tour of the training center, a presentation was given by Steve Crum, IBEW International Representative, about the IBEW as a whole and everything the organization has to offer.

“We want to thank everyone who came out to tour our training center,” said Chris Samples, Business Manager for IBEW 466. “It is an exciting time in the industry, and we want to work with all of our public and private sector partners to ensure we take advantage of the opportunities ahead of us.”

The tour is part of an ongoing effort by ACT and the Trades to educate the general public about the benefits of craft apprenticeship programs.



Attendees of the 2023 Coating and Corrosion Expo visit vendor exhibits during the event at the Painters DC 53 Training Center in Weston, West Virginia.

## Apprentice Contest

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The winners in each category are as follows: Shawn Cook, Charleston Local 625 (Plumbing winner); Andrew Enoch, Parkersburg Local 565 (Pipefitting winner); Michael Miller, Parkersburg Local 565 (Welding winner); Jeremy Adams, Parkersburg Local 565, (HVAC Technician winner).

The winners will take part in the district competition, which will be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania this summer.

Winners from the regional competition will then move onto the national competition held later this year in Ann Arbor, Michigan. ■

# Workforce Development

## Trades Join Renewable Energy Event Tour to Promote Apprenticeship Programs

On March 17, the trades took part in the first of a series of events, aimed at spreading awareness of emerging job opportunities in the renewable energy sector, created by the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL).

During the event, the trades gave a presentation on apprenticeship programs as part of a workforce development effort to increase apprentice recruitment numbers in response to the federal funding opportunity in the construction industry.

The “Bring Renewable Energy

Jobs to the West Side Community Meeting” event was hosted by Com-

mon Defense, a veteran’s organization committed to supporting emerging renewable energy projects throughout the state and nation.

The event, held at A More Excellent Way of Life Church in Charleston, welcomed residents in the local area to come learn about the provisions laid out in the IRA and BIL and the potential construction job opportunities that were available to them.

George Capel, Government Relations Director for the West Virginia State Building and Construction

“The IRA and BIL will bring more than 6 billion dollars of investment, plus tax credits for renewable energy projects, to the state of West Virginia over the next 5 years.”

**George Capel**

*Government Relations Director*

*West Virginia State Building and Construction Trades*



George Capel, Government Relations Director for the West Virginia State Building and Construction Trades, answers an audience member’s question about trade apprenticeship programs during a community event in Charleston, West Virginia.

Trades, presented on behalf of the trades at the event.

During the presentation, Capel explained the significance of the federal legislation to the state and construction industry.

“This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity,” said Capel. “The IRA and BIL will bring more than 6 billion dollars of investment, plus tax credits for renewable energy projects, to the state of West Virginia over the next 5 years.”

Capel said it is because of this that the trades have been making a con-

certed effort to recruit new applicants to craft apprenticeship programs.

“We are already seeing more development in the renewable energy sector with new projects being announced every day,” said Capel. “Our primary goal is to ensure we strengthen the pipeline of skilled labor to West Virginia’s construction industry and ensure we take advantage of this great opportunity.”

The next tour stop is scheduled for Friday, April 28 in Charleston, West Virginia, with additional events and cities to be announced soon. ■

## WV Construction & Design Expo Held at Civic Center



Contractors speak with Eric King, Organizer for the West Virginia Laborers at the annual West Virginia Construction and Design Exposition at the Charleston Civic Center on March 23.

This year, there were over 4,000 attendees at the event, which featured 300 exhibits and offered numerous seminars and info sessions about the state of the construction industry in West Virginia.

The trade show, hosted by the Contractor’s Association of West Virginia, serves as a meeting ground for contractors, architects, engineers, purchasing agents, suppliers, labor representatives, and public works officials involved in the commercial and industrial construction markets.

For more information on this year’s event, log on to [www.wvexpo.com](http://www.wvexpo.com).

## Apply at Workforce WV

# Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers #23 Apprenticeship Opportunity

The Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers 23 of Ohio, West Virginia, and Kentucky (BAC 23) is accepting applications for their apprenticeship program.

Applications can be submitted at your local Workforce West Virginia office location.

Apprentices in the program can expect instruction in the most highly skilled trowel trades including bricklaying, stone and marble masonry, cement masonry, plastering, tile setting, terrazzo and mosaic work, and other highly technical skills.

Applicants must be at least 18 years of age, possess a high school di-

ploma or equivalent, be able to perform the physical work required by the trade, possess a valid driver's license, have access to a form of transportation, be able to pass a drug test, and must be a resident of West Virginia, Ohio, or Kentucky.

A copy of a birth certificate and high school transcripts (or equivalents) will be required at a later date after the initial application.

The Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers 23 of Ohio, West Virginia, and Kentucky will not discriminate against apprenticeship applicants or apprentices based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual

orientation, disability, age, or genetic information.

The BAC 23 will take affirmative action to provide equal opportunity in apprenticeship and will operate

the apprenticeship program as required under federal law.

For additional information contact the Bricklayers office at (304) 363-9250. ■

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## UA 625 Holds Tour for Charleston Mayor & Council



(From right) Craig Mosteller, Business Agent for Plumbers and Pipefitters 625, and Brett Matthews, Training Coordinator for Plumbers and Pipefitters 625, hold a tour of their training facility for Charleston Mayor Amy Goodwin (center) and several members of Charleston City Council.

The tour is a part of an ongoing effort by ACT and the West Virginia State Building Trades to educate lawmakers and the general public about the benefits of craft apprenticeship programs.

The tour was also focused around the federal funding that will be made available to state and local governments as a part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act.

## Contractor Awarded

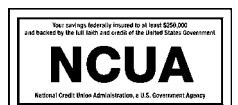
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por piece of the Nucor project that has gone union; however, it is not the only one. In addition, union contractors Goettle and Beaver Construction were both awarded contracts for piling work at the facility last summer.

"We are excited about these contracts and that Nucor has decided to

use local workers in building their new facility," said John Epperly, Secretary-Treasurer for the West Virginia State Building and Construction Trades. "We are confident Nucor will be more than satisfied with the skilled craftsmen and women we will have working onsite." ■

  
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