



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK 'WV STATE BUILDING TRADES' - FOLLOW US ON TWITTER @WVSBT

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

Trades Launch Recruitment Website WVtrades.org

Earlier this month, the West Virginia Building and Construction Trades Council (WVBCT) unveiled its new website and landing page for apprenticeship program recruitment initiatives. The new website can be accessed at www.WVtrades.org.

The unveiling of the new website is the newest aspect of an ongoing recruitment initiative that the WVBCT started earlier this year to increase numbers in craft apprenticeship programs. This initiative was started in response to an expected increase in construction work due to the Inflation Reduction Act, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, and the Hydrogen Hub award that West Virginia received earlier this year.

The new website includes information about, and how to enroll in, all WVBCT-affiliated apprenticeship programs and provides easier access to individuals who are considering a career in construction.

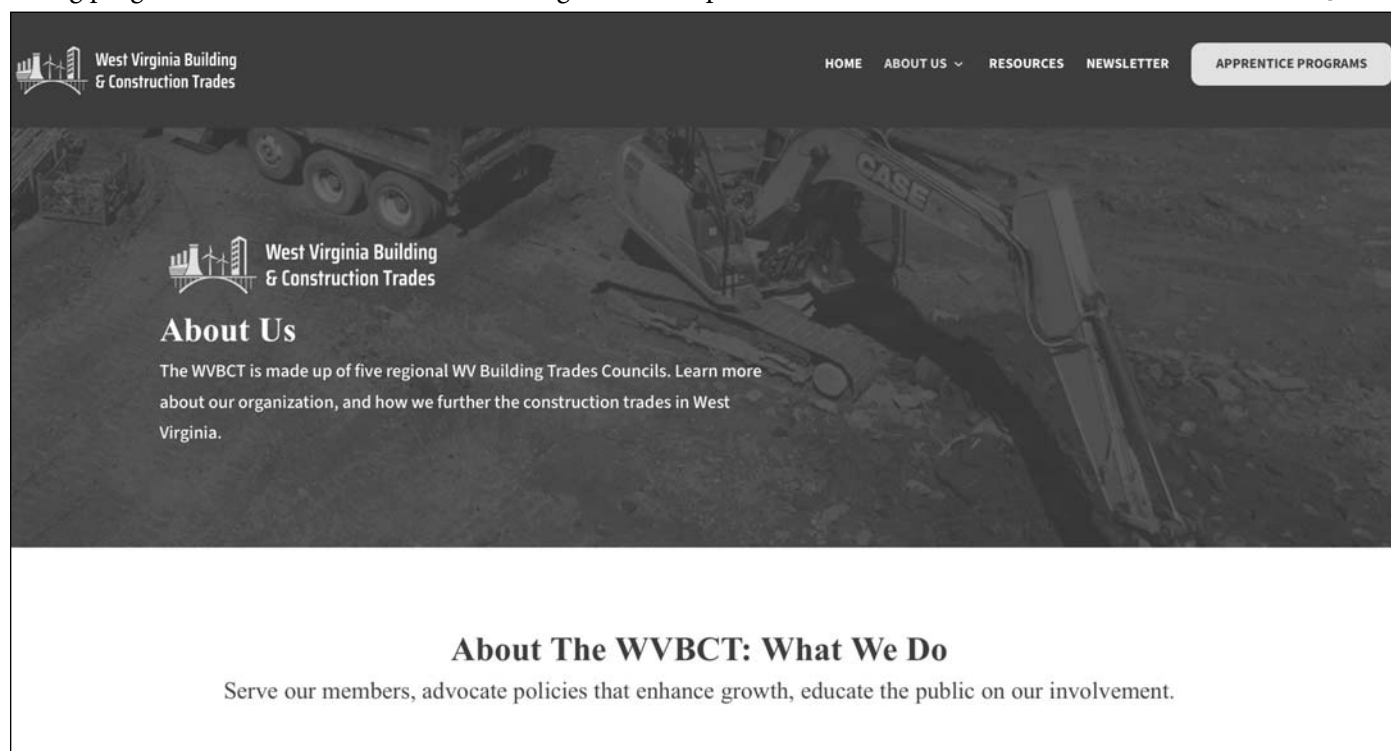
In January of 2023, the WVBCT approved funds to begin this new

recruitment initiative, which also includes new advertisements and marketing programs as well.

Recently, the WVBCT began running apprenticeship recruitment ads on digital media platforms such as

Facebook, Youtube, and Hulu to get exposure from a new audience.

Cont. on p. 2>>



The above photo is a screenshot from the new website launched by the trades to recruit new applicants to craft apprenticeship programs. For more information on our programs and to learn more about enrolling in an apprenticeship, log on to www.WVtrades.org.

New Study: Worker Misclassification Cost WV Taxpayers \$31.9 Million in 2021

A first-of-its-kind study estimates between 1.1 – 2.1 million construction workers were misclassified as independent contractors or paid off the books in 2021 throughout the United States.

Included in these are the number of misclassified workers in West

Virginia, which is estimated to be between 4,627-8,973 and would represent 15% of the workforce.

Furthermore, in West Virginia the misclassification of workers cost taxpayers \$31.9 million in 2021.

The study, conducted by The Century First Foundation (TCF), ex-

plains that misclassified workers represent between 10-19 percent of the entire construction industry workforce nationwide.

According to the study, misclassified workers are losing more than \$12 billion a year by not receiving proper pay rates or proper contributions to

benefits. TCF estimates that worker misclassification costs taxpayers between \$5-10 billion per year.

This study was accompanied by a new survey conducted by Morning Consult for TCF in which over 2,200 adults were surveyed on their opin-

Cont. on p. 2>>

WV Laborers Apprenticeship Program Currently Accepting New Applications

The West Virginia Construction Craft Laborers' Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee is accepting applications year-round.

Those interested can apply at any WorkForce WV Office between the hours of 8:30 am and 5:00 pm Monday through Thursday and 9:00 am to 5:00 pm on Friday.

Applicants must be at least 18 years old; have a high school diploma (or equivalent) or pass a test administered by

WorkForce; have a valid driver's license; and be physically able to perform the work of the trade.

A substance abuse test, including random tests, will be required at some point in the process.

Documents such as a copy of a birth certificate, a valid driver's license, transcripts of grades, and proof of a high school degree will be requested at a later date.

The apprenticeship program consists of hands-on classroom training and paid on-the-job training.

The WV Laborers' Training Center in Mineral Wells provides 400 hours of classroom and hands-on training free of charge including

“The WV Laborers’ Training Center in Mineral Wells provides 400 hours of classroom and hands-on training free of charge including meals and lodging.”

meals and lodging. Apprentices will also learn on the job in their home areas while earning a paycheck, for a total of 4000 hours, approximately two years.

Upon completion of the program apprentices will earn Journeyman status and receive a certificate from the U.S. Department of Labor.

The areas of training provide a wide variety of skills to ensure highly productive workers will have suc-

cessful careers.

Topics include pipelaying, mason tending, instrument reading, environmental remediation and more.

For more information visit their website www.wvccl.org or call 304-489-9665.

To receive a free brochure, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: West Virginia Laborers' Training Center, P.O. Box 6, Mineral Wells, WV 26150. ■

Trades New Website

Continued from Page 1

In addition, over the course of the past several months, the WVBCT has sponsored various events and programs such as the High School Football Player of the Week program with HD Media, various local sports tournaments, and events with the WV Press Association and other statewide organizations such as the County Commissioners Association and the Herbert Hoover Office of Minority Affairs, among others.

“Everything we are doing is aimed at increasing awareness of what our

construction apprenticeship programs have to offer,” said Justin Williams, Director of the WV Affiliated Construction Trades.

“Our goal is to get the most exposure for our programs to ultimately increase the pipeline for skilled labor from our programs to contractors, developers, and end users.”

For more information on craft apprenticeship programs and current events related to the WV Building and Construction Trades Council, log on to www.WVtrades.org. ■

Republican Labor Caucus



Delegate Evan Worrell (R-Cabell), Chairman of the WV Republican Labor Caucus speaks to contractors and representatives of labor at the monthly Kanawha Valley Builders Association meeting.

Last month, the Caucus held their first official meeting and began planning for the 2024 legislative session and elections cycle.

The goal of the caucus is to ensure labor-supporting Republicans get elected to the WV statehouse to ensure workers are represented properly at the Capitol.

Misclassification

Continued from Page 1

ions on worker misclassification.

Three in five of those surveyed believe that contractors are generally undercompensated for their work when considering the full range of benefits and protections, this number includes 75% of independent contractors.

Participants in the survey believed that workers misclassification had a negative impact on fairness to workers, workers health and well-being, and workforce diversity.

Most participants expressed concerns that employers who misclassify workers are avoiding paying their fair share in payroll tax that fund social

security and Medicare.

Participants also expressed concerns over employers not having to provide labor protections such as workers' compensation, unemployment insurance, and protection from discrimination.

Th study also found broad support for workers' rights among all political ideologies. 56% of Democrats and Republicans and 50% of independents believe more action is needed to address worker misclassification.

For more information on worker misclassification, and to read the entire study, log on to www.TCF.org. ■

Trades Get into the Holiday Spirit

Trades Join Christmas Parades



Children of members from the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers 317 (IBEW 317) stand atop the Local 317's float in the Huntington Christmas Parade.

Crafts from throughout the trades are also participating in similar events across the state to celebrate the holiday season.

Charleston Trades Raise +10k for Salvation Army



Members of the Charleston Building and Construction Trades Council (CBCTC), and representatives from the Salvation Army, pose for a picture with the toy donations brought in from the CBCTC Angel Tree Toy Drive.

The CBCTC raised more than \$10,000 in toys and direct monetary donations for the Salvation Army to help children in need during the holiday season.

"I want to thank all of our members for donating their time and resources to this initiative, and I also want to thank the Salvation Army for the great work they do," said Fred Chandler, Business Manager for the Charleston Building and Construction Trades Council. "This community means so much to us and this is just one way we are glad we were able to help give back."

Tri-State Trades Christmas Breakfast



Members of the Tri-State Building and Construction Trades Council attend the annual Christmas Appreciation Breakfast for members, contractors, and end users in Huntington, WV.

Speakers included Brad Smith, President of Marshall University as well as other construction industry officials.

PKB-Marietta Council Holiday Lunch



The Parkersburg Marietta Building & Construction Trades holds their annual holiday luncheon at Nemesis Shriners in Parkersburg, WV.

IUOE Local 132 Accepting Applications for Apprenticeship January 1-19

Operating Engineers Local 132 wants qualified candidates for their heavy-duty equipment operator apprenticeship program. The three-year program trains in all aspects of operating heavy equipment including bulldozers, backhoes, cranes and excavators.

Applications will begin to be accepted starting January 1 and will continue to be accepted through January 19, 2024.

“We want members to be well versed in all types of equipment,” said Allen Nelson, Training Director. “We focus on safety and productivity.”

Each year an apprentice spends

five weeks at the training center located south of Parkersburg in Medina, West Virginia.

While most of the training takes place during the winter, apprentices must complete at least 1,000 hours of paid on-the-job training to advance each year.

Interested individuals can submit an application to the program online at www.iuoe132.org or by calling 304-273-4852 from January 1-19, 2024.

In order to qualify, a person must be at least 18 years old, have a high school diploma or equivalent and have been a resident of West Virginia

for at least one year.

A successful applicant will have a valid WV driver's license, be physically able to perform the work of the trade and pass a drug test.

The recruitment, selection, employment, and training of appren-

tices shall be without discrimination because of age, race, color, religion, national origin, or sex and will conform to ADA regulations.

For more information call (304) 273-4852 or visit the website at www.iuoe132.org. ■



Like Us on Facebook!
“WV State Building Trades”



Follow us on Twitter!
@WVSBT

Affiliated Construction Trades

600 Leon Sullivan Way
Charleston, WV 25301
(304) 345-7570
www.actwv.org



Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit # 1374
Charleston, WV 25301

Roofers Apprentices Earn Top Awards



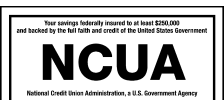
Roofers Local 242 apprentices Jerimiah Johnson and Zach Delo both earned first place in their respective categories at the Mid States District Council Apprenticeship Competition, held in Cleveland on August 9th.

This earned them a trip to Syracuse NY to compete at the NE District Council competition held on November 4th.

At the NE competition, Jerimiah tied for second place in his division, and Zach won the first-year division, earning him a trip to St. Louis to compete in the first annual United Union of Roofers, Waterproofers, and Allied Workers Apprenticeship competition to be held in May 2024.

“These victories showcase the hard work and talent of both our apprentices and apprenticeship instructors,” said Tim Maxcy, Business Manager for Roofers Local 242. “Our program continues to improve each year and I couldn’t be prouder of both.”

Union Trades
Federal Credit Union



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!

www.uniontradesfcu.com

1925 Murdoch Avenue
Parkersburg, WV 26101
(304) 485-1421
toll free (888) 524-1421

210 Tennessee Avenue
Charleston, WV 25302
(304) 344-0194
toll free (877) 593-6093

1955 9th Avenue
Huntington, WV 25703
(304) 523-7284
toll free (855) 355-7284

177 29th Street, Wheeling, WV (304) 232-0181