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

Charleston City Council Passes Local Worker Bill

On June 5, during a regularly scheduled meeting, the Charleston City Council passed a bill which prioritizes local workers on public construction projects bid out from the city government.

The bill is among the first of its kind on the local level and could set a precedent for other cities across the state. It is modeled after a similar piece of legislation passed on the state level.

In the early 2000s the West Virginia Legislature passed a bill called the West Virginia Jobs Act. The bill required 75% of the workforce on public construction projects, in excess of five hundred thousand dollars, to be from what is called the 'local labor market.'

The local labor market is defined as any county in West Virginia and any county in a neighboring state within 50 miles of the border of West Virginia.

While the West Virginia Jobs Act technically requires that all public

construction projects follow these regulations—including those on the local level—many leaders in the

trades say there has been an enforcement problem over time.

Because of this, ACT and the

trades have undertaken an initiative to educate localities about the provi-

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Mayor Amy Goodwin presides over a meeting of the Charleston City Council, as they vote to pass a bill prioritizing local workers on city construction projects. The meeting was held at in the Charleston City Council Chambers on June 5.

Completion of Mountain Valley Pipeline Included in United States Debt Limit Deal

Earlier this month, Congress agreed to a deal to raise the U.S. national debt limit, allowing the government to pay its bills until after the 2024 Presidential election.

As a part of the deal, U.S. Senator Joe Manchin was able to secure the approval of all remaining permits for the Mountain Valley Pipeline, as well

as shield it from future lawsuits.

According to a statement circulated by Senator Manchin's office, the 300-mile-long natural gas pipeline will create more than 2,500 construction jobs; generate an estimated \$50 million in tax revenue and about \$175 million in royalties for West Virginia landowners; and play a sig-

nificant role in lowering costs for consumers by strengthening domestic energy production.

"I am proud to announce that we have finally secured the completion of the Mountain Valley Pipeline and have done so with broad, bipartisan support," said U.S. Senator Joe Manchin III. "West Virginia is truly

America's Energy MVP and we are proud to continue providing the energy the rest of our nation relies on."

Members of the trades offered high praise for the deal as well.

"On behalf of myself and the nearly 4,000 members of the International Union of Operating Engineers

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Trades, AmeriCarbon Sign MOA for Carbon Products Facility in Wyoming County, WV

On June 2, the Charleston Building and Construction Trades Council signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with AmeriCarbon, LLC for the full construction of a carbon products manufacturing facility in Wyoming County, West Virginia.

The MOA is contingent upon the potential award of grant funding, within one year of the agreement, to the company.

If the grant funding is awarded, a Project Labor Agreement will take effect for the completion of all installation, painting, on-site assembly of equipment, and other work related to the construction of the facility.

According to the agreement signed by the company and the

trades, the facility would include “the chemical processing equipment and appurtenances used or associated with the manufacture of carbon pitch, graphite, and other carbon products.”

AmeriCarbon is a West Virginia-based company, making technological strides in the coal industry.

They currently have the only known pilot-scale coal liquification pitch production unit in the United States, located in Morgantown, West Virginia.

Company representatives say the 10,000 square-foot research and development facility in Morgantown has the capability to process up to 10 tons of coal per day.

In addition, the company also owns a 2,000 square-foot coal and mineral preparation facility on the site as well.

The AmeriCarbon process takes coal tar byproducts from the steel industry and creates tailored coal tar pitch, which can be used in the

manufacturing of numerous carbon-based products including graphite for rechargeable batteries, asphalt, and many others.

For more information on AmeriCarbon and their process, log on to the company website at www.americarbon.com. ■

Mtn. Valley Pipeline

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Local 132 we would like to thank Senator Manchin for his tireless fight for the MVP pipeline project,” said Chuck Parker, President of the West Virginia State Building and Construction Trades Council and Busi-

ness Manager for IUOE 132.

“This project will put thousands of hard-working West Virginians to work with good wages and benefits and help ensure our energy security for all of the United States.” ■

ACT Compiles Numbers For Workforce Maps



John Epperly, Secretary-Treasurer for the West Virginia State Building and Construction Trades Council speaks to members of the Upper Ohio Valley Building and Construction Trades Council at their meeting on May 16 about information included in the newly created WWSBT Workforce Maps.

The Workforce Maps will serve as an informational tool for the trades to promote union construction labor to contractors and developers and provide them with numbers of craftworkers in different jurisdictions throughout West Virginia.

“Our goal is for these maps to give contractors and developers a better understanding of our workforce in areas surrounding potential projects,” said Justin Williams, Director of ACT West Virginia.

“By highlighting the available workforce, we can work with contractors and developers to ensure a steady pipeline of skilled labor.”

Charleston Trades HS Career Day Tour



Tony Totten (left), Organizer for the Sheet Metal Workers Local 33, teaches Herbert Hoover High School students how to use a virtual welder during a Career Day event.

Over the course of the past two months, the Charleston Building and Construction Trades Council took on an initiative to reach out to students at every high school in Kanawha County, West Virginia by holding career day events. “It is important for us to do all we can to educate young people about the benefits of our apprenticeship programs,” said Fred Chandler, Business Manager for the Charleston Building and Construction Trades.

The schools visited during the tour include Capital High School, George Washington High School, Herbert Hoover High School, Nitro High School, Riverside High School, Sissonville High School, South Charleston High School, and St. Albans High School.

+\$100K Since 2002

Charleston Trades and Kanawha Valley Contractors Raise \$8,000 for HospiceCare

The 29th annual Kanawha Valley Construction Labor-Management Golf Scramble raised approximately \$8,000 for HospiceCare, a non-profit organization that provides end of life services to patients in need.

This year's event was well attended by contractors and members of the trades and met the planned fundraising goal.

Representatives from HospiceCare estimate an aggregate total of more than \$100 thousand has been raised to support their work because of these annual efforts since 2002.

The charity fundraising event is part of a long-standing partnership between the Kanawha Valley Builders Associa-

tion and the Charleston Building and Construction Trades Council.

"We believe it's important to give back, especially to such a great cause," said Fred Chandler, Business Manager for the Charleston Building and Construction Trades Council. "By working together as labor and management, we double our efforts to support this charity and build a stronger relationship together in the process."

Fred Chandler

Business Manager

Charleston Building and Construction Trades Council

es, pain management, and Certified Nursing Assistants that provide a full spectrum of personal care assistance

for patients.

The organization has four in-patient care centers within its network including: Peyton Hospice House in Lewisburg, WV; Hubbard Hospice at Thomas Memorial Hospital, Hub-

bard Hospice House in Charleston, WV; and HospiceCare at CAMC in Charleston, WV.

For more about HospiceCare visit their website at www.HospiceCare-WV.org. ■



Melody Lasure (left), wife of Luther Lasure, Executive Director of the Kanawha Valley Builders Association, and Fred Chandler (right), Business Manager for the Charleston Building and Construction Trades Council present Christopher Rawlings, Chief Executive Officer for HospiceCare WV, with a check at the HospiceCare office in Charleston, West Virginia.

West Virginia Laborers Apprenticeship Now Accepting New Applications for Program

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 WV; have a valid driver's license; and be physi-

cally 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 West Virginia Laborers'

Training Center in Mineral Wells provides 400 hours of classroom and hands-on training free of charge including 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 United States Department of Labor.

The areas of training provide a

wide variety of skills to ensure highly productive workers will have successful careers.

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

For more information visit their website www.wvcl.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. ■

Operating Engineers Local #132 Holds 10th Annual Equipment Rodeo in Medina

On Sunday June 4, the Operating Engineers Local 132 held their 10th annual Equipment Rodeo event at their training center in Medina, West Virginia.

This year's event hosted more than 400 attendees, including International Union of Operating Engineers

(IUOE) Local 132 members, their families, and other guests.

Each year, the equipment rodeo is held as a way for members of IUOE 132 to show off their skills in five different competitions.

These competitions include events in dozers, rubber tire backhoes, cher-

ry pickers, excavators, and mini excavators.

In addition to the competitive events for members, a fishing competition was held for kids and lunch was prepared for those in attendance.

Business Manager of New York City IUOE Local 15 before being elected International President.

"We look forward to holding this event every year," said Chuck Parker, President of Operating Engineers



A member of International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) Local 132 competes in an excavator skills competition at the 10th annual IUOE Equipment Rodeo, held at their training center in Medina, West Virginia on June 4.



Members of the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 132, their families, and guests line up for lunch at the annual Equipment Rodeo event in Medina, WV.

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Also, unique to this year was the attendance of keynote speaker, International Union of Operating Engineers President James T. Callaghan.

President Callaghan served as

Local 132. "The Rodeo gives our new members a chance to reconnect with the old, and it gives us an opportunity to show appreciation for everyone who makes our organization great." ■

Charleston City

Continued from Page 1

sions and encourage them to adopt their own language to ensure local workers are prioritized on jobs bid out on the local level.

"It is difficult for the state to enforce these laws on the local level unless cities and counties do so voluntarily," said George Capel, Government Relations Director for the West Virginia State Building and Construction Trades Council. "We are laser focused on making sure local workers get a fair shake, regardless of what level of government bids out a project.

The bill passed by Charleston City

Council is a very important step in that direction."

During the passage of the bill on June 5, members of the Charleston Building and Construction Trades Council were also on hand to witness the event.

"I want to applaud the City of Charleston for all of their support," said Fred Chandler, Business Manager for the Charleston Building and Construction Trades Council. "I also want to thank the members of Charleston City Council as well as Mayor Goodwin for their work on this great bill." ■