



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

WV Building Trades Hold Constitutional Convention

On September 13, the West Virginia Building and Construction Trades Council held their annual Constitutional Convention at the Waterfront in Morgantown, West Virginia.

More than 75 representatives from the Trades attended the event to conduct annual business, participate in networking events, and hear from various speakers on industry issues.

During the business portion of the Convention, West Virginia Building and Construction Trades (WVBCT) Leaders unveiled the organization's updated branding as well as a large-scale recruitment campaign that is set to begin in 2024.

The unveiling included the display of the organization's new logo as well as the premier of multiple recruitment videos that were filmed over the course of the past several months.

In addition, WVBCT leaders say that several new initiatives are already underway including a digital media advertisement campaign with

Ogden Newspapers, for the northern part of the state, and also with HD Media, covering the southern part of

the state.

Finally, a new sponsorship was announced with HD Media, as the

West Virginia Building and Construction Trades will be sponsoring **Cont. on p. 2>>**



Chuck Parker, President of the West Virginia Building and Construction Trades (WVBCT), addresses the WVBCT Convention delegates and calls the 2023 WVBCT Constitutional Convention to order at the Waterfront in Morgantown, West Virginia on September 14, 2023.

United States Supreme Court Clears Way for Mountain Valley Pipeline Construction

In late July, the United States Supreme Court lifted a lower court's order that halted construction on the Mountain Valley Pipeline project, allowing the pipeline to officially resume construction.

The push to resume construction began in late June, when US Senator Joe Manchin ensured certain permit-

ting approvals were included in a deal to raise the US national debt limit, averting a government shut down.

Because of this, the US Supreme Court took up the emergency case and ordered that stays against the Mountain Valley Pipeline, issued by the US Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, be vacated.

Construction of the project was approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in 2017. However, since that time, the pipeline has faced various legal challenges to federal permitting approvals, needed for its construction and operation.

While much of the project is already finished, a 3.5 mile portion

through Jefferson National Forest, which includes stream crossings, still remains incomplete.

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

Cont. on p. 2>>

\$900k Project Wheeling City Council Approves Funding for Wesbanco Arena Renovation Project

Last month, the City of Wheeling, West Virginia approved \$900,000 in funding for an upcoming project to renovate parts of the Wesbanco Arena.

The project, which will be completed by JD&E Construction, will be focused on three areas in the facility.

First, the north end of the arena will be expanded with more tables, chairs, and a larger kitchen.

"It's all brand-new equipment," said Kelly Tucker, executive director,

Greater Wheeling Sports and Entertainment Authority.

"It will take up a bit more space in the club, but it is underutilized at this point. This will make it so quick and easy for customers to come in. They'll be able to order with a waiter or waitress, using a QR code."

Next, a new retractable safety railing will be placed between the 100 level risers and the 200-level seating.

According to officials, this will

"It's all brand-new equipment,"

Kelly Tucker

Executive Director

Greater Wheeling Sports and Entertainment Authority

create a better viewing experience for fans, by removing the permanent railing which currently obstructs views of the arena floor.

Finally, a new suite will be added with a lounge for fans. "It will give fans who are in the 100-level easy access to pick up a drink and access to

the club," Tucker said.

City officials say the project will be paid for through the arena's restricted capital improvement account with the city to ensure no taxpayer dollars are used for the renovations.

The project is expected to commence this month. ■

WV Building Trades

Continued from Page 1

the HD Media High School Athletic Player of the Week throughout the fall high school sports season.

WVBCT leaders explained this new recruitment initiative is aimed at increasing numbers in craft apprenticeship programs in response to the increased amount of construction projects that will be brought about as a result of the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

In addition to the reveal of the new recruitment campaign, several speakers addressed the WVBCT delegation about a wide variety of industry issues.

Speakers included: Arria Hines, CEO of Allegheny Science and Technology; Dan Hendrick, Vice President of Government Affairs for REV Renewables; David Ramsey, President of Vandalia Health System and CEO of Charleston Area Medi-

cal Center; Andy Walters, Secretary Treasurer of the WV AFL-CIO; and Stephen Courtien, Special Assistant to the Secretary-Treasurer of the North American Building Trades Union.

West Virginia Building and Construction Trades Secretary-Treasurer John Epperly says he believes the event was a success.

"The Convention was a great opportunity for our leaders to come together and discuss the next steps for our organization," said Epperly. "It's clear that there is a very bright future for all of our crafts here at the Building Trades."

This year's event was the first held at a location outside of Stonewall Jackson State Park in over a decade.

Delegates to the convention voted unanimously to hold next year's event at the Waterfront in Morgantown again in fall 2024. ■

US Supreme Court

Continued from Page 1

million in tax revenue and about \$175 million in royalties for West Virginia landowners; and play a significant role in lowering costs for consumers by strengthening domestic energy production.

Members of the trades have offered high praise for the pipeline and Manchin's successful efforts as well.

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

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 Business 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." ■

WV State Pipe Trades Hold 2023 Convention



Members of the West Virginia State Pipe Trades attend their annual convention at Stonewall Jackson State Park in Roanoke, West Virginia.

56 members of the Plumbing and Pipefitting industry gathered at the event to discuss industry issues.

The WV Pipe Trades is an organization dedicated to promoting the interests of the plumbing and pipefitting industry.

According to their website, the WV Pipe Trades recommend legislation to protect the trades and public health, provide support to Locals in organization efforts, prevent members from unjust and injurious competition, and cultivate feelings of friendship and good will among those in the industry.

For more information about the WV Pipe Trades, log on to www.wvpiptrades.com.

Parkersburg Memorial Bridge Renovation Completed, Grand Reopening Event Held

Last month, a ceremony was held to celebrate the official grand reopening of the Parkersburg Memorial Bridge after a two-year renovation project was completed.

Because of the high cost of replacing or repairing the bridge, United Bridge Partners (UBP) approached the City of Parkersburg in 2021 with a purchase proposal, pledging to carry out a \$50 million rehabilitation project.

In return, the company will own the toll rights to the bridge going forward to recoup their investment.

UBP partnered with Kokosing Construction Company on the initiative, which took 21 months to complete and created an estimated

285 jobs.

The project included a full renovation of the bridge and added a walking path for pedestrians to cross the bridge.

In addition, structural improvements were made to ensure all types of vehicles can cross safely.

“Now, this bridge is no longer load restricted for trucks. So, trucks can use it as a bypass as well,” said Doug Whitt, President and CEO of United Bridge Partners. “Any time you are able to invest \$50 million into a community...It’s just an injection of growth and prosperity, and it’s going to increase the commerce for the community.”

Mayor Tom Joyce of Parkersburg

was on hand for the reopening ceremony and expressed his approval of the result.

“I think this is a big win for the local community, certainly for the city of Parkersburg, but also Belpre and Vienna. This bridge has always been a bridge of convenience,” said Mayor Joyce.

Members of the trades were also on hand for the ceremony.

“This project was much needed, it created many good jobs and addressed a public safety issue for everyone in the Parkersburg area,” said Buddy Malone, Business Manager for the Parkersburg-Marietta Building and Construction Trades Council.

“We are proud of our work and know it will be a great benefit to the whole community for years to come.” ■

Trades Tour Denmar Facility



Eric King (left), Representative of Laborers 1085, speaks with representatives from the West Virginia School of Diversion and Transition and the WV Correctional System.

King, and other representatives from the trades, toured the Denmar Correctional Facility last month to see their construction craft certificate programs offered to inmates as well as attend a commencement ceremony for those individuals who completed their certification programs.

Leaders in the WV Building and Construction Trades have been taking every opportunity to find good potential applicants for apprenticeship programs to increase numbers in response to an influx of construction work due to the Inflation Reduction Act and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

PKB-Marietta Trades Hold DADs Day Event



Buddy Malone, Business Manager for the Parkersburg-Marietta Building and Construction Trades Council bowls at Emerson Bowling Lanes during their annual Dollars Against Diabetes Day (DAD's Day) charity fundraising event.

This year's event raised more than \$5,000 for the Diabetes Research Institute at the University of Miami. The PKB-Marietta Trades have raised more than \$75,000 for diabetes research over the past 20 years.

This is the first year the organization has held the event at Emerson Bowling Lanes. In the past, the PKB-Marietta Trades have held their DAD's Day Sporting Clay shoot at Hilltop Sports. However, the shooting course recently shut down and the PKB-Marietta Trades plan to start holding the event at Emerson Bowling Lanes instead.

“This year's event was great and we plan to hold it at Emerson Lanes again next year,” said Buddy Malone. “I want to thank all of our members and sponsors of the event for making it a success!”

Sponsors of this year's event included: Ullico, Mid Ohio Valley Insurance, Southeast Ohio Area Labor Federation, Ohio State Building Trades, West Virginia State Building Trades, Ohio AFL CIO, Painters District Council #53, UA Local #168, Bricklayers Local #23, Parkersburg Area Labor Council, Ruble Insurance, Faulkner, Hoffman & Phillips, Attorneys at Law, National Vision Administrators.

\$8.9 Million Project Groundbreaking Held for New Marshall County Health Department Facility

Last month, a groundbreaking ceremony was held to kick off the construction of a new \$8.9 million facility which will house the Marshall County Health Department.

Gracie-Con Construction, the general contractor on the project, is already three weeks ahead of schedule on the building according to reports.

design for the building was created by SillingArchitects in Charleston, West Virginia. In order to clear space for the project, the old health department building, and another office, were demolished before new construction could commence. The Marshall County Commission says the new building will be significantly larger than the old one

Mike Ferro
President
Marshall County Commission

and will provide improved clinical areas for patient care and interaction.

In addition, the new facility will feature a conference space on the sec-

Ferro says this actually benefitted the project in the long run.

“COVID made us take a step back and reevaluate a lot of what we

f 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

Labor Day Cookout Held at Trades HQ



Members of the Charleston Building and Construction Trades Council, friends, and family attend a cookout on September 3rd, prior to attending the annual Labor Day at the Ballpark event at the Charleston Dirty Birds Baseball Stadium in Charleston West Virginia.

The cookout, held at the West Virginia Building and Construction Trades headquarters, hosted more than 300 craftworkers, friends and family and more than 600 members showed up to the game at the park.

“I want to thank everyone who helped make this event a success,” said Fred Chandler, Business Manager for the Charleston Building and Construction Trades Council. “Our members work hard all year and it was great to hold an event where we could all get together and celebrate the great work they do.”

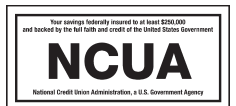
ond floor with large glass windows as well as storage for the Marshall County Courthouse.

Marshall County Commission President Mike Ferro says the project was originally in the works several years ago, but the COVID-19 pandemic stalled progress. However,

thought was originally needed,” said Ferro. “Sometimes good things happen, coming from bad circumstances.”

The Marshall County Health Department will continue to operate out of the old Teletech building in Moundsville, West Virginia until the new structure is completed. ■

Union Trades
Federal Credit Union



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