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ACT is a division of The West Virginia State Building and Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO. Steve Burton, President; Dave Efaw, Secretary-Treasurer; Steve White, Director.

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STUDY SHOWS EARNING POWER

REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP LEGISLATION TURNS 75 YEARS OLD

August marks the 75th Anniversary of the National Apprenticeship Act, which launched the Registered Apprenticeship program and established clear training guidelines for apprentices.

Since then, these programs have provided valuable education, hands on skills training and a path to good paying jobs for millions of American workers.

A recent study found that those who complete a registered apprenticeship program earn at least a quarter of a million dollars more over the

course of their lifetime.

“Seventy-five years is a great milestone but the truth is Apprenticeship has been around for thousands of years,” said Carl Reynolds, Administrator of the WV Laborers’ Training Trust.

“Apprenticeship has a proven track record that is often overlooked by professional educators who tend to think college is the only way to succeed.”

The study, undertaken for the US DOL Employment and Training Administration, looked at the effectiveness of apprenticeship and performed a cost-benefits analysis.

Apprenticeship programs

in 10 states were selected to vary in program features and labor market characteristics, including program size, region, the degree of union representation in the state, administrative type (federal or state), and the degree to which registered apprenticeship is concentrated in a few occupations.

The states were Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Missouri, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Texas.

The study found Apprenticeship participants had substantially higher earnings than did nonparticipants.

In the ninth year following

program enrollment, apprenticeship participants earned an average of \$5,839 more per year than similar nonparticipants.

Over a career, the estimated earnings of apprenticeship participants who completed their program average \$240,037 more than similar nonparticipants.

In addition the study found the social benefits of apprenticeship appear to be much larger than the costs.

In 2010, almost 450,000 people across the nation were enrolled in registered apprenticeship programs offered in approximately 1,000 occupations.

TOMBLIN APPOINTS BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION TO TACKLE ROAD CONSTRUCTION FUNDING CRISIS

Governor Earl Ray Tomblin has announced the formation of the West Virginia Blue Ribbon Commission on Highways.

The goal set for the group is to address shortages in road construction funding the state has been facing and will continue to face due to declining revenues from gas taxes and the federal government.

West Virginia is one of only four states (along with Delaware, North Carolina and Virginia) that maintains both state and county roads.

Those roads total 36,000 miles and results in the 6th

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KENNY PERDUE, PRESIDENT of the WV AFL-CIO, speaks to a group at the state capitol earlier this year about the need to address funding for state roads and bridges. In response Governor Tomblin formed a Blue Ribbon Commission on Highways with labor participation.

EACH WEDNESDAY, DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS

IRON WORKERS 787 PARKERSBURG TAKES APPRENTICESHIP APPLICATIONS

Iron Workers Local 787 Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC) will be accepting applications for their apprenticeship program each week on Wednesdays (excluding holidays).

Those interested must fill out the application at 303 Erickson Boulevard, Parkersburg in person, during regular business hours which are 8:00 am – noon and 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm.

Applicants must provide proof they are at least 18 years old, capable of performing work of the Iron Worker trade, be a High School Grad-

uate or have a GED, and pass an aptitude test given by the Parkersburg Workforce office.

In addition an applicant must live within Local 787's area for at least one year prior to applying.

Local 787's area in Ohio includes the Counties of Athens, Meigs, Morgan, Noble, and Washington; in West Virginia Calhoun, Doddridge, Gilmer, Jackson, Lewis, Mason, Pleasants, Ritchie, Roane, Upshur, Wirt and Wood Counties.

If selected a candidate must pass a substance abuse test.

The Iron Workers Joint

Apprenticeship Training Program teaches in the classroom as well as on the job.

Classes are held evenings and Saturdays, allowing on-the-job learning while getting paid.

The goal is to educate new workers how to safely, efficiently, and effectively perform all aspects of the trade including structural, orna-

mental, and reinforcing iron work, as well as mathematics, welding, and rigging.

The Apprenticeship is a four year program with starting wages set at 50% of Journeyman scale with full benefits.

Increases are given every six months until training is complete.

Applications will be kept

on file for a year.

No applicant will be rejected because of race, color, religion, national origin or sex.

Iron Workers Local 787 JAC will take affirmative action to provide equal opportunities in apprenticeship.

For more information contact Brad Winans, Apprenticeship Coordinator, at 304-485-6231.

MANDATORY OSHA 10 HOUR TRAINING WORKS

A new study concludes mandated OSHA 10-hour construction classes are effective and easy to implement.

The Center for Construction Research and Training looked at the implementation of mandatory U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration-approved 10-hour safety class known as the "OSHA 10" for construction for workers in Massachusetts.

Massachusetts passed a law in 2008 requiring all construction workers on public construction projects to have the training.

The West Virginia legislature has considered similar legislation for a number of years but it has failed due to opposition from some contractors.

The Affiliated Construction Trades plans to propose mandatory OSHA training legislation during the upcom-

ing 2013 session.

The study conducted interviews of 100 workers plus a variety of stakeholders.

Those responding agreed the requirement raised the bar for safety not only for public work but even extending to commercial work.

There was also agreement the requirement was valuable and was now a standard of the industry regardless of where the funding for a project came from.

Other findings from the report include;

- State enforcement personnel and employer and worker stakeholders believe the training requirement has been thoroughly implemented and that workers on publicly-funded construction projects possess OSHA 10 training cards.
- Non-union and residential construction workers, and those with limited English abilities, are

much less likely to have had OSHA 10 or any other health and safety training.

- More research is required to better understand the impact of construction safety training on safety performance.

According to the report the OSHA 10 training requirement has gained such widespread acceptance among construction industry stakeholders that most support the introduction of a new "refresher" training requirement to sustain the commitment to ongoing worker safety training.

The Center for Construction Research and Training is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit research and training institution created by the Building and Construction Trades Department, AFL-CIO, and serves as the research arm of the BCTD.

See the entire report at www.cpwr.com.

Paden City Labor Day Rally and Parade



**When: 11:30 am Monday
Sept 3, 2012**

**Where: Paden City
Old Middle School**

**Parade at 1:00 pm
Line-up at the South end of town**

**Come out and join our Labor family
for a day of celebration
and solidarity!!**

**For Info contact Shelva Smith 845-6002
BB Smith 545-7781**

HEAT AWARENESS EDUCATION FROM OSHA

Protecting Workers from Heat Stress.

(The following is a reprint of an OSHA publication)

Exposure to heat can cause illness and death. The most serious heat illness is heat stroke. Other heat illnesses, such as heat exhaustion, heat cramps and heat rash, should also be avoided.

There are precautions your employer should take any time temperatures are high and the job involves physical work.

Risk Factors for Heat Illness

- High temperature and hu-

midity, direct sun exposure, no breeze or wind.

- Low liquid intake.
- Heavy physical labor.
- Waterproof clothing.
- No recent exposure to hot workplaces

Heat Exhaustion Symptoms

- Headache, dizziness, or fainting.
- Weakness and wet skin.
- Irritability or confusion.
- Thirst, nausea, or vomiting

Heat Stroke Symptoms

- May be confused, unable to think clearly, pass out, collapse, or have seizures (fits).

• May stop sweating. To Prevent Heat Illness, Your Employer Should

- Provide training about the hazards leading to heat stress and how to prevent them.
- Provide a lot of cool water to workers close to the work area. At least one pint of water per hour is needed.
- Schedule frequent rest periods with water breaks in shaded or airconditioned areas.
- Routinely check workers who are at risk of heat stress due to protective clothing and high temperature.
- Consider protective clothing that provides cooling.

How You Can Protect Yourself and Others

- Know signs/symptoms of heat illnesses; monitor yourself; use a buddy system.
- Block out direct sun and other heat sources.
- Drink plenty of fluids. Drink often and BEFORE you are thirsty. Drink water every 15 minutes.
- Avoid beverages containing alcohol or caffeine.
- Wear lightweight, light colored, loosefitting clothes.

What to Do When a Worker is Ill from the Heat

- Call a supervisor for help. If the supervisor is not avail-

able, call 911.

- Have someone stay with the worker until help arrives.
- Move the worker to a cooler/shaded area.
- Remove outer clothing.
- Fan and mist the worker with water; apply ice (ice bags or ice towels).
- Provide cool drinking water, if able to drink.

IF THE WORKER IS NOT ALERT or seems confused, this may be a heat stroke. CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY and apply ice as soon as possible. If you have any questions or concerns, call OSHA at 1-800-321-OSHA (6742).

IBEW MOTORCYCLE RIDE



Members of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers gather in Charleston to start an annual motorcycle ride.

The event took place on Saturday, July 21 with more than 275 riders participating.

IBEW members, families and friends came from across the country and Canada to participate in the 155 mile ride which began and ending in Charleston. Stops along the way included Hawks Nest State Park and the New River Bridge.

IBEW President Ed Hill and Charleston Local 466 Business Manager Joe Samples were among the riders.

"It was a great event," said Samples.

"There were plenty of beautiful West Virginia sites to show our brothers and sisters from across the country."

UA LOCAL 486 TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR WV APPRENTICESHIP

UA Local 486 Plumbers & Steamfitters Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee will be accepting applications for their Martinsburg, WV apprenticeship.

Applications will be accepted through August 24, 2012. The program teaches pipefitting, plumbing, welding, and HVAC. Starting pay is \$14.53 plus benefits.

Applications can be submitted at Borlie Mechanical, 5521 Tabler Station Road, Inwood, WV 25428, Monday through Friday from 7:00am to 4:00pm. A \$75 non-refundable processing fee, payable by money order only, is due at time of application.

If you would like an ap-

plication mailed or have any questions, please call 1-866-760-4860 and press "0" for the operator. Our website is www.486school.com.

Applicants must have a high school diploma or GED, a valid drivers license, and be eligible to work in the US. Applicants must be able to obtain a WV Plumber-in-training license and a MD Plumber and HVAC apprentice license. You should live in Allegany, Washington, or Frederick Counties in MD or Berkeley, Jefferson or Morgan Counties in WV.

A math test, as well as a physical and drug screening will be required.

No applicant shall be rejected because of race, creed, color, sex or national origin.

APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED YEAR ROUND

PAINTING, DRYWALL, GLAZIERS, AND HYDRO BLASTER/ VACUUM TECHS APPRENTICESHIP

The Joint Apprenticeship & Training Committee will be accepting applications for Painting, Drywall, Glaziers, and Hydro Blaster/ Vacuum Technicians.

Applications are taken year round with the exception of holidays and weekends at 1010 Lewis Street, Charleston WV 25301.

Call 304-345-8250 Ext. 302 to schedule an appointment.

For anyone outside of the Charleston area please contact 304-343-8250 Ext. 302 to schedule a time and date to obtain an application and information at a location nearest you.

The program serves the state of West Virginia and a number of bordering counties in Ohio, Kentucky and Virginia.

The three year apprenticeship teaches all aspects of the trade in both classroom and on-the-job settings.

All applicants must fully meet the following minimum qualifications to qualify:

1. Except for school-to-work students applicants shall be at least eighteen (18) years of age and submit reliable proof of age.

2. Applicants must possess sufficient educational knowledge to complete the on-the-job training and related technical instruction. Applicants are required to submit a high school diploma or GED.

3. Shall be physically ca-

pable of performing the essential functions of the apprenticeship program without posing a direct threat to the health and safety of the individual or others.

4. All applicants applying

for the Glazier trade must take a Reading and MC/AP tests at a Job Service location.

All applications will be received without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, or sex.

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IMPORTS FLOOD DOMINION SITE



Hundreds of construction workers from far away states like Texas, Oklahoma, and Florida are flooding the \$500 million Dominion gas processing project in Marshall County.

While a handful of jobs went to local contractors and workers the bulk of the project is being built by imported workers. Unemployment in the area remains high.

ACT estimates there will be 1,500 workers on the site at peak, 1,000 on days and 500 on nights. Reports are the project is four months behind schedule.

"If this was what Marcellus Shale was all about then we would be getting a raw deal," said Tom Gray, President of the Upper Ohio Valley Building Trades. "Fortunately there are a number of other projects where the owners realize using local workers gives them the best value, supports communities and mean on-time completions."

FUNDING

CONTINUED FROM P. 1

largest highway system in the country.

The average age of bridges in the State is approximately 50 years old and more than one-third of the State's bridges are structurally deficient (13.9%) or functionally obsolete (21.3%).

"The amount we spend on roads is the same today as it was in 1994," said Gary Tillis, Business Manager for The West Virginia Laborers District Council.

"But prices for equipment, materials and labor have increased leaving us with less paving, repairs and new projects this state desperately needs."

Tomblin formed the 22 person group with an executive order that designated

seats for a representative of both the Affiliated Construction Trades and the WV AFL-CIO.

Other groups to participate include the Contractors Association of West Virginia, the State Chamber of Commerce and Manufacturers Association along with County, City and legislative representatives.

The Commission is asked to analyze the overall structure and long-term needs of the State highway system and look at its overall funding mechanisms.

The group is also asked to formulate a comprehensive West Virginia Highways Action Plan and recommend legislation for the 2013 Regular Session of the State Legislature.

The report is due by February 1, 2013.