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A Division of the WV State Building Trades, AFL-CIO | Bill Hutchinson, *President* | Dave Efaw, *Secretary-Treasurer* | Steve White, *Director*

# \$2.1 Billion in Power Plant Construction Challenged in WV by Shadowy Group

Once again, a shadowy group called the Ohio Valley Jobs Alliance (OVJA) - whose Secretary-Treasurer has testified their legal bills have been paid by Murray Energy - has filed a new challenge to a gas-fired power plant project.

The latest effort which could destroy West Virginia jobs is aimed at

the \$615 million gas-fired electric power project near Clarksburg.

Lawyers on behalf of the OVJA filed an appeal on April 20 of the air permit issued to the project developer ESC Harrison County Power.

The same tactic was successful in delaying the \$615 million Moundsville Power project for two years.

Most of the delay, 15 months, took place at the Kanawha County Circuit Court before Judge Joanna Tabit.

The group lost their appeal at the Circuit Court in November of 2017.

However the appeal had already created such a long delay it appears to have significantly hurt the chances the Moundsville project will ever get

built.

“In my opinion the Murray Energy funded efforts will kill new gas and related construction jobs in West Virginia by delaying projects of competitors,” said Steve White, ACT Director. “The result is not more coal related jobs but simply the loss of

*Cont. on p. 2>>*

## 6th Annual Coating & Corrosion Expo Held

Painters District Council 53 hosted their 6th Annual Coating & Corrosion Expo on April 11 in Weston.

The event focused on how to avoid the huge financial losses which occur each year due to failures of industrial paints and coatings.

Participants included contractors, vendors, suppliers, industrial and government customers, inspectors, engineers, industrial painters and trainers and others.

There were seminars for professional development, product demonstrations and display booths.

The program concentrated on major causes of coating-related failures due to improper: surface preparation; coating selection; application; drying, curing and over coating.

This year approximately 275 people attended.

“The proper installation of coatings to prevent corrosion is a big deal,” said Dan Poling, Business

Manager of Painters DC 53. “We bring together experts, new technol-

ogy, customers and practitioners to learn what is new on the market and

how to properly use products so they do not fail.” ■



Approximately 275 people attended the 6th annual Coating & Corrosion Expo. They participated in seminars and demonstrations hosted by the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades District Council 53 at their training center, called the Finishing Trades Institute of WV & Region, in Weston on Wednesday, April 11.

## Mourn for the Dead, Fight for the Living

# 2018 Workers Memorial Day - April 28

The West Virginia AFL-CIO held a Workers Memorial Day ceremony Saturday, April 28, at the Williamstown Welcome Center to remember the 18 West Virginians who lost their lives on the job last year.

“The unions of the AFL-CIO

throughout the country set aside this day to remember and pay tribute to those who have lost their lives on the job,” West Virginia AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Andy Walters said in an announcement about the event.

“I am extremely saddened to re-

port we will be reading 18 names of West Virginians who left for work during 2017 -- whether at a stretch of highway, a coal mine, a well pad, or an industrial plant -- and did not return home to their loved ones.”

Family members of those who died along with union members and some elected representatives were on hand for the ceremony at the Fallen Highway Worker Memorial.

The memorial was unveiled in October to honor WV Division of Highways workers who have been killed by vehicle accidents while on the job.

The program, hosted by the Parkersburg Area Labor Council, included a reading of the names of 18 people from WV who lost their lives in 2017 at the workplace.

“Despite significant progress over the years in making workplaces safer and protecting workers, an average of 150 workers die on the job in this country each day as a result of workplace injuries,” Walters said. “On this day, we renew our pledge to fight for safe and secure jobs, and ask all West Virginians to join us in honoring those families whom have suffered the ultimate loss.” ■



Around 60 people attended the annual Workers Memorial Day event held this year in Williamstown. The event is a day set aside by AFL-CIO affiliates across the country every year to remember workers who have died while at work.

## Plumbers & Fitters 152 Apprenticeship

Morgantown Plumbers Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC) Inc. will accept applications for apprenticeship at Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 152, 100 Richard Avenue, Morgantown during the following dates and times:

Tuesday, May 29 – Saturday, June 2 from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Monday, June 4 – Saturday, June 9 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The five year program teaches all aspects of the plumbing and pipefitting trade including pipe welding certification; medical gas certification; blue print reading; plumbing; heating and cooling.

Apprentices learn on the job under the supervision of journeymen and attend classes two nights a week.

Applicants must be 18 years of age or older.

An applicant who is 17 at the time of application can apply as long as their 18th birthday is prior to being registered by the JAC.

Applicants must take the TABE test, given by Workforce West Virginia specifically for the Morgantown Plumbers JAC.

No other test will be accepted. Individuals passing the 10th grade level test or higher will be granted an interview. Testing information will be provided at the time of application.

Applicants must be high school graduates or have a high school equivalency diploma and must also provide copies of the following documents when applying: a high school

## \$2.1 Billion in Power

*Continued from Page 1*

West Virginia jobs and projects to surrounding states where the gas-fired power projects are being built.”

A similar project in Brooke County is also facing a permit appeal by the group.

The siting permit issued by the state PSC for the \$884 million project has been appealed by OVJA to the WV Supreme Court and won't be heard until September.

“In the Brooke case OVJA had a perfect opportunity to put on evidence before the PSC to demonstrate that the construction of gas plants somehow harm coal employment.

The put on no such evidence,” said White. “While ultimately they will lose these cases, they may end up killing the projects because of the delays they create.

Such an outcome is bad for West Virginia.”

The three projects represent more than \$2.1 billion of construction. Each project has committed to hire construction contractors who will use local union construction workers.

The payroll and benefits to be paid would be in the hundreds of millions of dollars. ■

diploma issued by a county or state education entity; a high school transcript or official transcript for the GED or equivalent; and proof of birth (birth certificate).

U.S. military veterans with an honorable discharge (active duty or reservist) must submit a DD-214 for consideration of credit for training and experience.

Applicants will be subject to a substance abuse test before entering the program.

Applicants shall be bona fide residents of the following counties (proof of residency required): Barbour, Braxton, Doddridge, Gilmer,

Grant, Hampshire, Hardy, Harrison, Lewis, Marion, Mineral, Monongalia, Pendleton, Preston, Randolph, Taylor, Tucker and Upshur.

A current valid driver's license must be supplied at the time of application. A \$20.00 application fee, cash or check only, will be charged.

The JAC will establish an eligibility list consisting of applications received.

If you have previously applied for the apprenticeship program and were not accepted, you may re-apply.

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

# '18 Primary Results

**U.S. Senate** - Joe Manchin✓  
**U. S. House of Representatives**  
 1st District David McKinley✓  
 3rd District Richard Ojeda✓

**State Senate**  
 1st William Ihlenfeld✓  
 2nd Denny Longwell✓  
 4th Brian Prim✓  
 5th Mike Woelfel✓  
 6th Charles Sammons✓  
 7th Ron Stollings✓  
 8th ~~Mark Hunt~~  
 10th Stephen Baldwin✓  
 11th Bill Hamilton (R)✓  
 12th Mike Romano✓  
 13th Bob Beach✓  
 14th Stephanie Zucker✓  
 16th John Unger✓  
 17th Terrell Ellis✓

**House of Delegates**  
 1st Diana Magnone✓  
 Randy Swartzmiller✓

2nd **Phillip Diserio**✓  
 3rd Shawn Fluharty✓  
 Erikka Storch (R)✓  
 4th Joe Canestraro✓  
 Lisa Zukoff✓  
 5th Dave Pethtel✓  
 6th **T. Chris Combs**✓  
 7th Lissa Lucas✓  
 8th **David Bland**✓  
 9th Jim Marion✓  
 10th **Andy Daniel**✓  
 Harry Deitzler✓  
 J. Morgan Leach✓  
 11th James Pickens✓  
 12th Missy Morris✓  
 13th **Scott Brewer**✓  
 14th Brianne Solomon✓  
 16th Sean Hornbuckle✓  
 Matt Spurlock✓

Vera Miller (R)✓  
 17th Chad Lovejoy✓  
 Matthew Rohrbach (R)✓  
 19th Ken Hicks✓  
 Robert Thompson✓  
 20th ~~Barry Marcum~~  
 21st Phyllis White✓  
 22nd **Gary McCallister**✓  
 Zack Maynard (R)✓  
 23rd Rodney Miller✓  
 24th Ralph Rodighiero✓  
~~Susan Perry~~  
 25th Tony Paynter (R)✓  
 26th Ed Evans✓  
 27th Carol Bailey✓  
 Lacy Watson✓  
 Phoebe Meadows✓  
 28th Andrew Evans✓  
 Sandy Shaw✓  
 29th Ricky Moye✓  
 30th Mick Bates✓  
 31st Richard Snuffer✓

32nd Luke Lively✓  
 Margaret Staggers✓  
 Selina Vickers  
 33rd **David Walker**✓  
 34th Brent Boggs✓  
 35th Andrew Byrd✓  
 Renate Pore✓  
**James Robinette**✓  
 Doug Skaff Jr.✓  
 36th Andrew Robinson✓  
 Larry Rowe✓  
 Amanda Estep-Burton✓  
 37th Mike Pushkin✓  
 38th Tom Tull✓  
 39th David "Woody" Holmes✓  
 40th Melissa Huffman✓  
**Ronald Shamblin (R)**  
 41st Paul O'Dell Jr.✓  
 42nd Jeff Campbell✓  
 Cindy Lavender-Bowe✓  
 43rd Bill Hartman✓, ~~Phil Isner~~  
 44th Dana Lynch✓  
 46th Robert "Bob" Stultz✓  
 47th Ed Larry✓  
 48th Tim Miley✓

Richard Iaquinta✓  
 Robert Garcia✓  
 Derek McIntyre✓  
 50th Mike Caputo✓  
 Linda Longstreth✓  
 Michael Angelucci✓  
 Guy Ward (R)✓  
 51st Barbara Fleischauer✓  
 Evan Hansen✓  
 Rodney Pyles✓  
 Danielle Walker✓  
 John Williams✓  
 52nd ~~Justin Hough (R)~~  
 53rd Cory Chase✓  
 54th John Hott (R)✓  
 55th Isaac Sponaugle✓  
 56th ~~Will Skehan~~  
 58th Bibi Hahn✓  
 59th John Isner✓  
 61st Jason Barrett✓  
 63rd Sam Brown✓  
 64th Barby Frankenberry✓  
 65th Sammi Brown✓  
 66th David Dinges✓  
 67th John Doyle✓



Bill Hamilton (R-Upshur) beat anti-union Senator Robert Karnes with help from Labor volunteers like this group in the Summersville area.

## Parkersburg Plumber-Fitter Apprenticeship

The Parkersburg Plumbers Joint Apprenticeship will take applications Monday June 11 to Friday June 22.

Applications will be available from 9:00am till noon Monday through Friday at Plumbers & Steamfitters Local 565, 593 Cedar Grove Road, Parkersburg (near WVU-P).

The five year program teaches all aspects of the plumbing and pipefitting trade including pipe fitting and welding, medical gas, CAD, instrument technician, refrigeration,

plumbing, and heating and cooling.

Apprentices are paid while on-the-job and also go to school for a minimum of 216 hours per year.

You may be 17 years of age during application but must be a minimum of 18 years of age when registered for Apprenticeship, if selected.

An applicant must have a high school diploma with official transcripts (or equivalent with records), college transcripts (if applicable) and be physically able to perform the

work of the trade.

A copy of the applicant's birth certificate, driver's license, high school diploma or equivalent, and, if recently in the military a DD214 form, will be needed when applying.

Completed applications together with all supporting documents must be submitted within the same time period of June 11 to June 22.

Applicants must reside in the area of Local 565 which includes Calhoun, Jackson, Pleasants, Ritchie, Ty-

ler, Wirt and Wood County in WV; and in Ohio, Morgan County south of Route 78, Meigs, Monroe, and Washington County.

Applicants must pass an aptitude test administered by Workforce WV as well as an alcohol and drug test.

The recruitment, selection, employment and training of apprentices shall be without discrimination because of race, color, religion, national origin or sex. For more information visit their website [ualocal565.org](http://ualocal565.org). ■

# Painters District Council 53 Day of Action

Every year Painters District Council 53 has a "Day of Action" where members volunteer on a community project.

This year's effort took place at Kanawha State Forest on Saturday, April 21.

Dubbed "Paint-A-Thon" mem-

bers of Painters DC 53 joined with other volunteers to put a new coat of stain on Shelters, and the outside of a restroom facility. They also sanded and painted bridge railings, sign posts and restroom stalls.

"IUPAT-DC53 did an amazing job helping prep Johnson Hollow for the arrival of nearly 200-students on Thursday, May 10th" said Jennifer Bauman, Volunteer Coordinator

for the Kanawha State Forest Foundation.

The May 10 event brought 5th graders from Mary C. Snow West Side Elementary, Piedmont and Grandview for a day of conservation education in a forest environment.

"The Day of Action is just one way we try to give back to the community," said Dan Poling, Business Manager of DC 53. ■



Members of Painters District Council 53 volunteered to spruce up facilities at Kanawha State Forest on April 21 for this year's "Day of Action."

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## Event Held for 40th Anniversary of Cooling Tower Collapse



Angie Colvin lights a lantern as part of a remembrance service held to honor the 51 men who died April 27, 1978 when scaffolding collapsed during the construction of the Willow Island power plant cooling towers.

Around 100 people including relatives, workers, community members and others attended an event on Friday, April 27 to remember the 51 construction workers killed 40 years ago.

The service held near the plant was at a memorial erected to the fallen workers that was the idea of Colvin's son.

The Willow Island tragedy is the deadliest construction accident in U.S. history.

  
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