WV Crafts Donate Supplies

With supplies like N95 respirators, TYVEK suits and other personal protective equipment in short supply for hospitals and emergency services, a number of craft unions and apprenticeship programs have stepped up to help.

Painters District Council 53 is among those that have responded to the crisis.

“We were able to deliver 800 TYVEK suits, 500 pairs of latex gloves, 150 N95 respirators, 20 face shields with 100 replacement shields and some full and half face respirators to local health care facilitates,” said Dan Poling, Business Manager for Painters DC 53.

The West Virginia Appalachian Laborers’ District Council donated personal protective equipment to the Camden Clark Medical Center. They also sent supplies to the Wood County Sheriff’s office.

This included 20 N95 respirators, nine boxes of latex gloves, six cans of Lysol spray, three boxes of TYVEK suits, and two boxes of PPE cleaning pads.

“We very much appreciate the Laborers’ generosity which helps ensure that our team at Camden Clark remains prepared to manage the COVID-19 outbreak as we work to

DOL: No IRAPs for Construction Industry

New federal regulations expanding apprenticeship have fortunately exempted the construction industry, leaving in place higher quality standards.

On March 10 the US Department of Labor finalized their rule on Industry-Ready Apprenticeship Programs (IRAPs). The purpose of the new designation is to expand apprenticeship into industry sectors that traditionally have not used the training method.

The IRAP initiative is a watered-down version of traditional apprenticeship aimed at getting started. Many in the construction industry were concerned the new initiative would be allowed for craft apprenticeship and lower existing standards.

According to a US DOL press release the new rule “offers employers, community colleges, and others a flexible, innovative way to quickly expand apprenticeship in telecommunications, health care, cybersecurity, and other sectors where apprenticeships currently are not widely available.”

“That’s good news for the Trades,” said Dave Efaw, Secretary-Treasurer of the WV State Building Trades. “We believe in helping other industries start apprenticeship programs but didn’t want to see our programs hurt in the process.”

On June 15, 2017, President Trump signed an Executive Order on Expanding Apprenticeships in America. This led to the Secretary of Labor proposing regulations promoting the development of apprenticeship programs.

The Secretary of Labor also established a Task Force on Apprenticeship Expansion that included representatives of the Trades.

On June 25, 2019, the US DOL issued proposed rules on the IRAP program which exempted craft apprentice-
$100+ Million in Wages, Benefits

Longview Power 2 Gets PSC Siting Permit

Longview Power 2, a gas fired and solar addition to the Monongalia County coal-fired electric plant, received a siting certificate from the Public Service Commission (PSC) on April 3.

The $1.1 billion, 1,200-megawatt combined cycle gas unit will be located near the existing 710-megawatt coal unit.

A 70-megawatt solar field will also be installed with most of the solar panels to be in Pennsylvania.

According to Longview’s application, being adjacent to the existing Longview coal fired plant makes the project more efficient because they are using existing infrastructure like water, steam, personnel and operations facilities.

The PSC held first held a public hearing on January 6 in Morgantown. The Trades supporting the project were well represented.

Next was an evidentiary hearing on January 30 in Charleston.

The Trades intervened in support of the project and had attorney Vince Trivelli participate in the hearing.

Trivelli submitted testimony from ACT Director Steve White about an agreement with Longview to use local union construction workers to build the project.

In addition, Trivelli offered a report from Marshall University that showed the positive economic impact of using local union construction workers.

More than $100 million in wages to construction workers is expected from the project. That is spent in the local economy more jobs are created.

“The economic impact from construction is huge,” said White. “When you look at $100 million in paychecks over a few years’ time and how that boosts the local economy the result is astounding.”

The project still has many hurdles to overcome.

A very long list of permits and plans must still be finalized ranging from state water and air permits to wildlife management and emergency plans.

These documents need to be filed at the PSC 30 days before construction is to commence.

Pinnacle Wind Repower Project Delayed

A major project to upgrade existing wind turbines at the Pinnacle Wind project has been delayed due to the Covid-19 virus.

Pinnacle, built in 2011, is a 55MW wind facility. A $60 million repowering project scheduled to begin this spring would have replaced the 23 existing turbines with newer technology and improve efficiency by 15 percent.

According to project developers Clearway Energy, the Mineral County project has been ‘paused’ because of several factors relating to the virus.

Uncertainty about the delivery and commissioning of turbines led to a lack of guarantee to put the project in operation by the end of the year. That would jeopardize federal wind production tax credits.

An extension of the federal tax credits did not make it into the most recent federal stimulus package. Additional tax relief is possible but uncertain.

“The Pinnacle re-power is still a great project and hopefully we will know more by the end of the year,” said Natalie Stone, Executive Secretary of the North Central WV Building Trades Council.

Clearway Energy and the Trades have entered into an agreement to use local union construction workers for the project. Bechtel and Reed Construction are partnered as the contractors.

A March 2021 start date is the current estimate.

Iron Workers 787 Joint Apprenticeship Committee Accepting Applications

The Iron Workers Local 787 Joint Apprenticeship Committee will be accepting applications for the Iron Workers Apprenticeship Program during regular business hours, Monday thru Friday (except holidays), from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm.

The apprenticeship program usually takes three years to complete. Apprentices earn while they learn with on the job training and attend unpaid classroom sessions throughout the year. Upon completion an apprentice will learn all aspects of the trade including structural steel placement, welding, reinforcing rods, ornamental and more.

You must fill the application out in person at the Iron Workers Union Hall, 303 Erickson Blvd. Parkersburg, West Virginia. Bring copies of related documents described below.

The following are the minimum requirements. Lack of any one of these will automatically disqualify the applicant.

• Must be at least 18 years old (Proof required).
• Must be capable of doing work of the Iron Worker trade.
• Must be a High School Graduate or have equivalent certificate (GED/TASC).
• Must have a valid Driver’s License.
• Must score a passing grade on the TABE test given by Workforce WV after your application is submitted.
• Must live in the jurisdictional area of Iron Workers Local 787, Parkersburg, West Virginia, for at least one (1) year previous to applying.

If selected for the Apprenticeship Program, the candidate must submit to and pass the Substance Abuse Test offered by the Parkersburg-Marietta Contractors and Trades Educational and Development Fund.

The Iron Workers Local 787 JAC will pay the cost of the test.

The jurisdictional area covered by Local 787 is as follows:

OHIO: Athens, Meigs, Morgan, Noble, and Washington Counties.


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

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

For more information go to https://ironworkers787.org/
Building Trades Endorsements for 2020

Bold = Building Trades member

1st Congressional District
David McKinley (R)  Governor
Ben Salango (D)  State Treasurer
John Perdue (D)  Attorney General
Isaac Sponaugle (D)  Supreme Court
John Hutchinson  Secretary of State
Richard Neely  State Auditor
Joanna Tabit  Agriculture Commissioner
Bob Beach (D)  House of Delegates

State Senate
1st Randy Swartzmiller (D)  18th Paul Ros (D)  Mark Hurt (D)
2nd Josh Gary (D)  19th Ric Griffith (D)  Margaret Staggers (D)
4th Bruce Ashworth (D)  20th Nathan Brown (D)  Brent Boggs (D)
5th Bob Plymale (D)  21st Mark Dean (R)  Kathy Ferguson (D)
7th Rupie Phillips (R)  22nd Joe Jeffries (R)  Patti Hamilton (D)
Ralph Rodgerio (D)  23rd Zack Maynard (R)  Doug Skaff Jr. (D)
8th Glenn Jeffries (D)  24th Tom Jarrell (R)  Rusty Williams (D)
9th David ‘Bugs’ Stover (R)  25th Tony Paynter (R)  Amanda Estep Burton (D)
10th Bill Laird (D)  26th Dan Poling, Business Manager for Painters DC 53, makes comments during the WV AFL-CIO COPE meeting.
11th Denise Campbell (D)  27th Ted Russell (D)  Larry Rowe (D)
John Pitsenbarger (R)  28th Bruce Ashworth (D)  Mike Pushkin (D)
12th Doug Facemire (D)  29th Bob Plymale (D)  30th Bob Beach (D)  Danielle Walker (D)
13th Mike Caputo (D)  31st Joe Jeffries (R)  31st Mike Pushkin (D)  32nd Rich Halsey (D)  32nd Randy Halsey (D)
14th David Childers (D)  33rd Erika Storch (R)  33rd Erika Storch (R)  34th Ken Mattson (R)
15th Kenneth Mattson (R)  34th Ken Mattson (R)  35th Isaac Sponaugle (D)  36th Isack Sponaugle (D)
16th Pete Dougherty (D)  35th Isaac Sponaugle (D)  37th Luke Winters (D)  38th John Hutchinson
17th Andrew Robinson (D)  36th John Hutchinson  39th John Williams (D)  39th John Williams (D)

House of Delegates
1st Jack Wood (D)  10th Vernon Criss (R)  38th Bob Beach (D)
2nd Phillip Diserio (D)  11th Mark Pauley (D)  39th Dana Ferrell (R)  40th Bruce Ashworth (D)
3rd Shawn Fluharty (D)  12th Trish Pritchard (D)  41st Cindy Lavender-Bowe (D)  41st Cindy Lavender-Bowe (D)
Erikka Storch (R)  13th Luke Winters (D)  42nd Jeff Campbell (D)  42nd Jeff Campbell (D)
4th Christian Turak (D)  14th Dave Pethtel (D)  43rd Bill Hartman (D)  43rd Bill Hartman (D)
Lisa Zukoff (D)  15th Mark Pauley (D)  44th Cody Thompson (D)  44th Cody Thompson (D)
5th Dave Pethel (D)  16th Mark Bates (R)  45th John Carnley (D)  45th John Carnley (D)
6th Dave Pethel (D)  17th Chad Lovejoy (D)  46th Ed Evans (D)  46th Ed Evans (D)
7th Kerry Murphy (R)  18th Matthew Rohrbach (D)  47th Ed Evans (D)  47th Ed Evans (D)
8th Mike Pushkin (D)  19th Evan Worrell (R)  48th Ed Evans (D)  48th Ed Evans (D)
9th Mike Pushkin (D)  20th Evan Worrell (R)  49th Evan Worrell (R)  49th Evan Worrell (R)
10th Bill Laird (D)  21st Evan Worrell (R)  50th Evan Worrell (R)  50th Evan Worrell (R)
11th Denise Campbell (D)  22nd Evan Worrell (R)  51st Evan Worrell (R)  51st Evan Worrell (R)
John Pitsenbarger (R)  23rd Evan Worrell (R)  52nd Evan Worrell (R)  52nd Evan Worrell (R)
12th Doug Facemire (D)  24th Evan Worrell (R)  53rd Evan Worrell (R)  53rd Evan Worrell (R)
13th Mike Caputo (D)  25th Evan Worrell (R)  54th Evan Worrell (R)  54th Evan Worrell (R)
14th David Childers (D)  26th Evan Worrell (R)  55th Evan Worrell (R)  55th Evan Worrell (R)
15th Kenneth Mattson (R)  27th Evan Worrell (R)  56th Evan Worrell (R)  56th Evan Worrell (R)
16th Pete Dougherty (D)  28th Evan Worrell (R)  57th Evan Worrell (R)  57th Evan Worrell (R)
17th Andrew Robinson (D)  29th Evan Worrell (R)  58th Evan Worrell (R)  58th Evan Worrell (R)

West Virginia’s Primary Election has been postponed to Tuesday, June 9.

According to the Secretary of State’s website due to concerns of COVID-19, all voters may apply to vote absentee in the 2020 Primary Election.

All registered voters will receive an application to request an absentee ballot during the COVID-19 pandemic; contact your County Clerk for more information.

**Absentee Ballot, Voting Dates**

- Thru June 3: Voters may apply for absentee ballot
- April 24: County Clerks begin mailing absentee ballots
- May 19: Voter Registration Deadline
- May 27–June 6: Early Voting In-Person
- June 3: Absentee Application must be received by County Clerk
- June 9: Absentee Ballot must be postmarked by this date
- June 9: Primary Election Day
No IRAPs

Continued from Page 1

prenticeship as was suggested by the Trades.

However, many nonunion associations started to lobby for removal of the exemption.

This led to an all-out effort by North America’s Building Trades Unions and affiliates to ask members to file comments in support of the ex-

April 2020

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Follow us on Twitter! @WVSBT

WV Crafts Donate

Continued from Page 1

maintain the health and wellness of the community we serve,” said Mar-

Jean Kennedy, VP Marketing, De-
v

development, and Strategic Initiatives at WVU Medicine Camden Clark

Medical Center.

Reports from various parts of the state show Insulators, Boilermakers, Carpenters, and Pipefitters have all done the same. ■

Insulators Local 2 based in Pittsburgh donated a load of Personal Protective Equipment. Local 2 covers the northern part of WV.