

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release 5/4/2022

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LaPorte County WORKS! – Building Trades in La Porte County and Northwest Indiana

**** County Commissioner Puts Spotlight on Building Trades and Apprenticeship Programs in The Region ****



(LaPorte County, IN): At the LaPorte County Commissioners’ meeting held on Wednesday, May 4, 2022, the Commissioner Sheila Matias continued the LaPorte County WORKS! business report by highlighting the many building trades across northwest Indiana.

“From fixing our roads and bridges to renovating the historic buildings around us, from residential construction needs, supporting manufacturing plants and industrial expansions, the building trades provide critical services that affect everyone in our community on a daily basis. Tradesmen and women such as ironworker, operating engineer, sheet metal worker, carpenter, electrician, construction laborer, roofer, millwright, plumber, painter, cement finisher, and bricklayer are examples of the building trades careers that provide good living wages for families across La Porte County and Northwest Indiana. We are extremely proud of and thankful for the individuals who work hard to keep

LaPorte County’s economy rolling along with good jobs and high-quality workmanship,” stated Commissioner Sheila Matias.

“Apprenticeships in the trades are a great opportunity for people who want on-the-job training and a valuable education in order to increase their access to quality jobs. Other benefits to this pathway include career advancement, credentials, technical skills, good benefits and wages, and job security. Also, our apprentices do not have any debt at the end of their training. This is an “earn while you learn” program that is funded by the union and our signatory contractors,” stated John Carr, Senior Representative, IN/KY/OH Regional Council of Carpenters.

“The LaPorte County and Northwest Indiana building trades offer a sustainable, life-long opportunity with career advancements for those interested in a hands-on learning experience. The building trades play a critical role in sustaining the economic growth of the Region and have been a long-time supporter of community activities,” stated Scott Cooley, Business Representative, IN/KY/OH Council of Carpenters.

We highlight the Building Trades in this week’s LaPorte County WORKS! business report. Past spotlights of the *LaPorte County WORKS!* program include Sims Meats, Peepers, Helena Agri – Enterprises, VANAIR, and Filtration Plus, Inc. All companies who have been highlighted with local jobs available are featured on the county website at laporteco.in.gov/boards-commissions/laporte-county-works/.

This Week’s Highlighted Local Business/Program:

Building Trades in La Porte County and Northwest Indiana – May 4, 2022

Northwest Indiana was built by the skilled hands of countless hard-working men and women in the building trades who worked together to build the vast industrial complexes, commercial districts, residential neighborhoods, interstates, highways, and railways across the Region. [We Build Northwest Indiana](#) is a resource for people interested in a construction and maintenance related career. While some opportunities require a college degree, most require a comprehensive training and education program known as an apprenticeship. Trade Careers include Glaziers, HVAC techs, and Boilermakers.

Apprenticeship programs can be challenging, but they are the pathway to a full and rewarding career pathway. Individuals who demonstrate the special blend of academic, mechanical aptitude, and physical requirements will qualify. Qualities of successful applicants include strong work ethic, positive attitude, and dependability. General, minimum qualifications include being at least 18 Years Old, in good physical shape, and drug-free and having a valid driver's license, reliable transportation, and a high school diploma (or equivalent).

To find out more about the local building trades, see the attached document. To find out more and to apply for positions within the building trades please go to the following websites for apprenticeship applications at <https://webuildnwi.com/index.html>. The link to the Indiana Plan for the pre-apprenticeship program can be found here: [Application Form | Indiana Plan for Equal Employment](#).

To view more information about the businesses and programs highlighted in the *LaPorte County WORKS!* program, visit us at laporteco.in.gov/boards-commissions/laporte-county-works/.

To have your business considered for a spotlight, sign up [here](#). For questions, please contact Tony Rodriguez, Director of LaPorte County Community & Economic Development at trodriguez@laporteco.in.gov.