



BLUE COLLAR ADVOCATE

Raising Voices - Raising Awareness - Raising Standards

“Going To Work Should Not Be A Grave Mistake!”

THIS WEEK’S HEADLINES

Many NC workers’ deaths go uncounted

By Mandy Locke

RALEIGH

In early 2014, North Carolina Labor Commissioner Cherie Berry had some good news to share: Workplace deaths dropped significantly, with only 23 people having died in accidents on the job in the past year.

It was the smallest annual toll since Berry took office in 2001.

That count, though, captured only a sliver of the tragedies that met workers on the job, a News & Observer investigation shows. The state Department of Labor left out more than 80 fathers, brothers, daughters and neighbors who died while trying to make a living. They were farmers, mechanics, janitors, roofers and painters killed or fatally injured by an unexpected hazard at work. [READ MORE](#)

Protect Workers From The Number One Cause of Workplace Deaths – Distracted Driving

Distracted driving is the number one cause of workplace deaths in the United States. OSHA has partnered with the National Safety Council to call employers’ attention to this issue and urge the adoption of safe driving policies.

[Read More](#)

Alabama Whistleblower Fired and Sued After Protesting Conditions

By Seth Freed Wessler

A Selma, Alabama, factory worker who was fired, sued and slapped with a restraining order after leading a protest march is in court Wednesday to demand she be allowed to continue her fight for safer working conditions at the auto parts plant.

"I feel like I'm being punished for speaking up," Kimberly King, 50, told NBC on March 17th, the day after she was fired.

[READ MORE](#)

USMWF’S HIGHLIGHT OF THE WEEK

Bryan P. Bradley

This week USMWF would like to honor worker, Bryan Bradley he was on the job in September 2011 while working for Revel Casino in Atlantic City, New Jersey. He died when struck by lightning. There are no OSHA updates as of as of January 2013.

This photo was sent in by his widow Carmen Bradley.---*My husband was pouring concrete at the Revel Casino when lightning struck the medal bucket he was handling. He died as a result of that lightning strike.*

Losing him has left a terrible void in our hearts that can never be filled.

We will miss and love him for the rest of our days.



~ 2/4/1971 - 9/15/2011 ~

USMWF'S VIDEOS *(click each video to view)*



Whistleblower and Victims Rights Provisions of the Protecting Americas Workers Act: Tonya Ford
Tonya Ford, niece of Robert Fitch, a worker killed at an Archer Daniels Midland plant, testified at a hearing about the Whistleblower and Victims Rights Provisions of H.R. 2067, the Protecting Americas Workers Act on April 28, 2010.



Wendy Shurelds worker safety testimonial regarding the lose of her beautiful mother due to a preventable work related incident.

By: [SensibleSafeguards's channel](#)



OKLAHOMA:

Please join us as we remember those lost to work-related accidents on Tuesday, April 28, at 7:30pm at the 4th Floor Rotunda,

Oklahoma State Capitol,
2300 N. Lincoln,
OKC, OK 73105.

For more information about this special event go to:

<http://www.okworkersmemorialday.com/>



Oklahoma's Worker's Memorial Day Vigil 2014
(Click to view video)

NEBRASKA:

Nebraska we would like you to welcome you to join us this year as we will be having many events in honor of Workers' Memorial Day.

Saturday, April 25, 2015

USMWF's Nebraska's 5k Family Fun Run/Walk F Fundraiser;

Lincoln, Nebraska at Holmes Lake Park

Race begins at 2:00 pm (*non-timed 5k fun run*)

Monday, April 27, 2015

Raising Cane's Fundraiser for USMWF

48th and R Street

5-7pm

Just mention you are with USMWF and 20% will go to USMWF.

Tuesday, April 28, 2015

Nebraska's 4th Annual FREE Safety Expo

Country Inn & Suites, Lincoln, NE (Airport Exit)

8:00am to 3:30pm

Tuesday, April 28, 2015

Nebraska's 6th Annual Workers' Memorial Day Candlelight Vigil , State Capitol

7:00pm.

For more information about this special event go to:

<http://www.usmwf.org/NE5KRUN.htm>

ADD A LOVED ONE?

Would you like to honor and share your loved one by adding a picture to our Face Campaign that is seen by many across the United States? The "Faces Campaign" was launched January 1, 2009 and is intended to give workplace fatalities a face, gain awareness and educate workers, employees, organizations and our government.

[CLICK HERE](#)

Cont. WMD Events

MICHIGAN:

Michigan has multiple events going on this year for Workers' Memorial Day.

Please join us at:

Safety Expo: April 27, 2015
9-4 pm at Cadillac Public Library (Cadillac MI)
Baked goods and coffee upon arrival

Topics: logging safety, cell tower safety, lock out tag out, workers compensation and view from a business owner (logging company)

Break for a FREE lunch

Workers' Memorial Day Vigil:
Performing Arts Rotary Pavilion on Lake Cadillac
7-8 pm



Photographs taken by David Y. Lee

WORKERS' MEMORIAL DAY EVENTS

A time to come together and honor those that have been injured or killed due to preventable work related incidents. Below is a list of just a few other Workers' Memorial Day Events that are being held across the United States.

[Houston Worker Memorial Day Commemoration](#)

[Baker Ripley Neighborhood Center](#)
April 28, 2015 • 6:00 PM
6500 Rookin Road, Houston, TX 77074

[Workers Memorial Day Observance in Cumberland, City Hall Plaza](#)
April 28, 2015 • 12:00 PM
57 North Liberty St., Cumberland, MD 21502

[Workers Memorial Day, Hoopes Park](#)
April 28, 2015 • 10:00 AM
100 S. Herman Ave., Auburn, NY 13021
[Safe Jobs Save Lives Unity Breakfast](#)
[Pensabene's Casa Grande](#)
April 24, 2015 • 8:00 AM
135 State Fair Blvd, Syracuse, NY 13208

[Workers' Memorial Theater Project](#)
[Unitarian Universalist Church of Canton](#)
April 25, 2015 • 7:30 PM
3 1/2 Main Street, Canton, NY 13617

[Workers Memorial Day Observance in Boston, State House](#)
April 28, 2015 • 12:00 PM
24 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02133

[Workers Memorial Day Ceremony - Groton](#)
[Workers Memorial in Washington Park](#)
April 28, 2015 • 6:00 AM
76 Park Ave, Groton, CT 06340

[Workers Memorial Day Observation](#)
[IBEW Local 48 Hall](#)
April 27, 2015 • 7:00 PM
15937 NE Airport Way, Portland, OR 97230

[Workers Memorial Day Observance in Bellingham](#) [Bellingham Library Lawn](#)

April 28, 2015 • 12:00 PM
210 Central Ave., Bellingham, WA 98225

[Workers Memorial Day Observation](#)
[IBEW Local 48 Hall](#)
April 27, 2015 • 7:00 PM
15937 NE Airport Way, Portland, OR 97230

[FIGHT FOR THE LIVING MOURN FOR THE DEAD](#)
[Bringewatt Park](#)
April 28, 2015 • 5:30 PM
23rd St S & 24th Ave S, Grand Forks, ND 58203

[Workers Memorial Day Observance](#)
[Hawkeye Labor Council AFL-CIO](#)
April 28, 2015 • 5:30 PM
1211 Wiley Blvd SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404

[Workers Memorial Day Vigil in Escanaba](#)
[Carpenters Hall](#)
April 28, 2015 • 6:30 PM
1219 1st Avenue South
Escanaba, MI 49829

[Workers Memorial Day Vigil in Iron Mountain](#)
[Laborers Hall](#)
April 28, 2015 • 6:30 PM
US Hwy 2, Iron Mountain, MI 49801

[Workers Memorial Day Vigil in Negaunee](#)
[USW Ronn Hall](#)
April 28, 2015 • 6:30 PM
1206 Baldwin St., Negaunee, MI 49866

[Workers Memorial Day Ceremony - Hartford](#)
[North Steps of the State Capitol](#)
April 28, 2015 • 12:00 PM
210 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106

[Workers Memorial Day Observance in Bellingham, Bellingham Library Lawn](#)
April 28, 2015 • 12:00 PM
210 Central Ave., Bellingham, WA 98225

ARTICLES:

Rise in Idaho farm deaths concerns OSHA

By: [John O'Connell](#)

[READ MORE](#)

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REFERENCE SITES:

USMWF: www.usmwf.org

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/USMWF>

GRAIN MILL ACCIDENTS:

<https://www.facebook.com/GrainMillAccidents>