

CISCO

CONSTRUCTION NEWS BRIEFS

Construction Industry Service Corporation - www.cisco.org - 630.472.9411 - Dan Allen, Executive Director

GOVERNOR ANNOUNCES INVESTMENT IN ILLINOIS APPRENTICESHIPS

Governor JB Pritzker and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) announced this week a \$4.7 million investment that will expand the Illinois Apprenticeship Program to serve an additional 568 residents in training programs over the next two years.

To help more Illinoisans take part in apprenticeship training programs aligned with high-demand career fields, the administration is awarding grants to 25 organizations across the state to expand training programs and employer partnerships, with an emphasis on growth in underserved communities.

With additional grant funding to sustain and expand the program, the Illinois Apprenticeship Program will see a record level of investment of \$20 million and will serve a record 17,000 participants in 2020.

STATE LAW REQUIRES HIRING ILLINOIS WORKERS DURING TIMES OF HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT



Due to the high unemployment rate caused by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Employment of Illinois Workers on Public Works Act took effect beginning July 1st. The state law requires the workforce on all public works projects to be comprised of a minimum of 90% Illinois residents.

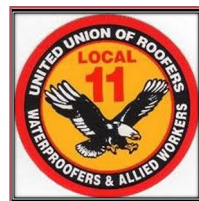
The Illinois Department of Labor (IDOL) administers the Employment of Illinois Workers on Public Works

Act, which was enacted to alleviate unemployment in Illinois by ensuring that most workers on public works projects live in the state.

The law comes into effect following two consecutive months of a state unemployment rate above 5 percent. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Illinois' unemployment rate during the COVID-19 pandemic increased from 4.2 percent in March, to 17.2 percent in April, and 15.2 percent in May.

"As we all deal with the far-reaching impact of this pandemic, the Illinois Department of Labor wants to remind public officials and employers of the requirements of this law, which has not been triggered in recent years due to low unemployment," said IDOL Director Michael Kleinik.

CISCO/CTA "CONSTRUCTION TALKS" TOURS ROOFERS & WATERPROOFERS



The CISCO/CTA webinar series "Construction Talks" highlighted the Roofers & Waterproofers Local 11 on July 10 with a virtual tour of the Apprenticeship Training Program at their facility in Indian Head Park.

The series host, CTA's Chynna Hampton, Senior Project Manager - Workforce Initiatives was joined by Local 11's Apprenticeship Training Coordinator Marty Headtke and Instructor Brian Dugan, along with CISCO's Executive Director Dan Allen and Education-to-Careers Director Johnetta Ryan during a 50-minute webinar program.



Local 11's Brian Dubin (right) describes how roofers use a mop to spread hot tar on certain roof structures as Marty Headtke and Chynna Hampton listen in.

The tour included a peak at various classrooms and training activity rooms including a look at the various equipment roofer and waterproofer apprentices use when learning their craft.

The next webinar in the "Construction Talks" series will highlight the Plumbers Local 130 Apprenticeship Program on Friday, August 14th at noon.

ROOFERS LOCAL 11 LAUNCHES RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM

The Roofers & Waterproofers Local 11 has launched an advertising campaign to promote a program for single-family residential homes.

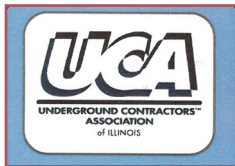
The program has one contractor that has already signed contracts with two local subdivisions for repairs and other work.

The arrangements have enabled between seven and 10 new members of Local 11 to work for the contractor, and more projects have been coming in as a result of the ad campaign which began airing on WCPT - 820 AM this month.

More news and photos on the back page.

CISCO ON THE MOVE

UCA MEMBER WENDY KUHLERS' INTERVIEW SERIES FOCUSES ON WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION



The Underground Contractors Association has a star in their membership in

more ways than one.

Wendy Kuhlert, known as the "Oil Lady," has begun a series of video interviews highlighting women in the construction and equipment industry.



Wendy is a Heavy Equipment Specialist with RILCO Lubricants and Services, which has offices across the Midwest,

including Rock Island and Romeoville.

Her interview series website states the following: "The Mechanic. Maintenance Manager. Equipment Manager. Shop Foreman. Technician.

These hard working individuals go by many titles and while they are one of the most important members of the team, they often go forgotten.

They come in early and leave late. They are required to wear many hats throughout the day and are pulled in a million directions. Without them, job sites would come to a screeching halt. Here's to you. I'm making 2020 about you and your sacrifices. This series will feature the hard working individuals that make up the beating heart of the construction & trucking industries."

In order to view the videos she has compiled, visit <https://the-oil-lady.com/interview-series/>

Of particular interest pertaining to women in construction is an interview that Wendy conducted with Melissa Petersmann, who is a Heavy Equipment Mechanic Level III for Honnen Equipment.

CBC OFFERS WEBINAR: "THE FUTURE OF WORK IN CONSTRUCTION"

CISCO's Dan Allen will be a panelist for a Thursday, July 23rd webinar hosted by the Chicago



Building Congress from noon to 1:30 pm. The webinar will look into the impact that the pandemic will have on Chicagoland's commercial real estate market, and the rapid changes it will bring to the way we work. Creating safe built environments for people to congregate and collaborate in person will be vital as office workers return.

There is a nominal fee for the event. To register for this webinar, go to chicagobuildingcongress.org.

FMCS OFFERS VIRTUAL NATIONAL LABOR-MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

The Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service (FMCS) will be



hosting their two-day 2020 National Conference, virtually.

In addition to the 2-day virtual conference August 18-19, this year's NLMC features pre-conference sessions that are included at no cost! The dates for the Pre-conference event are Wednesday, July 29 and Wednesday, August 5.

The National Labor-Management Conference is your chance to join hundreds of labor and management practitioners to learn the latest about essential bargaining techniques, and gain valuable insights into new directions, technology, and trends in the changing world of work.

More than 30 speakers are scheduled, including AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



As expected, Gov. Pritzker signed HB2455, allowing employees to receive workers' compensation benefits if they contract COVID-19 while working.

Effective immediately, the new law provides a rebuttable presumption that COVID-19 was contracted out of and in the course of employment for first responders and frontline workers. The law applies to employees who contracted the virus between 3/9/20 and 12/31/20.

An employer can rebut the presumption with "some" evidence including, but not limited to:

1. The employee was working from home for 14 days before testing positive;
2. The employer is following federal and state guidelines through practices like PPEs and social distancing; and
3. The employee was exposed by an alternative source.

Those involved in the negotiations on this issue included the Illinois Manufacturers' Association, Illinois Retail Merchants Association, the Illinois AFL-CIO and the Illinois Trial Lawyers Association. HB 2455 Senate Amendment #2 was the result of these negotiations and received bi-partisan support.

With a December 31, 2020, sunset built into this law, CISCO will continue to monitor any new developments and changes in regard to this issue.

