APPRENTICESHIP WEEK OPEN HOUSES DRAW GOOD CROWDS

With at least four Apprenticeship Programs holding Open House events this week to recognize National Apprenticeship Week, hundreds of men and women traveled to Training Centers in Aurora, Carol Stream, Elk Grove Village and Berkeley to learn about what is required to apply into one of the programs, as well as to see a variety of instruction techniques that enable workers to complete such tasks as fashioning sheet metal to painting water towers.

The photographs on this page were taken at the Training Centers of the Sheet Metal Workers SMART Local 265 in Carol Stream, and the Painters District Council No. 30 in Aurora.

In addition, the Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters held an Open House on both Wednesday, Nov. 15 and Thursday, Nov. 16 in Elk Grove Village. Capping off the events of the week were the Chicago Area Painters and Drywall Finishers who held their Open House on Friday, Nov. 17 in Berkeley.

SMART Local 265 Service Instructor Joe Carone greets a busload of Lockport High School students who attended the Open House in Carol Stream. The group watched a video about the sheet metal trade and then broke into groups of five-six students for tours of the facility.

Providing a tour to some of the many participants at the Painters District Council No. 30 Open House was John Butler, Asst. Fund Administrator in the Benefits Office. John is showing the Training Center’s “training tower” that apprentices use for many types of painting-related exercises.

An instructor carefully watches as an apprentice practices using a rope to descend down the side of a tower during one of the planned training exercises.

ILLINOIS ECONOMIC POLICY INSTITUTE HOSTS 1ST FUNDRAISER

The Illinois Economic Policy Institute held its 1st Annual Fundraiser last week at Capri Banquets in Countryside.

Founded in 2013, the Illinois Economic Policy Institute (ILEPI) is a nonprofit organization which uses advanced statistics, reliable surveying techniques, and the latest forecasting models to empower individuals, policymakers, and lawmakers to make informed choices on questions of public policy. ILEPI provides analyses on issues affecting the economies of Illinois and the Midwest, specializing in the construction industry.

Pictured from left, ILEPI Board Members Prof. Bob Bruno, University of Illinois and Marc Poulos, Executive Director of III-FFC; with Frank Manzo IV, MPP - ILEPI Policy Director and Dan Allen, CISCO Executive Director.

More news and photos on the back page.
CISCO ON THE MOVE

PROJECT OF THE YEAR AWARDS – DEADLINE DECEMBER 1, 2017

CISCO’s Project of the Year Award is kicking off its 13th year of accepting applications for some of the best construction projects of the past 18 months. The award gives general contractors, owners, engineers and architects a chance to submit projects in 6 different categories that includes new construction, renovation, residential construction, and infrastructure. Visit www.cisco.org/projects-of-the-year/ to download the easy three-step application form.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM KICKS OFF – APPLICATION DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 23, 2017

CISCO is now accepting applications for its 2018 Scholarship Program. The three different program categories enable a wider range of students of both building trade union members and union contractor employees to apply.

CISCO now offers (3), four-year scholarships ($2,000/year) to high school seniors; (2), two-year awards ($1,000/year) for seniors planning to attend community college; and (2), two-year continuing education awards ($1,000/year) to union members or contractor employees.

All applications and accompanying documents must be postmarked by February 23, 2018 to be eligible for consideration. For judging criteria, application information, and eligibility requirements, please refer to the application forms.

To download the applications, go to www.cisco.org/scholarships/. For additional information, call CISCO at 630-472-9411.

BREAKING BOUNDARIES SERIES CONTINUES MOVING AHEAD

The second event in the Breaking Boundaries: Career Exploration Series for Women was held today at Universal Technical Institute (UTI) in Lisle. The seminar was attended by 50 people (mostly women) as CISCO and WorkNet DuPage arranged a panel discussion regarding high-paying, in-demand careers for women in non-traditional roles.

Panelists included five women who were in fields such as ceramic engineering, truck leasing, automotive mechanics, information technology/web design, and natural gas distribution/maintenance.

One of last year’s winning entries was residential development at 1000 S. Clark Street in Chicago. Pictured is one of the rooms overlooking the skyline.

The deadline for applications is 5:00 p.m., Friday, December 1st. For more information, call Gary Karafiat, Director of Communications & Public Affairs at (630) 472-9411.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The second week of the General Assembly’s veto session saw many more successful overrides of the Governor’s vetoes. In all, Illinois lawmakers overrode a total of 15 of 39 vetoes this year.

However, one veto attempt that slipped through the General Assembly’s fingers was Governor Rauner’s local “right-to-work” (for less) zones veto, again falling one vote short of the number needed.

Had the Bill - SB1905 - become law via a legislative override, it would have prevented municipal governments from setting up their own RTW zones.

A lawsuit against the Village of Lincolnshire’s RTW ordinance - passed in 2015 - was successfully upheld in District Court. The town has appealed that ruling and the case has moved to the 7th Circuit Court.