

CISCO


COMMUNICATOR

A Newsletter for Chicagoland Construction Labor & Management Professionals

Governor Quinn Announces \$69 Million For DuPage Water Projects *Clean Water Initiative Creates Hundreds Of Construction Jobs*

Governor Pat Quinn visited Bensenville recently to hold a press conference to announce a nearly \$69 million investment to create hundreds of construction jobs improving water treatment facilities in DuPage County. The projects are funded by the Governor's \$2 billion Illinois Clean Water Initiative (CWI).



 **CISCO Board Member John Boske, President of the DuPage County Building Trades, praises the job-creating benefits of the Illinois Clean Water Initiative as Gov. Quinn (right) listens in.**

Construction of Bensenville's \$30 million renovation of its 70-year-old water treatment plant has already begun. In addition to the Bensenville project, other DuPage projects include:

- Wood Dale's upgrade and rehabilitation of the North wastewater treatment plant.
- Addison's improvements to its pump stations and wastewater treatment facilities, and
- Elmhurst's improvements to the city's sludge processing facilities and a wet weather control plan to ease flooding in that community.

Over the next two years, Williams Brothers Construction, Inc. will be converting the aging plant to a state-of-the-art facility. The project is focusing on simplifying operations and processes to improve water quality on the receiving streams/creeks.

CISCO Board Member John Boske thanked the Governor on behalf of the hard-working, skilled men and women who will be renovating and building these projects so that the children and grandchildren of these communities will have safe drinking water for generations to come.

Past Scholarship Winner Sends CISCO Special Thank You



Kylie Jungles will definitely make a difference someday. The 2012 scholarship winner recently took the time to send CISCO staff an update of her first two years at St. Mary's College of Notre Dame. Her scholastic achievements have continued to be strong (4.0 average both years), and her extracurricular activity is quite impressive. She is now heading toward a career as either a pediatric dermatologist or in dermatology research.

In her letter she states: "I would like to thank you once again for your generous scholarship and continued support. Hopefully by sharing my wonderful St. Mary's experience with you it helps you realize what a difference your contribution has made to not only my education, but also my life. Thank you for supporting my dreams."

To see which students were presented scholarships at this year's Annual Luncheon, **turn to page 3.**

From *the* Desk of the Executive Director



In the last month, we've learned that the McHenry County Board is attempting to challenge the state's prevailing wage law. The move came in mid-June after the McHenry County Board voted 13-10 against adopting the wage schedule they are required by law to follow.

As you know, the prevailing wage law requires all contractors and subcontractors to be paid the hourly rate set by the Illinois Department of Labor for that county for any work built by any public body with public funds.

We are also hearing that the McHenry County Board is not alone. The communities of Woodstock, Mount Prospect and Palatine, as well as Cary School District 26 all have discussed similar action with the latter three public bodies rejecting prevailing wage ordinances.

To say that this is a dangerous precedent with far reaching ramifications is an understatement. Left unchecked this assault on prevailing wage is all but certain to spread. Therefore, it is imperative the construction industry is pro-active in educating public bodies on their legal requirements relating to PWL. Equally important, our industry must dispel the many negative "myths" and mis-information spread by unskilled tradesmen and contractors relating to PWL projects with the "facts".

Recently, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Michigan State University conducted the first comprehensive study of the economic and social impacts of the statewide PWL for public construction projects in Illinois. The following are five key FACTS not MYTHS of this independent study:

- Prevailing wages do not increase costs of public construction projects.
- Repeal of PWL would result in job losses throughout the state, decreased GDP, and millions of dollars in lost tax revenue.
- Construction worker fatalities would increase dramatically; workers would lose work-related benefits.
- PWLs enhance apprenticeship training, insuring a sufficient and skilled construction workforce.
- Claims that PWLs are harmful to minority workers were proven false.

In summary, the study states that prevailing wages for public construction projects in Illinois provide numerous positive economical and social impacts for both construction workers and the state as a whole.

The recent attacks on the prevailing wage law, and the facts of the independent PWL study certainly emphasizes the importance of the upcoming Prevailing Wage Seminar, which is set for Thursday, Sept. 11 at the Doubletree Suites in Downers Grove.

The seminar is ideal for public body personnel, purchasing managers, elected officials, union contractors and building trades members. Given the circumstances developing in McHenry County, a concerted effort to contact the public bodies there will be re-doubled. For more information on this valuable seminar, see the bottom of page 7.

Dan Allen
Executive Director

\$25,000 Hole-In-One Prize Adds Excitement To This Year's Golf Outing



Amalgamated Life & Health Insurance Co. is proud to be a sponsor of the CISCO "Last Swing" Golf Outing on Monday, September 8th at Bloomingdale Golf Club. A hole-in-one on Hole #11 during the Outing will win some lucky golfer \$25,000 in CASH.

For more information on how to register or how to become a sponsor of the event, please turn to the flyer, which is inserted in the center of the newsletter.

Presidential Perspective



As a long-time CISCO board member and executive officer, I have also had the pleasure of serving on CISCO's Legislative Committee. Our Legislative Committee has enjoyed many successes over the years and it is attributable to the mutual respect and cooperation of labor and management collaboratively working together. The importance of vigilantly monitoring legislation is more crucial to our industry than ever before.

CISCO's Legislative Committee has been assisting efforts to pass a state-wide Responsible Bidder Ordinance (RBO). The ideal bill would require all contractors to hire skilled trade's persons who have completed a USDOL-approved apprenticeship program.

A state-wide RBO would provide greater taxpayer value because the skilled construction workers will build the libraries, school facilities and municipal buildings correctly the first time, thus avoiding costly change orders. And isn't that what we all want as taxpayers - well-built, safe structures for our children and families to use?

An example of a law that benefits the construction industry is the Illinois Employee Classification Act (ECA). The purpose is to combat improper employee misclassification. In 2005, the Fiscal Policy Institute estimated that Illinois lost \$53.7 million in unemployment insurance, \$149 million to \$250 million in income taxes, and \$97.9 million in workers compensation premiums as a result of independent contractor misclassification. This practice harms workers, distorts the contracting process, and gives employers that engage in misclassification an illegal-cost advantage over law-abiding employers. The Illinois Supreme Court recently ruled the ECA is constitutional.

Responsible Bidder Ordinance, Employee Misclassification, and Prevailing Wage Laws, are all issues that will have a huge impact on the union construction industry. These topics will be presented in depth during a FREE seminar on Thursday, September 11.

The proper education, monitoring, and legislative support of issues such as these can have a powerful long term impact on the union construction industry. I strongly encourage everyone to attend this very important seminar.

Sincerely,

Mark Maher
CISCO Board President


CISCO Recognizes 2014 Scholarship Winners

CISCO announced its annual scholarship winners during its May luncheon. Zachary Biggs was awarded the John E. Kenny, Jr. Founder's Scholarship. His father, Brian Biggs, is a member of Operating Engineers Local 150. The Joseph Sullivan Memorial Scholarships was presented to Amanda Wendt, whose father, Michael Wendt, is a member of the Sprinkler Fitters Local #281.

Winners of CISCO's category for students attending a community college went to Molly Bernard, whose father Kevin, is a member of Operating Engineers Local 150; and to Cody Wightman, whose father Donald, is a member of the Carpenters Local #1539 Monarch Carpentry.

Two-year Continuing Education Scholarships were awarded to David Kalinec, who is a member of the Underground Contractors Association and is employed



 **Scholarship winners (from left) are Zachary Biggs, Amanda Wendt, David Kalinec, Justine Villar and Cody Wightman. Not pictured is Molly Bernard.**

by Pirtano Construction; and Justine Villar, who is a member of PAMCANI and is employed by Abbott Industries.

Infrastructure Trust CEO: \$1 Billion Worth of Projects In Pipeline

Guests at CISCO's 26th annual luncheon heard a positive message from Keynote Speaker Stephen Beitler. The Chicago Infrastructure Trust (CIT) CEO said that his organization has \$1 billion worth of projects in the pipeline. The remarks were made at the May 9th Annual Luncheon at Maggiano's Little Italy in Schaumburg.



Chicago Infrastructure Trust CEO Stephen Beitler. Speaking to approximately 300 attendees, Beitler said that the CIT hopes to structure innovative financing strategies and attract capital from many different types of investors, including private sources. The CIT, according to Beitler, has also been successful in securing capital for infrastructure and energy efficiency projects, such as the recent \$70 million digital manufacturing grant, which was matched by \$250 million in state and private sector funds.

Included in the \$1 billion project list are retrofitting Chicago's 400,000 streetlights to more energy efficient bulbs - the largest streetlight retrofit ever done. This will undoubtedly benefit trade unions in the city who will perform the work.



Pictured are (from left) Cathy Kirin, RCEC; Bruce Creen, NECA-NEIL; Carol Lord, MARBA; and CISCO Board member SJ Peters; PAMCANI.

In addition, other projects on the horizon are upgrading wireless speed in subways, renovating Chicago's 141 public pools for efficiency, and installing

compressed natural gas pumps throughout the city.

"One of the major benefits or byproducts of the mission of the Trust is to create jobs," Beitler said. "There is a very specific benefit to trades jobs as a result doing infrastructure projects."

WIEDMAIER HONORED

Another highlight of the luncheon was the presentation of the CISCO Distinguished Service Award to long-time board member Michael Wiedmaier, who is now the Executive Director of the Underground Contractors Association. Wiedmaier served on the CISCO Board for a total of 16 years, and also served as President from 2008-09, as well as Vice President and Secretary on the Executive Board.



Mike Wiedmaier (center) receives Distinguished Service Award from CISCO Executive Director Dan Allen (left) and CISCO Board President Mark Maher.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Congratulations also goes out to the students who were presented with their scholarship awards during the luncheon. The group (**pictured on page 3**) included 4-year scholarship winners Zachary Biggs, Michigan City HS and Amanda Wendt, Willowbrook HS; 2-year community college winners Molly Bernard, Newark HS and Cody Wightman, McHenry HS; and Continuing Education winners David Kalinec (UCA - Pirtano Construction) and Justine Villar (PAMCANI - Abbott Industries). Kalinec is attending Northern Illinois University and Villar is attending Dominican University.

The scholarship winners were chosen from a field of 115 applicants.

2014 CISCO Board of Directors

Executive Board

President

Mark Maher, *Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters*

Vice President

Joseph Benson, *IRTBA*

Treasurer

Frank Furco, *IBEW 701*

Secretary

Dan Divane, *ECA*

John Boske, *Sheet Metal Workers Local 265*

Steven Cisco, *I.U.O.E. Local 150*

John Cronin, *Chicagoland Roofing Council*

Steve DeGroot, *Fox Valley AGC*

Dennis Fleming, *Sprinkler Fitters Local 281, U.A.*

Dave Henderson, *Lake County Contractors Assoc.*

Maurice King, *IBEW Local 134*

Leon LaJeunesse, *Custom Contracting (BA)*

Frank Lollino, *Underground Contractors Association*

Charles LoVerde III, *Chicago Laborers' Dist. Council*

Gary Menzel, *Roofers Local 11*

James McGlynn, *NECA-NEIL*

Tom McTavish, *Northeastern Illinois LMCC*

Loretta Molter, *Molter Corp. (MCA)*

Joseph Pastorino, *Chicago Reg. Council of Carpenters*

S.J. Peters, *PAMCANI*

Penny-Per-Hour Contributors

Builders' Association

Cement Masons Local 502

Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters

Chicago Outerbelt Contractors Assoc.

Chicagoland Roofing Council

Concrete Contractors Assoc. of Greater Chicago

Construction & General Laborers' District Council of Chicago & Vicinity

Illinois Road & Transportation Builders Association

Lake County Contractors Association

LMCC (IBEW 117, 150, 461, & NECA-NEIL)

LMCC of Chicago (IBEW 134 and ECA)

NECA-IBEW 701 LMCC

Operating Engineers Local 150

Professional Flooring Installers Assoc.

Teamsters Joint Council No. 25

Underground Contractors Association

Member Organizations

Architectural & Ornamental Ironworkers Local 63
Associated Steel Erectors
Association of Glazing Contractors
Boilermakers Local 1
Bricklayers & Allied Craftsmen District Council
Builders' Association
Cement Masons Local 502
Cement Masons Local 803
Chicago Reg. Council of Carpenters
Chicago Outerbelt Contractors Association
Chicago Painting & Decorating Contractors Industry Advancement & Promotional Fund
Chicagoland Roofing Council
Chicagoland Sheet Metal Contractors Association
Concrete Contractors Association of Greater Chicago
Construction & General Laborer's District Council of Chicago & Vicinity
Electrical Contractors Association of City of Chicago, Inc.

Electrical Workers Local 117, 134, 150, 461, & 701
Finishing Contractors Association of Chicago
Glaziers Union Local 27
Illinois Regional Insulation Contractors Association
Illinois Road & Transportation Builders Association
Ironworkers Local 1
Insulators Local 17
Lake County Contractors Association
LMCC (IBEW Local 117, 150, 461 & NECA-NEIL)
LMCC of Chicago (IBEW 134 & ECA)
NECA-IBEW Local 701 LMCC
Machinery, Movers & Riggers Local 136
Mason Contractors Association of Greater Chicago
Mechanical Contractors Association
National Electrical Contractors Association
Northeastern Illinois Chapter
National Fire Sprinkler Association

Northern Illinois Chapter
Northeastern Illinois Sheet Metal Contractors Association
Northern Illinois Painting & Drywall Institute
OP & CMIA Local 11
Operating Engineers Local 150
Painters District Council Local 30
Plasterers Local 5
Plumbing Contractors Association of Chicago & Cook County
Plumbing & Mechanical Contractors Authority of Northern Illinois
Professional Flooring Installers Association
Residential Construction Employers Council
Roofers Waterproofers & Allied Craftworkers Local 11
Sheet Metal Workers Local 73
Sheet Metal Workers Local 265
SMACNA Chicago
SMACNA/SMART #265
Sprinkler Fitters Local 281
Teamsters Joint Council No. 25
Underground Contractors Association

Associate Members

AFL-CIO Building Investment Trust
Alvarez and Associates
Amalgamated Bank of Chicago
ASB Capital Management
Benefits Management Group
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois
Brandywine Global Investment Mgmt.
Chicago & Cook County Building & Construction Trades Council
Chicagoland Construction Safety Council
CIGNA HealthCare
Clark Hill PLC
Construction Employers' Association
Culloton Strategies, LLC
Delta Dental
DuPage County Building & Construction Trades Council
ELFCO Supply
Fox Valley Building Trades Council

Fox Valley Construction Industry Advancement Program
Humana Health Care Plans
Hunt Insurance Group
Illinois American Water
Illinois Pipe Trades Council
I.M.P.A.C.T.
Labor Management Cooperation Committee of Chicago
Labor Management Cooperative Committee of Northeastern Illinois
Lake County Building & Construction Trades Council
M & I Trust Services
Martin Salvino State Farm Agency
Megent Financial
Middle States Electrical Contractors Association
Midland States Bank
Midwest Medix Surgery Center

Missouri Valley Partners
Multi-Employer Property Trust
NECA-IBEW 701 LMCC
Principal Financial Group
Prospect Mortgage/Union Benefits
Putnam Investments
Rooney Consulting
Russell Investments
Sav-RX Pharmacy Benefit Mgmt.
ScreenSafe
Secure Services, Corp.
Segall Bryant & Hamill Investment Counsel
UIG Union Insurance Group
Ullico, Inc.
UMB Asset Management
Union Plus Mortgage
Veritas Steel
Wells Fargo/Home Mortgage
Willis of Illinois, Inc.

Upcoming Events

Career Fair

Monday, August 11, 2014
9:00 a.m. - Noon

Are you a high school student interested in a career in the building trades?

Confirmed trades include:

Plumbers, Pipefitters, Carpenters, Painters, Electricians, Bricklayers, Teamsters, Laborers, Machinery Movers, Riggers and Erectors & others

St. Paul Church of God in Christ Community Development Ministries, Inc.

4550 S. Wabash Ave.

Chicago, Illinois

Pre-registration required; on-site registration @ 8:00 a.m.

<http://careerfair14-trades.eventbrite.com>

Also sponsored by CISCO and Chicago Teachers Union.

For more info, call Johnetta Ryan (630) 472-9411.

|||||



Johnetta Ryan,
Director
Education-to-Careers

EDUCATION 70 CAREERS

Reflecting On Another School Year, Future Initiatives

As the 2013-14 school year came to a close last month, I paused to think back on CISCO's Education to Careers Program by asking myself what was different and what stayed the same.

There are two constants: 1) The students and 2) The challenge of getting young people interested in the construction industry.

The students come from a variety of backgrounds and possess a variety of interests. Capturing those interests and channeling them into a positive outcome is the goal of nearly every educator. As the construction industry slowly recovers, apprenticeship programs are accepting more applications, and the reality of a job in the construction industry is that much closer for those students who have the desire to start one of the most rewarding careers one can find.

NEW SCHOOLS, ORGANIZATIONS

This past school year, CISCO traveled to several new schools. The new students we visited were from Chatham Academy, Lincoln-Way HS, Willowbrook HS, Chicago Agricultural, Lane Tech, West Chicago, Waubensee Valley and the Lake County Tech Center.

In addition, CISCO initiated new relationships with the following organizations: Mind Your Busine\$\$; Partners in Community Building Veterans Program; The Boy Scouts and SERCO (A Cicero Workforce Center).


T-CART EXTENDED TO A SECOND YEAR

Another new initiative that was started this past school year was T-CART (Transportation Construction Apprenticeship Readiness Training), a collaborative effort among Chicago-area community based organizations and the Apprenticeship Skill and Improvement Program of Local 150 and the Chicagoland Laborers' District Council Apprenticeship Fund.

The goal of the T-CART Program, which is funded by IDOT, is to insure increased participation of minority groups, disadvantaged persons, and females in all phases of the highway construction industry.

T-CART will begin again in September. The community partners are the Chicago Urban League, Austin Peoples Action Center, Black Chamber of Commerce of Lake County, and United Services of Chicago, all of which provide the candidates.



 **CISCO's Education-to-Careers Director Johnetta Ryan met with Lamar Rogers, (left) from Partners in Community Building and Bill Browne of the Cook County Department of Veterans during a recent Veterans Resource Fair held at Thornton Township Hall in South Holland on June 6. Partners in Community Building presented the event. The purpose of the Fair was to demonstrate ways to help veterans in their daily lives including housing, employment, VA benefits, legal advice and more.**

CISCO Legislative Committee Update



With the legislators now adjourned, the following represents a portion of the action taken on bills by the General Assembly that the CISCO Legislative Committee has identified as important to the union construction industry:

HB 3794 (Capital Bill)

– Passed both chambers to jump start a \$1.1 billion

projects bill. The legislation stipulates it shall be for preliminary engineering, construction engineering and contract costs of construction, including reconstruction, extension and improvement of state and local highways, arterial highways, roads, access areas, roadside shelters, rest areas and fringe parking facilities and sanitary facilities.

SB 3224 (Capital Bill Funding) – This is the funding mechanism that is paying for the capital bill. The plan will be paid for, in part, through higher vehicle registration fees put in place in the late 1990s. Passed both chambers as well.

HB 924 (Responsible Bidder Ordinance) – Calls for a state-wide Responsible Bidder Ordinance on all public projects. This bill amends the Prevailing Wage Act, and provides that a public body shall specify in the call for bids that each bidder/contractor participates in a USDOL-approved apprenticeship

program. The bill was amended to address the minority concerns by requiring identification and reporting of the public body in charge of the project the number of hours worked by minorities and females.

SB 3287 (Workers Comp Amendment) – This legislation was passed by both chambers and was recently signed into law by Governor Quinn (Public Act 098-0633). This legislation eliminates the workers' compensation exclusive remedy/immunity enjoyed by service companies that provide safety consulting unless those companies are wholly-owned by the employer, insurance broker or the insurer. This bill overturns the 2012 Appellate Court decision, *Mockbee v. Humphrey Manlift*.

HB 3793 – State lawmakers finally took an important first step in paying off some of the debt owed to many state employees for back wages earned from July 2011 to July 2013. The bill also appropriated, among other things, an additional:

- \$13 million grant for sewage and waste disposal facilities;
- \$10 million grant to Uptown Theatre. Uptown is the largest theatre in Chicago, with over 46,000 square feet;
- \$40 million from the School Infrastructure Fund for school maintenance grants; and
- \$35 million to CPS for school construction.

Prevailing Wage Seminar Set For Thursday, September 11

CISCO will join forces with the Indiana-Illinois-Iowa Foundation for Fair Contracting, PAMCANI, The Underground Contractors Association, and the Plumbing Contractors Association of Chicago and Cook County to offer a FREE Prevailing Wage Seminar from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 11 at the Doubletree Suites in Downers Grove, Illinois.

Representatives of the Illinois Department of Labor and the Attorney General's Office will be on hand as the seminar will cover updates to the Prevailing Wage, Employee Misclassification and Freedom of Information Acts. In addition, the latest news on Responsible Bidder Ordinances will be featured.

The seminar is ideal for public body personnel, purchasing managers, elected officials, union contractors and building trades members. Registration will begin at 8 a.m. and the program will run from 9 a.m. - noon. Lunch will be served at noon followed by a recap beginning at 1 p.m.

Sponsorships opportunities are being offered at amounts of \$500 or \$1,000.

For more information, about sponsorships, please contact **Marc Poulos, III-FFC Executive Director at 815-254-3332**.



2000 Spring Road
Suite 110
Oak Brook, IL 60523

www.cisco.org

July 2014

Visit us and LIKE us
on facebook, too!
www.facebook.com



PRESORTED
FIRST CLASS
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
CHICAGO, IL
PERMIT NO. 2785



*Scan this QR
code with your
smartphone reader
for instant access to
the CISCO website
to obtain additional
information about
CISCO programs and
events.*

CISCO Communicator is published by the Construction Industry Service Corporation (CISCO). CISCO is a labor-management group bringing together unions of the building trades and construction contractor associations representing more than 140,000 construction workers and 8,000 contractors in the six county Chicago Metropolitan area.

CISCO MISSION STATEMENT

It is the primary mission of CISCO to strengthen the unionized construction market in the greater Chicago Metropolitan area. In support of this mission, CISCO will perform three major roles: 1) Serve as a forum to facilitate dialogue between contractors and building trades union leaders concerning mutual problems and concerns; 2) Serve as a clearinghouse for information on the local construction industry; 3) Serve as a promotional group to encourage union construction with the user community and the general public. As a joint labor-management organization, CISCO will focus on cooperative efforts to reduce problems and conflicts and enhance the competitiveness of union construction. Through its activities, CISCO will build trust between the parties and will foster the joint commitment of local contractors and union labor to high quality, on-time, within budget delivery on all projects.

**Suggestions, story ideas, or comments should be directed to
CISCO at: 2000 Spring Road, Suite 110, Oak Brook, IL 60523**

Contact Us At: Toll-free 877-562-9411, (630)472-9411,
Fax: (630)472-9413, or e-mail gary@cisco.org

Executive Director: Dan Allen
Education-to-Careers Director: Johnetta Ryan
Managing Editor: Gary Karafiat
Office Manager: Julia Mulvey

CISCO is a registered Illinois Servicemark for the Construction Industry Service Corporation.

New Information

NAME: _____

ORGANIZATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____

ZIP CODE: _____

PHONE: _____ FAX: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

Would you like to receive any of the following items?

Just check the appropriate item and return this form!

___ "Build Your Future" Apprenticeship Program Guide

___ "Union Construction" Bumper Sticker

___ Pre-Apprentice "Basic Skills" Training Guide (\$30 per book)