



Page 2:  
UnderConstruction  
wraps up



Pages 3:  
'Pre-Job'  
training

# apprenticeship

# WORKS

## Ironworkers welcome new, returning apprentices at event

Issue No. 5

On the wall of the Local 512 Ironworkers training center is a quote: "Man builds, and by so doing—puts his mark on time."

To continue that tradition the ironworkers hosted a kick-off event on Aug. 20 for returning apprentices and to welcome the new class of apprentices who were joining their ranks.

Director Larry Gilbertson acted as an enthusiastic master of ceremonies, awarded prizes for skills competitions and outlined the new services for apprentices.

Gilbertson announced a new mentor program for all apprentices and shared details about another new group to support female apprentice ironworkers. Both programs will be geared toward creating ideas and strategies for recruiting and retaining apprentices. All the journeyworkers who were asked



This year there are nine new female apprentices who will nearly double the number of women ironworkers currently in the program's ranks.

by Gilbertson to participate in these programs committed to help the new apprentices by offering advice, support and guidance.

Several business agents addressed the assembly and advised apprentices to keep their "noses to the grind stone" and

do their best to prepare for the third year exam. Another agent said he was glad to see so many attendees with dirty shirts because that meant that the apprentices were out in the field working. One consistent message echoed by all of the presenters was to take advantage of all the training the Local 512 JATC has to offer.

DLI Apprenticeship Director Johnnie Burns welcomed the new apprentices and told them that the hard work to complete an apprenticeship would build a great career. He also spoke optimistically about the volume of building projects on the horizon in the Twin Cities.

### More information

Read more about the Local 512 Ironworkers training center at [www.ironworkers512.com](http://www.ironworkers512.com).

Fall  
2013

## State of Minnesota Construction Industry Conference slated for Feb. 6, 2014

Event will feature industry partners, state agencies, workshops, a trade show and more



The State of Minnesota and its construction industry partners will host the first-ever Minnesota Construction Industry Conference Feb. 6, 2014, in the Twin Cities.

This one-day conference will provide educational and networking opportunities for highway/heavy, commercial building and residential contractors, plus informative general sessions for the entire construction

industry. The event will update construction industry members about current regulations and rules and provide an opportunity for attendees to share ideas with the state officials about how to build a better Minnesota.

Along with the general sessions, each construction industry sector will have five workshops and the event will also include a panel discussion with state commissioners and trade show. Learn more about the conference at [www.dli.mn.gov/construction](http://www.dli.mn.gov/construction).

## Two dozen young workers wrap-up UnderConstruction projects Over eight weeks, participants completed several building projects in St. Paul

The UnderConstruction Program (UCP) is no ordinary youth program. It's not summer camp either. UCP is an educational program for metro area high school students to "earn while they learn" in the model of apprenticeship for construction industry careers. The interns also develop the skills needed to be an employable worker.

For eight weeks this summer, 24 young workers between the ages of 16 and 21 came together to build a garage and complete several other projects in the Frogtown neighborhood of St. Paul. Safety is a high priority with the program and the interns received OSHA 10 certification from Minnesota OSHA's Workplace Safety Consultation and came away with a zero-injury summer.

When the interns were not busy with hammers and saws, they were touring apprenticeship training centers such as the Electrical Workers, Sheet Metal, Ironworkers, Laborers, Finishing Trades and Brick and Tile.

The field trip experiences also included demonstrations from energy specialists from The Neighborhood Energy Connection to learn how to make old homes more energy efficient. McGough Construction hosted a tour of a project at St. Paul's Ordway Center for the Performing Arts where the interns learned about the role of a project manager and challenges of completing a building and renovation project in the heart of a downtown area.

The UCP interns also developed resumes and practiced interviewing skills. Shortly before graduation, they took part in a question-and-answer session with a panel of industry



An UnderConstruction intern, left, works with a trainer during a garage construction project.

professionals including a female journey-worker carpenter and the first female Hmong project manager in the United States who was a UCP intern in the summers of 2005 and 2006.

### More information

For more information about UnderConstruction, contact DLI's Mary DesJarlais at [mary.desjarlais@state.mn.us](mailto:mary.desjarlais@state.mn.us) or Program Director Ethan Laubach at [underconstruction2008@comcast.net](mailto:underconstruction2008@comcast.net).

## Medtronic, Inc. graduates tool maker apprentice

Medtronic Inc. graduated its first apprentice as a tool maker from its 8,000 hour program in September. Congratulations to Alex Van Orsdol!

Pictured from left to right are: Karen Dale, vice president of sourcing for Medtronic Inc.; Guy Thayer, tooling supervisor at Medtronic Inc.; apprentice Alex Van Orsdol and Johnnie Burns, DLI's director of apprenticeship.



## Agency experts available for speaking engagements

DLI staff members regularly speak to community, industry and school groups about issues that affect employees, employers, property owners and other DLI stakeholders.

As part of its outreach efforts to stakeholders, DLI's speakers bureau can provide interested parties with a knowledgeable speaker in an array of topics. For more details visit [www.dli.mn.gov/speakers.asp](http://www.dli.mn.gov/speakers.asp).

## Apprenticeship performance measurements July, August and September 2013

	July	Aug.	Sept.
<b>Sponsor information</b>			
Active sponsors	309	306	306
New sponsors	0	0	0
New occupations	0	0	0
<b>Apprentice information</b>			
Total apprentices	7,198	7,417	7,739
Females	473	471	513
Minorities	1,120	1,150	1,253
Veterans	225	233	250
New apprentices	442	404	434
Graduations	63	76	53
<b>Services to sponsors and apprentices</b>			
Service calls	218	171	176
Information calls	98	94	94
Compliance reviews	3	4	1
Supervisory visits	9	7	7
VA visits	1	0	0
New standards	0	0	3
Revised standards	3	0	0
Community outreach visits	14	12	10
Technical assistance visits to sponsors	8	8	10
Prospective sponsor visits	16	4	5



A trainee works with a tile saw during a program nicknamed The Pre-Job. The six-week program provided an introduction to bricklaying and tile work.

## Successful 'Pre-Job' program helps meet demand for new workers

Rick Martagon, apprenticeship coordinator for Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers Local No. 1, ran a six week training program this summer for tile finishers and bricklayers that he nicknamed "The Pre-Job".

The group of trainees ranged in age from 18 to 37, although the majority were in their early 20s. Martagon ran this introduction-to-the-industry class in response to the post-recession request from his Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (JATC) to help meet the demand for new workers.

The students in the group were recruited from high schools, local community-based organizations and referrals from Local No. 1 members. Martagon received financial support to run The Pre-Job from the St. Paul's Section 3 program and Ramsey County Vocational-Rehabilitation and Resource, Inc., although almost half of the students paid their own program fee of \$700.

Martagon said he believes that all the trades should run similar programs. The Pre-Job program has provided dedicated and focused craftspeople ready to join the workforce. He reported that when he initiates his own program, he doesn't need to rely on the

'Pre-Job' continues on Page 4



[T]he group came out of the program with strong first-year apprentice knowledge so they can start producing right away."

– Rick Martagon

# Laborers Training Center opens door to the trades for many

The Skilled Construction Craft Laborer Apprenticeship Program is a thriving training program that offers highly technical instruction and certification in many technical areas including:

- safety
- skilled building construction
- leadership training
- plaster tending
- environmental remediation
- hospital protocol
- pipeline construction
- welding and
- highway-heavy skills.

To become a journeyworker certified in a particular field, the laborer apprentice must complete 288 training hours and 4,000 work hours.

The Construction Craft Laborers Training Fund currently has a 44,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art training facility in Lino Lakes, Minn. The facility is undergoing an extensive renovation to expand and update the number of classrooms, update training labs and add storage. Officials

are also planning to add part-time trainers to serve their members.

The CCL program is the largest of the construction apprenticeship programs monitored by DLI with membership in mid-September exceeding 2,200 apprentices.

The program also serves as an entry-point into the industry for a diverse workforce. Females make up 7 percent of the organization's apprentices and minority men are represented at nearly 20 percent.

The center averages more than 110,000 training hours each year with apprentices completing more than 63,000 of those hours.

## More information

Learn more about the Laborers Training Center at [www.ltcmn.org](http://www.ltcmn.org).

Visit <http://go.usa.gov/DwvP> to view a slideshow of images.



Above, Coordinator Dean Mills explains the procedure for confined space training at the Construction Craft Laborers training facility in Lino Lakes.



At right, apprentices work on a project at the training center. The facility is undergoing an extensive renovation to expand and update classrooms, labs and add storage.

Continued from Page 3

## Successful 'Pre-Job' program helps meet demand for new workers

local training organizations to deliver participants. He also has the power to hand-pick the entire group and was surprised by their level of intensity and focus.

"The young people especially understood what was in front of them and they took the opportunity seriously." He added that students' dedication was likely because he has had previous contact with many of them during their senior year at

Dakota Area Learning Center and other high school outreach events where he conducted a number of hands-on experiential classes last winter. "They knew exactly what they were getting into," he said.

The trainees practiced new skills at the training center and also gained some real-world experience by tiling restrooms and a common area for Hope Community Church in Minneapolis. All of the trainees

received certifications in OSHA 10 and first aid and CPR. Martagon said that "the group came out of the program with strong first year apprentice knowledge so they can start producing right away."

All the work of running the Pre-Job paid off when the program concluded in July and Martagon was able to place 15 out of the 18 graduates with brick and tile contractors.