



# CISCO

## CONSTRUCTION NEWS BRIEFS

Construction Industry Service Corporation - [www.cisco.org](http://www.cisco.org) - 630.472.9411 - Dan Allen, Executive Director

### SPRINKLER FITTERS 281 COMPLETES OUR LADY OF ANGELS INSTALLATION

On Wednesday, members of Sprinkler Fitters Local 281, the Chicago Fire Department and officials at our Lady of Angels Church, celebrated the installation of a modern fire sprinkler system throughout the same building that sits on the site of where one of this country's most devastating fires occurred.

Local 281 donated the money to cover labor costs from the U.S. Alliance Fire Protection, which in turn, donated the design, engineering and materials for the project. Also, sprinkler fitter, plumbers and pipefitter unions installed the system free of charge.



The \$400,000 project was overseen by Local 281. Business Manager Tom Collins said he was in disbelief when he learned the building

only had fire sprinklers in the basement.

"We are extremely proud and happy that we were able in some small way to assist Our Lady of Angels' mission and the last memory of those who perished on that fateful day," he said.



*Top photo: Pipes from the new fire sprinkler system are shown. Lower photo: prayers to remember those who perished in 1958 are given.*

### BRICKLAYERS AND ALLIED CRAFT WORKERS TO BE FEATURED IN "CONSTRUCTION TALKS" - OCT. 16

The month of October will feature the Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers Apprenticeship Program and Training Center as CISCO and the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) continue its "Construction Talks" series.

Apprenticeship Coordinators Stan Kulasik (Bricklayers), Gavin Collier (Tile Setters) and Jose Miramontes (Tuckpointers) appear in the webinar.

The webinar airs at Noon on Friday, Oct. 16th, and highlights the Apprenticeship Program and affiliated contractors that make the Joint Training Center successful.

To register, go to: <http://bit.ly/ConstructionTalks10162020>.



*One of the 3rd year Bricklayer apprentices who was interviewed and will be featured in Friday's webinar is Ashley Wilkins, above, who is also a member of Chicago Women in Trades. She was asked what advice to young people would she give who are interested in a successful career in the trades.*

*She said "to always be willing and open to learning, and make sure you are on time for work everyday - and on time means before your start time."*

### CARPENTERS AND IBEW 134 HOLD JOINT FOOD DRIVE

Recently, members of the Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters and IBEW Local 134 joined forces to coordinate a Food Drive that was held at the Carpenters' satellite facility at 2141 S. Union Avenue in Chicago.



*Members of both IBEW 134 and the Carpenters passed out food to needy members.*

The local unions donated food to union members that are unemployed of who's families have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.



*Members who were on hand to help during the food drive posed in front of the Carpenters Training Center.*

"We were proud to team up with our Carpenter brothers and sisters to help our members during these rough times amid the pandemic," said IBEW Local 134 Business Manager Don Finn.

**Editor's Note: Event photographs courtesy of the Carpenters.**

*More news and photos on the back page.*

# CISCO ON THE MOVE

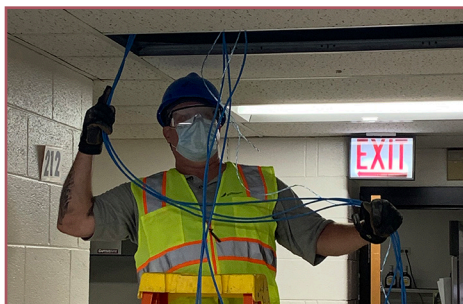
## CONTRACTORS STEP UP FOR CISCO COMMUNITY PARTNER

Another great story of 2020 started with a drinking fountain.

One of CISCO's Community Partners - Gateway to Learning (GTL) - a Chicago-based special education and training center, needed a new drinking fountain that was more COVID-19 friendly.

When PCAGC Executive Director S.J. Peters learned of the need, the CISCO Board VP contacted one of his own board members – John Baethke, Director of John Baethke & Son Plumbing in Chicago to install the drinking fountain.

Next up, Powering Chicago and the IBEW volunteered to assist Gateway to Learning by hard wiring their building for proper connectivity after hearing the WiFi infrastructure needed an upgrade and the students were in danger of the upcoming school year being compromised.



*A member of Jamerson and Bauwens Electric works on the ethernet wiring.*

"Gateway needed to have hardwire ethernet connectivity throughout their facility. When we were first confronted with the ask, Jamerson and Bauwens Electric — one of our Powering Chicago partners — was eager to be put to the task to provide them with their service," said Powering Chicago Director Elbert Walters III.

But the giving didn't stop there!

Gateway to Learning's Executive Director sent this thank you to CISCO Executive Director Dan Allen:

"A huge thank you to CISCO, the contractors, workers and the work done last year by the Carpenters, who all made this dream a reality," said Kathryn Lavin, GTL's Executive Director.

"Through the support of an anonymous donor, we will be adding new computers to each classroom to expand both e-learning and program resources. This is a game changer, and we are so grateful."

## CONSTRUCTION NEWS



The United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) awarded a \$20 million BUILD Grant to the City of Joliet in support of the I-55 at IL 59 Access Project.

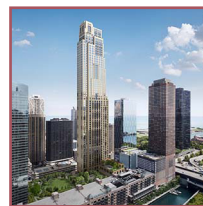
CISCO has written a letter of support to Department of Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao, Governor Pritzker and Senators Tammy Duckworth and Dick Durbin strongly urging the USDOT to consider contributing to cost.

Besides the transportation benefits CISCO described in the letter, the improved access to this interstate intersection will enable development of hundreds of acres involving private investment initiatives.

By making possible just one of these investments of approximately \$800 million by a major developer, the I-55 at IL-59 Access Project will enable the generation of \$1.4 billion in new tax revenue over 20 years, with the creation of 8,000 new union construction jobs and 5,000 new permanent jobs.

One of the many groups that worked on this project -ThomsonWeir - notified CISCO: "Obviously, this is a significant development which will reduce the project cost and we are very grateful for your support," said Michael Thomson, Firm partner.

## PROJECT OF THE YEAR PROGRAM UP AND RUNNING - DEADLINE: DEC. 4TH



CISCO'S Project of the Year Award is kicking off its 16th year of accepting applications for some of the best construction

projects of the past 18 months. (June 2019 – December 2020).

The award gives general contractors, owners, engineers and architects a chance to submit projects in six different categories that include the areas of new construction, renovation/rehabilitation, residential construction and infrastructure.

Deadline for applications is 5:00 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, 2020. **The application form is online - [www.cisco.org/projects-of-the-year/](http://www.cisco.org/projects-of-the-year/).**

For more information, contact Gary Karafiat, by email: [gary@cisco.org](mailto:gary@cisco.org).

## SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM UNDERWAY FOR 2021 AWARDS

CISCO has begun to accept applications for its long-standing Annual Scholarship Awards Program. Applications for this program are available by choosing one of the three types of scholarship awards below.



The three scholarship program categories are: 1) Four-year college scholarships for high school seniors; 2) Two-year awards for seniors planning on attending a community college; and 3) Two-year continuing education awards to union members or contractor employees.

For more information/questions, call CISCO at (630) 472-9411.

