



# CONNECTIONS

Western Ohio Chapter • National Electrical Contractors Association



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January, 2016

## URS *Fourteenth Annual Telethon*

The United Rehabilitation Services (URS) held their fourteenth annual telethon at WDTN TV Channel 2 studios on Sunday, December 6, 2015. The presenting sponsor this year was the Western Ohio Chapter of the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 82. Several volunteers were on hand to take calls from donors.

This is one of the biggest fundraisers for the URS and was a huge success! They set a new record of collecting over \$130,000! Executive Director Dennis Grant was elated with the number of volunteers that participated in the telethon, and the amount of contributions collected.

IBEW Local 82 Business

Manager Greg Gust opened the telethon. "Over the last nine years, IBEW Local 82 has donated \$55,000 to the URS and we will continue to support their efforts," says



Volunteers include (from left) IBEW Local 82 Business Manager Greg Gust, Kim Gust, and Allison Zelinskas.



Volunteer Jody Steinbarger from IBEW Local 82.

Greg. "I recommend that everyone take the opportunity to tour the URS facility. It is humbling to see the work they do and it will win over your heart."

A big thank you to all the volunteers who fielded the phones for donations during the telethon: Greg Gust, IBEW Local 82 and his wife Kim; Jody Steinbarger with IBEW Local 82; and Allison Zelinskas.

For over 50 years, United Rehabilitation Services has been providing hope for families around the Miami Valley. The URS began in the 1940s as an informal support group created by parents advocating for their children with cerebral palsy. Founded in 1956 as an official organization, URS offers a wide variety of services for people with disabilities and their families, including: adult daycare, adult latch key, augmentative communications,

the Berry Hearing Center, childcare for six weeks to nine years, community employment, hearing aid sales and service, home-based personal care, in-home respite care, latch key



As presenting sponsor, Business Manager IBEW Local 82 Greg Gust thanks the URS for their service to the community. Mark Allen (right), Anchor with Channel 2 works the telethon annually.

program for youth 10 to 18 years old, physical therapy, occupational therapy, aquatic therapy, senior daycare, speech pathology, and vocational training.

## Chapel Electric assists UD Senior solar project

University of Dayton (UD) Seniors in electrical engineering must complete a Senior project. This year, the "UD Lamp Post Solar Power/Battery Storage Project" was initiated by Steven Kendig from UD Facilities Management. Chris

Kaylor of Heapy Engineering and Jeff Serrer, Vice President, Estimating of Chapel Electric have been volunteering their time and services to the UD electrical engineering students over the past several weeks, to assist them with this endeavor.

The goal of the project is to demonstrate the potential for solar power on campus by designing and implementing an energy storage system that will power five pole lights on campus near the RecPlex using the existing solar PV array. The project guidelines require that

the system must switch to grid after the battery discharges; no exterior modification can be made on the lights; and the lights must be powered for a maximum 16 hour period. It was determined based on the National Electrical Code that

Cont'd pg.2

# American Apprenticeship Grants

The Obama Administration recently made an unprecedented investment of \$175 million in American Apprenticeship Grants to help expand this proven model into new occupations, new industries, and new communities. It's part of the President's challenge to double and diversify the number of apprentices in America by 2019.

The winning grantees have pledged to train and hire more than 34,000 new apprentices in industries as diverse as healthcare, IT, and advance manufacturing over the next five years. Hands-on apprenticeships where workers earn and learn at the same time are a proven path to good, secure careers.

Apprenticeships that embed industry-recognized skills certifications or reward workplace learning with college credit provide an affordable educational pathway for those who need to earn while they learn, and apprenticeships linked to pre-apprenticeship programs can help more Americans access

this training and get on an early pathway to a good career. American Apprenticeship grantees are pioneering novel means to link apprenticeship to college, career, and further learning, such as the national



*Classroom training.*

electrical apprenticeship organization, the *electrical training ALLIANCE* (ETA).

The ETA was selected to receive \$4.7 million to fund their Pre-Apprenticeship Program to increase employment and training opportunities in targeted industry occupations within the electrical industry including: Electrical Engineers, Civil Engineers, and Network Administrators.

The Pre-APP program proposes to serve 1000 apprentices in 5 years (200 each year) from 13 proposed electrical training centers across the United States by

building a pre-apprenticeship curriculum based on apprenticeship requirements, creating pre-apprenticeship opportunities for underrepresented populations, and increasing skilled workers for the electrical industry.

One of the 13 training centers selected is located in Columbus, Ohio: the Electrical Trades Center sponsored by the International Brotherhood of Electric Workers (IBEW) Local 683 and the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) of Central Ohio.



*Over \$65,000 in materials was donated to construct this lab. The BICSI facility will allow successful apprentices in the Sound and Communication Program to graduate with BICSI Installer II Copper and Fiber certifications. Continuing education certifications for graduates will also be available.*

The Dayton Electrical Trades Center also offers a pre-apprenticeship program where both paid, on-job-training and course work are offered. Those who are successful in the program have an opportunity to enter the apprenticeship program.



*Hands on training.*

Two career paths are offered through the Dayton electrical apprenticeship program: Inside Wireman and Sound and Communication. The Inside Wireman program is five years and focuses on electrical installations for commercial and industrial projects. The Sound and Communication program is three years. These apprentices work with systems integration, including security systems, nurse call, computer networks, CCTV and more.

For more information, please visit: [www.daytonohiojtc.org](http://www.daytonohiojtc.org).

## UD Project *cont'd.*

the system can remain in operation during a grid failure.

The goal of the engineering department and the students is to utilize the lessons learned from this project to not only provide real world experience, but also to become the basis for future larger scale implementations throughout the University campus if deemed cost effective.

The total cost of this project is \$14,000, half of which

was secured through UD's Hanley Sustainability Institute. Recently, the Dayton



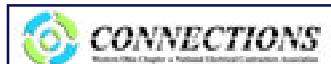
*Five lights surrounding the RecPlex are now solar powered.*

Labor Management Cooperation Committee (LMCC) comprised of members

from the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 82 and the Western Ohio Chapter of the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) donated

the additional \$7,000 required to complete this project. The LMCC feels this is a

worthwhile investment for the institution and for an outstanding group of young people that could very well become future leaders in the electrical industry.



*January, 2016*

Your comments, suggestions and questions are welcome! Contact the Western Ohio Chapter - NECA.

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# Consumer Electronic Show 2016

From robotic dogs to inflatable ski vests, the CES Show in Las Vegas always provides a few eye-opening gadgets. Here are a few.

## Withings Go.

The Withings Go is an activity tracker. It counts your steps, it tracks your calories, it measures how far you've traveled. But you'll be more interested in the Go for what it doesn't do: Run out of battery. The Go will last as much as eight months without needing a recharge. It survives that long because instead of a battery-draining LCD display, the Go opts for E Ink, the kind you've seen in a Kindle. And



like an e-reader display, you can view it in direct sunlight, a handy feature for a device that's designed for people who spend a decent amount of time outdoors.

The Go's also water-resistant, and automatically recognizes when users start swimming rather than walking or running. Even if it were just a simple step-tracker, though, it would be worth the \$70 price tag just for the comfort of knowing you only had to plug it in once a year.

## Xcooter.

The Xcooter is a folding electric scooter. Produced by Miami-based Smart-Rhino, it is meant to be a last mile solution. It's not exactly a "scooter"—you don't push with your feet—but it offers a sizable range of 15 miles. It can hit a top speed of 17 mph.

That's pretty quick considering how unsubstantial the Xcooter



feels and it's no harder to ride than a bicycle.

Once you've arrived wherever you were going, you can fold up the aluminum alloy, 42-pound scooter in a few seconds and wheel it into a corner or a closet. The charger resembles what you get when you buy a Toshiba, plugs into a 110-volt outlet, and can fill the Samsung-produced battery in three to four hours.

## Robotic Legos

Remember the Legos you played with? These aren't those Legos. The Lego Education project combines Legos with learning. It combines coding and robotics projects for kids with Legos, so instead of just putting together a spaceship, you can create Mini Milo, a little one-eyed robot that you program via Lego's learning system. As



you can imagine, it's a super easy-to-use UI, and it's meant to be used in classrooms. The projects get harder and harder as you go on—the whole point, of course, is to integrate this type of learning into the elementary classroom.

## CHiP Robotic Dog

CHiP Robotic Dog is a seriously cute robotic pet. Maker WowWee Robotics calls CHiP the "ultimate AI Robotic Dog," and they may be right: CHiP has an AI-based personality that will adapt as you play with him, plus he can recognize you, respond to commands, play fetch and



soccer, and you can even use an app on your mobile device to teach him tricks. Think of him as a playful pup that you won't have to clean up after.

## Smart Ski Airbag Vest

This air bag vest wraps around your torso and is supposed to cushion even the most serious spills on the slopes. It analyzes your movements to tell when you've lost your balance and



then inflates an air bag — in less than 100 milliseconds — to protect you. It will even send you data to help you understand why you fell so you can avoid the next fall. The price tag for this one is steep, so it's probably only of interest to serious skiers. The Airbag Vest will retail for \$1,200 and be available this summer.

## SMARTwheel

You know you shouldn't be texting while driving, but when your phone dings at you ...

you're kind of tempted to check it anyway, aren't you? Distracted driving caused 3,154 deaths and 424,000 injuries in 2013. Enter the SMARTwheel, a steering wheel cover that alerts you with lights and sounds when it senses movements that suggest distracted driving — like having one hand off the wheel for too long or having your hands close together (suggesting you might be holding a smartphone and texting). SMARTwheel will retail for \$200 and be available around the middle of the year

## Sensorwake Alarm Clock

There are all sorts of smart clocks that claim they're the



best way to wake up, from the Clocky alarm that runs away from you to the Philips Wake-Up light that wakes you with a sunrise-like glow — but this is the first alarm that uses scents. It can wake you with the smell of coffee, croissants, chocolate, peppermint or even the smells of the seaside or jungle. Interchangeable capsules — good for 30 uses each — let you switch scents whenever you'd like. And, just



in case, there's backup sound alarm, too. Sensorwake will retail for \$110 this June.





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[www.wocneca.org](http://www.wocneca.org)



### Team Building Night Awards Banquet

The Builders Exchange of Dayton and the Subcontractors Association of Western Ohio (SAWO) are sponsoring the **Thirteenth Annual Team Building Night** on February 4, 4-8pm at the Ponitz Center Sinclair College.

In addition to great networking opportunities, awards of excellence will be presented to leaders in the construction industry.

- BX Craftsmanship Awards
- BX Project Manager Award
- BX Architectural and Engineering Awards
- SAWO Subcontractor of the Year
- SAWO General Contractor of the Year
- SAWO Architect/Engineer of the Year
- SAWO Public Official of the Year
- And many other industry recognitions.

Visit [www.bxdayton.org](http://www.bxdayton.org) for more information.

### The Western Ohio Chapter - National Electrical Contractors Association Directory:

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Chapel Electric Company  
Chapel-Romanoff Technologies  
ESI Electrical Contractors  
GEM  
High Voltage Maintenance  
Kastle Electric Company  
Kastle Technologies  
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RMF Nooter  
Sidney Electric Company  
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