



Geared Toward The Future

NORTHWEST CENTRAL ILLINOIS

WORKS

Fall2018

The Workforce Board covering Bureau, Carroll, Jo Daviess, LaSalle, Lee,
Ogle, Putnam, and Whiteside Counties.



NCI Works and BEST, Inc. Congratulate Our Fall Graduates

NCI Works and BEST, Inc would like to congratulate our Fall Semester 2018 college graduates, GED/HSE graduates, and High School Diploma completers.

IVCC: Steven - Truck Driver Training/CDL, Ryan - Truck Driver Training/CDL, MacClelland - Truck Driver Training/CDL, Robert - Truck Driver Training/CDL Alisa - CNA, Monica - CNA, April - CNA, Alycia - CNA

LaSalle County ROE Diploma Program: Ethan - Diploma from Ottawa High School, Hailey - Diploma from Ottawa High School

Clinton Community College: Jordan - CNA

160 Driving Academy: Tammy - Truck Driver Training/CDL

Carroll/Jo Daviess/Stephenson Regional Office of Education: Karissa - GED/HSE

Bureau/Stark/Henry Regional Office of Education: Evan - GED/HSE

SVCC: Julie - Dental Assisting Certificate, Mike - Truck Driver Training/CDL, Dave - Truck Driver Training/CDL, Marilyn - OAS Administrative Assistant, Jessie - RN, Susan - RN, Vanessa - RN, Melissa - RN, Kaitlyn - RN, Jesse - RN, Raquel - RN, Brittany - RN, Nancy - Rad Tech, Gina - LPN, Richard - Welding, Tiffany - Multi-Craft, Andrew - HVAC,



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@NCIWorks

Also in This Issue:

- Annual Work in the Real World
- NCI Works Annual Employer Conference
 - Getting to Work! Podcast
 - Educational Pieces Available
 - Most Recent LMI:

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Blackhawk College: Sara - Physical Therapy Assistant (*graduated with honors*)

Lee/Ogle/Whiteside Regional Office of Education: Shane - GED/HSE, Sean - GED/HSE, June - GED/HSE, Collin - GED/HSE, Evelyn - GED/HSE, Johnna - GED/HSE, Stephanie - GED/HSE

NCI Works wishes each and every one of our graduates the best for a bright and successful future!!!!



Join us for our Podcast Series: Getting to Work

- Episode 1: Getting Ready to Work
- Episode 2: Changes in the Health Care Profession
- Episode 3: Interviewing Preparations
- Episode 4: Pursuing a Career in Manufacturing
- Episode 5: Building a Talent Pipeline
- Episode 6: Agriculture Careers in 2018 and Beyond

Check out the entire series at:

<http://gettingtowork.libsyn.com/website>

<https://workforcepods.com/podcasts/getting-to-work/>

Or, for Android Users, Download our Free App through Google Apps

Core Partners OF NCI WORKS

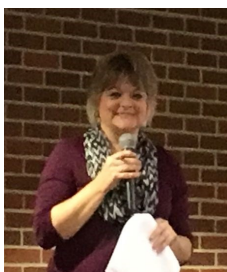
- ◆ Adult Education
- ◆ Business Employment Skills, Inc.
- ◆ Illinois Department of Employment Security
- ◆ Illinois Division of Rehabilitation Services

Area Teens Learn about Work and Careers at “Work in the Real World” at Sauk Valley Community College

Many of today's occupations did not exist a decade ago due to innovation and new technologies. On Friday, November 16, 2018, almost 300 high school students attended the “**Work in the Real World**” **Career Conference** held at Sauk Valley Community College (SVCC). Students from Amboy, Ashton-Franklin Center, Bureau Valley, Dixon, Erie, Ohio, Milledgeville, Morrison, Nachusa, Ohio, Oregon, Prophetstown and Thome attended this event to learn more about a wide variety of careers.

63 Representatives from Agriculture, Architecture, Art, Building Trades, Business, Computer Technology, Cosmetology, Criminal Justice, Digital Arts, Education, Engineering, Entrepreneurial, Healthcare, Hospitality, Human Services, Mechanics, Military, Music, Nursing, Logistics, Manufacturing and Welding shared information about job duties, needed skills, salary ranges and answered questions about what they look for in employees and how to be successful at work.

Students also participated in an Education Panel where they learned about options for education, financial aid and training during and after high school. The panel was led by Joe Bright of Sauk Valley Community College and consisted of Jerry Binder from Whiteside Area Career Center, Mandy Aldridge from Sauk Valley Community College, Scott Connelly from Morrison Institute of Technology and Arielle Kalvelage from Northern Illinois University.



Sally Hanrahan, Youth Coordinator, at BEST, Inc. said “The number of local businesses who leave their busy workplaces to come out and share information to high school students every year for this conference is humbling and speaks to the huge support businesses in the Sauk Valley area have for our youth.” This event was sponsored and coordinated by: BEST Inc, Sauk Valley Community College, and Northwest Illinois Area Health Education Center (AHEC).

Sally Hanrahan: BEST, Inc., Youth Coordinator

NCI Works recently launched a new initiative! NCI works is releasing a series of **Industry Briefs** designed to provide information on the current environment/trends of a given industry, challenges that industry is facing, most important skills needed, qualities most desired by employers, hiring opportunities within our local area, salary ranges for our area, what is good about working in that field, what might be not-so-good about working in that field. These **Industry Briefs** are available to the general public, educators, economic developers, parents, counselors, teachers to download at:

<http://www.nciworks.org/industry-briefs/>

It is the hope of NCI Works that, by making these briefs available, area students and job seekers will be able to make the best informed decision possible when it comes to deciding on a career or making a career change.

MARCH'S FEATURE INDUSTRY SECTOR WILL BE TOURISM

For more information on this initiative please contact Pam Furlan at pam_fulan@best-inc.org or call at 815-224-0375

NCI Works Hosts Annual Employer Conference and Awards Ceremony at Mendota Civic Center

September 28, 2018, NCI Works hosted its annual employer conference at the Mendota Civic Center. Guest speakers included Bruce Larson from the Illinois Department of Employment Security. Bruce presented a thorough update on Illinois' Unemployment Insurance and changes that had taken effect in 2018. Michael Cramer, Attorney at Law from Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P. C., presented an HR Law Update that focused on investigating and responding to workplace harassment complaints. Michael informed the group that it is more important than ever to properly investigate complaints of sexual harassment. Michael's presentation was an interactive session that followed a workplace investigation from initial complete to the HR Director's cross-examination at trial. Participants were given opportunities to critique how the case was handled at each phase of the investigation.

The keynote speaker was Lori Kleiman who spoke on operating in a world that is Volatile, Uncertain, Complex, and Ambiguous (VUCA). The interactive session had participants identifying the causes of a "VUCA" environment and how to identify where their business is on the continuum. Participants then identified the common needs of their workplace today and were given tips on how to align HR with the changes in the organization to ensure that they gain the resources needed to establish themselves as visionary team members to drive their organization forward.



Over lunch John Spencer, Program Director for La Salle County Broadcasting, was the Master of Ceremony for the annual recognition of WIOA participants, BEST Staff, NCI Works Board Members and Chief Elected Official that had reach milestones in their service to workforce development. John was assisted by Linda Burt of St. Margaret's Health and Co-Chair of NCI Works/Co-Chair of the conference committee and DeAnne White Co-Chair of the conference committee in presenting the awards.

John Spencer Master of Ceremony

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NCI Works meets the 4th Tuesday of the following months at
Illinois Valley Community College, Sauk Valley Community College, and
Carroll County Housing Authority via Electronic Meeting Capability at
5:30pm:

January	July
March	September
May	November

Meetings are open to the public.

(Location are subject to change. Please consult the NCI Works website,
www.nciworks.org, for updated meeting locations.)



DeAnne White presents
Linda Hessenberg her 10 year award



Linda Burt presents DeAnne with
Her 10 year award



DeAnne White presents Good
Samaritan the Business Leadership Award

Business Leadership Award

Good Samaritan Society of Mount Carroll

Individual Achievement Awards

Alysha Adams
Ashley Struve
Anthoni Patten

BEST Staff Recognition

Carrie Folken - 25 years
Paige Fritz - 30 years

NCI Works Board Member Recognition

Linda Hessenberger, Central Bank - 10 years
Cary Robbins, Sterling Steel Co., - 10 years
DeAnne White, Sinnissippi Centers - 10 years
Sara Escatel, IVCC Adult Ed - 10 years

BEST Board and Chief Elected Officials

James Duffy, Whiteside County Chair - 5 years
Kim Gouker, Ogle County Chair - 5 years
Kevine Reibel, Carroll County Chair - 5 years
Ron Smith, Jo Daviess County Board Designee - 5 years

Access to the services provided by each of these agencies is available at:

Southtowne Mall	2323 E Lincolnway
1550 First Avenue	Sterling, IL 61081
Ottawa, IL 61356	815-625-9648
815-434-3111	TTY: 800-526-0844

Northwest Central Illinois Works (NCI Works) is a locally appointed workforce board that oversees workforce development programs that are funded by millions of federal tax dollars for an eight-county area (Bureau, Carroll, Jo Daviess, LaSalle, Lee, Ogle, Putnam and Whiteside Counties).

October 2018 Unemployment Rate Most Recent Available:

National 3.5%
State of IL 4.2 %
LWIA 4 4.5%
Bureau Co 4.5%
Carroll Co. 4.0%
Jo Daviess Co. 3.8 %
LaSalle Co 5.1%
Lee Co 3.9%
Ogle Co 4.4%
Putnam Co 4.7%
Whiteside Co. 4.4%

Wondering what the NCI Works partners can do for your business? Our matrix of business services is available online at www.nciworks.org.

“The Labor Market Demographic is an invaluable resource for those of us involved in Economic Development. We use this information when responding to a number of “ request for information” such as: Grants, State Site Searches, Realtors, Retail , Disaster etc. Though you would think all would seek the same information, this is not the case. Having the very detailed breakdown in the Labor Market Demographic allows us to respond to specific Labor Market Demographic questions quickly and accurately.”

Boyd Palmer, Executive Director Ottawa Area Chamber of Commerce & Industry

Additional Labor Market Information is available at the NCI Works website at www.nciworks.org

Labor Force Data	Current Month (July 2018)
Employment	12,845
Average Annual Wage	\$42,083
Percentage Change Over 2017	-1.0%
Unemployment Rate:	4.5%
Industry	
Ag, Fishing, Forestry/Hunting	4,864
Mining/Quarrying/Oil/Gas	1,091
Utilities	1,931
Construction	5,578
Manufacturing	19,963
Wholesale Trade	5,130
Retail Trade	14,929
Transportation/Warehousing	8,905
Information	1,150
Finance/Insurance	3,856
Real Estate/Rental and Leasing	1,487
Professional Science/Technical	3,291
Management	378
Administrative Support	4,619
Educational	10,591
Health Care/Social Assistance	15,535
Arts/Entertainment/Recreation	1,527
Accommodation/Food Service	10,801
Other Services	5,684
Public Administration	7,110
Unclassified	25
Total All Industries	128,445
LWIA 4 Industry Employment Data/Source: Jobseq (2018Q3)	