



# reporter

ONLINE EXTRA

## *Michigan Contractors and Mid-Michigan MCA Participate in Green Jobs Conference*

May 11 brought together 1,400 stakeholders from business, education and training, labor, environmental, community and faith-based organizations for the Green Today, Jobs Tomorrow Conference at the Lansing Center. These stakeholders are working on various facets of creating a green economy. Organized as part of the No Worker Left Behind Green Jobs Initiative, the conference helped develop essential partnerships and multiple strategies to make Michigan a national leader in the green economy. The conference was attended by two prominent members of the Obama Administration: U.S. Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis and Van Jones, the White House Special Advisor on Green Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation.

UA Local 333 and the Mid-Michigan MCA co-sponsored the Mobile Green HVAC Classroom at the conference's exhibit. This state-of-the-art classroom provides workstations demonstrating the latest green and sustainable technologies in new construction and facilities renovation used in the heating, cooling and plumbing industry. John Reilly of UA Local 333, Chad Myers of Myers Plumbing & Heating, Keith Young of Shaw Winkler, and Jean Morgan of T.H. Eifert Mechanical Contractors assisted with the trailer demonstration, and Tom Eifert prepped and moved the trailer to the Lansing Center.

UA Local 333 and the Mid-Michigan MCA also participated in a panel discussion on "Building a Greener Tomorrow" which explained what it means to "build green" and provided examples of construction techniques. A forecast was included of the need for apprentices to assist in creating energy-efficient homes and buildings using energy-efficient, cost-effective and low-maintenance precuts for construction needs. The session also covered new construction technology and LEED® building credentials. The panel included: Dirk Powell, director of Construction Services for T.H. Eifert Mechanical Contractors; John Reilly, training director for UA Local 333; Lawrence Hidalgo, training director for IBEW Local 665; and Dave Jackson, apprenticeship representative for the Office of Apprenticeship, U.S. Department of Labor.

*See the following page for scenes from the conference.*

*Scenes from the Green Jobs Conference*



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