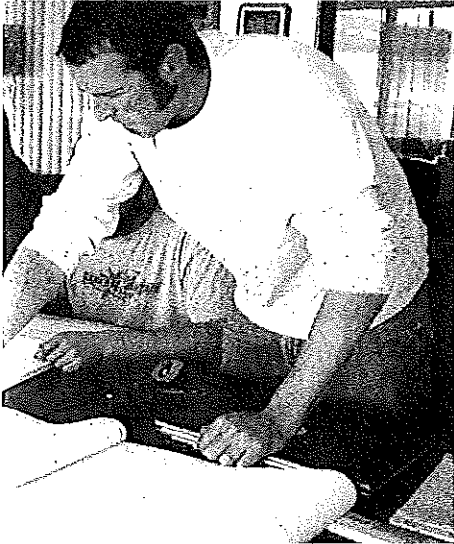


Committee and Awards Dinner December 9, Denver, Colorado.  
[www.commit.smartenergyliving.org](http://www.commit.smartenergyliving.org) for more information

## Students Helping to Non-Profits



Students (l-r) TJ Aubin, Israel Ben-Green, are reviewing the mechanical plans for the Easter

at Lakewood Community College students are participating in an energy audit course this semester. The students, one building at a time.

Ben-Green and TJ Aubin, a former commercial student, are charged with the task of auditing area non-profits in Lakewood this semester. They present their findings, solutions, and recommendations for consideration.

**Green** continued on p. 12

## Pre-Apprenticeship Coming to NM High Schools

by Jeff Polk

New Mexico high school juniors and seniors will soon have the opportunity to participate in a pre-apprenticeship training program. Senate Bill 46, introduced by Senator Bernadette Sanchez, passed in the 2009 legislature, and it created an opportunity for students statewide to begin trades education before graduating.

With help of trade groups such as MESA (Mechanical Electrical Sheetmetal Alliance), MCA (Mechanical Contractors Association), UA Local 412, NMSMCA (New Mexico Sheetmetal Contractors Association), SMW Local 49, NECA (National Electrical Contractors Association), and IBEW Local 611, the program will be training students.

Steve Crespin, Executive Director of MCA-NM, says, "We now have a method to promote rigorous,

competency-based applied learning for young people that may not be opting for enrollment to a post-secondary college." This is the tool in guiding young men and women into satisfying careers in the trades is now a reality.

The pre-apprenticeship courses offered to the students will be taught by industry pros who are willing to pass on their knowledge of their particular trade. The program will implement hands-on training, which according to Crespin, "gives students real-life experience, resulting in a solid foundation and direction upon graduation."

The Public Education Department's Career Technical and Workforce Education Bureau is currently developing the implementation rules for the program. Once complete, school

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West

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