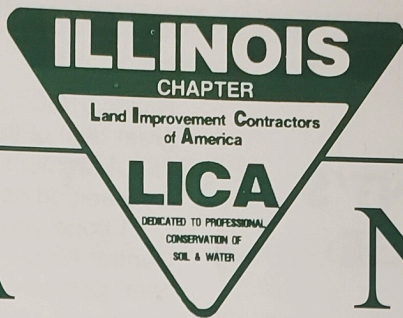
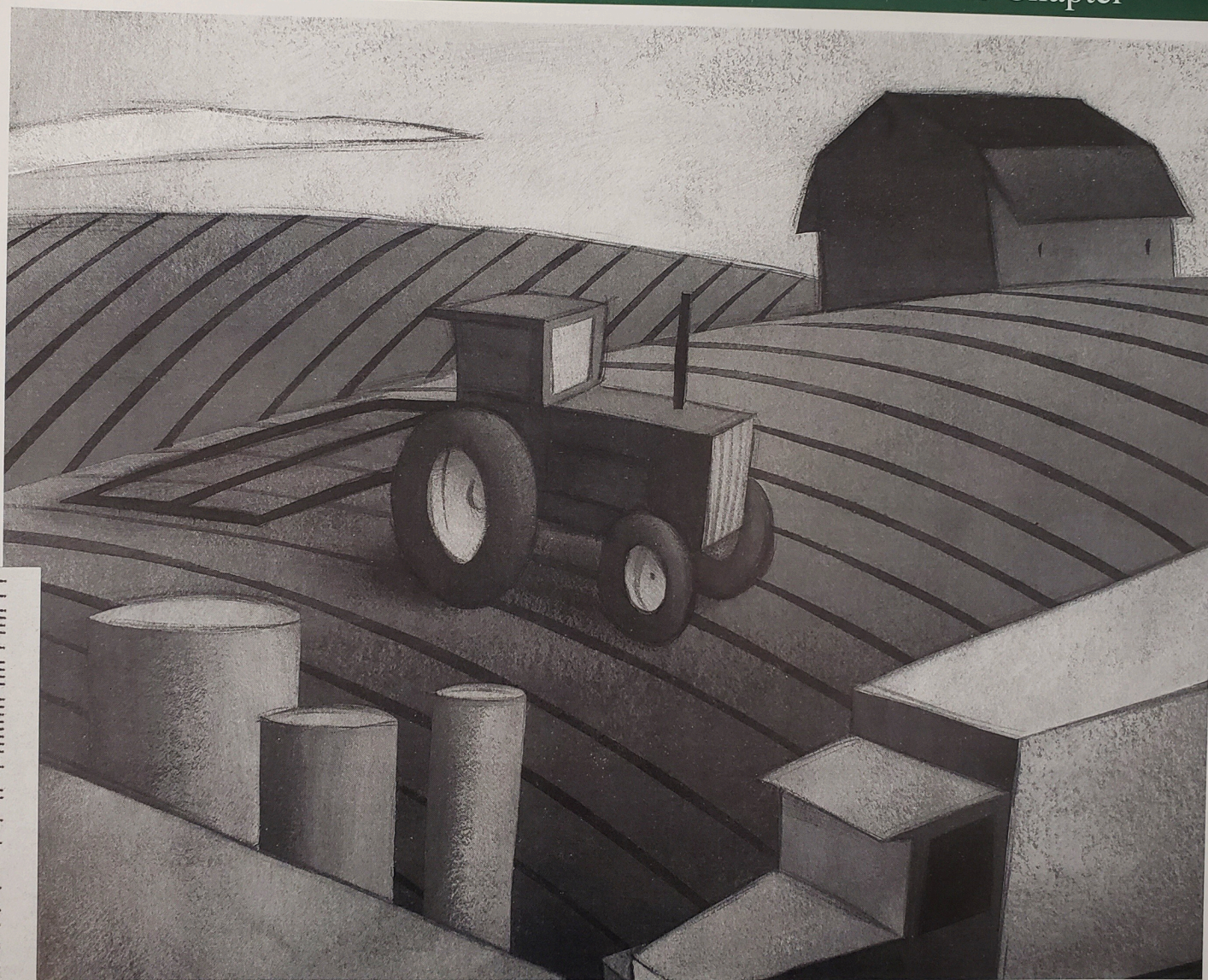




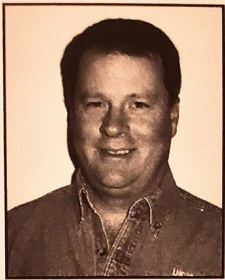
ILICA

NEWS

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello to everyone! It's that time of year again...Baseball season is well underway, crops have been going in (unless you are in a wet part of the state) and our Annual Picnic and Summer Golf Outing is right around the corner. I'd like to thank everyone for their attendance at the March Board Meeting. We had quite the crowd and were able to get a great deal of things accomplished. I hope to see you all at the May Board Meeting and Summer Outing as well.

As I said, our Summer Picnic and Golf Outing is scheduled for June 10th in Springfield, Illinois. You can find the information in this issue of the newsletter. We had a great time last summer in Geneseo, Illinois, I hope you all can attend. The Summer National Meeting is scheduled for July 18-22, 2006 in New Jersey. If you need additional information on registration you can contact Eileen at the

National LICA office or New Jersey LICA. It looks like a great deal of time and effort has gone into the planning for this Summer's meeting. We hope to see Illinois well represented as always.

I hope you all survived the storms that ripped through Central Illinois over the past several weeks. Hopefully the "wet" portion of Spring is somewhat behind us.

Again, please remember we are always open to new suggestions and ideas to strengthen ILICA. If you have any you would like to share please contact myself or the ILICA office.

Work safely and Go Cards!

Joe

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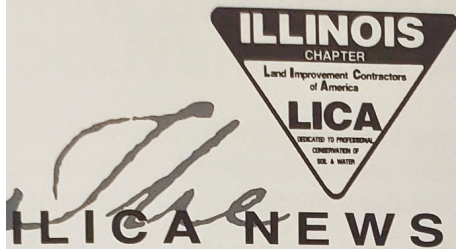
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MAY-JUNE 2006

Publisher and Managing Editor:

Melanie Schutt

ILICA, 2060 Timberbrook, Suite 3

Springfield, IL 62702

217-787-7260

Fax: 217-787-7264

Website: www.illica.net

Email: illinoislica@sbcglobal.net

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ILICA

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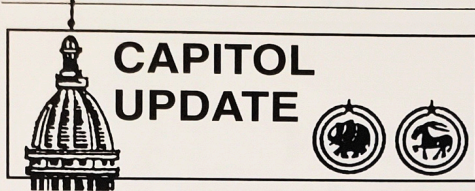
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Welcome New Members!



by Melanie Schutt

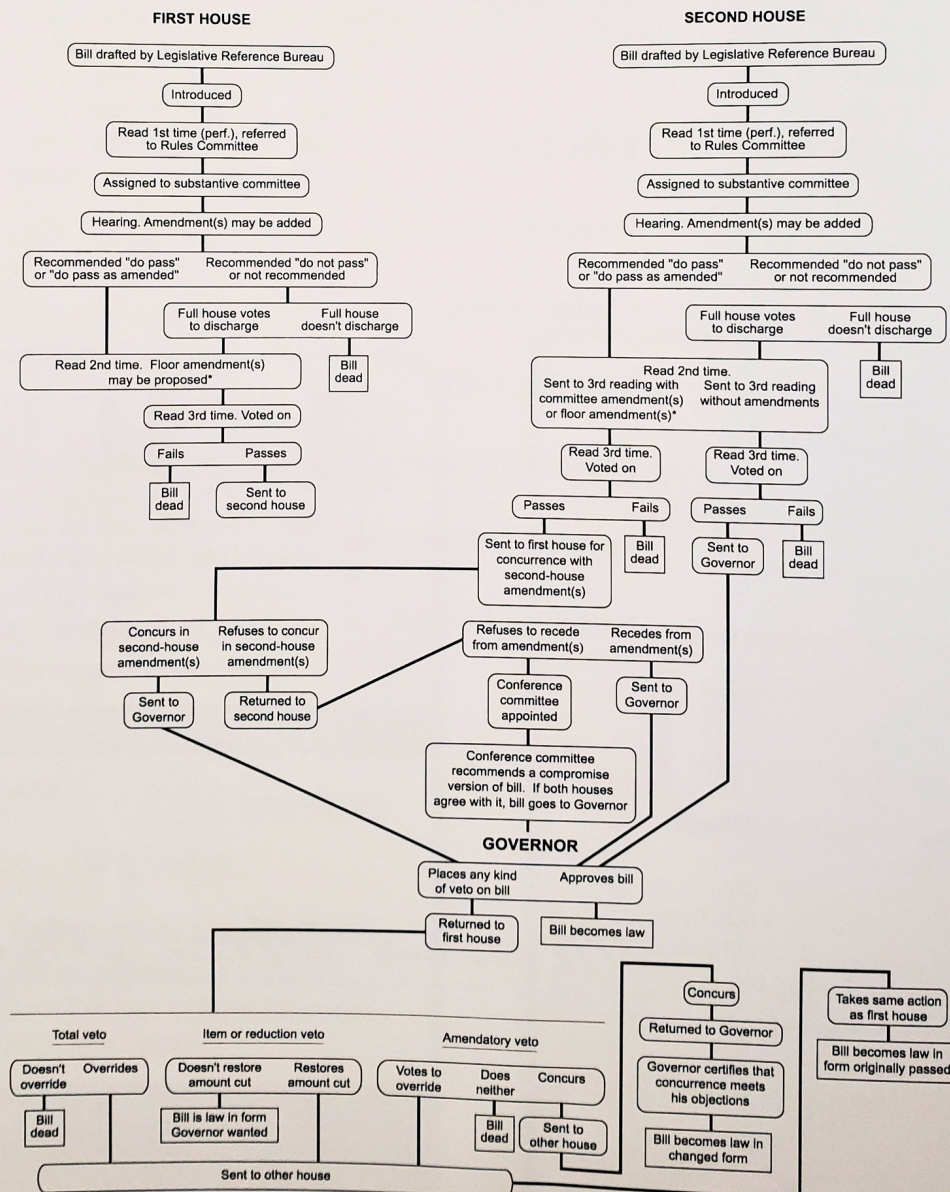
This session has been a slow one....Although just recently Governor Blagojevich announced that there will be an additional \$1.1 million in funding for Conservation 2000 projects in Illinois spread over 26 grants. More information can be found on page .

This year was rather difficult obtaining meeting times with our Congressional members in Washington D.C. Out of a total 17 requests with different Congressmen, only 2 were able to confirm meeting times with their staff, making

the trip very costly. This year unfortunately is an election year and with the schedule the members have to follow and with elections around the corner it just wasn't feasible. Maybe next year!

I have included below the process of how a bill gets introduced all the way to when the Governor receives the bill. I just thought some might enjoy seeing our legislative process and maybe help identify why a bill is so hard to pass.

How A Bill Becomes Law in Illinois



*Amendments proposed on the floor must go to the Rules Committee for approval before being considered.

NEW DEERE 75C ZERO-TAIL-SWING EXCAVATOR DELIVERS BIG PERFORMANCE FOR SMALL JOBS

With maximum power in a small package, the newest member of Deere's C-Series excavator line—the 75C—handles a wide variety of small jobs with the advantage of zero tail swing.

"Like all of our C-Series excavators, the 75C is a productive, cost-saving machine that delivers value and performance," said Mark Wall, product marketing manager, John Deere Construction & Forestry Company. "It is perfectly suited for light residential and other work in confined job sites, like urban renewal projects in big cities and landscaping applications."

The 75C has power and features that combine to provide exceptional versatility. Its 54-net-horsepower engine provides both power and efficiency. This machine features Deere's exclusive Powerwise™ II engine/hydraulic system, which senses when additional power is needed and delivers it, as well as balancing hydraulic pressure and flow to ensure hydraulic functions are smooth. The Powerwise II system enables multi-function operation, minimizes fuel consumption and maximizes engine output.

The 75C features a cab that is rich in operator comforts. Climate control is state-of-the-art, with an automatic, high-capacity blend-air system, multiple vents and an oversized smoke-tinted glass sunroof hatch that opens for maximum fresh air flow. The seat is cloth covered and fully adjustable, including the lumbar support. Additional operator-convenience features include a 12-volt cell phone jack, a beverage cooler and an oversized cup holder.

This ZTS excavator features a single work mode that helps increase operator efficiency, according to Wall. "The dig mode allows different operations, from heavy-duty excavation to finish grading, to be done easily and productively without having to switch modes for the different applications," he said.

The 75C features an integral backfilling blade that is a part of the machine's chassis and takes full advantage of the 12,350 pounds of drawbar pull. In addition to backfilling, the blade is well suited for landscaping, fine grading and cutting sidewalks and driveways.

A key strength of the 75C is its superior versatility, according to Wall. "The 75C is a go-anywhere, do-anything machine. Its powerful engine and hydraulic system combined with a wide range of attachments and options result in a small excavator with big-excavator feel and performance," he said.

The 75C shares many maintenance and durability benefits common to C-Series machines, including a 500-hour oil change interval; 4,000-hour hydraulic oil change interval; powdered metal oil-impregnated bushings; tungsten carbide coated arm surface; and a 500-hour greasing interval. Maintenance and operation costs are further reduced through an auto acceleration feature that

cuts fuel consumption by eight percent, as well as a rugged front attachment mechanism, anti-rust aluminum radiator and oil cooler, and simple lubrication and filter replacement.

"With all of the various advantages offered by the 75C, maintenance and operation costs are extremely low," Wall said. "This machine is both cost effective and highly productive in zero-tail-swing applications."

About John Deere: John Deere (Deere & Company-NYSE:DE) is the world's leading manufacturer of agricultural and forestry equipment; a major manufacturer of construction equipment; and a leading supplier of equipment used in lawn, grounds and turf care. Additionally, John Deere manufactures engines used in heavy equipment and provides financial services and other related activities that support the core businesses. Since it was founded in 1837, the company has established a heritage of quality products and services providing performance that endures to customers worldwide.

Key Specifications:

75C Excavator

Engine	Isuzu CC-4JG1
Net HP	54
Drawbar Pull	12,350 lbs.
Arm Force (6 ft. 11 in. with arm)	7,100 lbs.
Bucket Digging Force	10,600 lbs.
Typical Operating Weight	17,200 lbs.
Max. Reach	22 ft. 8 in.
Max. Digging Depth	15 ft. 1 in.
Max. Dumping Height	18 ft. 1 in.
Minimum Swing Radius	7 ft. 1 in.
Max. Vertical Wall	13 ft. 10 in.
Tail Swing Radius	4 ft.

TOOL BOX TALKS. . . . FROM CNA



Company Name _____ Job Name _____

Date _____

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS OF GOOD SAFETY HABITS

In most everything we do, we find a "trick" to make the process easier and faster. After we develop these tricks, they become work habits in our everyday activities. Developing everyday safety habits can keep you injury free through the year. Here are ten safety habits to live by:

Set Your Own Standards. Don't be influenced by others around you who are negative. If you fail to wear safety glasses because others don't, remember the blindness you may suffer will be yours alone to live with.

Operate Equipment Only if Qualified. Your supervisor may not realize you have never done the job before. You have the responsibility to let your supervisor know, so the necessary training can be provided.

Respect Machinery. If you put something in a machine's way, it will crush it, pinch it or cut it. Make sure all guards are in place. Never hurry beyond your ability to think and act safely. Remember to de-energize the power first before placing your hands in a point of operation.

Use Your Own Initiative for Safety Protection. You are in the best position to see problems when they arise. Ask for the personal protective equipment or additional guidance you need.

Ask Questions. If you are uncertain, ask. Do not accept answers that contain, "I think, I assume, I guess." Be sure.

Use Care and Caution When Lifting. Most muscle and spinal injuries are from overstrain. Know your limits. Do not attempt to exceed them. The few minutes it takes to get help will prevent weeks of being off work and in pain.

Practice Good Housekeeping. Disorganized work areas are the breeding grounds for accidents. You may not be the only victim. Don't be a cause.

Wear Proper and Sensible Work Clothes. Wear sturdy and appropriate footwear. These should enclose the foot fully. Avoid loose clothing, dangling jewelry, and be sure that long hair is tied back and cannot become entangled in the machinery.

Practice Good Personal Cleanliness. Avoid touching eyes, face, and mouth with gloves or hands that are dirty. Wash well and use barrier creams when necessary. Most industrial rashes are the result of poor hygiene practices.

Be a Positive Part of the Safety Team. Willingly accept and follow safety rules. Encourage others to do so. Your attitude can play a major role in the prevention of accidents and injuries.



*You are invited to join us
at the festive occasion
we have planned for
Saturday, May 13, 2006.*

*We will be celebrating the 50th
wedding anniversary of our parents,
Stan and Miriam SeEVERS.*

An open reception, from 11:00 am until
2:00 pm will be held at the Cisco Center in
Cisco, IL.

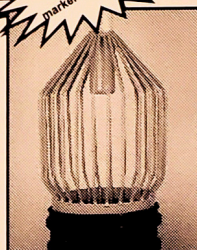
*You have been an intergral part of their lives.
We look forward to this opportunity to
reminisce with you.*

Janece, Jodi, and Jon

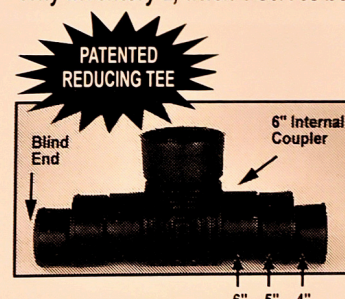
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE

This Spring has already been a crazy one with all of the tornadoes and severe weather ripping across the state. The office was fortunately not hit by any damage, but we were out of power for a few days with the storm on March 12. We hope any who has had damage is safe and getting back on their feet.

Don't forget to send in your registrations for the Summer Picnic and Golf Outing being held in Springfield, Illinois at the Tom Madonia West Park and Lincoln Greens Golf Course June 10th. We are still waiting for the ladies to send back their registration forms for the Ladies Summer Outing. If you haven't mailed your response back please do so as soon as possible, if we don't have enough interest, we will have to try again some other time. Thank you to those who have sent them in already. Once a decision is made a post card will be mailed to let you know whether or not the outing has been cancelled.

Just a reminder that the National Summer Meeting is being hosted by New Jersey LICA July 18-22. You can find additional information at www.licanational.com.

Thanks for all of your support and remember to work safely!

Thanks
Melanie Schutt

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WET MARCH WEATHER IMPROVES DROUGHT CONDITIONS STATE WIDE PRECIPITATION FOR MARCH MORE THAN 1.5 INCHES ABOVE NORMAL

The latest weather statistics announced today by the Illinois State Water Survey, a division of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, indicates above average precipitation for the month of March across the state finally helping offset dry conditions for the last 12 months.

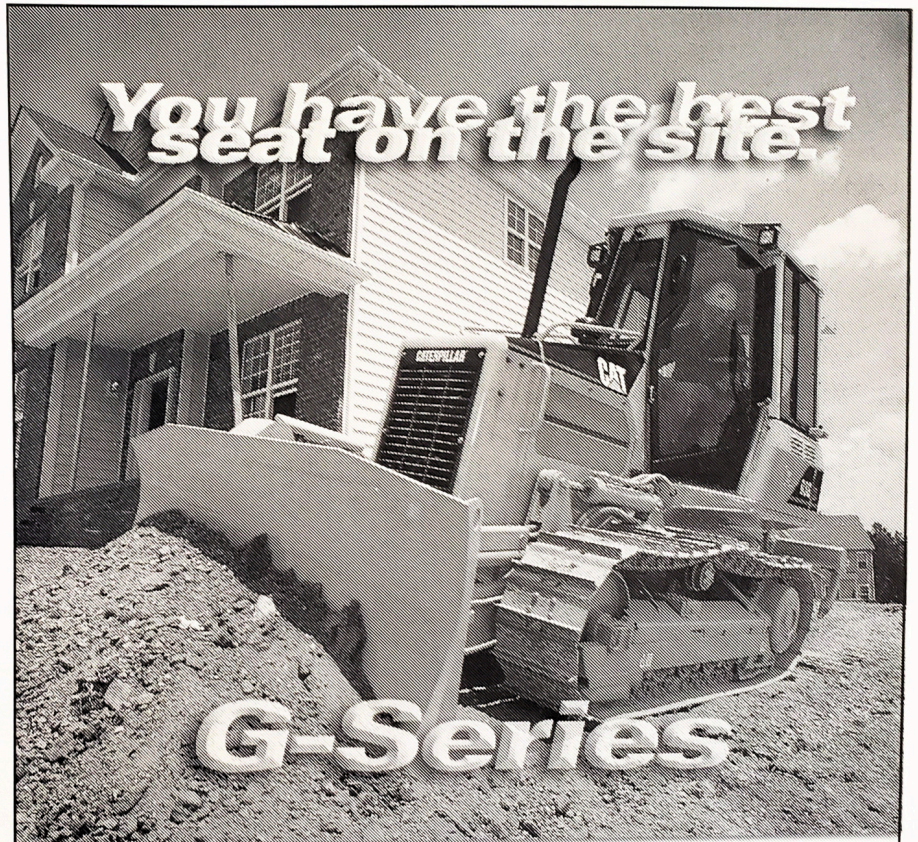
"Preliminary data for Illinois indicate that 4.79 inches of precipitation fell in March, 1.57 inches above normal or 149 percent of normal, and is the 16th wettest March since 1895. This offsets the dry February, which was 1.05 inches below normal. As a result of the wet March, precipitation for 2006 is at 8.41 inches, which is 1.34 inches above normal," says State Climatologist Jim Angel of the Illinois State Water Survey.

The statewide March mean temperature of 41.4 degrees was 0.3 degrees above normal. The statewide temperature for 2006 is 36.7 degrees, 4.6 degrees above normal, and the 8th warmest January-March on record since 1895. Temperature extremes ranged from 82 degrees at Belleville on March 31 to 9 degrees at Mt. Carroll on March 4. Grayville reported the heaviest one-day precipitation, 4.25 inches on March 12, as well as the highest monthly total, 10.74 inches.

"Receiving above-normal rainfall in March means that we are making headway against the drought in northern and western Illinois. An additional 1 to 3 inches fell in central and western Illinois in the first 11 days of April. However, sub-surface soil moisture, streams, and shallow groundwater remain below normal in places in that region," says Angel. "It may take several months of normal to above-normal precipitation to overcome the impacts of the severe precipitation deficits of 2005."

The Water Survey will continue to monitor the situation and post updates (<http://www.sws.uiuc.edu/hilites/drought/>). April is usually when the last freezing temperatures occur: Southern Illinois (April 7), Central Illinois (April 14-21), and

Northern Illinois (April 28). If you're planting tender annuals, add about 2 weeks to those dates. See (<http://www.sws.uiuc.edu/atmos/statecli/Frost/frost.htm>) for more frost information.



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GABBING WITH THE GALS...

Well folks, here I am in the hospital for 6 weeks and the third time. Have to receive antibiotic four times a day intravenously. By the time this is published, I should be home sweet home, hopefully for the last time.

The weather has been playing hide and seek, which causes the temperature to do the same. Its' difficult for the men to get in two days work in succession. Nasty weather has been happening and we offer sympathy with those whose property has been destroyed. It's heart breaking to see large trees uprooted – their shade will be missed. It was scary to see the island despair in the middle of too much rain. When it is beyond our efforts to do anything about it, we just have to cope.

My family knows my addiction to books. They have made sure I have enough in the hospital to last while I am here. One of the books is a 517 page book of Sherlock Holmes cases, now that will last a long time. My preference is mysteries (not real life ones), but I have expanded from my favorites to read two biographies. Partly, the authors I prefer mean more to me because they use the same main characters in each book they publish. Those who watch the soaps do so for the same reason. Our family gave WWII books to Clyde – he liked to read of the places other than where he was stationed.

Always hoped that a child of mine would be an author. Guess our grandson, Peter Day, will be the one to carry out. He is 16 years old and has a band for which he writes all the songs and play guitar. A lot of talent for one so young. One of our granddaughters, April Day, has always been interested in



literature, but she currently teaching and has to have a general curriculum. Of course, one could always write a book and still teach, right? Artist, Larry Day, has company in his talent, as son Andrew Day, is following as an artist. Still in art college and already doing some free-lance work and for a fee! They are cousins to Kristin (Day) Kutemier, who has a lot of artistic talent in scrapbooking and making greeting cards, etc. Her kind of art is good because it is so versatile. "Kristin-Of-Many-Trades" you might say. We have others in the family who are also artistic, so we have a lot to be thankful for.

Did you hear about the girl who was standing in her uncle's cornfield and the birds took her for a scarecrow? She frightened the crows so much they brought back the corn they had stolen three days before....

"Mom, you said the baby has our eyes and Daddy's nose, didn't you?"

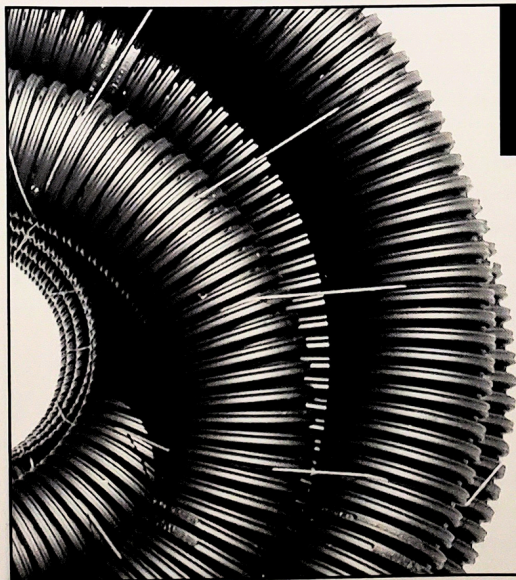
"Yes, darling."

"Well, you'd better keep an eye on him – he's got grandpa's teeth now!"

"He's the kind of person that you'd spend his time in the nudist colony trying to get subscriptions to a fashion magazine."

Well, we're all entitled to some humor once in a while. The word for this issue is "humor." With all the troubles around the world, we need to take time out for a smile. Funny movies are my favorite and I have quite a few to watch in my inventory after I'm back home. Laughing is good for health, maybe it is because we may shake all over if something is funny enough. Here's to Movers & Shakers – also, good gardens are wished for you.

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The National LICA Summer Meeting - July 18-22, 2006

Hosted by New Jersey LICA at the Marriott in Newark International Airport



Lake Hopatcong Yacht Club

The Lake Hopatcong Yacht Club is a private club located in northwestern New Jersey, on the state's largest lake. The club was founded in 1905, and the current clubhouse dates to 1910. The clubhouse was built in the Adirondack style, using local logs, and was recently placed on the National and New Jersey registers of historic places.

The club is very proud of its historical status. Much effort has been made to maintain the club in its original state, while serving an active membership.

Tilcon - Mt. Hope, NJ

In 1980, Mt. Hope Rock Products purchased 560 acres surrounding a historic iron ore mine in Rockaway, New Jersey. Tilcon New York Inc. acquired this site in April 2001. The company has applied innovative operational techniques to become the largest producer of granite in the United States and the highest volume, single location producer of bituminous concrete. The facility is considered one of the elite hard rock quarries in the United States. The Mt. Hope facility operates 24 hours a day with a 2,300 TPH crushing plant, three on-site asphalt plants, DEP Class B Recycling capabilities, and a soil remediation plant which processes petroleum-contaminated soil.

Mt. Hope has won national awards for community relations, excellence in hot-mix asphalt operations and has been recognized for our positive efforts to enhance the aesthetic appearance of our operations.



Schedule of Events

Tuesday, July 18, 2006

7:00 am - 8:30 am
8:30 am - 4:00 pm
8:30 am - 5:00 pm
4:00 pm -

Breakfast on your own.
Point Pleasant, Jersey Shore
Atlantic City or Fishing Trip
Yankee Baseball Game

Wednesday, July 19, 2006

7:00 am - 8:30 am
8:30 am - 4:00 pm

Breakfast on your own.
Mack Truck Plant and Museum Tour.
Lunch included *
Broadway Show*

11:00 am - 4:00 pm

Thursday, July 20, 2006

7:00 am - 8:30 am
8:30 am - 4:00 pm

Breakfast on your own.
Tilcon Tour (Blast 11:15 am)
Lunch & Swimming at Lake Hopatcong Yacht Club*

8:30 am - 4:00 pm
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Ladies Tour & Lunch*
Welcome Reception -
Hosted by New Jersey LICA Associates

Friday, July 21, 2006

7:00 am - 7:30 am
7:30 am - 8:45 am
9:00 am - 12:00 pm
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm
1:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Devotions
Breakfast
Committee Meetings
Lunch (Speaker)
Local Tours - Budwieser Brewery, Sports Complex or Shopping Outlets
Medieval Times Dinner Theater

6:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Saturday, July 22, 2006

7:00 am - 7:30 am
7:30 am - 8:45 am
9:00 am - 11:00 am
11:30 am - 4:30 pm
6:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Devotions
Breakfast
Board Meeting
Tour of Manhattan and Box Lunch*
Dinner Cruise around Manhattan and Statue of Liberty *

• Optional not included with registration fee.

Hotel Accommodations

Marriott - Newark International Airport

This 10-story hotel sits on the grounds of the Newark airport, three miles from the Jersey Gardens Outlet Mall. New York City, the Statue of Liberty, and the Meadowlands Sports Complex are all 15 miles from the hotel.

The hotel provides complimentary airport transportation. Guests can work out in the hotel fitness center, relax in the sauna and whirlpool, or take a dip in the indoor/outdoor pool.

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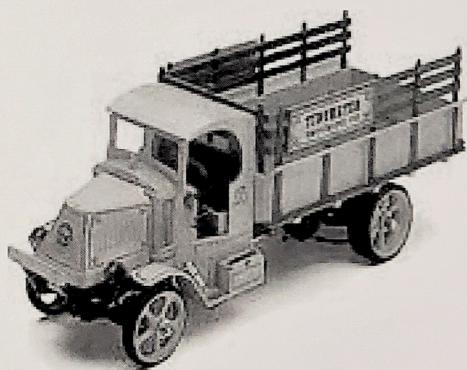
The National Summer Tours and Special Events



Mack Truck Plant Tour

"Built like a Mack truck" is a descriptive, frequently-used phrase throughout the world! In fact, "Mack truck" is a worldwide symbol synonymous with strength and endurance.

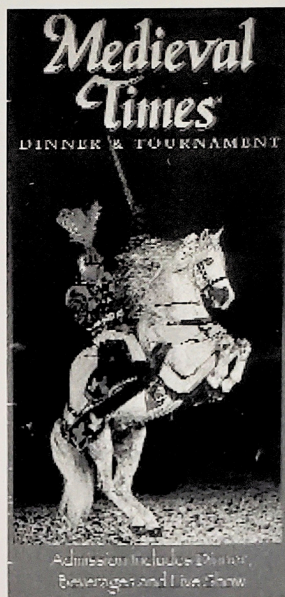
If you'd like to see how heavy-duty trucks are made, you've come to the right place! The Macungie Assembly Operations in Macungie, PA, which produces the Mack line of vocational and construction trucks. The tour is one and one-half (1-1/2) miles of walking!



Mack Museum

The "Wheels of Time" exhibit of Mack trucks with models from 1907 to 1973 can be experienced at the Mack Museum, located in Allentown, PA. In addition to trucks, the Museum features many interesting pieces of memorabilia, and more than 80,000 photographs many dating back to 1905. The Mack Shop located in the Macungie Assembly Operations sells just about every souvenir you can imagine, including hats, toy trucks, T-shirts, belts, and pins with the famous Mack Bulldog logo.

Medieval Times Dinner Show and Tournament



As a guest of the castle, you'll enjoy an authentic feast, while valiant knights on horseback do battle. You'll cheer your knight to victory as he competes in games of skill, hand to hand combat, and of course, the joust. Brilliant costumes, live horses and dramatic spectacles—not to mention a delicious dinner—all make this a memorable family outing. Recently expanded with an all-new show.

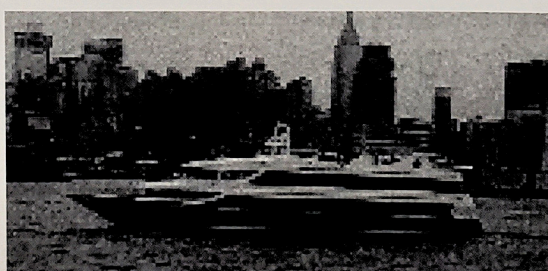
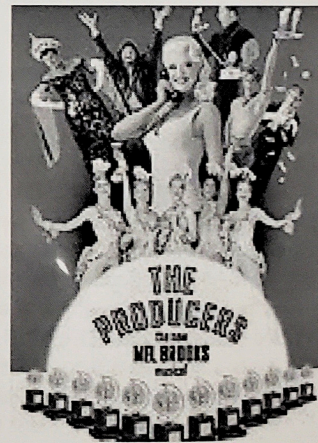
Imagine a majestic castle high upon a hill. Upon its turrets, colorful banners wave gently in the wind. Within its walls, spirited stallions perform for their masters. On this day, his majesty, King Alphonso the Magnificent, has invited six of the most noble knights of the realm to compete in a tournament of games, jousting, and hand-to-hand combat.

Only one knight shall be victorious and become the personal champion to the King. Now is the time to begin our magnificent journey into the past. This is Medieval Times Dinner and Tournament.

The Producers -

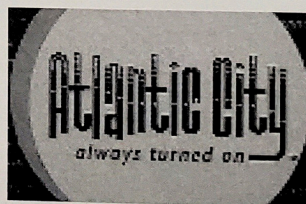
A Mel Brooks Musical

This runaway hit won more Tony Awards than any show in Broadway history—including Best Musical of the Year. It's the story of a couple of guys who come up with a scheme to produce the outrageous Broadway musical ever. They think they can take off with all their investors' money—but when the curtain goes up on their gigantic singing, dancing spectacular, they realize their plan has gone ridiculously wrong. This hilarious MEL BROOKS musical was directed and choreographed by five-time Tony Award-winner Susan Stroman.



Dinner Cruise

This is a unique event is the place to have fun. Feel right at home as you cruise in climate-controlled comfort. You'll dine on a wonderful buffet while attentive servers cater to your every request. Enjoy a bountiful meal as you gaze at an endless stream of city sights. Then stroll the decks or dance away your cares as the DJ spins an upbeat medley of hits. Unlike a restaurant or banquet hall, the cruise brings the the Statue of Liberty and the Manhattan skyline to you in all its ever-changing glory. You won't find such an array of attractions anywhere else.



Atlantic City

Try your luck at Atlantic City casinos. Atlantic City has non-stop gaming action, top-name entertainment, world-class golf and fishing, 12 luxurious casino hotels and resorts and beautiful white sandy beaches. You'll also find shopping, attractions, outdoor recreation, the famous Boardwalk, Marina District and so much more.

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Digging responsibly is the only way to dig. The alternative could mean disaster!



Anyone planning to dig, regardless of the depth, should call JULIE two (2) working days before they begin. The call to JULIE and the service provided by utility members are free to the excavator.

**BE SAFE. DIG SMART.
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HIGH COST OF CRUDE DRIVES UP PRICES AT THE PUMP

The price of crude oil climbed higher into record territory topping \$72 a barrel. The high cost of crude oil, along with seasonal refinery outages, is driving up prices at the gas pump.

The Energy Department's weekly report on petroleum carried a headline Wednesday, asking "\$3 per gallon?" That question has already been answered in Los Angeles and some other parts of the country, where gasoline prices hit the \$3 mark this week.

"The bad news is the numbers are going to keep going up. We expect that gasoline over the next few weeks could go, on average, to \$3.10, \$3.20 a gallon," says spokeswoman Carol Thorpe of the American Automobile Association.

These high prices are coming weeks before the busy, summer-driving season. But it's no longer predictable that gas prices will peak at the same time the thermometer does.

"It used to be sure that every holiday, the gas prices would go up. Every summer the gas prices would go up," Thorpe says. "But what we've seen is gas prices go up at odd times: down on holidays, maybe down in the summer, then up over Labor Day. So it really is dependent on what's happening in the oil markets, what's happening in the world, what's happening to supply."

What's happening in the world right now has pushed oil prices to an all-time high. That's partly a result of tensions with the big oil-producing countries of Iran and Nigeria.

"This market seems to be on a track to continue to move higher, and there doesn't seem to be anything in the near term that's going to stop this momentum," says analyst Phil Flynn of Alaron Trading in Chicago.

With the stock market rallying this week, there's no sign of the kind of economic slowdown that might cut into demand for oil. And drivers are still using more gasoline than they did a year ago, even though it now costs them more than 50 cents a gallon more.

The Energy Department says it's not a foregone conclusion that the average price of gasoline nationwide will hit the \$3 mark this year. The Department expects many refineries that are now shut down for maintenance will soon begin pumping gas again. That should boost supplies and perhaps lower prices just in time for Memorial Day. The Energy Department expects gas prices to remain about 25 cents a gallon higher than they were last year, though. And that's assuming there are no major disruptions in oil or gas supplies.

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From the ILICA Ladies.....

Home Landscaping 101

Here's how to get begin planning a practical home landscape that will grow more beautiful over time.

The Big Picture

The ideal landscape provides your family with recreation, privacy, and pleasure -- even as those needs change over time. What's more, the landscape should -- and will -- add to your home's value and its curb appeal in all seasons, especially fortunate at selling time. Here's how to get started with your plans.

Think of designing a landscape for the bare lot surrounding your new home as an adventure in creativity. Perhaps your property needs only a few small, easily doable projects to make it more attractive. Either way, it's important to consider how each change will relate to the big picture. Stand back from time to time to see the entire landscape and how each part fits into it.

Begin at square one, whether you seek to perform landscaping magic by transforming a new site or you are refreshing an established one. Starting at square one means that you first see what you have to work with. Look at your landscape as if through a giant magnifying glass -- scrutinizing every detail. Then allow yourself to dream. Soon you'll be conjuring up all sorts of ideas and sketching out some rough plans. By gradually working through the initial stages, you'll move on to planning and eventually have a finished design.

Developing a Master Plan

Landscape professionals will tell you that a master plan is the key to any landscape project or solution. A master plan is more than a drawing or a design -- it's a well-thought-out plan of action that includes a design. It enables you to feel confident that you're on the correct path toward building the landscape that's right for you and your property.

Any project becomes more attainable when you're willing to accomplish the plan in stages. Be realistic about how much you can accomplish each year. Many people

like to work -- and budget -- on the basis of a five-year plan.

Although detailed and complex, the process can be enjoyable if taken a little at a time. You won't regret spending the time to do it right. When you've finished, you'll have a master plan -- or a masterful design -- to show for your efforts. In the event the words "master plan" seem set in concrete, you may find the idea of "long-range plan" less fixed though no less useful in accomplishing the small and large goals that add up to a satisfying landscape.

Putting Plans into Action

Before putting pencil to paper or planting flowers, spend some time figuring out what you want to accomplish in your landscape. Much of the planning and designing will occur in your head as you consider ideas and think about what appeals to you most. Brainstorm and take notes on paper. As you proceed with each step in planning and design, be sure to adapt the plan to your particular conditions and desires instead of trying to follow lots of rigid rules.

Before you spend money on materials or contractors, explore different ways to reach your goals. Learn new skills by volunteering to help a friend build a deck. Watch a professional pour concrete or build a retaining wall at a new homesite. Be inspired rather than intimidated by opportunities to learn.

At any step in your decision-making, don't hesitate to ask for expert advice from landscaping professionals. When you reach the final design and are ready to begin the actual work, continue to ask for help when you need it.

After all, landscaping is a practical yet personal process, and you want the outcome to be wonderful. What could be more rewarding than designing your home's landscape, transforming your plans into reality, and enjoying the results for years to come? Trends such as butterfly gardening, heirloom vegetables, old roses, and ornamental grasses can be the icing on the cake in keeping the whole process fresh, appealing, and exciting.



2006 Annual ILICA Picnic and Golf Outing Sponsorship Opportunities

Please circle the item or event you wish to sponsor and complete the form below and return to ILICA office with payment. Below are suggested donations, however, we will gladly accept any amount you are able.

Thank you for helping make this years Picnic and Golf a success!

Golf Outing

Hole Sponsorship	\$100
*Longest Drive	\$75
*Shortest Pin	\$75
*Longest Putt	\$75
*Best Game	\$75

**The above listed prices would allow the picnic committee to purchase gift awards for the winners at the event. Only one sponsor will be accepted, first come first serve for these prizes.*

Picnic Lunch, Sponsorship (meal and drinks)	Sponsored
Dessert	\$175

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Dave Hurst

COMMITTEE FUNCTION, RESPONSIBILITY AND AUTHORITY

The committee system is the best system yet devised in a democracy to capture and develop ideas into a workable program. The FUNCTION of each committee is to gather ideas from every source that relates to its area of concern. Those ideas should be advanced in the form of a proposal. Each member of the committee has a personal RESPONSIBILITY to become knowledgeable in that area of the committee's concern. Each committee has the AUTHORITY to investigate, research, meet submit reports and develop proposals, to the extent of its budget. Committees are authorized by the By-Laws as an instrument of the Board as a means to secure ideas and suggestion form the membership. Committees which do not gather and refine ideas for presentation to the Board are missing the opportunity to serve the Association. Committees can be no stronger than the individual members who serve the Association.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Board Meeting

May 6, 2006

Richland Community College

Decatur, IL

Board Meeting

June 10, 2006

Tom Madonia West Park

Springfield, IL

Summer Picnic/Golf Outing

June 10, 2006

Tom Madonia West Park

Lincoln Greens Golf Course

Springfield, IL

Board Meeting

September 9, 2006

Maverick Family Steakhouse/Buffer

Springfield, IL

Board Meeting

November 4, 2006

Maverick Family Steakhouse/Buffer

Springfield, IL

2007 50th Annual ILICA Convention

January 18-20, 2007

Stoney Creek Inn

Moline, IL

2007 Annual ILICA Workshop

TBA

Springfield, IL

National LICA Events...

Summer Convention

July 18-22, 2006

Newark, New Jersey hosted by NJ LICA

Winter Convention 2007

February 12-17, 2007

The Radisson Worldgate Resort

Orlando, Florida at the entrance to

Walt Disney World...



Application For AFFILIATE Membership

Illinois Land Improvement Contractors Association



2060 Timberbrook Drive, Suite 3, Springfield, IL 62702 • Phone: (217) 787-7260 • Fax: (217) 787-7264

_____ hereby makes application for Affiliate Membership in the ILLINOIS LAND IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION, INC., (ILICA) and enclose Eighty Five Dollars (\$85) as my annual membership dues for the year _____. One dollar (\$1.00) of this amount is for a subscription to the "Illinois Land Improvement Contractors Association Newsletter" for one year.

Affiliate members shall consist of and be limited to individuals employed by the ILICA, persons employed by an active member in the business that makes the active member eligible for membership, individuals engaged in professional soil, water and natural resource conservation work and persons, firms, corporations, associations and organizations engaged in the business of publishing magazines and newspapers, part or all of which are devoted to disseminating information on soil, water and natural resource conservation and any person, firm, corporation, association or organization that has demonstrated a special interest in soil, water and natural resource conservation.

Send completed application with dues (make check payable to ILICA) to any ILICA member or to the corporate address above.

Individual Name: _____

Firm Name: _____

Address: _____

County: _____ ILICA Area Number: _____ Sponsor: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____



Application For ASSOCIATE Membership

Illinois Land Improvement Contractors Association



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_____ hereby makes application for Associate Membership in the ILLINOIS LAND IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION, INC., (ILICA) and enclose Two Hundred Dollars (\$200) as my annual membership dues for the year _____. One dollar (\$1.00) of this amount is for a subscription to the "Illinois Land Improvement Contractors Association Newsletter" for one year.

Associate members shall consist of and be limited to persons, firms, corporation, associations or organizations that manufacture or sell equipment or materials used by land improvement contractors.

Send completed application with dues (make check payable to ILICA) to any ILICA member or to the corporate address above.

Individual Name: _____

Firm Name: _____

Address: _____

County: _____ ILICA Area Number: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

THINGS TO CONSIDER BEFORE YOU DIG

Knowing what lies below the ground before a shovel or auger touches it can prevent costly and serious accidents. Representatives of JULIE, Inc. (Joint Utility Locating Information for Excavators) recently announced the kick-off of a statewide public safety campaign, entitled "See What We See," that stresses the importance of calling the one-call system (1-800-892-0123) before starting any digging projects.

"Careless digging poses a threat to people and underground facilities," said Mark A. Frost, executive director at JULIE, Inc. "Homeowners and contractors can avoid injuries and protect the state's vital energy and telecommunications infrastructure with one phone call before doing any work that requires digging, regardless of the depth or size of the project. The call to JULIE and service provided by members are free."

According to the Common Ground Alliance (CGA), a 1,200 member, national inter-industry group that promotes safety, there are about 400,000 excavation incidents each year across the United States resulting in substantial damage to facilities and about 50 fatalities. Illinois law requires anyone digging to call JULIE, Inc. at least two working days prior to the start of excavation and to begin that project within 14 calendar days from the call. The 48 hour notice does not include Saturdays, Sundays or holidays.

SAFETY TIPS FOR HOMEOWNERS AND CONTRACTORS

Today, more utility companies that supply power, gas, water and telecommunications are delivering these services underground. Following are a few simple safety tips when planning outdoor projects:

- Call JULIE (1-800-892-0123) before you dig;
- Wait the required amount of time (two working days)
- Respect the marks; and
- Dig with care.

"Digging safely is never out of season. Call center representatives at JULIE are available to receive and process calls 24 hours a day, seven days a week," Frost continued.

TYPES OF OUTDOOR PROJECTS

For residents considering any improvements and/or repairs outside the home, following a few precautions can help avoid a painful and costly accident. Common examples of homeowner projects that require a call to JULIE before digging include putting up a fence; installing a swing set, a mail box post or water feature such as a pool, pond or fountain; building a deck or room addition; preparing a new garden area; or planting trees, bushes or shrubs.

JULIE, Inc. is a not-for-profit corporation that provides excavators with a toll-free number (1-800-892-0123) for the free locating and marking of underground facilities. JULIE serves as a notification service for underground facility owners, taking information about planned excavations and distributing this information to its membership. It is then the responsibility of each facility owner to mark the location of their underground facilities at the excavation site. JULIE neither owns nor marks any underground facilities.

The Illinois One-Call System received a record 1.225 million underground utility locate requests from professional excavators and homeowners in 2005.

Established in 1974, JULIE represents more than 1,700 members. JULIE has 100 employees during peak periods and is located in a state-of-the-art facility in Joliet, Illinois.

For a copy of JULIE's Homeowner's Guide with additional safety tips, including the meaning on the different color flags and marks used by each utility locator type, visit www.illinois1call.com.

It pays to use the pipe with the gold stripe.

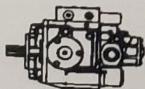
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(One Hundred Twenty Five Dollars (\$125.00) of the dues of each active member is paid to the Land Improvement Contractors of America (LICA) as National dues.)

Send completed application with dues (make check payable to ILICA) to any ILICA member or to the corporate address above.

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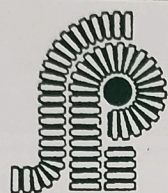


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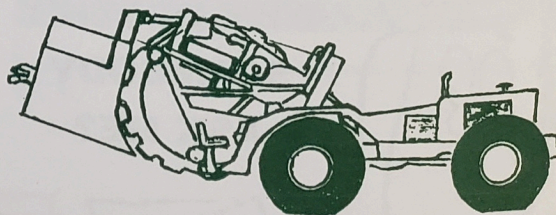
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