

MLICA Scoop

LAND IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTORS ~ MICHIGAN CHAPTER

2017 ISSUE 3

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From the Lead Plow, Trevor Young, President MLICA

Happy Holiday Season to Everyone,

I hope everyone is doing well and has had a productive fall season so far. I know it was really nice working in September and the first part of October. Now it is just plan wet, and everyone across our great state seems to be saying the same. We have had lots of rain over here on the West side of Michigan in the last month. But, as mostly drainage guys and gals we can't complain too much, because rain will eventually bring more business.

Everyone should have received their membership dues in the letter from Sarah. Let's all try to get these paid so that we have an accurate count of membership by January convention time. Also, on a convention note, Scott Everett is working on finding us a fun and unique speaker for our annual banquet. I hope everybody is planning to attend.

Remember, we, the Michigan LICA chapter, will be hosting the National Summer Convention in Grand Rapids next July. Yes, that is July 2018. Mike Cook will then be our National President and we look forward to showing off our awesome state and chapter. We will have more info available on this at our winter convention, but it promises to be a great time for the whole family and all of our LICA families.

I don't have much other news to share, but am looking forward to seeing everyone at winter convention. Don't forget to get registered and get your hotel rooms booked.

Until January, have a safe and happy holiday season with family and friends.



Respectfully,
Trevor Young

FEATURES

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Diary of an Executive Director

It's hard for me to believe 2017 is almost over! Time seems to always be getting away from me!

It was great to see so many of you in August at our field day and summer picnic hosted by Larry and Ben Cook over in Peck. I was amazed to see over a hundred people in attendance Friday, before the rain rolled in at the end of the work day. Make sure to check out the field day highlights on the next page.

In January we will be hosting our annual winter convention at the Lansing Ramada Hotel and conference center, beginning with our board meeting and cornhole tournament Sunday, January 14th. Monday, January 15th, we will have a day full of seminars, and end the evening with our associates night and annual auction. Tuesday morning will be

all about GPS with presentations from Joey Schlatter of Schlatter's Inc, and Nate Cook of Cook's AGPS.

Please make sure to fill out and send in the convention registration form included with this newsletter so we will have a count on how many to expect.

Thank you to those of you that have sent in your renewal dues! For those of you that may have forgotten, you can include your payment with your convention registration.

As we're approaching 2018, make sure to mark your calendars for the National LICA Summer Meeting which will take place on our own turf! There is a lot of excitement from other states about coming to Michigan, so I hope you all take the time to attend!

I'm looking forward to seeing you soon!

UPCOMING EVENTS

ANNUAL WINTER CONVENTION

LOOK FOR THE REGISTRATION WITH THIS NEWSLETTER!

LANSING RAMADA HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER

JANUARY 14-16, 2018

NATIONAL LICA WINTER CONVENTION

Hyatt Place + Hyatt House
Charleston, SC

FEBRUARY 20-24, 2018

See Page 9 for details. Go to www.licanational.com for registration.

NATIONAL LICA SUMMER MEETING

Amway Grand Plaza Hotel
Grand Rapids, MI

JULY 9-15, 2018

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR 2017 FIELD DAY SPONSORS



FIELD DAY HIGHLIGHTS

This year, our contractor field day took place in the thumb region just outside of Peck. We had a great turn out Friday, with AIS serving approximately 120 people with their Chuck Wagon.

A large draw of interest for this year's field day was the installation of Fratco's FLEXCORR, a flexible dual wall pipe. Paul Liggett, a sales representative for Fratco was on site, and captured video footage with his drone. To see Paul's video, check out the MLICA Facebook page at www.facebook.com/michiganlica.

With storms hitting all around us, we were fortunate that the rain held off until 4 o'clock on Friday. Around 4 o'clock, a storm rolled in fast and furious, dumping around 2 inches of rain in half an hour. After the rain ended, MLICA member Don Molloy sent his drone up and captured some aerial photos of the field day site. The ground wasn't able to soak up the rain as quickly as it fell, leaving us with quite a muddy mess.

Saturday was full of casual conversation, an MLICA board meeting, and lots of great food at the annual summer picnic. The kids also had great fun playing in the mud.

All in all, another field day and summer picnic are in the books where camaraderie and great memories were made!



Above: Contractors checking out the installation of the 8 inch Fratco FLEXCORR main up close.
 Below Left: Aerial image of the 8 inch main Below Right: Aerial image of field Friday AM

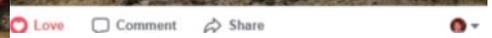


Above: Aerial image of the field day site as we wrapped up for the day Friday.
 Below: Rob Hall receiving assistance to get his RV to the road after the rain.



Above: Aerial image of the field day location showing the tile lines installed during the day Friday, along with a lot of standing water after two inches of rain.

Below: Morgan Cook and her cousin Adalynn Victory playing in the mud Saturday during the picnic.



Above: Cousins Morgan Cook, Adalynn Victory, & Hudson Victory enjoying a hayride around the field day site.



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NATIONAL HAPPENINGS

LICA HEALTHY BENEFITS

In the past, Michigan LICA has had trouble receiving health insurance through National LICA because of the insurance rules of Michigan. Joseph Herren of Medova Healthcare Financial Group, LLC in partnership with Lifestyle Health plans is now offering coverage to Michigan LICA members.

The LICA Healthy Benefits program provides major medical health benefits with an integrated wellness and lifestyle improvement program.

As a Member of LICA You Can Enjoy:

1. Premium savings in most cases of 5-15%
2. Economies of scale discounts for participating LICA Members as part of LICA Healthy Benefits Program
3. An integrated wellness program with deductible credit incentives, credit matching and case incentives for health improvement
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5. Consumer-driven program features including 100% Lab, 100% Diabetic Supplies and 24/7 Telephonic Consultations at no additional cost

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Healthy100 → Once your deductible is met, plan picks up 100%. Plan designs feature 100% Co-insurance once elected deductible level is met. Also - Office Visit Copays and Prescription are included.

HealthyValue → Save on monthly premium costs while still offering the same great benefits. Plan designs feature higher deductibles, variations of Co-insurance, Office Visit Copays and Prescription.

HealthyConsumer → Qualified HDHP plan designs for HRA / HSA integration with higher deductibles and 100% Co-insurance. Office Visit Copays apply once elected deductible is met.

For more information, contact

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 Executive Director, Affinity Programs
 Medova Healthcare Financial Group, LLC
 Phone: (316) 616-6160 ext. 193
 Fax: (316) 616-6161
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NATIONAL HAPPENINGS : NEW BENEFIT

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You face the possibility that your medical coverage will deny the claim **leaving you responsible for the ENTIRE bill.**

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Emergency Ground Ambulance Transport	✓
Air Transportation - Hospital to Hospital	✓
Organ Recipient Transport	✓
Organ Retrieval	✓
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Repatriation/Recuperation	✓
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Vehicle Return	✓
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- Monitoring drainage, soil compaction and crop productivity post construction
- Managing of post construction punch-lists for drainage, vegetation establishment, trench subsidence, soil compaction and crop loss.

If you have questions about our services or would like to be a part of our team, please call (740) 751-4703 or visit www.landstewards.com

2018 National Winter Convention Tours

Tuesday, February 20: Fort Sumter

Stand on the grounds where America's deadliest war began at Fort Sumter National Monument. Your tour vessel will cruise to Fort Sumter from Liberty Square in downtown Charleston. The Arthur Ravenel Jr. Bridge provides the backdrop for all Fort Sumter cruises, with Charleston's stately Rainbow Row and Battery homes clearly seen from onboard. Once at Fort Sumter, experience a feeling of patriotic pride while a National Park Ranger brings each feature to life, evoking images of mortar shells and cannonfire. A boxed lunch is included with the cost of the tour.



Tuesday, February 20: Magnolia Plantation & Gardens

Founded in 1676 by the Drayton family, Magnolia Plantation, is the oldest public tourist site in the Lowcountry, and the oldest public gardens in America. Step back in time with a half-hour guided tour of the Drayton family home, the third to grace the site in more than three centuries of Drayton family occupation. Ten rooms are open to the public, furnished with early-American antiques, porcelain, quilts, and other Drayton family heirlooms. Guides describe life in the 19th century, using furniture and household objects to bring plantation culture alive. Also included with admission: historic gardens, orientation theatre, the garden center and the conservatory. While visiting you can enjoy lunch on your own at the Peacock Cafe.



Wednesday, February 21: Charleston Tour & Patriots Point

During the bus tour you will see the College of Charleston, Harleston Village, the Citadel, the Military College of South Carolina, and of course our famous Battery with its elegant town houses built by planters and merchants in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Enjoy lunch on your own at Old City Market, one of the nation's oldest public markets. From authentic Lowcountry dishes, like shrimp & grits, to sophisticated interpretations of Southern fare, the Charleston City Market's Great Hall and surrounding neighborhood offer a range of excellent restaurants.



After lunch we will tour Patriots Point, one of the world's largest naval and maritime museums. Visit the USS Yorktown, the Destroyer Laffey, the Vietnam Era Naval Support Base with its Sea Cobra and Huey helicopters; and the newly renovated Congressional Medal of Honor museum.

2018 National Winter Convention Highlights & Special Events

Associates' Night

Thursday, February 22
7:00 pm - 10:00 pm

National Associates' will exhibit their products and services, Thursday evening. Members will be able to talk to exhibitors while enjoying drinks and a full buffet.

Calling all golfers! LICA is having a "Hole - in - One" contest during Associates' Night. Show off your skills and you can win a prize. Remember to dress in full golf attire.

It is thought that the first organized golf played in America was on Harleston Green, undeveloped pastureland in South Carolina. In 1743, Charleston merchant David Deas received a shipment of 432 golf balls and ninety-six clubs from Scotland. Golf historians suggest that the early game was played without a set number of holes, no greens, and no designated teeing areas.

Educational Seminars

Thursday, February 22

National Benefits

LICA members have so many benefits available to them, find out more about them during this session. There will be updates for some benefits and members will be able to get their questions answered.

OSHA Final Rule: Respirable Crystalline Silica

Presented by: CNA Insurance

29 CFR 1926.1153 - Construction

29 CFR 1910.1053 - General Industry

About 2.3 million workers are exposed to respirable crystalline silica in their workplaces, including 2 million construction workers who drill, cut, crush, or grind silica-containing materials such as concrete and stone. Depending on whether you work or service accounts in the general industry or construction industry, there will be slight variations on what is required from them and when. This presentation will provide a very high level overview, and there will be many pieces of each standard that are not addressed.

Drones in Construction

Presented by: John Deere

Drones are cheaper to fly than manned aircraft and faster than human surveyors, and they collect data far more frequently than either, letting construction workers track a site's progress with a degree of accuracy previously unknown in the industry. Collectively, that intelligence allows construction companies to more efficiently deploy resources around a job site, minimize potential issues, trim costs, and limit delays.

Selecting the Trucks for Your Applications

Presented by: Mack Trucks

Selecting the truck that is functionally designed, with tough construction to deliver reliable performance across a range of applications. Using predictive analytics and connective technologies, turning data produced by the truck, the driver and the service process into insights and actions that help you perform at your best.

Keynote Speaker

Doug Dvorak

Friday Lunch



Doug Dvorak is the CEO of DMG International, a worldwide organization that assists clients with business ethics, sales, customer success, and motivational excellence management workshops. Dvorak's clients are characterized as Fortune 1000 companies, small to medium businesses, civic organizations and service businesses. During his presentation he focuses on: Common business ethics standards and traits. What business ethics means and it's use. Real life examples of business ethics fails and successes. What to do in certain situations regarding business ethics. What role management plays in business ethics. How to hold people accountable for ethics.

2018 National Winter Convention Tentative Agenda

Tuesday, February 20

10:00 am - 2:00 pm Fort Sumter Tour
9:00 am - 2:00 pm Magnolia Plantation & Gardens
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm Executive Committee

10:45 am - 11:45 pm Convention Long-Term/Past Pres. On-Site Waste Safety/Insurance
12:00 pm Lunch
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm Associates Awards Membership Policy

Wednesday, February 21

8:45 am - 4:00 pm Charleston & Patriots Point Tour

3:15 pm - 4:15 pm Region Meetings
4:15 pm - 5:15 pm Budget

Thursday, February 22

8:00 am - 8:45 am National Benefits
9:00 am - 9:45 am OSHA Final Rule: Respirable Crystalline Silica Presented by: CNA Insurance
10:00 am - 10:45 am Drones in Construction Presented by: John Deere
11:00 am - 11:45 am Selecting the Trucks for your Applications Presented by: Mack Trucks
7:00 pm - 10:00 pm Associates' Night Golf Theme

Saturday, February 24

8:00 am - 8:30 am Devotions
9:30 am - 10:30 am Delegates Meeting
10:45 am - 11:45 am Board Meeting
12:30 pm Lunch
6:00 pm CNA Reception
7:00 pm Caterpillar Awards Banquet

Free Breakfast Buffet

Enjoy a hot breakfast buffet in the morning while you are staying at the Hyatt. It includes: made-to-order Omelet Bar, yogurt, fresh fruit, savory options and more. Served every morning to guests in the Commons.



Around Charleston

Restaurants

Butcher & Bee: 1085 Morrison Drive Sandwiches
Coast Bar & Grill: 39-D John Street Seafood
Hall's Chophouse: 434 King Street Steak & Seafood
HOM: 563 King Street Burgers
Hornby Grill: 207 Rutledge Ave. Classic southern cuisine
Indaco: 326 King Street Italian
Virginia's on King: 412 King Street Southern cuisine, breakfast served daily

Shopping

Candlefish: 71 Westworth Street Candles
Finicky Filly: 303 King Street Women's designer fashion
King's Leaf Cigar Lounge: 401 King Street b Cigars
Lily: 196 King Street Luxury gift items: soaps, jewelry and bath products
Savannah Bee Company: 270 King Street Gourmet honey, beauty, & gifts.
Shoes on King: 335 King Street Women's footwear & Handbags
Silver Vault of Charleston: 155 King Street Antiques

Local Attractions

Charleston Harbor Tours: 10 Wharfside Street 90 minute tour where you will see 75 landmarks aboard the Carolina Belle. Recommend buying tickets ahead at www.charlestonharbortours.com
Charleston Museum: 360 Meeting Street Exhibits include: The Army (historic weaponry) and Becoming Americans (Charleston's role in the Revolution)
Palmetto Carriage Works: 8 Guillard Street Public or Private tours by horse-drawn carriage. Recommend buying tickets ahead at www.palmettocarriage.com
South Carolina Aquarium: 100 Aquarium Wharf More than 5,000 animals to experience.
Waterfront Park: 1 Vendue Range Harbor Views of Cooper River and the harbor.



INTRODUCING MLICA'S NEW MSU LIAISON: EHSAN GHANE

Last winter, Ehsan Ghane stopped by the MLICA convention to introduce himself as MSU's new assistant professor and extension specialist. He became aware of MLICA through his work with Larry Brown at Ohio State University. In July, he reached out to Mike Cook as he was compiling an article on drainage. Before publishing his article, he allowed Mike to review it, and accepted suggestions.

We look forward to our partnership with Ehsan and the MSU Extension Office!

A Note from Ehsan:

I first learned about the theory and design of subsurface (tile) drainage during my undergraduate program. As I wanted to learn more, I pursued a Ph.D. degree at The Ohio State University where I worked on the crop yield impact of controlled drainage as well as working on quantifying its drainage flow reduction compared to free conventional drainage. I also worked on improving the design of denitrification beds (a.k.a. woodchip bioreactors) by investigating water flow through woodchips and determining nitrate removal. Then, I worked at U of M (the other one in Minnesota) as a postdoctoral associate working on nutrient transport in drainage water and urban stormwater runoff as well as working on improving the performance of denitrification beds at cold temperatures. Finally, I joined Michigan State University in January 2017 as an assistant professor and extension specialist.

We know that without drainage, current crop production in Michigan would not exist. My research goal is to solve challenges in agricultural water management with particular emphasis on innovative practices that reduce nutrient transport in drainage water and conserve water for crop use. Some of these practices are controlled drainage (a.k.a. drainage water management), saturated buffer, drainage water recycling, and denitrification bed (a.k.a. woodchip bioreactor). The outcome of my research will be to improve water quality and better understand the profitability of these conservation practices. I would like to collaborate with MLICA members in extension and research activities as I can benefit from the practical experience and knowledge of the members.

Our collaboration can inform me of research needs in Michigan that I will try to investigate. As my drainage research progresses, I will share the latest research with your members during the MLICA annual conventions and field days as I believe people can benefit from the research findings.

My outreach goal is to provide drainage education to Michigan residents. In particular, I would like to collaborate with MLICA to provide an annual drainage design and education workshop for farmers, MSU extension educators, next generation of contractors, NRCS engineers, and other agency personnel. I believe this workshop will be valuable as MLICA has the practical knowledge and experience of drainage and the latest technology to contribute to the workshop and I can provide some of the design and research aspect. Overall, I hope my research and outreach in Michigan can benefit MLICA and vice versa. I look forward to working with MLICA members.

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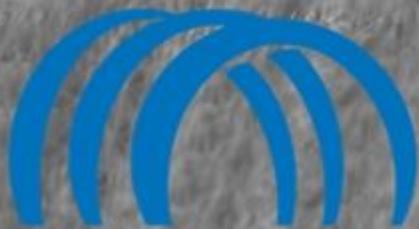
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IN THE NEWS: FATHER, SON DIE IN PIPELINE EXPLOSION NEAR DIXON, IL

Original story can be found at <https://patch.com/illinois/across-il/father-son-die-pipeline-explosion-near-dixon>

Editor's Note: According to reports, "Unfortunately, a required one-call notification was not provided to the company prior to the work being performed." This tragic accident could have been avoided. Please make sure you are calling MISS DIG.

NACHUSA, IL — A 59-year-old man and his 30-year-old son died Tuesday morning when a natural gas pipeline exploded on the family's farm near Dixon, Illinois. The Lee County Sheriff's office identified the men as Rory Miller of Amboy and son Ryan Miller of Oregon, Illinois.

Lee County Sheriff John Simon-
ton said farm workers were in-

stalling field tile when a tractor pulling tiling plow became stuck Tuesday morning on the property near state Route 38 and Nachusa Road. Another tractor was used to try to free the vehicle and "at (that) time, the second tractor began to lose traction," Simonton said. The vehicle accidentally struck a natural gas pipeline, causing a large explosion that engulfed the field, he said.

Rory and Ryan Miller were found dead at the scene, the sheriff said. The father and son were killed at M&R Farms, owned by Rory Miller, his wife Kathy and partners Mark and Gloria Nusbaum, according to SaukValley.com.

Two other people were trans-

ported to a nearby hospital by area residents who rushed to help, according to Simonton. They were later transferred to OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center in Rockford. One individual is in critical but stable condition, and the other is in stable condition, Simonton said.

SaukValley.com identified the injured men as Michael Koster, 20, of Sterling, and Kyler Ackland, 20, of West Brooklyn.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with these four individuals and their families," the sheriff said during a press conference on Wednesday.

(Continued on page 14)

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- Size & Color
- New, Used, or Reconditioned
- Price & Location
- Contact Info including Name & Phone Number

(Continued from page 13)

In addition to sharing a love of farming, Rory and Ryan Miller were both CPAs and worked during tax season for Wipfli Inc. in Dixon, SaukValley.com reported. Rory is survived by wife Kathy and daughter Kelsey Firkins of St. Peters, Missouri. Ryan is survived by wife Jill and daughters Madelyn, who turns 4 on Dec. 17, and 11-month-old Morgan.

Visitation for the father and son is slated for 4 to 7 p.m. Friday at New Life Lutheran Church in Sterling and 10 to 11 a.m. Saturday prior to the start of funeral services.

SaukValley.com reported that the pipeline is owned by Kinder Morgan, which issued a statement Wednesday saying they were unaware of the field work on

Tuesday. "Unfortunately, a required one-call notification was not provided to the company prior to the work being performed," the company said.

The fire resulting from the explosion was reportedly extinguished at around 1:15 p.m., about four hours after the incident, when Kinder Morgan turned off the gas. Route 38 near the scene remained closed until after 3 p.m., according to the Lee County Sheriff's Office.

Simonton said the incident remains under investigation by the Lee County Sheriff's Department, Illinois State Police and Illinois State Fire Marshal.



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CONTACT RUSS TALASKI
FOR MORE INFORMATION

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BY PHONE AT
989-479-9340

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14, 2018

Board Meeting **3:30 PM, Suite 297**

3rd Annual Cornhole Tournament, **Regency Ballroom**

*Associates may setup displays beginning at 3:30 PM, Regency Ballroom

MONDAY, JANUARY 15, 2018

Associate Display Setup **6:30 AM - 8:30 AM, Regency Ballroom**

Seminars **Beginning at 9:00 AM, Michigan Room**

Ladies Crafts **Beginning at 9:15 AM, Suite 297**

Lunch, 12:00 PM, Regency Ballroom

Associates Night & Auction **Beginning at 5:00 PM**

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2018

GPS Seminar (1/2 day)

POSSIBLE SEMINARS INCLUDE:

- UNEMPLOYMENT
- SALES TAX EXEMPTION FOR EQUIPMENT USED IN FARM DRAINAGE

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The National LICA Ladies will be hosting a silent auction to raise money for the LICA Scholarship. Please consider bringing a donation of a product made in Michigan to our convention in January.



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The MLICA Scoop welcomes letters, subject to editing for accuracy and brevity. The MLICA Scoop also welcomes articles relevant to the land improvement industry. All letters and articles can be emailed to scook@michiganlica.org. Please include your name and phone number for verification purposes.