



# Pipeline

VOLUME 69, ISSUE III

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## UCA Spring Showcase

On Tuesday, April 7th UCA members gathered at Venuti's Ristorante & Banquets to kickoff the construction season at the UCA Spring Showcase.

Besides being a great networking event for many UCA members, it was a wonderful opportunity to hear from IL Works Bid Credit Program, DuPage Water Commission, and IL BEAD Program during the educational session before the trade show.

At this event the Emerging Leaders participants graduated from the program, and registration is now open for next year's class.

UCA Staff would like to thank everyone who sponsored, presented, exhibited & attended the Spring Showcase.

### Grand Prize Sponsor:



### Beverage Sponsors

- Altorfer CAT
- High Star Traffic
- JJ Kane Auctions
- Lee Jensen Sales
- Miller Pipeline
- Rock, Fusco, & Connelly, LLC
- USIC
- Vermeer Midwest
- West Side Tractor Sales

### Logo Sponsors

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- Pan-Oceanic Engineering Co.
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- Roland Machinery Co.
- Stayfull Fuel Services
- United Rentals Trench Safety
- USI Insurance Services
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- Vermeer Midwest
- Vulcan Materials
- Welch Brothers
- West Side Tractor Sales

### Thank you to those who exhibited their products and services:

- A&A Equipment & Supply Co.
- Alta Equipment Company
- Badger Infrastructure Solution
- Chicago Diamond Supply
- Christofano Equipment Company
- CISCO
- Construction Safety Council
- Dearborn Companies
- Enterprise Fleet Management
- FOCIS Promotions
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- Miller Pipeline
- National Trench Safety
- Oldcastle Infrastructure
- Ozinga
- Pirtek Hydraulic & Industrial Hose
- Planet Underground
- PSS Industrial Group
- StormTrap
- United Rentals Trench Safety
- USIC
- Vermeer Midwest

### Thank you Events Committee:

- Brian Klimes, *FOCIS Promotions*
- Maria Brynjolfsson, *High Star Traffic*
- John Rosa, *High Star Traffic*
- Lori Jermyn, *Vulcan Materials Co.*
- Matt Lind, *Vermeer Midwest*
- Chris Bassler, *Arachas Group Insurance*
- Alexis Twardzik, *INTREN*
- Brett Nepper, *Wipfli*
- Bob Hopkins, *Chicago Cut Concrete Cutting*
- Jacob Czerwinski, *CCG*
- Aaron Vargas, *West Side Tractor*
- Gio Sciortino, *Hard Rock Concrete Cutters*
- Adam Ceerpa, *Ozinga*



### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Spring Showcase
- New Member Spotlights
- Golf Outing Sponsors

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# President's Editorial

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John Burns Construction Co.

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[www.uca.org](http://www.uca.org)

UCA Pipeline is a publication of the Underground Contractors Association of Illinois. UCA is a non-profit trade association of contractors and suppliers in the sewer, water, utility, and underground industry. UCA is active in market development, information, education, labor, and promotion of safety.

*Editorial comments, articles and photographs are welcomed and encouraged. Please contact Lauren Barnett, Associate Director, for more information, (630) 467-1919 or [lauren@uca.org](mailto:lauren@uca.org).*



Shane Higgins,  
UCA President  
John Burns Construction Co.

Dear Members,

As we move through a busy and productive spring season, I want to take a moment to thank all of you for your continued engagement and support of our association.

Our Annual Spring Showcase was a tremendous success, and it would not have been possible without the contributions of so many. Thank you to our outstanding speakers for delivering valuable insights, our exhibitors for showcasing the latest in products and services, our generous sponsors for their continued commitment, and of course, all of our attendees who made the event both meaningful and well attended. The energy and collaboration on display are what make UCA strong.

We are also excited to continue building momentum with our Scholarship Fund. The Happy Hour fundraiser hosted by DB Sterlin was an excellent opportunity to connect with colleagues while supporting the next generation entering our industry. It was also an opportunity for members to engage with new CDOT Commissioner Cheaks and Water Commissioner Conner. I encourage all members to attend future Happy Hours and consider contributing to help us expand this important program in the years ahead.

Earlier this month, we had the opportunity to travel to Washington, D.C. for Water Week 2026, where we met with members of the Illinois congressional delegation. These conversations are critical to ensuring that the voice of our industry is heard on key issues impacting infrastructure investment, workforce development, and regulatory policy. Advocacy remains a core priority, and we appreciate those who took the time to participate.

Looking ahead to UCA's Annual Golf Outing on July 27<sup>th</sup>, golf registration is sold out. Sponsorship opportunities are available, and we invite you to get involved in what is always a well-attended and enjoyable event. Your participation helps support our programs while strengthening relationships across the industry.

Thank you again for your continued support and involvement. I look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming events.

Sincerely,

Shane Higgins  
UCA President

## *Save the Dates!*

**Wednesday, May 20th**

**UCA Agency Partnership**

*UCA Office, Schaumburg*

**Thursday, May 21st**

**Safety Awards Luncheon**

**Wednesday, June 10th**

**Safety/Risk Mgt/Utility**

*Hoerr Const., Goodfield, IL*

**Wednesday, June 24th**

**Safety/Risk Mgt/Utility**

*UCA Office, Schaumburg*

**Thursday, June 25th**

**UCA Happy Hour**

**Monday, July 27th**

**UCA Golf Outing**

*Arrowhead Golf Club, Wheaton*

*For more information, please visit [www.uca.org](http://www.uca.org).*

# SPOTLIGHT: NEW UCA MEMBERS



## *Friendly Ford*

Friendly Ford is a family-owned dealership serving the Roselle and greater Chicago area since 1991, built on honest service and long-term customer relationships. We offer a full lineup of new and pre-owned vehicles, including trucks, SUVs, EVs, and commercial/work vehicles, along with competitive financing and lease options to make ownership simple and accessible. Whether you're upgrading your daily driver or building out a business fleet, our team is focused on helping you find the right vehicle for your needs with a straightforward, no-pressure approach.

Our support doesn't stop after the sale. Friendly Ford features a state-of-the-art service center staffed by certified technicians handling everything from oil changes and brakes to major repairs, plus parts and collision services. We also offer **Mobile Service at no extra charge**, bringing factory-trained technicians directly to your home or workplace for maintenance like oil changes, batteries, filters, recalls, and more, saving you time, money, and manpower so you can stay on the road. To schedule service, explore inventory, or get in touch with our team, visit [FriendlyFord.com](http://FriendlyFord.com) or call (630) 924-8686.

### Contact Information:

Matt Yockey  
 General Manager  
 630-461-2160  
[myockey@friendlyford.com](mailto:myockey@friendlyford.com)  
[www.friendlyford.com](http://www.friendlyford.com)

## *Sunbelt Rentals Trench Safety*

Sunbelt Rentals offers a comprehensive line of trench safety systems that will help keep your project running safely and smoothly, including installing manholes, directional drilling, underground tanks, lift stations, and water, sewer, and utility lines.

When you need the right equipment for your excavation project, renting has its advantages, such as increased flexibility without extra commitments.

Sunbelt Rentals offers 24/7 support and a range of time-saving features you won't get from buying equipment. See why tool and equipment rental is right for you.



### Contact Information:

Adam Johnson  
 847-531-2454  
[adam.johnson@sunbeltrentals.com](mailto:adam.johnson@sunbeltrentals.com)

39 w. 171 Highland Ave.  
 Elgin, IL 60124  
[www.sunbeltrentals.com](http://www.sunbeltrentals.com)

## *Oremus Material*

Oremus Material has been serving Chicagoland and vicinity since 2020. Our experienced team ensures that every mix is carefully formulated and tested to meet your project unique specification. We commit to your job only when we are confident, we can deliver exactly what you need on time, every time.

Our mission has always been to deliver high quality concrete with an unwavering commitment to reliability and customer satisfaction.



### Contact Details:

Jim McGrath  
 Vice President of Sales  
 Cell - 708-310-5444 Office – 630-296-5006  
[jmcgrath@oremusmaterial.com](mailto:jmcgrath@oremusmaterial.com)  
 256 North Frontage Rd, Burr Ridge IL 60527

# SPOTLIGHT: NEW UCA MEMBERS

## *Cera Solutions*



ENERGY & UTILITIES • INFRASTRUCTURE • ASSET MANAGEMENT

CERA Solutions is a Chicago-based engineering and field services firm delivering services across **three Solutions** Groups: Infrastructure, Energy & Utilities, and Asset Management & Protection (AMP). Since 2018, CERA has supported projects from planning and design through construction and field operations, with a consistent focus on safety, quality, and responsiveness. With offices in Chicago, St. Louis, Fort Worth, Austin, and West Allis, CERA supports clients across multiple regions.

That work often comes to life in the field through **CERA's AMP Group, where our team performs professional** utility locating and supports contractors and municipalities in safe excavation and effective damage prevention. Known for its accuracy, responsiveness, and strong safety culture, the AMP Group delivers reliable results in even the most complex environments.

### Contact Details:

872-360-3083

Locating@cerasolutions.com

cerasolutions.com

## *Lin-Mar Towing & Recovery*



Lin Mar Towing has been in business since 1958 and we have been family owned and operated the entire time currently in our 3<sup>rd</sup> generation of ownership. Lin Mar has acquired several towing companies within the last 7 years. We have multiple locations and over 100 pieces of equipment in our fleet. There is nothing on the roadway today that is too big or small for us to haul. We have a truck for everything. We have 6 rotators for extreme recoveries or job site lifting pieces into place.

We also have a fleet of lowboy and Landoll trailers. We provide local and long distance service. We run 24/7/365 with 3 shifts at the shop at all times 7 days a week. Our owners are actively involved in the company's everyday operations. Thank you in advance and we look forward to hearing from you if you may ever need our services!

### Contact Information:

Ronnie Lundin

President

847-965-4200

junior@linmartow.com

www.linmartow.com

**Golf SOLD OUT!**  
**SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE—REGISTER NOW!**

**Thank you, Sponsors!**

**UCA'S ANNUAL GOLF OUTING**

Monday, July 27th at Arrowhead Golf Club

**Exclusive Golf Ball Sponsor:**

Utility Transport Service

**Exclusive Bag Drop Sponsor:**

Vermeer Midwest

**Exclusive Tee, Divot, Ball Marker Sponsor:**

Oldcastle Infrastructure

**Exclusive Putting Green Sponsor:**

Sunbelt Rentals Trench Safety

**Interactive Hole Sponsors:**

C. Corona Construction

Cera Solutions

D2K Traffic Safety

Heels and Hardhats

McCullough Kubota

SFI Topsoil

True North Consultants

Vulcan Materials

**Beverage Cart Sponsors:**

Altorfer CAT

Bluff City Materials

Chicago Cut Concrete Cutting

Commercial Credit Group

High Star Traffic

USIC

West Side Tractor Sales

**Dinner Sponsors:**

Ozinga

**Breakfast Sponsors:**

Alta Equipment

CISCO

FOCIS Promotions

Rock Fusco & Connelly, LLC

Sunbelt Rentals Trench Safety

**Hole Sponsors:**

A Lamp Concrete Contractors

Aldridge Electric

ALF Cartage

Arachas Group Insurance

Construction Safety Council

Core and Main

EJ

Ferguson Waterworks

Hard Rock Concrete Cutters

John Neri Construction Co.

Lin Mar Towing & Recovery

McCann Industries

Mid American Water

Pan-Oceanic Engineering

PSS Industrial Group

Ryan Incorporated Central

Storm Trap

USIC

Utility Concrete Products

**Promotional Items Sponsors:**

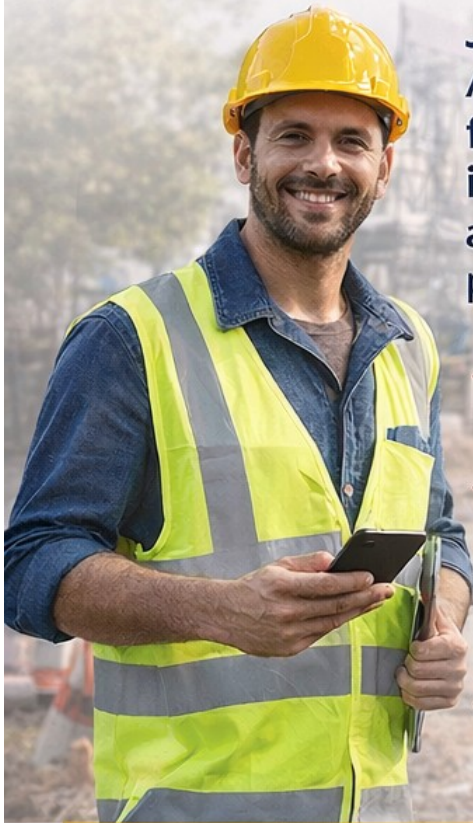
Hard Rock Concrete Cutters


**ComEd**

AN Exelon Company

# UCA & ComEd PARTNERSHIP MEETING

*Connecting Contractors. Improving Projects.*



**Join** the Underground Contractors Association and ComEd leadership for a focused, contractor-driven discussion on improving coordination, safety, permitting, and field execution across electric utility projects.

- ✓ **Build relationships** between contractors and ComEd decision-makers
- ✓ **Improve communication** and issue resolution in the field
- ✓ **Share best practices** on safety, scheduling, and restoration
- ✓ **Identify process** improvements that benefit all parties



**DATE: MAY 20TH**



**TIME: 8AM**



**UCA OFFICE**  
1051 PERIMETER DR.  
SUITE 1075  
SCHAUMBURG, IL 60173

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

UCA contractor members,  
project managers, field supervisors,  
estimators

**REGISTER HERE »**

[www.uca.org](http://www.uca.org)

# UCA & DB Sterlin Happy Hour



# 2026 UCA Spring Showcase



# May 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 8:30am Cont. Ed./Const. Mat.	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 UCA Quarterly Agency Partnership Meeting	21 UCA Safety Awards Lunch	22	23
24/31	25 Memorial Day	26	27	28	29	30

# June 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 7:30am Membership	4	5	6
7	8 8 am Executive 9 am Nominating	9	10 Statewide Safety Goodfield IL 10 am	11	12 IDOT Letting	13
14	15	16 8 am Board	17 8am Safety/ RM/ U Schaumburg	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 UCA Quarterly Evening Happy Hour	26	27
28	29	30				