



Pipeline

VOLUME 69, ISSUE III

August 2026

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Convention
- New Member Spotlights
- Construction Mgmt. Software Seminar
- Golf Outing

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UCA Convention- Cabo San Lucas, Mexico



Join the **Underground Contractors Association of Illinois** for the **2027 UCA Convention**, taking place **January 24th–29th, 2027**, at the stunning **Grand Fiesta Americana Los Cabos All-Inclusive Golf & Spa** in Los Cabos, Mexico.

This premier industry event brings together underground contractors, utilities, suppliers, and industry partners for an unforgettable week of networking, relationship-building, education, and relaxation in one of Mexico's most beautiful destinations. Our featured keynote speaker will be **Chicago Department of Water Management Commissioner Randy Conner**, who will provide valuable insight and perspective on the future of Chicago's water infrastructure and the opportunities and challenges facing our industry. From engaging conversations and industry updates to exceptional networking and resort experiences, the 2027 UCA Convention is an event you won't want to miss!

[Click here](#) to register & sponsor!

UCA Fall Fest & Business Meeting

UCA's Fall Fest & Business Meeting will be held at the beautiful **Cantigny Park** on **Thursday, September 24th** from **4:30–8:00 p.m.** This relaxed, fun-filled evening is the perfect opportunity to connect with fellow contractors, utilities, industry partners, and friends while enjoying great food, drinks, and entertainment. With plenty of opportunities for networking and activities throughout the evening, Fall Fest offers a casual setting to strengthen relationships, celebrate our industry, and look ahead to what's next for UCA. Come enjoy an evening of connection, conversation, and fun!



President's Editorial

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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.

As summer comes to a close, I want to extend my sincere appreciation to everyone who continues to support the Underground Contractors Association of Illinois. Thank you to our sponsors, golfers, Events Committee members, and staff for making this year's Annual Golf Outing a success. Although the weather shortened the day, it didn't diminish the opportunity to reconnect with colleagues, strengthen industry relationships, and enjoy the camaraderie that makes UCA events so special. Your participation and generous support help advance the mission of our association throughout the year.

I also want to thank everyone who attended and sponsored the August 19th Happy Hour & Scholarship Fundraiser. A special thank you to **McCann Industries** for hosting the event and **Badger Infrastructure Solutions** for serving as co-host. The outstanding support shown by our members and industry partners raised over \$4,500.00. This will help provide scholarships and invest in the next generation of leaders who will shape the future of our industry. At the Happy Hour, everyone enjoyed delicious tacos and drinks generously provided by our hosts.

As we look ahead, I encourage you to stay engaged and participate in our upcoming programs and events, including the Fall Fest / Annual Business Meeting, the new class of the Emerging Leaders Program, and the Safety / Risk Management / Underground Damage Prevention Meeting & Forums. Your involvement strengthens our association, our workforce, and the underground construction industry across Illinois.

It's not too early to start thinking about the **2027 UCA Annual Convention!** Registration is now open, along with **sponsorship opportunities**. Secure your spot and take advantage of the opportunity to connect with fellow UCA members, industry leaders, and business partners. **January 24-29, 2027** at the **Grand Fiesta Americana Los Cabos, Mexico**. We look forward to seeing you in Cabo!

Throughout the summer, UCA also remained actively engaged in legislative and government affairs. We were proud to support several events with elected officials and policymakers, continuing to build relationships that are essential to advancing our industry's priorities. Thank you to **Gulzar Singh** for hosting a luncheon at UCA with **Ald. Gilbert Villegas**, which provided another valuable opportunity to discuss infrastructure investment, workforce development, and the importance of a strong underground construction industry.

Thank you for your continued commitment to UCA. Together, we are building a stronger association and a stronger future for the underground construction industry.

Sincerely,



Shane Higgins
President
Underground Contractors Association of Illinois



Shane Higgins,
UCA President
John Burns Construction Co.

SPOTLIGHT: NEW UCA MEMBERS

Advanced Water Solutions, LLC

Advanced Water Solutions, LLC (AWS) is a woman-owned underground utility contractor serving Chicago and the surrounding communities. Since 2017, AWS has built its business around water and sewer infrastructure, with experience in lead service line replacements, water service installations, water main work, directional drilling, excavation, and sewer construction.

AWS partners with municipalities and general contractors on public and private infrastructure projects throughout the Chicagoland area. Our team understands the challenges of underground construction and working in active municipal environments. We take pride in delivering quality work safely and efficiently, while building strong relationships with the clients, contractors, and communities we serve.

Contact Information:

Advanced Water Solutions, LLC
Luci Anderson, President
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luci@aws23.com



Swallow Construction



For half a century, Swallow Construction has been a trusted underground utility and heavy civil contractor serving municipalities, developers, and private clients throughout the Chicagoland area and surrounding communities. With 50 years of experience, we specialize in complex water main, sanitary sewer, storm sewer, excavation, and underground infrastructure projects. Our experienced team combines skilled field personnel, modern equipment, and practical problem-solving to safely and efficiently complete projects of all sizes.

Over the past five decades, our reputation has been built on hard work, integrity, and doing the

job right. From challenging municipal infrastructure improvements to large-scale site and utility work, Swallow Construction takes pride in delivering quality workmanship while maintaining strong relationships with owners, engineers, sub-contractors, and the communities we serve. We approach every project with the same commitment that has guided us for 50 years: **build it safely, build it right, and stand behind our work.**

Anthony Rendina

President

Swallow Construction

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West Chicago, IL 60185

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SPOTLIGHT: NEW UCA MEMBERS

ISCO Industries

ISCO Industries is a global customized piping solutions provider with North America's largest HDPE inventory. ISCO stocks and sells a wide variety of piping materials and provides solutions for various industries including: Industrial, Oil & Gas, EPC, Landfill, Culvert Rehab, Irrigation, Municipal, Energy, Aggregate, Marine, and Geothermal. ISCO delivers engineered HDPE structures, manifolds, spools, and custom assemblies that reduce field time, improve quality, and keep critical projects on schedule. Backed by technical experts and certified fusion teams, we help Owners, Contractors and Engineers deliver with confidence.

Have a question? We have an answer.
A project or problem? We have a solution.

Contact Information:

Lauren Sheehan
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Liberty Mutual Surety

Liberty Mutual Surety is the world's largest surety, delivering comprehensive underwriting solutions across 60+ countries. Our integrated underwriting, claims, legal, and analytics teams provide tailored solutions and seamless support, backed by global reach and local expertise.

We underwrite all types and sizes of businesses, including public and private local, regional, national, and multinational contractors. From bid and performance bonds to payment, maintenance, and supply bonds, our experienced teams provide tailored solutions that help contractors meet project requirements, protect relationships, and keep work moving from bid to completion. Beyond our bond solutions, we also provide unmatched value-added services, including industry insights, peer benchmarking, and customized economic reporting to help contractors make informed business decisions and succeed in their market.

Contact details:

Andy Eickholt
Surety Underwriting Manager
847-396-7111

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libertymutualsurety.com



Liberty Mutual
SURETY

SPOTLIGHT: NEW UCA MEMBERS

Rosecrance Behavioral Health

Rosecrance Behavioral Health is a leader in mental health and addiction treatment, serving individuals and families for over 100 years. Few programs offer the same level of depth and experience as Rosecrance. For those who are ready, Rosecrance is your path to turning hope into reality.

Rosecrance Resilience for Union Workers offers mental health and substance use support designed for the realities of high-stress, safety-sensitive jobs in construction, labor, and the trades. Our cross-departmental team delivers a full continuum of care — from medically managed detox and residential treatment to intensive outpatient programming, individual and family therapy, peer support, and sober living — coordinating access to care, financial support, and case management in your area.

Treatment plans are individualized and culturally competent, accounting for the risk factors common in your field — including chronic pain, sleep issues, and gambling addiction. Care can include:

- Support for depression, anxiety, and substance use
- Addressing changes in mood, sleep, and personal relationships
- Help navigating financial stress and gambling addiction
- Education on substance use disorders, moral injury, interpersonal conflict, nutrition, and family relationships
- Peer support from people who understand demanding work
- Family services for the people at home
- Virtual appointments where appropriate

Our staff is trained in evidence-based approaches and takes a whole health approach that pairs clinical counseling with wellness support. Whether you're in crisis or taking a proactive step, we have the competency to meet you there.

Call 312.239.5200 or visit www.rosecrancetherapies.com to learn more.

Rosecrance Therapies locations accept most major insurance.

Contact Information:

Kathleen Horton LCPC, CADC

Pronouns: she/her/hers

Professional Relations Coordinator

Rosecrance Behavioral Health

Rockford, IL 61107

Mobile: 312.882.7421

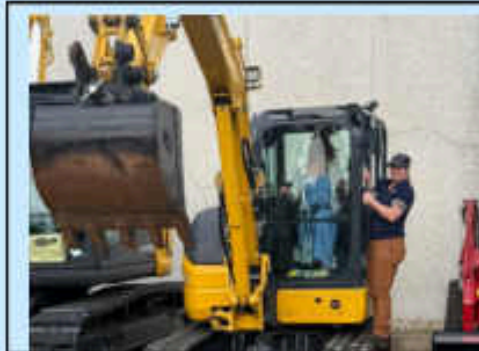
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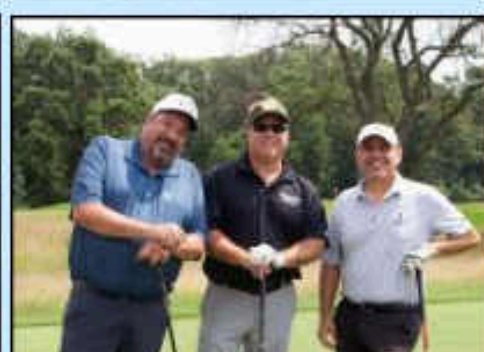
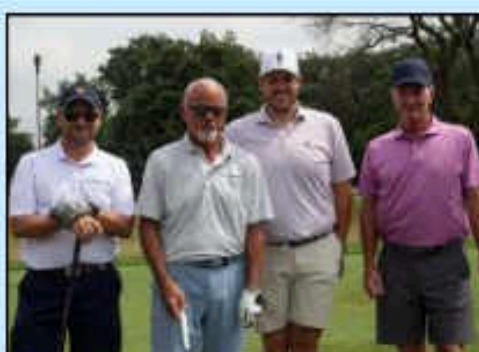
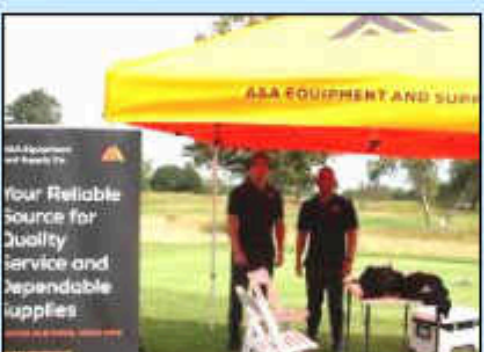
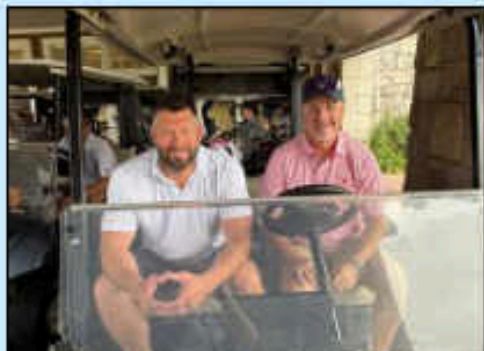
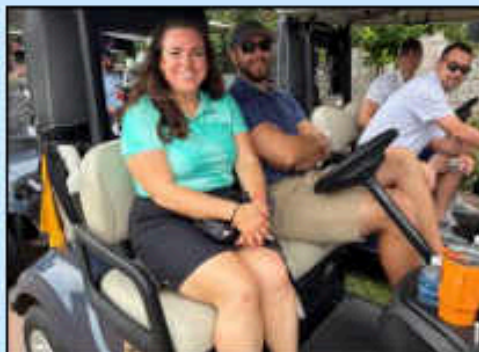
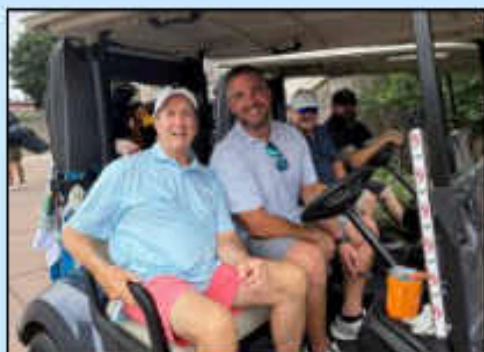
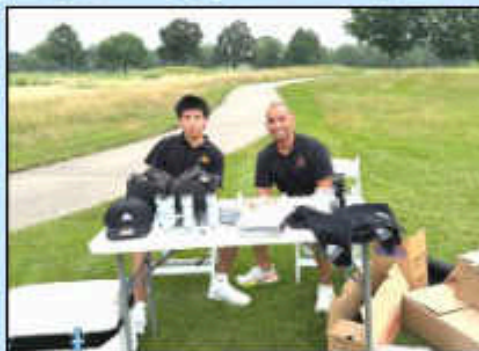
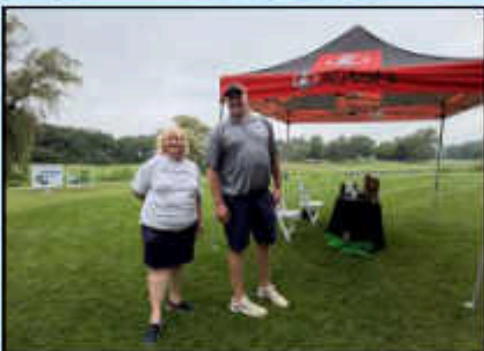


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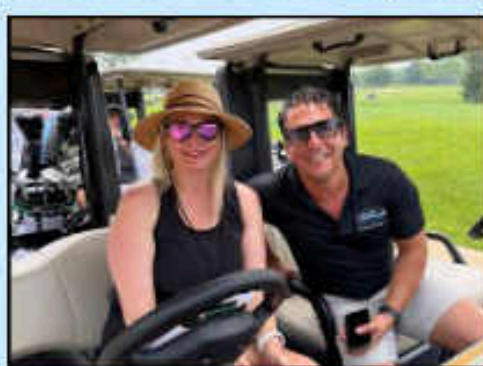
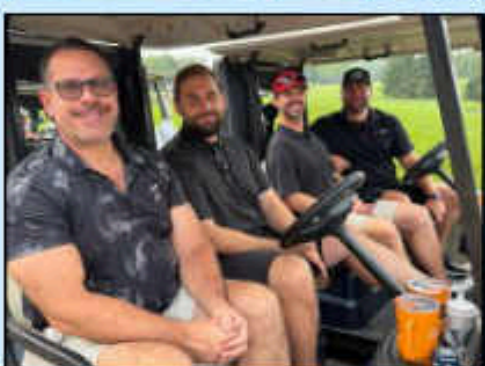
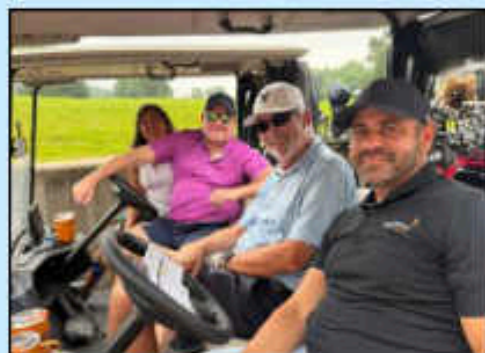
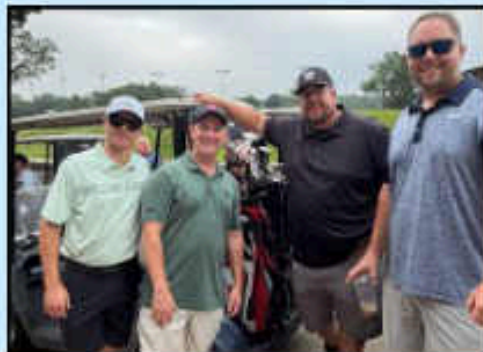
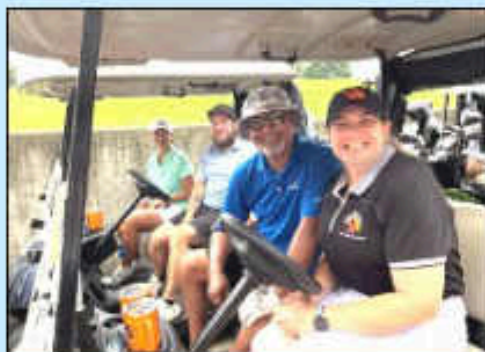
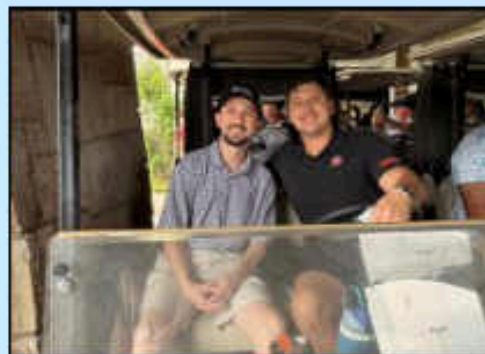
Happy Hour- McCann Industries & Badger Infrastructure



2026 Golf Outing



2026 Golf Outing



September 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 7:30 Membership 9 a.m. Mentorship	3	4	5
6	7	8 8 a.m. Executive	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 11 a.m. ELP JULIE-Joliet	23	24 UCA Fall Fest & Business Mtg. Cantigny Park	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 8:30 a.m. Cont. Ed.	8 8 a.m. Convention 9 a.m. Events	9	10
11	12 8 a.m. Executive	13	14 10 a.m. Statewide Hoerr Construction	15	16	17
18	19	20 8 a.m. Board Mtg.	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 11 a.m. ELP Local ISO Training Wilmington	28 8 a.m. Safety/RM/ Damage Prevention	29	30	31