President Lance Pickerign and his wife, Renee, wish to extend a warm MICA invitation to you to join them as our association engages in “Getting Involved”. One of the key benefits of belonging to MICA is your ability to work with fellow members to improve your business acumen and to better your industry. Come and participate as we share ideas at our annual convention this June 22 – 25, 2015, at one of the Midwest’s most unique resort and conference center; the Blue Harbor Resort & Spa. Nestled on the western shore of the always-majestic Lake Michigan, this picturesque and stately home-away-from-home presents a stunning view all unto itself. With 180 hotel rooms and 64 villas, Blue Harbor offers a wide variety of accommodations perfect for our annual convention.

The location of this year’s meeting is designed to allow those of you who would like to extend the meeting into a vacation time for the entire family to do so. At Blue Harbor, you have both Lake Michigan and the Sheboygan River in your back yard. Recreation activities are diverse, whether it’s a rollicking visit to the year-round indoor waterpark and mini-golf course or a relaxing stroll on one of the eco-friendly lakeshore trails. When you’re at The Blue, relaxation, fun and comfort are intertwined. The resort restaurants include the premier Latitude 43 or casual Beacon, all with extraordinary views. Treat yourself to the expertise and personalized care available at Reflections Spa. Shopping, golf, watersports and charter fishing are just a few minutes away on foot or by car. Make a sand castle at the beach, take a long nature walk along the shoreline or try a real water adventure by sailing, kayaking or stand-up paddleboarding. If fishing or golf is your game, you’re in luck: The resort has partnered with local charter fishing services as well as The Bull, a Jack Nicklaus course that’s just 10 minutes away. For those that love to shop, Blue Harbor offers some unexpected, delightful choices at The Boutique and its other retail stores.

More shops — as well as an assortment of bars and restaurants — are a short walk away at Sheboygan’s quaint Harbor Centre. Deeper into this family-friendly city, a wide range of museums and entertainment awaits.

Our block of rooms at the resort has been filled and the hotel is now taking reservations on an availability basis only and our group rate of $145 per night plus tax, single or double occupancy plus a resort amenity fee of $10.00 per day is no longer guaranteed. If you are still in need of a sleeping room at the resort, we suggest that you call the reservations office at 866-701-2583 and reference the Midwest Insulation Contractors code – 7AL45L.

The Board of Directors is most excited about the technical topics and speakers for the spring convention. The topics and speakers were selected to help educate and inform you on a variety of industry topics pertinent to our current business climate. We are going to have presentations that cover a wide array of topics that will help you grow your knowledge as a business professional. Below is a brief summary of our speakers:

**Ms. Karrie Landsverk:** Karrie will be our speaker at our opening session on Tuesday morning as she presents “Sifting Through the Generational Drama...Reviving the Fascination We Once Had for Our Differences”.

Karrie has been a leader in the business world for 17 years, with positions ranging from high-level leadership roles at a Fortune 500 company—to HR Director for a 20 location pharmacy chain. She has lived the ongoing struggles business leaders face in creating cultures where all employees communicate to build positive relationships with their teams, customers, and business partners. Karrie strongly believes most employees and leaders want to do their best, and make a difference in their world. (Continued on page 5)
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

TO: THE MICA MEMBERSHIP

Good Day MICA Friends:

This is my last Newsletter as MICA President. I hope you have enjoyed reading my message - I had fun writing them.

I would like to say what a great honor it has been to serve in this position, and thank you to everyone who continue to “Get Involved” to ensure that MICA remains the Insulation Industry Leader.

When I first stepped into this role, many of our distinguished Past Presidents had told me you will do great and not to worry, because Tom and Cindy will take good care of you. They were right. Until you are in this position, you don’t see just how much is done behind the scenes keeping MICA running smoothly. We see those two in action a couple times a year at our meetings, but they do so much all year long.

I would like to personally thank Tom and Cindy for all you do for MICA and for making my year as President fun and enjoyable. It’s been great! Nate: no worry’s - you’re in good hands.

I would also like to thank our Executive Board, Board of Directors and Committee chairs, without your willingness to “Get Involved” in a leadership role, MICA would not be what it is today. And, of course, our organization would not be what it is today if it wasn’t for our great membership. A big thank you - past, current and future members, for your continued support of this great organization.

A special thank you to the Manual Committee – this committee meets continuously during the year to keep the MICA Manual current – and with the 8th edition and a Cryogenics section in development, they are putting in countless hours with a very aggressive goal to have this new edition available for the World Insulation Expo being held in the USA next year. When you see these guys in June, thank them for their commitment to MICA and for the hard work they are putting into our MICA Manual. Thank you!

Congrats Mr. President and First Lady Amanda, I hope you both enjoy this coming year as much as Renee and I enjoyed ours. It flies by faster than you can imagine.

Renee and I are looking forward to seeing all of our MICA friends at the Blue Harbor Resort in June. Travel safely and enjoy the summer.

Thank you for reading – One Last Time

Respectfully,

Lance Pickerign
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place of work. Karrie is most excited to work with organizations who see the value in building stronger communication skills, developing mindsets that seek to understand differences, and creating an environment where all feel welcome, heard, and able to do their best work!

Karrie Landsverk is currently a Partner with AmericanWay University, Trainer, and Professional Speaker who brings humor and engagement to all of her presentations. As a professional member of the National Speakers Association, Karrie’s style is dynamic and energetic, captivating her audiences with real-life experiences. She has a strong background in leadership, human resources, healthcare, and education. Karrie served as a school board member for seven years in her district and is very active in her community and church.

Dr. Linda Goldenhar, Director of Research and Evaluation at CPWR: The Center for Construction Research and Training, will give us her insight on improving our company’s safety culture with her presentation on, “Making a Positive Difference in Construction Safety and Health by Improving Safety Culture, Safety Climate, & Safety Leadership”. Dr. Goldenhar’s scholarly work over the last 27 years encompasses a wide variety of health and public health related topics and includes over 60 peer-reviewed publications, and numerous conference presentations, book chapters, manuals, symposia, and workshops. As Director she oversees the Center’s evaluation activity and is PI on a 5 year project entitled Enhancing Safety Climate through Supervisory Leadership. Her expertise is in safety climate/culture in construction, qualitative and quantitative research methods and intervention evaluation.

Gary Auman will provide an extended update on OSHA requirements that will include a discussion on how to document recordables properly as well as other recordkeeping and reporting issues. Gary Auman is a shareholder and director in the law firm of Dunlevy, Mahan & Furry in Dayton, Ohio. He graduated with an electrical engineering degree from the University of Louisville in 1969 and a law degree from The Ohio State University in 1976. He served four years in the U.S. Air Force at Wright Patterson from 1969 – 1973. He has defended employers in workers’ comp and OSHA since 1976. He defends OSHA cases nationally. He is a frequent speaker and is much in demand across the country, especially on OSHA topics. He has presented papers at the International Roofing Expo-sition and regularly presents papers at the Iowa-Illinois Annual Safety Conference. In 2002, he was awarded the Distinguished Service to Safety Award by the National Safety Council. This is the highest volunteer award bestowed by that organization. In 2013, he was awarded the Bernon G. Perkins Award by the NFBA for his service to the post frame industry. Last year, MICA honored Gary with the “William R. Heaston Outstanding Member” award. He has worked with OSHA in its development of safety and health standards, and he has defended OSHA cases in several federal appellate courts. He represents four national and regional trade associations in the construction industry.
Alec Rexroat, Past President of MICA, will provide an enlightened presentation on the efforts of the Labor Management Trust to promote the mechanical insulation industry to a national audience.

Peter Gauchel, Past President of MICA and current Chairman of MICA’s Technical Committee, will provide an update on the new MICA plates that have been added to the 7th edition of the National Commercial & Industrial Insulation Standards manual in 2015.

Ben Pfister, Past President of MICA and current Chairman of MICA’s Past Presidents’ Planning Committee, will give us a quick tour of the newly revised MICA website and navigate us through the newly created “Classified Ad” section of the website.

Mr. J. Kenneth Freeman, NIA President for 2015 – 2016, will give us an update on our industry activities at the national level.

We will have a union contractor forum, an open shop contractor forum, and an associate member forum all running simultaneously. This approach allows more of the members to participate in craft issues without being part of a formal committee. This spring, neither the labor committee nor the merit shop committee will formally meet during the convention. This format will give each of you the opportunity to interact with other MICA members with similar business concerns. The associate member forum will discuss several issues of interest to our associate members regarding their membership status in MICA.

We will recognize those companies that participated in our tenth annual “Best Practices in Safety” Award.

The program also affords you ample time for fun and relaxation and to interact with your fellow contractors and distributors. Our gala dinner and dance will be on Wednesday evening. This year’s gala is semi-formal dress. We will honor Alec Rexroat, Past President and long-time member of MICA, with the “William R. Heaston Outstanding Member” award. Alec is an ambassador extraordinaire for MICA and the insulation industry. He truly exemplifies the virtues reflected in Bill Heaston of selfless service to MICA and the insulation industry.

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DODGE MOMENTUM INDEX MOVES HIGHER IN APRIL

The Dodge Momentum Index rose 0.8% in April to 122.6 (2000=100) from March’s 121.6, according to Dodge Data & Analytics. The Momentum Index is a monthly measure of the first (or initial) report for nonresidential building projects in planning, which have been shown to lead construction spending for nonresidential buildings by a full year. April’s slight rise shows planning activity beginning to edge up once again after retreating 2.5% in March, continuing the up-and-down pattern that’s been present so far in 2015. Although the planning statistics have essentially plateaued in early 2015, the level of activity continues to be higher than a year ago, enabling the latest month’s Momentum Index to be up 8.5% compared to April 2014. With the commercial sector still helped by improving occupancies and rents, while the institutional sector is benefiting from the passage of recent bond measures, it’s expected that the Momentum Index will see a more sustained upward trend as 2015 progresses.

Planning activity for both the commercial and institutional sectors posted modest gains in April, with commercial up 0.5% and institutional up 1.2%. The slight increase for the commercial sector was supported by three sizeable projects that entered planning—a $500 million expansion of the JW Marriott & Ritz Carlton Hotel in Los Angeles, CA; a $300 million Loews Sapphire Falls Resort in Orlando, FL; and a $100 million ware-house and office building project in Santa Fe Springs, CA. For the institutional sector, there were also three projects valued at $100 million or more that entered planning—a $150 million high school renovation in Beverly Hills, CA; the $100 million AltaSea Marine Research and Interpretive Center in Los Angeles, CA; and the $100 million Seattle Children’s Research Institute in Seattle, WA.

OPEN LETTER FROM BONNIE SCHILLINGER

Dear Fellow Contractors & Friends,

It is with a heavy heart that I announce my retirement, the closing of Schillinger Insulating Contractors, and the placement of our office building on the market. The closing of Schillinger marks the end of one chapter in my life, but the beginning of a new adventure. Marc and I started our business in April of 1981, from our home in Oakville, MO. We worked out of our house for four years in order to establish ourselves as a company that could compete in an established, talented, and competitive St. Louis insulation market.

We moved into our present office and warehouse in the spring of 1985. Schillinger Insulating Contractors has always been a family business. We employed our four children: Peggy (Continued on page 21)

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Schmidt, Steve Schillinger, Joan Atencio and Debbie Quinn. We then added our son-in-law, Jay Atencio. Marc Schillinger, a kind and generous husband and father, passed away in March of 2000. Even though it was a daunting task, we moved forward as a company and a family. A few years later, I was certified as a Disadvantage Woman Business Enterprise.

We had the ups and downs of most small businesses. We won more battles than we lost along the way. Most importantly, we have met many long lasting friends. I would personally like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you that we had the pleasure of doing business with. I will miss you all.

Thank you all for your business and friendship over the years.

Sincerely yours,
Mary Bonnie Schillinger

CONFINED SPACES RULE COULD PROTECT NEARLY 800 CONSTRUCTION WORKERS A YEAR FROM SERIOUS INJURIES AND REDUCE LIFE-THREATENING HAZARDS

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration today issued a final rule to increase protections for construction workers in confined spaces.

Manholes, crawl spaces, tanks and other confined spaces are not intended for continuous occupancy. They are also difficult to exit in an emergency. People working in confined spaces face life-threatening hazards including toxic substances, electrocutions, explosions and asphyxiation. Last year, two workers were asphyxiated while repairing leaks in a manhole, the second when he went down to save the first — which is not uncommon in cases of asphyxiation in confined spaces.

"In the construction industry, entering confined spaces is often necessary, but fatalities like these don't have to happen," said Secretary of Labor Thomas E. Perez. "This new rule will significantly improve the safety of construction workers who enter confined spaces. In fact, we estimate that it will prevent about 780 serious injuries every year."

The rule will provide construction workers with protections similar to those manufacturing and general industry workers have had for more than two decades, with some differences tailored to the construction industry. These include requirements to ensure that multiple employers share vital safety information and to continuously monitor hazards — a safety option made possible by technological advances after the manufacturing and general industry standards were created.

"This rule will save lives of construction workers," said Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health Dr. David Michaels. "Unlike most general industry worksites, construction sites are continually evolving, with the number and..."
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characteristics of confined spaces changing as work progresses. This rule emphasizes training, continuous worksite evaluation and communication requirements to further protect workers' safety and health."

Compliance assistance material and additional information is available on OSHA's Confined Spaces in Construction Web page.

**THE PASSING OF SHARON LUSE**

We were saddened by the death of Sharon Luse, wife of Dee Luse and mother of Steve Luse, long-time MICA members . The Luse family has been, and continues to be, staunch supporters of MICA and NIA. Cindy and I met Sharon at our first MICA convention in 1984. She was most gracious in welcoming us to the MICA family and was supportive of our efforts throughout the time she was able to attend MICA functions. We will miss her warm smile and welcoming personality. Below is a brief obituary:

Sharon L. Luse, nee Goss, age 77, a resident of Glen Ellyn, since 1969, went to be with the Lord on May 2, 2015, peacefully at home. She was born on September 5, 1937 in Indianapolis to Dewey and Lucille Sisk.

Sharon grew up in Indianapolis and then graduated high school in Oak Park. She attended Monticello College in Alton, Illinois. She met the love of her life, Dee Luse in 1954 in Oak Park. They were married on May 4, 1957 in Indianapolis. They lived in Oak Park, Elmwood Park, Lombard and Glen Ellyn. In recent years, they have wintered in Scottsdale, Arizona.

She was a member of Glen Ellyn Garden Club, Glen Ellyn P.E.O., Glen Oak Country Club and the Morton Arboretum. She loved her church homes (Community Fellowship in West Chicago and Highlands Church in Scottsdale), Bible Study Fellowship, golf, oil and watercolor painting, needle-pointing, knitting, building bird houses and other crafting. She also loved cross-country skiing and snowmobiling.

She is survived by her husband, Dee Luse, three sons, Steve (Elaine) Luse of Wheaton, Brad (Ingrid) Luse of Elburn, IL, and Devin (Karen) Luse of El Paso, Texas, nine grandchildren, Ashley, Dylan, Hillary, Dustin, Christian, Hannah, Sydney, Harley, and Thaya.

A celebration of life will be held on Friday, May 29, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. at Community Fellowship Church, 28W240 North Ave., West Chicago, IL 60185. The family will be available to receive guests at 2:00 p.m. until the start of the service. Interment will be private.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be directed to the Sharon Luse Memorial to fight Alzheimers and checks can be made out to the National Christian Foundation, 100 Tri State Intl Drive, Suite 225, Lincolnshire, IL 60069; or give online at http://bit.ly/1KKeCcz. Cards of sympathy may be sent to the Luse family in care of the company address: Luse Thermal Technologies, 3990 Enterprise Court, Aurora, IL 60504.
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