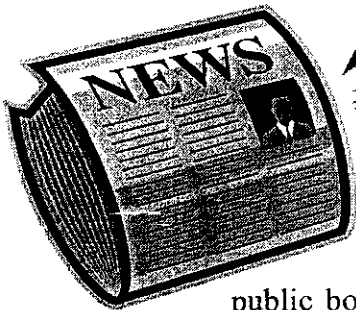


## *From the Desk of Jay Schulte* **Executive Director**

Although we are into the “dog days of summer”, SITE has been very active as we strive to meet the needs of our members. For the first time, SITE has a collective bargaining agreement with Laborers Local 840 covering Franklin County. The new labor agreement runs from June 1, 2007 through February 28, 2009. Also, a new Laborers agreement was negotiated with Laborers Local 110 for the counties of Jefferson and Washington. These two counties were under the territorial control of Local 718. However, the Laborers International office in May dissolved Local 718 and gave these two counties to Laborers Local #110. Except for the wages in Washington County, the terms and conditions of this new agreement with Local #110 are identical to the current St. Louis Laborers agreement. On a number of occasions I would receive a telephone call from a SITE member seeking help with a labor issue in either Jefferson or Franklin County. When I would answer that SITE does not have an agreement with the Laborers in Jefferson or Franklin County, I would invariably be asked WHY NOT. SITE has an agreement with the Operating Engineers Local #513 in these two counties and if you employ cement masons, a contractor can take the current SITE agreement with Cement Masons Local #527 into those two counties. Now, having agreements with the Laborers in these counties will allow SITE to better represent and assist the needs of its contractor members.

Again this construction season, we have seen the unfortunate death of a construction worker in a highway work zone. This time it involved an employee of one of SITE’s members, Pace Construction Company. Although this incident did not involve a vehicle being driven by an employee of a construction company, we, the construction industry, need to do a better job of setting the example by slowing down. Just the other day while driving through a highway work zone, I again noticed construction company trucks driving at a speed well above the work zone posted speed. Let’s encourage our employees to slow down when driving through construction work zones. How about taking a few minutes in your safety meetings to do so. Have you used the bumper stickers SITE printed asking motorists to SLOW DOWN? If not, why not?

I would like to express my thanks to Terry Briggs, SITE’s Director of Governmental Relations; Ray Daub (Kirkwood Excavating), Chairman of SITE’s Legislative Committee and the members of such Committee for their commitment and dedications which have brought success to SITE during the past Missouri legislative session.



## **BREAKING NEWS – BOND REQUIREMENT** **A Victory for the Construction Industry**

Recently a St. Louis County Circuit Judge ruled in the Busy Bee Paving vs. AmerenUE case that a quasi-public body must follow the section of state law requiring Missouri public bodies to require contractors to post a bond on projects it contracts for to protect subcontractors, suppliers and material suppliers who work on the project. In this case AmerenUE did not require the general contractor to post a bond. The general filed for bankruptcy before paying its subcontractors. When the subcontractors filed liens, the judge ruled that no liens could be filed against AmerenUE as it is a quasi-public entity. However, the judge did rule that AmerenUE erred in not requiring the contractor to post a bond. SITE’s Board of Directors approved the cost of attorney fees to assist a member contractor as this ruling has significant ramifications in protecting the subcontractors. A possible appeal by AmerenUE is pending.