



Spring Has Arrived!

# The Latest Dirt...

You won't have a pain from the neck up when you work with us from the ground down!

## Dig Inside for...

**Schmidli's survive ..... 2**

*Pigs save the farm.*

**Win dinner with mom ..... 2**

*Send photos now!*

**Meet Kyle ..... 3**

*Kyle's got a cool computer program.*

**Mount St. Helens ..... 4**

*Mind blowing facts.*

**Just because you're awesome ... 5**

*Claim your special gift.*

**St. Helens stuns science ..... 6**

*Water can move lots of dirt and rock.*

**Septic tip #1 ..... 6**

*Know the location.*

**Local nursery tree sale ..... 7**

*Three days only. Don't miss it!*

**Photo contest ..... 8**

*Keep the pictures coming!*

Curtis, Marla, and Mary make up the team that records daily events, photographs C&E crews, shares history, and makes sure it's all error free.

We at C&E Trenching offer this monthly publication free of charge to our premier customers. We hope you enjoy reading about the real moments that molded the lives of our customers and crew. If you would rather not receive the exclusive offers we give to our premier customers, send an email to [news@candetrenching.com](mailto:news@candetrenching.com) and we will stop sending you our newsletter.

April 2019

## Spring Time!

It is spring time and that makes me happy! There's nothing like a long winter (or a late winter) to make spring feel amazing! Speaking of happy, I recently flew to Oakland, CA for a one-day meeting and on the way back to the airport, I got to talking to the Uber driver who seemed to be a happy fellow. He said he had been in the US for a little over a year and a half and he loved his job as he

never gets tired of driving. He even likes to take long road trips on his time off. He immigrated to the US from Nepal. (If you are like me and aren't up on your geography, it is the country that has part of Mount Everest in it.) He volunteered that there are lots of Buddhists in his country, but he wasn't one. When I asked him what he was, he replied, "Hindu. Well, I am actually no religion. I was raised Hindu so that is why I call myself that, but I work around all religions and they are all the same. None are better than any other. They are all looking out for themselves." He went on to say that he didn't believe in heaven or anything after this life and that heaven is now. He also said he had left his wife and daughter in Nepal and missed them but was here to build a better future for his daughter. "Aren't you giving up your heaven for your daughter?" I asked. "Oh, no!" he replied. "My heaven is to work for my daughter." I think he understood that I wasn't quite buying what he was selling, and he kept trying to clarify while I mostly just listened. We agreed that most people not acting as their religion says they should are probably just religious in name and not in heart. At least in the Bible there is much warning against saying and not doing. The blessing is when you say and do. So, while I believe that happiness is a byproduct and a choice (not a destination), I am feeling quite happy about spring today!

Speaking of happy, early last summer my kids finally convinced us to get a couple kittens. We were told they were both male, which was a bit of a disappointment as the



As a first time mom, Garmadon is not quite sure what happened to her! But what better way to kick off spring than with kitties? Read all about our surprise package in this article.



Our ladder makes the perfect kitten viewing platform for our three-year-old! You can just see the kittens in the background. She is quite impressed!

Continued on page 3

**C&E**  
TRENCHING, LLC  
P.O. Box 3788  
Pasco, WA 99302  
509-545-6940

# Schmidli's Survive With Swine

"You know, contrary to what normally happens we just happened to have our 1,860 head of pigs when the market hit its peak," comments Maurice Schmidli of Pasco.

Maurice and E'Reani Schmidli moved to the Columbia Basin in 1944 to farm some land near Basin City that he had secured through a veteran's land drawing. In order to look like they had some money, (so the "powers-to-be" would consider them) he borrowed \$500 from an uncle just to put it in the bank. "After the first crop was in the ground, Reani and I had \$13 to our name." To human reasoning, there was no way they could thrive on a farm. In fact, Maurice's two brothers were guessing just how long they would make it here before they would have to haul the Schmidli's back to Klamath Falls.



E'Reani & Maurice Schmidli arrived in the Columbia Basin with youth and determination.

After several years of farming, Maurice realized that he really should have been the mechanic and let Reani make the farming calls. "She had the agronomy brains in the family, not me," Maurice remarks. Soon, however, Maurice started getting into pigs. Farming might not have been his thing, but he seemed to do pretty well with pigs. He and Reani kept growing corn and would then let the pigs harvest it. The pigs would knock down the stalks and eat every last piece of corn out of the sand.

The Schmidli's purchased most of their pigs at the Lewiston Livestock Auction. Maurice always came home with a full load of about one hundred pigs. "The pigs we purchased that had been raised in confined areas on cement were different," commented Reani. "When the pigs got loaded into the truck, they thought that was their new pen and wouldn't get out of the truck when we got home. So, when our boy got home from school, it was his job to get those pigs out. He would put a piece of plywood on the loading chute and cover it with oil or grease. Then, we would set the pigs on the chute and slide them down. I'd have to be on the bottom to break up the pile because they would just stay at the bottom of the ramp and try to climb back in the truck!"

"One time, Reani wasn't with me when I went to the market," recalls Maurice. "I had started up the grade coming out of Clarkston. When I got to the top, I stopped at this little pull off and checked my load. This particular time, a family from California pulled up in a station wagon and said, 'Sir, did you know you lost two pigs coming up this grade?' I asked if it killed them and she said 'Nope, they ran off the side of the road.' I happened to have a hammer and nails, so I fixed the holes. I was about to leave when the family asked me, 'You are going to go get those pigs, aren't you?' 'No, way,' I said. 'How am I going to catch two little pigs in that big open ground?'" As Maurice & Reani were vaccinating them the next morning, they realized they weren't short two, they were short twelve. "I strung those pigs all through Clarkston and Lewiston. I almost hated to go back the next week, but we needed pigs." When I got there, someone had rounded up all those pigs and the sale barn had taken care of them for me."

After beginning their pig business, a receiving station was put in Basin City just a few miles from their farm. One morning, Maurice and Reani set a record hauling out pigs. "With one truck that would haul thirty-three pigs at a time, Reani and I hauled over 272 pigs one Tuesday morning," Maurice says smiling. "We had it down to a science. She'd corral 33 pigs in this little pen. I'd back the truck up and open the gate on the truck. Then she'd get the pigs going up the chute and give them the hot shot. That was the only time we used a hot shot so they'd associate that shock with the chute and they wouldn't want to come back down. I wouldn't even kill the engine. I'd just back up the old GMC, lock the brakes within 3-4 minutes and she'd have them loaded up. Then I'd be off again to take the load down to the receiving station. We could make a complete load every twenty minutes."

Heading out of the Columbia Basin has never been an option for Maurice. He, his wife, three kids and a "skinny mother-in-law" lived in a 20' x 42' home with one bath for nine years. They watched the weather and wind wreak havoc on their crops again and again. "I'll have to say, there was never a time when I felt like retreating and heading back to Klamath Falls," states Maurice.

*First published in 2012*

# ATTENTION!

## A simple "CLICK" gets mom out of the kitchen

Mother's Day is just around the corner and here's your chance to get her out of the kitchen and enjoy dinner on us! Send us a photo of you and your mom to [news@candetrenching.com](mailto:news@candetrenching.com) by April 15, 2019 along with a special memory you have of her. We'll publish our favorites in our May newsletter along with the lucky mom who gets to get out of the kitchen and enjoy dinner on us!



## Enter to win... Dinner with mom!



Springtime and laying pipe in ag land makes us happy! I don't think I will ever get tired of seeing a nice straight trench with a pipe that will play a small part in feeding millions and millions over its life time!

## Spring Time

...Continued from page 1

kids thought baby kittens in the future would be fun. Terrance and Paige named them Kai and Garmadon. They have been growing up and as the long winter went on with not much for them to do but eat and sleep, they both began to put on a few extra pounds. But little by little we noticed that Garmadon was really putting on the weight. In fact, we were starting to get a bit worried as it looked like he had swallowed a hole nest of mice and never digested them. The kids laughed about it until one day, as he was really looking huge, it hit me. Maybe the "he" was actually a she. A quick check of the theory proved that a name change might be in order as our fat boy cat turned out to be a momma cat about to deliver kittens. Sure enough! We now have five new kittens in our family and one happy and proud Garmadon. So far, Kai has been pretty understanding of the whole thing, even curling up next to them to help keep them warm. To say the least, my kids (especially my daughters) are quite delighted by this surprising turn of events! It's funny how sometimes when we have one point of view locked into our brain, it's easy to miss what's right in front of our eyes!

I wish you all a happy spring! And remember, happiness is available. Please help yourself to it!

## Meet Kyle

Kyle Clifton joined C&E last summer. He has been working alongside his brother Cwentin, also a C&E team member, operating equipment and helping out where needed. Recently, he has begun learning a new GPS computerized modeling software. "In the past," remarks Kyle, "C&E contracted with others to turn AutoCAD drawings into elevation maps." But using outsiders who were not familiar with our specific type of projects at times created challenges and last-minute changes in the field. So Kyle took on the task of learning Trimble Business Center and is currently drawing C&E's elevation maps. "I am learning a very powerful software program that after years of classes, one would still feel like you have barely scratched



Kyle, in Australia, after completing his favorite marathon.

the surface of its ability," says Kyle. "I am really enjoying this endeavor. In fact, when I'm not at work, I really wish I was at work!" Kyle also loves to run and cycle, which is a perfect fit for the Tri-Cities area. He has completed three marathons with his favorite being in Australia and a close runner-up in Key West, Florida. "I'm still figuring out the running clubs and routes in the Tri-Cities and would love some advice from the locals." If any of our readers are runners or cyclists and are willing to share info with Kyle, let us know at [news@candetrenching.com](mailto:news@candetrenching.com) and we'll pass your contact info on to him. Welcome to the team, Kyle.



Here, part of the team is slowing down and carefully going over a power crossing. This job is a new water main for the people of Moses Lake. Our thanks to the community for letting us help build a part of their water system.

# Head Scratching Mount St. Helens

*May 18th will mark the 38th anniversary of the most notorious, deadliest and economically destructive volcanic event in U.S. history.*

On Sunday, May 18, 1980 at 8:32 AM, an earthquake caused the entire weakened north face side of Mount St. Helens to slide away, creating the largest landslide ever recorded. This allowed the partly molten, high-pressure gas and steam rich rock in the volcano to suddenly explode northwards toward Spirit Lake in a hot mix of lava and pulverized older rock, overtaking the avalanching face.

What happened next no one could predict and left scientists scratching their heads and rethinking their theories about the creation of other places such as the Grand Canyon and Yellowstone National Park.

## Here are just a few mind blowing facts:

- There were over 10,000 earthquakes recorded prior to the blast, most in a 1.6 mile area at the volcano.
- The total energy output during the nine-hour eruption was equivalent to 440 million tons of TNT, approximately 33,000 Hiroshima atomic bombs.
- The landslide, caused by the blast, travelled at 110 to 155 miles per hour for 17 miles averaging 150 feet deep and at its thickest part was 1 mile wide. In total, debris covered about 24 square miles.
- The volcano heated up the ground water causing a gigantic steam explosion. This steam explosion overtook the landslide shearing off millions of trees and vaporizing foliage leaving toothpick looking trunks littering the mountain side.
- Immediately following the steam, came the large landslide that crashed into Spirit Lake displacing the water and creating waves 800 feet high. The waves washed up the sides of the valley walls and carried back hundreds of thousands of tree trunks and uprooted trees that still remain in top of and buried in Spirit Lake. This added debris raised the surface level of Spirit Lake by 262 feet.
- A close encounter with death: Visible eruptions ceased on May 16, two days prior to the big blast, which caused a reduction in public interest and consequently the number of spectators in the area. This also caused the public pressure to increase and forced officials to allow 50 carloads of property owners to enter the danger zone on Saturday, May 17, to gather whatever property they could carry. Another trip was scheduled for 10 a.m. the next day but of course never took place.
- Since the eruption took place on Sunday, no loggers were in the area. Had they been, the death toll could have been much higher than 57 people. Thousands of animals were killed, more than 200 homes were destroyed, and more than 185 miles of roads and 15 miles of railways were damaged. Ash clogged sewage systems, damaged cars and buildings, and temporarily shut down air traffic over the Northwest. The International Trade Commission estimated damages to timber, civil works and agriculture to be \$1.1 billion.

The really head scratching, eye-opening facts are further described in the articles on the next page. Read about how Mount St. Helens created coal beds, questioned the validity of carbon dating and formed grand canyons with layers of sediment in just hours.



We have been showing you pictures of this project for a while and if all goes well, we will complete this project next month. We are trenching in power for twenty new potential houses that we hope turn into homes!



If you ever get to Mr. Qwik's, admire the new concrete they have around their building! Our thanks to Tim and company for letting us help with this project!

## **Welcome to C&E**

We thrive on referrals.

Bauman Farms  
Country View Estates HOA  
Nathan Porter

## Just because you're Awesome!

Hey, a special offer just for you! As a loyal reader of "The Latest Dirt" you already know that C&E bought out Ray's Twilight Septic Service and now offers septic pumping. We wanted to do something for you. It brightens our day when we get a phone call saying, "Hey, I just read the newsletter and I loved thus or so." In fact, we just received one of those calls last week which made us want to brighten your day as well. We're saying thanks to you for just being awesome by offering our newsletter readers an exclusive septic pumping deal just because you read our newsletter and stay in touch with us. We're giving all readers a free C&E mug filled with a special surprise when you schedule a septic pump with Ray's Twilight before May 1st. It's easy! Just call us at 509-375-3333, mention you're a newsletter reader and that you want the free gift.

Additionally, did you know that spring is a great time to pump your tank? It will give your drain field a rest after all the melting snow and rain. Schedule today to beat the rush and avoid the emergency pumping.



This composite photograph (20 photos) of the May 18 eruption was taken from 35 miles west in Toledo, Washington. The ash-cloud stem is 10 miles wide, and the mushroom top is 40 miles wide and 15 miles high. The footprint of the cloud stem is roughly the same as the devastated area north of the mountain where the forest was knocked down and which three decades later is still relatively barren. Photo Credits: Rocky Kolberg

*More head scratching....Some of the 20 year old trees that were thrown into Spirit Lake in 1980 had petrified by August 1982. They were carbon dated between 100 years old and 36,000 years old in a study by Karowe and Jefferson. How could that be when they were placed there by the eruption?*

## Coal Beds in the Making

In the past, scientists claimed that coal is a non-renewable energy source because it takes millions of years to form. That means that what is in the ground now is all there is and we can't make more. The steam blast and landslide at Mount St. Helens created ideal conditions for creating coal beds in just ten years, not millions as previously thought. Coal beds are formed when plant matter is covered by dirt and the pressure and heat squeeze out all the oxygen. This exact thing is happening under Spirit Lake. There is a floating log mat that moves with the wind but the rest of the million trees are buried under water. The trees that were not completely detached from their roots, were turned upright by their own weight, became waterlogged, and sank into the muddy sediments at the bottom. Here they have become petrified in the oxygen-free and mineral-rich waters. Fossils were formed in these layers as the debris settled. The effects of the landslide also buried tree matter in layers creating an illusion of millions of years of debris built up. Since this happened in our modern day, we know what the lake bottom was like before and can observe what happened after the blast. This provides insight into other sites like Specimen Ridge in Yellowstone National Park.

## Canyons Made In Hours

When we all thought Mount St. Helens was done showcasing amazing things, along came another eruption in 1982. Though much smaller, this eruption broke up the dam that was created from the original explosion which blocked the outlet of Spirit Lake. This massive flow of water, silt, boulders,



This picture depicts some of the canyon walls with different layers of sediment deposited with flood waters. Photo Credits: Jeff Hollett

logs and debris carved massive canyons over 100 feet deep in just a matter of hours. After the massive flow of water subsided and the ground became stable, scientists were able to observe the amazing fact that stratified layers of sedimentary rocks were created. It didn't take millions of years to create different layers, just massive amounts of water

moving at a very fast rate. Now a very small creek flows at the bottom of these massive canyons created in just hours. Evidence proves that massive mudflows can create a canyon with a very small river at the bottom in contrast to the thinking that a small river eroded bits of sand to form a canyon. This modern day recorded event makes one wonder about sites like the Grand Canyon with its canyon structure and a little river at the bottom. Maybe a global flood rather than the tiny Colorado River that eroded over millions of years?

EXCLUSIVE OFFER ONLY TO NEWSLETTER READERS

FREE GIFT  
When you schedule  
a pump before  
May 1st!\*

## TIP #1 *Know exactly where your septic system and drain field are located.*

**Why?** Isn't assuming that it is located in the wide-open area of the backyard OK? No! That is not enough, and here is one reason why... You must avoid over-watering. The most common over-watering is caused by an improperly set sprinkler system. This typically happens in the springtime, when you are constantly watering your lawn. A green lawn is refreshing in the desert Columbia Basin, but please trust me. If you over-water your drain field area, your lawn will not remain green once effluent (septic waste) begins oozing up through the saturated soil.

**So how do you locate your septic system and drain field?** The easiest way is to contact your county health department office. If you live within the boundaries of the Benton/Franklin Health Department, they will provide copies of your plans free of charge, upon request, or you can call us. We have years of records on where tanks are located and we may have yours.

**Take care of the drain field and it will serve you for a lifetime.** And remember, we aren't called Septic System Superstars for no reason. Need a pump or have some questions? You can contact us anytime, 24 hours a day at twilightseptic.com.

P.S. Oh, and one more thing. Don't drain your children's or the grandkid's play swimming pool over the drain field, either.

**Exclusive** \*We'll bring you a C&E mug with a special surprise inside. Call us and schedule your tank pumping before May 1, 2019. Don't miss this special offer!

509-375-3333 -- TwilightSeptic.com

## Thanks for calling, Again!

Allied Potato  
Anchor Hauling LLC  
Andrews & Rowell  
Benton County Public Works  
City of Kennewick  
Colt Warren  
David Brubaker  
Desert Sky Ag  
Four Point Construction  
Hur Contracting  
Mr. Qwiks  
PUD No. 2 of Grant County  
S and D Farms LLC  
Tightline Ventures LLC  
Toyota of Tri-Cities  
UPS Freight TL - Richland



The position of pipe layer is extremely critical to the long term success of the pipeline. Here you see the tools of the trade and a pipe that is properly lubed and ready to be slid into place.

## Doctor's Orders

A middle management executive had to take on some sport, by his doctor's orders, so he decides to play table tennis. After a couple of weeks his secretary asks him how he's doing.

"It's going fine," the manager says. "When I'm playing and I see the ball speeding towards me, my brain immediately says, 'To the corner! Back hand! To the net! Smash! Go back!'"

"Really? What happens then?" the secretary asks.

"Then my body says, 'Who? Me? You must be kidding!'"

## Time Perspective

A man climbs to the top of Mt. Sinai to get close enough to talk to God.

He asks the Lord, "God, what does a million years mean to you?"

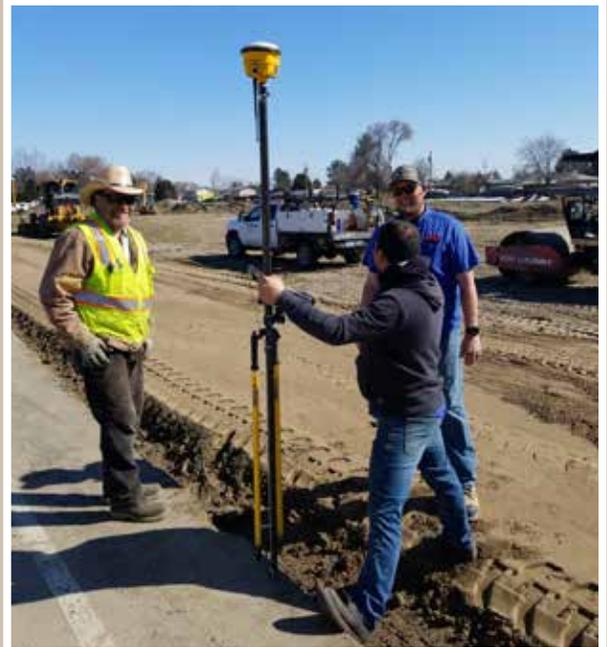
The Lord replies, "A minute."

The man asks, "What does a million dollars mean to you?"

The Lord replies, "A penny."

The man asks, "Can I have a penny?"

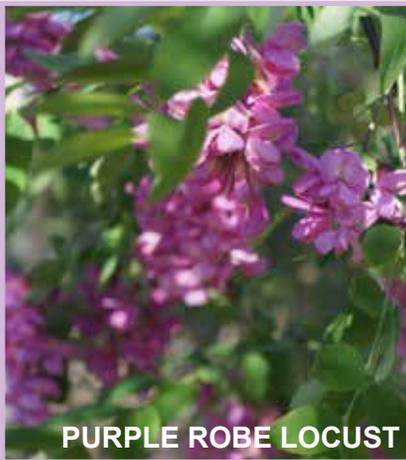
The Lord replies, "In a minute."



The crew poses for my photo! Nate (left), Sal (his back towards us) and Lonnie (in blue) are double checking that the grader gps matches the hand held rover. "Trust, but verify," as Ronald Reagan once said!

Here's  
your chance!  
Don't miss it. 3  
days only!

## Mother's Day Week at the Tree Farm



PURPLE ROBE LOCUST

Plan now to check out quality landscape trees and plants that surpass the big box stores. Get the trees that will set your home apart. Lots of tree choices. Swing by the farm, May 9th through 11th. It is only open to the public for these 3 days! Happens Mother's Day week. Mark your calendars and don't miss

this limited opportunity. Plant superior trees now and enjoy many memories in the shade.

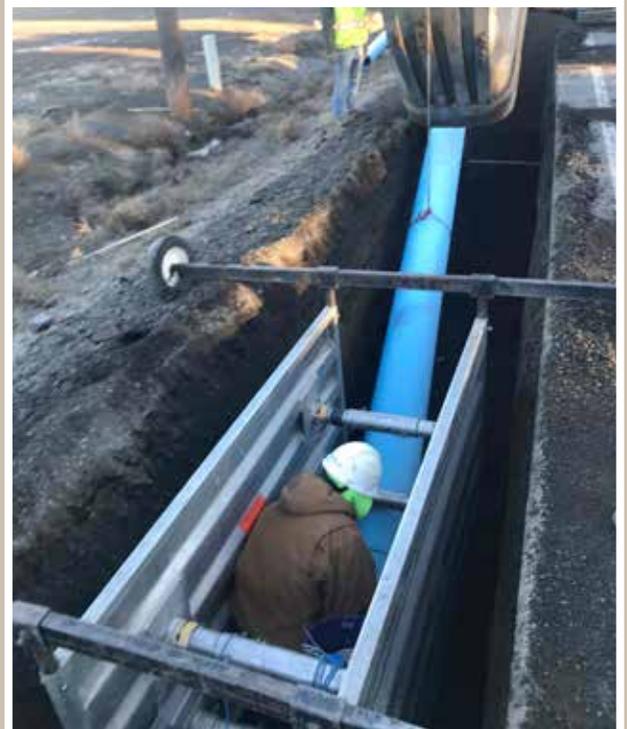
**May 9-11, 2019**

Thursday & Friday - 8:00 am- 6:00 pm

Saturday - 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Garden Gate Nursery  
2761 W Sagemoor Rd, Pasco

**GARDENGATETREES.COM**



An action photo of the Moses Lake project! We are well aware of the reputation of road construction workers standing around! Just know that some of that is necessary, although we prefer action when it is safe!

**Dig Inside for...**  
**Schmidli's survive ... 2**  
*Pigs save the farm.*

**Win dinner with mom ..... 2**  
*Send photos now!*

**Meet Kyle ..... 3**  
*Welcome to the team.*

**Mount St. Helens ..... 4**  
*Mind blowing facts.*

**Just because ..... 5**  
*Claim your special gift.*

**Septic tip #1 ..... 6**  
*Know the location.*

**Photo contest ..... 8**  
*Keep pictures coming!*

**MORE INSIDE!!!**



[www.CandEtrenching.com](http://www.CandEtrenching.com)

509-545-6940

P.O. Box 3788

Pasco, WA 99302

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PASCO, WA  
PERMIT NO. 200



<<Name>>  
<<Company Name>>  
<<Street Address 1>>  
<<City>> <<State>> <<Postal Code>>

Nobody declines a call faster than a 3 year old watching YouTube.

## Photo Contest

### The Latest Dirt went to... ...Crater Lake!

It's almost that time of year again to camp and explore. Thanks to Greg for taking us with him to Crater Lake. The first weekend of October 2018, he and his family ventured down. They were a bit uncertain of how the weather would be that late in the season, but it turned out to be a beautiful day. "We got to hike down to the edge of the lake, which was great!" tells Elvin, Greg's dad.



### Send Us Your Picture

Get that camera out and snap some pictures, then send them to us. The catch? Every picture submitted must show a copy of our newsletter. So when on vacation, sitting around a cozy fire, jumping out of an airplane or pulling an Evil Knievel stunt, hold a copy of our newsletter and take a photo. Then send it in to us and you will be entered to win one of our custom C&E dump trucks loaded with C&E prizes. Send your picture to [news@candetrenching.com](mailto:news@candetrenching.com).



Like Us On  
facebook

**C&E**  
TRENCHING, LLC