

# VINCENT'S NEWS

The 'Van-Go' Gallery



## OWNER'S CORNER

65 Years of Excellence!



Best Residential HVAC Company  
Best Plumbing Company

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### Did you know...

...this is the last issue of the year for Vincent's News as we take a month off from it to enjoy the holidays.

May you and your family have a blessed holiday season! We'll be back in January.

- Daniel Squires

## THROUGH MY EYES

Wow - our Thanksgiving month is already here. I have a lot to be thankful for in 2024 that I want to share.

I'm thankful for the 65 years that Vincent's Heating & Plumbing has had the privilege of serving the Blue Water Area. When my father, Ray Squires went to work as a plumbing apprentice for Vincent Unte in 1965, his only thought was to provide a better living for his wife and two young sons. He had no idea that he and my mother, Kay Squires, would acquire the

*Continued Page 3*

*"Wherever you see a 'Vincent's Van Go' you know the job will be a work of art."*



In September, VHP was recognized with National Comfort Institute's 2024 award for excellence for all the new technological tools and practices we are implementing to provide our customers with better service. A plaque was presented to me at an awards banquet in Asheville, N.C. Next to me, from left to right, are Dominick Guarino, NCI president, and David Richardson, NCI V.P. and National Director of Training. It is a big honor. - Daniel Squires

## Scorched Furnace Vent Pipe Reveals Why Annual Furnace Safety Checks Are So Important

Recently, I saw section of a PVC air intake pipe that had been cut out from a furnace we replaced. (Photo on Page 2). Normally, PVC is marshmallow white, but on this piece about 8 inches of the pipe was as black as a marshmallow burnt over a campfire.

While this might seem funny, it's actually scary. This happened because the heat exchanger had plugged and blocked the path of the flame. This caused the flame to roll back into the burner compartment. This superheated

the metal chamber and caused the plastic components around the burner chamber, including the PVC pipe, to burn and melt. This was incredibly unsafe and not just because of the potential fire danger. These situations are usually accompanied by dangerous levels of carbon monoxide.

While there are safety devices in gas-burning appliances to prevent this from happening, in this instance the safety component failed to do its job. Most of the time, furnace, boiler or water heater

*Continued Page 2*

## Scorched Furnace Vent... (Continued from Pg.1)



Here's Brendan with the scorched furnace PVC air intake pipe. The heat exchanger had plugged and the safety failed to shut off the furnace when the flame rolled out. This could have been discovered on an annual maintenance visit. Thankfully it was caught before anyone was harmed.

“safeties” aren’t needed. Essentially, they’re a ‘Plan B’ to shut the unit off should it fail to operate as it’s supposed to. And because these appliances are made so well, the safeties rarely function - but in this instance, when it was needed, it didn’t work to shut off the furnace. This is why a safety inspection on an annual maintenance visit is so important. You want to make certain that your unit is operating like it’s supposed to and without any problems. In other words, make certain ‘Plan A’ is working like it’s supposed to so ‘Plan B’ is never needed!

### Five Tell-Tale Signs Your Furnace Is Unsafe From Your Exhaust Vent:

- 1) **Look for discoloration on any PVC exhaust vents.** Any PVC should be white or off white. If it’s beginning to turn other colors such as pink, orange or purple, your appliance is overheating and beginning to melt the vent material. PVC has a temperature rating of 140° F.
- 2) **Look for signs of rust on any metal exhaust vents.** This is a sign of excessive moisture. It can also be an indication of other problems inside the exhaust system. At the very least, this venting should be replaced as it could potentially fall apart.
- 3) **Look for soot or a black color on the inside walls of the PVC vent termination where it exits your home.** This is a sign of a serious problem in high efficiency furnaces. If you rub your finger inside of the vent termination and there is a layer of soot you have a dangerous condition in your system.
- 4) **Look for rust colored water stains on the back of the blower or rust colored water around the base of your furnace.** This is a sign that the secondary heat exchanger has failed and is leaking water. If there are electronics, this can be a risk for shorting out the system as well.
- 5) **Look for flames coming out of the bottom of your boiler or water heater when it comes on.** This can be a sign of a plugged chimney or exhaust vent. This poses a potential fire risk as well as second risk from poisonous carbon monoxide gas leaking into your home.

Also, annual service can catch developing issues before they become big, expensive problems. If you haven’t had your furnace, boiler or water heater serviced recently don’t wait until it breaks down and you wake up cold. Instead, have one of our certified Carbon Monoxide & Combustion Analysts perform a COSI

(Combustion Optimization & Safety Inspection) on your furnace or boiler. It’s a great investment toward making certain you and your family will be safe this winter. Even better is to join our Enhanced Service Plan which includes an annual maintenance visit, priority service and discounts. See the nearby insert for details. - *Brendan Squires*

### What Our Clients Are Saying..

“Excellent Service!! We have been using Vincent’s for over 30 years. Not only are they dependable but by far have the nicest and most knowledgeable service techs in this area. I highly recommend them! You won’t be disappointed! Over the years, they become like family!”

- *Cherie & James Cotter, Clyde*



## Through My Eyes (Continued from Pg. 1)

company 6 years later in 1971. Born in humble circumstances as one of twelve children and with only two years at 'Junior College', that he was able to do so is a testament to God's blessing and is evidence of the American dream.

I'm thankful that I had the opportunity to work for my dad. He gave me an after-school job of putting away inventory and keeping the floors clean. Then I 'graduated' to being a helper on the job and digging a lot of trenches for water line replacement jobs. I learned how to work in those early days and developed a good work ethic that I'm also thankful for. That job turned into a career, although one in which I've had many different roles. And I enjoyed many years of working with my dad, my brother David, and now my son Brendan.

I'm thankful for our terrific, hardworking team. I typically start my day greeting as many of our techs as I can as they are readying for the day and restocking their vans. For the short period of time that everyone is together until heading off for their first job there is a lot of camaraderie and positive energy on display. It makes it a pleasure to go into work. From the veterans that have been on the team for a long while to our younger apprentices, I think we have a great line up.

I'm thankful that Vincent's Heating & Plumbing was voted the Best Plumbing Company and the Best Residential HVAC Company in the Times Herald's annual Community Awards. I am honored that we have won these titles four years straight –

since the contest began. With your help, we can continue our winning streak in 2025.

On a personal note I'm thankful for my wife, Karen. In December we'll be celebrating our 45<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Being in business can be a roller coaster at times, and I'm so fortunate that she has been there with me through everything.

Finally, I'm thankful for you and our other loyal customers. Recently I've had the privilege of speaking with several people who shared that they've been our client for decades (as in the nearby testimonial). There is nothing that gives me greater satisfaction than hearing testimonies like these. In the end, everything that we do all comes down to you and our other customers. Thank you.

As this is my last column for 2024, my hope is that you and your family have a blessed holiday season and make a lot of good memories! And should you need plumbing or heating help you can be confident that we'll be here for you!

– Daniel Squires



**Correction:** In last months issue I erred in stating that reverse osmosis removes 100% of PFAS contamination from water. It only removes up to 99%. While reverse osmosis is the preferred method to remove PFAS when compared with other filtering methods to say that it makes 'PFAS Free' water is also an overstatement. It would be more correct to state that RO water is 'Almost PFAS Free' - *Daniel Squires*

**Heating & Air Conditioning**  
**Amana**<sup>®</sup>  
**LASTS AND LASTS AND LASTS.®**

Vincent's Heating & Plumbing is proud to install Amana equipment, made in the USA.

## Word Search - Thanksgiving Feast!

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Past issues are available in PDF format online in the Van Go Gallery at:

[VHPinc.com/gallery](http://VHPinc.com/gallery)

After the July 2023 issue, the PDF format also has the Word Search solution

P	T	R	C	T	I	Q	S	O	R	C	D	Y	O	V	B	K	T	S	P	AppleCrisp
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I	I	G	D	K	L	N	E	K	G	U	S	X	Q	T	R	O	F	O	A	Cornbread
C	U	R	M	A	E	H	B	G	S	M	S	D	W	F	I	G	N	R	N	Cranberry
P	C	E	J	E	S	Y	N	E	M	Q	I	S	B	Q	P	R	F	S	P	Dressing
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M	S	H	J	C	I	I	G	D	V	V	T	C	C	T	Z	R	D	Z	K	Ham
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D	B	S	B	L	U	L	T	P	E	I	C	O	R	N	B	R	E	A	D	Onions
U	Q	I	F	Z	B	T	P	S	M	G	U	M	G	N	I	D	D	U	P	PecanPie
N	D	H	J	A	B	Q	C	P	W	U	A	J	Y	P	C	R	X	X	M	Potatoes
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																				Turkey
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*The Most Reasons to be  
Your Best Choice*

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## Humor Section



At Thanksgiving I filled up my plate,  
With turkey, stuffing, and cake.  
But now I regret  
Being full as can get,  
As my waistband's beginning to break!

Now that's good news!

*"Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."*

Luke 6:38

# SAVE \$50 OFF A FURNACE TUNE-UP

## Plus Get A FREE GAS LINE LEAK INSPECTION



**VHP** VincentsHeatingPlumbing.com



Our technician, Jeyson, is shown using an extremely sensitive electronic leak detector that is able to pinpoint even hard to find leaks. When you have us do a gas line leak inspection, we will check the gas lines to all your appliances and all of your (accessible) joints and fittings. Over time, the pipe sealant used at connections and fittings can dry out and be the source of a leak. It's also especially important to check gas shut-offs which can be prone to leaks. Having your gas lines periodically inspected for leaks is important for the safety of you and your family. To take advantage of this offer **call us at 810-985-7103** and ask for the **TUNE-UP & GAS LINE LEAK INSPECTION PROMOTION**.

**Expires December 31 - No expiration for clients with our Enhanced Service Plan.**

*If you have our Enhanced Service Plan, you are already saving more than \$50 on your annual heating visit. Be sure to ask for a Free Gas Line Leak Inspection on your normal annual heating visit.*

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## The #1 Reason People Don't Have Their Furnace Checked for Safe and Efficient Operation Every Year:

The #1 reason is neglect: people forget about their furnace or boiler and take it for granted. In warm weather, who thinks about their furnace? In cold weather - when a furnace is keeping us warm - it's out of sight and out of mind. So when do we remember it? When we pay the gas bill or when it doesn't work and we're cold. Plus, life is so hectic, making sure the furnace gets checked isn't a high priority. Until it doesn't work ... or if something goes wrong...

### How To Avoid '*Furnace Neglect*' To Keep Your System Safe, Efficient & Running Smoothly in 3 Easy Steps:

- 1) Change your furnace filter frequently!
- 2) Keep your system operating safely and performing well with annual maintenance.
- 3) Enroll in our Enhanced Service Plan and Never Forget Your Annual Service Again!

Our premier program makes certain your system gets the attention that it needs like clockwork



Continued from front side...

without you having to worry about anything. We keep track of when maintenance is due, automatically schedule it, and notify you when a tech is coming. In addition to automatic scheduling and annual maintenance, you will also enjoy priority service, exclusive access to extended service hours (*not available to the general public*), discounted pricing and peace of mind!

**With the Enhanced Service Plan (ESP) you will have peace of mind knowing that your HVAC Equipment is operating safely and efficiently.**

**Scan this QR Code for more information:**



**Call Today to Have Your Furnace Checked for Safety.**

**But For Even More Value & Peace of Mind Add Our Enhanced Service Plan and Put Your HVAC System Maintenance on Auto Pilot!**

**Call VincentsHeatingPlumbing.com (810) 985-7103**

**Here's what other clients say about our annual maintenance program:**

- "Excellent service! I rely on Vincent's for annual maintenance for my furnace and air conditioning and am always pleased with their professional expertise." - Barbara Collins, Port Huron
- "Annual maintenance provides peace of mind. I have the annual heating and A/C tune-up done every year. It gives me peace of mind that both units are running at top efficiency saving me on my monthly gas and electric bills." Douglas Cole, Port Huron
- "The service is great, and the serviceman is awesome! Our annual check-ups are always easy to schedule at a convenient time for us. The reminder calls and the 'He's on his way' call is always appreciated. The peace of mind from knowing that our furnace will work when we need it is a blessing." - Brian Campbell, Fort Gratiot
- "Exemplary Service! It's always great to have Brendan in our home. He arrived on time to provide us with a VHP 'COSI' Furnace Tune Up. I wouldn't trust our furnace maintenance to anyone but VHP." - Mitch Ortenburg, Fort Gratiot
- "Every encounter with Vincent's Heating and Plumbing, Inc for the last 20 years has been exceptional, from start to finish. Nancy and Amy at the office, and every one of the technicians I have had for service have been so professional, kind, and willing to answer questions." - Debbie Owens
- "Great service! Brendan was very helpful. He came out and got our furnace working and explained everything clearly and went over options for upcoming preventive maintenance. I'm a devoted Vincent's customer and they are my first choice for HVAC!" - Steven Phillips, Fort Gratiot

# **Are You Concerned About The Condition Of Your Main Sewer Line?**

Aging sewers can have hidden problems. Left unaddressed these can become bigger problems that in order to fix may require excavating your yard and creating a mess. The better course is to discover any problems while they still may be addressed by less expensive options that don't require digging up your yard as described in the September Vincent's News 'Through My Eyes' column. Here is a good opportunity for you get the answers that you need about your sewer:

## **GET A FREE SEWER VIDEO\* INSPECTION**

**With Any Plumbing Repair Call Or Maintenance Visit**

*\* There are some limitations, for instance you need an accessible clean-out that we can get to. If we have to remove a toilet to access the drain, there's a charge to pull it and reset it. (Consider having a clean out installed.) Also, your sewer has to be working - if it's backed up there will be a charge for clearing it first.*

**If you don't have any plumbing issues that need immediate attention, here's an idea: Consider having your water heater serviced, if for no other reason than to make certain it is safe.**

Did you know that water heaters are actually less safe than your furnace or boiler? On the [Michigan Department of Health & Human Services](#) website, faulty [furnaces and water heaters](#) are lumped together as the [leading cause of carbon monoxide poisoning](#) in Michigan. Having your water heater serviced helps you keep your family safe. For a complete list of all we do on our Plumbing & Water Heater Service visit [www.VHPinc.com](http://www.VHPinc.com) or use QR Code.



**To Schedule a Plumbing Call or Maintenance Visit Call  
Vincent's Heating & Plumbing at (810) 985-7103.**

**Ask for the Fall Free Sewer Video Inspection Promo.**

*Turn over for another money-saving offer...*

# Two Great Drain Maintenance Products - Same Great Price!

Now Choose Between a Long-Standing Favorite or our new 'Premixed Liquid' with a Citrus Scent

Save \$10 Off the Regular \$50 Price of Either Drain Treatment

> 'Tried & true' since the '70's

Keep Your Drains Smelling Fresh and  
Flowing Free the Natural Way!

## BIO-CLEAN

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|--|---|
| <i>Eliminates costly backups</i>           | <i>Reduces build up in tank and pipes</i> |
| <i>Eliminates foul drain odors</i>         | <i>Eliminate garbage disposal odors</i>   |
| <i>No harmful chemicals</i>                | <i>Restores clogged drain fields</i>      |
| <i>Easy to use</i>                         | <i>Minimizes health and safety risks</i>  |
| <i>Environmentally friendly &amp; safe</i> | <b>GUARANTEED!</b>                        |

Regular price \$50 plus MI sales tax



**BIO-CLEAN** harnesses natural bacteria and enzymes to devour all the organic waste that build up and clog your drain lines.

> **Premixed Liquid' Drain Treatment with a Citrus Scent!**

## Fight Drain Odor & Clogging



Total-C® is a water soluble formulation, containing ingredients that produce a pleasant, fresh citrus scent, which eliminates the source of odors and keeps drains smelling fresh. A small amount goes a long way toward maintaining an odor free atmosphere that all will appreciate!

- |                                    |                                     |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| - Fresh natural citrus smell       | - Keeps drains free-flowing longer  |
| - Treats the whole plumbing system | - Concentrated, makes 32 treatments |
| - Safe for the environment         | - No harsh, toxic chemicals         |

Total-C® is engineered with 100% natural citrus liquefiers and enzymes that target and digest organic materials. Also combines long lasting drain conditioning bacteria that continues to keep drains free flowing and eliminates odors.

Regular price \$50 plus MI sales

For more information visit [www.VHPinc.com](http://www.VHPinc.com)....learn more on reverse side...



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