

VINCENT'S NEWS

The 'Van-Go' Gallery



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

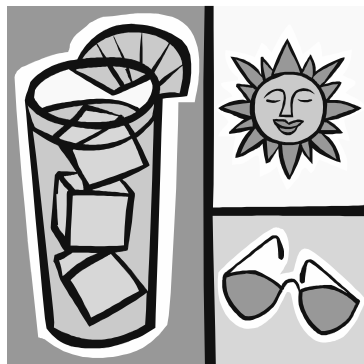
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Did you know...

...some people use refrigerant that contains propane as it's main ingredient? Bad idea of the month!

See Nearby Article.



OWNER'S CORNER

THROUGH MY EYES

As I write this I am sitting on a plane returning home from San Francisco with my daughter Alanna. The timing was perfect because her freshman year at Saint Clair County Community College had ended the previous week. Alanna's major is business and the purpose of our trip was to attend an intense 3 day business workshop. I wanted to attend the workshop for myself, but realizing that this could be an excellent opportunity for her to get some 'hands

on' additional training outside of the classroom I took her with me. I looked at it as both an investment in her future and an investment in our relationship. With her two older brothers I had the opportunity to spend some quality one-on-one time with each of them on week long hikes and canoe trips in their journey to

become Eagle Scouts. However, I never had a similar opportunity to bond with Alanna. This trip provided the perfect vehicle - and we did just that as we had a perfect week. I had previously been to *(Continued on page 3)*



With my daughter, Alanna, at the Redwood Forest.

From the Frequently Asked Question Department:

Can a Less-Expensive Refrigerant Replace Freon (R-22) in an Older A/C System?

In June this column discussed why the price of Freon (R-22) is so expensive and why it may make more economic sense to replace an older system with a unit that uses less expensive, non-

CFC refrigerants like R-410A instead of repairing it. The natural follow up question is if there are other refrigerants that can be used in place of R-22? The answer is yes – 'but'...

Here is why: A/C units are specifically engineered for the properties of the intended refrigerant. The factors include system performance, system efficiency, and *Continued Page 2*

Continued From Page 1:

Can a Less-Expensive Refrigerant Replace Freon (R-22) in an Older A/C System?



To learn the reasons for the R-22 phase-out google 'Montreal Protocol' and 'Clean Air Act.'

refrigerant compatible oils for lubricants. In reverse order: Compatible oils: the compressor lubricant or oils are mixed in with the refrigerant. R-22 oil is mineral based. R-410A oil is vegetable based. They must not be mixed or crossed in any circumstance. One consequence of combining these refrigerants is that a chemical reaction can produce acids that can cause the A/C to fail and shorten system life. System efficiency: there are some 'drop-in' replacements for R-22, however none of them are as efficient as R-22. Not only will operating costs go up, but a decrease in unit

efficiency may cause the A/C unit to not be able to cool the house. System performance: refrigerants have different properties in regard to pressure and temperature. This is not only a factor in the system efficiency, but increased pressure can affect the unit mechanically and cause safety concerns. Some 'drop in' replacements are prone to leaking more. This may require changing system seals and other parts to convert it for use which may negate any cost advantage of changing refrigerants. Then there are some replacements that are just bad ideas: R-22A is marketed as a low cost

substitute for R-22. The main ingredient of R-22A is liquefied petroleum (L.P. gas) also known as propane. While it does have similar heat transfer properties to R-22 there is also a HUGE negative: it is extremely flammable and can blow up. Consider: if you need to add Freon because it has leaked out, do you really want to replace it with a flammable substance? Finally, if you suspect that your A/C unit has had the refrigerant mixed, contaminated, or if you have added a propane substitute, please warn the tech when you have the unit serviced.

A LETTER FROM A VINCENT'S CLIENT

To the staff of Vincent's,

Thank you so much for coming at all hours and in nasty weather during my seige of furnace trouble. I appreciate it very very much.

Sincerely,

G.D, Port Huron

THROUGH MY EYES (CONT' D FROM PAGE1)

San Francisco and loved it. So when I made the arrangements I tacked on an extra day at the front of the trip for sight-seeing and rented a car. And did we see the sights!

If you've never been there, besides the crazy-steep hills, cable cars, and great seafood - we experienced them all - there is also a beautiful rustic side. At the top of our list was our drive over the Golden Gate Bridge to Muir Woods National Park. There we got to experience the awe-inspiring majesty of Pacific

redwoods - the giant Sequoia trees. From there to Muir Beach and then to the Marin Headlands. We sure packed a lot into a short amount of time!

Then there was the seminar. We both agreed that we learned a lot. Alanna is already a licensed cosmetologist and she is going back with a new perspective and confidence about her abilities to provide for herself. And she has additional respect for what it takes to run a business - and also, I trust, for me.

The captain has announced that we will soon be landing at Detroit Metro, my final thoughts are of the permanence of the redwoods. According to the National Park Service the average life span of a redwood is 500 to 700 years. That really makes me think of the importance of how I invest the comparatively short amount of time that I have. And makes it all the more important that I took the time to spend with my daughter while I can.

"...we got to experience the awe-inspiring majesty of Pacific redwoods - the giant Sequoia trees."

Dan's Delicious Summertime Black Bean & Corn Salsa



Ingredients -

1 Large Sweet Onion - diced
 1 Large Red (or Yellow) Bell Pepper - diced
 1 15oz Can of Black Beans (drained)
 1 15oz Can of Corn (drained)
 1 15oz Can of Diced Tomatoes Mexican Style (undrained)
 1 6oz Can of Tomato Paste (minimum - this thickens it and provides body)

1/4 cup (to taste) Lemon Juice (fresh or reconstituted - may substitute Lime Juice)
 8 oz. (or to taste) Mrs. Renfro's Green Salsa
 1 Teaspoons Garlic (minced or Garlic Powder)
 1 Tablespoons Fresh Cilantro (optional - can add more to taste)

Directions -

Combine all ingredients into large mixing bowl and stir until mixed. Can be eaten right away but it gets better after refrigerating overnight. Except for the canned ingredients, onions, & bell pepper, all the spices and lemon juice are approximate measurements to taste.

Variations -

The Green Salsa is for hotness. For mild salsa start with 2 oz and add to taste. For medium salsa, 4 oz. the full 8 oz gives it a nice bite without being too hot. (Mrs Renfro's Green Salsa is basically jalapeno peppers and onions if you cannot find it.)

The lemon juice helps it keep and is a key ingredient to the taste. Lime juice may be used instead. P.S. Lemon or lime juice also keeps guacamole from turning brown and adds to the taste.

I always double the recipe because it disappears fast.

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Independence Day Word Search

E M G E U J Z J B F V V L R M
 K F N M C M F T V T Z I N Z S
 Y H I Y I N Q M I C B O K V I
 S X S L J N E X T E T D X Z T
 T T T M V K U D R G J B D V O
 Y T R A P A E T N O T S O B I
 P H I A L W Y I E E L F L L R
 E W P H T W H D P M P U B T T
 E Y E D Z S R A T S E E J B A
 F S S O A P L V E F K N D V P
 Q M V W F I R E W O R K S N X
 R B P U X R T K V X H I R V I

Fireworks
 Independence
 Stars
 Stripes
 Patriotism
 Boston Tea Party
 Minute Men
 Washington
 Life
 Liberty

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The Most Reasons to be Your Best Choice

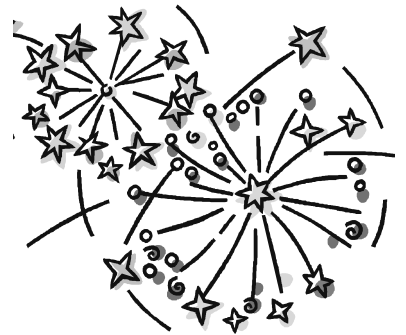
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Humor Section



What did one flag say to the other flag?
Nothing. It just waved.

How is a healthy person like the United States?
They both have good constitutions.

What's the difference between a duck and George Washington?
One has a bill on his face; the other has his face on a bill!

What is Uncle Sam's favorite snack?
Fire crackers

Quotable:

There are those, I know, who will say that the liberation of humanity, the freedom of man and mind, is nothing but a dream. They are right. It is the American dream.

Archibald MacLeish