

VINCENT'S NEWS

The 'Van-Go' Gallery



OWNER'S CORNER

65 Years of Excellence!



Best Residential HVAC Company
Best Plumbing Company

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Through My Eyes</i>	1
<i>Forever Chemicals</i>	1
<i>What Our Clients Say</i>	2
<i>Word Search</i>	4
<i>Humor</i>	4
<i>Now That's Good News!</i>	4

Did you know...

... Safety Is No Accident?

The nearby article has a lot of important info to help you make certain that you and your family are safe in your home.

THROUGH MY EYES

Welcome to 2025. I trust that 2024 ended well for you and that you are looking forward to this new year. Karen and I were able to once again participate in another European bicycling adventure in 2024. This time it was along the lovely Mosel River. As with our previous trips, this was a 'bike and barge' excursion which combines sailing and biking.

This is unlike bike trips in which there is a new place to sleep every night, and requires your suitcase to be transported between accommodations. Instead, a berth

Continued Page 3

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



There were many amazing views on our 'bike & barge' trip from Germany to France. Here I am at Burg Metternich ("Metternich Castle"). Castle ruins can be seen on the right side. It overlooks the winding Mosel River. Famous for wine since the time of the Romans who brought grapes to the area, we saw vineyards along the Mosel the entire length of our journey. - Daniel Squires

THREE TIPS TO AVOID A HOME FIRE

January is the #1 month for residential building fires. While they can occur any time of year, half of all home fires occur in just three months - December, January and February. This makes sense. Heating equipment gets heavy use in these months. Plus since cold temps dry out homes, a fire can develop more quickly in winter months than at other times of the year. While most home fires are accidents, there are things you can do to lower your risk and minimize any potential damage. Here are some tips:

- 1) Test Your Smoke Detector & Carbon Monoxide Alarms

Smoke detectors and CO alarms should be on every floor in your home. Roughly half of all home fires are cooking related, but smoke detectors should not be near the kitchen in order to avoid false alarms due to steam or cooking smoke.

However, having smoke detectors and CO alarms in place is only half of the recipe for safety. They must also be tested periodically to make sure they work. Change batteries once a year. Replace smoke detectors every 10 years and CO alarms every 5-7 years. Even if the buzzer still works, the electro-chemical sensor in them

Continued Page 2

Three Safety Tips... (Continued from Pg.1)

degrades over time and they won't work when needed. If you are unsure of when you last changed your smoke detector, there may be a date of manufacture found on the back of the alarm.

Also, typical store-bought carbon monoxide alarms will not protect you from the risk of low-level CO exposure. While not immediately lethal, exposure to low-level CO is cumulative and over time will cause long-term damage to your health. Typical CO Alarms won't alert you until high levels of CO are present. To be alerted to low levels of carbon monoxide, invest in a low-level carbon monoxide monitor. (See the nearby insert for more info.)

2) Use space heaters prudently

According to the **National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA)**, 1 out of 6 home fires - and 1 out of 5 deaths from home fires - involve home heating equipment. Of these incidents, roughly 80% are related to portable space heaters. If you use them, it's important to follow the safety guidelines. First, don't plug more than one electric space heater in the same room. A single electric

space heater draws a lot of power and can get close to the max. rating of a normal fuse or breaker. Next, keep space heaters 3-feet away from anything flammable such as paper, magazines, blankets and furniture. Finally, turn them off when you go to sleep or leave your home.

3) Have your home equipment maintained and serviced by qualified professionals

Although less likely than from portable space heaters, home fires caused by boilers, furnaces and water heaters still happen. Especially with a neglected heating system or after untrained people service them. You can lower your risk by having your HVAC system professionally maintained on an annual basis.

When a trained technician works on heating equipment, they're also focused on safety. They know enough to avoid taking a shortcut when repairing a system than can make a unit unsafe.

Just watching a YouTube video or being mechanically inclined doesn't qualify

someone to work on a furnace. Without proper knowledge, safety concerns that an experienced tech would know to avoid can be overlooked and increase fire risk in a home. We have seen equipment where furnace safeties have been disabled - probably out of ignorance - or where incorrect parts have been used and made the equipment unsafe.

Having one of our certified Carbon Monoxide & Combustion Analysts maintain your equipment can also help avoid a home fire. In addition to fire safety, our techs also perform combustion testing to make certain your furnace is operating at acceptable (safe) levels of carbon monoxide. He'll also check for gas leaks in both your HVAC equipment and in your home's gas piping to make certain there are no leaks and make sure that your HVAC exhaust material is not degrading, and check for other things that could potentially cause fires.

For more information on our maintenance service, see the nearby insert.

- Brendan Squires



What Our Clients Are Saying..

"Trusted, top notch service! We bought a new house last year and have dealt with multiple plumbing and heating issues since we have moved in. We have trusted Vincent's for all of our repairs and installations. Friendly and personable team, fast responses, and fair pricing. I will continue to give Vincent's all my heating, cooling, and plumbing business."

- Zachary Budnik, Port Huron

Through My Eyes (Continued from Pg. 1)

on a 'barge' - or boat - serves as sleeping quarters and for breakfast and dinner meals with your fellow bicyclists. I like this because I only need to unpack and pack once for the trip. Plus, since Karen and I like to travel light - only flying carry-on when possible, staying in the same room gives us time for our clothes to dry after we do any needed daily laundry in the sink. We've actually become quite adept at this, bringing laundry sheets for detergent and a portable clothes lines. The extra work beats the possibility of luggage being lost and having to lug around heavy luggage.

For this trip, we flew direct from Detroit Metro Airport to Frankfurt, Germany. From there, we boarded a train for Cochem (pronounced "cock'-um"), Germany. If this sounds daunting to you because of the language difference, we've never had a real issue. Wherever we have gone, English seems to be a universal language, and we have always been able to find someone that is able to direct us. Also, unlike most U.S airports, train stations are typically located right at the airport in Europe or close by. Further, there are even apps available to purchase train tickets - plus Uber is typically available in big cities for ground transportation.

Marvin, our service tech, was really excited to learn that we were going to the Mosel Valley. This is the area that he is originally from and Cochem is where he met his wife. It's a beautiful city and features a castle overlooking it that we were able to tour.

Our first day is always spent napping and getting over jet lag to make up for our lost 6

hours. The next day, we found our way to our boat and began our adventure, cycling out of Cochem the next morning after a night on board. Our journey took us from Cochem, through the country of Luxembourg, and ended in Metz, France, from which we took a bullet train to Paris. Now, as I write this, I'm on our return flight home.

The Mosel Valley is wine country, with vineyards blanketing the valley walls on either side of the river. The Romans began this practice and it's been going on for thousands of years since the area was part of the vast Roman Empire. The scope of this empire was probably my biggest 'ah-hah' moment. I had known the Empire had stretched from Italy north and east all the way to Great Britain, but I had always thought of it in terms of military outposts. In reality, there were thriving cities, complete with Roman bathhouses, the remains of which we saw. There was a large amount of Roman ruins in most of the cities along the way.

The Romans were remarkable in their accomplishments, and they made the world a more comfortable place for the lives of the people they touched in the places they went. It's inspiring to contemplate, and, as I return back home to normal life, I'm challenged.

While no where near as grandiose as what the Romans accomplished, I'm inspired to see that Vincent's Heating & Plumbing is able to make the world a more comfortable place for you and our other customers in your homes. Have a blessed 2025.

- Daniel Squires

A Heating & Air Conditioning
Amana[®]
 LASTS AND LASTS AND LASTS.[®]

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

Word Search - Bringing In The New Year

Vincent's Heating & Plumbing, Inc.

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

VHPinc.com/gallery

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

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S	P	I	O	D	T	E	A	U	A	V	S	N	N	C	A	F	T	S	G	Dancing
H	G	O	R	R	O	V	E	G	J	M	Y	O	L	T	L	W	I	G	H	Fireworks
E	N	T	M	E	I	O	W	N	M	H	I	C	H	Z	L	T	V	E	T	Football
S	P	J	M	U	W	E	W	U	Y	T	M	E	N	Q	V	A	N	L	K	Gathering
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The Most Reasons to be Your Best Choice

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Humor Section



At a New Year's Eve party, Sally declares, "Tonight, I'm getting a head start on my healthy eating resolution!"

Jill replies, "Great idea! How are you doing so far?"

Sally holds up a plate of carrot cake and says, "Fantastic! I'm starting with vegetables!"

Now that's good news!

"For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline."

2 Timothy 1:7

"Is Your Carbon Monoxide Alarm As Useful As A 60-foot Bungee Cord For A 50-foot Bungee Jump?"

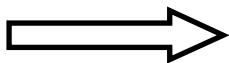


As crazy as this sounds, most Carbon Monoxide home monitors are not made to warn you even when the CO levels in your home exceed the allowable safe levels set by leading government and health agencies.

Consider these CO danger levels (parts per million):

-source National Comfort Institute

THIS IS WHEN
YOUR CO
ALARM WILL
FINALLY
SOUND!



CO LEVEL	CARBON MONOXIDE RISK OBSERVED OR ALLOWABLE LIMIT
3-7 ppm	6% increase in the rate of admission in hospitals of non-elderly for asthma. (Sheppard-1999)
5-6 ppm	Significant risk of low birth rate if exposed during last trimester (Ritz & Yu - 1999)
10 ppm	Outdoor level of CO found associated with a significant increase in heart disease deaths and hospital admissions for congestive heart failure.
15 - 20 ppm	First level World Health Organization (WHO) lists as causing impaired performance, decrease in exercise time and vigilance.
25 ppm	Maximum allowable in a parking garage (International Mechanical Code)
27 ppm	21% increase in cardio respiratory complaints. (Kurt-1978)
35 ppm	US NIOSH recommended 8-hour maximum workplace exposure. EPA standard for outdoors for 1-hour and a maximum of 1-time per year.
50 ppm	US OSHA recommended 8-hour maximum workplace exposure.
70 ppm	First alarm level for a store bought - UL 2034 approved - CO alarm.

The typical store-bought alarm (*Kidde, First Alert, etc.*) from a hardware store will only sound the alarm after 70 ppm (parts-per-million) has been sensed and then it can take up to 4 hours before the alarm is required to sound!

Regarding CO, you're safer sleeping in a public parking garage - which has a 25 ppm maximum allowable limit - than you are with a store-bought CO Alarm for protection!

...continued from front...

For Real Protection You Need the NSI 6000 * Professional Grade Low-Level CO Monitor & Log

The National Safety Institute professional grade low-level monitor & log senses CO levels as low as 5 ppm.

Infants, children, elderly, persons with respiratory or heart ailments receive little or no protection from deadly carbon monoxide with standard alarms.

At \$229, the NSI 6000 costs more than carbon monoxide monitors bought from retail stores, but when you and your family's safety is on the line, isn't quality more important than price?

Accurate, low-level CO detection requires more expensive components and quality control. The full-featured NSI 6000 Low Level CO monitor uses the same technology and sensors as in professional-grade CO analyzers used by carbon monoxide professionals, fire departments, and utilities.



The NSI 6000 Low-Level CO Monitor & Log is at Vincent's Heating & Plumbing

NSI 6000 FEATURES:

- **Continuous Scan™** mode indicates monitor is operating 24/7
- Digital display shows CO levels of **5 ppm+ (parts per million)**
- **Low Alarm** - 15 ppm-audible & visual every 8 seconds
- **High Alarm** - 35 ppm-audible & visual every 4 seconds
- **Crisis Alarm** - 70+ ppm-audible & visual every 2 seconds

- **Bluetooth compatible** - comes FREE SMART PHONE APP that allows you to sync with your mobile devices, store and review history and much more!
- **5-min. "Hush" button** for levels below 70 ppm
- Designed for wall installation or tabletop use
- Operates on replaceable CR123A 3V battery.
- 2-year limited warranty

Save \$40 off a NSI 6000 Low-Level CO Monitor

Reg. Price ~~\$229~~

Now \$189

Enhanced Service Plan price after 10% discount: \$170.¹⁰

Free delivery with any service or maintenance visit.

Offer Expires February 28.

CALL (810) 985-7103 to set up a service call or maintenance visit for free delivery OR stop by the office to purchase.

Vincent's Heating & Plumbing 2650 Oak St, Port Huron

Are you currently being protected by a first generation NSI 3000 Low Level Carbon Monoxide Monitor that you previously invested in with us?

The NSI 6000 Low Level CO Monitor is an updated and redesigned version of our popular NSI 3000 Monitor that we have been promoting for years. The updated version features a new, sleeker look, plus a new Bluetooth smart device app allows you to sync with your mobile devices, store and review history, and much more! Consider upgrading to the NSI 6000 - especially if your NSI 3000 has reached the five year limit of the electro-chemical CO sensor in it.

For more information about the NSI 6000 Low Level CO Monitor & Log scan the QR Code on the right.



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**.

Offer Extended to January 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.

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



Continued from front side...

clockwork 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 VincentHeatingPlumbing.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*

Word Search Solution January 2025

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