Vincent's Heating & Plumbing

# VINCENT'S NEWS The Van-Go' Gallery



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#### Did you know...

...the reason we call it an **air conditioner** instead of an **air cooler** is because it takes more than cool air to make us comfortable? As explained in the nearby article, air needs to be <u>dry</u>, too. OWNER'S CORNER

### THROUGH MY EYES

Over the years, I've thought about all the skills I learned from the 'shop' classes that I was required to take in middle school - classes in electricity, woodworking, sheet metal, and drafting. These classes were a great opportunity for boys to be exposed to working with their hands. And while boys were in shop classes, the girls were taking 'home economics' courses where they learned to cook and sew and other skills that are helpful in managing a household.

And while today we think it 'unenlightened' to have those tracks so gender specific, these classes provided an exposure to useful life skills that would have been missed otherwise. (I think It would've been useful for every student boy or girl - to have learned the skills from

Holiday Issue Nov/Dec 2023

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



Here is Brooklyn, our new plumbing intern from St Clair TEC, moving a water heater from our truck.

## How Controlling Humidity In Your Home Can Lower Your Utility Bills and Improve Your Health - Part 2

**Continued Page 3** 

For 75% of the year, humidity control is primarily controlling excess humidity. And while a central AC system provides dehumidification, <u>there are some</u> <u>situations where a whole home</u> <u>dehumidifier is needed</u>.

Here's an important thing to understand about using your AC to dehumidify your home: it needs '**run time**' to get rid of the humidity. The longer your AC runs, the more humidity it can remove. An AC doesn't provide much humidity removal in the late spring/early summer and in early fall because your thermostat isn't calling for cooling. And when your AC isn't running, it isn't cooling or drying the air. And if your basement is damp, a whole home dehumidifier is a must.

<u>Another important factor is</u> whether your AC system is the correct size (capacity – not physical size) for your house. The typical mistake made is oversizing the air

# **Controlling Humidity... (Continued from Pg.1)**

conditioner. When it comes to air conditioning, bigger is NOT better. Here's the problem: an oversized air conditioner can cool your house quickly, but not run long enough to get rid of the humidity. An air conditioning system that is 'sized' correctly may not cool down very fast, but the added 'run time' lets it squeeze excess humidity from the air. The result? Your home can feel comfortable at higher temperature settings, which allows you to save energy by not running your AC at colder thermostat settings.

#### Why An Oversized AC Unit Uses More Energy Than Needed

When we perspire, it's part of our body's mechanism to control heat. As this moisture on our skin evaporates, we feel cooler. Last month, I described how adding humidity to the air with a whole home humidifier in cold winter months makes us feel warmer. This is because humid air is like a sopping wet sponge that can't absorb any more water. When the perspiration on our skin can't evaporate, we feel warmer.

The same principle works in the summer, but in reverse. We need the air to be dry to keep us cool. This happens when perspiration evaporates off our skin. And while this is a good thing in the winter - to help us feel warmer - it's a bad thing in the summer because we'll feel hot and sticky. We need our 'sweat' to evaporate in the summer to feel comfortable. And when we feel more comfortable we don't need as much cooling.

Unfortunately, there are a lot of houses where the cooling capacity of the AC is greater than what the house needs and it doesn't get the *'run-time'* it needs to dry the air. As described above, the house cools down quickly, but the AC doesn't run long enough to get rid of the humidity. This results in cold air that feels 'clammy' and uncomfortable. And thinking the problem is that the house isn't cool enough - the default response is to turn the thermostat down, to off-set the lack of comfort. This causes the AC to use more electricity than it should.

This is a situation where a whole home dehumidifier is a good solution to provide the 'run-time' needed to dehumidify your house to compensate for poor sizing. If the only option to dehumidify your house is running your air conditioner, it can't control excess humidity when it's not working. In this situation, a whole-home dehumidifier provides 'gap coverage' to dehumidify your house.

So whether it is with a humidifier in the winter months when humidity is too low or with a dehumidifier the rest of the year when humidity is too high, humidity control can save money and improve your health. See the nearby insert for more info and a special promotion.

Daniel Squires

## What Our Clients Are Saying...



"We have Vincent's service our boiler and I wouldn't trust anyone else. The technicians are always professional and friendly. They give you a detailed explanation of the work needed and provide options to fit your budget."

- Joanna Kinel, Marysville

# Through My Eyes (Continued from Pg.1)

both the shop and 'home-ec' courses!)

Overlooking the sexism of that time, shop classes served an especially important purpose if a young man was not college bound – they could still find a good career in the skilled trades. But somewhere along the way we abandoned these classes.

By the time my kids were in school it seemed as though 'keyboarding' and computer classes had taken over the place that shop and home-ec classes had previously occupied. And while I agree that being 'computer literate' is important – as the emphasis of these keyboarding classes conveyed – I was able to become skilled on the computer without them. I felt that by not taking classes where they were taught to work with their hands that my kids had missed out.

These changes went hand in hand with a prevailing paradigm that everyone should attend college. And while there are more consequences to this idea and the changes than I can explore in this column, here's an important one: there is a dire shortage of people in the skilled trades: plumbers, HVAC techs, electricians, carpenters, auto mechanics and more. And since many people in these trades are retiring baby boomers, there will be many shortages when a skilled tradesman is needed.

Thank goodness for technical education programs like St Clair TEC (RESA). And while I think every student should be exposed to basic technical skills, it is providing a needed counterpoint to the prevailing 'everyone should go to college' theme for the few wise students that take advantage of this resource. There are a lot of opportunities for good jobs that don't



require a college degree.

A prime example is our new plumbing intern from St Clair TEC. And this illustrates how far we have come since the sexism that existed when I was in school: <u>our new plumbing intern</u> <u>is a girl, and her name is Brooklyn</u> (see the photo on the first page).

I was very impressed to learn that Brooklyn had taken <u>1st place in the local skill center</u> <u>plumbing competition and had finished in 7<sup>th</sup></u> <u>place at the state level!</u> Brooklyn is a hard worker and isn't afraid to get dirty, which has impressed everyone she has worked with. Plus, she has a great attitude and wants to work until the job is done. Brooklyn grew up helping her dad with construction projects including helping shingle a roof and decided she would rather learn a skilled trade than go to college. We're excited to give Brooklyn a chance to hone her plumbing skills - welcome, Brooklyn!

Regarding her work ethic and these other traits, Brooklyn fits right in with the rest of our hard-working and highly skilled team of plumbers and HVAC techs and installers. And as a VHP customer, you needn't worry about our workers retiring anytime soon – we have a youthful team that will be there to take care of you when you need us!

Consider sharing this video with a young person who might benefit by learning more about a high paying career in a skilled trade:

https://www.womeninhvacr.org/comealive

This is the last issue of Vincent's News in 2023 – look for the next issue in January. Have a great Thanksgiving and I wish you a blessed Christmas and happy New Year! *Daniel Squires* 

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	Favorite Holiday Food																				
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Van Go Gallery at: <u>VHPinc.com/gallery</u>	×	Е	L	D	Е	С	н	Y	Е	к	R	U	т	Е	в	U	G	т	м	G	PecanPie Potatoes
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Humor Section



I wonder what my parents did to fight boredom before the Internet? I asked my eighteen brothers and sisters and they didn't know either.

## Now that's good news!

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ' Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this." - Isaiah 9:6-7

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PROMOTION NOW EXTENDED TO DECEMBER 311



# Heating & Air Conditioning S-SERIE S-SERIE

# Side Discharge Central <u>Heat Pump</u> or <u>AC</u>



The Amana S-Series has a space-saving small profile that is less than 1/3 the size of a standard outside condenser.

The Amana smart thermostat lets you control your unit with all of your smart devices - including voice control.

Say goodbye to a noisy outdoor unit, you'll enjoy peace and quiet inside and out with the Amana S-Series.

The inverter technology increases energy efficiency by up to 30% or more to help lower your electric bill.



# <u>Upgrade to the Amana</u> <u>S-Series Heat Pump or AC</u>

# & Get a \$900 Instant Rebate!

Or Instead of the Rebate Choose A Special Financing Option\*:

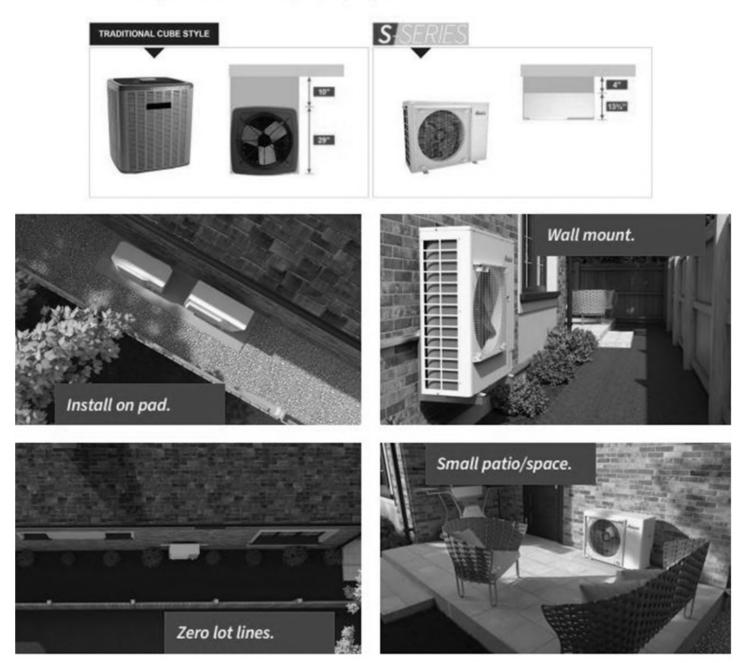
- 12 Months with No Interest / No Payments Financing
- 9.99% Reduced APR Financing with a Low Payment

\* <u>The special financing option will also extend to a furnace, water heater and other</u> <u>package accessories when bundled with an Amana S-Series Heat Pump or AC.</u>

## The Amana S-Series Heat Pump or AC looks great installed...

Slim, yet flexible.

- Slim style + small footprint =
  - Flexibility in design and installation to meet demands of most projects.
  - Install on pad or as a wall mount.
  - Will support zero lot line and small patio/backyard spaces.



See reverse side for a special promotion.



Humidifiers & Dehumidifiers Are The Tools You Need To Control Humidity In Your Home

Keeping Your Home In The Optimum Humidity Range For Comfort & Health Year Round Requires Both Humidification and Dehumidification





#### PROTECT YOUR FAMILY'S HEALTH

By keeping your sinuses and airways moist, you reduce the potential for bacteria and viruses to enter your body. Aprilaire humidifiers are proven most effective at providing optimum levels of humidity.

#### PROVIDE TOTAL COMFORT

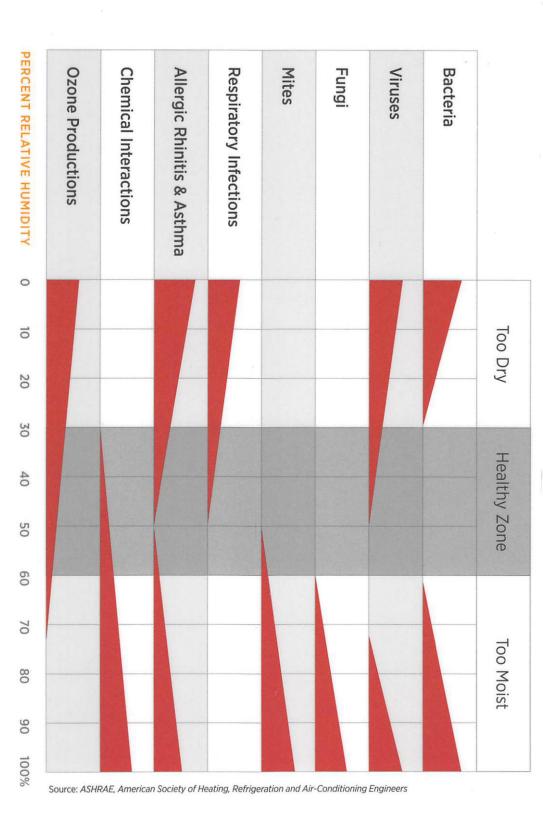
Aprilaire whole-home humidifiers & dehumidifiers provide maximum year round comfort throughout your entire home. Say goodbye to dry skin and that unnecessary chill during dry winter months and that hot, sticky feeling in during the humid summer months!





Form No. 2205 • 279072 3.18

# Vincent's Heating & Plumbing's <u>Aprilaire Fall Promotion</u> Save Up To \$300! See Reverse Side For Details



**Optimum Relative Humidity Range for Human Comfort & Health** A decrease in bar height indicates a decrease in effect for each of the items.

November 2023

