### Vincent's Heating & Plumbing

# VINCENT'S NEWS The 'Van-Go' Gallery

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### Did You Know...

...that you can take advantage of a free service to help take care of service needs when you are out of town or your busy schedule makes it hard to be at home? Vincent's Valet Service is a helpful solution for busy people and 'snow birds'. See the enclosed flyer for more details.

### <u>owner's corner</u> Through My Eyes

In November I had the opportunity to meet former Marine fighter pilot and author Ed Rush at a business conference. He was the master of ceremonies and in between speakers he shared some remarkable experiences he had flying an F18 jet fighter. Ed is a natural storyteller and I felt I

was right in the

cockpit with him.

One incident that stood out was about his first night landing on an aircraft carrier off the coast of San Diego.

One of the things that I didn't know is that the United States is the only country in the world that lands its planes on a carrier at



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night. And while it provides a military advantage it requires an amazing *Continued Page 3* 

Here I am with former Marine fighter pilot, Ed Rush.

### Why Cold and Flu Season is in the Colder Months-Why We Need Humidification - Part 2

Last month we explored how the right amount of humidity creates a 'moisture-safety zone' to help you prevent getting sick in winter months by helping your sinuses and to build a 'moisture-safety

shield'. There are two more important reasons why it is important to add humidity: for your comfort and to save energy. And it might surprise you to learn that both of these reasons are related. Let me

### explain:

Perspiration is one of our body's normal mechanisms to control our temperature. Moisture is always evaporating off your skin to get rid of excess heat the **Continued Page 2** 

# Humidification (Continued from Page 1)

### body

naturally creates. As our skin gives up moisture it pulls heat from the body, cooling it down. So when the air in your house is too dry, it absorbs too much moisture from our skin making it harder for our bodies to regulate heat. This makes us feel cold and uncomfortable. As a result we turn up the thermostat and raise the temperature to make us more comfortable.

And here is where the energy savings comes in: we can feel comfortable at a lower temperature setting if we have the right amount of humidity in the air. Ideally, your body is the most comfortable in the winter when the air contains between 35-45% relative humidty. By humidifying the air in your home you can set the thermostat lower and still be comfortable - and enjoy lower heating bills!

You may recall from the August issue that this same principle works to the opposite effect in the hot months when we need cooling. Just as we can be more comfortable by adding humidity to feel warmer at lower temperatures in cold months, the opposite is true in summer months: we are more comfortable by reducing humidity to feel cooler at higher temperatures. Controlling humidity saves energy by keeping us more comfortable no matter what season we are in. (We'll cover more on this topic as it relates to cooling in the cooling season.)

Adding humidity in winter months can have other important benefits. Humidity can reduce static electricity and thereby lessen the chance of a static discharge that can zap delicate electronic components. Also, air that is too dry can damage products made of wood such as furniture and woodworking plus cause pianos to go out of tune faster as the wood dries out.

- Daniel Squires



## **Read What Our Clients Are Saying...**

Incredible team of dedicated professionals!

From the first phone call thru the completion of work, every person on the Vincent team that I dealt with was outstanding. It is rare these days to find a company that truly exceeds expectations on every level in providing such quality service... with a human connection that lets you know that your business is honestly appreciated. ~*Diana* 

## **Through My Eyes (Continued from Page 1)**

amount of skill and nerve from the pilots that perform this dangerous maneuver.

Ed described how nerve wracking it was to sit in his jet fighter on "Cat 1" awaiting the start of this nighttime exercise. The "cat" is the catapult mechanism that launches the. 45,000-pound aircraft from the deck of the aircraft carrier from 0 to 165 miles per hour in about 2 seconds. When the time came he pushed the throttles to maximum, gave the signal and his fighter was launched into the air.

Ed's training had prepared him for this and things were going smoothly until he started his descent to return to the carrier. Entering a dense cloud cover that was hanging from 700 to 1,200 feet above the ocean. Normally this would have posed no problem but this night Ed was overcome with vertigo and lost all sense of what is up or down. He described it as the sort of disoriented dizziness that you would feel if spun around 20 times with a blindfold on. He had the sensation that his jet was rolling left, but as he prepared to correct he was shocked to see that his 'heads up' display showed that he was flying level and true. He needed to make a split-second decision that his life depended on: to trust his instruments or every fiber in his body that screamed that he was going to crash and die if he didn't act. His training kicked in and he forced himself to trust his instruments and he safely landed his plane.

It was a good story and a good lesson and it reminded me how important it is for us to rely on our instruments that we use everyday as we service gas furnaces. While not anywhere near as dramatic as landing an F18 on an aircraft carrier at night, I understand that you rely on us to make certain that your furnace is operating safely and will perform to keep you warm all winter.

Today's heating technicians are learning to trust instruments instead of their senses. For many years the accepted practice across the industry was to adjust gas burners in a furnace by observing the color of the flame. Combustion science has shown this to be a very unprecise and ineffective method. The right way to adjust furnace combustion is to use a combustion analyzer.

This is why I have made the investment to have all of our technicians certified as Carbon Monoxide and Combustion Analysts and equipped them with high tech testing instruments. Your safety is too important for us to just trust our senses. Our techs have learned to trust their instruments so you can have confidence in the service we provide.

-Daniel Squires

P.S. Happy Holídays! Víncent's News will be back again in February. We publish 11 months of the year with a combined December/January Issue.



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Humor Section

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Q: What do you call when you're sick of being in the airport? A: Terminal illness.

Q: What do you call a flying primate? A: A hot air baboon!

Q: Why can't spiders become pilots? A: Because they only know how to tailspin.

source: http://www.jokes4us.com/peoplejokes/pilotjokes.html

