

VINCENT'S NEWS

The 'Van-Go' Gallery



OWNER'S CORNER

66 Years of Excellence!



Best Residential HVAC Company
Best Plumbing Company

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Did you know...

...that for the fifth straight year, Vincent's Heating & Plumbing was voted the Best Residential HVAC Company in the Blue Water Area in the Community Choice Awards?

Thank you for your votes!

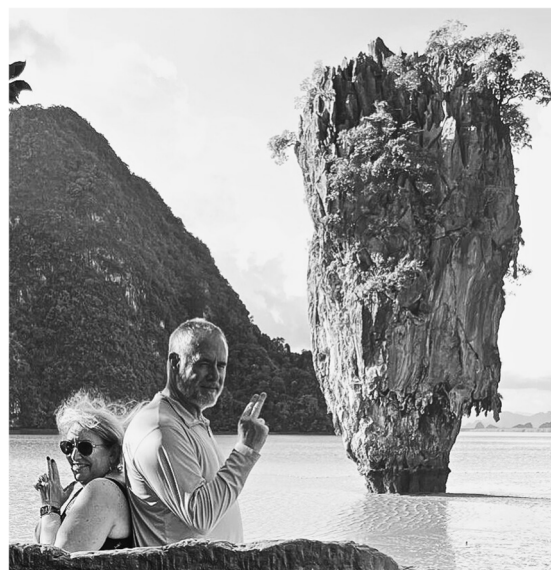
THROUGH MY EYES

Recently, Karen and I traveled to Phuket, Thailand — pronounced “Poo-ket,” where the “h” is silent and the “u” is long.

Phuket is Thailand's largest island, known for its stunning beaches, lively nightlife, great food (I love curry and Thai food!) and rich culture. But that's not the reason that we were there. We were there to help at a church related international mission event that took advantage of off peak-season hotel pricing. This was helpful for families from that part of the world that attended. Still, we

Continued Page 3

“Wherever you see a ‘Vincent's Van Go’ you know the job will be a work of art.”



While on our sea cave kayaking excursion in Phuket, Karen & I visited James Bond Island - featured in *The Man With The Golden Gun*. We couldn't resist the 'spy-vibe' and posed for this picture. - Daniel Squires

7 Tips To Get The Most Out Of An Older Air Conditioner

Last month we explored some of the changes that will come about due to the refrigerant changeover. This month we are going to shift our focus to older air conditioners.

Air conditioners are durable and can last 15 years or more if properly cared for. However, just because an air conditioner is working doesn't mean that it is working well. As air conditioners age, they become less efficient and can even become louder. I have good news: even if your air conditioner is older, there are still

ways that you can get better performance out of it and help it to last longer. In this article we are going to discuss these things.

1) Keep your furnace filter changed.

A dirty filter means an inefficient air conditioner. Your air conditioner uses your furnace to push air around your home. Some filters are designed to last a year. Others are not. 1-inch-thick filters are generally designed to be changed every month.

Continued Page 2

7 Tips ... (Continued from Pg.1)

2) Clean your condenser

There are no filters on the outside unit of an air conditioner. As an air conditioner runs, the outdoor unit will suck in cottonwood, dirt and other debris. As this builds up, the unit will not only become less efficient but will also have to work much harder. To combat this, it is important to clean the condenser once a year. When doing this, it is imperative to make sure that the fins on the condenser do not get bent, as this will shorten the life of the air conditioner and cause it to work inefficiently.

3) Install Surge Protection

There are fluctuations in voltage coming into your home. Voltage fluctuations are not necessarily harmful to equipment. But after a few years, effects can start to build up on components. A surge protector will help limit the effects of voltage

fluctuations on older electrical components.

4) Keep your refrigerant at the optimal level

Even if your air conditioner is working, it can still be low on refrigerant. Once enough refrigerant leaks out, your system will stop working. Before that point, a system will operate less efficiently than if it had enough refrigerant. Low refrigerant also puts your system at risk of icing up. If the system ices up it can potentially damage the system.

5) Treat the oil in your AC

Refrigerant lines contain oil to keep the compressor lubricated. Over time, this oil can harden inside the system. This makes AC systems operate less efficiently as well as making them noisy. Chemically treating the system can

refresh the oil to keep your compressor healthy longer.

6) Tighten loose electrical connections

Loose electrical connections can cause arcing and extra heat that can wear out components inside of an air conditioner and cause them to fail. It can also cause the copper in the wires to become brittle and break. Searching for any loose connections and replacing them will prevent this from happening.

7) Get a professional maintenance

If you would like to have an HVAC technician take care of the above-mentioned items and more, a maintenance visit is the best option. Our technicians keep your system running efficiently and use a computerized diagnostic tool to make sure there are no problems

- Brendan Squires

What Our Clients Are Saying..



"Excellent service! They have an efficient, knowledgeable and friendly staff. From the initial phone call for scheduling service to the service being provided I knew that I was working with the best company possible. I have total confidence in VHP handling all of my heating and plumbing issues."

- Kathy Pennanen, Port Huron

Through My Eyes (Continued from Pg. 1)

managed to carve out a little time for some rest, relaxation, and exploration.

We'd visited Thailand previously in 2012, but I had forgotten how long the trip was. This time, it involved a 15-hour flight from Detroit to Seoul (Korea), followed by a 6-hour flight to Phuket after a two hour layover. Even though most of it was just sitting, the travel was surprisingly exhausting. Further, since Phuket is 11 hours ahead of Michigan, jet lag hit hard. Eventually our bodies adjusted to the change - just in time to head back and repeat the process in reverse!

On our free day mid-week, we went sea cave kayaking in Phang Nga Bay, a spectacular area filled with limestone cliffs and hidden lagoons. If you're a movie fan, you might recognize the landscape from the 1974 James Bond film *The Man with the Golden Gun*. We finished the day with some night kayaking in which we were able to see bioluminescent plankton. This was like seeing an aquatic version of fireflies, albeit much smaller. It was a fun day.

I can never completely take off my 'work hat' when I go on a trip. It's always interesting to see the differences in bathrooms in a foreign cultures. And while they all serve the same function, they don't always have a familiar look and feel to what we are used to seeing in the United States.

Another big difference when you go abroad is how buildings are air conditioned. In the U.S. split-system air conditioners dominate how buildings are cooled. This consists of the outside condenser that

utilizes the duct work inside the house. Everywhere else in the world, ductless mini-split air conditioners are the most popular way to cool buildings. But one thing in common is that air conditioners need to be designed correctly to remove humidity. And if they aren't, it will create comfort issues as I experienced in our hotel. Let me explain:

One big adjustment in Phuket was the humidity. We arrived just before the rainy season, and the air was heavy with moisture. I'm used to hanging a wet swimsuit outside and finding it dry a few hours later — not in Phuket. It stayed damp no matter how long it hung. So with so much humidity, air conditioning was a must.

It was obvious to me that our hotel air conditioners were 'oversized'. How did I know this? Because our rooms were freezing. This is a telltale sign of air conditioning systems that were not designed correctly for the load. Effective humidity control comes from longer run times, not just blasting cold air. The longer an air conditioner runs, the greater the amount of humidity that is removed. This in turn creates greater comfort. 'Bigger' is definitely not 'better' when it comes to selecting the cooling capacity – or 'size' – of an air conditioner.

At Vincent's Heating & Plumbing, we design systems to ensure comfort through both temperature and humidity control. When you need to have your system updated, you can have confidence that our staff of professionals will guide you to the right system for your needs.

– Daniel Squires

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

Wordsearch - Foreign Food Favorites

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Vincent's News is published 11-months per year.

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

VHPinc.com/gallery by mid-month after the newsletter arrives.

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

G	W	G	M	E	G	C	K	B	X	V	A	T	I	H	C	M	I	K	C	Arepas
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K	I	L	E	A	H	C	U	R	R	Y	W	U	R	S	T	M	C	A	A	Bibimbap
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P	R	S	Q	I	O	O	E	T	G	Z	H	A	X	W	U	T	I	S	C	Mole
M	B	W	G	O	N	Y	S	R	V	N	C	A	V	I	J	P	S	U	M	PadThai
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If you're curious about where these foods are from, we identify the country of origin with the Word Search solution in the PDF version located in the Van Go Gallery at VHPinc.com/gallery.

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*The Most Reasons to be
Your Best Choice*

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Humor Section



More short takes...

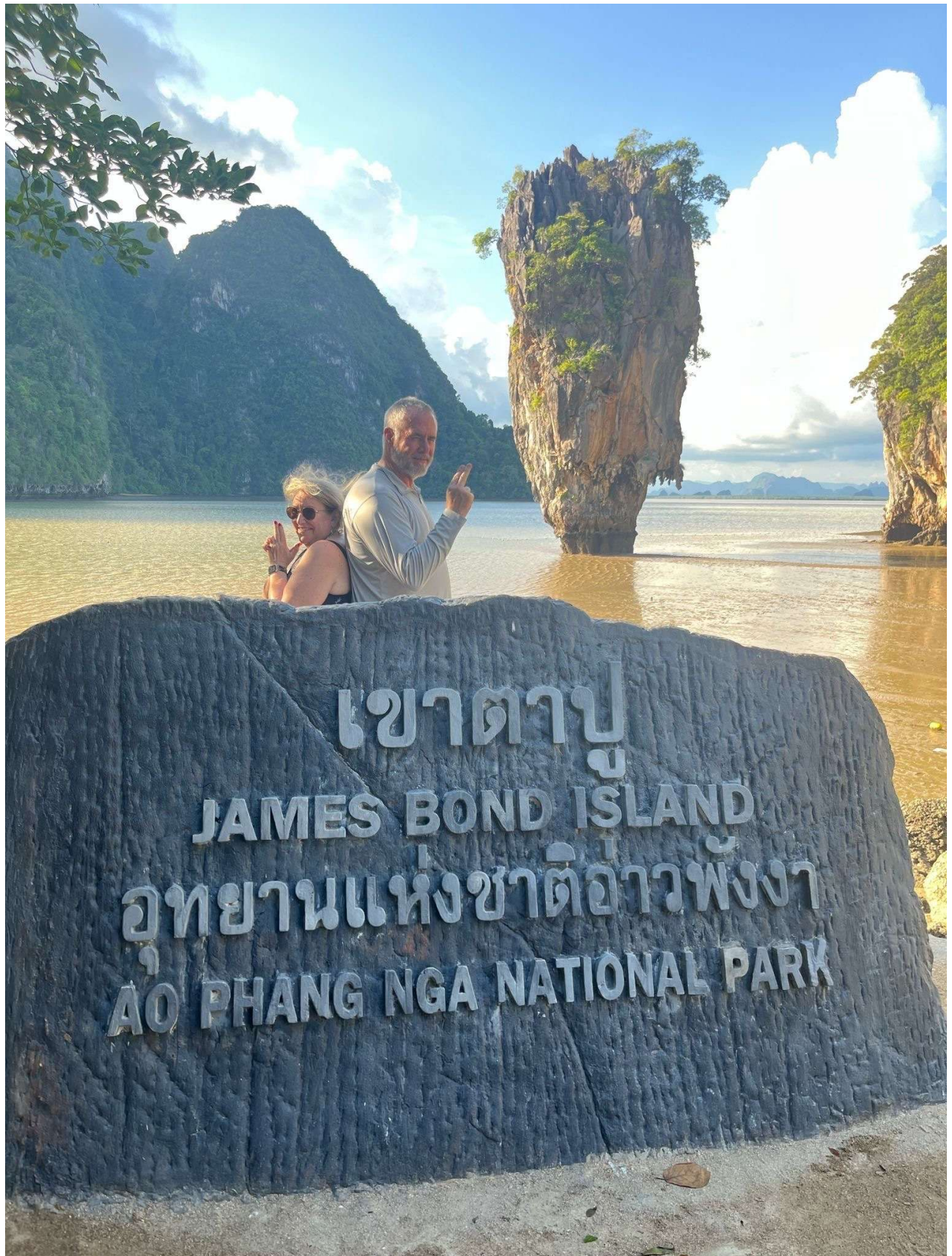
If you ever want to talk about why our air conditioning bill is so high, my door is always open.

My ceiling fan so inspiring, I can't help but look up to it.

Now that's good news!

"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing."

- 1 Thessalonians 5:11



เขาตاپู
JAMES BOND ISLAND
อุทยานแห่งชาติอ่าวพังงา
AO PHANG NGA NATIONAL PARK

- SPECIAL REPORT FOR VHP CUSTOMERS -

Did You Know That You're Paying More To Cool Your Home During The Hottest Hours Of The Day When You Need AC The Most?

...and that it's perfectly legal for them to charge you more?

Fortunately, innovations in A/C maintenance technology help your system perform better, last longer and cost less to use.

Background: The **Michigan Public Service Commission** has authorized **utilities** to charge higher electric rates during peak cooling hours in the hot summer months. These higher rates will function to 'encourage' us to use less energy during the hours when the demand for electricity is the highest.

When these 'Time of Day' rates are looked at in terms of **'supply and demand'**, the price for something always goes up when demand increases and supply stays the same or is decreased. **This makes economic sense**: demand for electricity peaks during the hottest hours of the day when air conditioners labor to keep our homes cool. But what doesn't make sense is that reliable sources of electricity - such as coal, natural gas and nuclear power plants - that could affordably keep pace with the increase in demand are either being torn down or are planned for eventual elimination even as demand for electricity is continually increasing. In this regard, these higher rates feel like a penalty.

While you or I can't control this, you do have two options available to make sure you aren't overspending to cool your home with these higher 'Time of Day' electric rates:

- 1) Upgrade your current A/C system to a **more efficient model** (preferably a heat pump for greater savings plus federal tax credits that help offset the cost)... or...
- 2) Make certain your A/C system is performing as efficiently as possible so you use less energy and keep your electric bill low - and that requires system maintenance.



Fortunately, innovations in air conditioning maintenance are now available to optimize your current A/C system performance. Not only can it help you save energy costs, but it can also help your cooling system deliver more comfort and last longer.

Introducing VHP's New, Cutting-Edge 'MeasureQuick' Technology.

When I became aware of 'Time of Day rates, I started looking for a solution to enable us to help our customers with these higher electric costs. A lot of clients depend on Vincent's Heating & Plumbing to keep their air conditioners performing well every year, and I determined to find a way to improve our service. **And I found it.**

'MeasureQuick' - or 'mQ' - is to the science of air conditioning service and maintenance - that a computer analysis is to your car. Equipped with 'mQ' our



HVAC techs are able to provide a high-tech computer analysis for air conditioners that is the equivalent to what auto mechanics use to service modern cars.

Here's how mQ works: our technician attaches diagnostic probes to your A/C system at 10 points of contact. With this, he knows everything that is going on with your system at a glance. Also, the data is processed through an algorithm that lets our tech know what is going on with your system and what adjustments are needed. Further, as the adjustments are made, our tech is able to see the impact of these corrections and how they affect your system.

Here is a condenser with five mQ probes attached to measure the suction line & liquid line pressures and temperatures and also the discharge air temp.

Without mQ, an A/C tech has to take and keep track of 10 separate measurements and correlate them all to be able to determine how your system is

functioning. And even then, because some of the measurements are made inside the house while others are outside the house, there is a time lag between capturing all the information. It's all a very time-consuming process and it has to be repeated if the impact of any adjustments made to the system are to be known.

In contrast, mQ saves time and is more precise because once the instruments are attached to the system, all the information is instantly available with no time lag between the various readings. Further, this data is captured in a snapshot that is kept in Cloud storage for future reference. This eliminates the need for the tech to transcribe it and possibly make a mistake. Here are some of the benefits our techs provide by using MeasureQuick:

- **An instant comprehensive snapshot** of your A/C system's health.
- **A roadmap for what needs to be done** to improve your A/C performance.
- **Small issues are detected before they become major issues.** Because of the accuracy of our measurements, your technician can identify small issues that normally would not be seen until catastrophic failure of the air conditioner has occurred. Further, these issues could also increase your electric bills.
- **System Efficiency is accurately measured.** The efficiency of an A/C unit is determined in a laboratory, not under real world conditions. Normally, it takes specialized training to measure the actual efficiency of an air conditioner. With mQ we are able to



Here is Nathan inside the house with more mQ probes attached to the furnace ductwork looking at a live MeasureQuick analysis on his iPad.



check the 'real-world' performance and see if your system measures up to its advertised efficiency. Then we can make needed adjustments to improve efficiency.

- **Your system can deliver improved comfort and last longer** when it is performing as it should.

Putting this cutting-edge technology into the hands of our technicians required a sizeable investment in equipment and training, but it was worth it to allow us to continue to deliver the high service that you rely on us for. - Daniel Squires, VHP

Are You Ready To Optimize Your A/C To Cope With Higher Time of Day Rates?

Give us a call at 810-985-7103 to set up your air conditioning maintenance. Our tech will perform the MeasureQuick analysis and recommended adjustments plus clean the A/C condenser.

**Performance Optimization &
Cleaning (with mQ) ~~\$199.20~~**

***your price \$179 - Call (810) 985-7103 and
ask for the 'Summer 25 Maintenance Promo'***

***...or save at least \$99.60*
with our Enhanced Service
Plan AC Bundle!**

Follow the QR Code.



AC Maintenance Special Coupons

Keep your AC working at peak performance with these select services, available at a special pricing during regular AC maintenance service.

~~\$99~~

\$79

HVAC Odor Block

HVAC Odor Block is a unique compound that reacts with and eliminates odor-causing pollutants in the air. One treatment lasts 6 months.

Valid through 7/31/2025

~~\$275~~

\$199

AC Oil Treatment

OEM approved oil treatment that can quiet noisy compressors, increase efficiency as well as help systems last longer.

Valid through 7/31/2025

\$150 Off

AC Surge Protection

Protect your air conditioner components from spikes in the power that can occur.

Valid through 7/31/2025

\$150 Off

Performance Enhancement System

Give your aging compressor a boost. Reduce the electricity that your system uses on startup.

Valid through 7/31/2025

Upgrade Your Air Conditioner Voltage Distribution System to Prevent Damage from a Brownout.

Surge protectors guard appliances when voltage spikes, but they do not protect from brownouts, when voltage is low.

If voltage drops more than 10%, it can burn out circuits, motors and more, necessitating costly repairs or even possibly replacement of the entire air conditioner.

This can be prevented by upgrading your voltage distribution system to provide brownout protection for your air conditioner. The brownout protection will monitor incoming voltage and prevent the unit from operating if low voltage that could damage your air conditioner is detected.

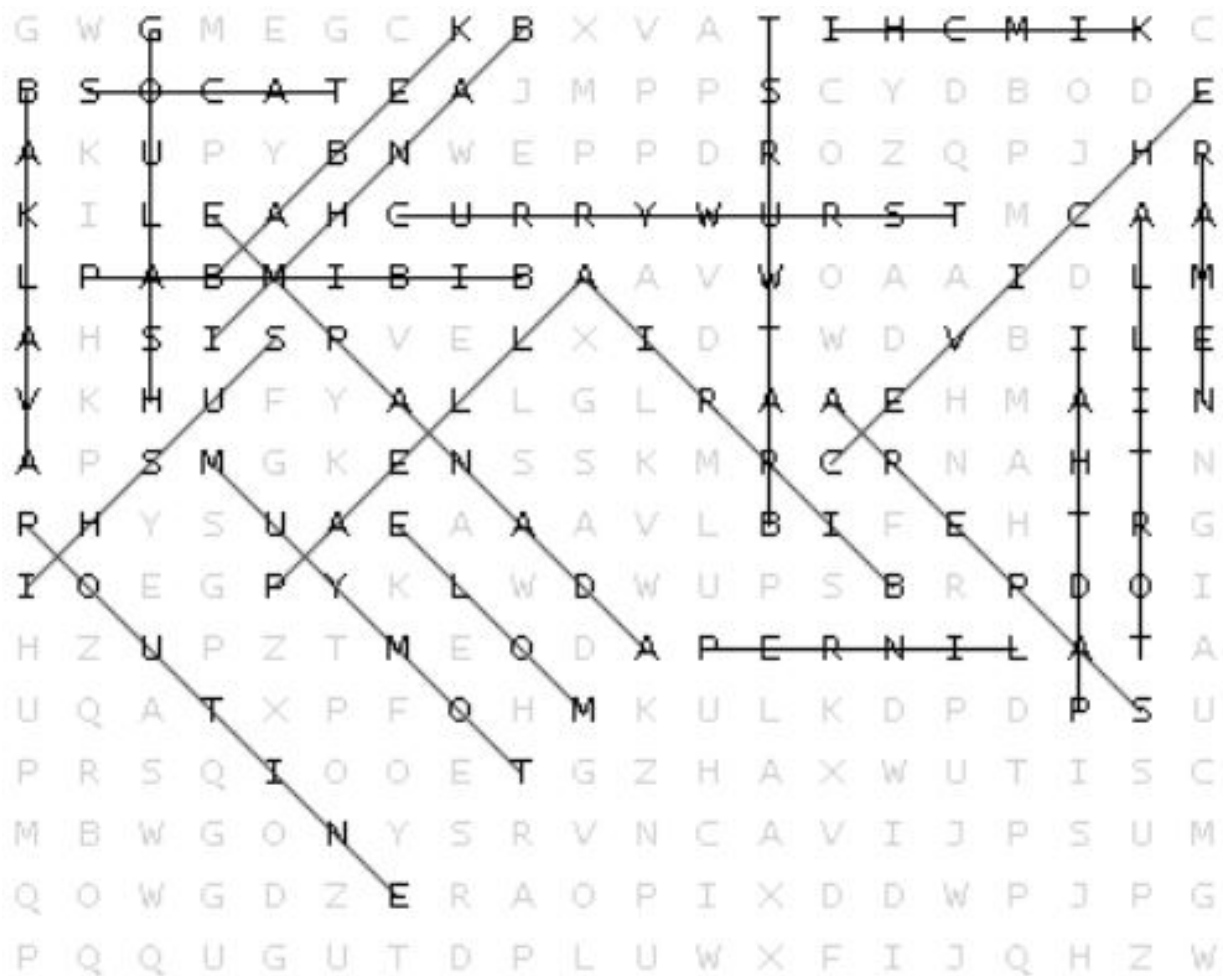
Save \$150 when you Upgrade your
Voltage Distribution System during your next
AC Maintenance through the end of August

Simply mention this special to the VHP technician during your AC maintenance to receive this special promotion.

Benefits:

- ♦ Protect your system from brownouts and other damage
- ♦ Extend the life of electrical components in your AC

Word Search Solution June 2025



Arepas – Venezuela

Baklava – Turkey

Banh Mi – Vietnam

Bibimbap – South Korea

Birria – Mexico

Bratwurst – Germany

Ceviche – Peru

Currywurst – Germany

Empanada – Argentina

Goulash – Hungary

Kebab – Turkey

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