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| |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **City Plumbing, Heating & Electric, Inc.**  The Best Solution For All Your Service Needs  May 2014 Newsletter  318 Third Street - Hot Springs, AR 71913  Hot Springs: 623-3325 or Hot Springs Village: 922-3325  email: [cityplumbing@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cityplumbing@sbcglobal.net)  website: [www.cityplumbingandelectric.com](file:///C:\Users\lhenderson\Documents\Newsletter\www.cityplumbingandelectric.com) | | | | | |  | | --- | | Philip Ruth, Volunteer Ambassador of the local Arthritis Foundation, with Charlie Bobus and Jamie Walsh of  City Plumbing, Heating & Electric, Inc.  The employees of City Plumbing, Heating and Electric Inc. are happy to announce that the Arthritis Foundation was the March 2014 recipient of our Giving Back to the Community program. We were fortunate enough to have the opportunity to donate $1,150.00 which now brings our total to over **$62,320.00!**  Striking one in every five adults and 300,000 children, arthritis is the nation’s leading cause of disability. In Arkansas, 653,000 adults and nearly 2700 children are diagnosed with arthritis. The Arthritis Foundation (www.arthritis.org) is committed to raising awareness and reducing the impact of this serious, painful and unacceptable disease, which can severely damage joints and rob people of living life to its fullest. The Foundation funds life-changing research that has restored mobility in patients for more than six decades; fights for health care policies that improve the lives of the millions who live with arthritis; and partners with families to provide empowering programs and information.  We would like to take the opportunity to thank our customers for your support and for helping us contribute to the charitable and nonprofit organizations in our area. We are not only committed to helping service your home with your plumbing, heating, cooling & electrical needs but Giving Back to Our Community too! We are looking forward to having the opportunity to donate to U Ride Too in April. Give City Plumbing, Heating & Electric a call and be part of the solution. |      |  | | --- | | **CHARLES IN CHARGE**  **HISTORY LESSON**    Plumbing originated during ancient civilizations such as the Greek, Roman, Persian, Indian, and Chinese cities as they developed public baths and needed to provide potable water and drainage of wastes, for larger numbers of people. Standardized earthen plumbing pipes with broad flanges making use of asphalt for preventing leakages appeared in the urban settlements of the Indus Valley Civilization by 2700 B.C. The Romans used lead pipe inscriptions to prevent water theft.  Improvement in plumbing systems was very slow, with virtually no progress made from the time of the Roman city of aqueducts and lead pipes. Plumbing was extremely rare until the growth of modern densely populated cities in the 1800s. During this period, public health authorities began pressing for better waste disposal systems to be installed, to prevent or control epidemics of disease. Earlier, the waste disposal system had merely consisted of collecting waste and dumping it on the ground or into a river. Eventually the development of separate, underground water and sewage systems eliminated open sewage ditches and cesspools.  Most large cities today pipe solid wastes to sewage treatment plants in order to separate and partially purify the water, before emptying into streams or other bodies of water. For potable water use, galvanized iron piping was commonplace in the United States from the late 1800s until around 1960. After that period, copper piping took over, first soft copper with flared fittings, then with rigid copper tubing utilizing soldered fittings.  The use of lead for potable water declined sharply after World War II because of increased awareness of the dangers of lead poisoning. At this time, copper piping was introduced as a better and safer alternative to lead pipes. In the last 10 years the development of a plastic tubing called Cross Link Polyethylene (pex) has revolutionized the way water is distributed through the various water systems. This tubing is used for a variety of applications and is for the most part freeze proof. It has its own system of fittings and can be integrated into several different kinds of existing plumbing systems. |  |  | | --- | | **Memorial Day is a good time to reflect on the sacrifices and services of the American soldiers and veterans and the U.S. military men and women. The American military is, has always been and will always recruit the best and finest of the crop of young men and women of the country and we will continue to shower them with appreciation, support and prayers, as we have always done. Memorial Day is just an opportunity for us to express the special places they have in the hearts of American citizens and more by honoring the people who work in the various branches of the military.** | |  | |  | | --- | | **COMMON QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**  **ABOUT AIR CONDITIONERS**    Question: What is the average lifespan of a central air conditioner?  Answer: The average lifespan of a central air conditioning system is 10-15 years.  Question: What does the term "SEER rating" refer to?  Answer: The efficiency of central air conditioners is rated according to their Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio (SEER). The SEER rating is the BTU of cooling output during a typical cooling season divided by the total electric energy input in watt-hours during the same period. The higher the SEER rating of a unit, the more energy efficient it is. Many older systems have SEER ratings of 6 or less. The minimum SEER allowed today is 13. Installing a system with a high SEER rating will save you money and reduce your energy usage.  Question: Why is bigger not necessarily better?  Answer: If your air conditioner is not properly sized to fit your home, your comfort will suffer. A unit that is too large will fail to de-humidify the air. A unit that is too small will not be able to cool your home to the desired level. It is important to find the right system for your space. Our technicians can help you determine your perfect fit.  Question: Will my new air conditioner be noisy?  Answer: No. Rheem offers residential heating and air conditioning units that are the quietest air conditioners on the market today.  Question: What happens to my old air conditioner?  Answer: The refrigerant in the old system will be reclaimed and the old air conditioner will be removed.  Question: Will my new air conditioner control the humidity in my home in the summer?  Answer: The only way to control humidity is to have a properly sized air conditioner, the comfort consultant from City Plumbing, Heating & Electric will make sure the system is sized correctly to control both humidity and temperature.  Question: How often do I have to service my air conditioner?  Answer: We recommend you have your air conditioner serviced every year to ensure optimal energy efficiency and smooth operation and to prevent costly repairs that may come from running your unit when it has not been serviced properly. |      |  | | --- | | **HOT WATER RECIRCULATION PUMPS**  Every homeowner gets frustrated waiting for hot water — but how many stop to think what happens to the 2-3 gallons of water that runs down the drain during the wait? Those gallons of water are wasted, and in an average household that takes four showers per day, that can add up to thousands of gallons per year.  In typical plumbing, water flows from the water heater through the pipes to the tap. Once the tap is shut off, the water remaining in the pipes cools — hence the familiar wait for hot water the next time the tap is opened.  In a region where water conservation issues are becoming critically important, Hot Water Recirculation (HWR) pumps — such as those manufactured by Grundfos Pumps Corporation — are a good solution to this problem.  The Grundfos Comfort System is a pump and valve combination that delivers you hot water in an instant to any faucet or bath in your home. The Comfort System uses a pump at your water heater along with the patented under sink valve beneath the sink furthest away from the pump. This patented combination creates a pressure differential that allows the cold and cool water in the hot water supply line to “by-pass” (at low volume) into the cold supply line through a thermostatically controlled valve that is mounted under the sink furthest from the water heater.  This combination works together to keep the water in your hot water line at temperature to provide “no-wait” hot water throughout your home. The timer on the pump makes it more efficient during downtime, like nights or mid-day. It’s quiet, maintenance-free, and keeps your water at a comfortable temperature. |  |  | | --- | | City Plumbing Heating & Electric HVAC Technician Steven checking out a 92-year-old client's a/c. She was one happy client after Steven made the repairs! | | |

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