

Don't Wait -- Check The Date!

62 Percent of Home Fire Deaths Are Due to Families Not Having Smoke Detectors or Having Smoke Detectors That No Longer Work

Does your home have a smoke alarm? The most popular answer is: **YES!**

It's a fact that most American homes have at least one. But do you know how old your smoke alarms are? The most prolific answer here is : **NO!**

A recent national survey revealed that only a small percentage of people know how old their smoke alarms are, or how often they need to be replaced. That lack of awareness is a concern for your friends at Electrical Connections because smoke alarms don't last forever.

To find out how old your smoke alarm is and its expiration date, simply look on the back of the alarm where the date of manufacture is marked.

The smoke alarm should be replaced 10 years from that date (not the date of purchase). Smoke alarms should be tested monthly, and batteries should be replaced once a year or when they begin to chirp, signaling that they're running low.

Now is a good time to take advantage of our Special on Smoke Detectors with Buy Two Get One FREE!

See *Page 2* for our special on Smoke Detectors before it's too late. Do it for your family's safety today.

Turn Me Over To Check the Date



Courtesy: Kidde

Don't Forget Carbon Monoxide (CO) Detectors!

Called the "silent killer", carbon monoxide is odorless, tasteless gas and can kill you in your sleep.

Carbon monoxide is created when any fossil fuel burns -- even on boats in marinas or anchored. And, it is especially dangerous during our hurricane season if you use a generator during power outages.

Experts recommend placing one CO detector outside every bedroom in your home or inside every cabin on your boat.

Depending on the degree and length of exposure, carbon monoxide poisoning can cause:

- Permanent brain damage
- Damage to your heart, possibly leading to life-threatening cardiac complications
- Fetal death or miscarriage
- Death

Let Electrical Connections perform a comprehensive safety check on your home today.

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Saving Lives is a Year 'round challenge



We all know that smoke detectors save lives. Why not give the gift that saves lives no matter what time of year it is? Start 2019 right with a whole house electrical inspection and new, modern smoke detectors for your home or business. Call us today to book your electrical and smoke detector inspections.

When you buy two smoke detectors, you get one FREE! Electrical Connections is offering this special through January 31, 2019.

Safety & Savings Members take advantage of your 15% discount and get a FREE Battery Replacement Annually!

Call now to schedule your installation.

*May not be combined with other specials.



BUY TWO GET ONE FREE

Present This Coupon to Save

Name: _____

EXP. Date: _____

Call Electrical Connections Today 772.283.5792
Coupon May Be Shared with Friends/Neighbors

Offer only good on new or replacement smoke detectors installed by Electrical Connections



Electrical
Connections
Supports Our
Veterans

Electrical Connections, Your Neighborhood Electrician, is Growing Again!

We are now hiring experienced electricians and helpers. If you are looking for a job, or you know someone who is, contact Electrical Connections today. If your referral is hired, we'll reward you with a Gift Certificate to a local restaurant. Dine on us!

Five years experience preferred; liberal benefits and compensation; insurance; paid vacation; holidays and much more. Valid Florida Diver's License, clean drug screen and background check required. We are proud of the team of professionals we have assembled to take care of your residential and commercial electrical needs. Come join our family today! We proudly hire veterans and urge our loyal customers to support our vets throughout our communities.

Corny Kid Jokes for the Whole Family

Why did the kid cross the playground?

To get to the other slide.

Why did the girl eat her homework? Her teacher said it was a piece of cake.

What did the stamp say to the envelope?

Stick with me and we'll go places!

Why was the weightlifter frustrated?

He was surrounded by dumbbells.

How does a cucumber become a pickle? It goes through a jarring experience.

Why did the melon jump in the lake?

Because she wanted to be a watermelon.

Why didn't the teddy bear want dessert?

She was stuffed.

What's worse than finding a worm in your apple?

Finding half a worm.

What do you give a sick lemon?

Lemon aid.

How does the moon cut his hair?

Eclipse it.



Tasty Stick to your Ribs Old Fashioned Beef Stew

Total Time: 2 hours 30 min
Serves: 4

INGREDIENTS:

- ¼ cup all-purpose flour
- ¼ teaspoon freshly ground pepper
- 1 pound beef stewing meat, trimmed and cut into inch cubes
- 5 teaspoons vegetable oil
- 2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
- 1 cup red wine
- 3 ½ cups beef broth, homemade or low-sodium canned
- 2 bay leaves
- 1 medium onion, peeled and chopped
- 5 medium carrots, peeled and cut into 1/4-inch rounds
- 2 large baking potatoes, peeled and cut into 3/4-inch cubes
- 2 teaspoons salt

Wizard's Directions:

Combine the flour and pepper in a bowl, add the beef and toss to coat well. Heat 3 teaspoons of the oil in a large pot. Add the beef a few pieces at a time; do not overcrowd. Cook, turning the pieces until beef is browned on all sides, about 5 minutes per batch; add more oil as needed between batches.

Remove the beef from the pot and add the vinegar and wine. Cook over medium-high heat, scraping the pan with a wooden spoon to loosen any browned bits. Add the beef, beef broth and bay leaves. Bring to a boil, then reduce to a slow simmer.

Cover and cook, skimming broth from time to time, until the beef is tender, about 1 1/2 hours. Add the onions and carrots and simmer, covered, for 10 minutes. Add the potatoes and simmer until vegetables are tender, about 30 minutes more. Add broth or water if the stew is dry. Season with salt and pepper to taste.

Ladle among 4 bowls and serve.



Snowbird's Word Search

Welcome Back Snowbirds! Electrical Connections has a word search that will help you be more Floridian! Be the first to complete the word search, and you will receive a special discount coupon for future services. To make the search a little more interesting for our winter visitors, everyone who submits the puzzle gets \$10 off a future service! **

Mail completed puzzle to: 1205 SE Dixie Cutoff Rd, Stuart, FL 34994. Or scan and email completed puzzle to: info@electricconnections.com.

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R B L A R G E M O U T H B A S S D X M
A L L I G A T O R J H N N Q Q N H B Y
G M O O N S T O N E S B P N V U P L A
P H C Y Q U T R R Z I F I Y X T E I K
Z R O G M I W S S Z F W G J U E E A K
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J A E B I S H A G E H D G R D M R C N
U W Q L K Q I M T W R N S H U R U O D
I S W O D P O R P O I S E W V S K R A
C E W S B P H A E K V N X H O H T A A
E H E S K O Q J C Z L J G D U R A L C
X T B O R S Q O M Y Q X V S H E D I O
B G C M J G M B X J C O R E O P S I S
  
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Sailfish	Cross and Sword	Mockingbird	Manatee
Orange Juice	Agatized Coral	Panther	Coreopsis
Largemouth Bass	Moonstone	Myakka Fine Sand	Sabal Palm
Porpoise	Alligator	Horse Conch	In God We Trust
Zebra Longwing	The Swanee River	Orange Blossom	



Welcome Snowbirds: *Florida Highwaymen Painting Image Courtesy, Al Black*

Tragic Headline Underscores Need for Home Electrical Inspections

The dangers of improperly installed electrical wiring are real. If electrical wiring is installed even slightly wrong, the results could be disastrous for your home...and you. That is why your electrical wiring should be installed by a professional electrical contractor.

Electrical Connections is a professional, Florida licensed, electrical contractor. We provide each and every one of our customers a comprehensive electrical safety inspection to make sure that wiring is completely safe. If your wiring is not successfully installed, your house could be at high risk for a fire! While it is not known if the tragic Ohio fire was caused by faulty wiring, we do know that having your home properly inspected for electrical hazards can and does save lives.

All of our professional electricians are properly trained and have the experience to complete a safety inspection. We train our employees to regard safety with the highest importance. We value all of our customers as if they are a part of our own family. And, we believe in keeping you and your family safe from electrical dangers.

To start your electrical safety inspection service, one of our professional electricians will discuss your home's original wiring with you. This is to find out what type of wiring is in your home, how long it has been installed, if there have been any problems in the past and who installed the wiring for you. If you answer as many of these questions as you can, it will help our professionals better inspect your house.

After having these questions answered, our electricians will conduct a detailed inspection of all your electrical wirings. They will test switches and outlets for proper power levels. Using special equipment, our electricians will make sure that all of your electrical wiring and outlets are fully functional. If you have any problems, or safety concerns, our professionals will be happy to address them.

Ask How You Can Get a FREE Whole Home Electrical Inspection

The Electrical Connections Professional Electrical Safety Inspection Includes:

- Outlets
- Main Electrical Panel
- Safety Elements
- General Wiring Conditions
- Smoke Detectors
- Surge Suppression
- Outside Wiring
- Furnace & AC Wiring
- Attic and Crawlspace

At the conclusion of our Electrical Safety Inspection, you will receive a full report that is color coded to indicate (green) No attention needed this visit; (yellow) Consider Repair/Replacement; (red) Safety Hazard Repair/Replacement Needed Immediately.

Call us today to schedule your Electrical Safety Inspection.
Or, schedule a Whole House Electrical Inspection for a loved one...the life you may save is precious.

NEWS

Ohio house fire kills 5 children, injures mother

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio – Authorities say a house fire has killed five young children in Ohio.

Youngstown Fire Capt. Kurt Wright says the first floor of the house was engulfed in flames when firefighters arrived around 11:30 p.m. Sunday. Wright says three children were ages 9, 3 and 2 and the other two were 1-year-old twins.



A deadly house fire killed five children late Sunday night in Youngstown, Ohio. WFMJ

Wright says firefighters managed to pull three of the children from the house, but they died at a nearby hospital.

The captain says the mother jumped from a second-floor window and is hospitalized with injuries. He says no one else was in the home.

***Help Save a Life.
Call Electrical Connections Today
772.283.5792***

Special Life Saving Insert Courtesy Electrical Connections: Please Save

Safety Alert: There Are Thousands of Unsafe Panels on Treasure Coast

Zinsco or GTE-Sylvania panels were popular electrical panels installed in homes throughout the 1970s. Zinsco is now defunct, but many homes still have these panels.

Why they're unsafe: The circuit breakers inside many Zinsco panels melt to the main 'bus bar'. This means the breaker can't ever trip, even when there's a short or overloaded circuit. So if there ever is a short or other problems, the surge of power melts wires and starts fires in your home.

How to tell if you have one: The name Zinsco anywhere on the panel is a sure sign it should be replaced. Also, many GTE-Sylvania or Sylvania panels are simply re-branded Zinsco panels or contain the problem Zinsco design. These should also be replaced.

Federal Pacific Electric (FPE) Panels

For a long time (1950s-1980s) Federal Pacific Electric was one of the most popular manufacturers of electrical panels in the United States. And they were installed in millions of homes including many right here on the Treasure Coast. **These panels are extremely unsafe.**

Why they're unsafe: FPE electric panels' circuit breakers fail to trip when they should (when there's a short circuit or circuit overload). This problem has led to thousands of fires across the United States. There are also many reports that FPE circuits in the off position still send power to the circuit. This can cause electrocution when working on a circuit you believe to be off.

How to tell if you have one: FPE panels are most common in homes built between 1950 and 1980. Federal Pacific Electric will likely be written on the cover of your breaker box. Inside, look for the name Stab-Loc (the brand name of the circuit breakers).

Split-bus electrical panels

A typical modern circuit breaker has a single metal bus. Electricity comes into the panel, passes through a main breaker and to the bus. The bus then connects to each individual circuit breaker, providing power to your entire home.

You can then shut off power to the bus (and therefore your entire home) simply by turning off the main breaker.

Split-bus electrical panels are different. They have 2 buses and no single main disconnect. They have up to 6 breakers labeled "main". One of these main breakers controls power to half (the bottom) of the breakers in the panel. The other main breakers connect directly to the first bus. Don't trust your loved ones to this hazard!

Fuse box

Fuse boxes are old electrical panels that use fuses instead of circuit breakers to protect your wires from becoming overloaded. When a circuit draws too much electricity, the fuse burns out and must be replaced.

Why they're unsafe: Fuses aren't inherently unsafe. They work just like circuit breakers (except they can't be reset and must be replaced.) However, most fuse boxes in homes today are unsafe because they've been modified to try to serve today's energy demands.

To view examples of these hazardous electrical panels and to find out more information, visit our website today at www.eleconnections.com

Don't Let These Hazardous Panels Harm You or Your Loved Ones - Call Electrical Connections Today

We ProudlySupport:

Molly's House
www.mollyhouse.org

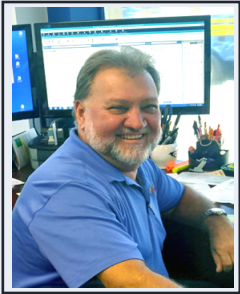
Soroptimist International
www.soroptimistsr.org

Folds of Honor
www.foldsofhonor.org



772-283-5792

Surging Forward



*From the Desk of
Mike Pettengill*

Electrical Connections

Electrical Connections Supports Local Businesses!

Take a walk through your community and you'll notice your community has its own unique character and charm. From the mom-and-pop shop, the coffee shop, yoga studio and, yes, your neighborhood electrician, small businesses contribute to a community's identity.

At Electrical Connections, we are proud to support our community as we buy and shop here while giving back to the community.

In addition to contributing to the local community's unique identity and being involved locally, small business owners help to build a sense of community. Their businesses tend to be people businesses.

Small business owners are more likely to build personal relationships with their customers, knowing many of them by name, as I know many of you now reading this newsletter.

When was the last time you walked into a large chain store and were greeted by name? The same can be said for hiring a national chain instead of your local business.

Many small business owners band together, like Electrical Connections to form casual or formal relationships, such as the Martin County Business Exchange to leverage the expertise of the participants to contribute to the business community's long-term success. We are proud members of the MCBE.

This, in turn, helps you the consumer by making sure you are getting top notch, experienced business services.

When local residents shop at small businesses within their communities, their tax dollars stay within the local economy, helping to improve their community as a result. Likewise, local small businesses tend to buy locally as well, pumping more of their profits back into the community than their chain store counterparts, helping with economic development.

As we move into 2019, remember small businesses are job creators, and most of those jobs are local jobs. Rather than having to commute to another city, employees work closer to home. Supporting local businesses also helps your fellow community members who work at them.

So, please make a resolution, whether it's a New Year Resolution or just a promise to your community, to shop and buy local in 2019.

We will all be better because of it.

Mike Pettengill (The Wizard)

