

Furnace from page D5

Most recent installations will have a liner installed, but many mid-efficiency furnaces installed five to 15 years ago still need them.

9. **Inadequate combustion air** - Furnaces and water heaters need lots of air to heat our homes and water. Make sure they are in a room that provides adequate air supply. If contained in a small room, a louvered door is a minimum requirement, unless some other form of ventilation is provided. Have your furnace contractor calculate your air supply needs based on American Gas Association guidelines.

10. **Altered or add-on wiring** - Nearly every home we inspect has some sort of electrical defect, usually created by do-it-yourself electricians. Sometimes, this includes the furnace.

Humidifier wiring is the usual suspect, but sometimes homeowners tap off the furnace circuit for other use in the basement. The furnace should remain on its own circuit, to lessen the likelihood of a thrown breaker or blown fuse.

Furnaces have changed substantially in recent years. In a future column, we will discuss how they differ from older units and provide advice on selecting a replacement unit.

Around the House, by Rick Bowling of the AmeriSpec home inspection service, 1378 S. Main in Plymouth, instructs homeowners about the basics of home maintenance and repair. If you have a question, write to: *Around the House/At Home*, The Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009.

Adopt-a-pet



Buddy: This adorable 6 1/2 month old Terrier/Chow mix needs lots of love and attention. This guy has a lot to offer and is eager to learn but needs positive reinforcement. Buddy is teething now and sometimes gets a little frustrated. He wants to find a family who will spend time with him and help him through his "ruff" spot. Buddy (No. R070604) and other pets are available at the Michigan Humane Society Rochester Hills shelter, 3600 Auburn Road, (810)852-7420, noon to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday-Friday and 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday.

Here's phone for duct cleaner

The phone number for Sanit-Air, a company in Troy featured in At Home Dec. 12, is (810) 616-0477.



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