

# quick & painless home and family news

Frey Construction and Home Improvement, LLC 608.643.7914



## This Issue:

Is Your Home Properly Insulated?

We BeautiFREY'd the Holidays!

Super Bowl Word Search

Recipe: Crockpot French Onion Meatloaf

F**EBRUARY 1-28, 2025** FVFRY DAYLALL MONTH LONG

NOMINATE



We started by carefully removing all of the

existing components, including the toilet, shower surround, double sink vanity, and separate makeup area vanity. The beloved clawfoot tub was sent offsite and refurbished to its original charm! What a beautiful restoration! We reinstalled the tub alongside elegant porcelain tile with infloor heat, white cabinets accented with brass hardware, and matching brass faucets and light fixtures.

The shower area was a key focus of this incredible transformation. To brighten the space and enhance its openness, we installed timeless subway tile, paired with a sleek glass wall and doors, as well as curbless entry. With a modern and airy feel, this much-needed CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



www.FreyConstruction.com

January/February 2025

We are delighted to celebrate two wonderful additions to the Frey Construction family!



Our Remodeling Design Consultant, Sam Koenig, and his wife, Madeline, joyfully welcomed their daughter, Evan Louise, on November 4th. Proud big brother Crew is already loving his role as a big sibling!

Additionally, our Sales Consultant, Alex Taubenheim, and his wife, Michelle, welcomed their daughter, Kimi, on December 14th. Big sister Emi is thrilled to have her baby sister at home!

Warmest wishes to the Koenig and Taubenhim families as they embrace this exciting new chapter together!





#### **CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

change replaced the former closed and cramped insert surround.

Beyond the aesthetic upgrades, we made the space more functional by redesigning the double sink vanity and separate makeup area vanity, incorporating additional storage solutions. Finally, we replaced a fold-down ironing board discreetly tucked into an alcove. This thoughtful touch provides practical convenience without compromising style.

The result?! A master bathroom suite that is efficient, convenient, and visually breathtaking. The space is so inviting and serene, it's almost too hard to leave! What a sanctuary!





Newsletter Creation (Concept, Design, Execution) by Aimee Demerath | Editing by Dawn Danz-Hale



As the holidays approached, Frey Construction embarked on a heartfelt mission to spread joy and kindness throughout the Sauk Prairie community and beyond. Through our 12 Days of Giving, Shani Claus and the Frey "Elves" made a meaningful impact on countless lives, proving that even the smallest acts of generosity can create waves of positivity. Here's a recap of this memorable journey:



**Day 1:** Shani Claus and the Frey team delivered 910 boxes of tissues to Beyond Blessed Pantry to support their holiday care packages, ensuring the community's needs were met.

**Day 2:** We donated \$3,500 to the Sauk Prairie Early Learning Center, helping to meet their fundraising goal to unlock a vital grant for this much-needed facility.

**Day 3:** Our Frey "Elves" replenished the "Care Closet" at Sauk Prairie High School with clothing and hygiene products for students in need.

**Day 4:** We delivered dog treats, food, and toys to Bullies-N-Friends, brightening the season for rescue pets awaiting forever homes.



**Day 5:** Shani Claus brought cheer to donors at the American Red Cross Blood Drive with gift cards. On this day, we also welcomed Thelma, a rescue pup from Bullies-N-Friends, into the Frey family.

**Day 6:** Gift certificates for meals at The Gym Bar & Grill were given to the Sauk City and Prairie du Sac Fire Departments as a token of gratitude for their service.

**Day 7:** Shani Claus joined the Aging and Disability Resource Center to deliver Meals on Wheels, bringing with her beautiful holiday floral arrangements to brighten recipients' days.

**Day 8:** We delivered snacks to the Prairie du Sac Public Works Department, recognizing their dedication to keeping the village running smoothly.

**Day 9:** We donated \$2,500 in memory of Robert Davis to Camp Kesem at UW-Madison, helping children impacted by a parent's cancer diagnosis attend camp.

**Day 10:** We delivered non-perishable food items to the Sauk Prairie Area Food Pantry, continuing our cherished tradition of supporting this vital resource.

**Day 11:** We donated TONS of new stuffed animals to Team Emery, spreading hope and courage to children facing adversity.

**Day 12:** We fulfilled the wish lists of two local families, making Christmas possible for eight children. This effort was made possible by the generosity of our Frey "Elves" and our commitment to giving back.



As we reflect on this journey, we're reminded of the profound truth: "Let us never underestimate the power of giving, for it is in lifting others that we find the true strength of humanity. Together, we can do just about anything." We are grateful for the opportunity to give back to the community that means so much to us. From all of us at Frey Construction (and Thelma too!), we wish you a new year filled with love, kindness, and joy.

Is your Home Properly Insulated?

#### Eight Signs You May Need an Upgrade

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, heating and cooling account for 42% of the average homeowner's utility bill—a number that can skyrocket when a home lacks proper insulation. During Wisconsin's harsh winters, insufficient insulation allows warm air to escape through your walls and attic, leading to discomfort and higher energy costs. If your home doesn't have adequate insulation or if it's improperly installed, the consequences can be costly for both your home and your wallet.

## To help you identify potential issues, we've outlined eight key signs that your home may be under-insulated:

#### 1. Cold Walls, Floors, and Ceilings

Up to 35% of your home's heat can escape through walls. Interior walls, floors, and ceilings should feel warm and dry. If they feel cold or damp, it's a sign of insufficient insulation. Conversely, exterior walls should feel cold, indicating that insulation is effectively keeping warm air inside.

#### 2. Uneven Temperatures in Rooms

Are some rooms in your home consistently colder or hotter than others, no matter how you adjust your thermostat? Uneven temperatures often occur because certain areas—like those above garages or beneath attics—may be poorly insulated. Ensuring consistent insulation throughout your home can help stabilize temperatures and improve comfort.

#### 3. Frozen Pipes

Frozen pipes in exterior walls are a major red flag. Proper insulation not only helps prevent heat loss but also protects pipes from freezing and bursting, which can lead to expensive repairs.

#### 4. Chilly Drafts

Drafts around windows and doors are common during winter and can indicate air leaks caused by insufficient insulation. Windows alone account for about 25% of heat loss in a home. Adding insulation—such as spray foam for sealing cracks—can reduce drafts and lower energy bills.



#### 5. Ice Dams on the Roof

Ice dams are a telltale sign of inadequate attic insulation. Without proper insulation, rising heat melts snow on the roof, causing water to flow to the cold edges where it refreezes. This results in dangerous ice buildup, which can damage your roof and gutters while posing safety hazards below.

#### 6. Rising Energy Bills

Take a look at your energy bills over the past few years. Sudden spikes may indicate your heating and cooling systems are overworking to compensate for poor insulation. Upgrading insulation can significantly reduce energy usage and costs.

#### 7. Pests in Your Home

Rodents and insects often find their way into homes through small gaps around windows, doors, and other openings. These same gaps allow warm air to escape and cold air to enter. Adding insulation not only improves energy efficiency but also helps keep pests at bay.

#### 8. Moisture in the Attic

Moisture or water leaks in your attic can signal insulation problems. Poor insulation lets heat escape and water infiltrate, leading to potential damage such as mold and structural issues. Addressing these problems promptly can save you from costly repairs down the line.

Notice Any of These Issues? Let Us Help! If you've spotted one or more of these signs—or if you're simply unsure about your home's insulation—our trained professionals are here to help. We offer comprehensive insulation inspections, including thermal imaging to pinpoint problem areas.

Call us today at (608) 643-7914 to schedule an inspection and ensure your home is properly insulated for comfort, safety, and savings.





At Frey Construction, we believe that great things should be shared! That's why we created our Referral Program—to reward YOU for spreading the word about us to your friends, family, and neighbors. It's simple: send them our way, and when they choose Frey Construction for their project, you earn money! It's that easy!

Whether it's a remodel, a new roof, or another project, your recommendation means the world to us—and we're excited to thank you for helping us grow our Frey Family!

🖌 Tell Your Friends 🖌 Earn Noney!!

## Employee Anniversaries

Monica Ederer, Architect, 5 years on 1/2 Ben Kuester, Roofing Site Leader, 1 year on 1/2 John Kessler, Window Division Manager, 3 years on 1/3 Kelvin Colon Morales, 1 year on 1/29 Kade Crissinger, Gutter & Insulation Division Manager, 6 years on 2/11 Adrian Luna, Roofing Site Leader, 1 year on 2/15 Zach Hildebrandt, Remodeling Carpenter, 1 year on 2/15 Ashley Meier, Production Manager, 6 years on 2/25



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It's getting to be that time again! The nomination window for BEST OF MADISON! We would be honored if you could please take a minute to... NOMINATE FREY CONSTRUCTION!

#### BEST ROOFER BEST KITCHEN & BATH DESIGN BEST WINDOWS & DOORS

Starting February 1st, please nominates us in ALL THREE categories! Nominate every day...all month long!

#### MADISONMAGAZINE.COM/BOM



@FreyConstructionHomeImprovement



FIND THESE SUPER BOWL RELATED WORDS IN THE PUZZLE. THE WORDS CAN BE FORWARD, BACKWARD OR DIAGONAL.

SUPER	т۷
BOWL	COMMERCIALS
NATIONAL	HALFTIME
FOOTBALL	PERFORMERS
LEAGUE	PREGAME
GAME	FANS
TEAMS	TICKETS
PLAYERS	KICKOFF





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In the world of "Get the job done" and "Get the job done right" Frey is one of the few that is clearly in the "Get the job done right" category. We went with Frey based on the recommendation of a neighbor and we were not disappointed. Due to hidden damage that no one could have anticipated, the job took much longer than anticipated with the crew working in bitter cold and never complaining--J.J. and his team were phenomenal and went above and beyond. If you get multiple estimates and Frey is higher, remember, you often get what you pay for.

#### Liam & Judy Collins, Waunakee

## \*\*\*\***G**

We had windows installed by -- Cody, Dan, Jonny, & John -- from start to finish, they showcased expertise, and a dedication to quality work. The new windows look fantastic and have already made a noticeable difference in the comfort and energy efficiency of our home.

#### Jason & Annie Powers, Cross Plains



I loved working with Frey. They reroofed my whole house, including front porch, back flat roof, and main roof. Installed foam insulation under roof deck. Repaired structural damage to roof support. The whole team from sales to follow up was a pleasure to work with. The full roofing crew and equipment was awesome to see on the day they did the main roof. Excellent work all around.

#### Charles & Diane Boardman, Madison

## \*\*\*\*G

WOW! What an amazing experience from the first inquiry call to the completed window installation. Thank you to John and his team of installers - so friendly and professional!! If you are looking for new windows - call Frey! You won't be disappointed.

Dan & Natalie Anderson Sun Prairie



## \*\*\*\*G

The Frey Construction team's design and construction renovations for our owner's suite bedroom / bath and ancillary space was completed on schedule and within the contract price. Sam, Mark, Roman and the entire Frey team, including the subcontractors and suppliers, were professional, courteous and attended to issues promptly and thoroughly. For example, undesirable floor and wall tile was repaired or replaced, and minor ownerdirected modifications made during construction were accommodated professionally.

We are very happy with the outcome of the entire project, and we especially appreciate the total service provided up until the final minor punch list items were completed. We plan to contract with Frey Construction again to complete interior renovations to another portion of our home. We recommend Frey to those looking for a knowledgeable and professional contractor to guide them through the stressful experience of renovating your home.

#### Lance & Sue Swanhorst, Madison



Thank You TO OUR MOST RECENT CLIENTS

\*\*Lynn Allen & Jan Greenguist, Richland Center Mayra Angel, Dodgeville \*\*Cori Bates & Sarah Meyers, Black Earth Jeff & Miriam Block, Waunakee Brian Boettcher & Lisa Stewart-Boettcher, Arena Tony Brashi, Madison \*\*Tom & Karen Brown, Middleton \*\*Matt & Amy Byers, Pardeeville Steve & Amy Chafe, Middleton \*\*Diane Chalmers, Baraboo Michael & Diane Chalmers, Rock Springs Jeff & Robin Cherwinka, Verona \*\*George & Sara Christiansen, Madison \*\*Liam & Judy Collins, Waunakee Cindy Curtes, Mt. Horeb Carol Dambach, Lodi Andy & Sandy Devine, Fitchburg Terry & Mary Devitt, Cross Plains \*\*Doug & Julee Dredske, Pardeeville Steve & Jane Edwards, Lodi Dave Ehlert, Lodi Ryan & Elinor Elphick, Pardeeville Angie Elsner, Baraboo \*\*Lisa Fromm-Sarto, Madison Gallus Rentals LLC, Merrimac \*\*Stan & Denise Garvin, Madison \*\*Tom & Martha Glowacki, Sauk City Dan Gralnek & Heather Bartlett, Middleton David & Jill Green, Portage Mike & Claire Griese, Verona Linda Guthrie & Lynda Lawler, Baraboo \*\*David & Mary Hall, Poynette Michael & Sheri Hall, Oregon \*\*John & Jane Hart, Prairie du Sac \*\*Mark & Carolyn Hartich, Verona Carol Haskins, Baraboo \*\*Barb Hellenbrand, Cross Plains \*\*Brett Herschleb, Rock Springs \*\*Steve & Linda Hess, La Valle \*\*Hill Street Condos, Baraboo John & Maryanne Holzbauer, Merrimac Nancy Honaker, Madison John & Lorrie Hylkema, Madison \*\*Mike & Laura Jacobs, Prairie du Sac \*\*JN Woodworks, Sauk City David Johnson & Kelsey Shean, Madison

\*\*Tom & Marisa Joyce, De Forest \*\*Sarah & Blair Kirchoff, Madison \*\*Zackary & Brittany Kluck, Reedsburg David Kosmas & Beth Hautala, Elroy \*\*Al & Amy Kurth, Fitchburg \*\*John & Krista Laubmeier, Madison Rob Laux & Ann Casey, Verona \*\*Josh & Lara Ligocki, Oregon \*\*Kelly & Paul Maguire, Portage \*\*Jill Mallory & Rose Pinkstaff, McFarland Lyn Malofsky & Jessica Perez, Madison \*\*Cindy Martin, Prairie du Sac \*\*Roy Matuszak & Gene Wojcik, Edgerton \*\*Carl Mauer & Kari Davis, Madison \*\*Rich McVicar & Laurel Losenegger, Middleton \*\*Gary & Nova Mijal, Prairie du Sac \*\*Richard & Jill Miller, Lodi Theran & Leigh Myers, Madison Nik & Michelle Nayar, Madison \*\*Henry Nehls-Lowe, Fitchburg Kevin Olson, Lodi \*\*David & Shelley Petzold, Middleton \*\*Dian Phelan, Madison Jason & Priscilla Pinnell, Verona \*\*Matthew & Asifa Quraishi-Landes, Baraboo Mike & Diane Raizin, North Freedom Valerie & Daniel Ressler, Fitchburg \*\*Michael & Kristina Riordan, Middleton \*\*Jim & Leslie Satchell, Madison Frank Scharenberg, Montello Jack Schuster & Barb Bickford, Madison James Severson & Julia Ward, Madison Randolph & Joann Solberg, Mt. Horeb \*\*Greg & Marcy Sommers, Pardeeville \*\*Scott Staedter & Jeanne Hrovat, Madison \*\*Joe & Krista Stark, Pardeeville \*\*Eric Sternberg, Madison \*\*Joann Tennant, Richland Center \*\*Ardith Thomas, Madison \*\*Mike & Erin Treder, Belleville \*\*Warren & Aili Tripp, Fitchburg \*\*Mike & Leslie Tukiendorf, Reedsburg \*\*John & Kristen Wallner, Waunakee Gregory Weber & Marilyn Hadlick, Arlington Jennifer & Jason Yu, Cross Plains Lian Yu & Karen Jones, Madison Scott & Mari Zimmerman, De Forest

\*\*Indicates Repeat Client



## Crockpot French Onion Meatlog

2 pounds ground beef 1 cup breadcrumbs 2 eggs: *beaten* 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce 1 cup Swiss cheese: *sliced*  1 packet French onion soup mix 1/2 cup milk 1/4 cup ketchup 1 cup caramelized onions Fresh thyme: *for garnish* 

 Directions:
In a large bowl, combine: ground beef, French onion soup mix, breadcrumbs, milk, beaten eggs, ketchup, Worcestershire sauce. Mix gently until just combined. Avoid overmixing to keep the meatloaf tender.
Shape the mixture into a loaf and place it in the crockpot.

 Cover the crockpot and cook on low: 6–7 hours OR high: 3–4 hours. Cook until the internal temperature reaches 160°F.

In the last 30 minutes of cooking: spread the caramelized onions evenly over the top of the meatloaf. Layer Swiss cheese slices on top. Cover and let cook until the cheese is melted and bubbly.

 Carefully remove the meatloaf from the crockpot (use a spatula or two for support). Slice and garnish with fresh thyme for a burst of color and herby aroma.

Pair with mashed potatoes, roasted vegetables, or a fresh salad for a comforting, complete meal. Enjoy!

Note for Caramelized Onions: If making at home, cook sliced onions low and slow with a little butter until

golden and sweet. Yellow onions are generally considered the best choice for carmelizied onions.

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SUPER SERVICE AWARD

## 2024

### FREY CONSTRUCTION HONORED WITH ANGI SUPER SERVICE AWARD

Award reflects company's consistently high level of customer service.

Frey Construction & Home Improvement, LLC has earned the service industry's coveted Angi Super Service Award, reflecting an exemplary year of service provided to members of the local services marketplace and consumer review site in 2024.

"Our mission has always been to exceed our Clients' expectations for quality and service," said Scott Frey, owner of Frey Construction & Home Improvement, LLC. "This award is a testament to our team's hard work and dedication. We are truly humbled by the incredible from reviews our Clients. and we're thrilled to see our efforts recognized in this way."

The Angi Super Service Award reflects consistent excellence in customer satisfaction and performance, demonstrating why Frey Construction continues to be a trusted name in the industry.



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Offer valid thru February 28, 2025. Not valid on previously signed contracts or combined with any other offers. Must mention at time of signing.