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September 2006 **Gillespie Home Inspection Newsletter**

Dear Kim,

We hope you enjoy our newsletter this month. Your feedback is always welcome.

Wanna see our ethics? ;)



You know that old adage "If you've got it, flaunt it!" - when it comes to ethics I'm sure that's the basis for your business. Of course you want to show your clients that you are an honest representative for them working in their best interests. Ethics establishes obligations that may be higher than those mandated by law. The formal definition of ethics is: "The rules or standards governing the conduct of a person or the members of a profession." Home inspectors need them as well.

Professional property inspectors will adhere to a code of ethics that are a written indication of their honesty, moral character and dedication to the safety and security of others. Most subscribe to a code written out by a professional affiliation. The most common being ASHI (the American Society of Home Inspectors) and CREIA (California Real Estate Inspection Association). The Code of Ethics specifically prohibits practices that could create conflicts of interest: reports must be unbiased and objective; we must act in good faith toward our clients and other interested parties; we must not harm the public, make repairs on any house we have inspected, discredit our profession; and advertising must be honest and accurate.

There are inspectors out there who don't conduct their business according to a code of ethics. For instance, inspectors who also make repairs on properties that they inspect are not inspectors you want to recommend to your clients. Maintain your high ethics and professionalism by ensuring that your business partners adhere to them as well.

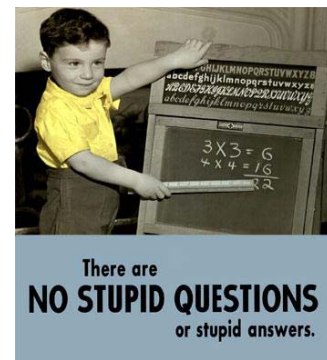
Gillespie Home Inspection strictly adheres to the ASHI Code of Ethics. We flaunt our ethics on our website at the link below. Please give us a call if you have any questions about home inspection ethics.

**[Gillespie's Code of Ethics can be found here...](#)**

## There are no stupid questions.

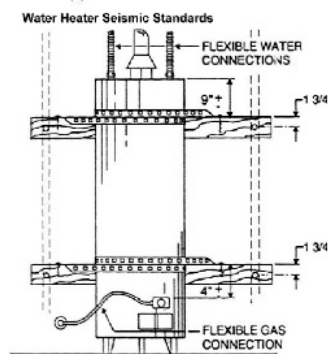
Collar ties, purlins, mudsill, knob and tube, angle stops??? Nope, it's not a foreign language, but these "house parts" don't sound like English either. Home inspectors sometimes like to show their knowledge using technical terms and sometimes there just aren't any other words to describe these parts!

If you've got a question about a house, just ask. *There are no stupid questions.* Send an email to [kim@gillespiehomeinspection.com](mailto:kim@gillespiehomeinspection.com) and we will be happy to answer your questions. We might also publish questions and answers in future issues of this newsletter (anonymously - of course!).



Gillespie Home Inspection wants to be on your team of professionals. Any way we can support you, educate you and assist you in your business is our pleasure.

## Didja Know? Water Heater Bracing Demystified...



We are required to comment on water heater earthquake safety bracing if it is inadequate or missing. This may cause you some grief knowing that you've got to have that water heater strapped according to state standards before your listing can sell.

Strapping and bracing kits can be found at your local hardware store. Then they should be installed according to the State Architect's minimum standards. To take the mystery out of these requirements, we've added those standards to our website library. They include some good illustrations to ease the installation. You can provide these to your

clients or strapping installers to make sure the minimum requirements are met. You will find them at the link below.

### [Water Heater Bracing Standards...](#)

## Just for Fun

The first person to respond with the correct answer to this trivia question will win a Jamba Juice card. Send your answer to [kim@gillespiehomeinspection.com](mailto:kim@gillespiehomeinspection.com).

The winner of last month's trivia was Lynnae Marie Howard at Coldwell Banker. She correctly guessed that there are 42 eyes in a deck of 52 playing cards.

***What is the name of the concave indentation on the bottom of a champagne bottle?***

**We work your hours, call anytime...**

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Tell us you're using the September Newsletter Coupon at the time of the inspection and save 5% on your inspection fee.

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