

Life AT THE WOODS

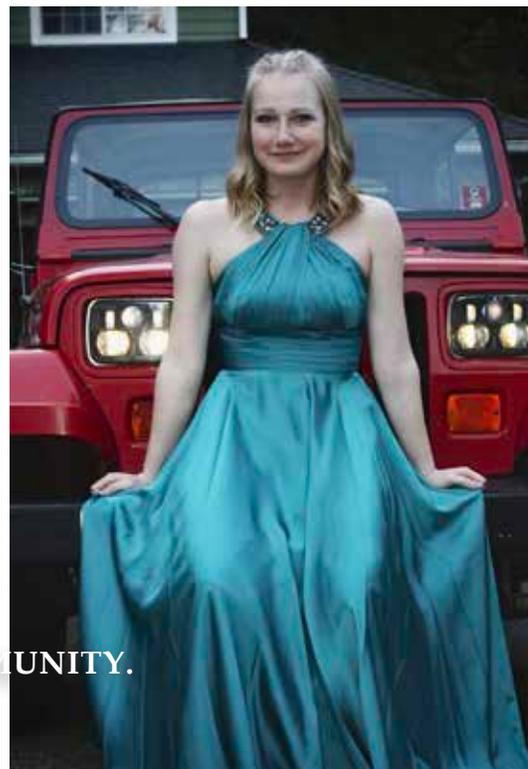
JUNE 2020

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AREA DIRECTOR/PUBLISHER Tristan Manning
(360) 626-3163
tristan.manning@n2pub.com

PUBLISHING ASSISTANT Tania Lee
(901) 833-9885
Tania.Lee@n2pub.com

RESIDENT CONTENT COORDINATOR Piper Willson
piperk03@gmail.com

CONTRIBUTORS AT LARGE Residents of McCormick Woods!

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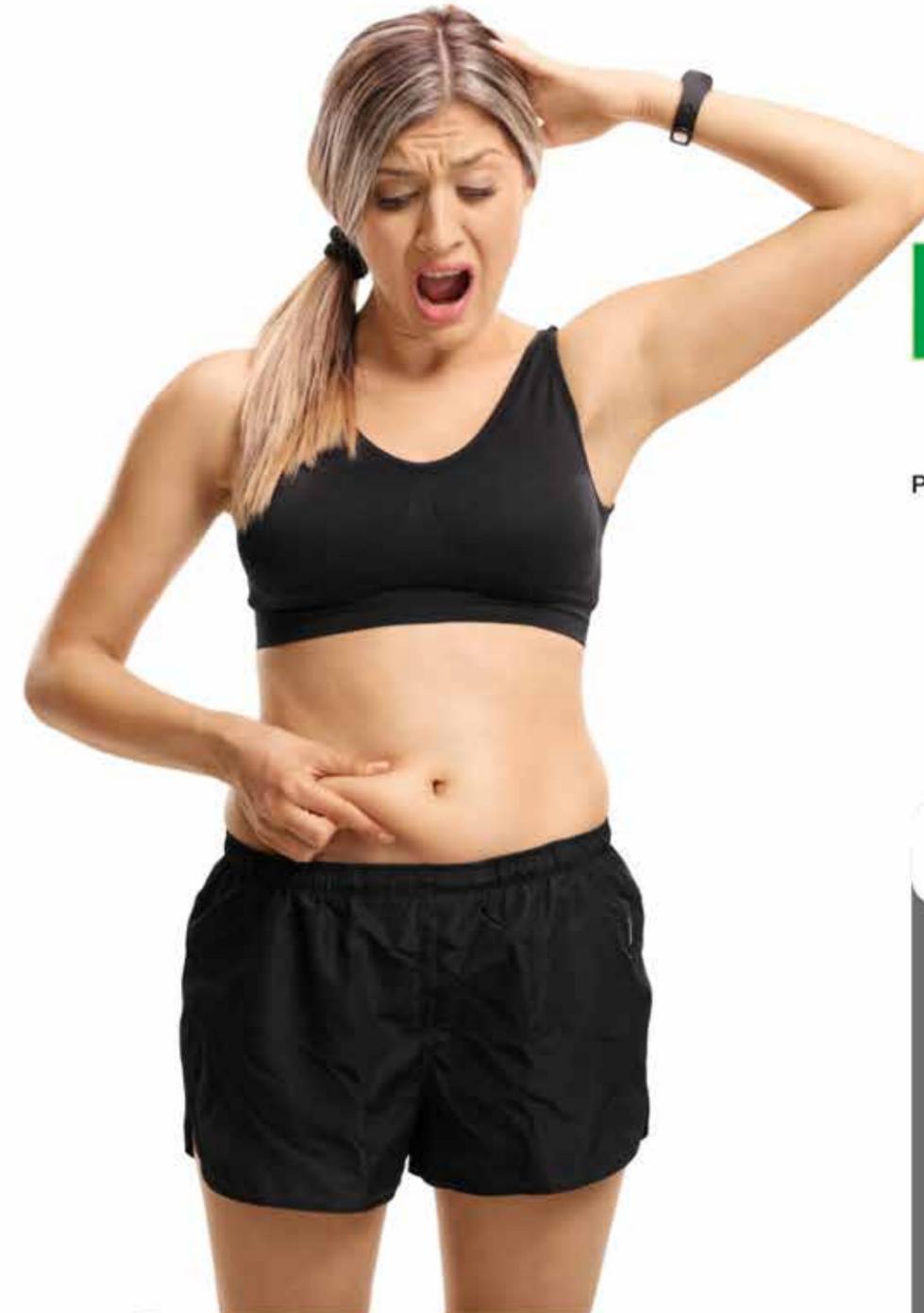
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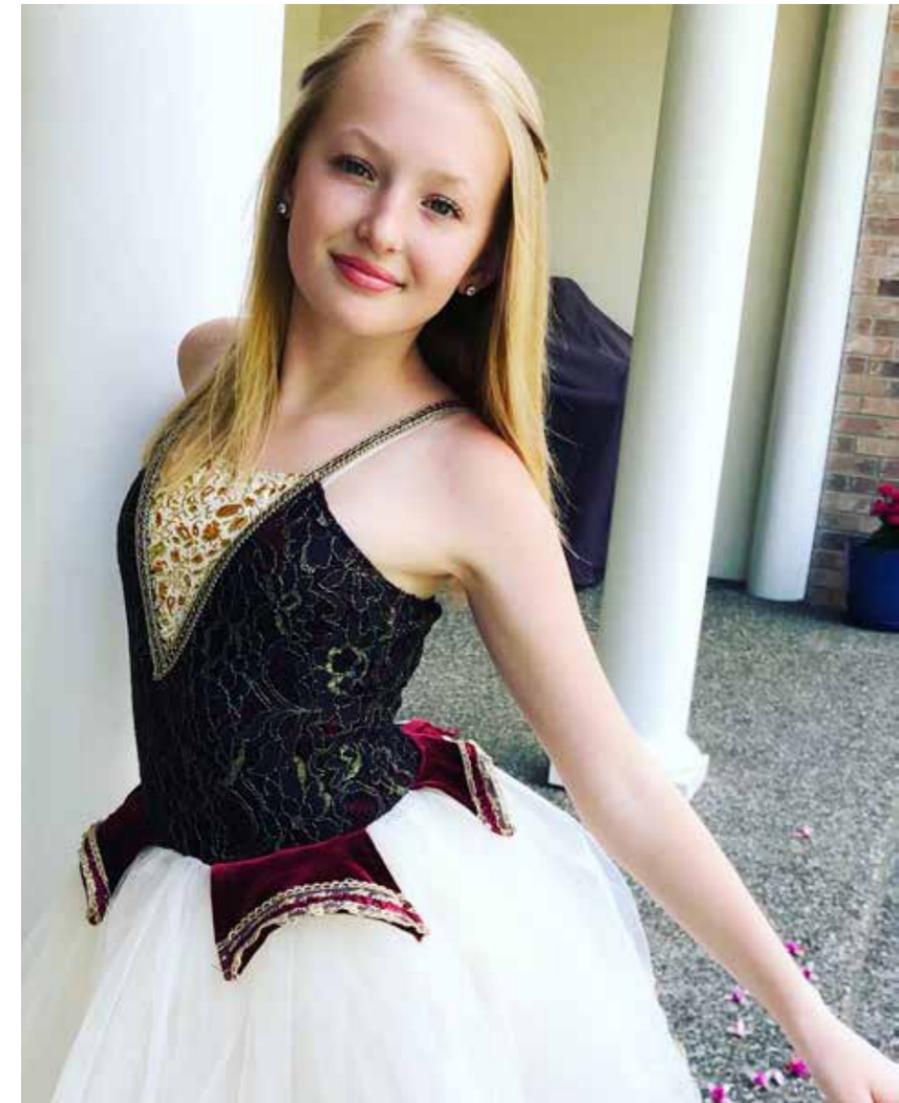
young achiever

meet *Reese Willson*

Meet Reese Willson, a resident of McCormick Woods! Reese has lived in McCormick Woods for three years, with her mom and dad, her sister Piper, and her little brother Quincy. You might see her from time to time walking the neighborhood dogs, as she has established herself as the Muirkirk Lane dog watcher and walker since her arrival in the summer of 2017.

Reese is going into her freshman year at South Kitsap High School. Coming out of her eighth-grade year at John Sedgwick Middle School, Reese is spending her time in quarantine working hard at her National History Day project. National History Day is a nationwide social studies project where students bring their knowledge and historical research skills to judges from around the nation. With the theme of "Breaking Barriers" to guide the study project, Reese tackled the heavy topic of the Berlin Wall. Using her natural artistic talent to guide her, she wrote a short play about the topic and competed in the performance category of the competition. Before the school closure, Reese and her performance partner, Kyla, advanced to the statewide level, and now they hope to advance to the national level with their recorded performance.

Though Reese is only beginning her high school career, this driven student already has big plans for her future from planning her future. After attending South Kitsap High School, Reese plans to attend the University of Washington in hopes of pursuing a career in the medical field. However, before she wears a lab coat, she wants to spend a year of her college experience doing the Disney college program. This will allow Reese to develop



her "be our guest" customer service skills along with her acting and dancing skills. Reese hopes to attend the DCP in Orlando, Florida, hopefully starring as Tinkerbell or Alice from Wonderland.

While Reese isn't working hard for her NHD success or planning out her future in detail, you can find her working hard to fine-tune her skills in ballet, lyrical, acrobatics, and modern dance. Reese has danced since she was 3 years old and is currently dancing for the Northwest School of Dance in Bremerton. Reese loves dancing because it allows her to express herself and tap into her creative side. Reese hopes to continue dancing and eventually join Northwest School of Dance's rigorous competition team, but for now, she enjoys wowing her friends and family at the annual dance gala.

Reese says that it is her drive and determination that allows her to maintain high standards for herself. Reese dedicates the time in between her many dance classes to homework and makes sure to use her free time wisely. She knows that the habits she is developing now will go on to benefit her in high school as she continues to strive to reach her highest potential! We are so excited to watch Reese continue to make her impact on her community through her high school experience and in her "Life at the Woods"!

precious pet
Submitted by Faye McRee.

*The Posh
Tuxedo Cat!*



Let us introduce you to Tucker McRee, the loving and rather posh tuxedo cat that belongs to Faye McRee! Tucker, only 5 years of age, was adopted from a humane society by his first family. Tucker found his way to Faye after severe allergies made him an outdoor cat in the cold winter. Faye, who had recently lost her sweet kitty of 18 years, was happy to take him in after hearing his meows for help. When Faye asked Tucker's first owner if he could stay with her, they were pleased to give him a new home, free of allergies!

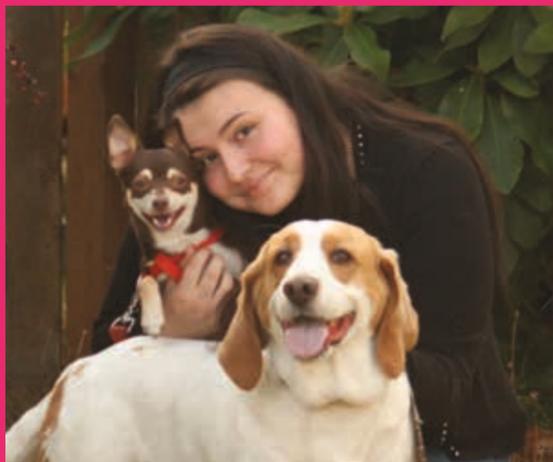
Since Tucker has lived with Faye, he has made himself at home! One night he climbed 13 feet and knocked down a shelf, as he was searching for some entertainment. Tucker also likes to spend his time playing with his squirrel friend, through the glass door, of course. Other than causing a ruckus, Tucker ignores the stereotype and enjoys his showers when he can.

Tucker has also become quite the picky eater! He will only accept meals that look and taste different than anything that he has eaten recently. Faye even admits that Tucker eats one rotisserie chicken each week, favoring the dark meat. However, despite his mischievous ways, Tucker is a great companion and can make anyone happy. Faye loves how sweet and loving he is. Tucker is a great addition to the many precious pets that live in McCormick Woods, and we can't wait to see where his "Life in the Woods" takes him!



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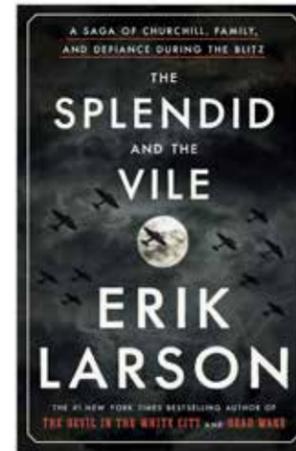
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resident book review

By Erik Larson. Review written by Helen Punches.



THE SPLENDID AND THE VILE

You have probably read all the books you need to read about World War II and Winston Churchill. Even so, you might want to take a look at this one. Published just this February, it's an intimate look at leadership and the squat bulldog of a man who was a master of it. It covers the period from May 1940 to May 1941, when Hitler's troops were rolling almost unopposed across Europe with their Fuhrer's sights set firmly on Great Britain. As the new Prime Minister, Churchill was determined that England would not be brought under the heel of Germany. The problem was that England, like most of Europe, was exhausted and depleted in the aftermath of World War I – the Great War to end all wars.

Knowing that his island country could not stand alone for long under the onslaught, Churchill launched a desperate courtship of Franklin Roosevelt, asking and then begging for help from the United States. However, the United States had also invested heavily in the Great War and was in no mood to enter another one. Roosevelt understood this and knew that to commit any assistance to Churchill would be political suicide. But he also understood that if England fell, the United States would stand alone against a vastly expanded German power. So he wanted to help, but he had to lay some groundwork with Congress before he could make any promises. Meanwhile, Germany began bombing England – softening it up for a later invasion.

This book has so many layers and so many intertwining threads that it's impossible to do justice to any one story in a brief review. You'll read about some of Churchill's idiosyncrasies, like doing much of his state business from his bed (or his bathtub), wandering around in the buff, and, of course, his fondness for cigars and booze. But you'll also read about his genius as a leader of his people, from his cabinet to Parliament to the English subjects

who never considered defeat. You'll read about his good friend, Lord Beaverbrook, who kept the RAF running by building new planes from the salvaged parts of wrecked ones. You'll read about the elegant Clementine, who gave him unflinching support and plenty of space, their disappointing son Randolph, and unhappy daughter-in-law, Pam. You'll read about the teenage Churchill daughter, Mary, for whom the war was initially an exciting round of dances and parties with dashing young soldiers. And you'll read about Jack Colville, one of the private secretaries who kept a diary throughout his time with Churchill. You'll join the weekly caravans that took the Churchills and their many houseguests to their country home, Chequers, and listen in as the leaders of Great Britain plot strategy over drinks and dinner and drinks. You'll see the letters and telegrams exchanged between Churchill and Roosevelt as, ever so slowly, the prime minister makes headway with the president. And you'll also learn about Rudolf Hess, whose private peace mission to England went spectacularly, and comically, awry. And always, running in the background, is Hitler's progress across Europe, his growing domination of the Atlantic Ocean, and his decision to take on the Soviet Union before concentrating solely on England.

This is a long book and sometimes easy to put down. But after lying there on the table for a few hours, it always called me back. It is a wonderful portrait of a complex, flawed, driven man with a history of bad judgment calls who was exactly the right man to keep his countrymen on their feet and fighting when it seemed the whole world was kneeling.

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featured family



MEET THE Duque FAMILY!

This family of five has been living on McCormick Woods Drive for 18 years with their three daughters, Leah, Lanah, and Larah. Oliver Duque, an engineering manager, and Ruth Duque, a client relationship consultant, met in 1997 through their sisters, who were best friends. It was two years later, in 1999, that they were married. Now, they have three beautiful and high-achieving daughters. Leah, who is 21, is a junior at the University of Riverside, California. Lanah, a junior, is finishing her high school career at South Kitsap High School with the class of 2021. Their youngest daughter, Larah, is a fourth-grader at Sidney Glen Elementary this year and looks forward to attending SK, where her sisters have left their mark.

When the Duques aren't hard at work, they enjoy cooking, baking, spending time with friends and family, or doting on their blue betta fish named Leri. The Duque Five also love spending quality time together, whether that is eating out at Pho Golden or the Corner Bakery, cheering on the Golden State Warriors or the Seahawks, or on vacation in California, visiting relatives or Mickey Mouse at Disneyland. The family regularly attends St. Gabriel's Church, which brings them closer to one another and to their community.

Though they love the PNW, where Oliver attended UW and Ruth attended Olympic College, they are proud of their Filipino heritage. Ruth moved from the Philippines when she was 13 years old, and the family brings their culture into their home through their favorite meals, such as sinigang, lumpia, and kare kare. The Duques are honor and cherish their family and love spending time with the grandparents. Their favorite family tradition is spending every holiday at their grandparents' house, year after year.

The Duque family brings so much joy and energy to McCormick Woods. Their active family capitalizes on the secure and peaceful environment that McCormick provides for walking, biking, and staying active, which is very important to them. Be sure to introduce yourself if you happen upon any of the Duque family, they will enhance your "Life At The Woods"!



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by Mary



inexpensive, but they also won't take up a lot of your time and can easily become DIY projects or be contracted out. Then if and when you decide to sell, these fixes are widely known to add to the selling price.

Don't have the time or budget to balance a larger project? Try doing small projects that pack a big punch. Manicured plants and lawns, fresh mulch, pressure washed driveways, updated light fixtures, and sparkling clean windows all go a long way.

Once you're done putting some effort into your curb appeal, you'll be excited to pull in the driveway again.

Easy Ways to Improve Your Curb Appeal

Already proud of your lawn and porch but want to take things up a notch? Try tackling one or two of these projects during the summer months:

- Adding a fresh coat of paint to shutters, or adding shutters
- Adding a lighted and unique address sign
- Adding a fountain
- Installing creative landscape lighting
- Adding pavers or updating your driveway
- Surrounding a tree or two with a flower bed
- Planting evergreen ground cover, such as Vinca

Front porches have a big impact on curb appeal and should be warm and welcoming, invoking a sense of belonging. Since most of us enter our homes through the garage, this is a commonly overlooked area. Many front porches have faded furniture and cushions, cobwebs, tattered doormats, dead plants, and dark entries.

Whether you have a small or large front porch, these small changes can make a big difference:

- Start with a cleanup. Check for cobwebs and dead plants.
- Add a new front door light fixture
- Paint the front door a different color to add pop.
- Stain or paint the porch
- Add matching planters on either side of the front door or driveway. The plants should be varied in each planter, with tall, medium and small plants or flowers. It's an eyesore to see a large planter with flowers that are not proportional to the size of the pot.

Well-maintained patio furniture with colorful accents is always inviting. Replacing faded or dirty cushions with soothing colors, such as cream or blue, then adding bright pops of color, like yellow or pink with pillows and matching accessories will look put-together and comfortable. With USA's Memorial Day, July 4, and Labor Day all coming up, a mixture of red, white, and blue accents will feel seasonal and festive.

Here's to curb appeal and celebrating the holidays!

When preparing to sell a home, many people consider interior styling but can overlook the exterior of their home. The front lawn, front door, and front porch are the introduction to your space and can make a big first impression for potential buyers. Not only can curb appeal help sell your home, if you're looking to stay put, it can also help create your own personal sanctuary.

Steps for Evaluating Your Curb Appeal

Many of us have lived in our homes for so long that we don't notice things that others might as they drive by or visit. Next time you pull into your driveway, ask yourself, "What would a potential home buyer think if they drove by my house?" More importantly, what feeling do you get when you pull in the driveway? Are you excited to spend time on the porch or patio? Why or why not?

Then, take a walk across the street to view your house from a distance. You may notice things you overlook when you're in your own yard. Check for:

- Overgrown shrubs, dead plants, or patchy grass
- Dingy or moldy driveways, walkways, porches, or siding
- Overflowing gutters
- Moldy roofs
- Dated light fixtures
- Faded or dirty garage doors
- Dirty windows

All of these can be easily corrected and will cost you only a fraction of the value of your home. Not only are they typically

The Importance of CURB APPEAL!

resident recipe
Submitted by Lanah.

MILK

ANYONE!

Lanah's Brownies!

Ingredients:

- ½ cup butter
- 1 cup sugar (preferably brown)
- ¾ cup chocolate chips/chunks
- 1 ½ tablespoons syrup (like the one you put on pancakes)
- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- ¾ cup flour
- 2 tablespoons cocoa powder
- ½ teaspoons salt
- ½ teaspoon baking powder
- optional: powdered sugar/fruit for topping!

Steps:

1. Preheat oven to 350°F. Grease and line an 8x8 baking tin with parchment paper. You can use baking spray or butter to grease.
2. Add your butter, sugar, chocolate, and syrup in a large bowl and melt either in the microwave or using a double boiler.
3. Once melted together, set aside to cool a little, so you don't cook your eggs in the next step.
4. Once cooled, mix in eggs one at a time and then vanilla and salt.
5. Sift in the flour, cocoa powder, and baking powder, then mix till all combined.
6. Pour the batter into your prepared tin and spread evenly.
7. Bake for around 20-25 minutes until set and when a toothpick is inserted, a few moist crumbs come out. The brownies may seem undercooked, but take them out when the edges are nice and brown.
8. Cool for about 10 minutes (unless you're really tempted) and add your toppings!
9. Cut into even squares or any shapes and share.

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[LiveAtMcCormick.com/events](https://www.LiveAtMcCormick.com/events).

Modern kitchen with island and bar stools.

Large two-story house with a garage.

Coffee break

Complete the Sudoku puzzle so that each and every row, column, and region (block of nine) contains the numbers 1 through 9 only once.



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June Word Search

June	Grill	Graduation
Summer	Refresh	Green
Sunshine	Popcycles	Together
Outdoors	Fireside	Starry
Beautiful	LateNight	Friends
Bright	Camping	FathersDay

monthly musing

“Have Fun! Even If It’s Not The Same Kind Of Fun Everyone Else Is Having.”

C.S. LEWIS

Must-Do This Month

- Watch the Sunrise and Sunset
- Rope Swing into a Lake
- Go on a Bike Ride
- Try a New Ice Cream Spot
- Shop at a Flea Market
- Buy a New Swimsuit
- Create a Summer Playlist
- Light Summer Candles
- BBQ with Friends
- Honor Your Father
- Go to the Zoo
- Go Fishing
- Go Camping
- Go to a Farmer’s Market
- Dance
- Sign up for a Race

Dates to Remember

- 1 - National Go Barefoot Day
- 3 - National Running Day
- 5 - National Donut Day
- 7 - National Cancer Survivor’s Day
- 8 - National Best Friend’s Day
- 13 - National Rose’ Day
- 14 - National Strawberry Short Cake Day
- 17 - National Eat Your Vegetables Day
- 18 - National Go Fishing Day
- 19 - National Flip Flop Day
- 20 - First Day of Summer**
- 21 - Father’s Day**
- 26 - Take Your Dog to Work Day
- 27 - Summersgiving

Seasonal Samplings

- Asparagus
- Avocado
- Beets
- Bell peppers
- Corn
- Cucumber
- Peas
- Potatoes
- Spinach
- Tomatoes
- Zucchini
- Apricots
- Blackberries
- Blueberries
- Cherry
- Figs
- Mangos
- Peaches
- Raspberries
- Strawberries
- Watermelon

Answers toward the back of the magazine.

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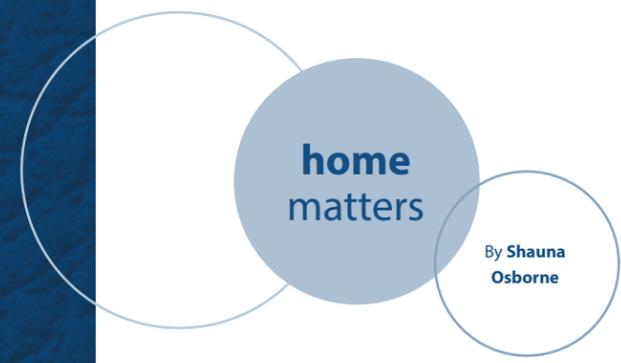


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Pantone’s 2020 Color of the Year was announced at the beginning of 2020, and this year’s choice was **Pantone 19-4052: Classic Blue**. A gorgeous shade to be sure, Classic Blue brings to mind the sky at dusk, an elegant-yet-simple provocation of peace and tranquility. According to Laurie Pressman, vice president at the Pantone Color Institute, the color represents “our desire for a dependable and stable foundation from which to build as we cross the threshold into a new era... a reassuring presence, instilling calm, confidence, and connection.” The choice is certainly apropos; between Mother Nature, the political stage, economic struggles, and COVID-19, it’s been quite a year so far!

Accordingly, Pantone’s Color of the Year choice, declared annually since 2000, is generally thought to capture the “spirit of the age,” a rite of passage that **sets the tone for the year ahead**. Classic Blue certainly feels soothing in current times; just picture this serene, luxurious color on the walls of your bedroom, a tranquil refuge! Looking back, the very first Color of the Year in 2000 was Cerulean Blue, said to be the official color of the millennium, predicting peaceful and relaxing times to come in the face of angst about Y2K. For 2009, on the heels of the Great Recession and on the brink of great political change for our nation, Pantone declared its choice Mimosa, a warm yellow tone that spoke to the hope and optimism of the year ahead.

You might be wondering, as I was, what the significance is of the Color of the Year choice, beyond a sort of symbolic, abstract selection to reflect a global mood. In short, **color drives consumerism**. Each year, through a lengthy series of meetings – involving thoughtful consideration and trend analysis – between Pantone Color Institute and various global color standards groups, color influences from all over the world are examined, pulled from the realms of entertainment, art, fashion, design, social media, travel destinations, as well as new technologies, materials, and textures. Once a color is agreed upon (or two, as was the case in 2016), it becomes the new “it color,” the backbone of numerous elaborate marketing campaigns, showing up everywhere from nail polish to cocktails to furniture colors. Indeed, 2020’s Classic Blue was all over fashion runways for spring/summer 2020 collections and has shown up in décor choices for furniture, textiles, and even kitchen appliances! Perhaps our homes need a touch of calm endurance, a touch of blue, this year...



PANTONE’S COLOR OF THE YEAR



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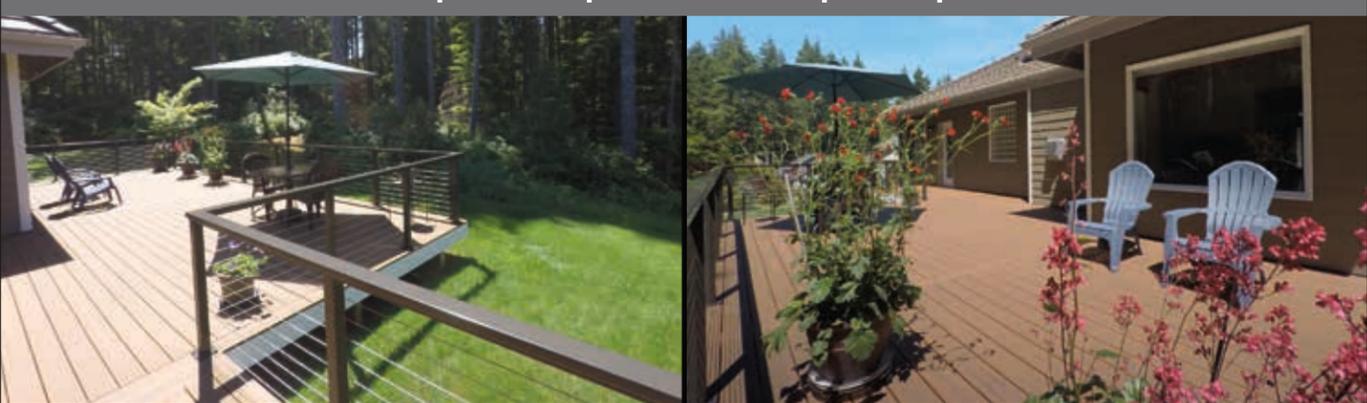
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6	4	3	7	1	5	9	2	8
5	9	1	8	6	2	4	7	3
7	2	8	4	3	9	5	6	1
1	3	6	9	5	7	8	4	2
9	7	2	3	4	8	1	5	6
4	8	5	6	2	1	3	9	7

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 IUOOWJIIYWKLTFKGDREXHCWFZAPREC
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 XSTNEEEJXQAWGFFYSAHZJRMQOFFYTBWJ
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