January 2020

### FREE



# The New Decade





**NEW YEAR** resolutions

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### UPCOMING EDITORIAL THEMES

February Love Your HOME ad deadline Mon. Jan. 20

March Home & Garden ad deadline Mon. Feb. 17

April Real Estate deadline Mon.March 16

Welcome! from the editor Happy New Year ... and decade!

Now! 2020!

When my younger brother went to his kindergarten orientation when we were kids, he got a tee shirt that said "Class of 2000," and I remember thinking how far into the future that seemed. I also vividly remember preparing for Y2K way back in 1999 when I was in college. Hard to believe that was 20 years ago.



Amber Bouthot

Time truly does fly. Last year, I made some pretty ambitious home-related New Year's resolutions and

they've kept us busy. Here's what we accomplished from our list:

- Spruce up the landscaping- We replaced black mulch with slate and added a large landscaping rock to our front flower bed.
- Build a deck in the backyard- We hired J & R Fence and Deck to build a deck for us and it turned out amazing
- Organize the garage- This is a work in progress. We have organized and re-organized about a dozen times.
- Add storage solutions to the attic and basement- We purchased some metal shelves from Lowe's and assembled them in the attic and basement, making it easier for us to organize our things.



• Finish the basement bedroom build out- We hired Nau Construction to do this for us and they did a beautiful job. It includes a kitchen area and a bedroom—perfect for when my parents stay with us for extended periods of time.

Whew, look at this list! I feel so accomplished. For 2020, we will focus on getting our lawn reseeded and healthy, as well as planting some pollinator friendly flowers to help our bee friends.

What do you have planned for your home this year? I would love to hear from you—or better yet, I'd love to see pictures of your projects as you go. Email me anytime at ambouthot@the-papers.com.

Cheers,





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## what's trending trends

# 2020's Color of the Year Classic Blue

#### by Amber Bouthot

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According to Pantone, the quintessential authority on color, 2020's color of the year is Classic Blue. Pantone has named a color of the year each year for more than two decades. The Color of the Year influences product development and purchasing decisions in multiple industries, including fashion, home furnishings and industrial design, as well as product packaging and graphic design.

"[Classic Blue] is a color that anticipates what's going to happen next," said Laurie Pressman, the vice president of the Pantone Color Institute, which selects the Color of the Year. "What's the future going to bring as we move into the evening hours?"

"Each year's color is decided through a long and thoughtful process that takes into consideration lifestyle and industry trends," said Pressman. "Typically, trends that we see in color are reflecting big macro trends that are taking place in culture."

True to its name, Classic Blue can be regal, restrained and boundless. But it can also be edgy -- even anomalous -- utilizing a variety of tonalities, materials and prints.

For those who want to embrace the 2020 color in home decor, we recommend Classic Blue accent pieces, such as accent pillows and throws, a vase or candle, or an accent wall painted blue.

We've assembled some of our favorite Classic Blue inspiration pieces for your 2020.

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Instilling calm, confidence, and connection, this enduring blue hue highlights our desire for a dependable and stable foundation on which to build as we cross the threshold into a new era.

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## what's trending HOME room

# Next-Level

#### By Lauren Caggiano

The bathroom is a sacred space for many people. It's where we go to prepare ourselves for each day, and it can serve as a place to reset in the midst of a busy day. While we spend only a few minutes here and there in the bathroom, the time adds up. The average adult will spend well more than a year of their lives in this room. In other words, you might as well make the space welcoming.

Local experts weigh in on how to make your bathroom look and feel on-trend. Rick Hayden, a longtime plumber with Trinity Home Design, said matte black for fixtures is hot right now, especially with the younger crowd. He said the sleek look and its easy-to-clean finish make it a popular choice. However, he reminds readers that it's important to consider the trend's staying power when making such a choice.

Mitch Haarer with Jonesville Lumber said he's observed a move away from traditional fixtures like bathtubs. With practicality in mind, "some people are getting rid of them altogether and opting for large, walk-in showers to help them age in place in their home," he said.

Younger homeowners, however, might be drawn to a more sophisticated look that packs form and function. The new trend is also to include the tub in the shower area. A shower/bath space can be separated from the rest of the bathroom with a glass wall to create the illusion of more space. Soak your cares away while relaxing in your own private sanctuary.

In addition to haute looks for shower/baths, Haarer said consumers are valuing comfort. For example, heated tile floors make for a great addition to a master bathroom. No more cold floors in the dead of winter.

Heated or not, tile can offer a refined look. While designers may be drawn to novelty, it's always best to go for a more elegant look that will stand the test of time. If you absolutely want to go the colored route, opt for dark or light tones.

Beyond these elements, simplicity is the name of the game in 2020. Statement bathroom fittings should be combined with simple-looking tile to balance each other out. Speaking of balance, be cautious and strategic with color. According to the Milan Design Show, on-trend colors for 2020 are: champagne, light yellow and pumpkin red. Taking into account that yellow and orange are bold colors, it's important to integrate them discreetly as to avoid overpowering.

You can also curate visual appeal with texture. Hint: think terrazzo. For the bathroom, this material is used for shower walls, flooring and even sinks. This Italian material is appealing due to its unlimited color and material combinations.

Here's to creating your own bathroom oasis. 🛑



#### **Resources:**

Jonesville Lumber, Jonesville, *MI*, 517.849.2181, jonesvillelumber.com Trinity Home Design Center, New Haven, 260.493.2574, kitchenbathlighting.com



## A New Year, a bold new look.

From your drift off to dreamland sanctuary.....



....to the rooms you love to live & gather in.....



Create a space that celebrates the bold beauty of Pantone's 2020 color of the year, Classic Blue.



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## features main feature



#### By Stacie Ball

Everyone is talking about their New Year's Resolutions like eating healthy or losing weight, but your home may be crying out for resolutions of its own. Check out this list to see if your house is speaking to you.

#### Create a daily cleaning routine

Cleaning all day on Saturday is the worst. This daily cleaning routine breaks down our tasks into manageable pieces and frees up the weekends.

Day of the Week	What to Clean	What to Wash
Monday	Bathrooms	Darks
Tuesday	Kitchen	Lights
Wednesday	Vacuum and Dust	Whites
Thursday	Bedrooms	Towels
Friday	Miscellaneous	Sheets

For more detailed cleaning routines, how-to's, advice and lots of other resources, check out the free app FlyLadyPlus.<sup>1</sup>

#### **Declutter and organize**

The hardest part of decluttering is figuring out where to begin. The whole process is a bit overwhelming, so take it a little at a time. One great app for this is the Toss app.<sup>2</sup> Each day, this clever app gives you a quick decluttering task that takes minutes to complete. For example: toss any expired or old products in the laundry area. The app allows you to skip tasks, delete tasks and customize by adding your own tasks. It also keeps track of your progress by asking you to enter how many items you have gotten rid of each day.

#### Establish a maintenance routine

Develop a plan for keeping your home in tip-top shape. Research to find out how often a furnace filter should be changed, the hot water heater should be drained, the gutters cleaned, and other various tasks. Look at https://www.hsh.com/homeowner/home-maintenance-checklist. html<sup>3</sup> for a checklist of seasonal maintenance and beyond. Keep track of your repairs in a journal or use a handy, free app like MaintAid.<sup>4</sup> It gives you several tasks to get you started and the ability to add or delete tasks.

#### **Decide on a project**

Got a million projects at home staring you in the face? Sometimes deciding which one to start with is the hardest part. Leaf Filter<sup>5</sup> offers a great list on its website for prioritizing home improvement projects. It gives helpful hints like decluttering your house before beginning any project, making sure to complete safety projects before cosmetics, and ensuring the project will increase your home's value.

#### Save money for the project

Maybe after going through the priority checklist, you've set your heart on a project that is currently beyond your budget. Avoid busting out the credit card and try to develop a savings plan over the next few months or year. Use this time to shop for the best bargains. Take the items you have decluttered from your home and sell them in a garage sale. Decide the

monthly amount you will need to save for the project. Create a separate bank account and DECLUTTER have the amount automatically transferred each month. Remember, choose a resolution that will make your home a little better, a little brighter, and a little healthier. After all, home is where the heart is.

#### **Resources:**

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## Take This Quiz to Find Out

#### By Mary Jane Bogle

Condo living is on the rise, and not just for retiring seniors seeking to downsize. Young professionals, small families and travel buffs are opting for a maintenance-free lifestyle, too. And with condo prices holding their value or even appreciating in some parts of the country, there's good reason to consider buying a condo instead of renting an apartment or purchasing a single-family home.

That said, condo living isn't for everyone. Thinking of buying one? Take this quiz to see if a condo might work for you.

- 1. I just don't have time—or interest—in mowing a lawn, planting flowers or shoveling snow.
- 2. A gated community with full-time security and close proximity to neighbors would make me feel safe.
- 3. I'd like to buy instead of rent, but a traditional home is just too expensive.
- 4. I'm never home because of work or travel.
- 5. I would definitely take advantage of amenities such as a pool, fitness center or clubhouse.

If you answered "yes" to three or more of the statements above, a condo or villa might be the answer to your needs. But not all condo communities are created equal, so be sure to ask lots of questions before you buy.

#### Here are a few to get you started:

1. What are the monthly fees? In addition to your monthly mortgage, you'll need to budget for monthly condo fees. Keep in mind that these fees can go up at any time. And don't forget that you're still responsible for any updates or repairs for the inside of your unit, so plan for a rainy day fund, as well.

**2. What do the common areas include?** This question gets to the heart of who fixes what? Your balcony or porch, while attached to your unit, might be considered community property. If so, you won't be responsible for paint or repairs.

**3. What is the percentage of rental units?** Some people buy condos as income properties. A large ratio of renters to owners might not give you the stable community you seek.

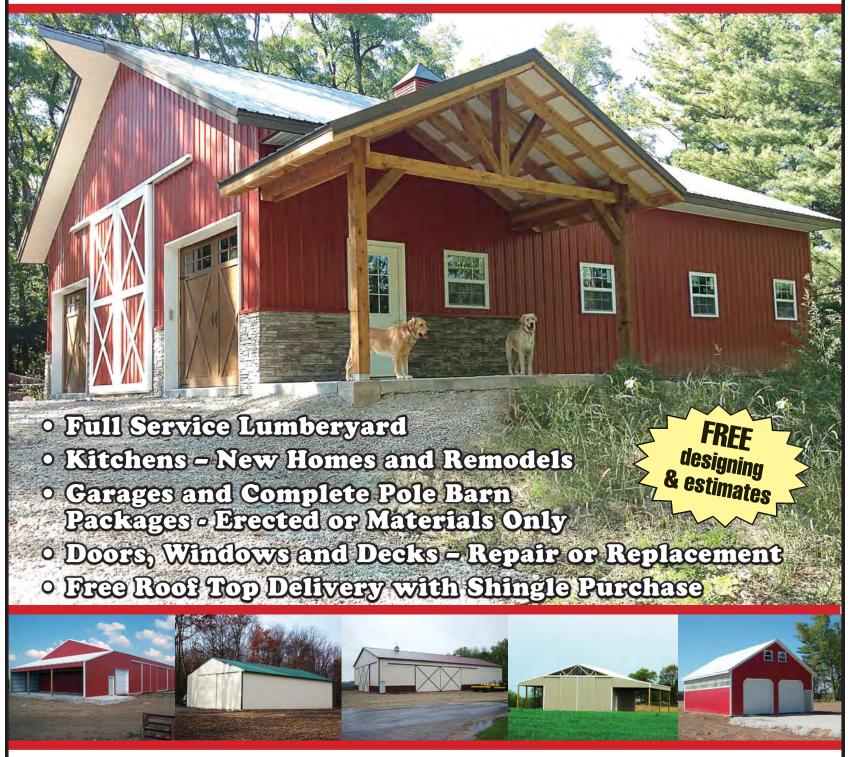
4. What is the total number of condos in the community, and how many are vacant? Maintenance and grounds fees are spread out among all the condo owners. A smaller community might feel cozy, but each owner carries more of the burden for community upkeep.

**5. Are finances in order?** Ask to see copies of recent financial statements. Is the reserve fund fully funded? Is there any potential litigation, and is it covered by liability insurance? Be sure to ask for minutes of recent condo meetings, as well. These notes will give you a good picture of common complaints and how they're resolved.

The answers to these questions will help you narrow your choices and make sure you've found just the right location. Then get ready to enjoy all the amenities—without the hassle—that condos owners fully enjoy.



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## features how to



#### By Jaclyn Youhana Garver

#### What do you need your window treatments to do?

"Whether a customer prioritizes privacy, fashion or function will help determine the best window treatment option," said Jenny Sanborn, of Sanborn's ... For Your Home in Angola.

"Do you want people to see them? Do you want them to virtually disappear?" Sanborn asked. "That helps us eliminate some of the different types of treatments."

She recently discussed some of Sanborn's most popular treatments—and the benefits they bring.

#### Cellular treatments

Also called "honeycomb blinds," cellular treatments have an accordion look when down and stack up tightly at the top of the window when opened. They're great for solar control, Sanborn said, helping keep the cold out in the winter and the heat out in the summer.

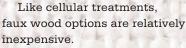


They offer privacy and cut down on glare from the sun.

"Cellular treatments are ideal for people more interested in function than fashion," Sanborn said, "and they tend to be one of the less expensive window treatment options."

#### Faux wood

According to Sanborn, faux wood slats are particularly popular right now, especially in lake homes because they provide a light look. While not for exterior use, the slats are made of PVC, so it's OK if they get wet. Plus, they'll withstand a lot of heat before they warp.





### Roller shades

Similar to cellular treatments, roller shades virtually disappear when they're open; however, they give buyers more creative fabric choices. Last year, New



York Magazine

asked interior designers about the best window treatments, and New York designer Jenny J. Norris recommended roller shades.

"An over-treated window can feel dated," she told the magazine. "For a more understated window, go for a solid color roller shade. Choosing a more textural option, such as a woven material, allows the perfect amount of visual interest without going overboard."

#### Trends in motorization & color

Sanborn is seeing more cordless window treatments. It's a safety feature—cords can get wrapped around children's and pet's necks. These motorized options offer remotes or power-touch wands, and they can run from phone apps.

"It's almost like a phone charger on the bottom rail, so you don't need to climb to the headrail and replace batteries," she says.

Sanborn says white is still her best seller, and many customers favor gray, too, especially if opting for Roman shades, which use a large piece of fabric with a small valence in the same material.

"White linen is a classic," she said. "It's a very clean, crisp look." 💼

8.40

Resource: Sanborn's ... For Your Home, Angola, 260.665.9799, sanbornsfurniture.com



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well being | features Get fit at home

#### By Lauren Caggiano

Sometimes, in the dead of winter, we don't have the willpower to leave the warmth of our home to hit the gym. The gym isn't for everyone, but you don't have to give up entirely on your gym routine. One local expert has some advice for acting on your intention to get fitter this year.

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First things first, on the subject of motivation, you have to set yourself up to succeed. Having your own mini gym at home is a great way to be proactive and intentional in your pursuit of fitness. If everything is organized and in one place, it's more efficient and makes working out less cumbersome.

As far as specifics go, Bryce Feller, assistant manager at Summit City Bicycles & Fitness, said to start small and gradually progress. If you have a treadmill, you can be productive at home and get the same workout you'd enjoy at the gym.

"Start with a 5-minute walk on a treadmill," he said. "From there, go into a slow- paced jog for 2 to 3 minutes and then you can get into your workout of going for a 5k run."

In other words, the treadmill is a great training ground for competitive racing. Or just proving to yourself that you're capable of such a physical feat. Speaking of activity, keep in mind that not all exercises are equal. While cardio is a great way to burn off stress, focused weight training is a more effective way to drop pounds. Experts say a combination of interval and weight training is the perfect recipe for fat burning. So don't be afraid to pump some iron.

Feller said there are more products now than ever on the market to enhance your workout. For instance, "Begin to warm up by rolling out on a foam roller and using resistance bands to get your muscles ready for a HIIT (High Intensity Interval Workout) workout on the Matrix Electro-Magnetic Rower," he said. "You will start off by rowing 200 meters as fast as you can, and from there you will stand up and do 15 body weight squats and then rest for 60 to 90 seconds."

Or maybe you need a different workout adventure altogether. "Add a challenge to your workout by scaling famous buildings, monuments and wonders of the world on the NEW Matrix C50 Climbmill," he suggested.

If your workout becomes too predictable and you start to lose interest, it may be time to mix it up. Nowadays you can stream full-length workouts online for less than your morning coffee. You can stream a class almost anywhere as long as you have a device and an internet connection, so it makes it a good option for traveling.

So, what are you waiting for? Get movin'! 🛑





Resource: Summit City Bicycles & Fitness, Fort Wayne, 260.484.0182, summitcitybikes.com



In January, we think about making resolutions, or some of us opt out of making them, too. That said, Peter Economy, a columnist at inc.com, reported that of the top most popular resolutions, learning a new skill or hobby comes in fifth place. So how about upping your gardening skills, or learning to garden if you don't know how? This goal doubles as a great way to distract yourself from the cold winter temps.

We've enlisted the advice of Amy Henry, a landscape designer at Arbor Farms Nursery. The nursery offers numerous ways to help you make your garden dreams come true, such as planting trees for you, discussing various plant choices and more.

#### **Amy's Gardening Resolutions Tips:**

1. Research plant choices to plant at your home in the spring. This research could be done at the library or online. My only bit of advice for researching online is that there can be an overwhelming amount of information causing confusion. I suggest researching through a website specific to your area, such as the Arbor Farms Nursery website (arborfarmsnursery.com). We have a plant search tool that allows customers to browse through all of the plant varieties that we typically carry and do well in our area.

2. Research insecticides and a fertilizer program for the upcoming season.

3. Check your garden tools and repair/sharpen as needed. Also service any equipment that may need it.

4. Outdoors you could cut down any perennials or ornamental grasses that have not already been cut down. Also clean up any leaf litter or debris in the beds.

5. Start planning a design layout for the area that you want to landscape in the spring. You can get inspiration online or in magazines/ books. You could also meet with a landscape designer over the winter to draw up a design for you. Sandra Baron, a Fort Wayne resident who is also an artist, comes up

with her gardening ideas in an organic way. Her gardens are designed around her interests. She's created a special flower garden outside of one window and calls it her painting garden, since she looks to it for inspiration for her art.

"I needed a quiet place to pray that was private yet had natural beauty to inspire me to talk with God in my own Garden of Eden. So, I created a prayer garden," Baron said. "I needed a fire pit so friends could stop by in the evening and share a glass of wine with us. There needed to be large plants and grasses to frame the area to create an inviting environment. So, I needed to create the ambiance of peacefulness."





Photos provided by Sandra Baror

#### **Resource:**

Arbor Farms Nursery, Fort Wayne, 260.637.5816, arborfarmsnursery.com

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## landscape | at HOME

# WINTER-FRIENDLY EXTERIOR PROJECTS

#### By Barb Sieminski

The winter months can stretch on endlessly for many people who yearn for warmer weather so they can be outside. Early seed catalogs can bring a respite to gardeners, but for those who absolutely must get outdoors, we have some winter-friendly project suggestions.

Stephanie Felger of Felger's Peat Moss, a purveyor of landscape and hardscape materials for a variety of applications, shared some suggestions for getting rid of cabin fever.

"Winter landscape projects can vary greatly, depending on the weather conditions of the current winter," said Felger. "Hardscape projects can be done if the ground is not too frozen to dig; or in the case of a warmer winter, the ground could be too wet. Dormant grass seeding is also another project that can be done, as well as any yard clean-up that one did not finish in the fall, such as leaf removal and mulching for the purpose of insulating bulbs; however, again, these projects are weather-dependent."

Also, consider building a fire pit to enjoy next summer. String lights around your pergola for a cozy effect during those chilly winter nights when gathered around your new fire pit. Install curtains on the pergola to keep your gatherings even warmer.

If you have major projects ahead, you might consider the assistance of a contractor for several reasons:

- They are busier during spring and summer and those are the seasons that are most in demand; winter work tends to be less expensive and their schedules are more flexible.
- Clients have more time at home to oversee projects because of work holiday schedules.
- You want your home to look as attractive as possible for holiday company.

If you are a die-hard DIY'er, remodeling your pathways or applying a fresh coat of cement or asphalt is a good way to improve curb appeal and absolutely can be done in the winter. So is giving your siding a new coat of paint. Another project is re-doing your mud room before the really cold temperatures set in. Revamp the room to welcome the wet galoshes that track in debris and dripping coats before entering



the house. Perhaps adding a boot jack for wiping boots off would be a nice touch.

Smaller projects can be accomplished in less time like cleaning your outdoor furniture – you'll need a soft-bristled brush or vacuum attachment for removing surface dirt. Mix ¼ cup of dish detergent with a gallon of water, and be sure to check all parts of the item for rust and mildew and remove bird droppings sooner rather than later.

How about insulating your front door before the cold winter winds penetrate your warm abode? One benefit is that your heating bills will drop.

According to Dan Buesching of Buesching's Peat Moss & Mulch, early winter is a great time to add a fresh layer of mulch to your landscape beds.

"Fall / winter mulching helps to insulate the plant roots, and it also keeps the soil at more of a constant temperature," said Buesching. "This helps prevent as many freeze and thaw cycles which add stress to your plants."

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#### **Resources:**

Buesching's Peat Moss & Mulch, Fort Wayne, 260.244.6145, bueschings.com Felger's Peat Moss, Fort Wayne, 260.693.3134, felgerspeatmoss.com

## at HOME | recipe

# Chicken Avocado Soup

#### **By Amber Bouthot**

Statistics show that 80% of us make New Year's resolutions, and of those, 71% resolve to eat healthier. Unfortunately, statistics also show that only 8% of people are successful in achieving their resolutions. If you are one who resolved to eat better this year, we are here to help.

I discovered this soup many moons ago when I followed the Paleo Diet, but it translates well for a healthier lifestyle overall. It is low in carbohydrates, and the spices are spot on: a little spicy, super savory and they complement the salt, pepper and garlic rubbed chicken, green onions and avocado. Top it off with a little lime juice for an extra flavor kick.

### Ingredients

- 2 chicken breasts
- 3 teaspoons olive oil, divided
- salt, freshly ground pepper and garlic powder to taste
- 1 1/2 cups green onions, finely chopped, divided
- 1 teaspoon minced garlic
- 1 tomato, diced
- 3 14.5oz cans chicken broth
- 1/4 teaspoon cumin
- 1 tablespoon Italian blend (dried green herbs)
- 1 tablespoon garlic chipotle rub
- 1 teaspoon coarse kosher salt
- 2 avocados, diced
- 1/2 cup cilantro, finely chopped
- lime wedges

### Preparation

Season chicken with salt, pepper and garlic powder. In a large skillet over medium-high, heat 1 teaspoon of the olive oil. Add chicken to the heated skillet and lower temperature to medium, cover pan and grill chicken until the internal temperature reaches 165° F. Dice chicken and set aside.

In a large pot, heat the remaining 2 teaspoons of oil over medium heat until hot. Add the 1 cup chopped green onions and minced garlic to pot; sauté about 2 minutes. Add diced tomato; sauté 1 minute, until soft. Add chicken broth, cumin and salt to pot. Stir well and bring to a boil. Cover and simmer on low for 15 to 20 minutes.

Fill each bowl in layers with shre dded chicken, diced avocado, chopped green onions (from the remaining 1/2 cup) and cilantro. Ladle the chicken broth onto the layered chicken in each bowl. Serve with a lime wedge.



## reader dig at HOME

ormation

sirl's Room

#### **By Amber Bouthot**

Every month, we highlight projects our readers have completed. We want to see your projects and share them within the pages of our magazine. It can be something as simple as a craft project or as large as a home addition. If you did it yourself, it can be featured. Email Amber at ambouthot@the-papers.com.

ittle

Do It Yourself

This month's Reader DIY project comes from Nicole Funk. She and her husband transformed a guest room into a room fit for a princess.

#### What was your inspiration for the project?

Unicorns and sheroes! We are very big on strong, smart, brave, and independent women in our house. We wanted to find a way to tie them in, in a way that complemented our daughter's love of unicorns and pink and celebrate the amazing girl that she is.

#### How long did it take from start to finish?

Fortunately we had most of the pieces from a big bedroom redo that we did about a year ago. We had to paint the bedroom, which was the biggest task. This was our first go with a paint gun, as well, and it helped speed things up. It took about four days total.

#### Was it easier or harder than you anticipated?

It was much easier than I thought it would be and so much fun. We had a blast creating this space.

#### What was the total cost of the project?

We spent about \$150 total on paint, pillows, rug, end table and other odds and ends.

#### What did you like best about the undertaking?

Creating a magical space that she would love being in. We want her to be proud of it and she felt it really represented her.

#### What was the most challenging aspect?

Figuring out where we were going to hang her flower branch and how to arrange the room.

#### Where did you source the materials?

Amazon, Target, Ikea, all the usual suspects. The chair is from Birch Lane. It folds out into a twin bed for sleepovers.



#### community events



#### **Botanical Conservatory**

- Through Jan. 5, "Christmas Connections" holiday exhibit, regular admission
- Through Jan. 5, "Garden in Lights" (through Jan. 5), regular admission
- Saturday, Jan. 11, 1st Garden Glimpse showcase exhibit opening day, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., regular admission
- Saturday, Jan. 11 through April 12, "Dog Days of Winter" garden exhibit, regular admission
- Saturday, Jan. 25, Winterval at the Conservatory, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., regular admission

Adults \$5, children (3-17) \$3, children (2 and under) free. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursday, noon-4 p.m. Sunday, Botanical Conservatory, 1100 S. Calhoun St., Fort Wayne. 260.427.6440, botanicalconservatory.org.

#### **Embassy Theatre**

• Sunday, Jan. 26, Darci Lynne Farmer: "Fresh Out of the Box Tour," 6 p.m.,

Fort Wayne Embassy Theatre, 125 W. Jefferson Blvd., Fort Wayne. 800.745.3000, fwembassytheatre.org.

#### **Memorial Coliseum**

- Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 4-5, Winter Bridal Spectacular, noon-4 p.m. Saturday, noon-3 p.m. Sunday, call for admission prices
- Friday through Sunday, Jan. 10-12, All American Outdoor Expo, noon-9 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, call for admission prices
- Tuesday through Thursday, Jan. 14-16, Fort Wayne Farm Show, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday, 9 a.m-8 p.m. Wednesday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday, call for admission prices
- Friday through Sunday, Jan. 24-26, Mizpah Shrine Circus & Fair, 7 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, 1 p.m. and 5:45 p.m. Sunday, \$14 ages 2 and older
- Thursday through Sunday, Jan. 30-Feb. 2, Fort Wayne RV & Camping Show, 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, free admission

Also a Wide Variety of Landscape Supplies

Parking \$6 main lot, \$10 preferred lot. Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, 4000 Parnell Ave., Fort Wayne. 260.482.9502, memorialcoliseum.com.

#### Honeywell Center

- Winter Bash Movies, 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.: Thursday, Jan. 2, "The Secret Life of Pets 2"; Friday, Jan. 3, "Toy Story 4," free admission
- Wednesday, Jan. 8, Bandstand: the Tony-Winning Broadway Musical, 7:30 p.m., \$58/\$45
- Sunday, Jan. 19, "The Elvis Tribute Spectacular," 3 p.m., \$75/\$39
- Wednesday, Jan. 22, "Mark Nizer's 4D Theatre: Sciencesplosion," 10 a.m. and noon, \$10

• Thursday, Jan. 23, "Mark Nizer's 4-D Theatre," 7:30 p.m., \$25/\$15 Ford Theater, Honeywell Center, 275 W. Market St., Wabash. 260.563.1102, honeywellcenter.org.

#### Niswonger Performing Arts Center

• Thursday, Jan. 23, "The Bandstand," 7:30 p.m., \$75/\$70/\$65/\$60/\$55/\$50 • Sunday, Jan. 26, Jeanne Robertson, 3 p.m., \$65/\$45/\$35/\$25/\$20 Niswonger Performing Arts Center, 10700 SR 118, Van Wert. 419.238.6722, npacyw.org.

#### Fort Wayne Museum of Art

#### Exhibitions

- Glass Sculpture from the Collection (ongoing)
- Planes, Trains & Automobiles: Classic Toys and Americana (ongoing)
- Day of the Dead/Dia de los Muertos (through Jan. 26) • The Mexican Mask Collection of Helmuth & Terrie Goede
- (through Jan. 26) • More Than Four Walls: Photographs by Lucy Bell Seaton (through Feb. 16)
- David Shapiro: Transcendent Abstractions (through Feb. 16)
- Margaret Burroughs: Faces of My People (through Feb. 23)
- Theotokos: Contemporary Visions of Mary by Elly Tullis (through March 8)

Adults \$8, students (pre-K through college) \$6, seniors (65 and older) \$6, families \$20, free admission for veterans and veterans' families, free general admission 5 p.m.-8 p.m. every Thursday. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursday; noon-5 p.m. Sunday (closed Mondays), Fort Wayne Museum of Art, 311 E. Main St., Fort Wayne. 260.422.6467, fwmoa.org.

#### Shipshewana Blue Gate Theatre

- Thursday through Saturday, Jan. 2-4, "A Christmas Treeship," 7 p.m.
- Thursday and Friday, 1 p.m. Friday, \$38.95, dinner and theater \$56.95 Friday, Jan. 3, "The Heart Behind the Music" Songwriter's Showcase
- starring Mo Pitney, John Ford Coley and Lenny LeBlanc, 7 p.m., \$44.95, dinner and theater \$62.95
- Saturday, Jan. 4, David Pendleton, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., \$19.95, dinner and theater \$37.95
- Friday and Saturday, Jan. 10-11, Booth Brothers,7 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m. Saturday, \$39.95, dinner and theater \$57.95
- Friday, Jan. 17, Billy Dean, 7 p.m., \$39.95, dinner and theater \$57.95
- Saturday, Jan. 18, The Talleys, 7 p.m., \$24.95, dinner and theater \$42.95
- Friday, Jan. 24, Doug Stone, 7 p.m., \$39.95, dinner and theater \$57.95 Saturday, Jan. 25, Jason Crabb, 4 p.m., \$44.95, dinner and theater \$61.95
- Friday, Jan. 31, Laura Story, 7 p.m., \$49.95, dinner and theater \$67.95 175 N. Van Buren St., Shipshewana. 888.447.4725, thebluegate.com.



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#### 1 FORT WAYNE: "Public Hike: First Day Hike"

Welcome the new year in the outdoors, exercising and connecting with nature. Dress for the weather, rubber boots recommended. Free admission. 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Eagle Marsh barn, 6801 Engle Road. 260.478.2515, lrwp.org.

#### 2-4 SHIPSHEWANA: "Shipshewana's Lights of Joy"

Drive-thru light experience featuring more than 2 million LED lights in milelong display of various light scenes. \$15/car 6 p.m.-9 p.m. Thursday, \$20/ car 6 p.m.-10 p.m. Friday and Saturday, various venues throughout town. 260.768.4129, shipshewanaslightsofjoy.com.

#### 3 WABASH: First Friday

Live entertainment, food, kid's activities, shopping, evening specials and more. Free admission. 5 p.m.-8 p.m. Friday, downtown. 260.563.0975, wabashmarketplace.org.

#### **5 FORT WAYNE: Mather Sunday Lecture Series**

"Classic Restaurants of Fort Wayne" presented by Keith Elchert and Laura Weston. Lecture and book signing. Free admission. 2 p.m. Sunday, The History Center, 302 E. Berry St. 260.426.2882, fwhistorycenter.com.

#### **5 DECATUR: Flea Market**

Nearly 100 indoor vendors, hot food available. Sponsored by the Adams County Coin Club. 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday, Riverside Center, 231 E. Monroe St. (Highway 224 East). Contact Carla at 260.517.8182, facebook.com/decaturindianafleamarket.

#### 7, 14, 21, 28 FORT WAYNE: "Little River Ramblers"

Hike and explore the interesting plants and wildlife of Eagle Marsh. Bring binoculars for a close-up view. Sponsored by Little River Wetlands Project. Free admission. 9 a.m.-11 a.m. Tuesday, Eagle Marsh barn, 6801 Engle Road. 260.478.2515, info@lrwp.org, lrwp.org.

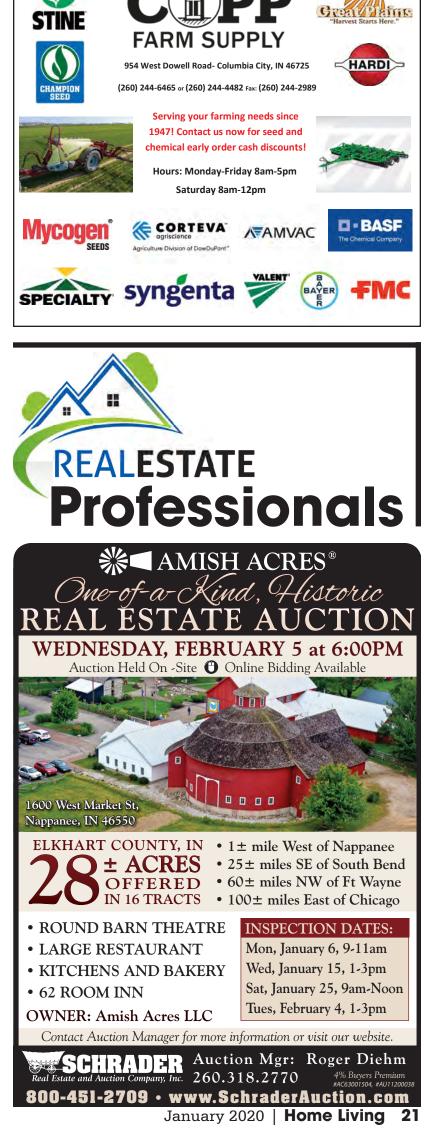
#### 9 FORT WAYNE: "Breakfast on the Marsh: Wetlands Project: 2020 Vision"

Betsy Yankowiak speaks about accomplishments, upcoming projects, and events that LRWP has in the making for 2020. For 50 years and older. A light breakfast will be served. Call to preregister. Free admission. 8:30 a.m.-9:45 a.m.Thursday, Indiana Wesleyan Education & Conference Center, Room 102/104, 8211 W. Jefferson Blvd. Register with Aly Munger at a.munger@ lrwp.org or 260.478.2515, lrwp.org.

#### 15 FORT WAYNE: "Short Hikes for Short Legs: The Life Cycle of a Snowflake"

Answer questions like "Why does it snow?", "Why is snow white?", and more. Free admission, open to children 3-5 accompanied by responsible adult. 9 a.m.-10 a.m. Wednesday, Eagle Marsh barn, 6801 Engle Road. 260.478.2515, lrwp.org.





#### By Deborah C. Gerbers

community

Winter is in full swing, and it can seem dreary, cold and sometimes boring when we feel cooped up indoors. Getting outdoors and embracing the

day trips

Okagon

season can help make winter more fun and enjoyable for the entire family. Visiting local state parks and trails is a great way to get everyone outside for some good old-fashioned fun.

Pokagon State Park is a great option near Fort Wayne. It is located in Steuben County near Angola, just off highway I-69. The park was originally called Lake James State Park when proposed to be the fifth Indiana State Park in 1925, according to the Indiana Parks and Recreation Department (in.gov). The name was changed to Pokagon State Park to acknowledge the rich Native American heritage of the state and region. The park's Potawatomi Inn takes its name from area Native Americans who made their home here. The inn, with its up-north fishing-lodge theme, is one of the Midwest's most popular resorts and conference centers. For more information or to make reservations, visit in.gov or call (260) 833-1077.

Pokagon State Park features beautiful stone and log structures that dot the park landscape filled with rolling wooded hills, wetlands and open meadows. As with many natural northern Indiana lakes, glaciers that melted 10,000 to 15,000 years ago created Lake James, which surrounds the park. In fact, Steuben County has more lakes than any other Indiana county. The park is framed by both Lake James and Snow Lake, which offer abundant opportunities for boating, swimming, fishing and scenic sunsets.

But one of the most attractive characteristics of Pokagon is that many consider it to be Indiana State Parks' winter wonderland. Winter activities include cross-country skiing, snow sledding, ice fishing and a well known, twin-track toboggan run. The toboggan run is a favorite for local residents of all ages. (Be sure to bundle up!) It is a quarter-mile, refrigerated toboggan run that reaches speeds of 35-40 mph. The toboggan run operates weekends from the Friday after Thanksgiving through February, with special extended hours during the Christmas holidays. For



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hours, more information or to take a virtual ride, visit www.tobogganrun.com.

Take advantage of Pokagon State Park this winter! Lace up your hiking boots and experience the numerous trails, strap on snow shoes and stomp through the woods, load up the ice fishing gear, catch a ride on the toboggan run, or treat the family to a special weekend at the popular Potawatomi Inn. The opportunities for winter fun are right at your fingertips, just minutes north of Fort Wayne.

**Pokagon State Park** 

Angola, 260.833.2012, in.gov

Photos provided by Pokagon State Park



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## community | company spotlight

## Maumee Paint & Supply Gary Crossgrove

#### By Rod King

As of August last year, Gary Crossgrove realized a life-long dream. After buying out his long-time partner, he's now the sole owner of Maumee Paint & Supply.

"When Archie Zehr announced his retirement last summer," said Crossgrove, "we began working on a deal. His wife, Connie, also decided to hang it up, but his daughter, Denise Herman, works here and I brought in Betty Graber and Gina Done to fill the gap. We've been in this business for 30 years, but I'm just not ready to retire yet. I'm 68 and there's still a lot to learn."

"I've been part owner for three decades, so I'm not starting from scratch. The difference now is that there's nobody to share the decision-making with. Archie and I worked well together and saw this company grow from our first small store on Maumee Avenue, two locations at Georgetown Square and this one which opened 16 years ago."

As far as Crossgrove is concerned, if it ain't broke, don't fix it.

"We'll continue to operate as a full service store selling PPG, Benjamin Moore and California Paints and all the necessary sundries it takes to get it on the wall. In addition, we'll sell and repair pumps for spray painting just as we always have. In other words, it's business as usual."

Over the years, Maumee Paint came to be known as a contractor store, which Crossgrove intends to change.

"Yes, we do sell to contractors, but we have always been the store that the public comes to for top quality paint and supplies. When it comes to painting," says the former painting contractor, "a good brush makes a better painter. That's why we have a wall of brushes and rollers to choose from."

According to Crossgrove, "people struggle matching colors. That's where we come in. Our employees are experts at getting the exact match. Some people bring in a halfempty bucket of paint that was mixed years ago and want us to match it. It's a little more difficult, but we can do it."

When it comes to matching stains, Maumee Paint is the place to go. Crossgrove handles most of the stain matching assignments.



"There's no color card to follow with stains. It takes a lot of experience and a good eye to get it right. Lots of adjustments are required to get that perfect match," he added.

"As a young man, I did contracting and masonry work, but quickly decided painting was better especially during bad weather. Dealing with customers and keeping them happy is what I really like about my job," he said.

### Gary Crossgrove

Maumee Paint & Supply, Fort Wayne, (260) 490-8656, maumeepaint.com

through the screen door

We wish you a new year filled with prosperity, joy and contentment.

### essentials

#### Jaclyn Youhana Garver

Chuck Surack might be one of northeast Indiana's most well-known names. He's the CEO and founder of Sweetwater Sound, the industry's leading music tech and industry retailer, but he also owns 10 other local businesses, including Sweet Aviation, Sweet Cars and Longe Optical.

Via an email interview, Surack told HOME Living why he has chosen—time and again—to make and keep Fort Wayne his home—both personally and for his businesses.

Surack and his family moved to Fort Wayne when he was in seventh grade. He graduated from Wayne High School and has loved music from the beginning. CNN Business profiled him about it this spring, detailing the makeshift recording studio he had in the back of a Volkswagen Samba Bus as a 22-year-old in the late '70s. Sweetwater even sells a 1/24 scale replica of that bus.

He loves living in the region because of all northeast Indiana has to offer. He highlights the city's arts community; music festivals and venues (like Middle Waves and the Clyde Theatre, which he owns); professional groups (Fort Wayne's Philharmonic and Ballet); and downtown and riverfront development projects.

"This expansion has been one of the biggest changes in the city over the years," he said.

"It used to be more difficult to recruit employees and convince them to live in Fort Wayne," Surack said. "With the growth of the downtown area, we are now a city in which people want to live. There's definitely an energy that wasn't here 10 or 15 years ago."

There are a number of changes he'd still like to see, especially the Electric Works project, which would use the historic General Electric campus southwest of downtown on Swinney Avenue as a hub of community, education and hospitality. The project's website already lists a variety of current tenants, including Conjure Coffee, Indiana University Research and Technology Corporation, Joseph Decuis, Fort Wayne Metals and Parkview Health.

Surack acknowledged that there are those who are against the project's development and points to the skepticism that surrounded Parkview Field, which "has turned out to be a feather in Fort Wayne's cap," he said.

And, of course, he said he'd like to see expanded programs that promote the arts and music.



Though Surack has had opportunities to open or relocate warehouses in other cities, he said, he remains committed to Fort Wayne. "We love that we're able to attract top-notch talent to this area," he

said. "It makes the whole community stronger when people move here, buy homes and contribute to the local economy."

Despite his forays into other industries, music remains one of the largest parts of Surack's life, and he said it's tough to imagine himself in another business. Even if he wasn't Sweetwater's CEO, he would still be involved in music, and he would still live in Fort Wayne with his family.

"I feel incredibly fortunate to call Fort Wayne home," he said. "I am so proud to grow my business here and to play a small part in the success of the community."

## **Home Sweet Home**

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