

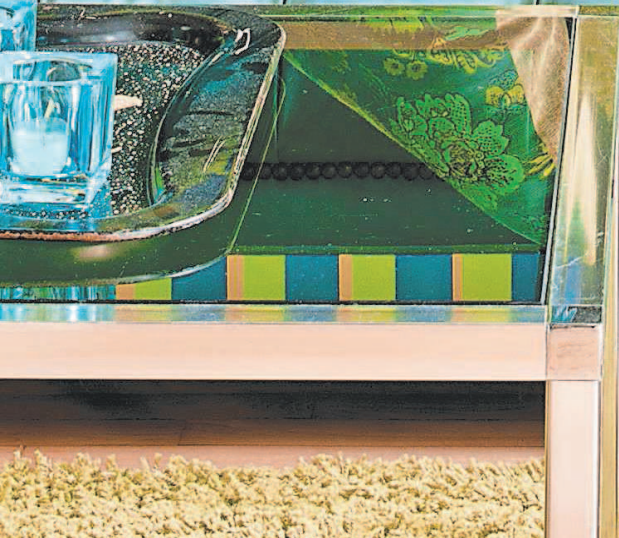
# HOMESTYLE

HomeStyle | 3-15-18 Edition

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- ▶ TOP COLOR 2018
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## Escape with 2018's Top Trending Color

Whether you've been a loyalist to the same shade of green for the last decade or if you're an evolving follower of trends whose color choices have shifted over the years, the trending color of 2018 is sure to surprise and intrigue you. Indeed, black is back. But how was this classic shade named the trending color of the year? While many assume the choice is random, trending colors are based on many influencers, but where do they really begin? Trending colors arise from consumer preferences, which are formed by societal influences, such as politics, economics, lifestyle and overall sentiment. We as a society hold the power of prompting new color trends based on our ever-changing attitudes, ideas and actions.

Dee Schlotter, senior color marketing manager for PPG, a leader in paint and color, understands the path to determining each year's top trending color. Schlotter and more than 20 PPG color stylists from around the world meet annually at the company's Global Color Trends Workshop. "Our team of global color experts assess societal and cultural influences to forecast

what colors will be popular in home decor, consumer goods, automotive and even airplanes for the upcoming year," Schlotter says. "We also look at what's happening in society, and the state of people's emotions because of current events. All of this information helps us predict what colors will truly resonate with people in the coming year, especially when it comes to the paint in their homes."

2018 finds its color of the year in a reflection of people's daily lives and their need to find an escape.

### 'Black' to basics

"The PPG Paints brand's 2018 Color of the Year is Black Flame (PPG1043-7). It offers the silencing impact of black with the possibility and hopefulness of indigo seen in the color's undertone," says Schlotter.



Content supplied by BrandPoint

Schlotter adds that black will be very popular in 2018 because it offers a break from an often chaotic and over-worked world. "With society facing overstimulation and a need to take refuge, the color black offers a comforting retreat, and a chance to start new and get back to the basics," she says. "Black Flame represents that necessary void and the need for nothingness that helps us recharge, making it a timeless and classic color in home decor."

### A palette of options

While going darker can seem intimidating at first, incorporating black into your existing decor is a lot easier than you think.

Many people mistakenly believe that all blacks are the same. However, black, like any other color, is available in a wide array

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THE WHITE HOUSE, TWO  
POPES AND MANY MORE  
EVENTS**



## KEVIN CROUSE AUDIO DESIGN

**Kevin Crouse Audio Design (KCAD) has been in business for over 12 years, serving all across NJ, NYC, parts of Connecticut and just about any local client's vacation home that he can drive to! Kevin Crouse, owner and Grammy Award winner, has a unique and intriguing story that sets his talents and company apart from others in this business.**

This two-time Grammy winner, started his career in the music business and worked with some of the industry's greats, such as Michael Jackson, Alicia Keys, Jennifer Lopez, Jessica Simpson and Will Smith. He won a Grammy in 1998, working with rapper and producer Jay Z on his album, "Vol. 2 . . . Hard Knock Life." Then in 2000, he won his second Grammy for an album he worked on with gospel group Mary Mary.

**Simply put, he is a true expert and has a life-long passion for sound.**

When it comes to home theaters, he and his team understand that clients are looking to create an experience in their home. Kevin listens closely to what his client wants to achieve and, working together, he delivers. A testament

to his client-focused approach is the many loyal KCAD clients who repeatedly do projects with him and refer him to family and friends.

Home Theaters have key elements that must be precise: projector, screen, audio and lighting. Kevin uses state-of-the-art equipment and executes flawless installation with his team. Furthermore, he keeps it simple for homeowners. Just a touch of a button can get movie time rolling; lights, screen and audio all running! Clients don't waste time with several remotes, switches, dimmers and drawing blinds. He creatively automates theaters so his clients can quickly get down to the business of having fun.

To some, a home theater may seem like an extravagant option that requires a lot of space, but these come in many shapes and sizes. Kevin works with clients to get the highest quality that is in line with their budget and creatively uses all different space, with varying shapes and sizes.

### IMPECCABLE SERVICE

Service is just as important to Kevin as quality equipment and installation. Any service needs are addressed in 24 hours and calls are



*Content and photo supplied by Kevin Crouse*

answered within hours. When onsite, Kevin's team is described as respectful, courteous, professional and very neat. Kevin partners exceptionally well with any professional from builders, architects, interior designers and landscape

designers. And, we are proud to report that we earned the 2018 Houzz Service Award.

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## AL'S SHED WORLD AND GRILLS

Another Chapter in the History of the Epstein Hardware Legacy  
They say: *“As one door closes, another one opens.”*

**O**n December 31, 2017, after 41 years in business, Florham Park Hardware closed its doors to focus exclusively on the storage shed and barbecue grill portion of the business. Al's Shed World and Grills is located in part of the old store at 186 Columbia Turnpike, Regency Plaza in Florham Park.

The store carries a full line of Amish built storage sheds, gazebos, pavilions, pergolas and children's playhouses. These buildings can either be delivered fully assembled, or if there is limited access, they can be built on site. We can also repair and relocate your existing storage shed. We also maintain a storage lot where we have 25-30 display buildings for immediate delivery. In addition, we stock a full line of Weber Grills, accessories and repair parts. We also have the ability to service and repair your existing Weber Grill.

We started in the shed business in 1976 after we bought the original Florham Park Hardware, which was located on Ridgedale Avenue across from the Roller Rink where TD Bank is presently. We had four metal sheds in the parking lot behind the old hardware store that were in a state of disrepair. We discovered a company in Pennsylvania that was manufacturing pre-fabricated sheds, something that was unheard of at the time. We purchased four new wooden sheds and used them for outside inventory storage. It wasn't more than a month before a customer came into the store and asked if he could buy one of the sheds out back. I went into my office, figured out the cost, added a little bit of profit, and made the sale. This was the start of the shed business. In its infancy, sales quickly grew as there was no local competition and pre-fabricated wooden storage sheds were uncommon. The shed business was the first branch point in the Epstein hardware legacy and was a critical element for the survival of Florham Park Hardware over the next 41 years. In 1987, when Florham Park Hardware had outgrown the 2000 square foot store, we began our search for a new location.

That summer, we found a new location—now known as the Regency Plaza—only one block away. The shopping center was a bowling alley that was being renovated to house a number of retail stores. The new store was large enough to allow for the construction of four full size storage sheds on the sales floor. We stayed in the new store from 1987-2017 when we decided to

close the hardware store and focus on the shed and grill business. Come Visit Us!

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Owner of Al's Shed World





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- Cont. from page 2

of shades. For example, Glidden paint's 2018 Color of the Year, Deep Onyx (00NN 07/000), is a deep and rich black that encourages a less-is-more attitude when applying to home decor, while Black Magic (OL116), the 2018 Color of the Year for Olympic paints, is more glamorous and looks great as a statement color for walls. And, if you're looking for some darker inspiration outdoors, Olympic stain's Maximum product in a Cinder semi-transparent stain color (905) is a great complement to Black Magic when applied to exterior surfaces like doors, window trims and shutters.

*Any of these black hues can be a defining piece in your decor while providing you with the mental escape you need. Schlotter adds that capitalizing on this year's color trend isn't solely about the color itself, but what you pair it with. Consider some of her other tips and tricks, including:*

\* Pairing the PPG Paints brand's Black Flame with Millennial orange-pinks, teals and warm

gray or mocha browns for an enveloping, rich look and feel.

\* Feeling a bit more daring? Make an impactful statement with black by applying it from floor to ceiling on an accent wall or in an entire room. Completing the look with lighter elements and furnishings will make the decor stand out, because the dark walls will highlight artwork and accessories while providing depth and character, creating a perfect space for respite and conversation.

\* To keep a space more fresh and modern, consider pairing a black hue with whites, matte finishes or light-grain wood finishes.

"Outside of paint, reinvented versions of the classic black hue are showing up in key design elements - from faucets, to matte black appliances, to black veined granite countertops, black windows and marble floors," says Schlotter. "The possibilities are truly endless when it comes to adding this misunderstood neutral in the home."



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Ted Resnick, above, is co-owner of the Flemington Department Store, which handled the event carpet for the 2018 Grammy Awards, held on Sunday, Jan. 28, at Madison Square Garden in New York City.

# Flemington Department Store carpets the Grammys, the White House, two popes and many more events

By **WALTER O'BRIEN**  
EDITOR

Hunterdon residents probably know the Flemington Department Store as a long-standing local retail outlet selling just about anything for the home one can imagine.

But that's only the tip of iceberg, according to Ted Resnick, co-owner of the store, which Resnick's father started at Quakertown Dry Goods in 1956, moving to the store's current location on Route 31 in Raritan Township in 1963, with many space expansions through the years.

With many special events under its belt, the Flemington Department Store this year for the first time handled all the event carpet for the 2018 Grammy Awards, held on Sunday, Jan. 28, at Madison Square Garden in New York City.

"We do all the major events in the east, we've done the Christmas tree lightings at the White House and Rockefeller Center," Resnick said. "One

time at the White House I bumped into (President Barack) Obama, I almost fell over."

Resnick said his firm has handled the event carpets for so many major events and galas it's hard to keep track – The Tony Awards, MTV Awards, Tribeca Film Festival and many more.

They've done work in California, Colombia, Dubai, Canada to name just a few. Not to mention the Museum of Modern Art and the Guggenheim Museum.

He said they also handled the carpet for Ivanka Trump's wedding to Jared Kushner, the wedding of Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos' daughter, along with many other White House events and U.S. State Department events with world heads of state.

"It was the honor of a lifetime to work for the Pope and we did it twice," Resnick said. "We made the largest cross in the world made of carpet for Pope Benedict (XVI) in Yonkers (N.Y.) – it was 550 foot long, 189 each side."

He said it was so big you couldn't re-

ally tell what it looked like from the ground, so NBC News kept calling him to get the first helicopter shot from the air.

"Then when Pope Francis came (in September 2015), we did the job in Philadelphia, out in the park by the art museum," Resnick said.

It's not always red carpet. He said sometimes the customers want white, black, or other colors besides the classic red carpet.

"The Met Gala (in New York City) is the biggest job in the country, bigger than the Grammy's," Resnick said. "It's huge, and it's not an awards show. They wanted real Sisal, a natural fabric made in China, hand painted with designs."

The store even will be showing up on the silver screen soon, for the upcoming feature film "Ocean's 8," which coincidentally takes place at the Met Gala. The movie stars Sandra Bullock, Cate Blanchett, Anne Hathaway, Matt Damon and many more, and is due for release in June.

Once the event is over, Resnick said 95 percent of the used carpet goes into the garbage.

"But the Pope, I gave it away," he said. "I had people calling from around the world – Singapore, Japan. I was just going to give it to some locals in Flemington, but I got interviewed on Fox and NBC News. We must have sent out 30,000 pieces, gave it away free."

He said they got started in event carpeting some years back when Rockefeller Center officials called for a job, and not being able to afford a disaster, they needed to get someone who had the credentials to do the job right, which they did.

And from there, it just ballooned over the years.

"I'm proud of the way we actually changed the way people did things in this business," Resnick said. "Everything we do is just like in your house, seamed, bound, perfect. Later, they don't remember what they paid for it, but they remember if it looked terrible."



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