### **Customers of the Month**

### ART & NAOMI DUPRAT



**Unexpected Pleasures** 

Dawn's first blush tints the horizon—Nature doesn't disappoint.

Soon, long pale fingers smear honey light across sentinel screens.

Muddled in restless sleep, I blink against mesh-filtered rays and struggle to consciousness. Behind my eyes, uneasy dreams scratch my lids. My plush gray cat, curled like a comma within the curve of my bent knees, rises and stretches

toward waking. Impatient for food and attention, he taps his face against my cheek, his breath warm and steady, then licks with sandpaper tongue my nose and chin. Lids still closed, I reach with fingertips to stroke silky fur behind his ears and

rub gentle circles with my thumb atop his head. Rumbling purrs, sweetly rhythmic, reward my gestures. The dark night images, just beneath the surface, dissolve like vapor. I stir to wakefulness in morning's amber glow.

Naomi Duprat

The highlighted poem was written by our Customer of the Month, Naomi Duprat! The Duprat family has not only been loyal customers but also beloved friends. We look forward to our ongoing partnership with them and appreciate Naomi's poetic gift. We hope you will delight in this poem as much as we have!

### July's Special Offer: Sizzling Summer Special

20% House Washing off with Exterior Shutter & Front Door Painting

**a** \$120 value Expires: July 31st, 2024

CALL (717)-576-8013 or Visit www.alldeckedoutservices.com to schedule your FREE Estimate





"It just dawned on me that every time we make a phone call, it's a robocall."

### FUN N' GAMES

#### Ending with drums, cymbals Across 1. Letterman's network 4. Sausage 10. Kind of tube 11. Ed.'s request 12. Condoleezz Rice's department 13. Movie preview 15. That guy 16. \_\_\_ tenens (substitute) 18. Sooner St. 20. Come up with 23. Home to more than a billion 25. Affirmative action 26. Physics lab device, for short

of "Buffy"
8. Arborist's concern
14. Friendly
17. Country estate
18. Alternative to acrylics
19. Make a sweater

27. Eccentric

29. Aussie hopper,

2. Scottish hillside

3. Baseball datum

6. Genetic info carrier

5 Not factual

28 Shadow

for short

Down

1. Actors

The headline is a clue to the answer in the diagonal

### JOKE:

How does a butcher introduce his wife?  $\label{eq:posterior} \mbox{Weet}^{\mbox{$_{1}$}}_{\mbox{$_{2}$}} \mbox{$_{3}$}$ 

# AT HOME MONTHLY NEWSLETTER™

MAKING YOUR HOME A HAPPIER, HEALTHIER PLACE TO LIVE a FREE Gift from your friends at...

a FREE Gift from your friends at...
All DECKED OUT SERVICES INC.



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**Company Website** 



**Customer Reviews** 

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK: ALL DECKED OUT SERVICES

## A Focus on the Family

Since our establishment in 1998, Ric has always emphasized involving his family in the business to create a true family company. When he started, he had three young daughters who were eager to assist him with his business endeavors. Their early tasks included distributing flyers and competing to hang the most door hangers in different neighborhoods, so if you received a flyer in the 90s or early 2000s, it was likely from them!

As the girls grew older, they expanded their roles within the company. Karissa, Ric's middle daughter, gravitated toward the administrative and customer service aspects of the business. She handled phone calls, updated customer information, and organized paperwork. Kelsey, Ric's youngest daughter, found joy in the production side of the business. She accompanied her dad on tasks like power washing decks, laying out canvas covers, cleaning windows, and preparing areas for painting.

All three daughters remain actively engaged in the company today. Karissa, now a new mom, works part-time handling administrative and customer service duties. She is often the person you interact with when scheduling estimates or making payments over the phone. Kelsey, a teacher, contributes during summers by managing social media and occasionally assisting with significant customer projects. Elisha manages our newsletters, she handles the printing, folding, and timely distribution of our communications.

Furthermore, it's not just Ric's daughters who play a role in the company. Over the years, you may have encountered various family members at job sites, such as Ric's brother-inlaws, or friends of the family. We take pride in being a company that upholds strong family values.







# **Company Updates:**



#### Kelsey Caylor

Ric's youngest daughter who lives in Georgia. She is a full-time teacher and dog mom who works for the business part time over the summer with website updating. She will be marrying her fiancé Evan in November

<u>Company Uniforms</u>- We have found a great local company to work with and have new company apparel. We are excited to see everyone in the new company apparel and believe that it will foster a greater sense of unity and pride within our team. Thank you for your continued dedication and hard work. Let's wear our new uniforms with pride and continue to make great strides together!

# Fourth of July Fireworks Injuries & House Fires

Fireworks cause house fires and injuries. Nearly 20,000 fires annually are blamed on fireworks, according to the National Fire Protection Association. Even the most common fireworks, such as a sparkler, can start a fire. The Consumer Product Safety Commission reported in 2015 that a 19-yearold woman died from smoke inhalation in an apartment fire started by a sparkler. It seems a teenager threw a sparkler through the second-floor window to get the attention of his friend. But his friend was sleeping downstairs. The sparkler started a fire that engulfed the house, killing the woman.

The worst injuries are caused by illegal fireworks: M-80s and cherry bombs. These fireworks have been illegal since 1966 when Congress passed the Child Protection Act that specifically outlawed them. Today it is a felony to possess or explode a cherry bomb or M-80. The problem with fireworks is that if handled in a reckless manner, there are no second chances. Nearly two-thirds of fireworks-related injuries are caused by backyard fireworks, including firecrackers and bottle rockets. About 20 percent of injuries are caused by firecrackers and 19 percent are caused by sparklers.

According to the NFPA, the most frequent injuries from fireworks are: 36% Hand or finger, 19% Head, face and ear, 19% Eye, 11% Trunk or other, 10% Leg, 5% Arm. More than half of the injuries are burns. A new hazard is the use of toy drones flying near fireworks. This is an unlawful act, according to Forbes, and that's because it is incredibly dangerous. A drone that catches fire can land anywhere, including on people. It literally becomes a flying firebomb.

Keep a bucket of water or the hose handy. It's not hard to do. It doesn't spoil the fun. But you can use it to douse duds or prevent small fires from getting big.

Scan this QR code for July 4th Fireworks happening in the Harrisburg Area!





OUSTOMERS FROM LAST MONTH

> Wendy of Middletown Allen of Hummelstown Abbey of Palmyra Carol of Harrisburg John of Harrisburg Joe of Harrisburg **Art of Harrisburg** Julie of Harrisburg Harold of Mechanicsburg **Kimber of Middletown** Ben of Harrisburg Sarah of Boiling Springs Megan of Harrisburg Mark and Lisette of Grantville Jennifer of Harrisburg **Natalie of Harrisburg** Randy of Middletown Susan of Highspire **Bruce of Harrisburg** Valarie of Harrisburg **Matt of Shirmans Dale** Guy of Palmyra



VIDEO TESTIMONIALS ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE



# Tips for Summer Curb Appeal!

Do you want to have the best curb appeal on the block? Follow these easy steps!

Mow to the right height. Set your mower to cut about three inches off the ground. Longer turf will retain more moisture and better shade the soil so the roots won't get dry. The shade helps to keep out crabgrass.

Tall grass is greener and more attractive. It also helps to mitigate brownouts that are common during the dog days of summer, according to money.com.

Upgrade your house numbers. Get larger, more readable numbers at a home improvement store. Or visit houseofantiquehardware.com for interesting numerals in all sorts of fonts. Get some that are not only attractive but that can be easily read from a distance. Avoid frilly numbers. Remember to put up reflectors at the end of your driveway so visitors know when to turn in to your place. Reflectors help alert other drivers to a driveway.

More expensive but very effective, replace a cracked or outdated walkways while it's still summer.

Interlocking pavers make it easy to do the job yourself.

Update your flower boxes. When fall bloomers, such as mums and autumn sage are finished blooming, cut back the plants and poke in evergreen branches.





### RECIPE OF THE **MONTH**

### **Smash Burgers**

Nothing says summer quite like a good burger! This time we are teaching you how to make a perfect smash burger and there's one secret that is life-changing.

Servings: 4 Burgers Prep Time: 5 mins Cook Time: 15 mins Total Time: 20 mins

#### Ingredients

1 Pound Ground Beef Blend, 60% ground chuck and 40% ground brisket or ground sirloin

1 Tablespoon Canola Oil

2 Tablespoons Butter, unsalted, softened

4 Potato Burger Buns Salt and Pepper American Cheese Killer Burger Sauce Lettuce Pickles White Onion, chopped



#### **Directions**

- Form ¼ pound beef into loose 2" balls. Set aside in the freezer on a plate.
- 1 Pound Ground Beef Blend
- Brush a 12-inch cast iron skillet with oil and set it over medium heat until shimmering.
- 1 Tablespoon Canola Oil
- Add the butter to the pan and place the buns, cut side down on the hot skillet. Cook just until the buns are nicely toasted and set the buns aside.
- 2 Tablespoons Butter, 4 Potato Burger Buns
- Remove the meat from the freezer and season with salt and pepper. Place in a preheat, slightly oiled cast iron skillet and press down firmly and evenly to flatten the meat. Generously season the other side of the patty with salt & pepper.
- · Salt and Pepper
- Cook until caramelization begins, about 1 minute. Flip and add the cheese.
- American Cheese
- Place a large lid over the burgers the last 30 seconds to melt the cheese. If you want the burgers more done wait a minute before adding the cheese.
- Spread your burger sauce and lettuce over the bottom bun. Top with 1-2 patties and pickles and onion before enjoying.

