



GEORGE WEIGEL, For PennLive

Floral totem poles greet visitors at the main entrance to the 2016 Philadelphia Flower Show.

Flower show boasts the beauty of our national parks

GEORGE WEIGEL
OVER THE GARDEN FENCE



What better way to remind us how beautiful natural America is than by pairing the landscaping prowess of the Philadelphia Flower Show with the diverse landscapes of our national parks?

ONLINE

» See more photos from the flower show at pennlive.com/gardening.

The two are marrying well as the world's biggest, oldest indoor flower show uses inspiration and elements from U.S. national parks as its 2016 theme.

The event continues this weekend, tying into this year's 100th anniversary of the founding of the National Park Service.

Displays feature beauty from Hawaii's orchid-laden Volcanoes National Park to Maine's Acadia wildflowers, and the timber-lodge entry is showing stunning video collages of scenes from throughout the 409 National Park Service-managed areas.

With good weather forecast through Sunday's closing day, the show is on track to beat last year's 250,000 attendance count.

Besides the blooming beauty, show-goers were making good use of the show's 160-vendor marketplace and the free wine-tasting in the Pennsylvania Convention Center's Grand Hall.

Ten especially interesting things to see at the 2016 show:

1 The main entrance

Floral totem poles and beds full of blooming coneflowers and bulbs line the lodge replica's doorway. The inside has two large overhead screens showing clip after gorgeous clip of waterfalls, snow-capped mountain peaks, rolling wildflower meadows and rushing rivers.

2 Yellowstone after a fire

Stoney Bank Nurseries' take on Yellowstone National Park shows young saplings and seedlings creeping to life in a burnt-out section. Don't miss the red fox whose "fur" is made out of Japanese red cedar branches.

3 Find your park pavilion

This back corner of the show floor has a stage for ranger talks — one after another on topics such as survivor secrets of redwoods, barrier island botany and native pollinator gardens. It's a nice touch that adds the flavor of park-visiting.

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Home Depot via The Associated Press

Two islands, instead of one, offer plenty of space for storage and prepping food. Interior designers and trend-watchers say the era of the "superkitchen" has arrived. People are building or remodeling kitchens that include work and entertainment spaces.

EVERYTHING AND THE KITCHEN SINK

COMPILED BY ABBY RHOAD | From wire reports

American kitchens have always served as more than cooking and eating spaces. Generations of kids have done homework at kitchen tables. Parents claim counter space to organize family miscellany, tap out work emails on laptops or install a television. But now those work and entertainment uses are part of kitchen design from the get-go. The era of the "superkitchen" has arrived.

"Our findings show that homeowners expect kitchen renovations to go far beyond improving flow, storage or aesthetics," Nino Sitchinava, principal economist at Houzz.com, said in announcing the site's 2016 Kitchen Trends Survey. "The 'superkitchen' has literally become a living room, family room and office, with finishes, layouts and decor that challenge us to define where the kitchen ends and the rest of the home begins."

INSIDE

» **LIVING SMART:** Who wouldn't want a bigger refrigerator, a quieter dishwasher or new gas stove? Before upgrading your appliances, we offer five tips. **PAGE B4**

» **COOLEST SPACES:** PennLive/The Patriot-News has seen some unique spaces. Check out some of last year's coolest kitchens. **PAGE B4**

» **HOME SHOW:** The Pennsylvania Home Show offers the latest gadgets and hottest design trends for the savvy homeowner. New this year: the Kitchen and Bath Showcase — all that's new from the region's kitchen and bath professionals. **INSIDE GO**

According to the 2016 Houzz Kitchen Trends Survey, nearly two-thirds of homeowners spent more than three hours in their kitchens doing things such as watching TV, entertaining, eating and reading, in addition to the traditional cooking and baking.

The annual kitchen survey polled more than 2,400 U.S. homeowners who are planning or who recently completed a kitchen renovation project. The survey showed that 39 percent of renovating homeowners spent \$25,000 or less on kitchen renovations and 30 percent are spending more than \$50,000.

Hardworking, yet beautiful

Kitchen design is an art form, one in which function and beauty harmoniously co-exist. Achieving that balance, however, isn't always easy. When renovating a kitchen, homeowners can find themselves facing challenging design dilemmas. And they are not alone. "When redesigning or refreshing a kitchen, the goal is to create a space that is hardworking, yet beautiful," said Nate Berkus, renowned designer and artis-



BrandPoint

Function and beauty must coexist in the kitchen. "The kitchen is becoming a lot prettier," designer Tiffany Brooks says. "It is what the living room was" years ago.

tic adviser to LG Studio. "Look for items that really represent who you are and your design personality, and you'll create an area you and your family will love both now and 10 years from now."

Interior designer Mikel Welch calls the kitchen "the new epicenter of the house."

"Everybody's working from home," and they often prefer doing that in an open kitchen rather than a sequestered home office.

High-tech stations

Designer Tiffany Brooks, host of HGTV's "Most Embarrassing Rooms in America," said homeowners want technology within easy reach, but protected from food and drink spills. Some add a built-in iPad docking area or laptop station on a counter, while others

Please see **KITCHEN** on Page B2

YOU OUGHTTA KNOW | THREE THINGS WE LOVE THIS WEEK.



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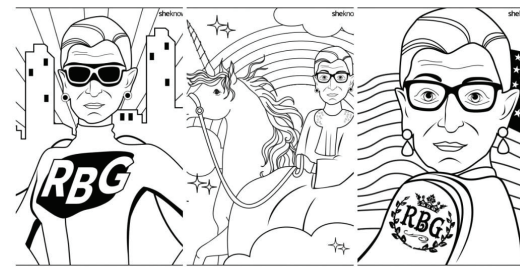
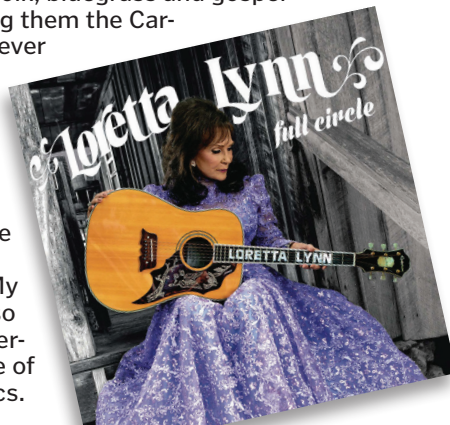
Have you binge-watched all of 'House of Cards' Season 4 yet?

"House of Cards" is back with its fourth season, continuing Frank's re-election battle — and the Underwoods' spat — at a time when the U.S. is embroiled in its own stranger-than-fiction presidential campaign. New faces are introduced. And a few skeletons reappear, although it's unclear whether they pose any threat to the imperious Underwoods.

A LITTLE BIT COUNTRY

Loretta Lynn shows no signs of slowing

At 83, country singer and songwriter Loretta Lynn is releasing her first album of new material in a dozen years. "Full Circle" includes Lynn's versions of a number of country, folk, bluegrass and gospel standards, among them the Carter Family's "I Never Will Marry" and "Black Jack David," the bluegrass perennial "In the Pines," and the Elvis Presley and Willie Nelson country hit "Always on My Mind." She's also recorded new versions of a couple of her own classics.



COLOR ME BAD

Get your crayons ready: Ruth Bader Ginsburg gets her own coloring book

The culty/cool fan base of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg is well documented. Now, there's another trendy Ginsburg ode: RBG-themed coloring pages for grown-ups. The BYOC (bring your own crayons) craft, available at womens' website Sheknows.com, is debuting in time to celebrate the justice's 83rd birthday on Tuesday.