

GIVE THE GIFT OF A GOOD READ

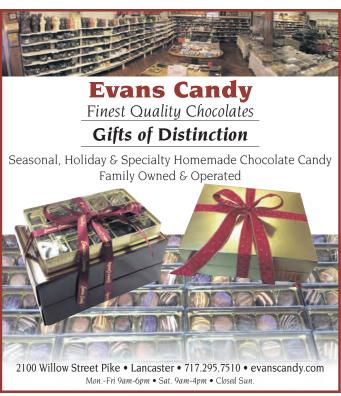
From fiction to memoirs to cookbooks, there's something for every reader on your gift list.



SETTY IMAGES







LIS KING

FOR LNP | LANCASTERONLINE

Book lovers can rejoice: 2020 is turning out to be a banner year for reading and publishing.

Book clubs and shops, librarians and reviewers all hail this year's list of books, and they say that's happening in categories across the board. So there's sure to be something special for everybody on anybody's gift list.

Karyn Beltle, adult services manager at Manheim Township Public Library, calls 2020 a particularly prolific year for biographies, memoirs and books addressing our current political issues.

"But there are also many great works of fiction by new and popular authors," she says. "And so many beautiful cookbooks. For me, 'The Official Downton Abbey Christmas Cookbook' by Regula Ysewijn would be a nice addition to my personal library."

Trend spotters say that the COVID-19 lockdowns are responsible for Americans rediscovering the joy of reading, and Beltle agrees.

"Reading is always a goto in tough times," she says. "People read to stay informed as well as being distracted, and the flock of new cookbooks are surely inspired by all that home cooking taking place."

Proof of the year's full-blown interest in books can be found all over the county. After lengthy library lockdowns, readers have been returning in droves; boxes of free books can be found curbside; friends are exchanging books; and the iconic Aaron's Books in Lititz has reopened to strong sales, both in store and through its website.

BOOKS, page 3

Books

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Best books

In fiction, Beltle recommends "The Book of Lost Friends" by Lisa Wingate, "The Exiles" by Christina Baker Kline, "The Evening and the Morning" by Ken Follett, "The Guest List" by Lucy Foley and "The Vanishing Half" by Brit Bennett.

Todd Dickinson of Aaron's Books says he wants everyone to be aware of "Caste" by Isabel Wilkerson, Joy Harjo's poetry collection, "An American Sunrise"; Elena Ferrante's "The Lying Life of Adults," and "Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You," by Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi.

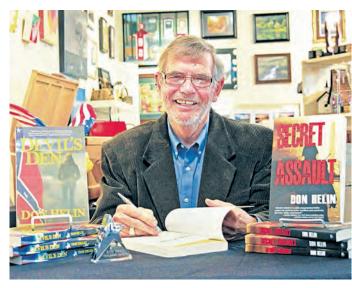
Both he and Beltle are excited about the year's crop of biographies and memoirs: Alex Trebek's "The Answer is....," Dolly Parton's "Songteller," Jon Meacham's "His Truth is Marching On: John Lewis and the Power of Hope" and Barack Obama's "A Promised Land."

Dickinson also mentions Glennon Doyle, who has published her third bestseller, "Untamed."

"Each of her works is a fascinating combination of memoir and reflection on personal growth," he says. "And Sonia Purnell's historical biography came out in paperback this year and shouldn't be overlooked. It's 'A Woman of No Importance: The Untold Story of the American Spy Who Helped Win World War II."

For little kids, he likes picture books like "If you Come to Earth" by Sophie Blackall and Jerry Pinkney's "The Little Mermaid."

"For young readers, Sara Pennypacker is one of our favorites," he notes. "She had a new book this year, 'Here in the Real World.' For teens, two at the top of our long list would be Nic Stone's 'Dear Justyce' and Tracy Deonn's 'Legendborn.'"



Local author Don Helin says a signed book makes an extraspecial gift.

And then there are those cookbooks. Beltle lists some of her favorites: "Magnolia Table, Vol. 2: A Collection of Recipes for Gathering" by Joanna Gaines; "Piometry: Modern Tart Art and Pie Design for the Eye on the Palate" by Lauren Ko, and "Outlander Kitchen: To the New World and Back Again," the second official Outlander Companion cookbook by

Theresa Carle Sanders.

The right choice

But how does one figure out what sort of book each person would like?

Sharon Shuman, a book club leader and retired librarian, says books are always included on her familv's Christmas lists.

"My sons like graphic nov-

els," she says, "so that's easy, but when I make selections myself, I try to identify the person's interests. For example, my daughter-in-law liked watching 'The Great British Baking Show,' so one of their recipe books is the perfect gift for her. I like Milk Street and requested their cookbook for my birthday. I liked it so much I bought two copies for my sons. They both like to cook. One year, they gifted their father with 'Guillermo del Toro Cabinet of Curiosities' because he enjoys the director's films.

"On occasion, I've requested a World Almanac. After leafing through it at a book shop, my son called and said he didn't think it was the right thing because

it was full of statistics," she says. "But I actually like to check out countries that come up in the news, their GNP, ethnic composition of the population, etc. So, yes, I'd say, books on hobbies and special interests will always be welcome gifts."

The sort of books Shuman mentions are often referred to as coffee table books, and in that category what could be more appropriate than the series of Christmas books from Pennsylvania's own Schiffer Publishing. The books, curated and written by Patricia McMillan, explore homes from across the country, splendidly decorated for Christmas.

Checking reviews is a good way to explore what books **BOOKS**, page 4





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Books

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might go on those gift lists. Shuman likes Kirkus, and Beltle recommends websites like Good Reads and Fantastic Fiction or printed sources like Book Page, which is available at the library. Sources from Aaron's include newsletters and the shop's website.

Special flourishes

Don Helin, a Lancaster author with six best-selling military thrillers under his belt, says that books signed by their authors make special gifts.



"My daughter likes John Sanford and James Patterson," he says, "so when I attend Thrillers book fairs in New York City, I buy their books and have the authors sign them. And I certainly like to sign my own books whenever possible."

Helin, who spent three tours at the Pentagon, has a new book, "Voices of the Pandemic," published by Headline Books, just in time for Christmas.

"It's a book where educators, health professionals, musicians, artists and others write about their experiences during the pandemic," he says.

Still in doubt what books to get? Then Dickinson vows to help.

"We'll find the hidden gems," he says. "In fact, we'll find the book you didn't know you needed."

Give DIYers a helping hand

METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

People have spent more time at home in 2020 than they likely have in years past. This has given homeowners plenty of time to ponder potential upgrades to their homes. After taking inventory of their lifestyles, surroundings and furnishings, people have embarked on construction projects or home interior design renovations in record numbers.

Holiday gifts that cater to projects around the house are likely to be highly valued this holiday season. Here are some ideas.

Gift card: Home improvement centers are one-stop shopping for do-it-yourself-ers. To help offset the cost of supplies, gift-givers can give

a gift card to a neighborhood hardware store.

Magazine subscription: There are plenty of ideas on the internet, but a subscription to a home remodeling or interior design magazine puts inspiration right in homeowners' hands. Pages can be marked or cut out and used on idea boards.

Tools and supplies: Homeowners just starting out may benefit from the basics. Stores often sell starter tool kits that can be used in home improvement-themed baskets. Experienced DIYers may have a special tool in mind that is outside their budget right now, like a chop saw or cordless power drill. Purchasing one of these items can help projects move along more smoothly.

Expert consultation: Who can't use a little help with their home remodeling efforts? Give the gift of a consultation with an interior designer or contractor to help complete plans that may be a little out of reach for the average DIYer.

Big-ticket item: Friends and family may want to pool their resources and offer loved ones an over-the-top gift, such as a backyard playset for children, a storage shed, a pool installation or even a new appliance package. Gift ideas are endless and only limited by budget.

Room re-do: All it may take is some new linens or accents to transform a room. From throw pillows to curtains to wall art, give the gift of an easy room makeover.



COOKING GIFTS HIT THE SPOT

ASHLEY STALNECKER

FOR LNP | LANCASTERONLINE

Baking and cooking has been central to passing the time during a pandemic that limits one's abilities to eat out or travel. For a holiday unlike any other, turning to food as a holiday gift might be the best move.

"This year food makes a very comforting gift and a sensible gift as well," says Lisa Horn, Director of Fun for Kitchen Kettle Village.

Kitchen Kettle Village, like other stores, has adjusted its operations to suit customers who may not want to be around a lot of people as they're shopping. Customers can still visit the store, but they can also opt for curbside pickup or buy through the store's website.

"We want to make holiday shopping easy for people this year," Horn says.

Kitchen Kettle Village, Zest! and Seasons Olive Oil & Vinegar Taproom all have cooking ingredients, cooking utensils and premade gift baskets full of popular snacks to provide for customers of all cooking skill levels.

"Seasons is dedicated to helping people have a holiday that feels special," says sales associate Angie Piel.

As the weather gets colder and the option of outside dining is no longer viable, Piel says she hopes more customers turn to stores like Seasons to spice up their cooking.

"A lot of us are staying home and we're not having the luxury of eating out," she says. "We found that our business is benefiting from people who are staying home and still making lovely meals, using our product."

Stocking stuffers

For those willing to go to **FOOD**, page 6





VINNY TENNIS | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Wednesday

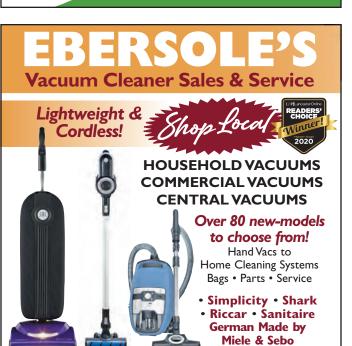
Food

For the foodie on your list, there are gifts in every price range at Zest! in Lititz, like these mid-range Peugeot pepper mills, left, or higher-priced Frieling precision cooker and Zavor multi-cooker, above.

Find a recipe for tonight's dinner

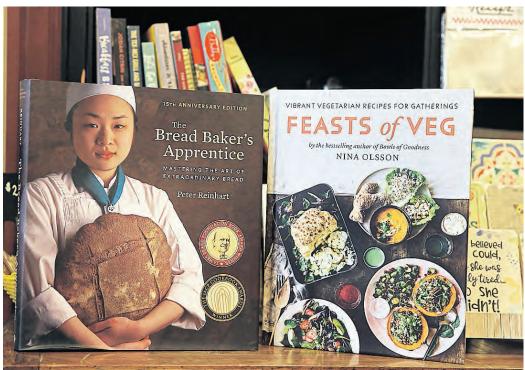
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STORE HOURS: Monday-Friday 8:30-5:30; Saturday 8:30-3



VINNY TENNIS I STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Cookbooks, particularly on bread-making, are currently popular.

Food

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Kitchen Kettle Village in person, Horn says the store has a wide array of jams to pick from as stocking stuffers or mix and match into a personal gift box.

Customers can also browse the flavors on the Kitchen Kettle website.

Kitchen Kettle's best-selling product is its Sweet Red Pepper Jam, available in a half pint for \$4.99, a pint for \$7.99 and a quart for \$15.99.

And, for those who aren't sure exactly what foods to pick out for friends and family, the Kitchen Kettle sells gift certificates. Separate gift certificates are sold in \$10 increments depending on whether the purchases will be online or in-store.

Piel says good stocking

stuffers from Seasons range from seasoning salts and spices to bottles of oil and vinegar.

Seasons has a range of seasoning salts, including Alderwood Smoked Premium Salt, Alae Hawaiian Premium Salt and Black Truffle Premium Salt. The 4-ounce containers of salt are \$7.95, while the 3-ounce containers of the truffle salts are \$15.95.

The store also sells several kinds of Whole Fruit Balsamic, Dark Balsamic, White Balsamic, Apple Cider and Wine Vinegars. The 200-milliliter bottles are \$14.95 and the 375-milliliter bottles are \$17.95.

Sharon Landis, owner of Zest! in Lititz, says the store's herbs and spices are "great stocking stuffers for people who like to eat."

Zest! has just under 200 different herbs and spices available in store and online. Prices range from \$2.95 for Yellow Mustard Seed Powder to \$13.95 for Cardamom Seed Powder. Most of the herbs and spices are between \$5 and \$6, including Chipotle Meco Chile Powder and Fort Worth Burger Seasoning.

Between \$20 and \$50

In the \$20 to \$50 price range, Kitchen Kettle Village carries gift boxes, gift baskets and samplers that can make great gifts for close friends, family and even coworkers.

Horn says a gift that's "fun to get a guy" is their General's Hot Sauce Collection for \$46.99 The spicy hot flavors Dead Red, Shock & Awe and Danger Close come in 6-ounce grenade-shaped bottles.

At Seasons, Piel says customers can customize their own gift baskets or select from an assortment of premade gift baskets. The store sells a Tomato & Basil Risotto Basket containing 60-milliliter bottles of Sea-

FOOD, page 7





Food

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sons Garlic Infused Olive Oil and Seasons 18-year Style Traditional Balsamic as well as Sicillian Seasoning, Sundried Tomato Infused Salt and a Tomato & Basil Risotto bag.

The \$38 basket makes a good gift to "send grandma," Piel says.

Zest! carries over 150 different cookbooks for anyone just learning to cook to seasoned chefs. For beginners, Landis says, Zest! has "New Kitchen Basics." The store also carries several bread-making books to meet the demands of the growing bread-making trend that started when many were stuck inside for quarantine. For cookbooks and most products at Zest!, customers must make their purchases in store

Over \$50

To splurge on a gift that's a bit more luxurious and different from the typical Pennsylvania Dutch assortment, Horn suggests Kitchen Kettle Village's Antipasto Gift Tray for \$56.99. The tray includes olive oils and seasonings for bread dipping, a feta crostini spread and other essentials for the first course of an Italian meal.

For those interested in more of an experiential gift, Landis recommends buying a Zest! gift card to give the friend or family member so they can pick out a class at a time that works for them. Most classes are \$70-\$85.

WANT TO SHOP FROM HOME? HERE ARE 4 LOCAL GIFTS YOU CAN BUY ONLINE

● Fire pokers: These are the most popular product sold online by Chapel Hill Forge in Conestoga. Customers select thickness and length and choose between a modern style that is welded with a more defined hook or a traditional style with a smaller, less defined hook. Production time is usually 2 to 3 weeks. Owners will ship or leave them at their pickup shed when ready. \$55 to \$120. chapelhillforge.com

• Spiced Apple sweet wine: Tasty served warm, it's a big holiday seller at Britain Hill Venue & Vineyard in Little Britain Township. Wine prices are listed online. The business doesn't do online orders but will take credit card orders over the phone and deliver within reasonable driving distance to anyone who orders at least six bottles. (They don't have to be all the same kind.) If you order that wine, they'll also deliver items from the gift shop. Spiced Apple is \$16 per bottle. britainhillvenueandvineyard. com

OutputUpcycled felted wool baby booties: These are among the offerings of Rachel

Craig Designs in Quarryville.
Craig enjoys sewing these
from upcycled felted wool
and adding different bits of
embroidery so that no two
pairs are the same. Price
depends on the pair but are in
the \$15 neighborhood.
etsy.com/shop/
QuiverFullofBlessing

• Old Bay Cheddar: Being so close to the Maryland border probably has something to do with why Peach Bottom's

Hillacres Pride sells so much of this cheese. All Hillacres cheeses are made with 100 percent Jersey cow milk. You can order online but must pick items up. Contactless pickup is available by request. The Old Bay cheddar is \$11.99 per pound and is sold in roughly half-pound blocks. hillacrespride.com

- compiled by Rebecca Logan









MAKE REMOTE WORK MERRIER

LAURA KNOWLES

FOR LNP | LANCASTERONLINE

Many people are working from home these days.

When it comes to holiday gift-giving for work-athome friends and family members, consider gifts that help to make that home office more comfortable and efficient.

Here are some ideas:

Portable mini-desk

Chances are that people working from home are new to the experience. They may not have a designated office with a desk in their home. It's likely they are working from their kitchen table or from the living room or den.

Much like a '60s-era TV tray table, a portable minidesk can easily accommodate a laptop and can move from one location to anoth-

Desk lamp

Working at home requires good lighting, and most standard home lighting is not designed to illuminate a work space. The right desk lamp can help reduce vision strain and make working on a computer easier.

Desk organizers

If the gift recipient is working from the dining room table or another makeshift area, desk organizers can be a great help. Consider notebooks, decorative bins, and other items that can make desk space more attractive and organized, whether it's a kitchen table or a real desk.

Technology

Technology is a must for working at home, and chances are there will be lots of Zoom meetings. Helpful gifts might include a new iPad, a tablet stand, webcam for those Zoom meetings, backup device, charger or headphones. Just be sure your gift will be compatible with their devices.

fort gifts, that make working at home warm and cozy as winter approaches. Warm blankets can chase away the chill. Other pampering gifts, like candles and soaps, may

Doors

KITCHENS

BATHS



Roofing

PATIOS

& More

Houseplants can brighten home office space, and make the air healthier, too. Or pamper the remote worker in your life with scented gifts, like candles, above, from the Legacy Collective in Lititz, or Barefoot Dreams socks from **Heavenly Soaps and** Scents in Lititz.





happy holidays

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ADDITIONS

SIDING

DECKING

also be welcome.

"Some scents like citrus can be energizing, while scents like lavender can be calming," during a stressful at-home workday, says Trudi Connelly, owner of Heavenly Soaps and Scents in Lititz.

Living gifts

Plants and planters can make a makeshift home office more pleasant, especially in winter. Plants are healthy, too, because they keep the air cleaner and fresher. You could also order a bouquet of flowers that will brighten up a home office on a dreary winter day.

Casual clothing

While those working from home may need a profes-HOME, page 11

GIVE A MASK WITH A PERSONAL TOUCH

ASHLEY STALNECKER

FOR LNP | LANCASTERONLINE

Since April, when the first mask mandates began in Pennsylvania, masks became a new accessory in the everyday lives of Pennsylvanians and for everyone in the United States.

As the holiday season approaches, and a tightening of mask mandates comes from Gov. Tom Wolf, it seems as though masks are here to stay — at least for the time being.

It might be time to start thinking about buying masks for kids, friends and family this season. Luckily, quite a few online and Pennsylvania stores are selling comfortable, decorative and plain masks giving shoppers plenty of options.

Handmade in the Lancaster area

Joseph King, owner of Christiana-based Woodland Country Shop, says his wife, Esther, started making masks for him to sell on Etsy in March.

His wife makes the cotton cup-style masks from their sewing machine at home. He says so far they've been getting good feedback on the

Since March, the couple has sold over 1,000 masks, King says.

The masks, in patterns with titles like "Honey Bees," "Winnie the Pooh" and "Horses Print," are sold in adult and children sizes.

They're available for \$8 on Etsy at etsy.com/shop/ WoodlandCountryShop ?ref=shop_sugg.

Masks with trendy designs

Companies like Honest and Able have sprouted up

specifically to sell patterned

Julia Avalon, a representative for Honest and Able, says the most popular masks have been those with neutral colors and batik patterns.

"We try to keep it very simple, and we try to give a good offering of different options that appeal to both men and women and kids," she says.

From the website, customers can select to have logos, can select whether the elastic be around the ears or around the head and add on

replaceable disposable filters for an extra charge. The masks come in kids, adult and extra-large sizes.

The masks sell for \$15 and can be bought in bulk https://honestandable. com/shop

Plain and simple masks

For those not looking for the basic, standard face mask as a gift, Lancasterbased Kiros Naturals is carrying a 10-piece pack of disposable blue face masks.

"A lot of people like them," says Juan Valencia, owner of Kiros Naturals. "They're easy to use."

The 10-piece pack is available on the store website: kirosnaturals.com.

Athletic masks

Aardvark Sports Shop in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, is selling Zensah technical face masks.

Store owner Bruce Haines says the masks are made of stretchy, breathable, antibacterial, moisture wicking material.

"I would say for most everyday activities, mild workouts they're fine," Haines says, adding that he isn't sure he would wear them on a long run.

The masks come in gray, black or white with a strap that goes around the head and comes in one size.

Customers can order a mask for \$16 from aardvarksportsshop.com.









Time on your hands? Try a homemade gift

METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

This year's global pandemic left many people with more free time due to stayat-home restrictions. That extra time may have opened up the opportunity to reengage with old hobbies or start new ones. Such endeavors may have resulted in items that can make ideal handmade holiday gifts.

Creative pursuits are great ways to pass the time and alleviate anxiety related to quarantining. Katie Carey Levisay, a clinical neuropsychologist in Denver, says that crafting requires focused attention and forces a person to be completely im-

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mersed in the moment.

For those who prefer to continue to avoid crowds until COVID-19 is in the world's collective rearview mirror, producing handmade gifts also cuts down on trips to shopping malls and other retailers.

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DRIVE-THRU

OIFT CARD KIOSK

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Those interested in making handmade gifts this holiday season can consider these ideas.

Jewelry: Most craft stores now have entire aisles dedicated to making jewelry. From earring posts and loops to necklace brackets and all the essentials in between, jewelry crafters can create something fitting for the special people on their lists.

Candles: Candles add light, warmth and aroma to help a home feel cozy. With some basic components, such as a wax source, wick, tint and scent oils, it's easy to make candles. Pour the wax into a favorite vessel, such as a mason jar or delicate teacup.

Handmade soaps: Those who dabble in candles may want to parlay those skills into soapmaking as well. Soaps can be crafted relatively easily and packaged as part of the ultimate homemade spa package.

Oven mitts or skillet handle covers: Gift that special home chef with custom oven mitts and a coordinating skillet holder for popular cast-iron cookery. An easy pattern, some durable fabric and some basic sewing skills are all that's needed.

Handmade blanket: Those who love to knit or crochet know the bounty that can be made with needle, hook and yarn. From homemade afghans to cozy slippers to scarf and hat sets, the options are endless.

Food: Those whose talents lean more toward culinary than crafty can pour their holiday love into delicious desserts or tasty tidbits.



METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

This recipe for Rocky Recchiuti Brownies from "Chocolate Obsession" (Stewart, Tabori & Chang) by Michael Recchiuti and Fran Gage yields rich brownies that make a great gift.

ROCKY RECCHIUTI **BROWNIES**

Ingredients:

- 5 1/2 ounces 100% unsweetened chocolate, coarsely chopped, divided
- 10 tablespoons (5 ounces) unsalted butter with 82% butterfat, cut into 1-inch slices.
- 2/3 cup (3 1/2 ounces) unbleached all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 3 extra-large eggs, at room temperature
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract, preferably Madagascar Bourbon
- 11/3 cups granulated sugar
- ▶ 1/3 cup walnut halves. roasted and roughly chopped
- 6 Tahitian Vanilla Bean Marshmallows, each 11/2 inches square, cut into quarters (see recipe next page)

Directions:

Preheat the oven to 325 F. Line the bottom of an 8-inch-square baking pan with parchment paper and liberally coat the paper and the pan sides with flavorless vegetable oil.

Put 3 ounces of the chocolate and the butter in a medium stainless-steel bowl and set over a pot of simmering water. Heat, stirring occasionally, until the chocolate and butter melt and are fully combined and the mixture is smooth. Lift the bowl from the pot. Set aside.

Sift flour and salt together in a bowl. In another bowl, combine eggs and vanilla extract and whisk together by hand until blended. Whisk in the sugar.

Whisk the egg mixture into the chocolate. Add the flour and the remaining 2 1/2 ounces chocolate to the batter and. using a rubber spatula, mix well. Then mix in the walnuts.

Pour batter into the prepared BROWNIES, page 11





Brownies

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pan. Spread it evenly with a small offset spatula. Scatter the marshmallow pieces evenly over the surface and push them halfway into the batter. The tops should remain uncovered.

Bake on the middle shelf of the oven until the marshmallows are browned and a skewer inserted into the center of the brownie sheet comes out with some batter clinging to it, about 45 minutes. Let cool completely in the pan on a wire rack, then cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate until cold.

Run a table knife around the edge of the pan to loosen the sides, and then slide the brownie, still on the paper, onto a work surface. Using a ruler to guide you and a sharp knife, cut into 16 squares. Store in an airtight container in the refrigerator for up to 3 weeks.

TAHITIAN VANILLA BEAN MARSHMALLOWS

Ingredients:

- Flavorless vegetable oil
- 3 3/4 teaspoons unflavored gelatin
- 3 tablespoons water
- 2 cups granulated cane sugar, divided into halves
- 11/2 cups light corn syrup
- 4 extra-large egg whites, at room temperature
- 1 Tahitian vanilla bean, split horizontally
- About 3 cups powdered cane sugar for finishing

Directions:

Line the bottom of an 8-by-12 sheet pan with parchment paper and lightly coat the paper and the pan sides with vegetable oil. Put the gelatin in a small bowl. Add the water and stir. Set aside to soften.

Combine 1 cup of the sugar with the corn syrup in a large, heavy-bottomed pot. Use an unlined copper pot if you have one. Place over medium heat and cook, stirring occasionally with a wooden spoon, until the sugar melts. Continue to cook, without stirring, until the mixture reaches 230 F on a candy thermometer. If any crystals form on the sides of the pan, wash them down with a wet pastry brush.

Meanwhile, put the egg whites

in the bowl of a stand mixer fitted with whip attachment. Scrape the seeds from the vanilla bean into the bowl.

When the sugar syrup reaches 240 F, start to beat the egg whites on medium speed. When the whites form very soft peaks, add the remaining 1 cup sugar and continue beating.

When the sugar syrup reaches 250 F, remove it from the heat and stir in the softened gelatin. The syrup will foam up and triple in volume. Switch the mixer to high speed and slowly pour the syrup into the beaten egg whites, aiming for the side of the bowl. The whites will almost double in volume. Reduce the speed to mediumhigh and beat until the whites (not the outside of the bowl) are lukewarm to the touch, about 114 F, about 15 minutes.

Scrape the marshmallow mixture into the prepared

pan and, using a small offset spatula, spread it evenly to the sides. Let cool completely at room temperature.

To cut the marshmallows, sift about 1/2 cup of the powdered sugar onto a work surface in a rectangle the size of a sheet pan. Sift another 2 cups powdered sugar into a large bowl. Run a thin-bladed knife around the edge of the pan to loosen the marshmallow. Invert the pan onto the sugared surface, then lift off the pan and peel off the parchment paper. Sift about 1/2 cup powdered sugar evenly over the top. Using a ruler to guide you and a lightly oiled sharp knife, cut the marshmallow sheet into 11/2-inch squares. It is easier if you use a pressing motion, rather than pull the knife. After cutting, toss the marshmallows, a few at a time, in the bowl of powdered sugar, coating them lightly.

Home

Continued from 8

sional shirt for a Zoom meeting, relaxed casual clothing is likely the wardrobe of choice. Consider giving sweatshirts, sweatpants, slippers and socks.

Laptop sleeve

A laptop sleeve, carry bag or leather briefcase are practical gift ideas for those who are working from home. They can keep everything organized and ready for travel, whether it's a visit to the home office or a client.

A good cup of coffee

Since just about everyone needs a good cup of coffee to get the day started, a coffee maker, espresso machine or French press is a welcome gift for someone working from home. Consider a cool vintage-style coffee makers from SMEG, available at Zest! In Lititz.

















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