Exercise 4-1   Format the Town Hall home page

In this exercise, you'll format the home page that you built in exercise 3-1 by using the skills that you've learned in this chapter. When you're through, the page should look like this.

Open the HTML file and update the head section

1. Use your text editor to open this HTML file:
   `\html_css_5\exercises\town_hall_1\c4_index.html`

2. Use your text editor to open this HTML template file:
   `\html_css_5\exercises\town_hall_1\templates\basic.html`

   Then, copy the third link element from the head section to the clipboard, switch to the index.html file, and paste it at the end of the head section.

3. Complete the href attribute in the link element that you just copied so it refers to the c4_main.css file in the styles subfolder. Then, close the template.

Open the CSS file and format the header

4. Use your text editor to open this CSS file:

    `\html_css_5\exercises\town_hall_1\styles\c4_main.css`

    Note that this file contains some of the CSS code that you'll need, including the style rule that specifies the font family and font size for the body, the style rule that floats the image in the header, the style rule that clears the floating in the main element, and the style rules that set the font sizes for the headings in the main element.

5. Add two style rules for the header to the style sheet. The first one should be for the h2 element, and it should set the font size to 170%, set the color to #800000, and indent the heading 30 pixels. The second one should be for the h3 element, and it should set the font size to 130%, set the font style to italic, and indent the heading 30 pixels.

6. Test the HTML page in Chrome to make sure that the style sheets have been linked properly, the image has been floated, and the headings have been formatted correctly. If necessary, make corrections and test again.

Format the links and the footer

7. Add a style rule that italicizes any link that has the focus or has the mouse hovering over it.

8. Add a style rule that centers the <p> tag in the footer.

9. Test these changes to be sure they work.

Use the Developer Tools to review the styles for the page

10. Display the page in Chrome, and then press the F12 key to display the Developer Tools. Next, expand the main element in the Elements pane and click on one of the h2 elements.

11. Review the styles for the h2 element in the Styles pane, and notice how the font-size style for the body element in the main style sheet and the h2 element in the user agent style sheet are overridden by the font-size style for the main h2 element in the main style sheet.

12. Click the icon in the Developer Tools toolbar that has a square with an arrow pointing to it on it, and then click on the h2 element in the header to see that it's now selected in the Elements pane.

13. Review the styles for this h2 element to see that they're similar to the styles for the main h2 element. However, the font size for this element is larger and it has a text indent.

14. When you're done with the Developer Tools, close the panel by clicking the icon with an "X" on it in the upper right corner.

Add a text shadow to a heading

15. Add a text shadow to the 75th in the second heading in the header. To start, enclose the 75th in the HTML in an em element and give that element a class attribute with a value of "shadow".

16. Create a style rule that uses a class selector (.shadow) for that class, and code a declaration that adds a shadow to the text with #800000 as the color of the shadow.

17. Check that the shadow is displayed properly.

Experiment with a CSS variable

18. Create a custom property named global-color-1, and assign it a value of #800000. The selector should be for the root element.

19. Use this custom property as the value of any property with this color value, and test this change.

20. Change the custom property to this hex value: #4d0080. After you check the results, change the custom property back to its previous value.