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# Organize ~ Decorate ~ Stage Is it Happiness or Joy?

## February 2011

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#### Events & Info

Feb 5, 10am-noon- Clear Path Strategies: **Dump & Run Kitchen Strategies.** Register Here.

February 5, 7 pm- Christ the King Presbyterian Church, Making Peace with Your Day: Time Management strategies part 2

Due to Snow, rescheduled to this Sunday, February 6, 2 pm- <u>Chester County Library adjacent to Exton Mall, Color Vs. Clutter.</u> <u>Free registration</u> is requested.

Feb 22, Tuesday, 7:30 pm- Small Business for Women: Are You A Zebra or a Prarie Dog? This free workshop is a Mothers & More event, and you are invited to come as a guest. Upstairs at the Gryphon Cafe, downtown Wayne, PA. Come if you have a business, if you want a business, or you want to turn your corporate job in to a freelance gig. Email questions/topics ahead of

Dear John.

February is a busy, busy month here. Three family birthdays, the SuperBowl and a holiday, not to mention the winding down of Get Organized month, as people still make good on their New Year's resolutions to get organized, we keep hopping during the shortest month.

The big event is Valentine's Day. We used to call it St. Valentine's Day, but now I hear that the <u>origin</u> of the day is a little bit of a mystery. However it started, I believe there was joy involved. I recently have tuned in to the idea that joy and happiness are very different things. Happiness is dependant on stuff and circumstances. TV and media tell us we can be happy if we buy the right thing, tweet the right amount, and are plugged in with the latest gadget.

Joy is something deeper and pervasive. Joy is the idea that wherever we find ourselves, we are able to shine from the inside. It's hard to do in the middle of gloomy winter days. Face it, we can't do much about the snow, the price of gas, or an annoying coworker, but we can still have joy.

Everyone deserves to have a safe, comfortable space that nurtures us so we can, in fact, shine from the inside. Our environments do have an impact on our lives. Why do you think medical facilities all across the country have renovated and brightened their facilities? Why do you think we crave spas? Why do you think the pundits cry "cocoon" when the economy goes sour?

May you have spaces that give your soul rest and allow you to nurture joy, whether or not your circumstances make you happy. I wish you joy.

Sincerely

Darla DeMorrow, CPO®, owner

time.

February 23, Wednesday, 7 pm-Upper Merion Public Library-Decorating on a Dime. Please email for free registration.

March 29, Tuesday, 7 pm- Sherwin Williams store in Wayne, PA. **Color Made Easy**. Learn 10 steps to choose color effortlessly. You'll be ready to call the painter for a spring spruce up! Valuable goodies for all who attend. <a href="Ermail"><u>Ermail</u></a> for free registration.

April 6, Wednesday, 7 pm- Clear Path Strategies Clutter Support Group starts again! Groups are kept small, so register early while there's still room.

See my website for updated times and places. Want a presentation closer to you? Please call me about how we can make that happen.



#### Recent Blog Posts

Enter to win in our Social Media Contest. Easiest Contest Ever! 4 winners will be announced on Feb 14!

#### Quick Tip

Now is a great time to check your credit report for free at www.AnnualCreditReport.com.

#### Survey Results

100% of survey respondents answered yes to owning a slow cooker. There are fancy models out there, but I still like my simple Crock-Pot that only has a high and a low temp.



@TREND

Cozy and Warm, No Matter the Weather

### Joyful Interiors

...Spaces That Nurture

Check colors. Color is probably the biggest and quickest way to impact your space and mood. Of course, painting is a big color splash, but if you can't swing a new coat right now, accessories can also brighten up a space. One soothing color

choice is Sherwin Williams Waterfall, SW 6750.

What needs updating? Working with a client this week, she has a lovely 50 year old home that feels very cozy. However, the main entry is small and lacks the "wow" factor. By working with her to connect her entry to the other main spaces on the first floor, she'll offer guests an impressive welcome, and her entire first floor will feel larger.

What needs history? Sometimes, what we crave is something that connects us to our pasts. Treasured family photos that haven't seen the light of day can be just what we need to make a space feel like home. Or a heritage dresser might be

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given a second life in a public space in a home. Reupholstering older items gives them second life, too. I recently recommended to a client that she take her grandmother's dainty parlor chair and re-upholster it in a colorful modern fabric, making it fit in better with the style of their home.

Light therapy. I've only ever seen one home that had too much lighting. The dark days of winter call for updating table lamps, showcasing new fixtures, and having an electrician add lights to the insides of closets. Isn't this light fixture from Fanshack.com gorgeous? I recently recommended to a client that she add not one, but two semi-flush fixtures similar to this to a large room that had no overhead lighting, providing adequate light and "jewelry" for the room.



Kendra from Fanshak.com

How many accessories are too many? Declutter until it feels right. There is no right amount of accessories, but there will be a right amount for you. There is a balance between clutter and decoration, masculine and feminine, energy and calm. No two decorators would come up with the same design for a space, but whatever you end up with should look like you...only better. If you need some help figuring out what your best look would be, please attend one of our upcoming events listed at left. See you there!



#### @TREND

This awesome home (also shown in the sunroom picture above) is on the market, and can be viewed online.

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