

FEATURED: Video: Today's weather DealChicken

Find what you are looking for ...

SEARCH



ADVERTISEMENT

Q&A: Designer advocates repurposed rooms and furnishings

2:07 PM, Jul 13, 2012 | Comments

Recommend

Be the first of your friends to recommend this.

Recommend

Tweet 1

0

A A



Christine Whiteley, interior designer and owner of Concepts & Dimensions, stands on the front porch of a cottage along Indian River Drive in Cocoa. / Malcolm Denmark/FLORIDA TODAY

Written by Michelle Salyer For FLORIDA TODAY

FILED UNDER

Spaces SpacesQA

According to interior designer Christine E. Whiteley, ASID of Concepts & Dimensions, the ultimate goal of an interior designer should be "to provide a master plan that balances an increase of enjoyment of the time spent at home — to the smart stewardship of how the priorities are budgeted."

The foundation of a great design, she says, is a thorough understanding of a client's "values, personal style and priorities" that only can be achieved by being a good listener.

Working with new construction and remodeling projects for more than 30 years, Whiteley has won several design awards, including the Home Builders and Contractors Association of Brevard Parade

NEW!

Find your new favorite golf course for less at DealChicken.com.

DealChicken.com sign up today

ADVERTISEMENT

Most Popular Most Commented More Headlines

- 1 Witness: Palm Bay standoff 'was just insane'
- 2 Neighbors fret as old Melbourne High falls deeper into disrepair
- 3 Anticipation grows as Urban Meyer returns to college football
- 4 Baby debuts in Melbourne 7-Eleven parking lot
- 5 Rockets continue Dwight Howard pursuit

Most Viewed



ADS BY PULSE 360

AdChoices 

Lithium Prices are Skyrocketing

NVMN - Nova Mining Corporation executes new Lithium contracts.
www.Nova-Mining.com

1 SHOCKING Tip To Kill Belly Fat

Orlando: Celebrity Doctor Uncovers 1 Simple Trick To A Flat Stomach.
OnlineConsumerLifestyles.com

The Amazing Skinny Fruit

How This Exotic African Fruit Is Slimming American Waistlines.
ConsumerHealthWatch.org

of Homes, Best in Category/Remodel as well as the National Dream Home Silver Award for Best Kitchen Remodel.

Question: Space planning is important in the building process, but how can you help homeowners make the most of what they already have? What are some creative ways to use dining room space or formal living room space that is no longer used for the intended purposes?

Whiteley: Step back from your daily routine and take a conscious look at the space you have available in your home and redefine its

purpose to fit the way you live. For example, convert the formal dining room into your personal home gym, a music room or home office. The space is now functioning daily instead of holidays only.

Q: What are some ways that green practices are becoming more prevalent in interior design in existing homes as well as in newly built homes?

Whiteley: With repurposed furnishings, clients can redefine, reupholster, refinish and rediscover. In repurposed architectural elements, they can achieve the "new old house" look. Also, low VOC paints are becoming a standard, as well as organic, biodegradable paints that are a bit more labor-intensive to apply but give a depth of color not possible without faux finishing techniques. And, with "right sizing" of homes, clients are placing a value on the quality of detail versus the quantity of square footage.

Q: You've said there are two faces of a successful designer: a realist and a dreamer. How do you balance the two?

Whiteley: I listen to both the "wish list" as well as the frustrations and ask a lot of questions. Part of my role in the design collaboration is to bring a fresh approach to what the client often sees as their "standard situation."

Q: How can interior design simplify people's lives and make them more balanced? How do you change the mindset that design is only for looks, not for function?

Whiteley: The beauty enhances your daily experience, and the practical supports your priorities and lifestyle. One of the questions I ask is, "Why do we think it has to be a choice between one or the other?"

Contact Whiteley at 321-537-4278, by e-mail at christine@conceptsanddimensions.com or visit conceptsanddimensions.com. Salyer can be reached at salyer_michelle@hotmail.com.

OPEN

[Baby boy born at Melbourne 7-Eleven](#)
Jul. 10, 2012

PHOTO GALLERIES



Arrest mugshots 7-14



Palm Bay standoff crime scene

Show Up on Google

Find new customers with a Google ad Give it a go for 60 days, risk-free www.google.com/AdWords

AdChoices 

ADVERTISEMENT

[View Comments](#) | [Share your thoughts »](#)

TOP VIDEO PICKS
ARCHIVES
selected by Taboola

Thursday, Jul. 12
Baby boy born at
Melbourne, Fla. 11

Wednesday, Jul. 11
Jul 11, 2012

Tuesday, Jul. 10
Monday, Jul. 09

YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN

YOUR PHOTOS



Why did I use OxyContin? Wildlife in Brevard
OxyContin (Florida Today)

Search for a photo of a pretty
mugshot photo (Florida Today)

Don't miss the...

SPONSORED LINKS

SUBSCRIBE!

Why was I threatened by a DC police officer? (MarsLatimes)

Public Defenders on the Ropes:

sign up for home delivery today

Waiting in line for gifts of the season

Delta carries secret payload

OSCAR TODAY

CELEBRITY NEWS

French party to sue Madonna over swastika image

Oscar-winning actress Celeste Holm dies at 95

Supermodel Christie Brinkley's father dies at 91

Sage Stallone, son of actor Sylvester Stallone, dies in L.A.

Pop Quiz: Remember the week that was? Nat 'King' Cole's widow, Maria, dies

Oprah's father, stepmother in contentious divorce dispute

Olympians Raisman and Lochte play

is possible again

Wuesthoff
HEALTH SYSTEM

ADVERTISEMENT

Site Map | Back to Top

NEWS

- Space News
- Election
- Brevard News
- Florida News
- Education News
- Crime News
- Business News
- Nation/World
- Weather
- Best: Viera, Suntree & Satellite Beach

VIDEO

- Latest Videos
- Brevard Web Cams
- Weather forecast video
- Entertainment videos
- On The Town videos

SPORTS

- High Schools
- Columnists
- Outdoors
- Florida Gators
- College sports
- Talk Sports on Facebook

ENTERTAINMENT

- Metromix
- Movies
- Restaurants
- Bars & Clubs
- Restaurant Reviews
- Music
- Events
- BCA

LIFESTYLES

- Style
- Columnists
- Health
- Help! Column
- Spaces
- On the Town
- Events Calendar
- Games/Horoscopes
- Extreme Culture blog
- Space Coast Parent

OBITUARIES

- Search obituaries
- Memoriams

OPINIONS

- Our views/Your views
- Jeff Parker Toons In
- Submit letter to editor
- Letters to the Editor
- Columnists
- Bob Stover
- Al Neuharth
- John Kelly
- Matt Reed

PHOTOS

- Latest Galleries
- Arrest Mugshots
- On the Town
- Zap Squad
- Your Photos/Upload
- High School Sports
- Hometown Heroes

HELP

- FAQ
- Subscribe to FLORIDA TODAY
- Place an Ad
- Contact Us
- Work for Us

FOLLOW US

- Twitter
- Facebook
- Mobile
- RSS
- E-mail Alerts
- Text Alerts

News | Jobs | Cars for Sale | Homes for Sale | Apartments for Rent | Real Estate | Shopping

GANNETT

Copyright © 2012 www.floridatoday.com. All rights reserved.
Users of this site agree to the Terms of Service, Privacy Notice/Your California Privacy Rights, and Ad Choices

OPEN