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INTERIOR MOTIVES

Comfort most important feature of home office



NAOMI STONE LEVY

home?

List your priorities BEFORE you accept this challenge. It won't just HAPPEN, and be wholly successful.

If the word "office" connotes too rigid an atmosphere or an otherwise pleasant retreat, be advised that this isn't necessarily so! The single most important ingredient is COMFORT. To achieve this requires one important investment — namely a convertible sofa-bed. Of course they are available for as little as \$495, but it will be a disaster all the way around. It won't be a desirable sofa. It won't be a sound sleeper-bed. It won't have a durable fabric for constant use. Be realistic. This is the CORE of the room.

One can also buy a sofa-bed for \$1,495, and it may still be a compromise, with inadequate construction. You can even spend \$2,495. It will occupy the same space and ostensibly have the same functions. However, if the inner portions are of true quality the mattress of the bed CAN be wonderfully sleepable, and the mechanics will function without wrestling. The cushion construction should be as fine as any other kind of sofa, and the fabric must be delightful, sturdy, handsome and never itchy. Having this nucleus of the room workable in all of the above ways you are ready to consider other requirements.

Two guest chairs, not necessarily a pair, and facing the desk are desirable.

One can be slightly larger than the other, and on a swivel to better view television. Two storage units, a locked lateral file cabinet. A desk that is decidedly residential and a desk chair that is otherwise comfortable as well as functional.

Be sure you provide an abundance of wall plugs for all manner of equipment and lamps. After your SCALED layout of the entire room, three or four "hats" over the desk will round out GOOD lighting.

Book shelving is a significant component that mustn't be overlooked. Detailing of these will enhance the overall room — not just ordinary shelving — plan something unusual. A top shelf running the entire circumference of the room, above windows and doorways, and above the sofa-bed is an idea you might like. It would be a colossal place to intersperse sculpture with books, perhaps a handsome plate or an eagle, and many of your other treasured, brightly colored accessories. Your personality is beginning to take over.

One of my favorite window treatments is louvered shutters, so appropriate to this type of room. They can be vertical or horizontal in detail. They can be wood stained, or white. They, too, will add their own personality. They provide privacy, a cherished component.

With carefully synchronized planning way in advance you will have turned out your own spectacular LIBRARY, OFFICE and GUEST ROOM — EXTRAORDINAIRE!

Naomi Stone Levy, a Franklin resident, is an interior designer and a former secretary of the American Society of Interior Designers. You can leave her a message by dialing (313) 963-2047 on a Touch-Tone phone, then her mailbox number, 1897. Her fax number is (810) 644-1314.

Antiques fair features toys

Toys, toys, toys for children of all ages will be the featured attraction at the June edition of the Marshall Antiques Market, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, June 17, at the Calhoun County Fairgrounds in Marshall.

For more information, call the Marshall Antiques Market at (816) 789-0990 or (800) 877-5163.

For the third time, well-known classic car buffs Gene Gooley and Bud Hicks will host a swap meet and car show on the fairgrounds. This event will feature show cars, a car corral with vehicles for sale and booths for auto-related items for swap and sale.

On the other end of the "toy" spectrum, internationally known antique toy and advertising dealers Jerry and Paul Ann Turner from Hot Springs, Ark., will be making their annual visit to the Marshall Antiques Market. They will be buying, selling and appraising all toys for show visitors. Jerry's specialties include Disney, cast iron, tin windups and games.

Admission for the market and car show/swap meet is \$3 per person. The fairgrounds are well marked and easily accessible from I-94 and I-69. Parking is free and beverages are available on the grounds.

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