Feng Shui predictions in harmony with the Chinese New Year



ct rendy to gallen, get ready to run—the Chinese New Year 2002, which begins Feb. 12, rings in the Year of the Horse. Prepare for intense energy — good and had.

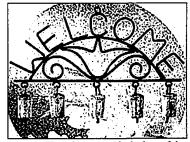
Were coming out of the year of the metal sanke — as Chinese astrologists predicted the snake year, though considered wise and strong, would bring surprises to the world. With the horse, the year is expected to have little middle-ground—strong energy that's either feminien and healing or rougher destructive energy.

In your home, the horse can be welcomed with harmony and those energies can be positive. Dennis Fairchild, the metro-Detroit area's most popular Feng Shui expert and Chinese astrologer who is based in Birmingham, said individual homes can be modified for the horse—depending on the homeowner's Chinese animal (which differs from the western world's Zodine signs.)

"A typical Horse Year prompts prosperity, economics and commercial activity. However a Horse Year can also indicate waste, so personal and domestic spending must be kept in check, Fairchild said.

Peng Shui is the ancient Chinese method of using the Earth's elements and energies to create a well-balanced home. Even Donald Trunp uses it in his home and office, saying "I don't have to believe in Feng Shui, I do it because it makes me money."

For everyone, wind chimes are recommended outside the front entrances of their home to help harmonize the energy inside, Beginning on Feb. 13, the Chinese Now Year can



Harmony: Wind chimes outside the front of the home create a good balance to any negative energy nearby.

be welcomed with candles, incense and positive lucky phrases hand-written in black or golden ink on red paper and pasted at the main entrance door to invite good fortune. Fairchild said.

Before re-arranging or adding items in your home to create harmony, success and love, learn your Chinese animal—it goes by year of your birth.

For this busy year, Fairchild agrees with the motte for

the New Year:

"I'you fall off the horse — git right back on!"

Other Years of the Horse were The Great Depression of 1930, World War II in 1942 and the Iran Hostage situation of 1978. Inside your home, the right colors can keep the action happy and positive.

This year everyone is urged to create a special blessings altar in the home that's decorated with colored cloth and stones. It must be in a quiet space and use it for meditation or to literally count your blessings. Says Fairchild: Use black for introspection and stillness; blue for inner peace and patience; green for peace and harmony; orange for optimism, community and motivation; pink for lower and softness; purple for calming and soothing; red for strength and passion; yellow for attention the detail and joy and white for transformation and clarity.

The Chinese New Year attention the detail and joy and wintee for transformation and clarity.

The Chinese New Year is also a time to prepare for luck. "Families clean their homes, declutter, wash utensils and discard unwanted items in order to symbolically make room for luck — Good Feng Shui, Fairchild said.

At Feng Shui Essentials, www.fengshuiessentials.com, a Feng Shui product warehouse based in Troy, figurines of the Chinese astrology chart as well as wind chimes, are big sellers to welcome the Year of the Horse.

The Troy-based company ships to buyers not only in the metro-Detroit area, but its biggest clientele is in Europe and California.

Fairchild recommends these following Feng Shui recommendations based upon each Chinese animal sign.

The Rats Smooth all sharp edges of the corners of your



MARTY FIGLEY

Shade gardens Shade gardens provide opportunities.

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Shade gardens can be a challenge, but the results can be spectacular.