

EVERYDAY FENG SHUI
Feng Shui by Maria
March Column for Benicia Herald

With Spring Watch Your Prosperity Blossom

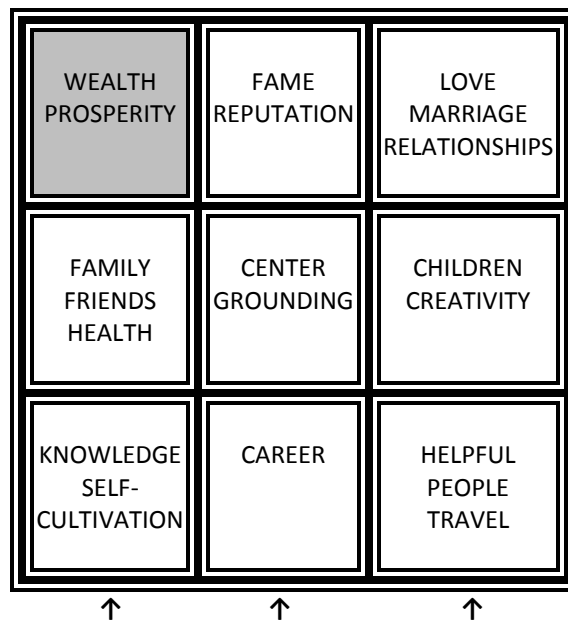
“Any person who contributes to prosperity will prosper in turn.” Earl Nightingale

Prosperity does not refer solely to financial wealth; rather the “richness” of your life. Are you rich in friends, family, love, community, health, talent, career, self-fulfillment, inner peace and/or financially? How prosperous are you? With the renewal properties of Spring you can take positive steps to contribute to your own prosperity – and Feng Shui can help you.

In Feng Shui the Wealth and Prosperity area reminds us that happiness comes in many forms. There is great value to having close friends, family, good health and fulfilling creative expression in the world. The ideal way to build and maintain these forms of prosperity is to nurture them with gentleness. When we take time to nurture the people, places and things that bring an experience of abundance into our lives we are taking positive steps toward living in prosperity.

In the Feng Shui Bagua (Ba-gua) Map, represented as a grid of nine sectors, the Wealth and Prosperity area is located in the left back corner of your home/office/business. The Bagua comes from the Chinese philosophy, “The I Ching,” and literally means “eight trigrams.” In the “I Ching” the Wealth and Prosperity area of your home or business is called “Persistent Wind” because shaping your prosperity takes steady persistence, patience, trust and self control. These help you build a solid foundation. This is not about winning the lottery or hitting it rich in the stock market, but rather a slow accumulation of wealth to secure present and future happiness on all fronts. “As much as we need to be prosperous economically, we also need prosperity of kindness and decency.” Caroline Kennedy.

Spring is a great time for spring cleaning and decluttering. Begin your prosperity work by culling and organizing the old to make way for the flow of abundance. Take time to look at your home’s Wealth and Prosperity area and ask yourself, “Is the area enhancing or draining my prosperity?” “How can I increase the flow of prosperity and make it blossom?”



ENTRANCE QUADRANT

Enhancements in this area are particularly helpful if: You want to generate more cash flow in your life, you are raising money for a special purpose, you would like to be more aware of the flow of abundance and prosperity through your life in general.

The element for this area is Fire, and the colors are purple, red and deep blue. Representations of this element can be used inside and outside of your home or business.

Enhancements for enhancing the Wealth and Prosperity area inside your home or business:

- * Healthy plants with rounded, coin shaped leaves such as jade, impatiens, begonias, gloxinia, cyclamen, violets, mums and/or healthy looking silk flowers in purples, red, and blues or artificial trees such as a ficus
- * Water features (fountains, waterfalls or aquariums) symbolizing the abundant flow of money
- * Posters, paintings, collages, photos or figures depicting moving water, wealth or your desired possessions (homes, cars, boats, equipment, jewelry etc.)
- * Valuable possessions and collections, such as antiques, art, sculptures, coins and crystal
- * Items in the colors of purple, blue or red that help create a feeling of richness and opulence
- * Quotes, affirmations and sayings pertaining to Wealth and Prosperity

Enhancements for enhancing the Wealth and Prosperity area outside your home or business:

- * Items that "call the Chi" such as flags, wind chimes, whirligigs, wind socks
- * Items, flowers, plants in the purple color spectrum
- * Fountains that either bubble up 360 degrees or where the water flows toward your home
- * Waterfalls flowing toward your home

The Elements of Wealth:

Although in the elemental cycle Fire is extinguished by Water, in the case of Wealth and Prosperity, moving water symbolizes the abundant flow of prosperity so this is the only area of the fire sectors that water acts as an enhancement. In my September column I stated that the Wood Element feeds Fire, therefore adding representations of wood, such as plants or items made of wood would help nurture enhancements. Picture a beautiful fountain surrounded by purple plants, near a wooden table with a deep burgundy or red umbrella.

A Missing Wealth and Prosperity Area:

If your Wealth and Prosperity area is missing from your floorplan, you can anchor the area by doing one or a combination of the following cures: Anchor the missing corner structurally, such as building a trellis or deck, planting flowers in a flower garden or planter boxes in the purple spectrum, adding a fountain, a seating arrangement or a figure representing wealth and prosperity. If the area outside is not accessible, you can symbolically anchor from the inside by hanging a 30 mm round faceted crystal, placing a mirror, and/or a picture of a prosperity representation on the wall by the missing corner. If the missing area happens to be a parking lot, you can draw a small symbol of a dollar sign, Yin/Yang sign or the trigram for persistent wind in the exact location, closing off the corner. In a lawn or dirt area a piece of rose quartz can also be buried pointing up in the exact corner to symbolize anchoring.

A bathroom is especially important to enhance when it is in your Wealth and Prosperity area. Always remember that ALL drains and toilet lids must be kept closed when not in use, to keep the flow of prosperity from "pouring down the drain." Chi flows very much like water and has a tendency to be pulled down any open drain, especially an opening as big as a toilet.

Feng Shui at work:

Our home had two offenders. We were missing our Wealth and Prosperity corner, and to make matters worse the bathroom was adjacent to the missing corner. We created a "structural" anchoring by building a wooden arbor connecting the existing deck to the missing corner. We planted red trumpet vine to grow up the arbor, symbolizing the upward growth and blooming of prosperity, and a deep burgundy ornamental cherry tree near it. We hung a purple and orange fish windsock at the top of the missing corner, and have a deep purple gazing ball at the base. All our outside flowers in this area are in the purple spectrum. We enhanced the bathroom by painting the wall

above the bathtub a deep burgundy (to match the tree), hung a picture of 9 Koi fish (fish represent wealth and good fortune), and hung a lavender 30 mm round faceted crystal in the corner. This has helped our finances immensely.

A recent client had this area in her dining room. She chose to paint the walls a shade of purple and add purple accents for her table setting. She is replacing a large mirror, which was too active of a feature for restful dining, with an opulent painting of a seascape with the waves flowing toward her home. She also placed a small bubbling fountain on the sideboard. We're both looking forward to her enhanced wealth.

Friends of mine have a lovely L shaped home with a large lawn area where the missing Wealth and Prosperity Area was. They chose to enhance and anchor the area by planting a beautiful walking garden on the exact corner; including a mound where a large angel statue sits, purple flowers, gazing balls, and cozy bench for sitting and reflecting on all the riches in their life. New jobs and wonderful rental tenant opportunities have enhanced their prosperity.

Affirmations:

Remember that In Feng Shui, intent plays a significant role in enhancing any area of your home or business. That's why all enhancements need to be made with intentionality; written or stated affirmations are very important. It is also important for them to be expressed as if they are already happening.

Examples or affirmations for the Wealth and Prosperity area:

"I am rich and prosperous in every way", "There is a generous flow of wealth and prosperity in my life."

This spring may the finest riches of health, wealth and happiness constantly blossom in your life.

For questions or home consultations email at mtmccull@aol.com and put "Feng Shui" on the subject line, or visit my website at www.fengshuibymaria.com, (where you can read past columns), or Facebook "Feng Shui by Maria".

* **I NOW have a BLOG** – Just go to the website and click on "Blog": I will respond to your questions quickly.

My last class was the best ever, thanks to an enthusiastic croup of participants.

I will be teaching three more 3 hour classes through the Benicia Parks and Recreation:

Fri. April 6th - 9:00 am, Sat. May 5th – 9:00 am, Sat. July 21st – 9:00 am

These are the same classes repeated. The Parks and Recreation Guide is now available, if you'd like to register. (Participants will receive \$40 off a home consultation.)

Until then...Blessings!

Maria McCullough - Bio

Maria McCullough, a Benicia resident, is the owner / founder of **Feng Shui by Maria** (www.fengshuibymaria.com) and isa speaker and educator with over 15 years of experience. She specializes in residential, landscape and business consultations. She is a graduate of the Western School of Feng Shui and has personally trained with Terah Kathryn Collins, founder of the Western School of Feng Shui, specializing in Essential Feng Shui® and author of numerous books including "The Western Guide to Feng Shui."