

Tonia Tomlin unclutters a cluttered world

STEPHANIE FLEMMONS
STAFF WRITER

People who are in a rush getting from point A to point B may forget to take the couple of seconds required to put things in their place or possibly get overwhelmed attempting to handle the array of paperwork required to run a business.

There is an organizational solution to this disorganized style of living. Professional organizer Tonia Tomlin, owner of Plano's Sorted Out, is here to find a place for those strayed items.

"I'm in this to help people live easier lives," Tomlin said. "I enjoy creating more time for my clients to spend with their family."

Because of Tomlin's success, the Home and Garden Television Network (HGTV) chose to make her a part of the television series "Mission Organization." Tomlin's first appearance was in 2005 on an episode titled "Family Room Rescue." The episode will air again July 24 and 27 at 1 p.m. central time both days.

Beverly Brettmann, executive producer for "Mission Organization," said Tomlin was selected from hundreds nationwide to take part in the 11-series season.

"Some people just want to be on TV, but that is not what she was going for," Brettmann said. "She clearly loves organizing, and she was very clear in the way she communicated and the way she helped people organize."

HGTV sent a production crew to Plano in January 2005 to videotape Tonia in action with Plano residents Jan and Terry Thompson. In the episode, Tomlin said she helped the couple transition a game room into a family room.

Jan said she had worked with Tomlin before the TV series began and researched many area organizers before deciding who to invite into her home.

"There is a lot of intimacy involved having someone come into your home and see the worst shape that it could be in," Jan said. "Tonia does it with great finesse and lets you know that you're not defective."

Tomlin said some have the knack to be organized and some don't, but she offers a maintenance program that helps people continue the tools that she teaches.

"Sometimes they fall off the wagon, so I check on them once a month and hold them accountable," Tomlin said. "They know I'm coming back, so they better keep it the way I left it."

Tomlin said her residential services include organizing kitchens, bathrooms, bedrooms, kid's rooms, home offices, laundry rooms, dens, living rooms and any other area. She said packing and unpacking homes is also provided.

"A big part of my problem was having too much stuff and not enough direction," Jan said. "We had a lot of things that didn't pertain to a game room or a family room. We had decades of pictures that needed to be organized, had a ping pong table we didn't need and lots of games that had dissolved."

Tomlin's business organizing consists of filing systems, procedure manuals, desk organization and paper management. She said Sorted Out also offers Errands and Personal Shopping Services.

Jackie Roberts, Owner of Lone Star Cars, used Tomlin more than once to help keep her business in order. Roberts said with the car business, there are a lot of receipts and paperwork that can be overwhelming.

"Tonia is awesome," Roberts said. "When she left, and I opened that draw-



(Top) Professional Organizer Tonia Tomlin pulls a snake light out of a drawer in Jackie Roberts office. The snake light is one of the many items that Tonia removed during her office makeover session at Lone Star Cars Tuesday.

(Right) Tomlin takes a brief break from the tedious task of organizing the office.



Rozansky
ing to be
y have to
chedule
function
construc-
close the

AGHER AT
ERS.COM

R?

50

iminal

SAVE IN WALLET

Dallas,
Various
ounties

practice
in."

Clutter

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

able to find things."

Roberts said she utilized Tomlin's services again Tuesday to organize her husband's office while he is out of town. She said from the time she is there to the time she leaves, Tomlin works hard and doesn't move at glacier speed.

"I called one of her references and she said, 'Honey, this will be the best money you ever spent,' and I highly doubted that," Roberts said. "After one day with Tonia, I realized that statement was very close."

To top it all off, Tomlin is a mother of one year old twins, but said staying organizing is still a top priority.

"I have to practice what I preach," Tomlin said. "By staying organized I have more time to balance everything at home and still have time to be a wife

and a mom."

Tomlin said she is involved with the National Association for Professional Organizers (NAPO) and the organization's local chapter. She is also an advertising coordinator for Mothers of Multiples (MM).

She said the group is a great resource for moms to network.

Tomlin will conduct an organizing clinic at 7 p.m. Aug. 6 at the Home Depot located at 1801 E. Parker rd.

For information about Sorted Out visit www.sorted-out.biz.

CONTACT STEPHANIE FLEMMONS
SFLEMMONS@ACNPAPERS.COM

Grass

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

ground is too wet to send crews out to clean up the debris," Hughes said.

Conklin said Parks has not had to cancel any special events due to ground conditions.

Mary Margaret Taylor, director of Plano Sports Authority, said baseball and softball seasons are now finished and due to the dedication of many volunteers no games had to be cancelled.

"We had numerous volunteers that would come by and pick up

Turface (a drying agent) and spread it on the fields to make sure they would be in playable conditions," Taylor said. "It was amazing how hard they worked."

City staff will address hazards, visibility and public safety issues for any concerned residents.

For safety concerns, call the Parks and Recreation Department at 972-941-7263.

CONTACT STEPHANIE FLEMMONS
SFLEMMONS@ACNPAPERS.COM



In the Community. With the Community. For the Community.

TO REACH US:

Office

972-424-6565

Classified Advertising

972-422-7355

www.scrntx.com

Bill Weaver

Group Publisher

Jack Bick

Collin County Publisher

Rick Mann

Managing Editor

Phone: 972-398-4251

Fax: 972-801-3444

rmann@acnpapers.com

Cristen Perkowski

Assistant Managing Editor

Phone: 972-398-4253

Fax: 972-801-3263

cperkowsk@acnpapers.com

Calendar items

cperkowsk@acnpapers.com

School news

cperkowsk@acnpapers.com

Letters to the editor

menn@acnpapers.com

Scott Carr

Advertising Director

Phone: 972-398-4203

scarr@acnpapers.com

Joani Dittrich

Corporate Director of National

and Major Accounts

Phone: 618-205-3172

jdittrich@acnpapers.com

Obituaries

obituary@acnpapers.com

Weddings, engagements

bnides@acnpapers.com

Circulation

Phone: 972-424-9504

customerservice@acnpapers.com

Postal & Street Address

624 Krona Drive, Suite 170

Plano, TX 75074

Certified Audit

CAC

of Circulations

The Plano Star Courier (ISSN 051-180) is published Wednesday/Sunday by Star Community Newspapers, 624 Krona Drive, Suite 170, Plano, TX 75074. Second Class Postage is paid at Plano, TX. Postmaster: Send address changes to: Plano Star Courier, 624 Krona Dr., Suite 170, Plano, TX 75074. Subscription rates are \$90.00 for one year delivered by newspaper carrier. Headquarters of missed papers will be made the same day when the office (972-424-9504) is called by 10:30 a.m. The entire contents of the Plano Star Courier are Copyright 2006 by Star Community Newspapers. No portion may be reproduced in whole or in part by any means without the express written permission of Star Community Newspapers.



d? Anniversary?

