

Can-do condo organizing to limit the clutter

By Amy Rogers Nazarov
Examiner Correspondent

Are you running out of room in your closet?

Rentals

\$785/mo. includes utilities & furniture!

Barbara Noppinger, Manager
The Baltimorean Apartments
2905 N. Charles Street
Baltimore, MD 21218
(410) 889-4157

Features

All studio apartments. Rents start at \$785/month including gas, water, heat and furniture. Laundry room, exercise room, courtyard and free wireless internet on the ground floor. We allow cats, no dogs. Limited parking available for rent plus street parking. Short term leases and guest rooms are also available.

www.baltimoreanapartments.com

Afraid you might drown in the catalog onslaught?

You're not alone, said Katherine Tresize, founder of Cockeysville-based Absolutely Organized. Owners of condos have the same organization problems as those who dwell in 15-room McMansions; they just have to be more judicious about their storage choices. Here are Tresize's tips for less cluttered living.

What are clutter hot spots we should watch for?

No. 1 is paper — all that mail and other paper that finds its way into the house. The second is clothing, and the third is kitchen items, from condiments to serving pieces.

Why is the kitchen such a clutter magnet?

Many people who have organization problems like to cook; they're often naturally creative people. But if they can't find something, they go buy another; I had one client with eight bottles of cinnamon in various places, for example. People tend to accumulate things but not move them along when they are no longer valuable.

Why do we hang on to things that are no longer useful?

It's a way of holding on to the past. After I graduated from school with an MBA, I bought a suit in which to interview — very '80s. It took me years to give it away. It

At a glance

- » Katherine Tresize, CPO
- » Certified Professional Organizer in Chronic Disorganization
- » President, Absolutely Organized LLC
- » 410-329-3300; absolutely-organized.com



COURTESY PHOTO

Katherine Tresize, the founder of the Cockeysville-based company, Absolutely Organized, has tips to help condo owners.

wasn't in style, but it was symbolic of a time in my life. The same thing holds for people who have gained weight; they think that one day, they'll be able to fit into their old clothes.

How do we balance preserving memories and not getting overrun by stuff?

Keep a sample of the thing in question — that is, keep one power suit, not eight, in a cedar chest, not in the prime real estate of your closet.

What are some other ways to maximize space in a small home?

With summer clothes or winter coats, swap them in and out of closets or under-bed boxes. Maximize the volume of space in your closet by moving a single hanging bar to a foot below the ceiling and adding

a second bar underneath.

Why do you get a rash of calls from clients each September?

Life slows down in the summer, but when kids are back in school, routines get back to normal. Long after they have left school, many adults feel like it's time to turn over a new leaf.

Renovated home in **Ellicott City/Oella**
Open 8/10 1 - 3 p.m.
KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY CENTRE
Shannon Miller, Realtor 443-857-8396
Keller Williams Realty Centre 410-312-0000

Attend the FREE LIVE EVENT!
Based on the #1 Blockbuster Bestselling Book

Rich Dad Poor Dad

My Poor Dad would say, **"I Work For My Money."**
My Rich Dad said, **"My Money Works For Me."**
- Robert Kiyosaki

One dad was highly educated and intelligent; he had a Ph.D. and had completed four years of undergraduate work in less than two years. He then went to do his advanced studies... all on full financial scholarships.

My other dad never finished the eighth grade. Both men were successful in their careers, working hard all their lives. Both earned substantial incomes.

Yet my highly educated dad struggled financially all his life and the other dad would become one of the richest men I had ever known. One died leaving tens of millions of dollars to his family, charities, and his church. The other left a legacy of unpaid bills. Both men were strong, charismatic, and influential.

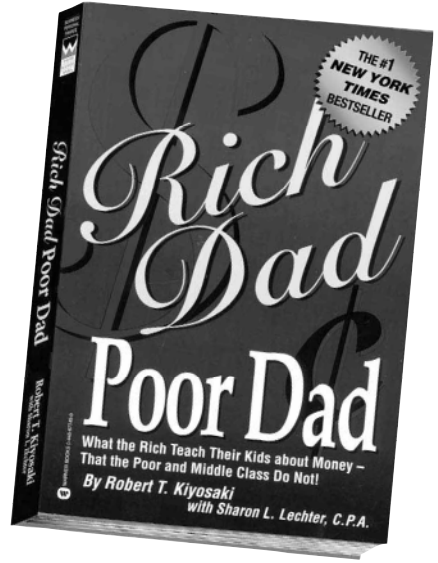
Both men offered me advice, but they did not advise the same things. Having two dads as advisors offered me the perspective of contrasting points of view: one of a rich man and one of a poor man. This forced me to think about, and ultimately choose, a way of thinking for myself. A way of thinking that assures long-term wealth and true prosperity!

Learn What the Rich Teach Their Kids About Money... That the Poor and Middle Class Do Not!

FREE Local **Learn To Be Rich™** Workshop
Based on the Teachings of World Famous Author & Teacher **Robert Kiyosaki**



Receive **RICH DAD'S BUDGETING YOUR MONEY!** multimedia CD-ROM — An **exclusive audio excerpt** from Robert's new book, "Increase Your Financial IQ"
SPECIAL REPORT: How to Find Great Investments Companion - Tips for Evaluating Opportunities in Business and Real Estate —
PLUS: A glossary of frequently used terms designed to help you "talk the talk" of real estate professionals. Yours **FREE** just for attending the workshop!



COMING TO THE BALTIMORE AREA ON AUGUST 12-14
SEATING IS LIMITED CALL NOW TO REGISTER 1-800-988-6549
www.richdadeducation.com



* The Rich Dad's® word mark and logos are owned by CASHFLOW Technologies, Inc. and any use of such marks by Rich Dad Education, LLC is under license. Individual performance depends upon the unique skills, time commitment, and unique efforts of each student. © 2008 Rich Dad Education, LLC. All rights reserved. RDE0228b V1 5-08

Robert Kiyosaki does not participate in this event.