

REAL ESTATE & RENTAL

ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

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The skinny on housing

NYC house

It's only slightly wider than 96 feet, and 42 feet long, and billed as the narrowest house in New York City — and this Greenwich Village home built in 1873 is on the market for \$2.7 million. It is sandwiched in a space that used to be an alley and is one of the neighborhood's most photographed homes. A small plaque on the house notes that poet Edna St. Vincent Millay once lived there; so did anthropologist Margaret Mead.

Real estate broker Alex Nicholas says there is interest in the property. And with the understatement of the year, he said that "due to the narrowness of the house, I think you have to be very clever in how you decorate."

New book

Whether in a kitchen corner or a separate room, your home office deserves some attention. *Store It! Where to Put All the Things You Need to Keep* (Filipacchi Publishing; \$17.95) by Mervyn Kaufman and the editors of PointClickHome.com offers practical approaches to working and, well, living at home. Included are tips for dealing with multipurpose arrangements, such as hallways, closets and basements, and some crafty projects. □

— Wire reports

Get rid of a really 'lived-in' look

It's important for home sellers to control the clutter

MARY CHAO
STAFF WRITER

It's back to school time for area schools. That means the kids will come home with school projects, homework and myriad other items that go hand in hand with school activities.

But what happens if you're trying to sell a home in the midst of all the kid clutter? We talked to real estate agents and a home seller for their tips on how to conquer the clutter.

■ Rent a storage pod. This is to switch for the seasons. The pod should be delivered to your home and filled with your summer items and outdoor toys. Then the company will come and pick it up and store it in a controlled environment, said Chuck Hilbert of Keller Williams Realty. That way, there is some room to store the



JAMIE GERMANO staff photographer

Homeowner Jayana Cross tackles the garage while her daughter Brinley, 2, scurries away on a bike as mom works on sorting and clearing out years of accumulated clutter. Cross and her husband, Paul, are concentrating on getting their Rochester home ready to put on the market.

CLUTTER, PAGE 8

FOR RENTERS

First step in a closet cleanup is to clear it all out

THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

at your empty closet.

Now the work really starts.

1. Divide your closet contents into three piles: haven't worn in two years or never liked, seriously out of style and love more than chocolate.

2. Root through the first two piles for items that are in good shape and might be useful to someone else.

3. Throw away anything that

is worn out.

4. Find local charities that accept gently used clothing and household items, and pack up your usable items.

5. Scrub the closet from baseboards to ceiling and floors, then paint if it needs it and you are allowed in your rental.

6. Return your "must keep" clothes and accessories to their rightful place. Group similar

pieces: jeans, slacks, skirts, shirts, jackets, suits. That will make everything easier to locate next time you're getting dressed.

7. Make your way through your home and do the same for every closet. Don't forget the kitchen pantry, linen closet, vanity cabinet and under-the-sink cupboards that we all use as catch-alls. □

INSIDE

TRANSACTIONS.....	2
EDITH LANK	4
ANNE PETERSON	6
JERRY LUDWIG	7
NEW HOMES	10
BEST BUYS	16
OPEN HOUSES.....	21
RENTALS.....	21
PULLOUT: GALLERY OF HOMES	