

As seen in:

# Airpark News



## Giving Old Spaces New Purpose

How many of you have an unused, or *underused*, room in your home?

The most commonly underutilized room in our homes is the formal living room. Although many of us do not use our living rooms much, if at all, you may still be “holding on to it.” Reasons for leaving your living room intact are varied. Perhaps you spent a lot of money furnishing it years ago, or have furniture in the room that you wouldn’t have another use for if not placed in the living room, or it could be the notion that you *should* have a living room in your home because that was a part of your home while growing up.

Whatever the reason, there are good reasons to give up your living room and repurpose it into a space that will be well-used and well-loved. S Interior Design has assisted many clients in identifying what type of space their living room should be turned into, and then designing the new space.

Recently, S Interior Design assisted a client in this capacity. During the initial client interview, S Interior Design learned that the client entertained both formally and informally on a frequent basis and needed a larger formal dining space to accommodate sit-down dinners

for up to twelve. As is so often the case when entertaining, the guests tended to stay in the kitchen and adjoining family room while literally ignoring the dining room and living room spaces. The family room was spacious and great for watching TV and DVDs, but what was lacking was a place for the woman of the house to go relax and read a book without the distraction of the TV, but still be in the common area of the house versus relegated to her bedroom.

The solution was to turn a dining room into what we aptly named the “R&R Room” (short for the Rest & Relaxation Room). We also turned the living room into the dining room. The R&R Room has design elements to support many uses. A custom-designed daybed is perfect for relaxing with a book in hand. The dry bar, along with a coordi-

nating pub height table and swivel bar stools, is a great spot for guests to enjoy appetizers and drinks away from the kitchen area. The area was defined with an area rug that makes the space cozy and unifies the color scheme for the room and the entry and dining room which are in the same “visual space.” The dining room provides a “WOW” factor when you come through the front door and is sized to accommodate large formal sit down dinners.

If you are interested in “repurposing” a room or space in your home, start with some discussion among your family members. Think about a function you are either missing or would like to bring into your home. *Remember that the design of your home is deeply personal, and above all else should support the way you want to live.* ■

Suzanne Lasky, Allied Member of A.S.I.D., is the owner and founder of S Interior Design, the exclusive provider of Pawprint Design Services™. Suzanne works with her clientele to develop a winning combination of design elements that result in warm, comfortable and functional spaces that reflect each client’s personal style. To contact Suzanne, please call (480) 220-4659 or visit her website at [www.sinteriordesign.com](http://www.sinteriordesign.com).

