

HOUSE CALLS BY MARGARET ELY

A room grows at the farm



New side tables can double as game tables for family gatherings.

An **area rug** distinguishes the living area from the dining space.

To brighten the room, **replace the dark curtains with Roman shades**, which filter light but provide privacy.

Paint the walls a light beige to complement the dark dining table. Try Benjamin Moore's Barely Beige.

The dining chairs have casters hidden under decorative skirts. The chairs can be easily moved to accommodate guests.

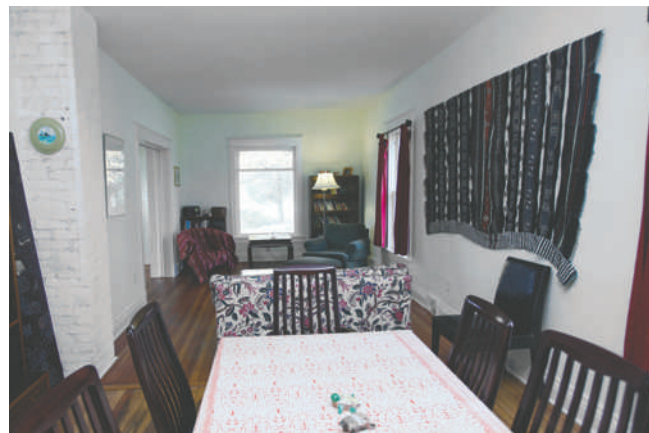
THE CHALLENGE

After removing a partial wall in his 1910 farmhouse, Boyds resident George Phelps (pictured with wife Sarah) needs help creating a cozy, coordinated dining and living area in the new open floor plan. Seating for guests, a space for the television and more natural lighting are all musts.

THE SOLUTION

Designer Syntha Harris-Wendel uses blues, beiges and browns to unify the room while addressing seating needs with a new sofa and castered dining chairs for flexibility when entertaining.

Harris-Wendel, of Storybook Rooms (301-365-6900, www.storybookrooms.com), is based in Potomac.



➔ See past room makeovers by local designers atwashingtonpost.com/housecalls.

Tell us about your design challenge. Send photos, room dimensions and contact information to makeover@washpost.com.

SPLURGE ...



Upholstered castered Parsons chair in Queens Velvet Spa (\$379, www.ballarddesigns.com).



Vidalia framed mirror with silver-leaf finish and glass inlays (\$653, www.amazon.com).

... OR SAVE



Custom rolled-back Parsons chair with skirt in Protege Haze (\$179, www.homedecorators.com).



Petite Hekman tall, slender wall mirror (\$251, www.lightingdirect.com).

SHOPPING GUIDE

Furniture: Helena dining table (\$362, www.homefurnitureshowroom.com); Kateri chinette (\$1,540, www.diningroomsoutlet.com); Angel sofa (\$409) and Sierra coffee table (\$405), both from www.wayfair.com; Rowe Hollins swivel chair in 30660-34 fabric (\$890, www.sofasandsectionals.com).
Accessories: Crewel pillow in Smoke Blue (\$30 each, www.pier1.com); Cecil rug in neutral (\$399 for five-by-eight-foot rug) and Dawson game side table (\$499), both from www.potterybarn.com; sandy blue glass lamp (\$60, www.kirklands.com); "Floral Glow" 60-inch-wide wall art (\$438 for set of two) and "Floral Glow" 22-inch square wall art (\$548 for set of four), both from www.lampspus.com; "Rain Drops" painting (\$394, www.wayfair.com); Roman shades in Natural Espresso (prices vary by size, www.overstock.com).

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