

# Decorator's Notebook

## From Full House To Empty Nest

(NAPSA)—As their children move out, many parents are reinvesting in the empty nest by redecorating.

The American Furniture Manufacturers Association (AFMA) surveyed parents whose children have moved out and learned that nearly half of America's empty nesters will reinvest in their nest by renovating their current homes, purchasing a new home or even by splurging on a vacation home.

According to the research, one out of four empty nesters will purchase higher quality home furnishings that were considered impractical with children at home and limited budgets. Some 78 percent of those surveyed have their eye on a "dream" piece of furniture.

"Empty nesters enjoy entertaining at home and are beautifying their surroundings more than ever before," said AFMA Vice President Jackie Hirschhaut. "They are eager to redecorate in a style that reflects their new lifestyle and at the same time showcase their homes with home furnishings they didn't allow themselves before."

When it comes to renovation, new living room furniture is first on the list, followed by a makeover of Junior's old room.



**Empty nesters are reinvesting in the nest and filling their homes with style and inspiration.**

Research shows that children's bedrooms most likely will become a library, hobby studio, guest room, home theater or home office. But while the rock posters and pop art come off the walls, parents don't say goodbye to their children altogether.

"Oftentimes, parents will accessorize renovated rooms with family mementos, photos, diplomas and other sentimental treasures," said Hirschhaut.

Other top rooms targeted for improvement include the master bedroom, dining room and family room.