

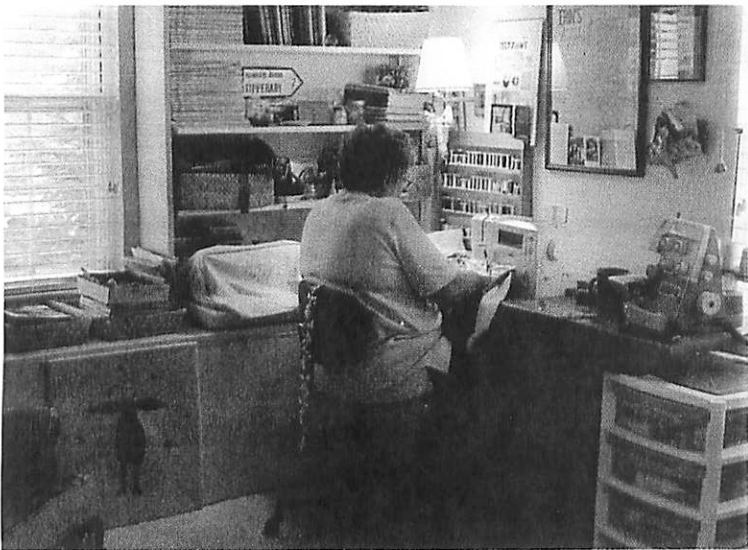


Soul Peaceful

From practically any spot in his home, Mike Hendren enjoys an ever-changing view that furnishes his home with all the color and texture he needs. Aside from a few pieces of very contemporary Italian furniture, nothing much gets in the way of the amazing power and majesty of the Ohio River.

"When people ask me why I don't have more artwork or furnishings, I point out the windows and tell them God is the main artist in this home," says Hendren,

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Tailor Made

The urge to create and design "cute little outfits," hit Kitty Furlong about 30 years ago when her third child turned one.

"I don't know how I knew to do it. My mom didn't sew. In fact, when my dad would come home with a button missing, she would say, 'Well, I guess you need to buy a new shirt.'"

Now 62, Furlong recently sewed most of the bridal party dresses for her daughter Susan's wedding. For the maid-of-honor, Furlong constructed a halter-style linen dress. The four bridesmaids were outfitted in A-line sleeveless dresses with ribbon and beading at the waist. For herself, Furlong sewed black silk pants with a matching top and a fuchsia jacket.

At any given moment, Furlong is flush with ideas. "I've got a hundred things in my head I want to sew," she explained. "If it can be sewn, I make it."

Indeed, Furlong made the slip-covers for the chair and ottoman in her 10-by-10 sewing room. She also made the room's window treatments. In fact, evidence of Furlong's handiwork is sprinkled throughout the St. Matthews home she shares with husband Bill.

She slip-covered a chair in the couple's living room with material that was once part of a Damask table cloth. The fabric

was given to her by a friend and is at least 50 years old. "I can't resist vintage textiles," Furlong said.

Furlong started out with basic Kenmore sewing machines. But her most recent acquisition is a Bernina 1530. The 10-year-old machine is fully computerized. There are no manual settings.

Originally a child's room, Furlong said convenience motivated her to convert it into a sewing room.

"If you sew in the dining room, you're always moving things," she said. "You're picking things up for dinner and then maybe you don't take them back out again."

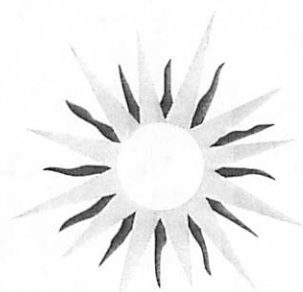
Sewing may be a solitary endeavor, but Furlong also manages to keep up with her "sewing buddies."

She and Bill are getting ready for their annual trip with three other couples to South Carolina.

"We (the women) bring our sewing machines and the guys take their golf clubs. We sew all day. At night, the machines sit on the table with their lights on and we eat by sewing machine light. It doesn't get any better than that." **whk**

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