FEBRUARY 2013















wedding PLANNER

Our special supplement is full of information, ideas, and resources designed to help you plan the perfect wedding.



A special supplement to the

WINCHESTER PRESS

Put a ring on it

Before there's a wedding, there is usually an engagement, and most engagements happen with the offering of a ring. To find just the right piece for that precious someone, visit Annable's Jewellery and Gifts in Winchester. In addition to a range of stunning engagement rings, storeowners Gary (pictured) and Diane Annable also offer a great selection of wedding bands for both the bride and the groom, as well as a host of gift ideas for the lucky couple.

Press Photo – Casselman



Featured on our cover



Gracing the cover of the 2013 Wedding Planner *is* Winchester Press *editor Matthew Uhrig and his bride, Brittany. The couple was wed at Whistle Bear Golf Club in Cambridge on Sat., Aug. 18, 2012. The photographs are courtesy Troy St. Louis Photography of Findlay Creek, while more of St. Louis' work is featured throughout.*

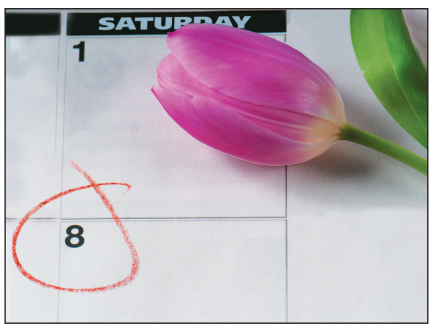
Save-the-date card etiquette

More and more couples planning to walk down the aisle are embracing save-the-date cards to give guests adequate notice that there is a party on the horizon.

Save-the-date cards do more than let guests know when you're getting hitched. The cards are a preliminary way to keep guests informed and let them know they are, in fact, on the guest list. These cards haven't always been so popular, but have risen in popularity due to longer engagement periods, a growing number of destination weddings, and the growing number of couples with guests from all over the country, if not the world. Considering people often plan business trips, vacations, and other excursions several months in advance, save-the-date cards help secure a greater number of attendees at your wedding.

Save-the-date announcements can vary in many ways. They may be postcards or magnets that can be attached to a refrigerator door. If you desire a cohesive theme to your wedding stationery, select the save-the-date cards at the same time you choose your wedding invitations. This way you can ensure that either the patterns, fonts, colours, or style of the cards will match. It will also help convey the tone of the wedding. Guests often take their cues regarding the level of formality of the wedding from the type of stationery couples choose.

When to send out the save-the-



date announcements is important as well. As a general rule of thumb, it is wise to mail out the cards six months in advance for a standard wedding. If the wedding requires travel or extended overnight accommodations, you may want to mail them out eight months to a year in advance to give guests the time to investigate flight costs and hotel arrangements. A wedding may also necessitate planning a vacation or personal time off from work. Therefore, ample advanced notice is advisable.

Be sure to make your guest list in advance of sending out save-the-date cards. Everyone who receives a card should also be sent an invitation prior to the wedding. Remember to include any members of your planned wedding party in the list of recipients. Just because a person has verbally confirmed attendance at your wedding doesn't mean they should be excluded from subsequent announcements. Guests may talk to one another and it is best to avoid hurt feelings and any added drama before the wedding by treating everyone equally.

Be sure to include the wedding date, your names, and the location of the wedding on the save-the-date cards. You do not need to offer RSVP information or detailed specifics at this time. You may want to include a website URL on the card so guests can check it frequently for updates on wedding information. Be sure to also include that a formal invitation will follow at a later date. You do not want to cause confusion by having guests think that the save-the-date card is the actual invitation. Also, make sure you address the save-the-date cards correctly to show your intentions with respect to guest invites. For example, be clear about whether children will be invited and whether a boyfriend/girlfriend or another guest can tag along.

Although save-the-date cards are not a necessity, they have become a popular part of wedding planning to eliminate confusion about invitations as well as help guests plan time off for your wedding.

Jewels ESTHETICS



• Manicures • Pedicures
• Bio Sculpture Gel Nails
• Waxing • Make-up • Facials

Call for an appointment -
Certified Bio Sculpture & Nail Technician

JULIE HUYBREGTS 613-316-1048
Located at Bridals
494 Main St., Winchester

Uncommonly attentive care and a beautiful selection of designer gowns are just the beginning at Bridals.
We provide a full-range of professional services to make your planning easier.

• dresses for the entire bridal party
• flowers • shoes • jewellery/accessories

'Getting You to Your Wedding Day with Peace of Mind'

Appointments recommended – Call us. We'll make sure that your wedding day is beautiful and stress-free.
Hours: Tues., Wed. & Fri. - 10-5; Thurs. 10-8;
Sat. 9:30-5; closed Sun. & Mon.



Bridals
Kim Carruthers

494 Main St., Winchester • 613-774-3370 • www.bridalsbyalmor.com • E-mail: bridals by almor@storm.ca





With 6,000 square feet, Bridals by Al-Mor has plenty of room for a substantial and wide selection of gowns.

Far left: *Wendy Byers (left), owner of Crystals and Pearls, shares space at Kim Carruthers' Bridals by Al-Mor.*

Press Photos – Casselman



Bridals by Al-Mor offers a spacious and welcoming environment

WINCHESTER

The church is filled with friends and family, while the groom waits patiently at the front for a first glimpse of his bride.

The doors open and all eyes move toward the entrance, and he can't take his eyes from her as she strolls down the aisle toward him, wearing her designer gown from Bridals by Al-Mor.



Any bride-to-be searching for that perfect dress will find herself facing the dilemma of where to begin her search, but Kim Carruthers, owner of the Winchester shop, said Bridals by Al-Mor is the place to go for "the" dress.

With roughly 6,000 square feet of space, the bridal store boasts plenty of room to store a wide selection of designer gowns and more, as well as room for the bride and her party to look around, and try on dresses in comfort.

While the bridal shop does try to accommodate walk-ins, the majority of customers are seen by appointment, resulting in a more personal experience with the bridal consultant.

There are lots of fitting rooms and staff is very accommodating, said Carruthers. However, she does advise brides to bring along as few guests as possible… too many outside opinions will lead to a confused and unhappy bride-to-be.

In addition, Carruthers also suggested that while brides are able to purchase dresses off the rack at the last minute, it is preferable to come in early to avoid disappointment. As she pointed out, a coveted dress from one of last year's bridal magazines may now be discontinued and, therefore, unavailable.

In fact, although it's just the beginning of 2013, Carruthers has already booked a bride-to-be's dream dress for her 2016 wedding.

Either way, whether planning ahead or shopping last minute, Bridals by Al-Mor focuses on providing great customer service, said Carruthers.

In fact, there are professional seamstresses and steamers on site, occupying the top floor of the Main Street building. In addition, Carruthers has formed relationships with several related businesses, which also provide service from her shop, including Wendy Byers' Crystals and Pearls.

While Bridals by Al-Mor focuses mainly on brides and weddings, it also provides a tuxedo-ordering service for men. Although the men's wear is as high quality as the women's, Carruthers said she prefers to "concentrate on an area and do really well on that area" and the focus of the shop is, as the name implies, the bride.

Currently, the store's top selling lines for gowns include Maggie Sottero, Bonny, and Essense of Australia, among others. Carruthers has chosen to focus on the lines that do well, and that provide quality, as well as guaranteed delivery times.

She said that while brides, on average, try on roughly five dresses, it is usually the first dress that makes the lasting and winning impression.

Right now, said Carruthers, women seem to be choosing any combination of the following: ball gowns, gowns with lace, anything with intricate neck detail, or gowns with keyhole backs. Also, there seem to be plenty of brides choosing to add belts or bird cages to the ensemble.

"Brides are liking a lot of simplicity," she said.

With women coming from all over Ontario, including Ottawa, Vankleek Hill, Lancaster, Kingston, and Petawawa, the store receives its best and most effective advertising via word of mouth… happy, satisfied brides telling other bride-to-be's that Bridals by Al-Mor is a great place to find that perfect dress.

BEFORE

AFTER


Make up 2 go

SERVICES AVAILABLE:

• Makeup • Manicures • Waxing • Facials • Pedicures
• Teeth Whitening • Seminars and Spa Parties

Tel/Fax **613-774-1660** Mobile **613-612-1089**

http://www.facebook.com/Makeup2Gobyleanne **MakeUp2GobyLeanne@gmail.com**

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Wedding Rings
and other precious things



Canadian ice™ Diamond Collection

Diamond Engagement Rings • Wedding Bands
Attendants, Shower & Bridal Gifts

Annable's Jewellery & Gifts

Fine jewellery for him or her, home decor and more

Hours: Monday-Thursday 9 am-5:30 pm; Friday 9 am-8 pm; Saturday 9 am-5 pm

513 Main Street, Winchester
613-774-2102

FREE GIFT WRAPPING



We now carry napkins, paper plates, tablecloths, balloons and a whole lot more.

Browse our party supplies catalogue in-store for your colour, theme and more

$1 Dilemma

CARDS, GIFT BAGS & MORE
Located at Winchester Video

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK, 9 AM-9 PM
510 ST. LAWRENCE ST., WINCHESTER
613-774-5858

Wedding websites help spread the word

Planning a wedding is no small task, and most couples look forward to the day when they're no longer fretting over floral centerpieces or agonizing over seating arrangements. Though weddings have become more complicated in many ways, the Internet has made some things simpler for couples planning their nuptials.

Perhaps nowhere is that more true than with regard to sharing information. The Internet has made it easy for couples to keep friends and family abreast of the details that go into a wedding. Many couples have even developed their own wedding website, updating the site whenever they make important decisions, such as when and where the wedding will take place, where guests can stay, and all the other information guests might need. Such information used to be sent out via traditional mail, but now couples can simply direct friends and family to their wedding website, saving time and money while also benefitting the environment.



TheKnot.com allows couples to develop their own wedding website.

But before couples design their websites, it's first helpful to determine if it's actually necessary. Couples who are planning more intimate affairs with few guests might find a website isn't necessary. In addition, couples who are having a local wedding in which most of the guests live in town and won't need to travel or make hotel arrangements, can probably get by without creating a wedding website. However, couples who are planning a larger affair and/or an out-of-town wedding and are expecting guests from all over the map can utilize the Internet to make it easier to communicate with prospective guests. When developing a wedding website, there are some things a couple should consider.

Timing

Don't establish the website until you have settled on a date and location for the wedding. The site can be a great way to share your story with friends and family, but its primary function is to act as a resource for guests. If no date or location has been picked, then the site won't prove too helpful to guests. But once a date and location has been chosen, set up the website as soon as possible, ideally several months to a year in advance of the wedding. Doing so gives guests plenty of time to clear their schedules and make airline and hotel reservations.

Information

When designing the site, make it easy to navigate so all the information a guest might need is readily available. Couples who are not tech-savvy can utilize an existing website like TheKnot.com, which allows its members to create a premium website that can include exclusive designs, links to a couple's online registry, photos, maps of the event location, and a host of other pertinent details. Some wedding website services charge a relatively small fee to keep the site running for up to a year. Couples who feel they can create a site on their own should be certain to include the date, location, directions and maps to the event locations, hotel accommodations, and wedding registry information. Those who want to go the extra mile can include photos, the story of how they met, information about members of the wedding party, and a guestbook that well-wishers can sign.

Decisions, decisions

Organization tips for couples planning a wedding

Couples planning a wedding quickly realize just how challenging a task that planning can be. From paring down the guest list to arranging the music to choosing a menu for the reception, couples must make several decisions when planning their big days.

Staying organized when planning a wedding is no small task, as the planning can be spread out over several months or even more than a year, making it difficult to keep track of what has and hasn't been done. The following are a few organization tips that should help couples keep on track when planning a wedding.

Write things down

Whether you write things down the old-fashioned way in a notebook or jot down notes in a tablet, write down your plans as you go. Write down important phone numbers, vendor information, and all the other details you'll want instant access to. It's important that such notes are taken in something that's portable, allowing you to jot down notes immediately as opposed to forcing you to remember until you arrive home.

Create a to-do list

A to-do list is another great way to stay organized when planning your wedding. As you make certain decisions, simply strike those tasks from the list. This way you will know the tasks you've polished off and those you still need to work on.

Create a wedding calendar

Keep a calendar devoted specifically to the wedding. Include appointments with vendors and information regarding payment schedules and other deadlines on this calendar. If you set any deadlines for yourself, such as when you prefer to choose a band for the reception, jot these deadlines down on the wedding calendar as well.

Take a digital camera along when shopping for your wedding

Many couples want to explore their



options before making any decisions with regard to attire, floral bouquets, and other aspects of the wedding. But it can be difficult to remember all of the things you might have seen throughout the process. Bring a digital camera along when shopping so you won't have to rely strictly on memory when making your final decisions. As you take pictures, upload them to your computer so when the time comes to make a decision, those photos are easily accessible.

Delegate certain tasks

Even couples that consider themselves taskmasters can benefit from delegating some tasks when planning a wedding. This can save you some time and make it easier to keep track of everything. When delegating, ask friends or family to handle those tasks that don't require a personal touch. For example, ask a best man or maid of honour to arrange for guest transportation to and from the airport. It's not too much responsibility, but it's one less thing for busy couples to worry about.

Weddings at Winchelsea Events

- *Incomparable Food*
- *Beautiful Landscape*
- *Charming Dining Room*
- *Warm Hospitality*





NOW FULLY LICENSED

Our philosophy is simple:
We provide the highest quality food with the finest service at prices that are affordable and we do it one event at a time.

Book Your Site Visit Today



Winchelsea Events
CATERING & SPECIAL OCCASIONS

613-808-9258
events@thewinchelsea.com
Facebook:
Winchelsea Winchester
www.thewinchelsea.com
1567 County Road 31, Winchester

Get married under our canopy of green



Let our tranquil venue be the natural setting for your perfect day.

TERRACE GREEN
BED & BREAKFAST

11952 County Road 43, RR 3, Winchester
613-774-2189 • Email: **terracegreen@sympatico.ca**
Your Host: **Annette Angus**, Certified Wedding Planner

www.bb.canada.com
Call Annette to assist you with your wedding plans and/or accommodations.

Like us on Facebook *Visit us on YouTube*

Wedding advice: Be open to ideas and expertise

Once you announce your plans to get married, there is a good chance that people close to you will be ready and willing to dispense their share of advice. Some words of wisdom will be priceless, while others you can store away for another day.

When polling married couples, you will likely find they would change "this" or "that" about their weddings if given the chance to do it all over again. Here is some advice that you can choose to follow for your wedding day.

Tip #1: Trust your vendors

Couples often have unique ideas for their wedding day. It may seem tempting to spell out what you want in minute detail and insist on wedding vendors carrying out your wishes to a T. But the smarter idea may be to give vendors a little more free reign — after all, they are the professionals.

When deciding on particular aspects of the wedding, you can give your general ideas, but leave the finished product to the professionals. Don't list every song you want the DJ to play or micromanage all of the poses the photographer should take. After all, experienced pros have likely done this dozens of times in the past and could produce results you never dreamed possible.

Tip #2: Scale down

Unless you are planning on auditioning for the show "Over-the-Top Weddings," it might pay to make your wedding more about being personal and less about wowing the crowd with special effects and expensive treats. It's easy to be lured into extra dinner courses or be persuaded to release doves at the ceremony, but will these extras impact your relationship or the life you will be building together?

Tip #3: Don't overextend

Your wedding will hopefully be a once-in-a-lifetime event. Therefore, couples often plan to spend a good deal of money to ensure their special day is perfect. Weddings are still viewed as a high-priority expense and most couples save for a long period of time despite sluggish consumer spending reports. According to the market research and analysis firm IBISWorld, nearly 60 per cent of couples go over their budgets when getting married. Some do so at the risk of being in debt afterward.

Try to stick to a budget as much as possible so that you can enjoy yourself not only on the wedding day, but also long after the honeymoon has ended.

Tip #4: Keep it in the family

Selecting members of your wedding party can be challenging because there may be so many special people in your lives right now that you want to honour. Choosing a best man and a maid/matron of honour is a large responsibility because these people stand out in the wedding. Although couples struggle with their choices and want to please everyone, your safest bet is to choose a family member.

Unless you don't have close family members or your relationship with your siblings or cousins is strained, choose a family member to serve as best man or maid of honour.

It is easy to be overwhelmed when planning a wedding, and couples can expect to be bombarded with advice. However, it could pay to heed the advice of couples who have already lived and learned from their wedding choices.



Photo courtesy Troy St. Louis Photography

Simple ways to save on your wedding

According to a 2012 report in *Brides* magazine, the average Canadian couple spends $23,000 for their big day. While many couples find the cost of a wedding is well worth it, others would like to find ways to save so their big day isn't a budget-buster.

Such savings aren't always easy to come by, especially for couples with a very distinctive picture in mind of what their wedding should be. However, even couples strongly committed to a certain wedding style might change their minds once they realize how much such a dream wedding will cost.

For those couples, as well as couples who simply want to save some money, the following are a few ideas to avoid busting your budget without venturing too far from your dream wedding.

Trim the guest list

The guest list is perhaps the easiest place to begin saving money. Many reception halls will charge by the head, so consider if you really need to invite 150 guests or if 100 will do. Such trimming can save you a substantial amount of money.

Don't go overboard on the gown

Styles are ever-changing, so there's a strong chance brides won't be passing down their wedding gowns to their own daughters someday.

What's popular now will likely seem outdated by the time your daughter walks down the aisle. Keep this in mind when shopping for a wedding dress, which can be made in the same design as the one you try on but with cheaper fabrics that are a fraction of the cost.

Get hitched in the off-season

Many couples prefer to get married sometime between the months of May through October. During these months, venues and vendors, including limousine services, caterers, photographers, musicians, and deejays, are more expensive.

If you are willing to switch your wedding date to the off-season you can save a substantial amount of money. In addition, you likely won't face as much competition for the best venues and vendors as you will during the peak wedding season.

Trim your beverage budget

The bar tab at the end of the reception can be considerable, but there are ways to save money while ensuring your guests can still toast you and yours with a few libations. Rather than offering a full bar, limit the choices to beer and wine, which will be perfectly acceptable to most guests anyway. In addition, rather than paying the caterer for the wine, buy your own and you'll save a considerable amount of money. You may have to pay the caterer a fee to pour the wine, but that fee is negligible compared to what you'd pay the company to provide the wine.

Choose a buffet-style dinner

Many guests will no doubt prefer a buffet-style dinner instead of waiter service, so take advantage of that and choose a more affordable buffet-style dinner that allows diners to choose their own entrees and side dishes.

When it comes to trimming wedding costs, couples will have to make compromises. But those compromises don't have to come at the cost of a beautiful and memorable event.

LINDA'S
SEWING SHOP
& Sewing Notions
504 Main Street, Winchester
613-774-6260
Dress Alterations
Pants Hemmed
We now carry buttons, thread, zippers & notions
Tues., Wed. & Fri. 9-5:30; Thurs. 9-6; Sat. 9-12; Closed Sun. & Mon.

BELLEFLOWER GIFTS
Home Fashion & Decor
Unique selection of giftware, home decor, jewellery and more
GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE
Hours: Tues.-Sat. 10-5; Sun. 11-4
1453 County Rd. 31 (North of Winchester) • Winchester
613-774-0647 • www.belleflowergifts.com

BUY or RENT
Buy
a suit for $199.99 and receive a Free Shirt and Tie
Value of shirt up to $55.00
Value of tie up to $50.00
Rent
a tuxedo package including jacket, trousers, shirt, tie, suspenders & jewelry.
FREEMAN FORMALWEAR
KASTNER'S MENSWEAR
by Tweed & Hickory
27 First Street East, Cornwall 613 • 932 • 8854
3893978

Finding bridesmaids gowns they all will love

Close friends and family members are an important component of a couple's wedding day. Individuals who are especially close to the bride and groom are often asked to become members of the wedding party, which means a bride-to-be will be asking one or more women to play an integral role in the celebration.

To set these ladies apart from other guests at the wedding, they are often asked to wear co-ordinating bridesmaid gowns. Selecting a style and colour that is fitting to the unique people of the bridal party can be challenging, but it's not impossible.

As if choosing your maid of honour wasn't tricky enough, you now must make a host of other decisions as well, all while playing stylist to the wedding party. Fashion sense is as unique as a fingerprint, and it is unlikely the bridesmaids will be able to agree on every aspect of the gowns they will be asked to wear. However, there are ways to narrow down the choices and be as accommodating as possible to their needs.

Size matters

The body shapes and sizes of the women in your bridal party will be different, and this should be kept in mind when selecting a gown style and cut. There are certain dress shapes that are universally flattering, such as A-line. Try to avoid gowns that are extremely form-fitting, as only a few of the bridesmaids may be able to pull off this look successfully. The remainder could be left feeling self-conscious and uncomfortable. Plus, form-fitting clothing will be restrictive and can be difficult to move around in – particularly considering the gown will be worn for an entire day.



Say yes to the dress

Consider choosing one colour and letting the bridesmaids choose the style they like the best for themselves. This ensures everyone in the wedding party will be comfortable and look their best.
Photo courtesy Troy St. Louis Photography

Flattering colour

As a bride you may have a colourscape in your mind for the wedding. But what looks good in table linens and flowers is not always the right choice for clothing. Take the skin tones and hair colours of your bridesmaids into consideration before choosing a dress. Green- and yellow-hued dresses may not look nice on women with olive skin tones, while very pale colours may wash out women with fair skin. Those with dark skin may need a brighter-coloured dress.

Price tag

It is an honour to be asked to be part of a bridal party, but that honour can be very expensive. The bridesmaids are expected to pay for their wardrobe, hair styling, and makeup, as well as parties and gifts for the happy couple. As a courtesy to the women who already will be investing a considerable amount to be a part of your wedding, make every effort to select a gown that is affordable. There are plenty of retailers offering stylish options that may not be as expensive as some specialty stores.

Other tips

Once you've decided on the basic elements, consider the following suggestions to find a gown that the bridal party will enjoy.

• **Take one or two bridesmaids shopping with you.** Try to select ones with opposite body types so you can see how the gown looks on a woman who is thin and one who may be more full-figured.

• **Think about choosing separates.** The bridesmaids can mix and match tops and bottoms to find a fit that works. This may enable a woman with a larger bust size to select a top with supportive straps while another bridesmaid can opt for strapless. Many stores have increased their inventory of separates because of their growing popularity.

• **Choose one colour and then let the bridesmaids choose the style they like the best for themselves.** The look will still be cohesive, but it won't be boring with one type of gown. Also, each bridesmaid will be comfortable with a gown that flatters her shape.

• **Go with a tea-length gown.** These gowns have become quite trendy and are less formal and cumbersome than full-length gowns. Plus, there is a greater likelihood that the gown can be used again at a later date.

• **Purchase the bridesmaid gowns at the same store where you will be purchasing your wedding gown.** Most shops will offer a courtesy discount if the bridesmaid gowns are purchased at the same store.

Ensuring bridesmaids are happy in their gowns takes a little work but will be well worth the effort.

Joy to Share
Custom Event Decoration
weddings, halls & homes
Joyce Boyd 613-989-5651
joytoshare@bell.net
Shari Martin 613-989-2162

Veronica Nault
20 Ralph Street
Morewood
Cell. 613-448-2827
Home 613-693-1941
VERONICA'S SEWING

BEAUTY for the BRIDE
and her BRIDAL PARTY
Services include:
• The Latest in Hair Styles
• Esthetics by Megan:
• Pedicure • Manicure • Facial
• Body Wrap and Polish
• Eyelash and Eyebrow Tinting
• Gel Nails • Waxing • Sugaring
• Ideal Protein Weight Loss products
• Infrared Health Sauna and Starpower Tanning Bed featuring the Latest in Technology
Call today to schedule an appointment or for more info concerning spa and tanning packages
Hours: Tues. 9-6; Wed. 9-5:30; Thurs. 10-8; Fri. 9-6; Sat. 9-3
Darlene's Hair Design & Day Spa
Darlene McGimpsey, Proprietor
16426 Centennial Drive, Avonmore
(former Medical Centre) 613-346-9772

BIG FURNITURE SAVINGS
Furnish every room in your new home with top-quality fabulous name-brand pieces
MARCH SPECIAL
All Showroom Furniture 15% OFF
WINCHESTER FLOORING & FURNITURE
12026 Dawley Drive
WINCHESTER
613-774-7078
winchesterflooring@bellnet.ca
Bob Craig: 613-223-3745 • Scott Cole: 613-223-3764
ASHLEY FURNITURE INDUSTRIES, INC.

Juliannah's focuses on making customers happy

MOOSE CREEK

There are an endless number of decisions to be made when planning a wedding, the most important of which, many might argue, is the selection of the bride's attire.

Juliannah's Dress and Bridal in Moose Creek Mall provides a safe, welcoming environment for brides to share their hopes and dreams for their wedding day, giving staff the opportunity to learn just what gown will be perfect for each individual bride.

From the moment a woman enters the shop, until the moment she leaves with her dream gown in hand, the staff at Juliannah's Dress and Bridal treat her with professionalism and sincere care, said owner Vivian Théoret.

Daughter-in-law, and employee, Mélanie Charbonneau agreed with Théoret.

"We give the best we can give out of ourselves to the customer," she said.

With a vast array of sizes, styles, and lines, Juliannah's provides customers with the very best in current fashion. The most popular lines at the Moose Creek shop right now include Stella York and Essense of Australia, among others.

In addition to selling off the rack, Charbonneau said, "I can order anything in." However, oftentimes brides discover that the dress they see in a magazine photo isn't the dress they dreamed it would be once they've tried it on.

To find out just what dress is the right dress, Juliannah's bridal consultants ask a lot of questions, and get to know the bride a little more. Sometimes, after trying on several dresses and not finding "the one," Charbonneau said, "then I get out of the box. I want a reaction out of them [and, oftentimes] a girl will purchase something she had no idea she wanted when she came in."

Generally, however, the average bride tries on only a handful of dresses and, more often than not, chooses the first dress she tried on, said Charbonneau.

Juliannah's Dress and Bridal is a full service shop, with professional seamstresses, pressers, and steamers on site. In addition to ironing and prepping the gown for the big day, the store also offers a shoe-dying service.



Juliannah's Dress and Bridal has a vast array of gowns available in many styles, lines, and sizes. *Press Photos – Casselman*



Barbara Renaud (left), her mother, and owner of Juliannah's Dress and Bridal, Vivian Théoret, and sister-in-law Mélanie Charbonneau work together at the Moose Creek Mall shop, proving that it really is a family affair.

As well, Juliannah's carries a selection of jewellery, fascinators, and veils.

"The veil is coming back strong," said Charbonneau. "It makes a girl look like a bride. It finishes the look. We can order them in to match most of the dresses."

Jewellery and accessories are most often chosen when the bride comes back for her first fitting.

To make the dress-shopping expedition a true success, Charbonneau offered the following tips: come early; come in with the intention of purchasing a dress; if you fall in love, get it; and, for the first visit, come with a loved one rather than the entire bridal party.

The bride needs to be able to say, "I feel good in this dress," without any feedback, said Charbonneau.

The staff at Juliannah's wants to ensure that every woman goes home with the right dress for her.

"Because the bride is the most important form of advertising you can have," said Théoret, adding that Juliannah's Dress and Bridal consultants focus on delivering good customer service, which includes understanding, compassion, and trust.

Théoret runs the Moose Creek shop with her daughter, Barbara Renaud. In addition to selling bridal gowns, the shop also offers a selection of gowns for bridesmaids, flower girls, mothers-of-the-bride, as well as a selection of prom wear.

"The most important part of our job is making people happy," said Théoret. "We will work at it until it's 100 per cent to your liking."

INNER SOLE Esthetics

Waxing • Manicures
Pedicures
Shellac Nails • Facials

Tricia Bilmer

13500 Nudell Bush Road, Morrisburg, Ontario

613-543-0055



CAPTURING THOSE SPECIAL MOMENTS

WEDDING PORTRAITS & CANDID PHOTOGRAPHY
Providing premium quality film and digital photography of traditional or contemporary wedding and commitment ceremonies at affordable prices

Lasting Impressions for 30 Years

Heather Cooke Erwin
PHOTOGRAPHY
HALLVILLE • 613-989-6145

Frosting's
edible art
fondant cakes

Jody Beaudry
Cake Artist
613-443-9464
www.frostingsfondantcakes.com
jodybeaudry@sympatico.ca



Juliannah's
Dress & Bridal

Call Toll Free at 1-888-938-2323
www.juliannahsbridal.ca

Moose Creek Mall • 30 Labrosse St., Village of Moose Creek

At **Juliannah's Dress and Bridal**, it is our privilege to offer you the finest quality and selection in both formal and informal bridal gowns, as well as a large selection of bridesmaid's and special occasion dresses. Our international collection reflects the latest styles in both North American and European styling.
Through a dedicated customer service staff, it is our goal to make your special day an unforgettable one!
First in service, quality and peace of mind.

No service charge • Payment plan available

Appointments are preferred for ultimate service: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Saturday, 9 am-5 pm; Thursday & Friday 9 am-8 pm; Sundays 11 am-4 pm except statutory holiday weekends

Prom Gowns: www.prom-gowns.ca



Put a comfortable foot forward at your wedding



Photo courtesy Heather Cooke Erwin Photography

Some say shoes make the woman, but if they're uncomfortable, shoes very well may break the woman — especially at a wedding. From the bride to the guests, choosing the wrong shoes could sideline you from dancing or cause pain through the night. A smarter step is to put just as much thought into the shoes you will wear as you will into other parts of your wardrobe.

Unless you're wont to go anywhere without high heels, your feet may be unaccustomed to them for long durations of time. At a wedding, where it's all about mingling and dancing, comfort should be considered just as much as style.

That doesn't mean you have to forgo an attractive shoe just for something comfortable. It's possible to have the best of both worlds. Here are some considerations.

Wedge heels: Unlike other types of heels that put the brunt of the pressure on the ball of the foot, wedge heels distribute body weight evenly throughout the foot. Therefore, you might find these are some of the most comfortable types of heels around. Designers make them in all styles, including more formal versions perfect for weddings and other special events.

Ballet pumps: Once made famous by style icon Audrey Hepburn, these can be worn with skirts or slacks. Their low profile helps keep feet comfortable, and they may come as flats or with a tiny heel. Embellished with bows, flowers or ribbons, these shoes will dress up any outfit.

Sandals: Particularly for warm-weather events, sandals can be quite comfortable and fashionable. Giving a peek of toe and ankle can be just as sexy as stilettos, without the pain.

Flip-flops: Many brides choose to don flip-flops under their gowns simply because they can be so comfortable. Flip-flops needn't be the run-of-the-mill rubber kind found in the discount bin. They can be dressed up to match your gown or purchased with gemstones and other decor already attached.

For those who prefer heels for photo ops and looking fabulous, consider bringing along a change of shoes just in case foot pain flares up later in the evening.

Roles of the best man and maid of honour

Being chosen as a best man or a maid of honour is a significant and meaningful honour. Though their roles have evolved over the years, these special participants must still perform some of the traditional duties of the past, including serving as the official witnesses to the ceremony. The following is a rundown of the various duties maids of honour and best men are now expected to handle once they're chosen for these distinguished positions.

Updated job descriptions for the chief attendants

Prior to the wedding

Before the wedding takes place, the maid of honour will closely assist the bride-to-be with many of the important decisions related to the look and the feel of the wedding. She typically accompanies the bride to dress shops to select gowns for the bride and bridesmaids. Much in the same manner, the best man will assist the groom-to-be with choosing tuxedoes or suits and also with co-ordinating with the ushers to ensure they know when to go for fittings.

Although the best man will serve as a sounding board for the groom, traditionally the bride and her bridesmaids have taken on the majority of the wedding planning, so the maid of honour can expect to play a larger role than the best man. The maid of honour may be asked to delegate certain assignments, such as helping to find wedding vendors or addressing invitations. She may go with the bride for makeup and hairstyle trials. Together with the bridesmaids, she will plan a bridal shower party and a bachelorette excursion. She may select a wedding gift for the couple and present it on behalf of all the wedding attendants.

The best man will co-ordinate the bachelor party and may be asked to assist the groom with selecting a honeymoon site or to come along to book the trip.

Wedding day

On the day of the wedding, the maid of honour and the best man will act as a support system for the bride and groom. The maid of honour will help the bride get dressed and help iron out any mini-emergencies that should crop up. The best man will help ensure all of the ushers are dressed and get the groom to the wedding on time.

During the ceremony, the maid of honour will hold the bride's bouquet while she participates in the wedding. The best man will keep the rings safe until they are needed. The maid of honour also will help adjust the bride's train and veil as she sits and stands during the ceremony. Both will sign the marriage certificate as witnesses.

At the reception, the best man is expected to give a toast and the maid of honour may share some words as well. She also may accompany the bride to the restroom and assist her with managing the gown.

After the wedding

The best man will be in charge of returning the tuxedoes to the rental shop, if necessary. He also may drive the newly married couple to the airport so they can depart on their honeymoon.

The maid of honour will assist the bride in changing out of her gown and into her travel clothes. Oftentimes the maid of honour takes the gown to the cleaners in the days following the ceremony so the dress can be preserved.



Sweet dreams

Having a flower girl is a nice way to make a favourite little person feel a part of your big day. But being a flower girl can be a tiring job for a little one! Pictured here, Payton Taylor takes a well-deserved nap while mom Kerri looks on. Payton was the flower girl at Diane and Garry Munro's wedding on May 5, 2012 at their home in Winchester.

Photo courtesy Heather Cooke Erwin Photography

Elegant Bridal Bouquets
created especially for your wedding day

• Bridal bouquets • Bridesmaids' bouquets
• Corsages & boutonnieres
• Table centrepieces • Ceremony and reception arrangements

Call to book an appointment

FLOWERS DURANT'S

507 St. Lawrence St., Winchester • 613-774-3825
2 Industrial Dr., Chesterville • 613-448-2354

Fax 613-448-1213 • www.durantsflowers.com • E-mail: info@durantsflowers.com

MAKE IT SPECIAL
for your Wedding Day

It's affordable and personal...
Our wine kits are ready for bottling in four weeks and can be used for your
• Bridal shower • Rehearsal dinner • Wedding day
• Gift opening or whatever the occasion

We also have gift-sized bottles for your guests to take home

The Town Vintner
Wine Making • Wine and Beer Supplies
503 Main St., Winchester 613-774-0724
Joan Shirreffs

Grahame's Bakery
The Family's Choice
Custom Designed Wedding Cakes

With our heritage wood-fired brick oven, we strive to make your cake not only a beautiful, one-of-a-kind creation but delicious as well.

• Wedding Cakes • Grooms' Cakes
• Showers • Birthdays • Cupcakes

Also **Tarts, Squares, Cookies, Butter Tarts, Breads, Specialty Breads, Rolls and so much more.**

Hours:
Tues.-Fri. 5:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat. 5:30 am-3:00 pm

Come in and visit us!
115A Clothier St. E., Kemptville
www.grahamesbakery.com
613-258-2317

Determining if a destination wedding is for you

When the time comes to walk down the aisle, more and more couples are choosing to make the procession in a far-off land. Destination weddings are on the rise, with researchers at TheKnot.com reporting that roughly one in four couples who were married in 2011 chose to have a destination wedding.

Destination weddings may appear to be an ideal way to tie the knot, but couples should know that planning such a ceremony may be even more difficult than planning a more traditional affair. Couples who choose to have a destination wedding must be ready to put a significant amount of faith in a wedding planner, who is often affiliated with the resort where the couple will be staying. Though the wedding planner may handle many of the details concerning the ceremony and the reception, couples should know that some of that planning will still fall on their shoulders as well. That planning may not be so simple, so before couples spread the word about their island wedding, it's best to consider a few factors to determine if a destination wedding is truly the best way to go.

Guests

How many guests a couple hopes to invite is a great starting point when determining if a destination wedding is for you. Many couples who choose to have a destination wedding do so because they prefer a more intimate ceremony. Destination weddings are obviously more expensive for guests than a more traditional ceremony, so many guests won't be able to afford to attend. Couples who intend to invite many guests might want to avoid a destination wedding.

Locale

The destination for your wedding should be a locale that holds a special place in your heart. A random location that you find on the Internet might work out, but having some prior experience with the country can help you anticipate minor, yet potentially problematic, issues. These issues can include the accessibility of the airport, currency exchange rate, and the weather. In addition, you can help guests have a better time on their trips if you have already familiarized yourself with the region. If you haven't travelled much as a couple and don't have a particular place in mind, then you might find a destination wedding is more hassle than it's worth.

Accessibility

A common problem many couples encounter when planning a destination wedding is the accessibility of their chosen locale. Couples will likely have to visit the destination at least once prior to their wedding, which will eat up some of your wedding budget and your vacation time (which you will need to save for the actual wedding and your honeymoon). If the locale is a remote island that's not very accessible, that can make these pre-wedding trips pretty stressful.

Accessibility should also be a consideration for your guests. How far will your guests have to travel? How much money will guests have to spend on airfare and hotel accommodations? The less accessible the locale is, the more you and your guests are going to have to spend.

Accessibility of the airport is another consideration. Some island locales and resorts are known for their remoteness, which can be a problem for wedding guests. If the resort is a long ride away from the airport, that's another expense for guests. The resort may provide a shuttle service, but that cost will fall on the couple and the shuttle may not run frequently, which can prove problematic when guests' arrivals are staggered.

Legality

The law is another thing couples must consider when deciding if a destination wedding is for them. Laws vary depending on the locale, so before you commit to a specific locale, make sure you're legally allowed to get married there and if there are any hurdles you must clear before you can. Those hurdles might be significant, and couples may find they're not worth the hassle.

Destination weddings are on the rise, but couples must consider a host of factors to ensure a destination wedding is truly for them.



Destination Canada

When it comes to destination weddings, there are countless options right here in Canada. From Vancouver Island to Prince Edward Island, there are many dazzling destinations to choose from. Pictured here, Anne Bérubé and Youri Banville chose to be married in one of the most romantic cities in North America – Quebec City. The wedding took place on Sept. 22, 2012.

Photo – Studio Bérubé

WHERE WEDDING MEMORIES BEGIN...
Call us today to discuss your wedding plans.
1-888-229-2850
The McIntosh
Country Inn & Conference Centre
12495 Hwy. #2, Morrisburg, ON, K0X 1X0
www.mcintoshcountryinn.com



kemptville interiors
your space–your style
2540 County Rd 43
Kemptville, ON
K0G 1J0
613-258-9333
furniture@kbchome.ca
ASHLEY FURNITURE INDUSTRIES, INC.
GRAND OPENING!
SALE ENDS SOON!
20% OFF Selected Accessories, Lamps, Wall Art, etc.
Sofa w/chaise $999
LA-Z-BOY ComfortStudio
National Sales Event
Red Hot SAVINGS
for a limited time only!
Canadian comfort SALE
LIMITED TIME ONLY!
LAUREL STATIONARY SOFA ONLY $999
KARLI OCCASIONAL CHAIR ONLY $649
VAIL RECLINER only $449
$749
THIS AREA'S LARGEST SELECTION OF LA-Z-BOY COMFORT FOR YOUR HOME!
DUTAILIER
30% OFF
ALL DUTAILIER FLOOR MODEL GLIDERS/RECLINERS
$450 SAVINGS
BORDEAUX
SWIVEL GLIDER/RECLINER WITH OTTOMAN
$1049
REG. $1499
ENTER to WIN
Samsung
43" Plasma TV
PN43E450
Draw Date: March 10, 2013
Come in & check out our
Grand Opening Specials.
Fill in a ballet to "Win" - no purchase necessary!

Because every bride is unique...
We have affordable gift ideas in store
• Jewellery
• Candles • Prints
and more
When the ordinary just won't do, there's only one choice for your gift shopping
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK YEAR ROUND
Hwy. 31, 613-774-3353
South of Winchester at Cass Bridge
CASS BRIDGE Gift Shop 613-774-3353

Word on the Street

Gifts galore!

What's to be done with those redundant microwaves, tacky towel sets, and hideous lampshades?

When couples get married, they often accumulate unwanted or unusable gifts from well-intentioned guests. Sometimes, newlyweds simply don't want the stuff – or don't have room in which to store it. What's to be done with those redundant microwaves, tacky towel sets, and hideous lamp shades? And, how do you avoid offending family and friends who provided these gifts in the first place?

The *Winchester Press* asked local residents the following question:

What advice do you have for recently married couples who must combat a post-wedding present plague?

•

"Clearly, they have to be selective about what they keep," advised **Jack Hoogenboom**. "There's nothing wrong with using [redundant wedding presents] as gifts for other events."

•

"See who else you can give the gift to," suggested **Cathy Hoogenboom**. "It depends on what [the gift] is, because you can only store so much stuff that you're not going to use."

•

Patty Wiseman agreed that it's important to part with unwanted household belongings – because they may occupy the newly-wedded couple's basement for decades. "People have given things with all good intentions," she said – adding that, whenever possible, gift recipients should wait a while before parting with their unwanted stuff.

•

Pauline Pratt, executive director of the House of Lazarus, agreed that the charity will gladly receive unwanted wedding presents. She also suggested that couples consider providing their kin with the items: "My first thought [would be], 'Is there anyone else in the family who could use any of this?'"



Bob Van Noppen encouraged couples to make a plan for which wedding gifts to keep, sell, or give away – and faithfully adhere to that plan. Avoid disagreements by talking things out thoroughly, especially when the gifts may have a sentimental value or come from a beloved relative or friend. "First, you have to sit down together and decide between the two of you what you're going to dispose of and make a plan. It's not going to happen overnight," he said. "Once you have a plan, it's easy."

•

Shawna Stoodley pointed out that reselling items on eBay, Craigslist, or Kijiji is an option. However, posting items for sale on these sites is a lot of work. "It's time consuming," she said, noting that taking photos, listing details about the item, and answering buyer's questions go hand-in-hand with selling online. Sometimes, it's just more efficient to give items away.

•

Janet Carkner advised couples to keep track of any gift receipts provided with the wedding presents. (Gift receipts are, typically, just like regular receipts, but conceal the product's prices – and essentially imply that the gift provider wants the recipients to return the item to the store if they don't want it.)

•

"My advice is, give [your unwanted presents] to someone less fortunate," advised **Louise Shaw**. When it comes time to decide which gifts to keep and which to take, "just dive right into it," she said encouragingly. "As Nike says, 'Just do it.' Tackle it a little bit at a time."

•

"I ain't married yet, so my advice might be suspect," warned **Brendan Trickey**, "but I'd suggest sitting down with your partner and setting merciless ground rules for sorting the gifts into those you'd like to keep, re-gift, or donate/return. Make the hard decisions now, because you don't want to revisit this in the future and agonize over decisions again."



The Baldachin Inn
FINE DINING
~ Weddings ~ Banquets ~ Conferences ~ Private Parties
~ Catering for Small or Large Groups ~ Up to 200 People
~ All Natural from Scratch All the Time
An Elegant Heritage Building in 'Canada's Most Beautiful Village'
111 ST. LAWRENCE STREET, MERRICKVILLE
www.baldachin.com • WIFI • e-mail: baldachininn@gmail.com
613-269-4223



Luminous Creations
By Diane & Mandy
Call or email for information:
613-551-3364 or 613-668-9233
myluminouscreations@gmail.com
Luminous Creations preserves wedding bouquets and treasures into memorable keepsake displays. These displays are created from your fresh wedding flowers so that you may always remember your special day. Each display is unique, hand-crafted, and designed specifically for you.





House of Lazarus holds first bridal and prom show









A cultured pearl necklace and earring set designed and donated by Louise Cornish (pictured, above left) of Custom Made Jewellery in Mountain, was part of the night's silent auction. Kim Carruthers of Bridals by Al-Mor donated a large selection of discontinued dresses.
Press Photos – Casselman

MOUNTAIN

The House of Lazarus (HOL), a community outreach mission, hosted a bridal and prom show for the first time in the not-for-profit organization's history.

Held on Thurs., Jan. 30 at the Mountain Community Centre, the event showcased bridal gowns and prom dresses, and also offered a selection of mother-of-the-bride, bridesmaid, and flower girl dresses.

It was a donation from Kim Carruthers of Bridals by Al-Mor in Winchester that led to the creation of the new fundraising event, Elaine Madore, office support staff for HOL, said.

The bridal shop donated a number of brand-new dresses from their end-of-line stock, as well as mother-of-the-bride dresses, and veils and headpieces.

When asked what prompted the donation to HOL, Carruthers said, "We donate them quite often to the Upper Canada Playhouse… and I got to talking to Linda [Prevost]."

Prevost, an employee of HOL, was inspired by Carruthers' donation to create the first ever HOL fashion show.

The owner of the Winchester bridal shop said she will gladly continue to donate dresses to the community mission in the future.

With new gowns on display, the mission's first fashion event offered guests the opportunity to buy a designer dress for much less than they would have if they had bought straight from a store.

While the dresses from Bridals were new and never worn, HOL also offered shoppers a selection of gently used formal wear. And, in addition to the formal wear, the community mission also offered a selection of shoes, jewellery, handbags, and other accessories for their big day.

Although fear of dirtying the brand new white dresses stopped the organizers from modeling their many bridal gowns, it didn't stop them from showcasing some of their fun and colourful prom wear.

North Dundas District High School students Cashelle Baldwin, Sydney and Tori Miller, Katie Papple, and Tia Tresa strutted their stuff as HOL's volunteer models, taking turns showcasing some of the available dresses for the assembled audience.

Above:
Tia Tresa modeled this little black dress.
Far left:
Cashelle Baldwin sashayed through the hall in this beautiful ball gown.

"Our fashion show was a great hit. Our lovely models from NDDHS made the dresses come alive," said Pauline Pratt, executive director for HOL.

Whether out of necessity or choice, brides and prom goers who are interested in saving money without sacrificing style, now have a great new place to stop on their dress hunt.

"The staff here at the HOL was happy and pleased with the outcome and interest in our Bridal Show. Everyone that attended seemed pleased and surprised with the choice of the lovely dresses, jewellery, and bridal accessories," said Pratt. "Definitely, it was a wonderful evening for our first."

Two hearts. One day.
The perfect flowers.

It's your day.

Our floral creations are as unique as your love for each other.
Intricate detail shines in every design.

Please call or email to book your free consultation.

BEYOND the HOUSE
Garden and Floral Design Centre

Tuesday to Friday 10-6
Saturday 9-5

Tel (613) 445-5214
info@beyondthehouse.ca

144 Craig Street
Russell



Aisles and aisles
of bridal and wedding gifts

Gifts from our Inspiration Boutique or our Country Treasures collection are sure to please any bride or groom to be

Also, be sure to check out our wide selection of small appliances

WINCHESTER BMR

boutique inspiration
agrizone
Country Treasures

Mon.-Thurs. 7:30 am-7 pm;
Fri. 7:30 am-8 pm; Sat. 8 am-6 pm;
Sun. 9 am-5 pm

12235 COUNTY RD. 38, HWY. 31 AT HWY. 43
SOUTH OF WINCHESTER 613-774-2700

Let the pipes play at your wedding

WINCHESTER

Hugh Metcalfe has logged a lot of kilometres, all with his bagpipe secured tightly under his left arm.

Be it playing during the opening of a Shoppers Drug Mart store in Kanata, a Sobeys grocery store on the east coast, or at the historic Pier 21 in Halifax, Metcalfe has been everywhere.

Now, however, the Kemptville Legion Pipe Band member is branching out into a new field, one that helps to celebrate a major moment in a couple's life.

"I've probably been playing weddings for the past 10 years, but I would say in the last two or three years, I've been doing them more frequently," Metcalfe said.

In 2012, Metcalfe performed at four weddings, being amenable to all requests of a couple.

He has played off in the distance, acting as a subtle musical accompaniment, while also leading wedding party members down the aisle, or ushering in the newlyweds during the post-ceremony reception.

While playing, Metcalfe is decked-out in traditional Scottish bagpiping attire, from the hat and jacket, to the kilt and socks, his outfit also includes the Maple Leaf tartan, which is Canada's national tartan.

As for where his love of the instrument came from, Metcalfe's answer was simple.

"I really like the sound of them," he said. "I heard them when I was younger, and I was hooked."

Those interested in Metcalfe's services are asked to call 613-794-0190 or email hughmetcalfe@yahoo.ca.



Local bagpipe player Hugh Metcalfe is now offering his services to couples looking for a musical twist on their wedding day.

Press Photo – Uhrig

Unique touches to make your reception a stand-out

Who hasn't attended a wedding that seems formulaic? The couple enters, they do their spotlight dance, there's food, a bouquet toss, and then the cake cutting. Guests may actually be able to predict what's coming next. While it is often customary and easy to follow tradition, that doesn't mean you cannot buck with tradition and offer a few creative ideas to make your event stand out. Here are several ideas you can introduce into your wedding to add something special to the reception.

Skip the big entrance. Those who were kind enough to attend the ceremony have already been introduced to the newly minted happy couple. Instead of spending the cocktail hour in the isolation of the wedding suite, mingle with your guests from start to finish.

Dance to an upbeat number. Guests are expecting a slow, sappy tune. What they may not expect is an upbeat song that shows you are willing to have a little fun. Feel free to choose a tune that shows your excitement and love for each other.

Swap the garter/bouquet toss for something more meaningful. If you're part of a couple who feels the garter and bouquet toss has become trite, there are other ways to create special moments in your celebration. Use this time to present a small gift or token of your affection to someone on the guest list who has served as a mentor or source of inspiration.

Choose one special component as an extra goodie for guests. Some couples feel the more they offer the better guests will view their wedding. Spending more money doesn't necessarily mean guests will have a better time. If you want to go above and beyond the ordinary, find one thing that you absolutely love and offer that at the party. It could be a chocolate or candy bar, a carving station with your all-time favorite food, or a carnival-inspired automatic photo booth.

Hire a live performer. A live band adds a certain level of excitement that a disc jockey may not be able to provide. Those who are adding a cultural or ethnic component to their wedding may want to hire a dance troupe or another type of performer, like a bagpiper, as an added measure of entertainment for guests.

Let them eat ... cookies? Some people just don't like cake. Therefore, why should a couple have to cut a seven-tiered white confection? Towers of different types of treats can be created from just about anything and serve as the perfect backdrop for that classic cake-cutting photo. A pyramid of cream puffs, stacks of brownies, a cookie castle, or cereal-cake concoctions can work. Some bakeries will decorate a "dummy" styrofoam cake, and then you can serve apple pie a la mode, if you desire.

Stage a costume switch. Let's face it, dancing all night in a long gown takes some stamina. As the bride, have a more comfortable cocktail dress available to switch into for the latter part of the reception. It will also add some variety to your wedding photos.

J&S DISCO
MUSIC FOR ALL OCCASIONS
FEATURING THE TOP 40 HITS!
Book by April 1 for a 2013 Wedding Stag or Reception, mention this ad and receive a discount!
Best of Top New and 40, 50s, 60s and Country Music
www.jandsdisco.com
Steve Barkley • Vars, Ontario 613-835-4057

ARCAND Party Tents
ANY SIZE OF TENT - 30 TO 6,000 PEOPLE
WWW.ARCANDPARTYTENTS.COM 613-258-9444

Host Your Wedding
at the
North Grenville Municipal Centre
The North Grenville Municipal Centre, located in Kemptville, offers modern and cost-effective facilities for hosting your wedding. Our venue can accommodate from 20 to 300 guests.
This can include:
• Kitchen and beverage bar area to be used by the caterer of your choice
• 300-seat performance theatre for ceremony
• Outdoor patio area
• Municipal Clerks to perform your ceremony
Ask about our wedding specials!
North Grenville
Lisa Kmiel, Event Coordinator
Phone: 613-258-9569 ext. 134
lkmiel@northgrenville.on.ca
northgrenville.ca/weddings.cfm


Add a wee bit of Scottish flair to your wedding!
Now accepting bookings for 2013!
Hugh Metcalfe
Winchester
613-794-0190
hughmetcalfe@yahoo.ca

Grooms need to look great for the big day too!

MOOSE CREEK

When talking about weddings, most conversations revolve around the bride and what she might be wearing for the big day, but what about the groom?

A wedding is a milestone event for two people, not just one.

At Richard Men's Wear in Moose Creek, owner Richard Théoret and his nephew David Théoret know that style and quality are just as important for the groom as they are for the bride.

The Moose Creek Mall store offers a wide selection of suits, tuxedos, and accessories for any occasion. With a large assortment of styles, colours, and sizes, David assures customers that Richard Men's Wear has what a man needs for that special event.

"I can match just about any colour," said David.

If that weren't enough, he can also custom make a tie and vest from any fabric the customer brings in.

David has been working at the store for 12 years, and in addition to being very knowledgeable about the current styles and fashion available, he is also an experienced tailor. In fact, the store provides on-site alterations, and anyone buying a suit, can go home with it the same day, as David can hem a pair of pants quickly and professionally.

As for what's "in" right now, David said that form-fitting tuxedos seem to be "hot this year."

Currently, the big thing for Richard Men's Wear, however, is the option for ordering all-inclusive packages, rather than purchasing or renting each piece separately. Packages, from Freeman Formalwear, include the tuxedo jacket, trousers, vest, shirt, tie, suspenders, studs and cuff links, and shoes. The only things not included, joked David, are socks and underwear.

The popular men's store also offers a line of Hawaiian clothing for those destination weddings.

Recognizing that "men are so last minute compared to women," Richard Men's Wear has become adept at meeting last minute requests for suits and tuxedos. However, in a perfect world, and to make things easier and less stressful, David recommends that customers come in at least 90 days prior to their event.

Another of David's helpful tips for future brides and grooms: don't bring the entire wedding party on the first visit. He suggests that it's best for the couple to come to the store first, on their own, to decide on a style, pattern, and colour, without the complication of too many outside opinions. Once those are chosen, the groom can return with his entourage.

Whether it's a traditional wedding, non-traditional wedding, destination wedding, or any event requiring formal wear, David said Richard Men's Wear has what customers need.



Richard Men's Wear in the Moose Creek Mall offers men a wide selection of suits and tuxedos for any occasion.

Below: David Théoret shares his knowledge and experience with customers.

Press Photos – Casselman



Hawley's Corners Gift Shop



Gifts and Accessories for All Occasions

OUR CHRISTMAS ROOM IS OPEN YEAR ROUND

Open Wednesday to Sunday, 10 am-5 pm

8177 Victoria St. Metcalfe
613-821-1332

Terri's Esthetic Studio

• WAXING • FACIALS • MANICURES • PEDICURES

Terri Van Haren, *Esthetician*
10637 Gilmour Rd., Brinston
613-652-4003
Toll Free
1-866-435-1489

WEDDINGS
YOUR DAY... YOUR WAY



With a warm, considerate and nurturing approach, Joan welcomes the opportunity to assist you in creating a cherished and memorable occasion.

613-821-1756 • jbruce-nibogie@sympatico.ca
All Seasons Weddings Limited • www.allseasonsweddings.com

With the assistance of an experienced, professional Officiant, your wedding vows and unique personalized ceremony will reflect your commitment, mutual love, affection and loyalty.

For a free sample ceremony and a quote, please visit us at **http://allseasonsweddings.com/request.cfm**

Remember to ask for ***Joan*** as your Officiant

Joan Bruce-Nibogie
Licenced Officiant Ontario & Quebec
Weddings & Renewal of Vows

You've got SOMETHING TO CELEBRATE...



WE'VE GOT EVERYTHING YOU NEED FOR THE LOOK YOU WANT

Freeman Formal Wear Tuxedo Rentals

GROOM'S FREE TUXEDO RENTAL*

Groom receives a free Tuxedo Rental up to the average value of a minimum of five paid tuxedo rental packages in his group.

ORDER EARLY
Place your tuxedo rental order 90 days or more prior to wearing and
SAVE $30*
ON ORDERS OF $100 OR MORE
Not to be combined with any other discounts or special offers. May be withdrawn at any time.

FREEMAN FORMALWEAR

**Details in store.*

Mercerie RICHARD Men's Wear
613-538-2465
MOOSE CREEK MALL
***HOURS:** Mon., Tues., Wed., Sat. 9-5; Thurs., Fri. 9-8; CLOSED SUNDAY*

Stanley's Olde Maple Lane Farm

Weddings • Corporate Events & Team Building
Corporate Picnics • Maple Syrup & Pancakes
Belgian Horses • Horse Drawn Rides
Petting Farm • Rural Tourism • Event Planning

Phone: (613) 821-2751
Fax: (613) 821-5221
earl@stanleysfarm.com

2452 Yorks Corners Rd.
Edwards, ON K0A 1V0
www.stanleysfarm.com

Writing your own vows

A wedding is a once-in-a-lifetime event for many couples, so brides and grooms wish for the event to be momentous and memorable. As such, couples are increasingly integrating personal nuances into their ceremonies and receptions to tailor weddings to their unique visions. The desire to include personalized wedding vows continues to be a popular trend.

If you are considering personalized wedding vows, first realize that it may not be a simple task. That's because you want the message conveyed to be dear to your heart, and that can be challenging when faced with the pressures and planning of the rest of the wedding. That isn't to say that writing your own vows is impossible. Here are some guidelines for personalizing your ceremony with your own sentiments.



Schedule time for writing. Amid the bustle of dress fittings and interviews with photographers, it can be easy to put off the important task of writing vows for another day. But as any great writer can attest, it takes writing — and rewriting — to achieve a finished product you can be proud of. Give the task of writing your vows your undivided attention. Mark it in on your calendar or set a reminder on your computer just as you would any other appointment.

Be aware of ceremony guidelines. It is best to check with your officiant and confirm that personalized wedding vows are allowed. During civil ceremonies it's often acceptable to customize vows as you see fit. However, during religious ceremonies there may be lines of scripture that need to be read or certain passages required. Before you spend hours working on the task, be sure that it is allowed and that your spouse and you are on the same page.

Jot down your feelings. Answer some questions about what marriage means to you and how you feel about your spouse. Try to avoid trite sayings and think from your heart and personal experiences. Think about what is the most important thing you want to promise to your future partner. These notes can serve as the starting points for the actual vows.

Read inspirational writings. Perhaps there is an author or a poet who inspires you? You can quote certain writers in your vows or let the tone of their works help shape the words of your vows. There also are suggested wedding readings and other quotes about marriage readily available at the library or with a quick search online.

Decide on a tone. Although the day is based on love and affection, you may not feel comfortable spouting words of adoration in front of friends and family. Feel free to tap into your unique personality. Humour can be used if it aligns with the way you normally express your affections. Be sure to weave this tone into more traditional passages to create a cohesive expression of your feelings.

Establish an outline. Put together all of the words and phrases you've jotted down into an outline to help you organize the flow of the vows, using these words as a blueprint for the vows and building upon them. Make sure the vows will be concise. Aim for your entire speech to be around one minute in length to keep everyone engaged and the ceremony moving along.

Put everything together. Draft your vows and then practice them by reading aloud. You want to avoid long sentences or anything that trips you up. Although large words may sound impressive, they could make the vows seem too academic and not necessarily heartfelt. Enlist the help of a friend or two to act as your audience to see if the vows sound good and are easily understandable.

Writing your own vows can be a way to include personal expressions of love into a couple's wedding day. Public speaking is seldom easy, nor is finding the perfect words to convey feelings about a future spouse. However, with some practice and inspiration, anyone can draft personalized vows.



Wine and weddings

Here's a toast to the bride and groom! When planning that dinner menu, decisions need to be made not only about the kind of entrée being served, but also about the type of wine… and, not just whether to serve white or red. At Joan Shirreffs' (pictured) The Town Vintner in Winchester, couples can choose to either buy the pre-made wine of their choice, or they can choose to make their own. The village wine shop also offers customers the option of making their own beer. *Press Photo – Casselman*

Wedding day transportation tips

Transportation for guests to and from the wedding and reception is something couples can easily overlook, but such arrangements can ensure guests are on time for the ceremony and that no guest has to worry about whether or not it is safe to drive home after the reception. Couples who don't know where to begin with regard to transportation for their wedding guests might want to start with the following tips.

Consider a bus: Couples without an extensive guest list may be able to get by with a single bus to get guests around throughout the day. For larger weddings, a bus could be used as a shuttle service between hotel, ceremony, and reception sites. A bus can be more fun for guests, who can reunite on the bus with others they have not seen in a while or make new friends with guests who might be affiliated with the other half of the wedding party.

Hotel shuttles: Discuss transportation with the hotel where guests will be staying. Some hotels provide airport shuttle service to guests, and may be able to offer a similar service to the wedding for guests who register their rooms under the wedding party's name. Even if the hotel cannot provide shuttle service, the concierge or front desk staff may be able to point in the right direction regarding an affordable shuttle service. This can be especially valuable to couples having a destination wedding who don't know the area very well.

Inform the guests: Of course, the guests will need to be informed of the transportation arrangements upon checking into the hotel. Don't assume you will see each guest before the ceremony, as some may not be making it into town until the morning of your wedding day, when you will likely be too busy to meet with them. So be sure to include transportation instructions in the welcome packages guests will receive when they check into the hotel. Consult with hotel staff a day or two before your wedding to ensure those packages are ready to go and that the correct transportation information is included.



Let Us Cater To Your Needs

We work with you to choose your party trays, wedding cakes, appetizers or delectable dishes.

"Presentation and taste to meet your expectations!"

Call Marg or Diane for a reasonable quote

Loughlin's Country Store
1738 County Rd. 1, Hallville
613-989-1323

WUBS TRANSIT
WUBS – With Us Better Service!



WUBS TRANSIT: SAFE, RELIABLE TRANSPORTATION

SCHOOL BUS RENTALS FOR WEDDINGS & SHOWERS

WUBS TRANSIT provides quality transportation perfect for shuttle service between hotel, ceremony and reception as well as bridal showers, wedding photo sessions and rehearsal dinners. Whether you're a professional wedding planner or a bride arranging safe travel for family and friends, Wubs Transit has a solution for you.

613-774-6618 or 613-223-3241
12024 Dawley Drive
Winchester, ON, K0C 2K0
www.wubs.ca

Serving Ottawa, Leeds & Grenville, Dundas

A Wedding Tree for Your Guests

Offer your guests a green gift that will be a living reminder of your celebration together.

The Ferguson Forest Centre has White Spruce, White Pine and Colorado Spruce seedlings for your green gift. The seedlings range from 10-25cm in height.

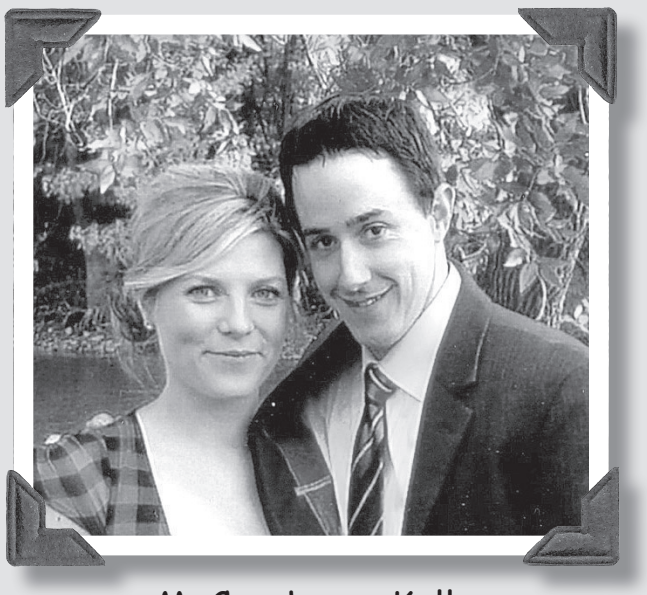
You can purchase the seedlings:
- Ready to decorate yourself
- With one of our do it yourself kits
- Or we can package them in a variety of ways to provide an attractive gift for your guests (visit the gift tree page of our website to see some of the options).

Please contact us for further information, availability and pricing at:
613-258-0110
or by e-mail at
info@seedlingnursery.com



FERGUSON Forest Centre www.seedlingnursery.com

Engagements



McCracken ~ Kelly

Michael and Marlene Kelly of Chesterville
are very pleased to announce the engagement
of their son Aaron to Cassandra (Cass),
daughter of Geoff and Karen McCracken of Lakefield, Ont.
A summer wedding is planned for July 20, 2013.
Congratulations from their parents, siblings, and friends!



Mele ~ Pelkey

Libby Pelkey is delighted to announce
the engagement of her son,
Danny Pelkey, to Sabrina Mele,
daughter of Lori Mele of Stittsville.
The wedding is being planned for the winter of 2014.



Little ~ Honey

Congratulations!
Wayne and Dianne Little of Metcalfe,
and Harry and Peggy Honey of Russell,
would like to announce the engagement
of Cortney Little to Nick Honey.



Aryan ~ Casselman

Barry and Janice Casselman of Williamsburg are thrilled
to announce the upcoming marriage of their son,
Brad Casselman to Mahsa Aryan of Toronto, Ont.
The marriage will take place in Toronto on July 13, 2013.
We are so excited for this special event
and wish you both all the best as you begin
your married life together.



Hermkens ~ Hoogenboom

Ms. Debra Hermkens of Chesterville is pleased
to announce the engagement of her daughter
Telisha to Matthew,
son of Jack and Cathy Hoogenboom of Mountain.
The wedding is to take place on
Friday, October 18, 2013.

Chesterville Legion
Branch 434

HALL RENTALS

• Wedding Receptions • Mixed Parties
• Business Luncheons • Fundraisers
• Anniversary/Birthday • Banquets, etc....

For more information or to book your event, call

613-448-1997

30 Years Experience

ROCK'N'RADAR
DJ SERVICE

• Professional sound and service
• Book your wedding or stag now
• Let me make your wedding day
a memory that will last a lifetime

CHESTERVILLE
613-859-1071
Daren & Karey Nurse
darennurse6@hotmail.com

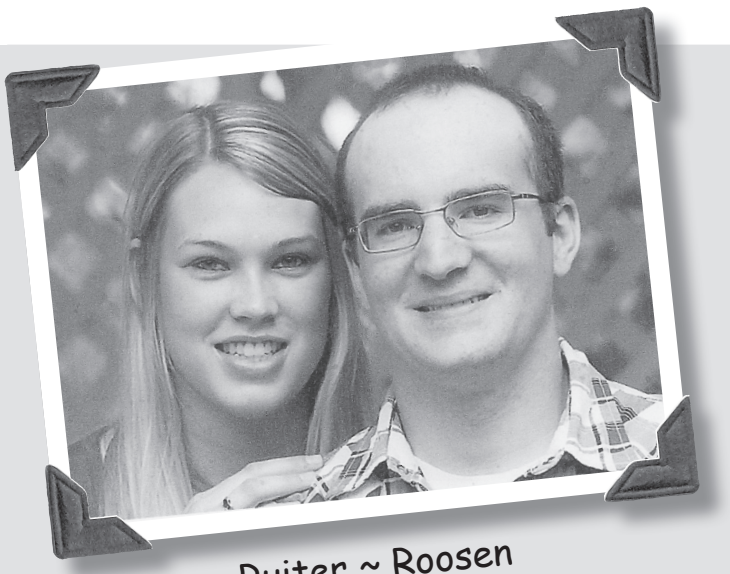
Studio Bérubé

Professional Photographer



613-445-2181
277 CASTOR ST.,
RUSSELL
www.studioberube.ca

Engagements



Ruiter ~ Roosen

John and Donna Roosen, & Eric and Beth Ruiter,
are pleased to announce the engagement of their children,
Mark Roosen and Kara Ruiter on February 14, 2012.
The wedding will take place on May 25, 2013 at
Stanley's Olde Maple Lane Farm.
Congratulations! *Love your Families.*



Berends ~ Duhaime

Ben and Anja Berends are excited to announce
the engagement of their daughter
Cara to Dany Duhaime,
son of Gerry and Rachelle of Kapuskasing.
Cara and Dany are planning an August wedding
to be held on their farm.

Tips for a great toast



The best man toast can be one of the most memorable parts of a couple's wedding. Sometimes a toast is memorable for its humour and heartfelt sense of appreciation for the groom and his bride, while other toasts are more memorable for all the wrong reasons.

One of the reasons best man toasts can be so unpredictable is that giving a best man toast is such a unique experience. It's something many men never do, while those who do give a best man toast may only do it once in a lifetime. It's understandable to be nervous when asked to give a best man toast, but there are a few tricks of the trade a best man can employ to calm the nerves and ensure his toast is memorable for all the right reasons.

Practice makes perfect. Few people are capable of standing in front of a crowd of people and speaking off the cuff. A best man should take this into account and practice his speech before the big day. A spur-of-the-moment speech may provide an adrenaline rush, but such an endeavour may come off as if you didn't care enough to put the effort into writing a thoughtful toast ahead of time. In addition, practicing the toast once it has been written will make you feel more comfortable and confident in front of the crowd. If possible, practice in front of a friend or family member so you can solicit feedback. A friend or relative might be able to help you fine-tune the speech, which in turn can calm your nerves once you're handed the microphone.

Avoid alcohol. Getting liquored up prior to your toast is a recipe for disaster. Though it may seem like a good idea to employ alcohol to calm your nerves and lower your inhibitions, it is not a good idea. Consuming alcohol before your toast increases the chance that you will end up embarrassing the bride and groom as well as yourself.

Get to the point. Men and women who have attended their fair share of wedding receptions no doubt have sat through a long-winded toast from the best man or maid of honour. Such toasts can bring a festive reception to a grinding halt, and guests will likely tune out before the best man or maid of honour gets to the point. Being succinct should be a goal for a best man with regard to his toast. Avoid long-winded walks down memory lane in favour of a toast that thoughtfully cuts to the chase and lets everyone get back to celebrating.

Spin a yarn. While it's important to be brief, don't be so brief that no one at the reception learns about your relationship to the groom. Share a humorous anecdote from your mutual past to illustrate the type of relationship you and the groom share with one another. This story should have an element of humour, but don't include anything too embarrassing, and all ex-girlfriends should be considered off-limits.

Congratulate the couple. Because nerves play such a significant part in many best man toasts, it can be easy to forget to congratulate both the bride and groom. Don't just toast the groom at the end of your best man speech; toast his new bride as well.

The tradition behind tossing rice



Once a couple has been married, tradition states that they be covered with tossed rice upon exiting the ceremony.

The idea of throwing rice began during the Middle Ages, when rice symbolized fertility. Rice was tossed at the married couple in the hopes they would have many children and be blessed with prosperity as a family.

A false rumour spread that rice was harmful to birds who would eat the discarded rice and explode, so many people now use birdseed or rose petals as alternatives.

However, rest assured that the rice myth has been debunked by The Cornell Lab of Ornithology.

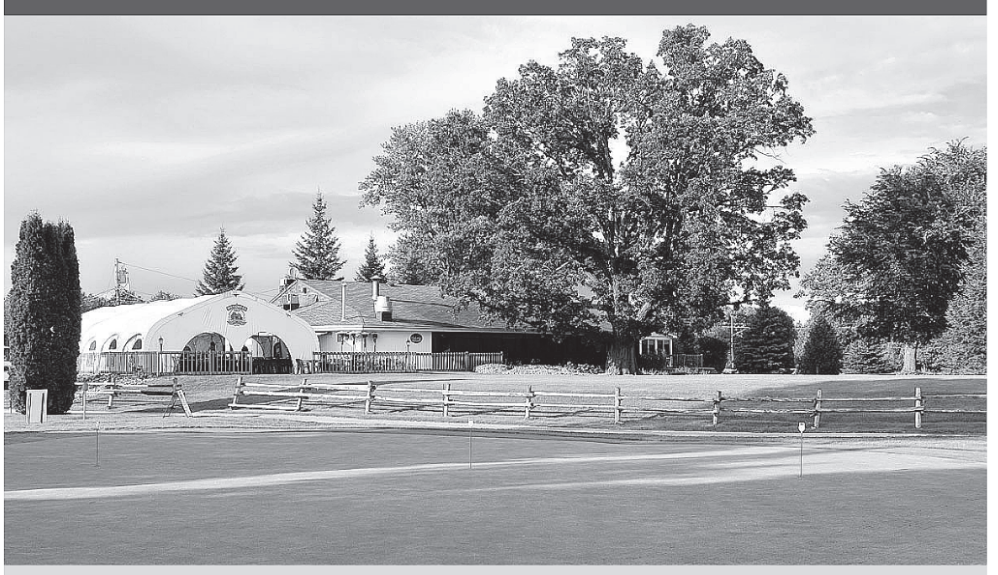
HALL RENTAL

For your Wedding, Anniversary, Birthday
or any other occasion
Call Joan at 613-774-0724 to book the

Winchester Lions Hall

Air Conditioned • Licensed under LLBO

a **natural** setting
a **perfect** day



- Friendly country service in a relaxed atmosphere
- Superb cuisine for every budget
- Interlock deck covered by our 120-person banquet tent with golf course view
- Private room with stone fireplace perfect for rehearsal dinners
- On-site ceremonies shaded by our 400-year-old oak tree
- Catering available for on and off-site functions

"Everything was perfect, the food, the service and the staff, and most of all, having my wedding ceremony outside just made our day."
– Diane Renaud & Arthur Varin

Contact us at
weddings@metcalfegolf.com
or **613-821-3673**
to book an appointment
to discuss your wedding or rehearsal.

www.metcalfegolf.com
1956 8th Line Road, Metcalfe, ON, K0A 2P0

Metcalfe
GOLF • CLUB



Berends ~ Arsenault

Ben and Anja Berends are thrilled to announce the wedding of their son Michael to Suzanne Arsenault daughter of Drs. Larry Arsenault and Nancy Chipman of Paris, Ontario. Their wedding took place on Sept. 1, 2012 at the bride's family home. The couple resides in Barrie, where Michael works at Honda in product engineering and Suzanne is two months away from her nursing degree.
Cara caught the bouquet....



Heuff ~ Griffith

Madison and Adriaan are pleased and proud to announce the marriage of their parents Kurt and Tina.
Kurt is the son of Archie and Marilyn Heuff of Morewood and Tina is the daughter of Linda Carmichael and the late Ronnie Griffith of Russell.
The wedding took place Sept. 15, 2012 in Russell.
The couple now resides in St-Albert, Ont.



Leclair ~ Murray

Karen and Clifford Murray, together with Naila and Gordon Leclair, are pleased to announce the marriage of their children Pamela Dawn Murray and Adam Patrick Leclair, on Saturday July 28, 2012 at Stanley's Olde Maple Lane Farm. The couple now resides in Russell.

Weddings



Thompson ~ Mattice

Tammy Mattice and Nathan Thompson were married on August 25, 2012 at Morewood United Church.



Stewart ~ Carruthers

Kyle and Christina Stewart were married on September 8, 2012 in Morewood.
Christina is the daughter of Arden Carruthers and Loralee Carruthers.
Kyle is the son of Wayne and Shirley Stewart.



DeJong ~ Arrand

Stefanie Arrand and Siebren DeJong were married on May 26, 2012 at Bilberry Creek Baptist Church in Orleans.
The happy couple now resides in Kingston, Ontario.

Brokor Greenhouses

Brokor Greenhouses

Where Quality Grows

Mention this ad and receive 10% off your bridal bouquets!

Fresh cut flowers grown on a family farm result in breathtaking colour intensity!



• *20 Years Experience* • *Full Floral Design Service*

We also grow annuals, perennials, custom-designed planters and hanging baskets to add to your special day

319 Froom Road *(just east of Cty. Rd. 22)* **in Cardinal**

brokorgreenhouses.com
brokorgreenhouses@bell.net

Like us on Facebook

613-657-3375

Looking for a bridal shower or wedding gift or jewellery?

At ***Treats & Treasures*** we offer a unique selection of home decor and accessories, candles, prints, jewellery and more.

Stop by today!



TREATS & TREASURES CRAFT & GIFT SHOP

Unique Gifts for Any Occasion

9 FRONT ST., CTY. RD. 43, FINCH • 613-984-2805

Weddings & Special Events



HALL RENTALS

Our newly upgraded facility will create a beautiful, warm and elegant atmosphere to make your event an affair to remember

• *Wedding receptions* • *Mixed parties* • *Business luncheons* • *Fundraisers* • *Anniversaries/birthdays* • *Banquets*

Call **Rhonda Holmes,** ***Manager***

South Mountain Agricultural Hall

613-989-3815

for more information or to book a reservation

Anniversaries



25th Anniversary

Greg and Heather Erwin are celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary on October 8, 2013.





40th Anniversary

Piebe and Maryke DeJong (Leyenaar)
Married July 21, 1973
in Williamsburg



Finding the perfect gift

When a couple gets engaged, friends and family soon realize that they need to become very creative on the gift-giving front. With engagement gifts, shower gifts, and wedding gifts to buy, BelleFlower Gifts, located just five minutes north of Winchester on County Road 31, has the selection and creative options customers need to make their gift-buying easier. Need a suggestion or a little one-on-one assistance? Just ask owner Heather McMahon.

Press Photo – Casselman

Helpful hints when choosing floral arrangements

Couples must make many decisions when planning their wedding, not the least of which is choosing floral arrangements. Some couples have never had to make choices regarding floral arrangements, so it's understandable if they need some help before making a decision that will likely make a significant impact on the look of their weddings.

Go with your own style. Couples should not feel pressured to go with a more traditional style if that's not something that suits them. Instead, choose a style that most appeals to you, be it neutral or bold colours, formal or more casual arrangements, and so on. Your style might also reveal a preference for something other than roses, which is perfectly alright. It's your wedding.

Stay in-season when possible. When choosing a floral arrangement, it's important to consider when you'll be getting married and what flowers are in-season. It is possible to find most floral varieties all year, but if you choose seasonal flowers, you'll likely pay less and such flowers will be more readily available and durable.

Don't go it alone. The wedding day is going to be busy enough without brides and grooms having to worry about arranging the bouquets. A professional florist should be able to work within your budget and produce a visually stunning end product.

Consider candles. A floral centerpiece at each table can prove costly. If the floral budget is limited, supplement the centerpieces with candles to save money. The centerpieces likely won't be as grandiose, but smaller arrangements coupled with candles can create a romantic feel.

Stick to the budget. Couples will find it is very easy to go over budget quickly with regard to floral arrangements. But a good florist should be able to work within your budget and produce an arrangement that is visually impressive without costing a fortune.

PASSIFLORA
Floral Boutique

At Passiflora, we love weddings...



and the opportunity to provide brides with flowers to add to the magic of their big day. We are inspired by gorgeous flowers and lush greenery and we embrace the challenge of providing wedding flowers in creative and unusual ways.

Dates for 2013 are quickly filling in. Don't be disappointed! Call for a FREE consultation.

781B Notre-Dame Street
Unit 2, Embrun, ON, K0A 1W1

613-443-1001
design@passiflora.ca

FRESH FLOWERS • HOME DECOR • GIFTWARE

RLS Royalty Limousine Service Ltd.
Serving Eastern Ontario



We treat you like Royalty and provide service with a touch of class

We have 10 years of experience serving the Ottawa, Cornwall, Brockville and Kingston areas and all points in between

1.888.726.4545 • 613-448-1759
www.royaltylimousine.ca

Throw a stag or wedding reception to remember with a selection of music everyone will love.

MUSIC TO MAKE YOUR DAY



- *Affordable*
- *Professional*
- *Experienced*

SHAD'S DISCO

James Shadbolt
613-304-9822

Brides get personal attention at Alliance Bridal

MOOSE CREEK

Almost every girl dreams about the day she'll walk down the aisle – the center of everyone's attention – wearing the most brilliantly perfect gown made especially to suit her style, her taste, and her very best self.

At Alliance Bridal in Moose Creek, brides get the one-on-one attention they deserve.

"We're here to help people," Val Lemieux-Sauvé, store manager and daughter of owner, Ginette Lemieux, said. "We love what we do. People love the service they get out here. We're caring and attentive, and we listen."

Alliance Bridal is located in a large building at the corner of McLean Road and Highway 138, with plenty of room to house more than 800 bridal gowns, plus bridesmaid, flower girl, and mother-of-the-bride dresses. In addition, the bridal store's lower level boasts a huge assortment of prom dresses from one end of the design spectrum to the other, with colours ranging from mute to visibly loud.

Lemieux started the store in 1976, and Lemieux-Sauvé started working there when she was just a teen, more than 10 years ago. It was Lemieux-Sauvé who masterminded the very successful addition of the prom section roughly a decade ago.

"My mother loves the bridal," Lemieux-Sauvé said. "She loves it, loves it, loves it."

With bridal gowns from a host of designer lines, Lemieux-Sauvé said the store's current top sellers include Maggie Sottero, Allure Bridals, and Mori Lee Gowns, which, for the Ottawa area, is sold exclusively at Alliance Bridal. Currently, eight out of every 10 brides is choosing lace for their dress, as "it blends with any theme," she said.



Ginette Lemieux (left) and Val Lemieux-Sauvé make up the successful mother-daughter team at Alliance Bridal in Moose Creek. Press Photos – Casselman

The Moose Creek bridal store chooses gowns from all the best, most reliable, Canadian companies.

"We try to stay away from U.S. companies. We want Canadian-based companies… to get the best service possible [and] it saves money for the bride," Lemieux-Sauvé added.

While Alliance Bridal sees customers from "everywhere," the majority of brides hail from neighbouring French communities, Cornwall, all parts east of Ottawa, and even from Northern Ontario.

When a woman arrives at the store, consultants try to narrow down a style selection, keeping budget in mind.

"With so many styles, so many things [to consider], it's important to feel that somebody knows what they're doing," said Lemieux-Sauvé. "That's what we're here for, to pinpoint what she really wants."

While the store can and does accommodate last minute shoppers and walk-ins, staff advise potential customers to plan ahead, and to start looking at least one to one-and-a-half years before the big day. Alliance Bridal staff prefers to work one-on-one with each bride to ensure she receives the time and attention she needs to find that perfect gown. And while there may be a huge selection, brides should remember that dresses do become discontinued to make way for new designs and styles.

"If you fall in love with one dress, you come back. Don't chance it being discontinued," Lemieux-Sauvé advised.

More often than not, she said the average bride will try on three to five dresses during her visit, but will usually come back to that first dress she tried on.

Alliance Bridal has a wide range of sizes across the style spectrum so a bride can try on the style she's interested in before ordering her particular size. With five seamstresses and two steamers and pressers working on site, the bridal shop also offers custom alterations. In addition, there is also a host of jewellery, shoes, and accessories available to choose from as well.

"It's really fun to follow the bride through the whole thing," said Lemieux-Sauvé. "It's one of the biggest experiences in life, and we're just trying to help."



The bridal shop has more than 800 dresses on site, and more available to order. In addition to bridal gowns, Alliance Bridal also offers a selection of mother-of-the-bride, flower girl, bridesmaid, prom dresses, and jewellery.

Edible wedding favours a treat

Wedding favours enable attendees to walk away from the event with a memento and also a small thank you for their participation and celebration of this momentous occasion.

Edible gifts can be as varied as a person desires. For those couples seeking a unique edible favour for the wedding, here are some suggestions.

Cake or brownie pops: Chocolate artists can transform ordinary cake pops into works of art with intricate piping designs on the hard, outer shell. Clear cello bags and decorative ribbon may be all that's necessary for a classic wrapping.

Cookies: Pastry arts continue to be popular favours for any occasion. Many bakeries offer intricately designed and decorated cookies that can pertain to any theme. Think about a wedding couple or a set of rings as the cookie of choice for a wedding favour. Most cookies last two to three weeks, so they can be purchased in advance.

Petit fours: These bite-sized pastries lend themselves well to wedding favours. They can easily be paired and put in small boxes as take-home treats. Some bakeries create petit fours on demand.

Chocolate: Gourmet chocolate remains a popular edible favour. Choose among truffles, caramels, chocolate-covered pretzels, or any favourite treat. Depending on the chocolatier, favours may come pre-boxed and wrapped.

Seasonal treats: If a wedding coincides with a particular season or holiday, favours can be co-ordinated as well. Think caramel-covered apples for fall parties, chocolate bunnies for spring events, spiced cake bars for the winter holidays, or lemon tarts for summer weddings.





Local hospitality firms join forces to sync services

WINCHESTER

For years, Terrace Green Bed and Breakfast and Winchelsea Events have existed as separate entities mere kilometres from one another, just outside the village limits.

Terrace Green on County Road 43 boasts five bedrooms for overnight stays, and a spacious exterior complete with healthy foliage. Winchelsea, meanwhile, is an expansive rural setting along County Road 31 complete with a dining hall and onsite gardens.

Most recently, a marriage of sorts has brought the two businesses together in an effort to help prospective couples prepare for their big day.

"I believe in synergy… I believe in working together to get further ahead, and to give a better service," Annette Angus, Terrace Green co-owner, said when asked about the venture.

The two well-established firms have joined forces to "help create the wedding of your dreams," as their mutually issued press release states.

"Now we're two people instead of one working toward the same goal," Angus said. As well, Laura Fletcher, owner and operator of Winchelsea Events, is combining her 15 years of hospitality industry experience with Angus' bed and breakfast to cover the full spectrum of wedding needs.

Between the two of them, Fletcher and Angus have prepared a sample wedding package, valued at $9,500 plus applicable taxes and with the ability to accommodate 100 people, which allows for access to either location for a ceremony and accompanying photos, a wedding tent, as well as a myriad of other options.

From Fletcher's end of the business, food plays a large role, while at the same time dabbling in the wedding business, while Angus is a certified bridal consultant.

"It just makes sense for us to work together," Fletcher said. "Plus, Annette has provided invaluable gardening tips for [Winchelsea's] property."

For more information, contact Fletcher at 613-808-9258 or by email (events@thewhinchelsea.com), while Angus can be reached at 613-774-2189 or by email (terracegreen@sympatico.ca).





Left: *A wedding at Terrace Green. Submitted photo.*

Below: *Terrace Green Bed and Breakfast co-owner Annette Angus (left) has joined forces with Laura Fletcher, owner of Winchelsea Events, to help engaged couples have the perfect wedding day. Press photo — Uhrig*



TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH DUNDAS

Wedding officiating services & facility rentals.
Call 613-535-2673 or visit SouthDundas.com.

DON'T START THE
CELEBRATION
WITHOUT US!

• Helium balloon bouquets • Room and car decorations
• Party supplies for bachelorette parties and bridal showers

CLEAR-OUT SPECIAL!
40% OFF Wilton Cake Decorating Supplies

CAKE DECORATING SUPPLIES • BALLOONS & PARTY • Louise & Company • KITCHENWARE • MOM & BABY • BOOKS • TOYS •

Like us on Facebook

Creekside Centre
2878 Cty. Rd. 43, Kemptville
613-258-0222

Cook Up The Savings Event

KitchenAid® FOR THE WAY IT'S MADE.®

February 28 – March 24, 2013

SAVE 15% on purchase of 3 or 4 Qualifying KitchenAid® Major Appliances

SAVE 20% on purchase of 5 or more Qualifying KitchenAid® Major Appliances



Refrigerator
• External pantry
• Ice and water
• Energy Star

SAVE $300



Microwave & Range
• Warming drawer
• Front Controls
• Ceran top

SAVE $200



Dishwasher
• Adjustable rack
• Nylon racks
• Energy Star

SAVE $200

Sale on February 28 through March 24, 2013

AIR MILES Travel and More

BRANDSOURCE Maheu HOME FURNISHINGS

HOURS: MON.-WED. 9-6; THURS.-FRI. 9-9; SAT. 9-5; CLOSED SUN.

1027 Notre-Dame, Embrun, ON 613-443-2191 1-888-88MAHEU www.maheubrandsource.ca

OWNER DEAL — Exceptional price offers on various items selected by BRANDSOURCE retailers. Hurry, this is for a limited time only!

PRICE GUARANTEE+ — Up to 50 selected in-store items at unbeatable prices at all times. If, within 30 days after your purchase, you find the same article at a cheaper price elsewhere, we will refund 120% of the difference. What a deal!

CHOICE+ — At BRANDSOURCE, we have something to please everyone! CHOICE+ is an available variety of colours or materials on seletected in-store items. Whatever your taste, we can meet your needs!

*See details in store.