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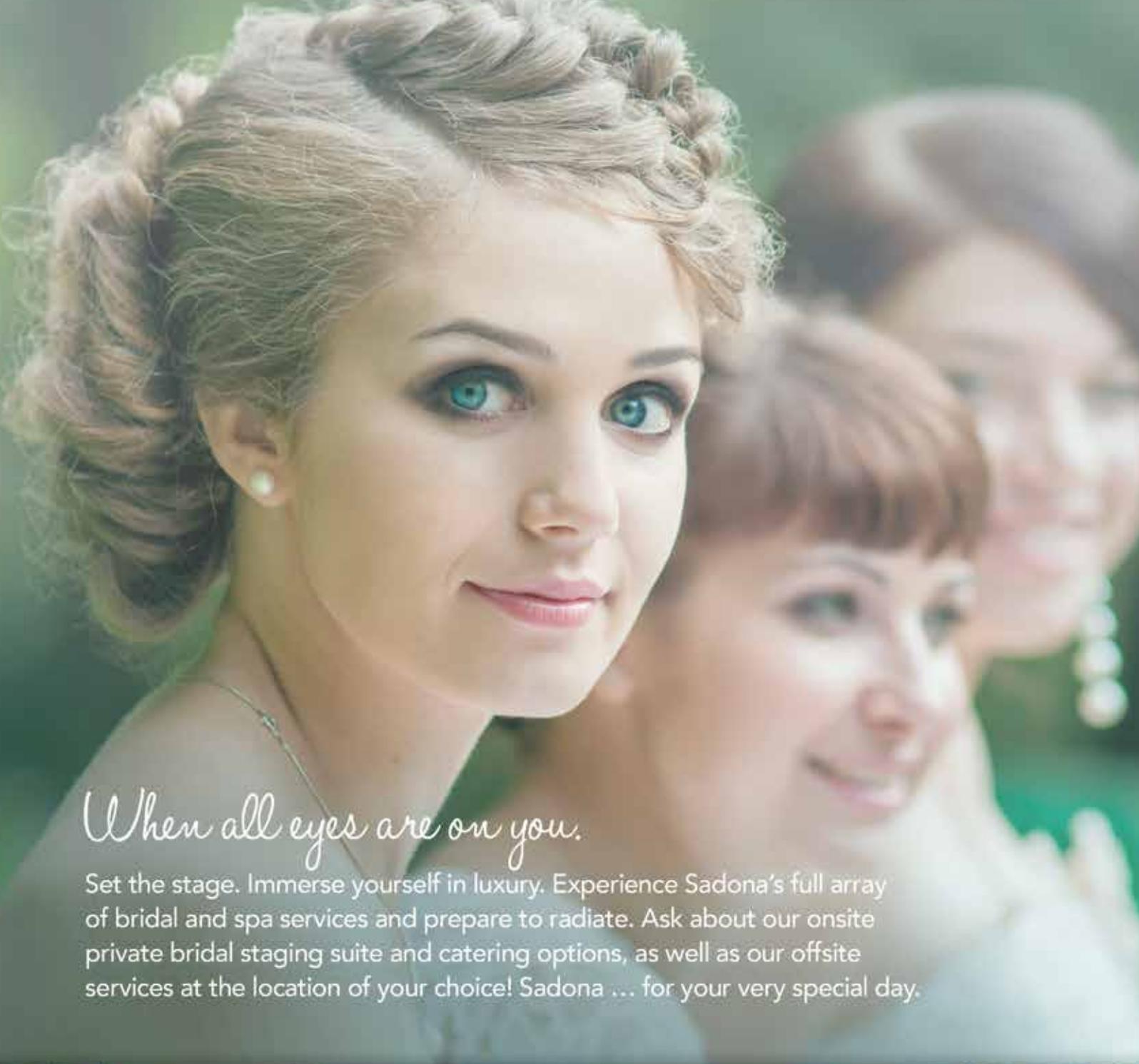


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On the cover: 'The Unsinkable Reception' on page 50, photo by Kimberly Florence Photography. Design by August Schwartz.

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Me (right) with one of my best friends, Erin, at her July 5 wedding. Carrie Coleman Photography

These are strange times for weddings. A global pandemic has shuttered businesses and suspended travel. Toilet paper, an essential for any gathering, has become a dinosaur (did it ever really exist?

Certainly not in the aisles of any grocery store.) Buffet dinners are out. And most detrimental to all things matrimony is social distancing, which means shrinking your guest list to a lively nine. The upside is you can save on entertainment, since the CDC is having a *Footloose* moment and declaring a moratorium on dancing.

Live in the present and react with kindness

Some couples are postponing their receptions, eating big costs or (if they're lucky) benefitting from the generosity of flexible vendors. Others are brazenly going forward, often with key players missing.

So what should you do in this time of uncertainty, when dreams are dashed and people are dying? Live in the present and react with kindness: remember that *everyone* is suffering. Show empathy for a pregnant bridesmaid who no longer feels comfortable flying to your wedding. A vendor who won't issue a refund is not a terrible person. They're just trying to survive.

Your day will come, even if it's a little later (or simpler) than anticipated. For all the engaged couples whose plans are on hold — this is a great time to ponder bigger questions. Like, how will you stay married? We have some ideas on page 30. Our cover story, about a local couple's flooded reception, seems even more relevant now, as a reminder that even when everything goes wrong, there is still reason for rejoicing.

While we wait for resolution, for life in the future and not just the present tense, a sense of humor — or style — is a great distraction. This issue, we're loving puffy sleeves (page 26) and fascinator hats (page 28). We're also obsessed with pampas grass (page 16) and glamping tents (page 18) because once we're done self-quarantining we'll never want the party to end.

Love is here,

Jessica Greensmith

What's Up? Weddings Editor



Photo credit, clockwise. Artistic Imagez, Elizabeth Fogarty Photography, Brittany Thomas Photography, Artistic Imagez, Pure Lee Photography, Erin Keough Photography



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TREND WATCH

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THE FAMILY
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TEETH
WHITENING

Andreea Russo Photography



The Family Dance

To all the father/daughters with zero desire to sway through five awkward minutes of “Butterfly Kisses,” there is another way.



SOLUTION 1

Cut the gliding short and invite your whole family out on the floor, like Stevensville bride Jessie Poole did. “I have a blended family with eight brothers and I’m the only girl,” Jessie explains. “I wanted to show how special they all were to me.” She chose “Have It All” by Jason Mraz and divided the song between her dad and her brothers, who each got 20 seconds to twirl her around. “It was completely unrehearsed and so charming how each guy had their own style of cutting in,” Jessie says. “Our family and friends still bring it up as one of the most memorable moments of our wedding!”

SOLUTION 2

Take dance lessons and your fancy feet will astound. Whether you study up on old school moves, like the rumba, or prefer your own custom choreographed number, Arthur Murray Dance Studio in Edgewater has you covered.

BEST FIRST DANCE SONGS OF 2020

“10,000 HOURS” by Dan + Shay feat. Justin Bieber

*I’d spend ten thousand hours
and ten thousand more/Oh, if
that’s what it takes to learn
that sweet heart of yours*

“RUN AWAY” by Ben Platt

*I may not be wise/And
I won’t save the day/
But look in my eyes/And
know I’ll always stay/
And I won’t run away*

“LOVER” by Taylor Swift

*Can I go where you go?/
Can we always be this
close forever and ever?/
And ah, take me out, and
take me home/You’re my,
my, my, my lover*

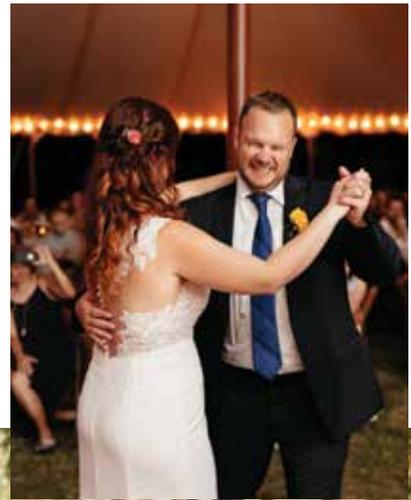
“ADORE YOU” by Harry Styles

*Oh, honey/I’d walk
through fire for you/Just
let me adore you/Like it’s
the only thing I’ll ever do*

“CONVERSATIONS IN THE DARK” by John Legend

*I will never try to change you,
change you/I will always want
the same you, same you/Swear
on everything I pray to/That I
won’t break your heart*

“Doing a dance-performance in front of 200 people seemed really stressful to me, so, after a few spins with my dad, I asked each of my brothers to cut in.” —JESSIE POOLE



CREDITS

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PLANNING: CHRISTINE MCFARLANE EVENTS

VENUE: MARK CASCIA VINEYARDS

GOWN: LOVELY BRIDE DC

MUSIC: STEVE MOODY ENTERTAINMENT

FLOWERS: J. STARR FLOWER BARN

“NEXT TO YOU” by Little Big Town

Don't you know/You're the fire in my bones/You're my heart and my home, oh/And I know/I don't say it enough/I've been down on my luck/My love/But I'll be fine in the morning/Next to you

“TILL THERE'S NOTHING LEFT” by Cam

I wanna know what it feels like/To disappear into you and/Never have to say goodbye/I wanna call love what it is/And give you everything I've got to give

“HAND ME DOWNS” by Mac Miller feat. Baro

You damn well are a great design/You, despite being an only child/Say you need more of a family 'round/Let's turn these jeans into hand me downs

“BLESSED” by Thomas Rhett

The lights are down, but you're shinin'/Like you always do/Every day, I'm reminded/Of the miracle of you

“WHAT A MAN GOTTA DO” by the Jonas Brothers

What a man gotta do?/To be totally locked up by you/What a man gotta say?/What a man gotta pray?/To be your last “Goodnight” and your first “Good day”

Moroccan Décor

You don't have to travel all the way to Marrakesh to understand the allure of Morocco. From metal lanterns to leather poufs, this African country has been influencing the design world for centuries.

TASSELED OTTOMANS AND POUF SEATING

Create a lounge area where guests can relax in between dancing



Carolos Leather Pouf, \$141, Mistana

Table Runner, \$106, Wall Knot via Etsy



MACRAME FRINGE

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A BOUCHEROITE OR BENI OURAIN RUG

Lay out several for a "red carpet" walk down the aisle



7' x 11' Beni Ourain Rug, \$1,290, Little Tasa



Estrella Green or Superstar Blue Tiles, \$51 for 12, Riad Tile

MOSAIC TILES

With a little calligraphy, transform tiles into the perfect escort card.



HANGING LANTERNS

Set the mood with intricately patterned lights

Moroccan Pendants, \$399, Ballard Designs

WOVEN BASKETS

Use them to store ceremony programs and cards, or to distribute wedding favors

Large Macrame Seagrass Bianca Tote Basket, \$40, World Market



DESERT GRASSES

Give your bouquet an unusual twist with these billowing plants

Dried Pampas Grass, \$38 for 5-pack, Afloral



Terracotta Orange Sun Palms, \$16 for 5-pack, Afloral

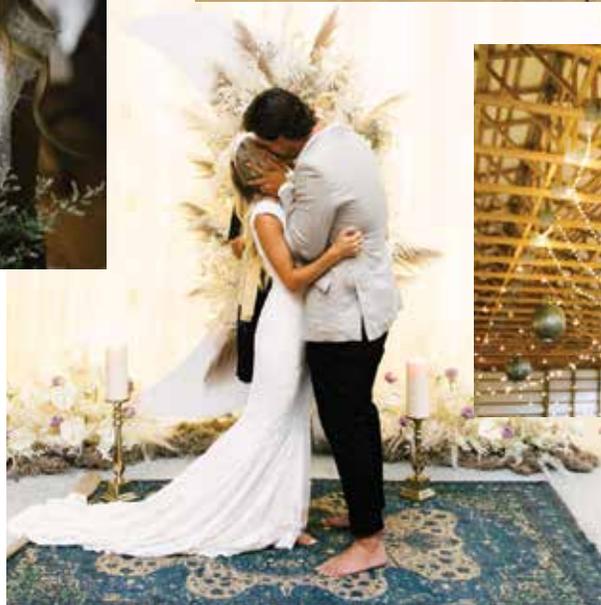
real wedding inspo

Melissa Craft and Wyatt Harrison's Ocean City wedding might have been inspired by Wyatt's love of surfing and Melissa's love of celestial things, but the beachy decor and grassy elements have a Casablanca kind of magic.

To pull off their low-key-luxury look, the couple rented flatware, lanterns, rugs, and furniture from White Glove Rentals and twinkle lights, dining tables, and linens from Coastal Tented Events. They borrowed crystals from a friend, bought a pair of rattan peacock chairs from a local thrift store for \$8, and purchased floor pillows and candles from HomeGoods.

Although the plan was to have a barefoot ceremony on an isolated property surrounded by marsh, a hurricane sent the Harrisons packing to a friend's boat warehouse. Wyatt used machinery at his signage company to create the crescent moon backdrop, which Masterpiece Flowers embellished.

moroccan décor



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You could DIY the whole operation if you happen to own loads of safari tents and twin mattresses (what are you, a Bedouin queen?) Otherwise, we recommend outsourcing your glamp-fire plans to the industry pros.

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with a floor platform and area rug, one or two beds, upholstered chairs, lanterns, and luxury linens.



For a little extra, you can add air-conditioning, a front porch, cell-phone charging stations, and restroom trailers.

All photos by Kate Fine Art Photography



VENUE RESTRICTIONS

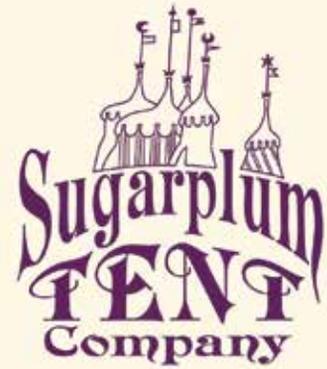
There's a lot of labor involved in glamping setup, so be sure to find a venue you can rent for multiple days. Added pro: Sugarplum Tents will provide their tents for up to three nights at no added cost, so the longer your guests stay, the more you technically save.

GIVE YOUR GUESTS AN EASY OUT

No matter how luxurious your setup, some people are old-school—or have young kids or mobility issues. Help them out by providing a list of local hotels they can check out.



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Pearly Whites

We asked Sydnie Hathaway, a dental hygienist with Eastern Shore Dental Care, what brides can do to improve their wedding day smiles. Beyond the obvious (go ahead and floss like your mama told you!) she recommends whitening your teeth, avoiding acidic foods, and brushing with the right kind of toothpaste.



Teeth Whitening 101

At-home whitening kits are just as effective as the professional stuff.

FALSE!

Over-the-counter solutions are much milder than in-office bleaching, which uses a higher concentration of peroxide.

You should get your teeth cleaned *before* you whiten them.

TRUE.

Plaque can act as a barrier between the whitening solution and your teeth, which will make the solution less effective.

Procrastinating your whitening treatment is NBD.

FALSE!

You'll want to schedule a consultation with your dentist six months before your wedding to ensure you're a good candidate for the procedure.

(Traditional whitening treatments do not work on veneers, crowns, and fillings, so you might need extra time to get those replaced.)

SAY SAYONARA

to CITRUS FRUITS

to COFFEE

to RED WINE

Essentially anything that will stain your hands.

DON'T DESPAIR

Nobody's asking you to give up caffeine or Merlot forever. If you can't possibly part with your daily cup or three, use a straw (hello, iced lattes) and brush immediately after consumption.



TOOTHPASTE DECODER

If you can, ask your dental hygienist to make a recommendation about what toothpaste is best for your needs. The secret is finding the right active ingredient:

IF YOU NEED

LOOK FOR



WHITENING



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SENSITIVITY



POTASSIUM NITRATE OR STANNOUS FLUORIDE

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Before her May nuptials, Anna Miles spruced up her teeth with an in-house whitening treatment at Eastern Shore Dental Care. "I knew it would make my photos better," she explains. "Also, it's a huge confidence boost and makes your skin look tanner!"



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RUNWAY REPORT

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MAN BANDS

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PUFF PIECES

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FASCINATORS

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BOHO HATS

Alex Mari Photography



PUT A RING ON IT Man Bands

It's not just the single ladies who deserve the proper bling.



FOR THE ATHLETE AND THE ADVENTURER

Men's Crosshatch Silicone Ring, \$25, QALO

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Thinking outside the bouquet

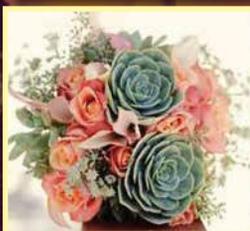
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HAT'S ON Fascinators

The British are coming! The British are coming! And they're wearing fancy hats. Said Paul Revere, never.

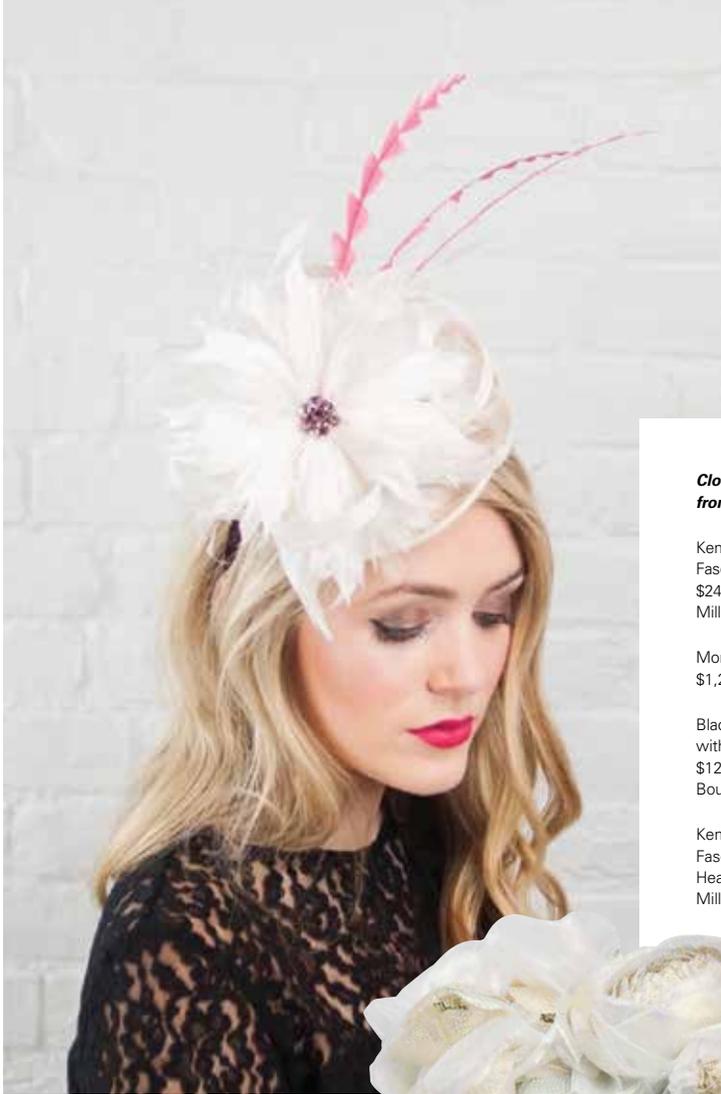
Clockwise from left:

Kentucky Derby Fascinator, From \$248, HeadCandi Millinery

Morning Garden, \$1,255, Gigi Burris

Black Fascinator with Gold Beads, \$127, Ancora Boutique

Kentucky Derby Fascinator, \$208, HeadCandi Millinery



A LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

Fascinators are a fabulous conversation piece!

This past May, Emily Schloff and Josh Mills tied the knot at the William Paca House. Their bridesmaids wore exquisite navy fascinators, so we had to ask Emily for all the details.



Kira Nicole Photography

WHY DID YOU WANT TO INCORPORATE FASCINATORS INTO YOUR WEDDING DAY?

"I spent part of my childhood in England, where fascinators are very frequently worn at weddings, so I always pictured having them at my wedding with all the fun colors and styles. Additionally, my husband's extended family and mine had never met prior to our wedding weekend, so we thought that the fascinators could be a fun conversation-starter."



HOW DID YOU ENCOURAGE YOUR BRIDAL PARTY AND GUESTS TO WEAR THEM?

"I didn't want to dictate to anyone what they should wear, so I told my bridesmaids about the idea but let them know I was totally fine with them not [participating]. They were all into it, though! Most of our female guests wore fancy hats and fascinators as well. The language on our invitations was, 'Ladies, fancy headwear is positively encouraged but completely optional!'"



The Dahlia Women's Boater Hat, \$94, Gigi Pip



Cloche Straw Hat, \$165, Justine Hats



Scottie, \$96, Gigi Pip

RUNWAY REPORT

HAT TRICK Boho Brimms

Jolie, \$69, WYETH



Palma Wide Straw Boater Hat, \$130, Lack of Color



Rancher Felt Hat, \$130, Lack of Color



Not the tea and crumpets type? Rest easy, there's still a hatbox calling you and your new surname. Boater, rancher, panama, or fedora, these brims are made for babes with a rustic soul. For the finishing touch, just add flowers.

Monroe, \$112, Gigi Pip



Traditional-Style: The front tip of the hat is worn low on the forehead, just above the eyebrows, so that the brim sits parallel to the ground.

HOW TO WEAR A HAT

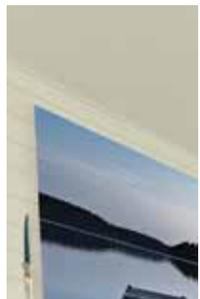
Halo-Style: The front of the hat is raised up toward the crown of the head, so that the brim sits in a downward angle, creating a "halo" effect.



THE MARRIAGE- MORTGAGE PLAN

BY JESSICA GREENSMITH

Go ahead and make that Zillow account. You're not crazy for dreaming. You can, in fact, buy a house while planning your wedding. Will you deplete your bank account? Possibly. Will you want to pull out your partner's hair, and your dog's, and your own? Duh. But when all is said and done, you'll be hitched and housed. That's what we call #couplesgoals.





“If you’re going to buy a house and you’re not legally married yet, you need a partnership agreement that spells out what happens [should the relationship dissolve].”

—Ann Alsina, founder of financial planning firm Covington Alsina

How much money do we need?

Your monthly mortgage should cost no more than 30 percent of your pretax income. Still paying off your student loans? Consider that the sum of *all* your debt should amount to less than 40 percent of your annual paycheck. It’s also important to account for changes in your family structure. If you plan to have kids and one partner wants to stay at home, you want to be sure you can afford the mortgage on a single salary.

ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS (2018)

\$190k

AVERAGE FIRST HOME COST

32

AVERAGE AGE OF FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYERS

5%

AVERAGE DOWN PAYMENT FOR FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYERS

1,640 ^{SOQ/} _{FT}

AVERAGE FIRST HOME SIZE

When should we buy?

The marriage–mortgage double whammy is not for everyone. We hate to drop negativity on your engaged state of mind, but, occasionally, relationships do not pan out. Consequently, there are major risks involved with jointly purchasing a house *before* your actual wedding. “If you’re going to buy a house and you’re not legally married yet, you need a partnership agreement that spells out what happens [should the relationship dissolve],” explains Ann Alsina, the founder of financial planning firm Covington Alsina. “Who claims the tax deduction, who put what in, who is responsible if the house needs a new roof—these are all important things to think about.”

Are we ready financially?

Do you have emergency savings? “The long-term goal is to have six months of living expenses saved in cash,” Alsina says. “It’s not realistic to have that much for everybody, at first, but if you’re going to buy a house, you’ve got to have a backup in case the AC breaks.”



“[Most people] have purchased one, maybe two homes in their lives and are in no position to provide guidance... There are hundreds of programs and products when it comes to home loans, and sitting with an expert is prudent and free.”

—David Ratti of Ratti Lending



Who should we ask for advice?

Not your parents, according to mortgage lender David Ratti of Ratti Lending. “That’s like asking someone that snow-skied for the first time to be your ski instructor — it usually doesn’t end well,” Ratti says. “[Most people] have purchased one, maybe two homes in their lives and are in no position to provide guidance.” Instead, he advises couples to reach out to a professional lender. “There are hundreds of programs and products when it comes to home loans, and sitting with an expert is prudent and free.”

Are there any special home-buying programs for newlyweds?

Actually, yes! “Few people know about the Bridal Home Purchase Program, which allows a couple to add a ‘new home’ to their wedding registry,” Ratti says. Any gifts can be used toward a down payment, which is one of the biggest barriers for newlyweds interested in buying a house. Not all banks and mortgage companies offer this program, so it’s important to seek out a loan professional that understands the documentation and requirements involved.

LOCAL PERSPECTIVES



ENGAGED FEBRUARY 3, 2018
MADE OFFER JUNE 1, 2019
BOUGHT HOUSE AUGUST 19, 2019
TIED THE KNOT SEPTEMBER 14, 2019

Summer + Shane McComas

When they got engaged, Summer and Shane McComas were living in Arlington, Virginia, with plans to eventually move back to the Annapolis area. They didn't expect to purchase a house before their wedding, but when Summer's dad, a realtor with Coldwell Banker, sent the couple a Severna Park listing with the "perfect yard and the perfect amount of space," they scheduled a viewing right away. Although the McComas loved the property when they visited in person, they were wary of getting in over their heads financially—especially with a wedding around the corner. "We took almost a whole week to run the numbers and discuss if this was a feasible option," Summer says, of the purchase. "It was really nerve-racking!"

When the McComas made an offer on their house in April, they still had a number of final payments for their September wedding looming. To pull off both big-ticket items simultaneously, they scaled back on unnecessary expenses, like eating out and personal travel.

"Time your payments to vendors, so that you don't have big bills pulled from your bank account when the bank is assessing your mortgage. This happened to us a few times during the process and required us to submit further documentation, which was stressful."



ENGAGED FEBRUARY 12, 2018
BROKE GROUND OCTOBER 2018
TIED THE KNOT SEPTEMBER 21, 2019
MOVED IN OCTOBER 5, 2019

Sadie + Trevor Darling

Less than two months after they got engaged, Sadie and Trevor Darling began planning the construction of their first home in Chestertown, Maryland. They knew it was a lot to take on both investments at once, but they stayed sane (and on budget) by dividing tasks and prioritizing their spending. Trevor, who is a third-generation builder, did most of the construction himself, while Sadie took the lead on all things wedding. "We didn't want to start out our marriage financially stressed, so we sat down and discussed where we wanted to spend more and made the rest work," Sadie explains.

On the home front, one of the most important priorities for the Darlings was nice countertops; they saved up by selecting laminate floors over expensive hardwood options. Similar compromises were made with the wedding. While Sadie would have liked to hire a string quartet for the ceremony, she made do with a DJ, and instead of barn tables, she rented round tables, splurging on specialty linens solely for the sweetheart table.

"Everyone wants the wedding of their dreams, but my best advice is to keep things practical for you and your significant other. It's so easy to get caught up in trends and Pinterest."





AWARD WINNING
WEDDING VENUE

ANNA CHANEY

HERRINGTON ON THE BAY

410.741.5101
7151 Lake Shore Drive
North Beach, MD 20714
HerringtonOnTheBay.com f @

When Anna Chaney started Herrington on the Bay, she already had a vision to make the world a better place. She wanted to do this in part by creating a company culture of care, not only for both her clients, but also for her employees. Growing up, Anna was greatly influenced by her grandmothers, one of whom was a farmer who grew and sold nourishing food, while the other was a maven of hospitality who loved to feed her family and guests. This idea of sharing nourishment and care was and still is a resounding theme for Anna, who is now a farmer herself.

At Herrington on the Bay, she follows her grandmothers' example, providing locally sourced food and seeking to make sure that every client is treated like a personal guest. Through her businesses, Anna strives to create awareness of the values in life that are truly important.

Royal Oak

CATERING COMPANY



Chef Doug Stewart

For over 18 years, Chef Doug Stewart has been creating memorable dining experiences in both private venues and prestigious restaurants. Partnered with a strong team, knowledge and experience, the Royal Oak Catering Company was formed.

We realize that planning a wedding can be quite overwhelming. Our professional event coordinators are available to work closely with you taking your wishes and dreams and making them a reality.

Whether it's your engagement party, bridal shower, rehearsal dinner or wedding reception, Chef Stewart brings fresh new ideas to the table. Every customer is important to our company and the close relationships that are formed will help make up the backbone of the Royal Oak Catering Company.

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HOW TO STAY *Married*

BY JESSICA GREENSMITH

Engagement, by its very nature, is hype. Send an affianced woman into a room of besties, strangers, *whoever*, and there will be gushing. Everyone wants to admire the ring. Everybody wants to hear the story. If they're old, they want to reminisce about being young and in love. If they're young, they want to know all the details of the wedding to come. And so, the focus of planning flits to party prep, instead of on the fundamental part, i.e. the marriage itself. This is a bad setup. Marriage is hard. Marriage requires maintenance. Married people need to develop skills, like forgiveness and compromise and expectation-management, that aren't exactly innate. After all, you probably won't love your partner every single day of your life. You will have lows in your relationship. This doesn't have to negate your vows—if you start prepping now. How do you stay married? The same way you stay employed or fit. You show up. You do the work. You identify areas of weakness and seek improvement.

The Rules

LEARN TO ACCEPT FEEDBACK

If money is the number one issue in relationships, defensiveness is a close second. In fact, it's one of the "Four Horsemen" that the Goffman Institute uses to predict the end of a marriage (the other three are criticism, contempt, and stonewalling.) "In a healthy relationship, both partners are hoping to influence each other in a positive way," explains Chelsea Haverly, the co-founder of Anchored Hope Therapy. "But when one partner is unwilling to change, unwilling to talk, unwilling to accept feedback, that's a red flag."

LEARN HOW TO FIGHT WELL

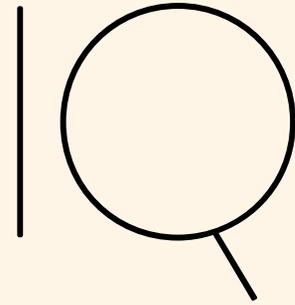
When we're angry with our partners, it's easy to fight dirty. We slip into absolute speak, using "always" and "never" like moral battering rams. "'Always' and 'never' are a trap," Haverly says. Instead of clarifying problem areas, these terms amplify conflict and imply unilateral blame. Successful couples, in contrast, know how to express their needs without criticizing. "Being able to repair and exit an argument effectively is [so essential]," Haverly explains. A few strategies: using humor, offering empathy, adopting a team mentality, and taking breaks if the conversation becomes too heated.

LEARN TO ASK FOR HELP EARLY

Typically, the average couple waits six years before asking for help. "This is way too late!" Haverly says. "Couples' work goes really quickly if you address it when it happens, but it can be difficult when you're already at the tail end of a relationship," she adds. The best time to seek therapy is before resentment builds up.



TEST YOUR MARRIAGE



1

THE AVERAGE MARRIAGE LASTS THIS MANY YEARS.

4

THIS STATE HAS THE HIGHEST DIVORCE RATE.

2

IN THE UNITED STATES, BETWEEN ___ AND ___ PERCENT OF FIRST MARRIAGES END IN DIVORCE.

5

THIS CITY HAS THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF DIVORCED RESIDENTS IN MARYLAND.

3

TRUE OR FALSE: WOMEN ARE MORE LIKELY TO FILE FOR DIVORCE THAN MEN.

ANSWERS 1. Seven percent of divorces. However, in non-marital heterosexual relationships, men and women are equally likely to pull the plug. 4. Nevada. In this state, 20 out of every 1,000 married people divorce. 5. Edgewater. Sixteen percent of the population in Edgewater is divorced, as compared to ten percent statewide.



Jody and Dale Walls celebrated twenty years of marriage in January with a vow renewal celebration at the Chesapeake Bay Beach Club's Tavern Ballroom.

Jody + Dale Walls

Married 20 Years

with three kids: Brady Allan (11), Summer Ann (7), Bruce Charles (5)

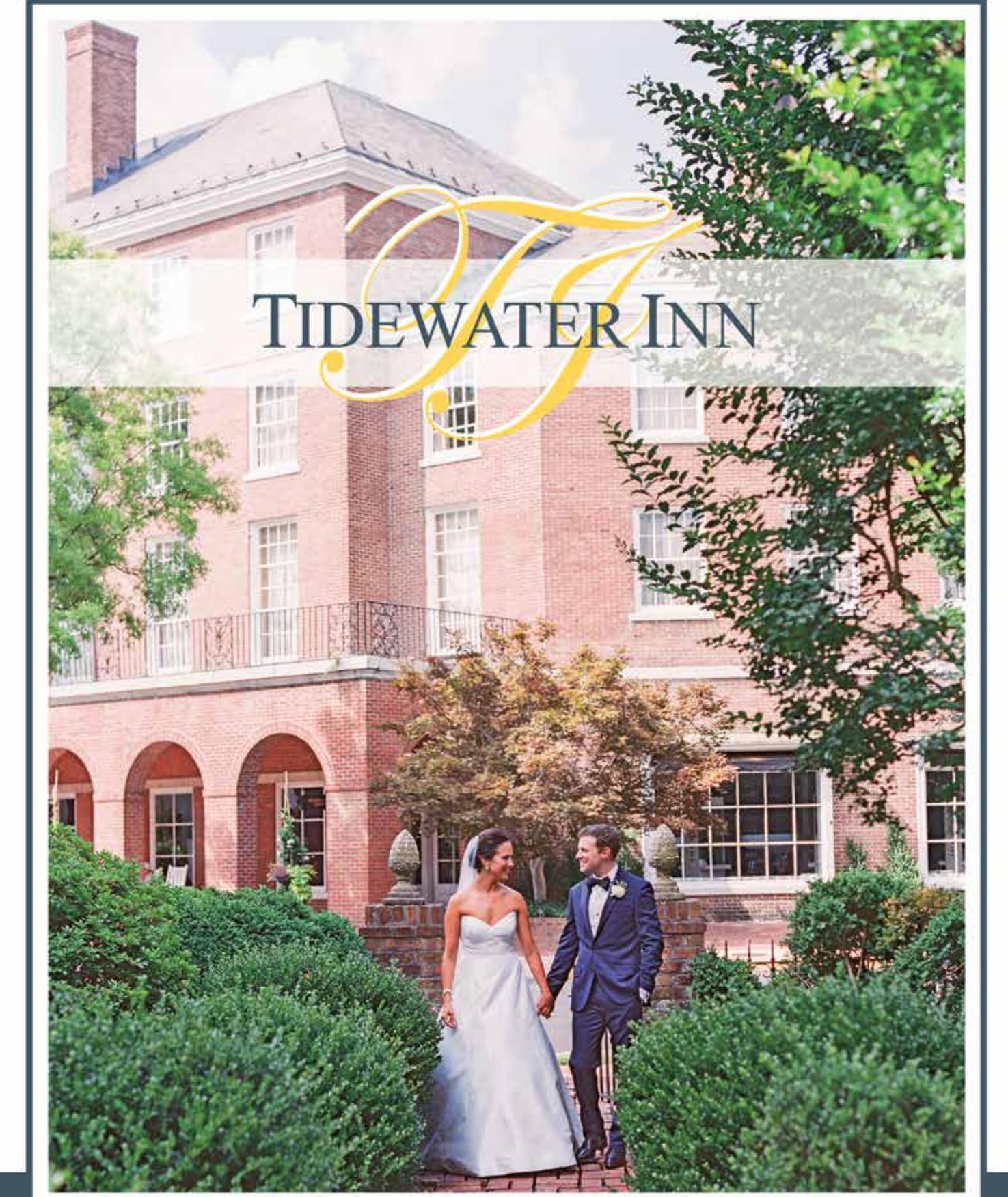
WHAT WORKED FOR THEM

“Every year we go away just the two of us. We have people that say, I can’t believe you leave the kids or your business, but we do it and we do it every year because it’s necessary.”

“Communicate, communicate, communicate, no matter what. Make the time to just sit together, whether you have lots or nothing to talk about. It’s the quality of the time together that matters.”

“Laughing and being real. Your spouse married you—all of you. Don’t be afraid to share it with them.”





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REAL WEDDINGS

42

MEGAN ALAYON +
MICHAEL GOUNARIS
HERRINGTON
ON THE BAY

46

CLAIRE REKITZKE +
BRENT SPURRY, JR.
BLACK WALNUT
POINT INN

50

GENEVA HARRISON
+ BEN SCHAFFLE
KENT ISLAND
YACHT CLUB

54

RACHEL GABBAY
+ GREGORY KING
OSPREY POINT INN

58

JESSICA BRANNOCK
+ LEO HOFFMAN, III
WILLIAM PACA HOUSE
AND GARDENS

62

OLAIDE AIYEBUSI +
DAPO AKINGBADE
THE WESTIN
ANNAPOLIS

66

OLIVIA MASSARI +
GREGORY PRIEST
WYLDER HOTEL
TILGHMAN ISLAND

Artistic Imagez Photography



A BREATHTAKING BLUE “ALFRESCO” DINNER

Megan Alayon + Michael Gounaris

**WEDDING
DATE:**
SEPTEMBER
8, 2019

**NUMBER OF
GUESTS:** 100

**FAVORITE
MENU ITEM:**
BBQ PORK
BELLY HORS
D'OEUVRES

Herrington on the Bay | Artistic Imagez by Molly Humphrey



Megan found her dress, a delicate, body-hugging gown by Israeli bridal designer Berta at the Chic Parisien boutique in Miami. As soon as she saw it, she knew it was the one. “The meticulous beading, the sparkle, and the silhouette all screamed ‘me!’” she says.

VETTING THE VET

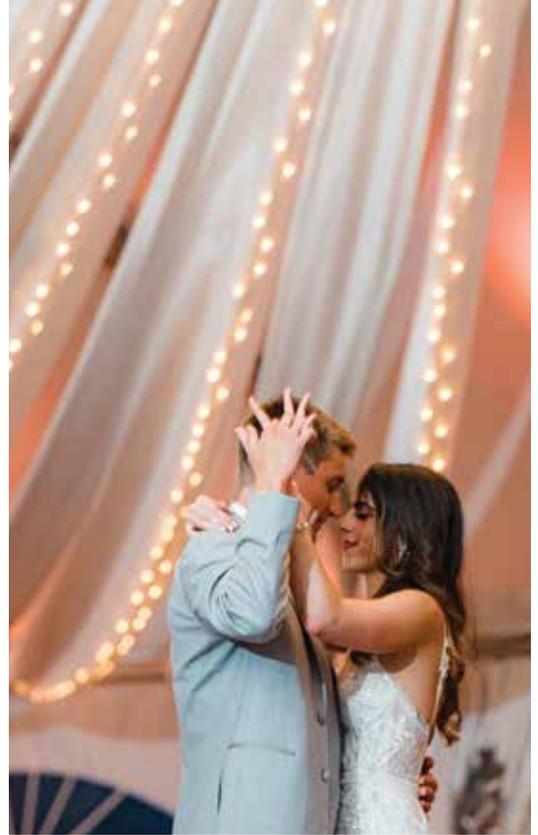
When Michael Gounaris met Megan Alayon at a party in 2012, he made his intentions clear. But Megan, three years older and about to start veterinary school, wasn't interested in dating her best friend's wild younger brother. Three years later, however, when Michael was embarking on his own career as a vet, he invited Megan on a date to the local animal shelter to meet a dog he was interested in adopting. The pup didn't make the cut, but Megan did.

MIAMI VIBES

The pair chose to get married at Herrington on the Bay because it reminded Megan of her hometown, near Miami, Florida. “The tropical vibes with the palm trees and water view did it for me,” Megan explains. They also wanted a venue that allowed friends and family to stay onsite for a weekend's worth of activities. “For our rehearsal dinner, we had a bonfire on the beach, so our families could have quality time with one another and also have the opportunity to meet all our friends,” Megan adds.



Michael and Megan's biggest splurge was on their videographer. Initially, they planned to skip this detail, but they were grateful they didn't! "I love that we can watch [the video] whenever we want to and listen to our vows," Megan says.



CORN HOLE & CANDLELIGHT

Megan and Michael decided to keep their guest list small to give their reception in Herrington on the Bay's Paradise Ballroom an intimate touch. "I wanted it to feel like we were at an outdoor candlelit dinner," Megan says. They worked with Kim Tyson of My Flower Box Events to design a eucalyptus and champagne rose canopy that adorned their head table. "We had tons of candles nestled in between the table greenery and the dusty blue table runner," Megan adds. Their planner's husband, Justin Hanrahan, made the couple two corn hole sets featuring their home states of Maryland and Florida, with a surprise detail he kept secret until the day of the wedding: the veterinary medicine caduceus and an EKG with paw prints laser-cut into the boards' legs.



THE OLD-FASHIONED OAKLEY

The newlyweds concocted signature cocktails to celebrate their most beloved family members, dogs Simba and Oakley. They also handmade their wedding favors—Michael planted succulents in wine glasses that Megan personalized with their wedding date and initials. To keep the party pumpin' and honor Megan's Cuban heritage, the couple stacked the playlist with lots of Latin songs.



Menu

FIRST COURSE
 pea greens, sliced cucumbers, mushrooms, carrots, yellow peppers, served with lemon peppercorn & balsamic vinaigrette

MAIN COURSE
 seared herb encrusted top round of beef with horseradish cream sauce and an assist local Maryland rockfish served atop a bed of buttery leeks and creamed carrot puree drizzled with vermouth

SIDES
 and locally grown summer roasted veg with fresh rosemary, garlic and olive oil

DESSERT
 red velvet, dulce de leche, amaretto raspberry wedding cake

Michael + Megan + September 8, 2019



THE DETAILS

- BRIDE'S GOWN:** BERTA
- BRIDE'S HAIR & MAKEUP:** VINTAGE VEILS
- BRIDE'S JEWELRY:** CHIC PARISIEN
- BRIDESMAID DRESSES:** AFTER SIX
- CALLIGRAPHY:** STEPHANIE GOULD CALLIGRAPHY
- CATERER:** HERRINGTON ON THE BAY
- FLORALS:** MY FLOWER BOX EVENTS
- INVITATIONS:** MINTED
- MEN'S ATTIRE:** MEN'S WAREHOUSE
- MUSIC:** MODERN ERA WEDDING
- PLANNING & STYLING:** CAITIE WELCH OF BETTY LOU EVENTS
- RENTALS:** WHITE GLOVE RENTALS
- RINGS:** SAXON'S DIAMOND CENTERS
- SIGNAGE AND CORN HOLE BOARDS:** JUSTIN HANRAHAN
- VIDEOGRAPHER:** SAMUEL KERN VIDEOGRAPHY

See our Ultimate Wedding Guide on page 70 for more vendor information



SHE GAVE HIM HER KIDNEY,
HE GAVE HER HIS HEART

Claire Rekitzke + Brent Spurry, Jr.

Black Walnut Point Inn | Allison King Creative

**WEDDING
DATE:**

JUNE 8, 2019

**NUMBER
OF GUESTS:**

170

**SURPRISE
DETAIL:**

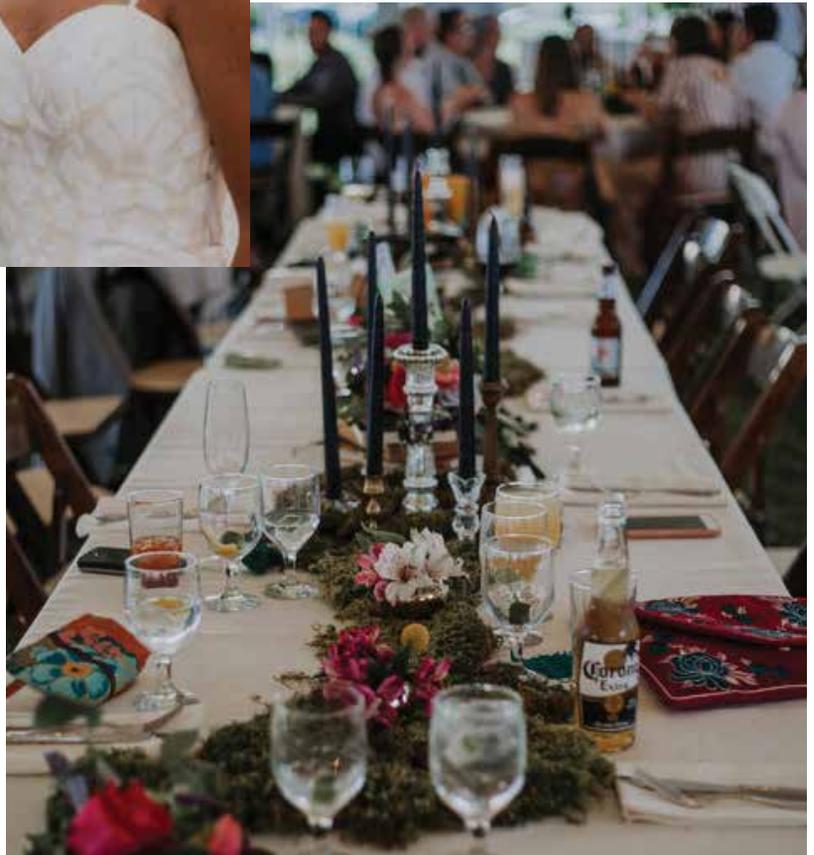
A BOUNCE
HOUSE FOR
THEIR NIECES
AND NEPHEWS



Leading up to their first date, Claire wasn't in the best of moods. "I had had a really busy day and was running late," she says. "I honestly wasn't really looking forward to it." But Brent's charm turned out to be irresistible, and, by the end of an alfresco dinner at Limoncello, she was completely smitten.

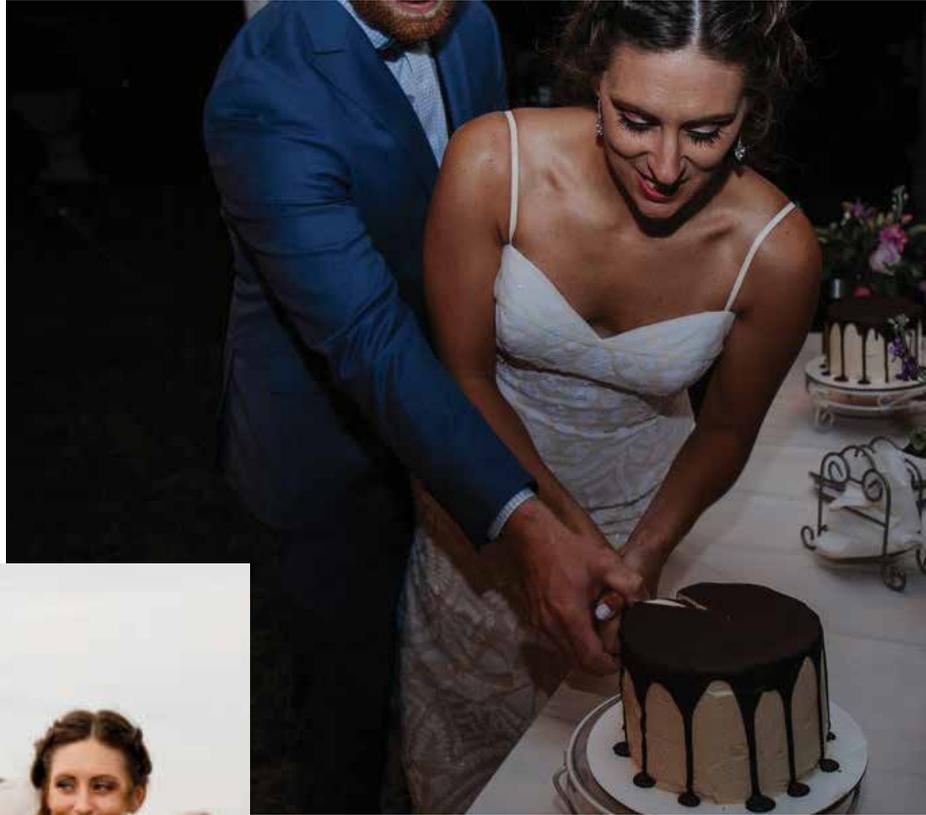
BEANS AND BANTER

Claire Rekitzke and Brent Spurry had been seeing each other for a long time—that is, from across the counter at Rise Up Coffee, where Rekitzke worked and Brent was a twice-a-day customer. “He was one of the friendliest people I’d ever met,” Claire says. “Always ready to ask an intriguing question or [slip the baristas a huge tip]” for his go-to, a medium drip with a splash of almond milk. But, secretly, Brent had more in mind than simply sating his caffeine fix. He had developed a crush on this sunny barista, and, after a year of beans and banter, finally worked up the courage to ask her out.



A PERFECT MATCH

They hadn't been dating long—just six months—when Brent, who had no previous health issues, suddenly went into complete kidney failure. “We stayed in the hospital for a week or so, not knowing what the future had in store,” Claire recalls. Brent began spending 15 hours a week in dialysis, and monthly trips to Baltimore to see specialists became his new, exhausting routine. After 10 months of treatment, it was evident that Brent needed a new kidney, so, without telling her beau, Claire signed up to get tested. “A month later, we found out I was a perfect match!” she says. Brent received Claire’s kidney on October 19, 2018, with their friends and family supporting them through every step of the process.



CHAMPAGNE & CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP

Three months later, Claire had planned to go on a solo vacation, so Brent organized a romantic farewell dinner for the night before her departure. But with both of them still recovering from the kidney transplant, they ended up canceling their plans last-minute. As they walked to the car that evening, Brent told Claire how grateful he was for her flexibility. Then, he dropped to one knee, and a terrified Claire thought Brent was having a heart attack! Fortunately, she quickly reassessed the situation—he was *proposing*—and they celebrated with champagne and chicken noodle soup.

THIS PLACE FEELS LIKE HOME

Claire and Brent decided to have their wedding at the Black Walnut Point Inn because of its beautiful landscape and relaxing ambience. “I wanted a venue where our friends and family could get away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life,” Claire says. “[Owners] Bob and Tracy were so much fun to work with,” she adds. “Along with my amazing mother, they made my vision come to life.”



PANCAKE PARTY

One of Claire and Brent's traditions as a couple was going out for breakfast on Sundays after church, so they decided to treat their guests to a sweet and savory spread of chocolate chip pancakes, made-to-order omelettes, fresh fruit, cereal, hash browns, and bacon. For dessert, The Wine Bar served up chocolate truffles and Two If By Sea provided cake.



THE DETAILS

BAR: TOWN & COUNTRY

BOUNCY HOUSE: GRAND RENTAL STATION

BRIDE'S GOWN: LIS SIMON (DESIGNER),
DRYDEN DRESS CO. (SHOP)

BRIDE'S HAIR & MAKEUP: KRISTIN GURKIN,
SERENDIPITY SALON

BRIDE'S JEWELRY: AGAVE ARTS & JUICING

BRIDESMAID DRESSES: LULU'S

CATERER: TWO IF BY SEA

FAVORS: FISHER'S POPCORN

FLORALS: KELEIDOSCOPE CUSTOM FLORALS

INVITATIONS: JAMIE WHEELER DESIGN

MEN'S ATTIRE: JOSPEH A. BANK'S

MUSIC: KENTAVIUS JONES (CEREMONY),
DJ RICKY/CROW ENTERTAINMENT (RECEPTION)

RENTALS: EASTERN SHORE TENTS & EVENTS

RINGS: JARED'S, TNT JEWELERS

See our *Ultimate Wedding Guide* on page 70 for more vendor information

A WEDDING "LIBRARY"

Before meeting Brent, Claire didn't think she would ever get married, so coming up with an aesthetic for the day was tough. To let Black Walnut Point's gardens shine, she stuck to simple decor and chose a natural color palette: emerald green for bridesmaid dresses, ivory, and black. Keleidoscope Custom Florals swathed each table in moss and Claire and her mom collected old candelabras, long, black candles, and books at antique stores to function as centerpieces. "I wanted the decorations to be something I'd keep forever, rather than something that would be wasted," she explains. For books, Claire included favorites from the Harry Potter series as well as *Angela's Ashes*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, and *The Ragamuffin Gospel*.





THE UNSINKABLE RECEPTION

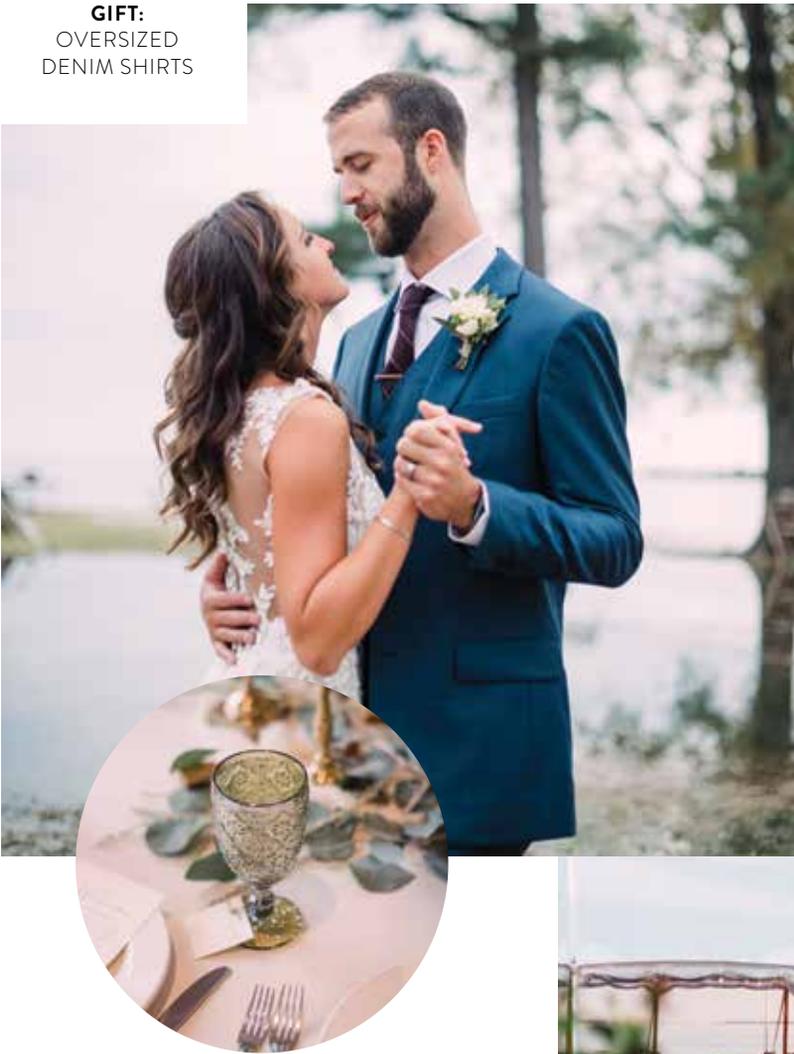
Geneva Harrison + Ben Schaffle

**WEDDING
DATE:**
OCTOBER
12, 2019

**NUMBER OF
GUESTS:** 180

**BRIDESMAID
GIFT:**
OVERSIZED
DENIM SHIRTS

Kent Island Yacht Club | Kimberly Florence Photography



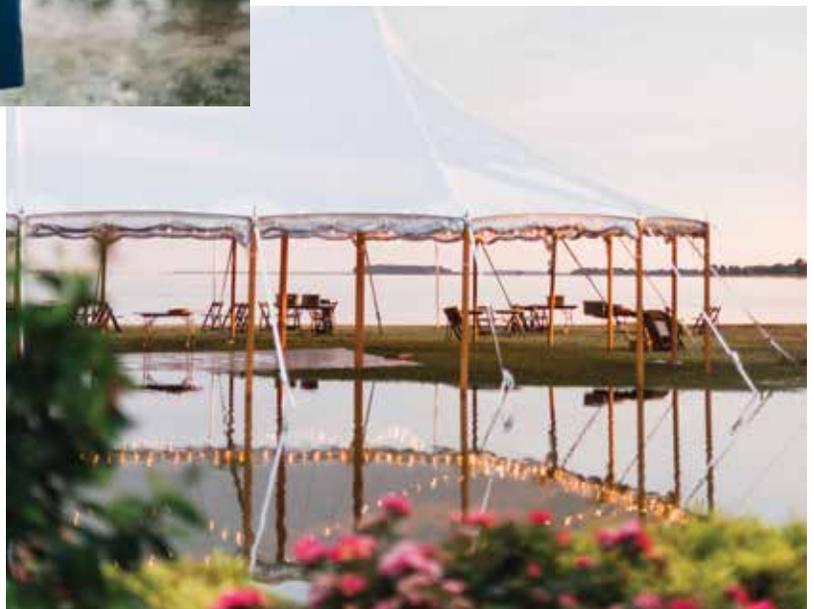
CURFEW SAVIOR

Last time we checked, curfews are generally not one of teenagers' favorite things. But what if a curfew is a reason for romance? Geneva Harrison met Ben Schaffle at a high school party in 2010. "He was the cute guy from Kent Island, and I'm pretty sure he had no idea who I was," she says. Fortunately, parental restrictions intervened and, when Geneva needed help backing her car out of the driveway to make it home on time, Ben was her salvation.

THE ONE WHEN SHE FELL ASLEEP

Four months later, Ben, home from college, invited Geneva to the movies for their first date. He picked her up in his minivan (with no heat, in November!) and the couple headed to the theater to catch a showing of *Tron*. Though she never admitted it, Geneva had zero interest in the sci-fi sequel and actually fell asleep during the feature. Thankfully, her 3D glasses kept her sacrilege secret.

All year long, Geneva and her mom collected goblets from area antique stores. "It was a task trying to get almost 200 glasses, but it was a lot of fun!" Geneva says, of the search for her one-of-a-kind tableware.





Geneva had a bag made out of her grandmother's wedding gown to cart around her day-of essentials. An extra special detail: "My mom was able to get 'Love Always, Mema' stitched into the bag in my grandmother's handwriting," Geneva says.

DANCING SHOES

Geneva had three pairs of wedding shoes, which she says is a testament to how indecisive she is. She donned red heels through the first dance (Ben is a foot taller so she wanted extra height), olive green Converse, and custom Vans with Ben's face printed on them for the remainder of the reception. "As long as the shoe was comfortable, fun, and [a color other than] white, I was sold," she says.

THE GIVEAWAY

Because Geneva and Ben were having a Catholic mass, they couldn't write their own vows, but they were still able to reflect on their relationship by exchanging notes beforehand. Another special ceremony moment Geneva planned was a double hand-off with her dads. "I am really close with my step-dad, but I didn't want to take away from my [biological father's] moment of walking me down the aisle, so my step-dad waited for us at the altar and they gave me away together," she explains.



THE GREAT FLOOD

As a Kent Island native, Geneva expected there might be minor flooding when she realized her wedding at the Kent Island Yacht Club coincided with a full moon. But nobody could have anticipated how much the water would rise. Because of space limitations, there was no contingency plan to move the reception inside. The forecast for the weekend was good, Geneva and Ben had rented heaters, and, in case of wind or heavy rain, they could always push the tent against the Yacht Club building. It was a great plan, under normal circumstances, but, unfortunately, this wedding was about to be rocked by abnormally high tides. At 2:45 p.m., while Ben and Geneva exchanged their vows at St. Christopher's Church three miles away, the couple's vendors decided to pull the plug and move everything inside. By the time guests made it to their cars, parked under the Kent Narrows Bridge, there was no way to cross Route 18. Geneva's uncles, cousins, and random waterman started funneling guests to the club's entrance in their pickup trucks, and, from there, everyone was transported in the back of a box truck belonging to the tent rental company. "If it were not for Ebb Tide, I truly don't know how we would have even got there," Geneva says. The couple later learned that this was the worst flooding the area had seen since Hurricane Isabel, in 2003. Yet, remarkably, their wedding didn't suffer. "Our vendors were just amazing," Geneva says. "Without their determination to pull off the day, it would have gone much different."



UNITY GROG

A conspicuous shamrock chalice made the rounds during Geneva and Ben's reception, with members of both families sharing sips of its boozy contents. "It's been shipped all over the country for weddings," Geneva says of the heirloom cup. "Everyone drinks out of it as a way to symbolize two families coming together as one."

THE DETAILS

BRIDE'S HAIR: TINA BLOTT
OF PRETTY WEIRD BEAUTY

BRIDE'S JEWELRY: ZACHARY'S JEWELERS

BRIDE'S MAKEUP: ASHLEY VANSANT
OF PEARL HAIR STUDIO

BRIDE'S GOWN: ENZOANI (DESIGNER) &
BETSY ROBINSON'S BRIDAL COLLECTION (SHOP)

BRIDESMAID DRESSES: AZAZIE

CATERER: SMOKEHOUSE GRILL, LLC

CEREMONY VENUE: ST. CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH

DESSERT: PEACE OF CAKE &
PIAZZA ITALIAN MARKET

FLORALS: THE FLOWER SHOP

INVITATIONS: MINTED

MEN'S ATTIRE: JOS. A. BANK

MUSIC: STEVE MOODY'S
ENTERTAINMENT CONNECTION

RING: MANLY BANDS (GROOM)
& SAM'S CLUB (BRIDE)

STYLING: PRETTY LITTLE WEDDING CO.

TENT AND RENTALS: EBB TIDE TENT RENTALS

VIDEOGRAPHER: ALLEN CORK II PHOTOGRAPHY

See our *Ultimate Wedding Guide* on
page 70 for more vendor information



ROW, ROW, ROW YOUR BOAT
GENTLY TO SWAN CREEK

Rachel Gabbay + Gregory King

Osprey Point Inn | KPD Photography

OCCUPATIONS:
ROWING COACHES
FOR THE NATIONAL
CATHEDRAL
SCHOOL

WEDDING DATE:
AUGUST 24, 2019

**NUMBER OF
GUESTS:** 150

FAVORS:
TURKISH EVIL
EYE BRACELETS,
ENGRAVED
CHOPSTICKS,
& MAPLE LEAF
CANDY



Rachel was set on finding a simple, a-line dress; ultimately, she picked a design by Justin Alexander. "I really liked that it had sequins on the bust, which made it feel girly enough, yet the train was plain and elegant," Rachel says.

LOVE BOAT

Before there was romance, there was rowing. In the summer of 2012, Greg King was coaching a competitive crew program in Washington, D.C., when Rachel Gabbay was hired as his assistant. At first, they were just friends who often hung out after work and went to the beach. But, after a few months, they realized their potential as partners on and off the Potomac.

A REGATTA FOR A RING

Three years later, in 2015, Rachel coached a freshmen class of rowers who struck a crafty bargain. Without knowing about Greg and Rachel's relationship, they asked to be Rachel's bridesmaids if they won Stotesbury, the largest high school regatta in the world. At that point, winning seemed like a far-fetched outcome, so Rachel agreed. Three months later, the freshmen prevailed, and they went on to capture the cup their sophomore and junior years, too. The night before their final race, Greg made his own promise: if the girls won Stotesbury for the fourth time in a row, he would propose. Of course, they couldn't disappoint him. The next day, during the awards ceremony, the team received its trophy and a completely shocked Rachel received a ring. And that's how Rachel and Greg's wedding party swelled to 24, including 22 rowers, Rachel's best friend, and Greg's sister.



THEIR VENUE

Since their livelihoods revolve around the river, Rachel and Greg knew they wanted to have a waterfront wedding. Finding their exact venue was easy. As a girl, Rachel grew up sailing on the Chesapeake Bay; one of her favorite anchorages was Swan Creek, which can be seen from the bridal suite at Osprey Point. "It's where my parents first taught me to paddle [by myself] in a dinghy," she explains.



When it came to decor, Rachel and Greg's motto was "understate everything!" They chose delicate flowers and a muted color palette of whites and grays, which they accented with pastel pink on the men's ties.





TH-OAR CHUPPAH

For the ceremony, Greg constructed a homemade chuppah out of rowing oars and Rachel's great grandfather's *talit*. "It meant a lot to me because he is an outspoken atheist," Rachel says. "While I am not very religious, I am a Turkish Jew and having elements of my culture included in the wedding was very important to me."

WHAT'S IN A TABLE NAME?

To celebrate their love of rowing, Rachel and Greg named each table after a regatta or special trophy, with the exception of their head table, which was named in honor of a beloved coworker and friend. "Ed Magoba served as a National Cathedral School custodian and bus driver, but, more importantly, as an inspiration to all who knew him," Rachel says. "Although Ed was unable to be at our wedding in person [he passed away two weeks beforehand], he remains with us every day in spirit."

THE DETAILS

BRIDE'S GOWN: ELLIE'S BRIDAL (ALEXANDRIA, VA)

BRIDE'S HAIR & MAKEUP: SALON 854

BRIDE'S SHOES: BETSEY JOHNSON

BRIDESMAID DRESSES: JUSTIN ALEXANDER (DESIGNER), DAVID'S BRIDAL (STORE)

CATERER: OSPREY POINT

DESSERTS: SMITH ISLAND CAKES

FLORALS: DIY

INVITATIONS: MINTED

MEN'S ATTIRE: HOCKERTY

MUSIC: KENNEDY STRING QUARTET (CEREMONY), STEVE MOODY'S ENTERTAINMENT CONNECTION (RECEPTION)

RINGS: TIFFANY & CO. (ENGAGEMENT), RUBINI JEWELERS (WEDDING)

See our Ultimate Wedding Guide on page 70 for more vendor information



PASTEL GARDEN PARTY INSPIRED BY THE SEA

Jessica Brannock + Leo Hoffman, III

William Paca House and Gardens | Anna Grace Photography

OCCUPATIONS:
ARCHAEOLOGIST
AND DIGITAL
MARKETING
DIRECTOR

WEDDING DATE:
JUNE 21, 2019

**NUMBER OF
GUESTS:** 75

**BOUQUET
INGREDIENTS:**
GARDEN ROSES,
ANEMONE,
RANUNCULUS,
ASTILBE, DUSTY
MILLER, AND
EUCALYPTUS



Jessica and Leo's first date was at a local Italian restaurant. "We had a wonderful dance together, despite everyone making fun of our height difference!" Jessica says.

WHAT WE'LL TELL THE GRANDKIDS

When two different dating setups bailed on Jessica Brannock in the same week, the Salisbury University junior was completely prepared to fly solo for her sorority's social. But friends don't let friends dance alone, and so Jessica found herself with yet another blind date just days before the mixer. Leo Hoffman was good-looking, funny, and, most importantly, available. "We instantly hit it off, joking about 'what we'd tell the grandkids' the following day," Jessica recalls.

BACKPACKING ESSENTIALS

Five years later, while backpacking through Spain, Leo and Jessica arranged to meet up with a friend at the Plaza de Espana, presumably for a walk. Leo surprised Jessica by proposing in front of the fountain. "I could not believe he had carried the ring with him all the way to Spain without me knowing!" Jessica says.





SHELL INSPO

Because Jessica's family is from Hoopers Island (a working watermen village on the Chesapeake Bay), incorporating oysters into the wedding decor was a must. The couple based their palette on the oyster's interior, with splashes of dusty blue, light grey, and mauve. They tied in Annapolis' history by doing their first look at the Maryland State House.



"MESSY" HAIR, DON'T CARE

Leo had one big request for Jessica when it came to wedding planning: He was adamant that she wear her hair up with "messy" strands coming down. "I went back and forth on this since originally I wanted to have my hair half-up, half-down," Jessica says. But, ultimately, she chose to trust her beau's good judgment. "When I saw my hair in the mirror, I couldn't help tearing up," Jessica says. "At that moment, I truly felt like a bride."

A SALTY POLISH BLESSING

For their ceremony, Jessica and Leo asked Jessica's parents to perform a Polish salted bread and wine blessing. "We felt it would be very meaningful to my grandmother," Jessica explains. According to tradition, bread is presented to signify the parents' hope that their children will never go hungry; salt serves as a reminder of life's difficulties and the importance of enduring together; and wine symbolizes the parents' wish that their children's lives will be filled with joy and happiness.

MVP M.O.B.

Jessica's mother played a starring role in the day's logistics, doing everything from baking and decorating the cake to using a wood etching machine to create custom oyster-embossed table numbers. "Since we financed the wedding ourselves, it was a really beautiful process of having friends and family come together to create gorgeous details," Jessica says. The cake was Jessica's favorite, a classic Southern pound, souped-up with three layers of Italian meringue and berries and topped with buttercream icing.



THE DETAILS

BRIDE'S GOWN: ALVINA VALENTA (DESIGNER), JENNIFER'S BRIDAL (SHOP)

BRIDE'S HAIR & MAKEUP: DORSEY BEAUTY

BRIDE'S JEWELRY: BHLDN

BRIDESMAID DRESSES: JENNY YOO, SHOW ME YOUR MUMU, AND DAVID'S BRIDAL

CATERER: MAIN & MARKET

DESSERTS: MOTHER OF THE BRIDE AND MAIN & MARKET

FLORALS: FLORET + VINE

INVITATIONS: ETSY

MEN'S ATTIRE: JOS. A. BANK

MUSIC: BOATÉ & AJLUNI DUO

OFFICIANT: MEMORABLE MOMENTS WITH MARJORIE OSORNO D'AMBROSIO

PLANNING & STYLING: RACHEL KELLY EVENTS

RINGS: PARISIAN FLEA, SAMUELSON'S DIAMONDS & ESTATE BUYERS

See our Ultimate Wedding Guide on page 70 for more vendor information



THIS GALA IS COMING UP ROSES

Olaide Aiyegbusi + Dapo Akingbade

The Westin Annapolis | Zoomworx

OCCUPATIONS:
CLINICAL
PHARMACIST AND
CYBER SECURITY
ENGINEER

WEDDING DATE:
SEPTEMBER 21,
2019

**NUMBER OF
GUESTS:** 380

UNIQUE DETAIL:
A CUSTOM-
STYLED BRIDAL
SUITE FOR
GLAMOUR SHOTS

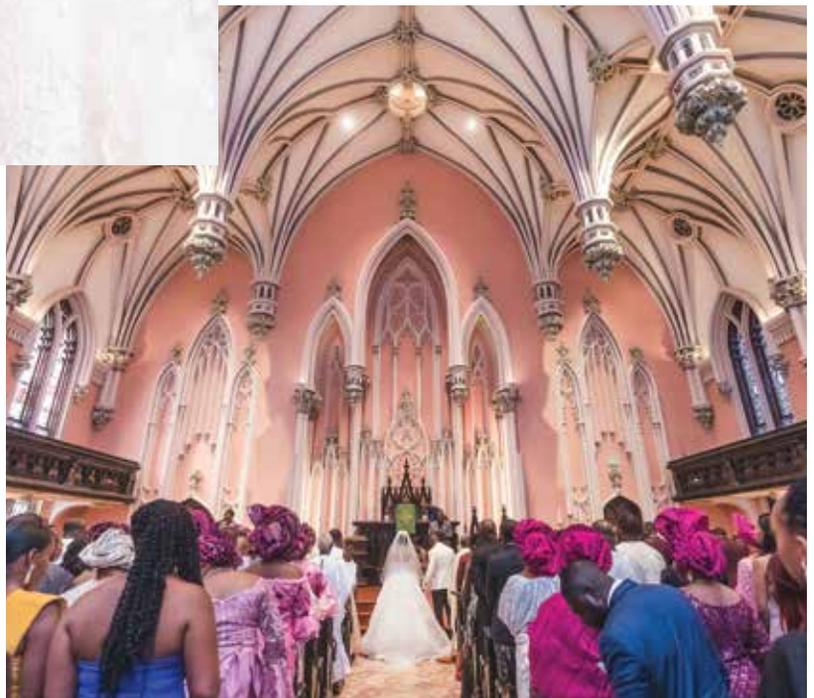


A FETCHING DETOUR

On the way to catch a flight to Arizona in February 2017, Olaide Aiyegbusi's friends convinced her to stop by the home of a mutual acquaintance, Dapo Akingbade. According to Dapo, the pair had actually met at church one Sunday, and he had asked Olaide out, but she has no recollection of that interaction! Luckily, this time, Dapo made a stronger impression.

WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS

A month later, Dapo invited Olaide on their first date—a weekend in Vegas, where he was heading for a work conference. "The entire week before the trip, I was *super* paranoid," Olaide says. "I almost cancelled, but, thankfully, Dapo was a perfect gentleman." The couple dined at nice restaurants, enjoyed comedy and magic shows, and did a little partying. "The vibe was perfect," Olaide adds.



"I wanted something a little different and the Westin provided that with their unique ceilings and light fixtures. I knew that with my great team of vendors, we were going to be able to transform the room into something magnificent," Olaide says.



THE MAGNIFICENT WESTIN

Olaide and Dapo chose to get married at the Westin because of its flexibility and fantastic customer service. “From the first day we went there, they were so kind and accommodating,” Olaide says. “I wanted something a little different and the Westin provided that with their unique ceilings and light fixtures. I knew that with my great team of vendors, we were going to be able to transform the room into something magnificent.”



NOT THE DRESS

In searching for *the* dress, Olaide knew she wanted two things: an overskirt and a simple silhouette. She initially scheduled consultations in Houston, Nigeria, and Ghana, before her planner Sade Okeowo directed her to Love Couture Bridal in Potomac, Maryland. “The [stylist] brought out four dresses, and I absolutely hated the first three,” Olaide says. “When I saw the last one, I told her, ‘You can take this back; it’s not my style,’” Olaide recalls. But the stylist insisted she try it on anyway. Reluctantly, Olaide agreed and 25 minutes later, she walked out of the shop, her mom’s face wet with happy tears, and the dream gown purchased.



HYDRANGEA CHANDELIER

If Olaide's personality is "Netflix and chill," Dapo's is "let's party all night." So, naturally, the couple planned a wedding with both moods in mind. For the first phase of the night, Olaide worked with Lush Couture Events to create a romantic, pink utopia. "I could not really describe how I wanted the venue to look, only the feeling I wanted myself, Dapo, and our guests to have when they walked in," Olaide says. A jaw-dropping floral chandelier, made of hydrangeas, gardenias, and spray roses, took Sade and her team 90-plus hours to construct. To complement the look, Sade designed floral chargers, menu cards, and even a floral motif for the dance floor. Transformation number two came late into the evening, when Dapo donned a shimmery silver tux and Olaide rolled out in an epic floor-length gown seemingly made of bling.



42 TUBERS OF YAM

Two days before their Westin reception, Dapo and Olaide, who are both from the Yoruba tribe in Nigeria, hosted an *igbeyawo* ceremony at the University of Maryland's Samuel Riggs IV Alumni Center. "Unlike the white wedding, the traditional wedding is usually filled with bright, bold colors and attire," Olaide explains. The families of the bride and groom sit directly in front of each other and the *alaga*, in a role similar to an emcee, coordinates the proceedings to ensure each provision of tradition is strictly adhered to, from the introduction of the bride and groom to the presentation of gifts, which include honey, lace, and yams. "There is usually no guest list for these ceremonies, so we ended up having 500+ attendees!" Olaide says.



THE DETAILS

- BRIDAL SUITE:** THE FLORAL GURU
- BRIDE'S HAIR:** HAIR BY MICDIVA
- BRIDE'S MAKEUP:** LONICELY
- BRIDE'S RECEPTION DRESS:** NYC FASHION BOUTIQUE CUSTOM
- BRIDE'S ROBE:** VTABI OFFICIAL
- BRIDE'S SHOES:** TOM FORD
- BRIDE'S WEDDING GOWN:** MARK ZUNINO
- BRIDESMAID DRESSES:** STYLES BY CELLS
- CATERER:** THE WESTIN ANNAPOLIS
- DESSERT:** RUME BAKES
- FLORALS:** BCG EVENTS
- GROOM'S SHOES:** GUISEPPE ZANOTTI
- GROOM'S WATCH:** MOVADO
- INVITATIONS:** APPYCOUPLE.COM
- MEN'S ATTIRE:** ENZO CUSTOM
- MUSIC:** DJ PHEMSTAR
- PLANNING & STYLING:** SADE OKEOWO OF LUSH COUTURE EVENTS
- VIDEOGRAPHER:** IMG ARTISTRY

See our *Ultimate Wedding Guide* on page 70 for more vendor information



ONCE UPON A DISNEY DREAM

Olivia Massari + Gregory Priest

Wylder Hotel Tilghman Island | Katherine Zell Photography

WEDDING DATE:
SEPTEMBER
15, 2019

**NUMBER OF
GUESTS:** 65

GUEST BOOK:
"BEACHES" BY
GRAY MALIN

**FAVORITE
MENU ITEM:**
AHI TUNA



One of Greg's favorite wedding day details was his pineapple boutonniere, which he paired with a Stitch pin. He also sported Sorcerer Mickey socks!

MARCH OF THE PENGUINS

If you believe in fairytales, the least shocking part of Olivia Massari and Greg Priest's story is where they met: Walt Disney World Swan & Dolphin, circa 2016. They were front desk managers in the most magical place on earth and—spoiler alert—they fell in love. "One day, walking back from lunch, we both looked at each other and penguin-waddled down the hall," Olivia reminisces. "I called one of my friends that night and said, 'This guy really gets me!'"

'TIL THE COWS COME HOME

For their first date, Greg planned an epic expedition across multiple Disney parks, beginning with canoeing at Fort Wilderness Resort, where the pair smuggled in drinks and got stuck in the rain. Next, was a food truck feast in Celebration, followed by mini golf and a magic moment at Universal Studios, when Greg asked Olivia to be his girlfriend while, nearby, a herd of cows was being abducted by aliens.





Greg and Olivia became fans of Maui Brewing Company while living in Hawaii. With help from the Wylder Hotel's director of sales, who tracked down a Maryland distributor, they were able to share some of their favorite beers at their reception.



HIRE THE PLANNER!

2017 was a wild year for Greg and Olivia: they got engaged in February, moved to Hawaii two weeks later, and began planning their wedding in July. “When we started looking into venues, we found it so hard to talk to people because of the six-hour time difference,” Olivia says. Frustrated, the couple swore off planning for a few months, until Greg’s mom suggested they explore options around the Eastern Shore, and Olivia, contrary to her own expectations, hired a wedding planner. “I was convinced it would be outside of our budget, but after our initial call with Sara [Reynolds], we were sold!” Olivia says. “Her genuine interest in who we were, her professionalism, and her excitement for our wedding day were unmatched.” Together, they selected the Wylder Hotel, which stood out because of its on-site accommodations and coastal location.





HAPPY ENDINGS

After the reception concluded, Olivia, Greg, and their wedding parties cozied up around the hotel fire pit, where staff had set up beer, wine, and leftover cookies. “We got changed and lounged out there while everyone shared stories about Greg and I,” Olivia says. “It was so sweet and the perfect way to end the evening!”



THE TANGLED CAMEO

Greg and Olivia’s bridal party pulled off the ultimate surprise by recreating a scene from *Tangled*, one of the couple’s favorite Disney movies. “Katherine, our photographer, and Sara sneakily took us outside for some night shots, when we looked up and saw lanterns floating in the sky,” Olivia says. “We went out back and found all our family and friends on the dock setting them off. There were no words to describe how incredible that was!”



THE DETAILS

BRIDE’S GOWN: MORILEE (DESIGNER), JULIETTE BRIDAL BY IVANA (SHOP)

BRIDE’S HAIR & MAKEUP: DOWN THE AISLE IN STYLE
BRIDE’S JEWELRY: SUKRAN KIRTIS JEWELRY VIA ETSY
BRIDE’S SHOES: NO. 21 (HEELS), THE HAPPIEST STUDIO (HAND-PAINTED SNEAKERS)

BRIDESMAID DRESSES: VIRGINIA DARE DRESS CO.

BRIDESMAID ROBES: JOYFUL TIDINGS BRIDAL BOUTIQUE & MODPARTY, BOTH VIA ETSY

DESSERTS: GRAUL’S MARKET (CAKE), BRIDE’S FAMILY (COOKIE TABLE)

FLORALS: J. STARR’S FLOWER BARN

MEN’S ATTIRE: BONOBOS, THE BLACK TUX

MUSIC: GREAT SCOTT PRODUCTIONS

PLANNING & STYLING: SARA REYNOLDS EVENTS

RENTALS: PRICE RENTALS

RINGS: HAPPY LAULEA (HIS), NA HOKU (HERS)

STATIONERY: ADORI DESIGNS, PRETTY LITTLE PAPERS, AND PRIMROSE PAPER STUDIO

See our *Ultimate Wedding Guide* on page 70 for more vendor information



The Ultimate WEDDING GUIDE

A comprehensive listing of area venues, and other vendors you need to know

Wedding Venues

This information was recorded at the time of publication and is subject to change. Please contact the venue directly for specific information. Due to space constraints, only venues that advertise are guaranteed a listing.



ADVERTISERS ARE LISTED IN **RED**

Annapolis

Admiral of the Bay
Annapolis; 410-263-5196
Admiralofthebay.com
Max Guest Count: 225

Annapolis Bay Charters
Annapolis; 1-800-991-1776
Annapolisbaycharters.net
Max Guest Count: 120

Annapolis Inn
144 Prince George Street
410-295-5200; Annapolisinn.com
Max Guest Count: 20
Outdoor Location: Yes (garden)
Water View: No

Annapolis Maritime Museum
723 Second Street
410-295-0104;
Amaritime.org/rent-our-venue
Max Guest Count: 170
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Annapolis Waterfront
80 Compromise Street
888-773-0786;
Annapoliswaterfront.com
Max Guest Count: 600
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Annapolis Wedding Chapel
1625 Old Generals Highway
410-266-1440;
Annapolisweddingchapel.com
Max Guest Count: 24
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: No

Annapolis Yacht Club
2 Compromise Street
410-263-9279; Annapolisyc.com
Max Guest Count: 200
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Banneker-Douglass Museum
84 Franklin Street
410-216-6180; Bdmuseum.com
Max Guest Count: 125
Outdoor Location: No
Water View: No

Best Western
2520 Riva Road
443-837-3602; Bestwestern.com
Max Guest Count: Call for details
Outdoor Location: Call for details
Water View: No

Blackwall Hitch
400 Sixth Street
410-263-3454; Theblackwallhitch.com
Max Guest Count: 45
(Gathering Room); 25 (Deck)
Outdoor Location: Yes (tent available)
Water View: Yes (w/out tent)

Boatyard Bar and Grill
400 4th Street
410-216-6206; Boatyardbarandgrill.com
Max Guest Count: 90 standing
or 40 seated
Outdoor Location: Seasonal
Water View: No

The Byzantium Event Center
2747 Riva Road
240-204-1190; Thebyzantium.org
Max Guest Count: 600
Outdoor Location: No
Water View: No

Carrol's Creek Cafe
410 Severn Avenue
410-263-8102; Carrolscreek.com
Max Guest Count: 250
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Chart House
300 Second Street
410-268-7166; Chart-house.com
Max Guest Count: 250
Outdoor Location: No
Water View: Yes

Chesapeake Bay Foundation's Philip Merrill Environmental Center
6 Herndon Avenue
410-268-8816; Cbf.org
Max Guest Count: 250
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Crowne Plaza Annapolis Hotel
173 Jennifer Road
410-266-3131; crowneplaza.com
Max Guest Count: 150-350,
depending on ballroom
Outdoor Location: No
Water View: No

Doubletree Annapolis Hotel
210 Holiday Court
410-224-3150; Annapolismeetings.com
Max Guest Count: 480-700
Outdoor location: No
Water view: No

Eastport Yacht Club
317 First Street
410-267-0549; Eastportyc.org
Max Guest Count: Indoor/120,
Outdoor/500
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes
Couples must be members or sponsored by a member.

Governor Calvert House
58 State Circle
410-216-6320;
Historicinnsofannapolis.com
Max Guest Count: 200
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: No

Graduate Annapolis
126 West Street
410-263-777
thehotelannapolis.com
Max Guest Count: 500
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: No

Maryland Inn

58 State Circle
410-216-6320;
Historicinnsofannapolis.com
Max Guest Count: 80
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: No

Martins Bo Brooks at the Naval Academy N*Room at the Navy*Marine Corps Memorial Stadium

511 Taylor Avenue
443-221-4051; Bobrooks.com
Max guest count: 530
Outdoor location: No
Water view: No

Podickory Point Yacht and Beach Club

2116 Bay Front Terrace
410-757-8000; Podickorypoint.com
Max Guest Count: Indoor/100, Outdoor/Varies with tent size
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Port Annapolis Marina

7074 Bembe Beach Road
410-269-1990; Portannapolis.com
Max Guest Count: 200
Outdoor location: Yes
Water view: Yes

Pusser's Caribbean Grille

80 Compromise Street
410-626-0004; Pussersusa.com
Max Guest Count: 250
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Quiet Waters Park

600 Quiet Waters Park Road
410-222-1777;
Friendsofquietwaterspark.org
Max Guest Count: 75
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Reynolds Tavern

7 Church Circle
410-295-9555; Reynoldstavern.org
Max Guest Count: 60
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: No

Ruth's Chris Steakhouse

301 Severn Avenue
410-990-0033; Ruthschris.com
Max Guest Count: 160
Outdoor Location: No
Water View: No

🚤 Schooner Liberte

Annapolis; 410-263-8234
Theliberte.com
Max Guest Count: 49

🚤 Schooner Woodwind

Annapolis; 410-263-1981
Schoonerwoodwind.com
Max Guest Count: 48

Severn Inn

993 Baltimore Annapolis Blvd.
410-349-4000; Severninn.com
Max Guest Count: 150
Outdoor location: Yes
Water view: Yes

SpringHill Suites by Marriott

189 Admiral Cochrane Drive
443-837-3602; Marriott.com
Max Guest Count: 20
Outdoor Location: No
Water View: No

St. John's College

60 College Avenue
410-626-2547; Sjc.edu
Max Guest Count: 130
Outdoor Location: No
Water View: No

Stanton Community Center

92 West Washington Street
410-295-5519; Annapolis.gov
Max Guest Count: 150
Outdoor Location: No
Water View: No

Treaty of Paris

58 State Circle
410-216-6320;
Historicinnsofannapolis.com
Max Guest Count: 75-80
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: No

USNA Alumni House/Ogle Hall

247 King George Street
410-295-4000; Usna.com
Max Guest Count: 300
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: No

🚤 Watermark Charters/

Wedding on the Bay

410-268-7601, ext. 100;
Watermarkjourney.com
Max Guest Count: 200
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

The Westin Annapolis

100 Westgate Circle
410-972-4300;
Westinannapolis.com/weddings
Max Guest Count: 400
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: No

West River Cruises

Shady Side; 410-867-6283
Westrivercruises.com
Max Guest Count: 90

Whitehall

1915 Whitehall Road
443-906-3464; Whitehallmd.com
Max Guest Count: Call for details
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

William Paca House & Gardens

186 Prince George Street
410-990-4538; Annapolis.org
Max Guest Count: 150
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: No

Anne Arundel County + Adjacent

Anchor Inn

7617 Water Oak Point Road, Pasadena
301-572-7744; Anchorinnmd.com
Max Guest Count: 150
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Atlantic Marina and Resort

2010 Knollview Drive, Pasadena
410-437-6926
Atlanticmarinasmd.com
Max Guest Count: 120
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

The Blackwall Barn & Lodge

329 Gambrells Road, Gambrills
410-891-2090; Barnandlodge.com
Max Guest Count: Call for details
Outdoor Location: No
Water View: No

Café Mezzanotte

760 Ritchie Highway, Severna Park
410-647-1100; Cafemezz.com
Max Guest Count: 120
Outdoor location: Yes
Water view: No

The Cannon Club

699 Marlboro Road, Lothian
410-343-4700; Oldsouthcountryclub.org
Max Guest Count: 350
Outdoor Location: Yes (Tented)
Water View: No

Captain Avery Museum

1418 East West Shady Side Road
410-867-4486
Captainaverymuseum.org
Max Guest Count: 200
Outdoor location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Celebrations at the Bay

2042 Knollview Avenue, Pasadena
410-437-5711; Celebrationsatthebay.com
Max Guest Count: 140 indoors/
240 tented
Outdoor location: Yes
Water view: Yes

Chartwell Golf and Country Club

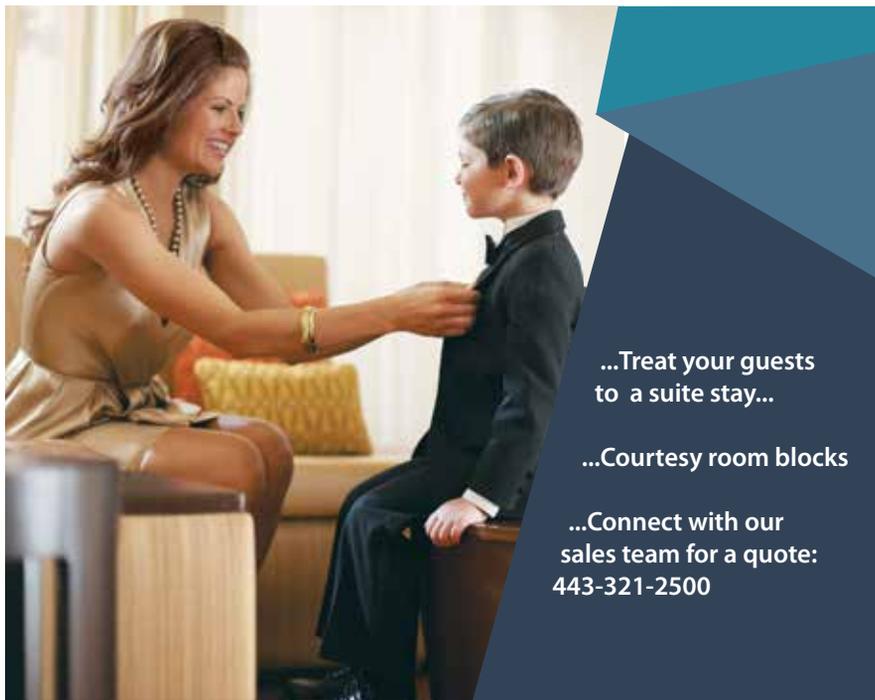
1 Chartwell Drive, Severna Park
410-987-0400; Chartwellgcc.com
Max Guest Count: Call for details
Outdoor location: Yes
Water view: No

Chesapeake Beach Resort & Spa

4165 Mears Avenue, Chesapeake Beach
410-257-2735
CBResortSpa.com
Max Guest Count: 225
Outdoor location: Yes
Water view: Yes

The Country Club at Woodmore

12320 Pleasant Prospect, Mitchellville
301-249-6100
ccwoodmore.com
Max Guest Count: 200
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes



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Crofton Country Club

1691 Crofton Parkway, Crofton
410-721-3111; Croftonclub.com
Max Guest Count: 230
Outdoor location: Yes
Water view: No

The Golf Club at South River

3451 Solomons Island Road, Edgewater
410-798-5865; Golfclubsr.com
Max Guest Count: 150 outside;
85 inside
Outdoor location: Yes
Water view: Yes

Herrington on the Bay

7151 Lake Shore Drive, North Beach
410-741-5101; HerringtonontheBay.com
Max Guest Count: 350
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Historic Baldwin Hall

1358 Millersville Road, Millersville
410-923-3438; Baldwinhall.org
Max Guest Count: 150
Outdoor Location: No
Water View: No

Historic London Town and Gardens

839 Londontown Road, Edgewater
410-222-1919; Historiclondontown.org
Max Guest Count: 225
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

The Hotel at Arundel Preserve

7795 Arundel Mills Blvd., Hanover
410-796-9830; Thehotelarundel.com
Max Guest Count: 500
Outdoor location: No
Water view: No

Kurtz's Beach

2070 Kurtz Avenue, Pasadena
410-255-1280; Kurtzsbeach.com
Max Guest Count: 220
Outdoor Location: Yes • Water View: Yes

La Fontaine Bleue

7514 Ritchie Highway, Glen Burnie
410-760-4115; Lafontainebleue.com
Max Guest Count: 1,100
Outdoor Location: No
Water View: No

Lake Presidential Golf Course

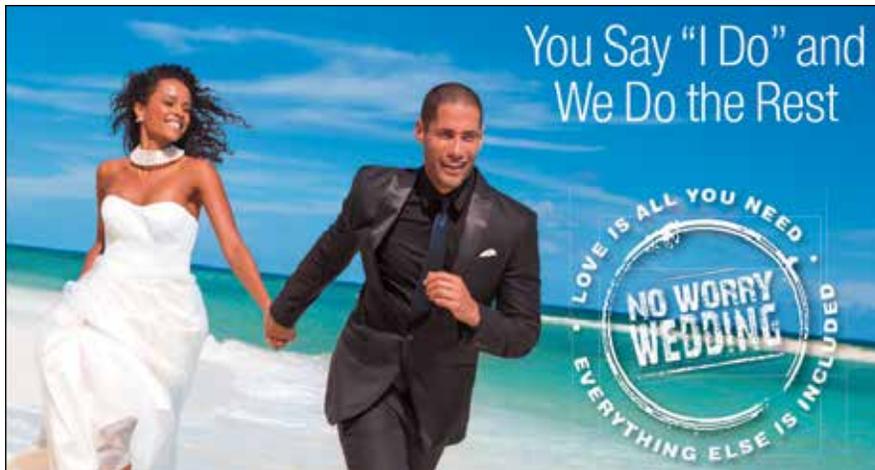
3151 Presidential Golf Drive,
Upper Marlboro
301-627-8577; Lakepresidential.com
Max Guest Count: 175
Outdoor location: Yes
Water view: Yes

Maryland Sunrise Farms

100 Dairy Lane, Gambrills
410-739-6205; Mdsunrisefarm.com
Max Guest Count: 125
Outdoor Location: No
Water View: No

Maryland Yacht Club

1500 Fairview Beach Road, Pasadena
410-255-4444; Mdycc.org
Max Guest Count: 180
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes



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Michael's Eighth Avenue
 7220 Grayburn Drive, Glen Burnie
 410-768-7901; Michaels8th.com
 Max Guest Count: 1,000
 Outdoor Location: Yes
 Water View: No

**Michael's on the South River/
 Mike's Crab House**
 3027 Riva Road, Riva
 410-956-2784;
 Michaelsonthesouthernriver.com
 Max Guest Count: 180
 Outdoor Location: No
 Water View: Yes

Mount Airy Mansion
 9640 Rosaryville Road, Upper Marlboro
 301-856-9656
 Mountairymansion.org
 Max Guest Count: 250
 Outdoor Location: Yes
 Water View: No

Newton White Mansion
 2708 Enterprise Road, Mitchellville
 301-249-2004
 PGParks.com
 Max Guest Count: 300
 Max Guest Count: 150
 Outdoor Location: Yes
 Water View: No

Renditions Golf Club
 1380 West Central Avenue, Davidsonville
 410-798-9798; Renditionsgolf.com
 Max Guest Count: 170
 Outdoor Location: Yes
 Water View: No

Running Hare Vineyard
 150 Adelina Road, Prince Frederick
 410-414-8486;
 Runningharevineyard.com
 Max Guest Count: 260
 Outdoor location: Yes
 Water view: No

The Town of North Beach
 8916 Chesapeake Avenue, North Beach
 301-855-6681
 northbeachmd.org
 Max Guest Count: NA
 Outdoor Location: Yes
 Water View: Yes

Turf Valley Resort
 2700 Turf Valley Road, Ellicott City
 410-465-1500; Turfvalley.com
 Max Guest Count: Call for details
 Outdoor Location: Yes
 Water View: No

Walden Country Club
 1500 Riedel Road, Crofton
 410-721-8268
 Waldencountryclub.com
 Max Guest Count: 150
 Outdoor Location: Yes
 Water View: No

YMCA Camp Letts
 4003 Camp Letts Road, Edgewater
 410-919-1410; Campletts.org
 Max Guest Count: 350
 Outdoor Location: Yes
 Water View: Yes

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Examples of wedding invitations shown include:
 - A formal invitation for Ashley Michele and William Molen Leach.
 - A "Save the Date" card for Briana & Joseph on 06-22-19.
 - A "Bridal Tea" invitation for Honoring Danielle.
 - A "Save the Date" card for Sarah Lynch and Christopher Thompson.

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5667 Augustine Herman Highway, Earleville
410-275-8700; theanchorageevents.com
Max Guest Count: Unlimited
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: No

Bohemia Overlook

88 Rivers Edge Road, North East
443-877-6313; bohemiaoverlook.com
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Brittland Estates

211 Brittland Farm Lane, Chestertown
410-810-7591; Brittlandestates.com
Max Guest Count: 400
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Chester River Yacht & Country Club

7738 Quaker Neck Road, Chestertown
410-778-3818; Crycc.org
Max Guest Count: 140
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Great Oak Manor

10568 Cliff Road, Chestertown
410-778-5943; Greatoakmd.com
Max Guest Count: 150
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Kent Island Yacht Club

117 Yacht Club Drive, Chester
410-643-4101; kiyc.org
Max Guest Count: Call for details
Water View: Yes
Outdoor Location: Yes

The Imperial Hotel

208 High Street, Chestertown
410-778-5000; Imperialchestertown.com
Max Guest Count: 100
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: No

The Inn at Huntingfield Creek

4928 Eastern Neck Road, Rock Hall
410-639-7779; Huntingfield.com
Max Guest Count: 175
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

The Inn at Mitchell House

8796 Maryland Parkway, Chestertown
410-778-6500; Innatmitchellhouse.com
Max Guest Count: 100
Outdoor Location: Yes
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Moonlight Bay Inn & Marina
 6002 Lawton Avenue, Rock Hall
 410-639-2660; Moonlightbayinn.com
 Max Guest Count: 120
 Outdoor Location: Yes
 Water View: Yes

Osprey Point
 20786 Rock Hall Avenue, Rock Hall
 410-639-2194; Ospreypoint.com
 Max Guest Count: 200
 Outdoor Location: Yes
 Water View: Yes

Worsell Manor
 555 Worsell Manor Road, Warwick
 410-656-4144; worsellmanor.com
 Max Guest Count: 190
 Outdoor Location: Yes
 Water View: No

Queen Anne's Centreville Kent Island

Bay Bridge Marina Yacht Club
 357 Pier One Road,
 Stevensville
 410-643-3162; baybridgemarina.com
 Max Guest Count: 100
 Outdoor location: yes
 Water view: yes

Bridges on Kent Narrows
 321 Wells Cove Road, Grasonville
 410-827-0282; Bridgesrestaurant.net
 Max Guest Count: 150
 Outdoor Location: Yes
 Water View: Yes

Chesapeake Bay Beach Club
 500 Marina Club Road, Stevensville
 410-604-1933; Baybeachclub.com
 Max Guest Count: 310
 Outdoor location: Yes
 Water view: Yes

Fisherman's Crab Deck
 3032 Kent Narrow Way South, Grasonville
 410-827-6666; Crabdeck.com
 Max Guest Count: 200
 Outdoor location: Yes
 Water view: Yes

Harris Crab House
 433 Kent Narrow Way North,
 Grasonville
 410-827-9500; harriscrabhouse.com
 Max Guest Count: 150
 Outdoor location: Yes
 Water view: Yes

Holiday Inn Express
 1020 Kent Narrows Road, Grasonville
 1-800-652-3705; Hiexpress.com
 Max Guest Count: 125
 Outdoor Location: No
 Water View: Yes

Kentmorr Restaurant
 910 Kentmorr Road, Stevensville
 410-643-2263; Kentmorr.com
 Max Guest Count: 250
 Outdoor Location: Yes
 Water View: Yes



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Kent Manor Inn

500 Kent Manor Drive, Stevensville
 410-643-4242; Kentmanor.com
 Max Guest Count: 300
 Outdoor Location: Yes
 Water View: Yes

Maria's Love Point B&B

1710 Love Point Road, Stevensville
 410-643-5054;
mariaslovepoint.com
 Max Guest Count: 275
 Outdoor Location: Yes
 Water View: Yes

Prospect Bay Country Club

311A Prospect Bay Drive West, Grasonville
 410-827-6950;
Prospectbaycountryclub.com
 Max Guest Count: 250
 Outdoor location: Yes
 Water view: Yes

Silver Swan Bayside & Catering

412 Congressional Drive, Stevensville
 443-249-0400;
Silverswanbayside.com
 Max Guest Count: 300
 Water View: Yes
 Outdoor Location: Yes

The Inn at Chesapeake Bay Beach Club

180 Pier One Road,
 Stevensville, MD 21666
 410-604-5900; Baybeachclub.com
 Max Guest Count: 70
 Outdoor location: Yes
 Water view: No

The Wye River Estate

511 Pintail Point Farm Lane, Queenstown
 443-333-9931
 Max Guest Count: Call for details
 Water View: Yes
 Outdoor Location: Yes

**Talbot County
 St. Michaels
 Easton Vicinity**

**Black Walnut Point Inn
 Bed and Breakfast**

4417 Black Walnut Point Road, Tilghman
 410-886-2452; blackwalnutpointinn.com
 Max Guest Count: Call for details
 Water View: Yes
 Outdoor Location: Yes

**Chesapeake Bay
 Maritime Museum**

213 N. Talbot Street,
 St. Michaels
 410-745-4944; Cbmm.org
 Max Guest Count: 350
 Outdoor Location: Yes
 Water View: Yes

Chesapeake Bay Skipjack

Rebecca T. Ruark
 Tilghman; 410-829-3976
Skipjack.org
 Max Guest Count: 49

The Inn at Perry Cabin

308 Watkins Lane, St. Michaels
 410-745-2200; Perrycabin.com
 Max Guest Count: 100
 Outdoor Location: Yes
 Water View: Yes

Kirkland Manor

300 North Talbot Street, St. Michaels
 410-745-5255; Tidewaterwedding.com
 Max Guest Count: 400
 Outdoor Location: Yes
 Water View: Yes

Knapp's Narrows Marina & Inn

6176 Tilghman Island Road, Tilghman
 410-886-2720;
 Knappsnarrowsmarina.com
 Max Guest Count: 100
 Outdoor Location: Yes
 Water View: Yes

▲ Lady Patty Sail Charters

Tilghman; 1-888-250-3030
 Ladypatty.com
 Max Guest Count: 16

Magnolia Manor

768 Port Street, Easton
 410-443-1444; magnoliamanormd.com
 Outdoor Location: Yes
 Water View: Yes

Miles River Yacht Club

24750 Yacht Club Road, St. Michaels
 410-745-9511; Milesriveryc.org
 Max Guest Count: 150
 Outdoor Location: Yes
 Water Front: Yes

The Milestone Event Center & Catering

9630 Technology Drive, Easton
 410-822-0100;
 Themilestoneeventcenter.com
 Max Guest Count: 275
 Outdoor Location: Yes (limited)
 Water View: No

The Oaks Waterfront Inn

25876 Royal Oak Road, Royal Oak
 410-745-5053; The-oaks.com
 Max Guest Count: 300
 Outdoor Location: Yes
 Water View: Yes

▲ Patriot Cruises

St. Michaels; 410-745-3100
 Patriotcruises.com
 Max Guest Count: 149

Robert Morris Inn

314 North Morris Street, Oxford
 410-226-5111; Robertmorrisinn.com
 Max Guest Count: 80
 Outdoor Location: Yes
 Water View: Yes

▲ Skipjack H.M. Kretz

St. Michaels; 410-745-6080
 Oystercatcher.com

St. Michaels Harbour Inn

101 N. Harbor Road, St. Michaels
 410-745-9001; 800-955-9001
 Harbourinn.com
 Max Guest Count: 115
 Outdoor Location: Yes
 Water View: Yes



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Tidewater Inn

101 E. Dover Street, Easton
800-237-8775; Tidewaterinn.com
Max Guest Count: 250
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: No

Tilghman Island Inn

21384 Coopertown Road, Tilghman
410-886-2141; Tilghmanislandinn.com
Max Guest Count: 150
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Wades Point Inn on the Bay

10090 Wades Point Road, St. Michaels
410-745-2500; Wadespoint.com
Max Guest Count: 125
Outdoor Location: Yes (tenting)
Water View: Yes

Wylder Hotel Tilghman Island

21551 Chesapeake House Drive, Tilghman
877-818-1922; wyldershoteltilghmanisland.com
Max Guest Count: 200
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

**Dorchester County
Cambridge Vicinity**

Choptank Riverboat Cruises

Hurlock; 410-943-4689
Suicide-bridge-restaurant.com
Max Guest Count: 149

Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay

100 Heron Blvd., Cambridge
410-901-1234;
Chesapeakebay.hyatt.com
Max Guest Count: 1,000
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Nathan of Dorchester

Cambridge, 410-228-7141
Skipjack-nathan.org
Max Guest Count: 20

Selina II

St. Michaels; 410-726-9400
Sailselina.com
Max Guest Count: 6

Suicide Bridge

6304 Suicide Bridge Road, Hurlock
410-943-4689;
Suicide-bridge-restaurant.com
Max Guest Count: 300
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

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Black Walnut Point Inn
Tilghman, 410-886-2452
blackwalnutpointinn.com

Graduate Annapolis
Annapolis, 410-263-777
thehotelannapolis.com

Historic Annapolis/
William Paca House
Annapolis, 410-990-4543
annapolis.org

Historic Inns of Annapolis
Annapolis, 410-216-6320
historicinnsaofannapolis.com

The Hotel at
Arundel Preserve
Hanover, 410-796-9830
thehotelarundel.com

The Inn at the Chesapeake
Bay Beach Club
Stevensville, 410-604-5900
baybeachclub.com

Maria's Love Point
Stevensville, 410-643-5054
mariaslovepoint.com

The Oaks Waterfront Inn
Royal Oak, 410-745-5053
the-oaks.com

Osprey Point Inn
Rock Hall, 410-639-2194
ospreypoint.com

SpringHill Suites
Annapolis, 443-321-2500
marriott.com/hotels/travel/bwisu-springhill-suites-annapolis/

Tidewater Inn
Easton, 800-237-8775
tidewaterinn.com

The Westin Annapolis
Annapolis, 410-972-4300
starwoodhotels.com

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Bowie, 240-544-7880
angyonocakes.com

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barnandlodge.com

Carrol's Creek
Annapolis, 410-263-8102
carrolscreek.com

Chesapeake Chefs Service
410-828-0307
kurt@chesapeakechefs.com

Main + Market
Annapolis, 410-626-0388
mainandmarket.com

Royal Oak Catering
410-490-5123
royaloakcateringcompany.com

Dance Lessons

Arthur Murray Dance Centers
Edgewater, 410-216-2427
arthurmurrayedgewater.com

Dental Care

Eastern Shore Dental Care
Chester, 410-643-5500
easternshoredentalcare.com

Events + Party Rentals

Eastern Shore Tents
and Events
Chestertown, 410-810-0686
estentsandevents.com

Ebb Tide Tent and
Party Rentals
Queenstown, 800-675-6053
ebbtidetentrentals.com

Sugarplum Tent Company
Boyd's, 301-869-2054
sugarplumtents.com

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Chester, 410-604-3860
mdeasternshoreflowers.com

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Annapolis, 443-321-0300
smythjewelers.com

Libations

Bay Ridge Wine and Spirits
Annapolis, 410-268-1961
bayridgewine.com

Photography

Mike B Photography
Annapolis, 443-790-3490
mikebphotography.com

Salons + Beauty

Jackie's Design
Annapolis, 410-263-0777
jackiesdesign.com

The Inn at the Chesapeake
Bay Beach Club
Stevensville, 410-604-5900
baybeachclub.com

Image Creators Salon
Severna Park, 410-544-8852
imagecreatorssalonandspa.com

Sadona Salon + Spa
Annapolis, 410-263-1515
mysadona.com

Swan Cove Spa & Salon
Stevensville, 410-604-1500
swanovespa.com

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Paper in the Park
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Great Wall

Ebone and Maurice Johnson's Quiet Waters Park wedding was full of standout details, from their modern black cake to their champagne wall. "I wanted a wow factor to serve as the anchor for the reception," Ebone explains of the backdrop she rented from White Glove Rentals. The boxwood played double-duty as waiter and photo opp as guests helped themselves to bubbly throughout the night.



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