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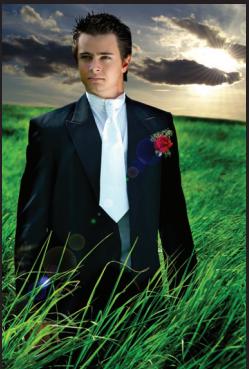
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I do...

I'm not married and I have no plans to get married, but that doesn't stop me from dreaming up my #goals wedding on a regular basis. Want to know what it is? Just ask me—I'm not going to print it here to save some of my dignity.

Maybe you are like me and plan out every detail of your imaginary wedding, or maybe you are actually getting married, in which case, congratulations! Let our annual I Do magazine help you with every step along the way until the big day.

If you are having a destination wedding in the Catskills, or have guests from out of town, read the article about unique lodging options that offer a stylish and serene place to stay for you and your visitors alike. Explore three places that are off the beaten path: an Airbnb house, The North Branch Inn, and Red Cottage Inc., which offers country rental services. After all, wouldn't it be nice to have a special spot to get ready with your close friends and family on your wedding day?

A breathtaking wedding venue lies in the mountains of Long Eddy, NY. Handsome Hollow offers a house, barn and expansive property to make your wedding dreams come true. The idyllic setting is run by couple Kate Murphy and Huck Botko, who turned their country house into a wedding business. Barn weddings are a popular option, and this is the ultimate experience.

Katharine Brown of Fox Hill Farm offers a charming essay about life on the farm—among flowers, that is. Her business not only sells flower arrangements, but also hosts weddings on its bucolic property. Katharine lends her “recipe” for creating a unique and stylish bridal bouquet.

Two local makeup artists divulge their tips and tricks to create any kind of look you could want for bridal beauty. They answer a questionnaire on how to make makeup last, how to create different kinds of looks, skincare routines, and more. Read their answers and book them for yourself and your bridesmaids.

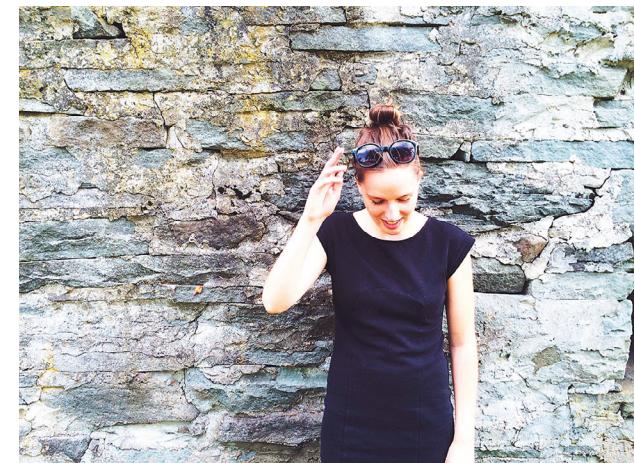
With love,
Isabel
Editor

Cover photo by JBM Weddings

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DESTINATION: The Catskills

OBJECTIVE: Matrimony

By Linda Drollinger

Once upon a time only the wealthy had the luxury of marrying in a beautiful, distant locale. But then the Millennial generation made the practice one of its distinguishing behaviors, often choosing exotic, tropical places for ceremonies on the beach. Now, destination weddings have come of age, appealing to couples of all ages and taking place in spots from Timbuktu to the Sullivan County Catskills.

In fact, a variety of factors have made domestic destination weddings the option of choice for couples seeking convenient, accessible, affordable and impromptu weddings. Soaring airfares, expensive and time-consuming passport and visa applications, marriage license residency requirements, language barriers and the often unpredictable nature of long-distance travel have conspired to make close-to-home destinations more attractive.

Add to the above the legendary natural beauty of the Catskills, the area's long history of world-class hospitality and its proximity to the New York metro area, and you have the recipe for an unforgettable weekend destination wedding. Enter the instant ability of the Internet to show the public what the Catskills can offer today, and selecting the perfect venue is just a click away.

Here are three options to consider when planning a destination wedding, elopement and/or honeymoon in the Catskills.

The North Branch Inn

Beware all ye who enter here, you may never want to leave. Original tin walls and ceilings, genuine antique mirrors and chandeliers, transom windows, claw-foot bathtubs beside the beds and period furniture lend the charm of a bygone era to every room. Huge stall showers with rain showerheads in ensuite bathrooms and Wi-Fi throughout the inn balance that charm with the modern conveniences on which we rely. However, to keep the contemporary world at bay and promote social interaction among guests, there are no televisions or radios here.

The inn, located in the hamlet of North Branch, NY, and its companion property, The Arnold House in Livingston Manor, are loving restorations of native son Sims Foster and his wife, Kirsten Harlow Foster. They wanted to bring back to the Catskills the glorious hospitality that Foster's family knew for five generations.



The North Branch Inn

Contributed photo

They kept the quaint oddities of the inn: a wooden bowling alley with a chef's kitchen smack dab in the middle of it that lets diners bowl and observe a master chef in action while waiting to be served. Communal dining tables let guests sit down to dinner with strangers and retire as intimates. Wood-burning stoves and fireplaces in common areas draw guests together in warm, inviting conversation nooks.

Among the staff here are innkeeper Tess Grasso, wedding coordinator Megan Kinealy and events planner Justine Hoskins. All stand ready to assist wedding couples and their guests. The inn offers all-inclusive wedding packages with burlap and gingham linens, mason jars, flowers, decorations, food and drink. But Hoskins says that couples are also welcome to use their own vendors and decorate the inn and its grounds as they wish.

So picturesque is the creek behind the inn that Kinealy and the inn's executive chef Eric will hold their own wedding ceremony beside it this June, followed by a reception at the inn. Contact: 845/482-2339 or www.northbranchinn.com.

Red Cottage Inc.

This online vacation home rental business headquartered in Grahamsdale, NY offers the kind of insider information

that comes only from longtime residents of an area. Rentals are broken down by region, each of which is well characterized, with particular attributes and attractions amply and accurately described.

Established in 2007, Red Cottage Inc. (RCI) sets itself apart from other online vacation home rental businesses by meticulous curating of host properties. Branding itself as the go-to company for discerning guests, it offers articulate descriptions of each home, interior and exterior, as well as grounds features and accessibility to local attractions.

Some RCI facts:

Pets are allowed on some properties with prior permission and the caveats noted.

Minimum stays may be several days in length.

Guest reviews are not posted.

The three regions encompassed by Sullivan County, NY are: Claryville/Grahamsdale (10 properties); Jeffersonville/Callicoon (five properties); and Roscoe/Livingston Manor (five properties).

Most of these houses are large with grounds to match, some of them with considerable acreage, offering both the privacy and seclusion ideal for elopements and honeymoons. One such property is The Barn in Youngsville,

Continued on page 6

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DESTINATION

Continued from page 4

NY. Below is the information, and at right, one (of many) photos accompanying it:

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Contact: 845/985-7153 or www.redcottageinc.com/contact.

Airbnb

Unlike most urban Airbnb listings where the host shares a portion of his/her home or apartment, rural listings are almost all whole-house rentals with absentee hosts.

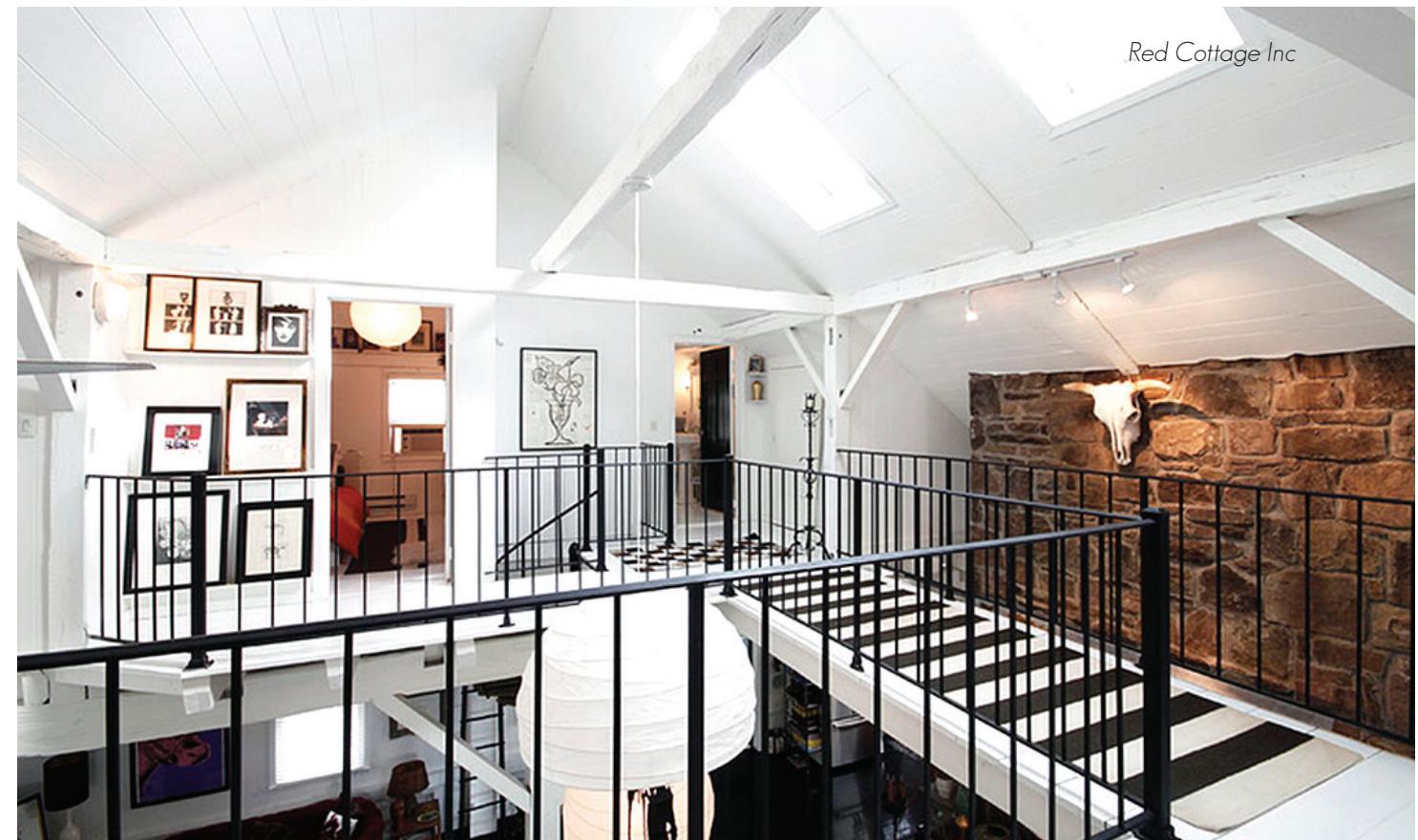
The 18 listings for Sullivan County on February 10 ran the gamut from a \$35/night wooded campsite (bring your own tent) in Hurleyville to a \$300/night log cabin in Liberty, NY to a \$175/night 160-year-old farmhouse on 16 acres in neighboring Milanville, PA to a cozy cabin in Eldred renting for \$250/night.

Multiple-night minimum stays are frequently mandatory, but if the house accommodates a crowd, as most of these do, comings and goings fit more easily into two or more days anyway.

Plenty of guest reviews are posted for each property, most, but not all of them, testimonials. Owners' responses to reviews both positive and negative are also posted.

Each of the above listings has its own unique appeal, as promised by Airbnb, but it's the last listing that drew me in. Owner Claudia was quick to respond to my email query. (Phone contacts once offered by Airbnb have since been discontinued.) Be warned: photos of all Airbnb participants, hosts and guests, are required before email contact between any two can be established.

When I asked Claudia if her house had hosted any weddings, she said no,



Red Cottage Inc

Photo from Red Cottage Inc. website



Photo from Airbnb website

not to her knowledge. But she has had honeymooners. She left the house key for them with a neighbor who owns an ice cream store. The couple picked it up at the

store, tried some of his wares, and were back for more every day of their stay.

Contact: www.airbnb.com.



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Something old, something new

A restored barn on 93 acres offers the perfect wedding venue



Bayly & Moore Photography

By Isabel Braverman

Handsome Hollow can only be described as idyllic. The wedding venue includes a three-bedroom house, a 4,000-square-foot barn and 93 acres of fields, meadows, forests and mountain views situated in Long Eddy, NY. Whether you imagine an intimate, casual day, or something more formal and grand, Handsome Hollow was created to be your dream wedding come true.

Husband-and-wife owners Huck Botko and Kate Murphy transformed their weekend home into a wedding venue, basically from the ground up. They came to the area from New York City 15 years ago and remodeled the 19th-century farmhouse on the property, which had been dormant for a while and needed a lot of work. After years of renovation, they had a charming country home. They left the original details and added modern updates. Soon they began to rent it out on Airbnb, and many guests started asking about holding events there. That's how they got the idea to create Handsome Hollow.

The venue opened in August 2015 and had a successful season of weddings. This coming summer, the owners already have 23 weddings booked. It is available from May to October (check the website for dates and rates). The rate includes the entire weekend, and guests can make use of the house, the grounds or the barn, with the ceremony and reception held where you wish. Kate and Huck are the point-people during the weekend; they also have a list of their preferred recommendations for caterers, florists and the like. Location options for the ceremony include a fallen stone wall from the original barn foundation, an open field with mountain views, or an ancient apple grove.

The Handsome Hollow wedding barn has soaring ceilings, original post-and-beam construction and elegant details. Originally built 240 years ago near Albany, NY, the structure was a working dairy barn until the spring of 2014, when it was dismantled and cleaned for relocation. In October 2014, the timbers were delivered and the frame assembled on-site in 10 days. Over the following eight months, local craftsman worked on the barn and the grounds until completion in July 2015.

The barn comfortably seats 150 people. There are two bathrooms, each uniquely designed, and a kitchen and catering area. The siding is an antique silver-grey barn wood with a standing-seam roof and cupola. On the side is a bluestone cocktail patio with an overhang in case of rain.

Kate and Huck didn't have any previous wedding business experience, but they do love to entertain. Kate is a creative director in advertising, and Huck is in the film and television business, so they have a flair for organizing and designing, as well as putting their personal touch on things. They are happy to work with local businesses, and appreciate their relationships.

The house, the barn and the grounds are beautifully designed, bringing the old Catskills country together with new modern and sleek décor. It all makes for an unforgettable rustic chic wedding destination.



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Fox Hill Farm and the 'recipe' for a bridal bouquet

By Katharine Brown

Two-and-a-half months. I had just two-and-a-half months between spring and fall frosts when I first tried my hand at growing anything in the mountains of Colorado. One can imagine it was not altogether satisfying. Moving to Northeast Pennsylvania with about five months and a blank piece of land was entering a whole new world. Twelve years later, after much learning from others and many worn shovels, the gardens are a bit out of control, but the satisfaction is palpable. Somewhere along the way I realized I needed to offset the cost of my obsession (fellow gardeners, I know you understand) and started to sell bouquets at local farmers markets. I now grow, design and deliver floral arrangements for weddings and special events both here at Fox Hill Farm, and throughout the area.

The farm is home to our small family, a herd of grass-fed beef, a flock of busy chickens and horny roosters, the aforementioned crazy gardens, and a late 19th-century bank barn. This year will be the

third season of weddings here on the farm. After all those projects and worn shovels later, it is extremely rewarding to see people enjoying the farm as they celebrate a fabulous couple. No offense to the couples, but if the photographer uses a row of flowers or a perennial garden as a backdrop, I cry with happiness for the flowers.

My favorite piece to design for weddings is, not surprisingly, the bridal bouquet. I love being a part of a couple's celebration through flowers, but the bridal bouquet is the "cherry on top" of it all. I am certainly able to order roses aplenty, but if given license to go beyond the traditional, nothing in the garden is off-limits. Flowers, yes, but also grasses, shrubs, fruits, and sometimes even trees can be a part of the recipe. Every year I seem to have a few new favorites depending on the season, but this past year, Solomon's seal, black currants, curly willow, and heuchera were on the top of my list for greenery. Dahlias, old-fashioned zinnias, astilbe and love-in-a-mist topped the list of flowers. I cringe as I write

Continued on page 12



AGS Photo Art



Mindy Lipcavage Photography



Justin Tearney Photography

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BOUQUET

Continued from page 10

this list because so many others come to mind. It's just not possible to make a short list!

Ask any of my family members; I have much more luck with a recipe of flowers than a recipe of foodstuffs. A bridal bouquet recipe includes a few "big deal" flowers, several smaller coordinating flowers, different hues and textures of green and bits and pieces of something interesting. As the stems of each of these ingredients are worked together in a spiral fashion, the bouquet begins to take form. Threading the bits and pieces back through the main body of the bouquet gives it a wild, natural look which can easily be tamed with a pull or a snip. With a tie and a ribbon, the bouquet is complete.

Though I wish I could say 100% of each arrangement is grown right here in our area, I'm not there yet. Fellow gardeners are not surprised when their phone rings with pleas for a special flower I know they grow. There are amazing men and women who are growing vegetables and flowers to keep local what we eat and what we use to beautify our tabletops. Food tastes better and flowers last longer when they are from over the hill and through the woods rather than over the oceans and across many countries. For a list of these fantastic farmers, start with your area's farmers market.

Here in Pennsylvania, a longer growing season allows time for pruning, transplanting, and starting over. It is a lucky person who can use this process as a means to beautify someone's wedding day. I hope you'll keep up with the growing, arranging, events and projects here at the farm via Facebook, Instagram @ foxhillfarmexp, or our soon to be revamped, foxhillfarmexperience.com. Happy growing to all!



Mindy Lipcavage Photography



Jordan Denike Photography

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The River Reporter's 21st Annual 2015 READERS' CHOICE AWARDS

THE BEST BALLOT IS BACK!

We have revamped our ballot and it's better than ever! We ask that you simply vote for the people, places or businesses that you think are the BEST. Thank you for your participation and we look forward to receiving your votes. If there is a category that we are missing, let us know!

We will publish our 2016 WINNERS in our annual Readers' Choice Awards "BEST" supplement in January 2017. Remember, you can always vote online at riverreporter.com/best

Good Luck to all!

Food

- Appetizers _____
- Atmosphere _____
- Authentic Meal _____
- Bagels _____
- Bakery _____
- Bar Atmosphere _____
- Bar Overall _____
- Barbecue _____
- Barbecue Food _____
- Beer Selection _____
- Best Bagel Shop _____
- Breakfast Buffet _____
- Breakfast Menu _____
- Brunch Buffet _____
- Brunch _____
- Budget-friendly _____
- Buffet _____
- Buffet Chinese _____
- Burger Place _____
- Burrito _____
- Candy Shop _____
- Catering _____
- Cheese Steaks _____
- Chicken Wings _____
- Chinese Restaurant _____
- Chocolates _____
- Coffee _____
- Coffee Shop _____
- Deli _____
- Desserts _____
- Diner _____
- Dinner _____
- Dinner Specials _____
- Early Bird Specials _____
- Ethnic Cusine _____
- Family Restaurant _____
- Fastest Take Out Service _____
- Fine Dining Restaurant _____
- Food Truck _____
- French Fries _____
- French Restaurant _____
- Fried Chicken _____
- Friendliest Service _____
- Gourmet Popcorn/Snacks _____
- Gourmet Restaurant _____
- Greek Restaurant _____
- Grocery Store /Supermarket _____
- Hamburgers _____
- Happy Hour _____
- Health Food Store _____
- Hoagie _____
- Home Cooking Restaurant _____
- Hot Dog _____
- Ice Cream Shop _____
- Indian _____
- Italian Restaurant _____
- Japanese Restaurant _____
- Kid Friendly Restaurant _____
- Latin Restaurant _____
- Local Watering Hole _____
- Local Winery _____
- Locally-Sourced Menu _____

- Lunch _____
- Lunch Bargain _____
- Lunch Under \$5 _____
- Martini's _____
- Menu _____
- Mexican _____
- Microbrewery _____
- Most Romantic Restaurant _____
- New Restaurant _____
- Off The Beaten Path _____
- Outdoor Dining _____
- Overall Restaurant _____
- Pasta Dish _____
- Pizza _____
- Pizza Place _____
- Place to Have a Cocktail _____
- Place to Have First Date _____
- Prime Rib _____
- Ribs _____
- Romantic Restaurant _____
- Salad _____
- Salad Bar _____
- Sandwiches _____
- Seafood _____
- Soup _____
- Sports Bar _____
- Steakhouse _____
- Sunday Brunch _____
- Sushi _____
- Sweet Shop _____
- Taco _____
- Tavern _____
- Tea Room _____
- Thai Cuisine _____
- Vegetarian _____
- Wedding Cakes _____
- Wine Bar _____
- Wine Selection _____
- Wings _____
- Restaurant - Delaware County _____
- Restaurant - Orange County _____
- Restaurant - Pike County _____
- Restaurant - Sullivan County _____
- Restaurant - Wayne _____
- Restauran - Region _____

People & Places

- 55+ Active Adult Community _____
- Accountant _____
- Acupuncture _____
- Apartment Community _____
- Appliance Dealer _____
- Architect _____
- Assisted Living Facility _____
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- Fitness Equipment _____
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- Friendly Staff _____
- Funeral Home _____
- Furniture Store _____
- Garbage & Junk Removal _____
- Garden Center/Nursery _____
- Green Business _____
- Gym _____
- Gymnastic Center _____
- Hair & Nail Salon _____
- Hair Salon _____
- Hair Stylist _____
- Hardware Store _____
- Health Insurance Provider _____
- Health/Natural Foods _____
- Hearing Aid Center _____
- Hearing Aid Specialist _____
- Heating & Air Conditioning _____
- Heating Fuel Company _____
- Holistic Practitioner _____
- Home & Garden Store _____
- Home Builder _____
- Home Health Service _____
- Home Improvement Store Local _____
- Home Inspector _____
- Home Insulation Installation Local _____
- Home Renovation _____
- Hospital/ Medical Facility _____
- Hospital/Health Network _____
- House Cleaning Service _____
- HVAC _____
- Insurance Agency _____
- Insurance Agent _____
- Interior Decorator _____
- Interior Designer/Design Center Local _____
- Internet Provider _____
- Jewelry Watch/Clock Repair _____
- Kid's Camp _____
- Kitchen & Bath Store _____
- Kitchen Designer/Remodeler _____
- Landscape Supply Center _____
- Landscaper _____
- Landscaping _____
- Laser Hair Removal _____
- Law Enforcement Officer _____
- Law Firm _____
- Lawn & Garden Equipment _____
- Lawn Equip Sales & Service Local _____
- Lawyer _____
- Lighting Store _____
- Limo Service _____
- Local Hero _____
- Martial Arts School _____
- Mason _____
- Massage Therapist _____
- Maternity Unit _____
- Mattress Store _____
- Medical Spa _____
- Medical Specialist _____
- Modular Homes _____
- Mortgage Company _____
- Nail Salon _____
- New Business of the Year _____
- Non- Profit Organization _____
- Nursing Home _____
- Nursing Services _____
- Obstetrician _____
- Oil Company _____
- Optometrist _____
- Orthodontist _____
- Orthopedic Services _____
- Painter _____
- Painting And Decorating Store _____
- Painting Service _____
- Patient Care _____
- Patio Furniture _____
- Paving Contractor _____
- Pediatrician _____
- Personal Care Home _____

More on the other side

The River Reporter's 21st Annual 2015 READERS' CHOICE AWARDS

Personal Fitness Trainer _____
 Pest Control _____
 Pet Boarding Kennel _____
 Pet Pampering _____
 Pet Day Care _____
 Pet Grooming _____
 Pet Groomer _____
 Pet Trainer _____
 Pharmacy _____
 Photographer _____
 Photography Studio _____
 Physical Rehab Center _____
 Physical Therapist _____
 Picture Framer _____
 Place to have a Baby _____
 Plumber _____
 Plumbing & Heating Supply _____
 Podiatrist _____
 Politician _____
 Pool Builder/Contractor _____
 Postmaster _____
 PreSchool _____
 Radio Personality _____
 Real Estate Agent _____
 Real Estate Attorney _____
 Real Estate Company _____
 Real Estate Website _____
 Recreation & Entertainment _____
 Recycle & Transfer Station _____
 Rehabilitation Services _____
 Rental Center _____
 Retractable Awnings _____
 Roofer _____
 Roofing Contractor _____
 Salvage Company _____
 Septic Service _____
 Spa or Personal Pampering _____
 Storage Center _____
 Sunrooms _____
 Surgeon _____
 Tailor _____
 Tanning Salon _____
 Tattoo Parlor _____
 Tax Preparation _____
 Teacher _____
 Temp Agency _____
 Therapeutic Massage _____
 Towing Service _____
 Truck Center _____
 Tuxedo Rentals _____
 Veterinarian _____
 Veterinarian Clinic _____
 Vocational Technical School _____
 Waiter/Waitress _____
 Waterproofing Basement _____
 Weight Loss Center _____
 Well Driller _____
 Window Replacement _____
 Window Treatments _____
 Women's Health Center _____
 Yoga Studio _____
 Yoga Teacher _____

Shopping

Antique Store _____
 Antiques/Collectibles _____
 Auto Dealer Domestic _____
 Auto Dealer Foreign _____
 Auto Dealer PreOwned _____
 Auto Parts Store _____
 Baby Gifts _____
 Baby/Kids Store _____
 Beer Distributor _____
 Boat Dealer/Rental _____
 Boat/Marine Service _____
 Bookstore _____
 Botique _____
 Bridal Shop _____
 Camera Shop _____
 Card Shop _____
 Cigar Shop _____
 Clothing Store _____
 Clothing Store Men _____
 Clothing Store Women _____
 Collectibles Store _____
 Computer Sales _____
 Consignment Shop _____
 Convenience Store _____
 Craft Beer Selection _____
 Craft Supply _____
 Department Store _____
 Electronics _____
 Ethnic Food Store _____
 Fabric Store _____
 Farm Equipment Retailer _____
 Farmers Market _____
 Flea Market _____
 Flooring Store _____
 Florist _____
 Formal Wear _____
 Furniture Store _____
 General Store _____
 Gift Shop _____
 Gold/Silver Buying _____
 Golf Apparel/Accessory Store _____
 Grocery Store _____
 Hardware Store _____
 Hobby Store _____
 Home Décor _____
 Jewelry Store _____
 Kids Clothes _____
 Knit Shop _____
 Liquor Store _____
 Local Sweet Corn _____
 Locally-made products _____
 Lumberyard _____
 Mall _____
 Medical Equipment _____
 Motorcycle Shop _____
 Music Store _____
 Musical Instrument Store _____
 Novelty Shop _____
 Outdoor Recreational Vehicles _____
 Outlet Shopping Complex _____
 Party Supply Store _____
 Pet Store _____
 Pet Supplies _____
 Place to Buy Art _____
 Place to Buy Pool/Spa _____
 Pool Table or Game Store _____
 Pottery Studio _____
 Poultry Market _____
 Produce Local _____
 Rare Coin Dealer _____
 Religion/Spirituality Store _____
 RV Sales/Service _____
 SeafoodStore _____
 Sewing Machine Service/Supply _____
 Shoe Store Child _____
 Shoe Store Local _____
 Ski Shop _____
 Speciality Store _____
 Sporting Goods Shop _____
 Tattoo/Ear Piercing Shop _____
 Tire Sales/Service _____

Toy Store _____
 Tuxedo Rental _____
 TV/Electronics _____
 Vacuum Cleaner Store _____
 Vintage Shop _____
 Wellness & Personal Style _____
 Winery/Vineyard _____
 Locally Produced Cheese _____
 Locally Produced Eggs _____
 Locally Produced Meats _____
 Locally Produced Maple Syrup _____
 Locally Produced Wine _____
 Meditation Center _____
 Movie Theatre _____
 Museum _____
 Neighborhood _____
 Pancake Breakfast _____
 Parade _____
 Penny Social _____
 Place to Hold a Prom _____
 Places to Play Bingo _____
 Place to Take out of town guests _____
 Place to Take the kids _____
 Playhouse Theatre _____
 Post Office _____
 Private School _____
 Radio Station _____
 Resort _____
 Shopping Area _____
 Ski Lodge _____
 Special Area Attraction _____
 Sullivan Renaissance Project _____
 Wedding Reception Location _____
 Winery _____
 Youth Center _____
 Youth Program _____

Community

Ambulance Squad _____
 Amusement/ Fun Park _____
 Animal Shelter _____
 Art Gallery _____
 Atmosphere _____
 Bed & Breakfast _____
 Bowling Lanes _____
 Canoe Livery _____
 Campground _____
 Chamber of Commerce _____
 Chicken BBQ (Volunteer) _____
 Cider Mill _____
 Civic Club or Organization _____
 College _____
 Community Festival or Street Fair _____
 Conference Center _____
 Dance Studio _____
 Day Trip _____
 Fair _____
 Family Night Out _____
 Farm Market _____
 Fire Department _____
 Golf Course _____
 Historic Site _____
 Horseback Riding _____
 Hotel _____
 Law Office _____
 Library _____
 Live Music Venue _____
 Artist _____
 Author _____
 Celebrity _____
 Farm _____
 Getaway _____
 Golf Pro _____
 Musician/Band _____
 Potter _____
 Local Products _____
 Locally Produced Beer / Spirits _____

HOW TO VOTE: Please print clearly your choices for "THE BEST" from the categories listed. Best choices are limited to Delaware, Orange, Pike, Sullivan and Wayne counties. You may also VOTE ONLINE: www.RiverReporter.com/BEST

HOW TO ENTER: NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Additional ballots are available at **The River Reporter** office at 93 Erie Ave, Narrowsburg, NY. Ballots MUST be complete and include full name, address and phone number of voter. All ballots must be received by December 15, 2016. Employees of **The River Reporter** and **Stuart Communications** are permitted to vote but not eligible to win prizes. Entries that are late, damaged, illegible or missing voter's name will not be eligible. One entry per person. Mechanically reproduced or Photo-copied entries are not eligible. A business, organization or person may win no more than three (3) categories. Winners will be chosen based on the number of votes received by December 15th, 2016.

HOW TO WIN PRIZES: All ballots will be included in a random drawing for prizes. Drawing will be held in January 2017. No duplicate winners. BEST Winners will be notified in January 2017.

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Two makeup artists spill their secrets



Local makeup artists Liz LePoidevin and Andrea Martini have been in the beauty business for 12 years. They specialize in wedding makeup and hair, and have their own bridal team called "I Do Bridal Beauty." They can create any kind of makeup look a bride desires, as well as hairstyles. Here they answer all the questions we had about makeup for weddings, and they share their tips and tricks to achieve the perfect look on your big day. To book their services, email ido.bridalbeauty16@gmail.com.

What trends in wedding makeup do you see?

Fresh-faced makeup and luminous, glowing skin

Is there anything you need to do to prep the skin?

We recommend getting a facial one week before the wedding and have your brows cleaned up as well. Exfoliation the night before and using a good moisturizer will help smooth the skin.

False eyelashes—do or don't?

Lashes are a big YES! When properly applied, they accentuate the eyes. Choosing the right lashes will keep the look from being too over the top.

What about brows—bold or natural?

Natural brows always look best, but filled in and well groomed.

Is waterproof makeup essential?

Waterproof mascara is a must! When the makeup is applied properly it can last throughout the day and through almost anything.

How do you make the makeup last for a long time (foundation, lipstick, etc.)?

Make sure the skin is moisturized and use a quality primer, (we love the Smashbox primer.) Technique to the application and setting is key.

Is there anything you do that you wouldn't expect?

We urge our brides to avoid extremely dark eye makeup and do not go overboard on the tanning.

If someone wanted a “natural” look, how would you create it?

Creating a natural look is done by making the foundation look like skin and not makeup. Play up features subtly, while using technique to enhance and shape the face. Shading and contouring softly can really lift the cheek bones, open the eyes and make the nose seem narrower.

Is bold lipstick a popular choice, especially red?

We love bold lips, especially red; it creates a classic look. A soft and natural lip color made a shade richer is also a sweet angelic look. They are different looks, but both timeless.



If someone wanted a “glam” look, how would you create it?

“Glam” means so many different things. Smoky eyes done correctly can look absolutely stunning on the wedding day. Highlight and contouring can create a more dramatic look as well. Balancing eye makeup with a softly played up lip and flushed cheeks ties this look together well.

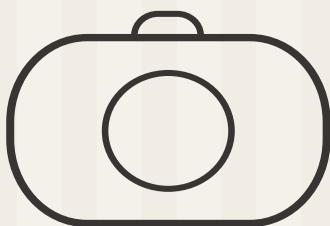
Any secret tips or tricks?

Search images online for wedding day makeup. Have two makeup ideas you want to try, so you can pick what suits your look best. We also like to promote having a good skin care regimen as well. Using a good daily cleanser, exfoliating two to three times a week and using a face cream are the essentials. Taking care of your skin, maintaining its health and radiance means less product as well.

Check out I Do Bridal Beauty's Facebook page for more tips and tricks: www.facebook.com/idobridalbeauty.

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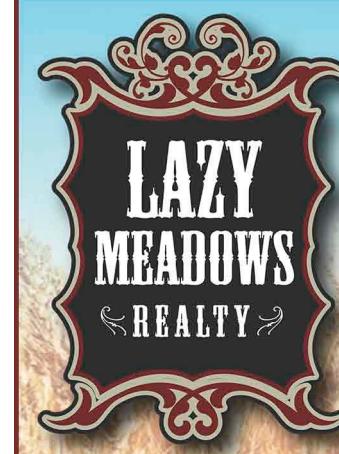
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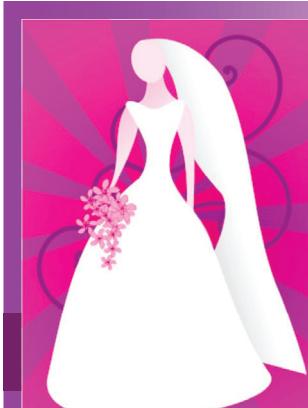
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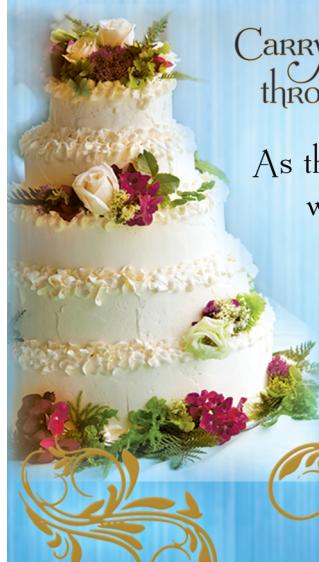
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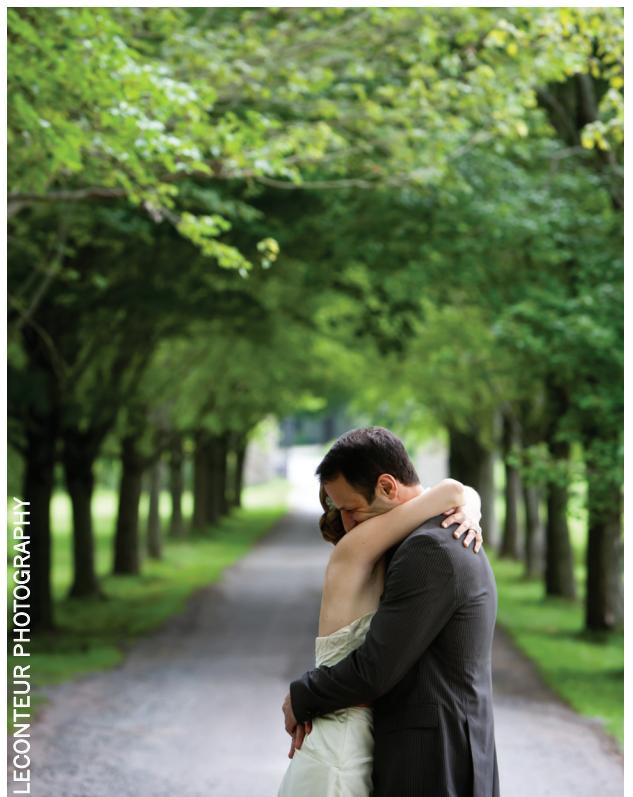
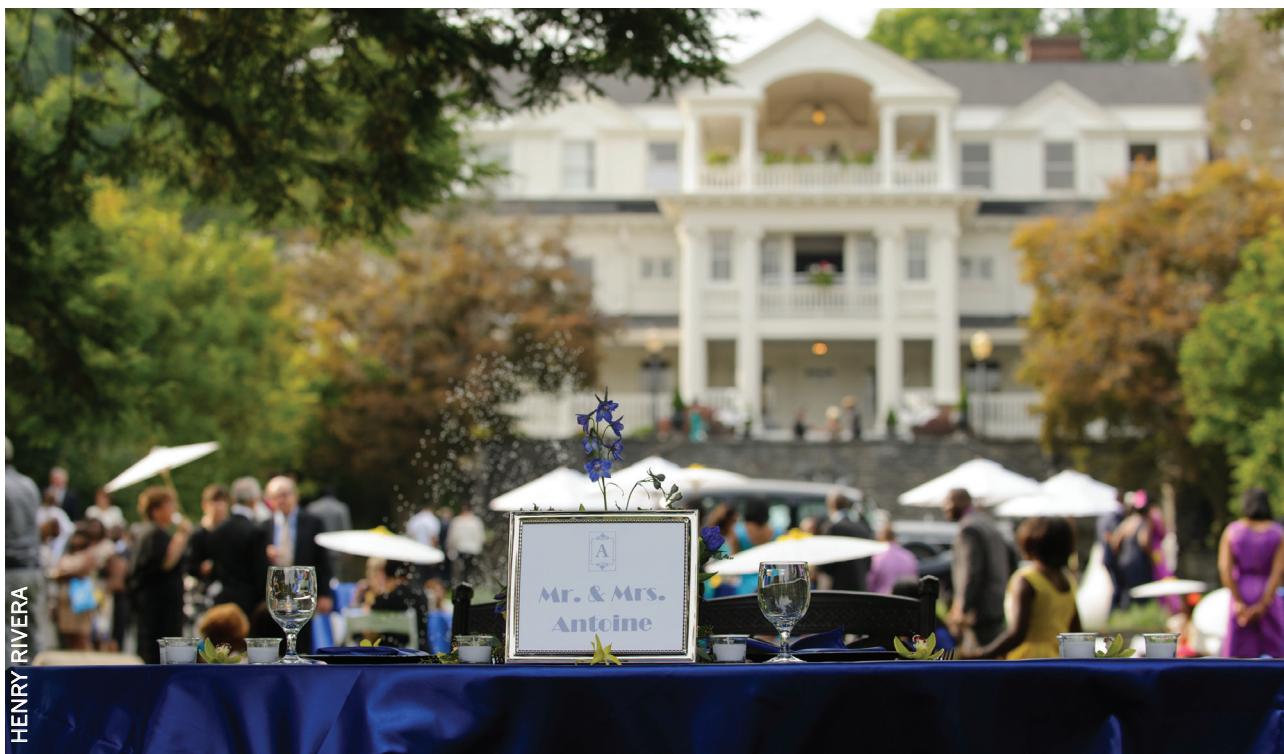
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