

TENNESSEE VALLEY

Brides

2019

Honeymoon
Where do you want to go?

Pretty paper
The first glimpse of your wedding
is your wedding invitations

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We are so excited to present our eighth issue of Tennessee Valley Brides Magazine. This year has been, by far, our busiest and most fun! I continue to be amazed at the breadth of options available in wedding design and have loved seeing how it has evolved over the past few years. This issue has a great planning checklist for newly engaged couples, some of my favorite wedding vendors "Do's & Don'ts" on your big day and so much more! Our cover bride, Madison McDonald Hamner, made this year's magazine an eye catcher. Be sure to check out the details and photos of her wedding day. I would like to say a special thank you to all of the beautiful brides in our 2018 local brides section that has made this one of the best issues yet. Each local bride took the extra step to make their day unique and memorable. Brides-to-be, this is the perfect place to share your wedding with your friends, family and all the Tennessee Valley so they can be inspired by your ideas and details. If you are planning your wedding for 2019 make sure you call and reserve your spot for next year's local brides section! I love meeting new brides, and I look forward to helping you share your special day with the Tennessee Valley.

Cecilia Brumley - TN Valley Brides Magazine Coordinator



Cecilia Brumley
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On the Cover

— Photos by HEATHER SHERRILL of CREATE PORTRAITURE



McDonald, Hamner

06.23.18

McDonald, Hamner

Madison Blair McDonald and Matthew Harrison Hamner were married June 23, 2018, at 6:30 in the evening at Stonewood Farms in Tuscaloosa with Tony Reynolds officiating. The reception followed at The North River Yacht Club in Tuscaloosa.



Photos by Heather Sherrill of Create Portraiture.



The bride is the daughter of David and Marla Smith, of Town Creek, and Brian McDonald, of Muscle Shoals. She is the granddaughter of Norma McClure and the late Kenneth McClure, of Muscle Shoals.

The groom is the son of Mike and Lori Reynolds, of Maplesville, and Max Hamner, of Tuscaloosa. He is the grandson of Jerry and Peggy Harrison, of Maplesville, and Mildred Sutton, of Tuscaloosa.

The bride's Randy Fenoli gown, along with her veil and headpiece, were purchased from The Something Blue Shoppe. She wore earrings from usabride.com and shoes by Badgley Mischka.

Maid of honor was Abbey McDonald, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Morgan Hamner, sister of the groom; Caitlin Martin, Carley Franks, Hannah Hollis, Samantha Yeager, Allison White, Kailee James, all friends of the bride. Junior bridesmaids were Gracie Smith and Ansley Smith. Flower girls were Rayne Henry, Aspen Henry, and Blakely Butler.



Christi Patton was the floral designer for this beautiful June wedding.

Best man was Hunter McCay, cousin of the groom. Groomsmen were Kyser Smith, Max McDonald, brother of the bride; Joe Hallahan, Bob White, Jared White, Cody Jones, Dawson Thomas, all friends of the groom. Ring bearers were Hudson Matthews and Waylon Dixon.

Wedding director was Jennifer McGuire. Floral designer was Christi Patton. The reception was catered by the venue, The North River Yacht Club. The wedding cake and groom's cake were made by Jan O'Donnell of Wedding Cakes by Jan. Reception decor was made by Nikki Koch.

Bridal hair and make-up
by Lauren Vining Hunter.



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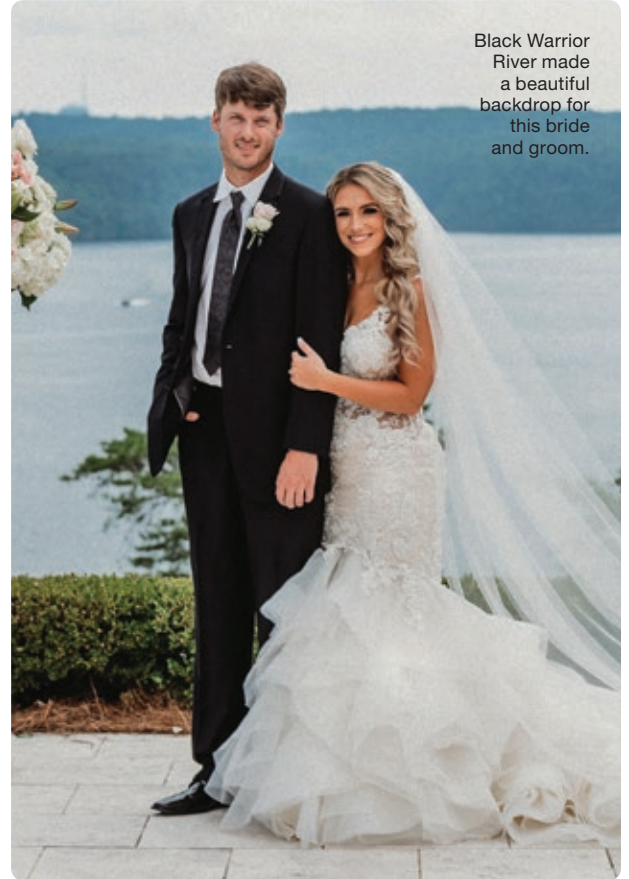


The bride's hair and makeup were done by Lauren Vining Hunter and the bridesmaids were done by Madeline Hulse. Photographer was Heather Sherrill of Create Portraiture and videographer was Lance Holloway of Holloway Productions.

The groom's grandfather is a peach farmer from Chilton County, Alabama so the groom chose to do his groom's cake table theme in peaches.

When the night was over, the bride and groom jumped in the pool of The North River Yacht Club in their wedding attire.

After a honeymoon at Sandals Emerald Bay in Exuma, Bahamas, the couple is now residing in Maplesville, Alabama.



Black Warrior River made a beautiful backdrop for this bride and groom.





Maid of Honor : Madison Blair McDonald
 Abbey McDonald
 Bridesmaids : Matthew Harrison Hamner
 Kaitlee Burnett
 Carley Franks
 Morgan Hamner
 Hannah Hollis
 Caitlin Martin
 Allison White
 Samantha Yeager
 Best Man : Hunter McCoy
 Groomsmen :
 Joe Hallahan
 Cody Jones
 Max McDonald
 Kyser Smith
 Dawson Thomas
 Jared White
 Jeremy "Bob" White
 June 23, 2018
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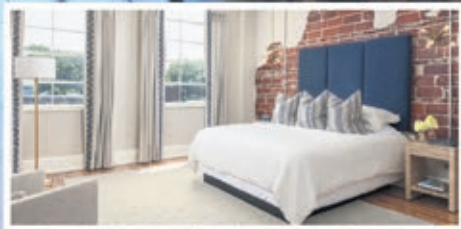


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Friends from across the years stood by Madison on her big day wearing dresses from Mary's Bridal in Moulton.



Matthew and these sharp dressed groomsmen wore tuxes from JoS. A. Bank



The first dance as Mr. and Mrs. was to Davi Gray's "This Year Love".



Madison and Matthew had a truly enchanting evening celebrated with friends and family.



just us

Elopement really does bring wedding commitment down to the basics: each other



“This wedding took my photography to new heights-literally! I enjoy shooting elopements and destination weddings for my couples.”
-Heather Sherrill

by JENNIFER CROSSLEY HOWARD
Photos by HEATHER SHERRILL OF CREATE PORTRAITURE

It occurred to her while sitting in a church pew watching her friends practice getting married. Jami Dawson and her boyfriend were at a rehearsal for a large, traditional wedding.

She looked over at him and asked, "Are you ready for that to be us?"

"I just couldn't envision us doing that," Dawson continued. "I said, 'You want to just run off to the mountains in Colorado?'"

He did.

Dawson and her boyfriend, Jonathan Dixon, of Clarksville, Tennessee, took two weeks to plan their elopement — yes, even elopements require some preparation — on Green Mountain outside Denver.

Besides getting married, eloping is one off the best decisions Dawson ever made.

"If I had to do it all over again, I'd recommend it



"If I had to do it all over again, I'd recommend it to anybody."
~Jami



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The mountains of Colorado were the perfect backdrop for Jami and Jonathan's elopement.



to anybody," she said.

In the South, the fairytale wedding with a white dress, a dozen bridesmaids and a tiered cake, preferably at a country club, church or rustic barn still reigns.

But for couples who've already had one storybook wedding (without a happily ever after) and others who crave simplicity in their hectic lives, eloping is the answer.

Florence-based photographer

Heather Sherrill of CREATE Portraiture has an elopement package at her business, and most couples who buy it are first-time brides and grooms.

Sherrill is a fan of eloping



because it distills the meaning of a wedding ceremony — to pledge unconditional love, forever — to its basic elements. Bride, groom, love, officiant; anything else is optional.

For many brides, wedding planning is reason enough to elope to escape the time and often unwanted but well-meaning input from loved ones.

“The stress of it is terrible,” Sherrill said. With eloping, “you really have the people there who care, and that’s great.”

The image of an elopement once might have brought to mind a couple marrying at the county courthouse in their blue jeans. It can be that relaxed or more elaborate, with the dress, the cake and the flowers, yet on a smaller scale.

Dawson and her husband married with only themselves and Sherrill present to photograph the event. Colorado requires no witness or officiant. Dawson married wearing a dress she found on Facebook from Nashville, holding wildflowers she and her mother picked from the mountainside. Her mother fashioned Dawson’s bouquet and her husband’s boutonniere from those flowers. Dawson and

her husband winged their lines. Her parents, aunt, cousin and younger sister stood a few feet away, allowing the couple privacy to become husband and wife.

For almost half an hour, they felt like the only people in the world. Besides their voices, the only sound they heard was the wind.

When Dixon, her husband, screamed, everyone knew it was official.

“We made it our day as opposed to everyone else’s day,” Dawson said. “A lot of times, it is for your guests. I wanted it to be about us.”

She knew she and her husband needed a small affair to maintain the seriousness of their commitment.

“I know we’d be making jokes out of our vows if we had to do it in front of everyone,” she said.

Krystina Lovelady, of Town Creek, married her husband, Zach, in Orange Beach. It was the second marriage for both, and could not have been more spontaneous.

“We literally decided three days before that we were going to go do it,” Lovelady said.

She found out her friend Sherrill was heading to the beach for

Krystina and Zach chose Orange Beach for their elopement.



Celebrating
seaside will
always be a
favorite of couples
looking to elope
or have a small
intimate affair.



work, and she and her fiancé would be there too, on vacation. They married at Perdido Pass as fellow vacationers and swimmers enjoyed the ocean. Lovelady wore a \$29 white halter gown.

"I had a huge first wedding, and he did, too," Lovelady said. "I just wanted something simple and intimate with just us. We wrote our own vows. It was great."

She advises couples considering elopement to remember what the wedding is about.

"Don't stress about it because in the end, you just want to be married anyway," Lovelady said.



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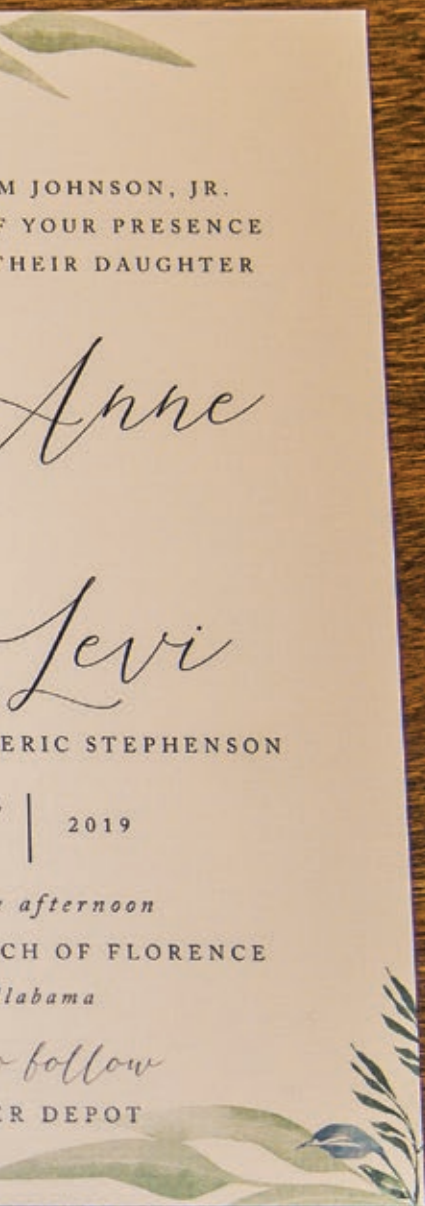
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"Cornflower blue and hand-lettering fonts are a bride favorite right now."

~Julianna Brewer
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Designer at
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Photos by HEATHER SHERRILL
of CREATE PORTRAITURE

Pretty Paper...

by CECILIA BRUMLEY

If you're like most couples, you want your wedding to be unique, personal, and a memorable experience for your guests. The first glimpse of your wedding is the wedding invitations. You want to be sure to set the tone, theme, and overall feel of your wedding from the moment your guests open their mailbox.

I have caught up with Julianna Brewer, Fine Stationary Designer at PSI in Florence, and asked her a few questions about how to prepare for sending the most formal invite of your life.

1. How much should a bride budget for wedding invitations?

At PSI, our goal is to make every bride's wedding dreams come true, no matter the budget. We have a wide array of invitations in every price range and will always work with our brides to get the right price.

2. What is the latest trend you are seeing in wedding invitations?

The biggest trend we are noticing is that there are no rules when it comes to wedding invitations! We love that our brides express their unique tastes through the design of their invitations. Our current brides are loving florals, soft colors, and hand lettering fonts.

3. Where do I start in customizing my wedding invitations?

Our new brides can call me and set up an appointment to discuss details, ideas, and visions for the wedding invitations.

4. Should my table numbers, place cards, ceremony programs, menus all coordinate with my invitations?

These days, this is totally up to the bride, but we do love when a wedding suite all ties together and has a central theme!

5. Save-the-dates... what are my options and when do I need to send those out?

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honeymoon
**Where do
you want
to go?**

by JENNIFER CROSSLEY HOWARD

Like booking a wedding venue or finding the right bridal gown, planning a honeymoon can't be done too soon, according to Kimberly Mann, a travel agent at Two Sisters Travel Company in Shelbyville, Tennessee.

In fact, as soon as a ceremony date is set, she advises couples to start considering where they want to go and when. Knowing whether they want a low-key trip to a mountain cabin or an all-inclusive resort helps them stick to a budget.

"It doesn't hurt to book in advance or as soon as flights are available to that destination," Mann said.

If a couple wants a special room or suite for an extended period, she suggests scheduling a year in advance.

She advises couples to use a travel agent to plan foreign honeymoons and those at resorts to get the most for their money as well as special packages offered to newlyweds. Agents are practiced in asking for such deals and bargaining for them if they aren't included in packages. Flowers waiting on beds and welcome platters of appetizers and chocolates are perks usually reserved for honeymooners. Cruises with their many ports and



Honeymoon in a romantic city.

Honeymoon atop snowcapped mountains.



destinations are often easier to book with the assistance of an agent, she added.

"A lot of times booking online can be very confusing," Mann said. "It helps to have someone who can have all the resorts and cruises available."

U.S. News & World Report ranked Tuscany as the best honeymoon destination for 2017-18. The exotic French Polynesian locales of Tahiti and Bora Bora followed, along with St. Lucia and Fiji in the South Pacific. Jamaica is a local honeymoon favorite, and is fairly accessible since it is relatively close to the

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"There are a lot more flights to and from Jamaica, so it's more affordable," Mann said.

Many couples opt to stay closer to home, going to Gatlinburg or Gulf Shores.

As far as what to bring, definitely pack an outfit and toiletries in your carryon in case your checked bags get lost. And pack less, especially for beach getaways.

"You'll spend most of the time in a bathing suit and cover-up," Mann said.

Couples who choose to travel abroad should take care to monitor any changes in weather or security that might hinder flights or cause interstate delays.

Arrive at the airport 2.5 hours before flights out of the country and at least 1.5 hours before domestic departures. Keep in mind that shuttle rides, security checks and early arrivals of other flights can hasten departure times. Mann cited a local couple whose international flight got canceled but because they were in the throes of post-marital bliss were oblivious to delayed flights and other cares of the world. Because they had no one to notify them of such changes, they arrived late and spent their wedding night in Atlanta.

Honeymoon on the seas.



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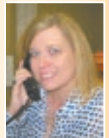
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Casey took along her buddy Tripp for her bridal shoot.

Photos by HEATHER SHERRILL of CREATE PORTRAITURE



Austin and Bailey included their love of horses into their engagement session.



Dylan included his beloved pups, Kate and Olie, when he popped the question to Keri Lynn.

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Mae was picture perfect during Meagan and Austin's engagement session.



Best man, Niko, poses for a quick picture before John says, "I do" to Jami.





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Summitt was the first to take a stroll down the aisle with the new Mr. and Mrs. when Drew and Amanda married in June.



- Photo compliments of LEAH GRACE PHOTOGRAPHY



Tommie and Jake couldn't imagine not having Ryder be a part of their big day.

- Photo compliments of APRIL WARHURST OF BLUE BIRDS RED BIRDS

Gus wasn't too sure about his role as ring bearer when his lifelong friend Matt married Taylor in the fall.



Oscar and Sadie were ready for the black-tie affair when their owners married in early spring.



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HOW TO BE *a* Gracious Guest *and a* Big-Hearted Bride

by CECILIA BRUMLEY

I have surveyed some of my favorite Tennessee Valley wedding vendors and asked them what obstacles they face during wedding planning and events. Here are some of their pet peeves you can avoid as a bride and as a guest...

- Make a decision! It's your wedding, not your momma's, your aunt's or your mother-in-law's. Don't try to please everyone. You will live to regret it.
- Brides, this one is for you. Don't micromanage your wedding vendors. You pay them to do the job, so let them.
- Tip your vendors? YES! It is customary to tip your wedding vendors! 10 percent is nice or you can break it down and tip each person on a vendor's staff. These people take the load off of you and there is value in that.
- Don't text your wedding vendors after 10 p.m. Contrary to popular belief, they do get to clock out from their job and relax with their family. Make yourself a note and send them a message the next day during business hours.

- Photographers and videographers put in long hours on your wedding day. They work better if they are fed and watered well!

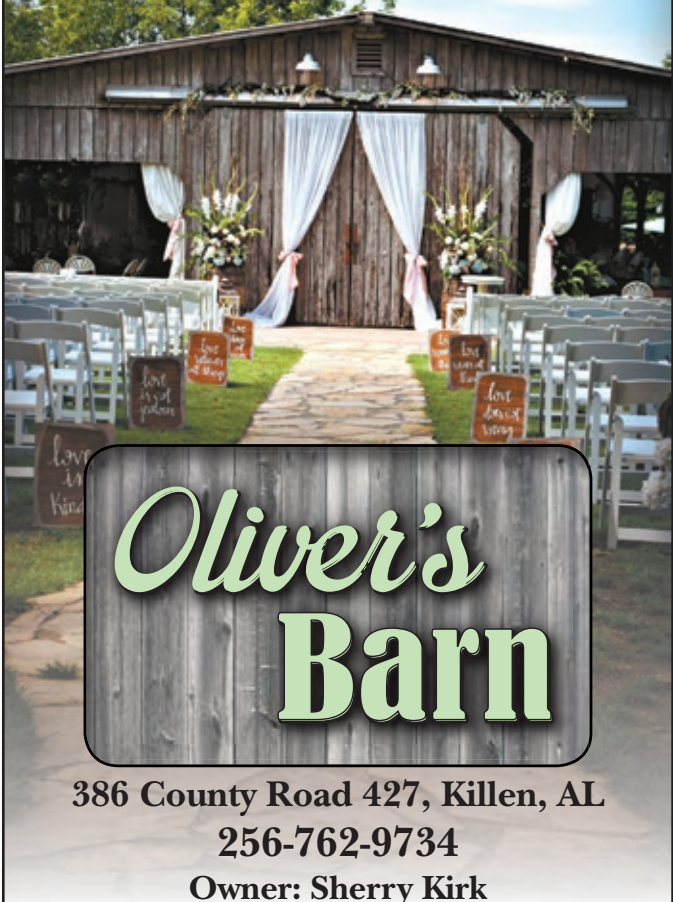
- Seeing the bride before the ceremony - just go take a seat and enjoy the element of surprise like everyone else. The bride is busy with last minute makeup and hair and needs to relax for just a few minutes. If one person starts this, a line of people think they need to see her before the festivities begin. This just increases the chances of putting the ceremony behind schedule.

- Do not live the ceremony through your cellphone! The bride has hired a photographer so leave it to the professionals to capture the moment. Plus, there is nothing a photographer hates more than snapping a perfect moment and the picture being crowded with everyone's cellphones in the air snapping away.

- Guest that come in late! Invitations come out weeks before the wedding date. Mark your calendar and make it a priority to be there and be on time. Guests coming in late can be a distraction to the ceremony, and photos and video of the blessed union. Do your part and be on time!

- It's been a long day, you're hungry, we get it! At no point is it appropriate for a guest to go take desserts off the table until the bride and groom have had photos or you have been released to eat by the wedding director.

- When guest just HAVE to enter the reception space to claim their seat and leave their sparkly bag to mark their place or their shoes on the chair. CALM DOWN LINDA, no one is stealing your seat - get back to cocktail hour!



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- Do the math. When ordering food for your party based on your RSVPs make sure you cover more people than you actually plan on serving. Caterers suggest ordering 15 percent more than RSVPs. Everyone isn't going to reserve their spot. Don't under shoot your numbers - this can be a negative reflection on your caterer if they run out of food because you didn't plan accordingly.

- Getting drunk - just don't do it! It's distasteful and tacky. Your best friend's wedding is not the place to re-live your wildest college days. Drinking too much at an open bar reception or just drinking too much in general is never a good idea.

- When the photographer has stolen the bride and groom away for a few last-minute portraits before the reception don't stop to have a conversation with the couple. Just wave from a distance and move on. You WILL talk to them again!

- Children are a precious gift, however they are not to be the center of attention at a wedding. This is not their day and they will live and so will you, momma!

- The night is winding down and the bride and groom are enjoying their LAST dance at THEIR wedding. This is never the time to interrupt just to get a hug and say goodbye.





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You're engaged, now what?...



WEDDING CHECKLIST



12+ MONTHS

- Pick a date
- Determine your budget
- Choose the style of your wedding
- Select your wedding party
- Book your photographer and schedule engagement photos
- Start compiling guest list
- Research venues for your ceremony and reception
- Create and order Save-the-Dates



10-12 MONTHS

- Mail save-the-dates
- Research florist
- Book ceremony and reception venues
- Book officiant
- Book desired vendors
- Purchase wedding dress and veil



8-10 MONTHS

- Research hotels near your venue and reserve a block of rooms for out-of-town guest
- Finalize guest list
- Choose bridesmaid attire and accessories
- Register for gifts
- Book florist

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6-8 MONTHS

- Decide on wedding cake style and flavor
- Research hair and makeup and book a trial run and wedding day appointment
- Meet with your officiant and plan ceremony
- Start planning honeymoon!
- Choose groom's and groomsmen attire
- Book transportation to and from venue
- Purchase wedding bands
- Book rehearsal dinner venue
- Research wedding invitation designs

4-6 MONTHS

- Order wedding invitations
- Order wedding cake
- Book honeymoon flights and hotels
- Work with florist to decide on flowers
- Plan welcome bags for out-of-town guests
- Schedule dress fittings and alterations
- Decide on a playlist (include a "do not play" list) for your DJ or band

3 MONTHS

- Finalize timeline for ceremony and reception
- Order gifts for your bridal party, parents, and for each other
- Finalize reception menu with caterer
- Order menu cards
- Order rehearsal dinner invitations



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2 MONTHS

- Mail invitations
- Develop system for organizing RSVPs
- Review ceremony details with officiant
- Decide on content for programs
- Apply for marriage license
- Finalize seating arrangements
- Create a schedule for your wedding day to distribute to vendors
- Order welcome bags



1 MONTH

- Attend final dress fitting
- Pick up wedding rings
- Confirm honeymoon reservations and pack
- Check in with vendors to confirm details
- Pick up marriage license

DAY BEFORE

- Make sure everything's laid out and packed for your wedding day (essentials include: wedding dress, rings, and marriage license)
- Deliver welcome bags to hotels
- Get mani/pedi
- Attend wedding rehearsal and dinner
- Get your beauty sleep. Don't stay up too late!

DAY OF

- Eat healthy, hearty breakfast
- Give best man wedding rings and officiant fee
- Take a deep breath and relax! It is time to enjoy the day you've spent so much time planning!



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Wedding registries

morph into broader range

by LEANNE ITALIE The Associated Press
Photos by THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Wedding registries remain popular, and the nature of gifting has morphed into a broader range of options, including cash registries, that are being embraced by friends and family, a new survey shows.

The average wedding registry was valued at \$4,835 in 2017, featuring 125 items, according to the survey by the wedding site TheKnot.com of nearly 7,000 engaged or recently married couples. Nearly 9 in 10 couples, or 88 percent of the American couples who responded, set up registries in 2017, about

the same number as the year before, the findings showed.

But what couples asked for and how they asked changed in 2017 over 2016 in some key ways, said Kristen Maxwell Cooper, The Knot's editor in chief.

"Couples no longer want to be put in a box when it comes to wedding registries," she said in a recent interview. "They want to be able to register for whatever they want, whether that is stuff that comes from a traditional retailer, stuff that comes from a specialty store. They want

to register for cash, they want to donate to charity, they want to do all of these things, or they just want to choose one of these things that fits their lifestyle."

The industry has responded with digital options allowing couples to make registry requests from a variety of sources, Maxwell Cooper said.

The number of couples using their registries to give back was up significantly, the survey showed, but that has not been widely embraced by couples. One in 10 couples, or 10 percent of those surveyed, made

a request on behalf of charity in their registries in 2017, up from 3 percent in 2016.

"Couples are a little bit older now when they're getting married," Maxwell Cooper said — the average age is 29 for brides and 31 for grooms. "They're a little more established and probably lived together before getting married. They may feel like they have all the material things that they need. It's great to have a retail registry as well, if your grandmother and great-grandmother feels like they really want to give you something tangible."

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Perhaps a little more challenging for traditionalists buying gifts are cash requests to finance such things as honeymoons. They were used by 6 percent of those surveyed, compared with 4 percent the year before. Of those in 2017, nearly half used their cash gifts to help pay for honeymoons. One in four put the money toward a down payment on a home. On average, couples received \$1,437 for their honeymoons.

In 2011, asking for cash was a faux pas, with only 1 percent of couples asking.

“We will just continue to see that go up,” Maxwell Cooper said. “I think it’s becoming more and more acceptable. As long as people feel that their cash is going to something.”

For the first time in The Knot’s annual registry survey, Maxwell Cooper said, more

couples said they set up their primary registries online — 55 percent in 2017 compared with 48 percent in 2016. In-store brick-and-mortar registries were used as the primary registry by 44 percent of couples surveyed.

Nearly all the couples with registries overall managed them digitally, most by smartphone using apps or retailer websites.

So what are all these gifts?

More than 1 in 5 couples, or 22 percent, registered for electronics in 2017. For the third consecutive year, wireless speakers were the most popular item at 28 percent, according to the survey. Smart home devices were second at 26 percent. Robotic vacuums got a bump, with 16 percent of couples asking, up from 6 percent.




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Laura Smith Edwards

Addison McGee Brackin

Mary Emily Dreaden Sockwell

Anna Claire Noblit Taylor

Laura Monroe Elliott

Alessandra Pons Sconza

Allie Arnold Howard

Ashlynn Harvey Killen

Hannah Hallmark Pace

Michelle Jones Love

Amanda Brasfield Stutts

Stephanie Kasmeier Stanfield

Lacey Crawford Martin

Alexandra Panks Sockwell

Heather Bugg Richardson

Kendra Parker Gaines

Faith Ann Mansell Kelley

Courtney Petty Southern

Allison Young Allen

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Misty Fletcher Hale

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Leslie Davis Valentine

Jordan Ellis Crow

Rachel Wilsdorf Cruce

Nikki Holt Thomas

Stephanie Willis Lanier

Chloe Newell Stooksberry

Taylor Guyton Boston

Abby Blalock West

Elizabeth Ownby Cole

Kristin Leeth Cooper

*Lovelace,
Dye*





Megan Lovelace and Ches Dye were married June 9, 2018 at 6:00 in the evening at First United Methodist Church of Florence with Rev. Robert Sparkman officiating. The reception was held at Pickett Place following the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Jay and Christi Lovelace of Florence. She is the granddaughter of Bill and Sandra Hunt of Killen and Jimmy and Lou Ann Lovelace of Florence.

The groom is the son of Linda Dye and the late Stanley Dye of Bruce, Miss. He is the grandson of the late Jonnie and William Dye and the late Louise and Robert Bradford.

The bride was escorted by her father. She chose a beautiful champagne and ivory beaded gown by Stella York from Promenade. The bride and groom's wedding rings were custom designed by Jamie Hood of Jamie Hood Jewelers.

Bridesmaids were Mimi Barksdale of Orlando, Fla., Bailey Pride Byers of Athens, Laurie Johnson Holder of Florence, Amy Scogin Welch of Boyton Beach, Fla., Victoria Ann Thrower of Auburn, all friends of the bride; and junior bridesmaid Riley Danielle Jones of Birmingham, cousin of the bride. Flower girls were Parker Beth Jones of Birmingham and Elizabeth Ann Pannell of Memphis, Tenn.

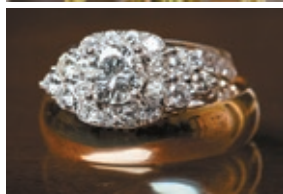
Groomsmen were Patrick James Craig of Morton, Miss., Nathan Chase Davis of Springfield, Mo., Benjamin Coleman Hellum of Oxford, Miss., Billy Keith Malone, Jr. of New Albany, Miss., Brett Covington Mask of Athens, Robert Thomas Tanner of Florence, all friends of the groom; and Wilson Todd Lovelace of Florence, brother of the bride. Ring bearer was Rowen Mask of Athens.

Wedding director was Faith Woods Events. Guest book attendant was Callie Rose Brewer. Floral designer was Cindy Harrison. Caterer was Southern Skillet and the wedding cake and groom's cake was made by Vicky Stanfield. Ceremony music was provided by pianist David Phillips, and The Eric Kirkman Combo entertained guests at the reception. For the bride and groom's first dance, Grammy award winner Gary Baker was on hand to sing his song "I Swear". Hair stylist was Brittany Hart and make-up artist was Laren Lindholm, both of Salon Mod & Spa. Photographer was Joseph Romans Photography and videographer was Al Hammond of Awaken Films.

After a honeymoon in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, the couple is now residing in Florence.

Photos by Joseph Romans Photography







*Killen,
Nunley*





Molly Killen and Joshua Nunley were married May 12, 2018 at 12:00 in the afternoon at Sunset Key Cottages in Key West, Fla. with Rev. Steve Torrence officiating. The couple had a reception following the ceremony at the Salty Angler restaurant in Key West.

The bride is the daughter of Eric and Mary Killen of Killen, Ala. She is the granddaughter of Derrick and Rebecca Killen of Florence.

The groom is the son of David Nunley of Monteagle, Tenn. and Jean Southerland of Rock Island, Tenn. He is the grandson of the late Robert and Jeanette Soilfies and Billie Faye Nunley and the late Carl Nunley.

The bride chose her gown from David's Bridal in Huntsville. She carried a bible that the groom's grandparents got married with and a charm of her late great-grandmother (Claythel Killen) around her bouquet. The bridesmaid's dresses were chosen at David's Bridal in Huntsville and the groom's suits were purchased at Men's Warehouse in Huntsville.

Matron of honor was Tiffany Harbison of Arley, Ala. and maid of honor was Dana Dittoe of Springdale, Ark., best friends of the bride.

Best man was Clay Gill of Murfreesboro, Tenn., lifelong friend of the groom since kindergarten. Groomsman was Josh Garner of Bon Aqua, Tenn., longtime friend of the groom.

Wedding director was Eric Killen and floral designer was Mary Killen. Wedding cakes were made by Yummies Bakery. Entertaining guests at the reception was the band Bama Border. Other special helpers were the servers from City Hardware. Hair stylist was Dana Dittoe and make-up artist was Tiffany Harbison. Photographer was Sarah Legittino of Bella Bloom and videographers were Joanna Cooper of Soundwave in Key West, Fla. and Hunter Nicholson did the reception video in Florence.

After a honeymoon at Paradise Cove, an all inclusive resort in Jamaica, the couple is now residing in Lexington.

Photos by Bella Bloom Photography







Hometown Reception

Family and friends gathered to celebrate the new Mr. & Mrs. Nunley on Saturday, May 26, 2018 at the home of the bride's parents.

Tent and rentals were provided by Party Pros. Mother of the bride, Connie Sparks, and family friends decorated for the celebration. Guests feasted on appetizers, steaks and sides prepared by the father of the bride and friends. Bride and groom's cakes were provided by Yummie's Bakery. Reception entertainment was the Bama Border band and keepsake photos were made at the Class Act Photo Booth by Gary Ragsdale. Photos by Mari Lou Thorne Jones





Wright, Albright

Savannah Rae Wright and Thomas Garret Albright were married October 27, 2018 in a 5:00 ceremony held at The Red Barn with Tim Tubbs, uncle of the bride, officiating. The reception followed at The Red Barn.

The bride is the daughter of Steve and Lisa Wright and Heather Barrett, all of Florence. She is the granddaughter of Aaron Wright, the late Jean Wright, Diane Tittle, and the late Ronald Tittle, all of Florence.

The groom is the son of Thomas "Tommy" and Lori Albright and Christy Belue, all of Florence. He is the grandson of Harriett and Jim Albright and Rennie and Barbara Belue, all of Florence.

The bride was escorted by her father. Before he walked her down the aisle, the officiant read a beautiful handwritten letter to the bride from her father. She wore a beautiful long sleeved white dress for her wedding day.

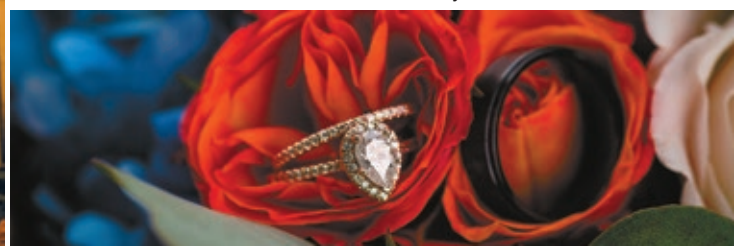
Matron of honor was Katherine Albright Crow, cousin of the groom. Bridesmaids were Lora Beth Roden, friend of the bride; Jessica Barrett Springer, cousin of the bride; Madeline Albright, cousin of the groom; and Annsley Albright, sister of the groom. Flower girls were Emerson Albright and Hadley Albright, cousins of the groom, and Mia Kate Gilchrist, Maddie Reese Jarrett, and Kyler Moody, all nieces of the bride.

Best man was Thomas "Tommy" Albright, father of the groom. Grooms-men were Clint Prestage and Cody Butler, friends of the groom; John Charles Crow, cousin of the groom; and Jordan Barrett, brother of the bride. Ring bearers were Conrad Albright and Adam Albright, cousins of the groom, and Liam Barrett and Breckin Moody, nephews of the bride.

Wedding director was Kelli Brown of Something To Celebrate By Kelli. Floral designer was Kaleidoscope Florist. Caterer was Jill Larkin of Jill's Sweet Memories, who also made the wedding cake. The groom's cake was made by Amanda Krieger of Monkey Gails Cupcakery. Music for the ceremony and reception was provided by Billy Henley. Hair stylist and make-up artist was Whitney Weeks with Parlor 217. Photographer was Heather Sherrill of Create Portraiture.

After a honeymoon cruise to Cozumel and Costa Maya, Mexico, the couple is now residing in Killen.

Photos by Create Portraiture



*Olive,
Conner*





Abigail Christine Olive and Aaron Brady Conner were married May 19, 2018 at 5:30 in the afternoon at Grace Hall at Mathews Manor in Springville, Ala. with Chaplain Samuel Horton officiating. The reception followed at Grace Hall.

The bride is the daughter of William Keith Olive of Greenhill and Pamela Marlar Olive of Muscle Shoals. She is the granddaughter of the late Carl and Christine Marlar of Muscle Shoals and the late Brice and Wilma Olive of Greenhill.

The groom is the son of Cynthia Gunter Conner of Mobile and the late Bradley Conner. He is the grandson of Elliott and Sue Gunter of Mobile and Bill Conner and the late Kay Conner of Coeur D'Alene, Idaho.

The bride wore a Mikado box pleat white ball gown with a beaded illusion square cut back by Justin Alexander with a beaded satin belt from Bella's Bridal in Birmingham.

Maid of honor was Kelly Tillman, best friend of the bride, and junior maid of honor was Landri Kilpatrick, family friend of the bride. Bridesmaids were Katie Conner and Rachel Conner, sisters of the groom; Taylor Henke, Kinsley Knapp, Callie Beth Price, Jamie Seilham, and Emily Vigilone, all friends of the bride. Providing a special reading was Kyndal Kilpatrick.

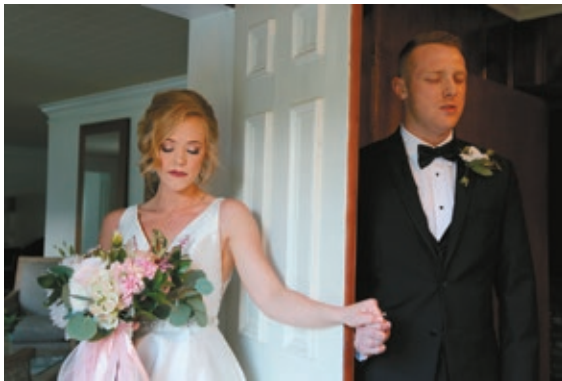
Best man was Samuel Wyatt, best friend of the groom. Groomsmen were John Ryan Alford, David Cobb, Elliott Hamilton, Jacob C. Healy, Conner Parker, John Woodley, all friends of the groom; and Noah Leander Olive, brother of the bride.

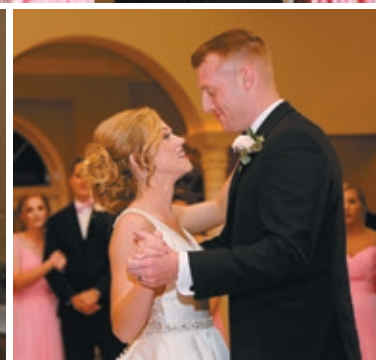
Wedding director was Amber Chesser of Birmingham. Mathews Manor provided the flowers, the catering, and wedding and groom's cakes. Music for the ceremony was provided by soloist Audrey Nicole Hale and harpist Marsha Gunter. Entertaining guests at the reception was Emerald Empire Band from Birmingham, and a photo booth from Platinum Entertainment. Hair stylist and make-up artist was Unfading Beauty of Birmingham. Photographer was Amanda Chapman and videographer was Awaken Films.

The bride surprised her groom at the reception with a song: she sang "I Choose You" by Ryann Darling.

After a honeymoon cruise to the Caribbean Islands, the couple is now residing in Birmingham.

Photos by Amanda Chapman Photography







Gist, Bowlin

Katelyn Leigh Gist and Eric Wayne Bowlin were married September 21, 2018 at 6:00 in the evening at Danclay Farms in Florence with Thomas Willingham officiating. The reception followed at Danclay Farms.

The bride is the daughter of Hal and Pam Gist of Florence. She is the granddaughter of the late Hal and Augazelle Gist and Iva Wallace and the late Bobby Wallace, all of Florence.

The groom is the son of Greg and Beverly Bowlin of Killen. He is the grandson of Bob Bowlin and the late Mary Bowlin and Jerry and Carol Downing, all of Florence.

The bride was escorted by her father. She chose a Wtoo by Watters A-line style gown purchased from Bella's Bridal in Birmingham. She also wore a cluster diamond and gold ring given to her by her father on her fifteenth birthday and an antique gold and pearl bracelet borrowed from her great aunt. She carried a bouquet of anemones with small portraits of her late grandparents.

Maid of honor was Lauren Robertson, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Courtney McKinnon, Alexis Johnson, Sital Patel, all friends of the bride, and Rebecca Bowlin, sister-in-law. Flower girls were Adeline Ginn, friend of the bride, and Harper Bowlin, niece of the groom.

Best man was Blake Bowlin, brother of the groom. Groomsmen were Brooks Canup, Dakota Rager, Robert Aldridge, and Ben Johnson, all friends of the groom. Ring bearer was London Davis, cousin of the groom.

Floral designer was Justin Myrick of Jut's Weddings and Special Events. The caterer was Jill's Sweet Memories. The wedding cake was made by Denise Davis, and the groom's cake was made by Amy's Cakes. Music for the ceremony and the reception was provided by Mark Rohling. Hair stylist was Laren Lindholm. Photographer was Heather Sherrill of Create Portraiture and videographer was White Oak Productions.

For their honeymoon, the couple spent a week in a deluxe treehouse at Hamanasi Adventure & Dive Resort in Belize. They are now residing in Hoover.



Photos by Create Portraiture

*Burt,
Smith*





Breaunna LaReece Burt and Allen Paul Smith were married October 6, 2018 in a 4:00 afternoon ceremony at Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church in Muscle Shoals with Rev. Roger Pride and Rev. Dowand Malone officiating. Three hundred twenty-five guests, including friends and family from all over the country, were present to share the special occasion with the couple. The reception was held at Sweetwater Depot in Florence following the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Mrs. Sherry Burt of Muscle Shoals and the late James Burt, Jr. She is the granddaughter of the late Willie and Lillie Crawley and the late James and Edna Burt, all of Muscle Shoals.

The groom is the son of Paul and Julia Smith of Muscle Shoals. He is the grandson of Mrs. Mary Smith and the late Walter Smith of Columbus, Miss., and the late Sam and Myra Hogan of Tuscombia.

The bride wore a beautiful white ball gown from Juanita's Fashions with a sweetheart neckline and a bodice embellished with intricate micro beading. The skirt was cascading white tulle finished in horsehair braid that gave it a beautiful floating flowy movement. She also carried a handkerchief of her father's and grandmother Lillie's with angel wings embroidered.

Since the bride's father watched from heaven, the bride walked down the aisle alone but was met at the altar by her mother, her brother Rodreece Burt, uncles Edward Crawley and Thomas Burt, and cousins Corey and Wesley Stewart. After a family prayer, they gave her away.

Matron of honor was Autumn Tucker Dickerson and Maid of honor was Denesha Armstead, both friends of the bride. Bridesmaids were Alesha Young, Briana Alexander, Catherine Shea Laman, Monique Manson, Savannah Pointer, all friends of the bride; and LaToya Flint, cousin of the groom. Honorary bridesmaid was Shaterika Boiling. Flower girls were Tatyleona Jackson and Lakita Jackson, nieces of the bride.

Best man was Cameron Bonner, friend of the groom. Groomsmen were Rodreece Burt, brother of the bride; Blake Holliman, Daylan Pllum, Ladarrius Cole, La'Norris Ricks, all friends of the groom; Corey Stewart and Wesley Stewart, cousins of the bride. Ushers were Jeremiah Rollins, nephew of the bride, and Lajoshua Horton, cousin of the groom. Ring bearer was Demarrius Bolding, nephew of the bride; bible bearer was James Jackson, nephew of the bride; and sign bearer was LaJerrett Hall, cousin of the groom.

Wedding directors were Kim Tucker and Sabrina Gholston. Floral designer was Something Elégant Florals, along with Beverly Winston, and the bride's family and friends. Caterer was Southern Skillet Catering. The wedding cake was made by Aunt Bea's Bakery and the groom's cake was made by Wendy Weeks. Ceremony music was provided by Desiree' Cole and Joel Hogans, and entertainment for the reception was provided by Joel Hogans. Hair stylist for the bride and the bride's mother was Kim Poole and hair stylist for the attendants was Kayla Jones. Make-up artist for the bride and her mother was Eunique Perry and for the attendants was Ladonna Ramsey. Photographer was Bobby McFadden and videographer was Ej Almon EA Productions. Other special helpers were Chiquita Jackson, sister of the bride; Alexis Crawley, cousin of the bride; Brittney Haley, Carol Merritt, Mary Laman, and Peyton Fort.

The couple was presented with a bible and they chose The God's Knot Cord of Three Strands. Ecclesiastes 4:12 "Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken."

A Jack and Jill shower was held for the couple by friends of the groom's mother. Also a "Big Hat" shower was hosted by family and friends of the bride.

The couple spent their honeymoon in Paris, France.







Patterson, Cook

Tenna LeAnn Patterson and Randall Blake Cook were married November 3, 2018 in a 4:00 afternoon ceremony held at First Baptist Church, Town Creek with Frankie Thaxton officiating. The reception followed in the church's Life Center.

The bride is the daughter of Knoffery and Melissa Patterson of Lexington. She is the granddaughter of Frank and Ann Thaxton of Town Creek and the late Aaron and Gail Patterson of Leighton.

The groom is the son of Sonya Cook and James and Sherry Cook, all of Lawrenceburg, Tenn. He is the grandson of Joyce Moore of Lawrenceburg, Tenn., Dan and Barbara Deaton of Eaton, Ind., and the late Daytona and Barbara Brown of Lawrenceburg, Tenn.

The bride chose a beautiful off the shoulder lace gown from the same place her mother purchased her wedding dress - Mary's Bridal & Formal Wear. She also wore the headpiece that her mother wore on her wedding day.

Matron of honor was Priscilla Taylor, best friend of the bride. Bridesmaids were Katie Wallace, Jahcenda Garrett, and Madison Fulks, friends of the bride, and Julia Keenum, godsisiter of the bride. Flower girl was Kayleigh Cook, daughter of the groom.

Best man was the groom's brother, Hunter Cook. Groomsmen were Joh Loporto, Whit Bevins, and Hunter Tucker, friends of the groom, and John Patterson, brother of the bride.

Wedding director was Amanda Green. Caterer was Whole Hog Express. The wedding cake was made by Amy's Cakes and Corner Market and the groom's cake was made by Jennifer's Cakes and Sweet Treats. Entertaining guests at the reception was DJ j patt. Hair stylist was Misty Springer of Simply Fabulous Hair and make-up artist was Katie and Aona of The Buzz Salon. Photographer was Blush Imagery and videographer was Morgan White of Memories by Morgan.

The couple spent their honeymoon at the beautiful all inclusive resort Sandals South Coast in White House, Jamaica. They are now residing in Lexington.

Photos by Blush Imagery

*Waddell,
Pruitt*





Laura Ann Waddell and Nathaniel Bryant Pruitt were married June 2, 2018 in a beautiful outdoor sunset ceremony at the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail at the Shoals. Officiating was the groom's father, Pastor Stan Pruitt, who performed a sweet tribute to the couple to begin their life together. For the ceremony, the bride's grandfather, Tommy Hunt, made a cross for the couple to weave the ropes around to represent the joining of their lives with Christ as the center of their relationship. Greer Pruitt, brother of the groom, provided the music for the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Ms. Kimberly Ann Waddell and the granddaughter of Tommy and Mary Ann Hunt, all of Florence. The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Stan Pruitt of Killen, and the grandson of Doris Putnam of Florence.

The bride's brother, John Tucker Waddell, walked her down the staircase to meet Bryant at the aisle.

Maids of honor were Mary Rachel Waddell and Sarah Beth Waddell, both sisters of the bride. Bridesmaids were Joy McLaughlin, Olivia Privett Grimes, Jessica Robinson Everett, Hannah Goldsby, Sara Darwin, and Natalie Rayburn. Flower girls were Claire Caperton and Olivia Caperton.

Best man was the groom's brother, Greer Pruitt. Groomsmen were Matthew Caperton, Dallas Mitchell, Caleb Waddell, Carter Irons, Joshua Bogus, Zeth Olive, and John Tucker Waddell. Junior groomsmen were Samuel Camp and ring bearer was Matthew Camp.

Floral designer was Pam Word. Photographer was Rebekah Handley of Rebekah Photography.

The bride's grandmother, Mary Ann Hunt, hosted the bridesmaids brunch at her home on Shoal Creek on the morning of the wedding. They all had fun with the southern tradition of the Cake Pull!

Both the ceremony and the reception were held overlooking the Tennessee River. After a sparklers and bells ringing send-off, the couple left the reception in the bride's grandfather's 1955 Plymouth Convertible.

They spent their honeymoon at Disneyworld in Orlando, Fla. and are now residing in Killen. The bride is the kindergarten teacher at Shoals Christian School and the groom is Operations Manager at American Wholesale Book Company.

Photos by Rebekah Photography



Smith, Edwards



On a rainy Friday in April, Laura Gayle Smith and Trey Edwards tied the knot at the historic Locust Hill mansion. The dreary weather forced nearly 200 people to crowd themselves onto the wraparound porch and form a makeshift aisle for the bride and her father.

Ms. Smith is the daughter of Nancy Sharp Smith of Florence, Alabama and G.H. "Snuffy" Smith of Russellville, Alabama. Mr. Edwards is the son of Ramona and Bob Edwards, of Huntsville, Alabama.

The bride, wearing a classic ivory and champagne ball gown designed by Morilee, was overcome with emotion the instant she turned the corner to see her handsome groom standing next to his brother and best man, Shawn Edwards. Matron of Honor Katherine Logan wore a champagne sequin dress, also designed by Morilee. The bridal party was dressed by Promenade formal wear, located in downtown Tuscumbia.

Honorary bridesmaids were dressed to serve as the bride's "something blue:" her friends Destinee Terry Jones, Emma Alice Bolton, Elle Taylor Lawler, Emilee Hunter, and Tori Riner Gregory. Flower girls for the ceremony were cousins of the bride, Audrey Kate Rickard and Caroline Faith McDonnell.

Having designed florals for numerous Locust Hill brides over the years, the bride opted to prepare her own bouquets and arrangements. Laura meticulously chose her favorite flowers in shades of whites and barely blush pink. White hydrangeas and peonies mixed with playa blanca and garden spirit roses, accented with several varieties of eucalyptus. The simplicity of the arrangement perfectly highlighted the beauty of this historic venue, which had served as a home to her for several years.

Jesse Winn of Shoals Church of Christ welcomed guests with prayer and a beautiful description of a godly marriage. Forced by the weather to officiate from the threshold of this antebellum home, Tuscumbia Mayor Kerry Underwood then asked the couple one final time if they were ready to commit their lives to each other forever - for richer and for poorer, in sickness and in health. "I do." No truer words have ever been uttered.

The bride, a gourmet baker, made her own cake and the groom's cake, as well as desserts and cookies that served as take-home favors. She baked and prepared the items at her own restaurant only a few short blocks away, Aunt Bea's Bakery & Bistro in downtown Tuscumbia.

The reception was truly a celebration of the happy couple. The bride's father, an avid BBQ pit enthusiast, smoked chicken and pork. Dear friends of the bride, Melissa Pigg and Dawn Pettus assisted in preparing the rest of the dinner at Aunt Bea's, making sure it was displayed beautifully.

After a blissful week in Orange Beach, the happy couple returned to Tuscumbia to start their new lives. Together, they serve Aunt Bea's customers with delicious and creative treats.

Longtime patrons love to come by Aunt Bea's and listen to the Edwards' story of how their lives were changed, transformed from two single entrepreneurs to married restaurateurs in the span of less than half a year. Laura continues to bake the Shoal's most delicious sweet baked goods, while Trey has taken over the administration and marketing of the restaurant, making sure that employees and customers alike always leave Aunt Bea's with a smile.

In spite of the rain, the wedding of Laura Gayle Smith and Trey Edwards was a wonderful one, and one that will be remembered by all, thanks to the work of photographer Heather Sherrill and videographer Al Hammond. The magical day was orchestrated by some of the couple's most treasured friends, to whom they will be eternally grateful for.

Entertainment/DJ was Larry and Lesa Pettus. Hair stylist was Hannah Sorrell and make-up artist was Savanna Bray Potter. Engagement ring and wedding rings were by Billy Hammock of Creative Jewelers. Wedding day coordinator was Melissa Pigg and wedding day décor and chaos coordinator was Dawn Pettus. Event Rentals were by A Blessed Event and event lighting was provided by Party Pros USA. Cakes and catering was provided by Aunt Bea's Gourmet Bakery & Bistro. Formal wear was provided by Promenade.

The groom would like to specifically thank the following additional people for helping him orchestrate the proposal, and for encouraging him in his pursuit of the lovely Laura: Andrew Sorrell, Dustin Coan, and Michelle Eubanks, as well as the management and staff at Odette in downtown Florence.



McGee, Brackin



Addison McGee and Blayne Brackin were married March 31, 2018 at Ava's Place with Danny Pettus officiating. The reception followed at Ava's Place.

The bride is the daughter of Martin and Alicia McGee of Lexington. She is the granddaughter of Neal and Sherry McGee and Tommy and Belinda Bailey, all of Lexington.

The groom is the son of Scotty and LeeAnn Brackin of Town Creek. He is the grandson of Linda Bond of Sheffield, the late Raymond Elliott, Linda Brackin of Town Creek, and Wayne and Darlene Brackin of Town Creek.

Maids of honor were Andra McGee, sister of the bride, and Brooklyn Cook, best friend of the bride. Bridesmaids were Hope Gann, sister of the groom; Bailey White, Maggie Killen, Carley Thigpen, Ali Carter, Morgan Scott, Anna Claire Johnson, and Kerri Whittaker, all friends of the bride. Flower girls were Allie Gann and Jaci Gann, nieces of the groom.

Best men were Chase Quinley and Kanaan Burke, best friends of the groom. Groomsmen were Blake Brackin, brother of the groom; Justin Gann, brother-in-law of the groom; Avery McGee, brother of the bride; Jade Brackin, cousin of the groom; Dakota Brackin, uncle of the groom; Trey Hallmark, Chanstin Muston, and Jared Travnicek, all friends of the groom. Ring bearer was Holden Gann, nephew of the groom.

Wedding director was Cecilia Brumley. Floral designer was Barbara Ingram of Barbara's Wedding Shoppe. Music for the ceremony was provided by Scott and Kristi Nix and vocalist Chloe Grisham. Entertaining guests at the reception was Lavale and Sonya Cooper. Cater was The Bonnet Cafe and the wedding cake was made by the bride's mother, Alicia McGee. Hair stylist was Deanna Anderson and make-up artist was Georgia Plummer. Photographer was Butler Studio.

After a honeymoon cruise to Progreso and Cozumel, Mexico, the couple is now residing in Town Creek.

Photos by Butler Studio





Dreaden, Sockwell

Mary Emily Dreaden and Austin Sockwell were married June 30, 2018 at 6:00 in the evening in front of a flowered arbor overlooking the lake at Robert Trent Jones at the Shoals with Rev. Steve McAllister officiating. The reception was held at RJT following the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Barry and Kristin Dreaden of Muscle Shoals. She is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gene Kesler and Mrs. Mary Jo Dreaden and the late Mr. D.R. Dreaden.

The groom is the son of Rebecca and Brian Lindsey and Keith and Mary Jo Sockwell. He is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Nick Wright and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sockwell, and the great-grandson of Mrs. Elizabeth Pruitt.

The bride was escorted by her father. She wore a white Kenneth Winston A-line ball gown purchased at Cherry Tree Lane that featured embroidered Venice lace on the bodice and down the skirt and train, along with a chapel length veil trimmed with pearls.

Maid of honor was Raegan McInnish, best friend of the bride. Bridesmaids were Anna Katherine Dreaden and Ella Dreaden, cousins of the bride; Starkey-Morgan Butler, sister of the groom; Emily Walker, Rachel Hunter, and Madison Nash, all friends of the bride.

Best man was the groom's father, Keith Sockwell. Groomsmen were Braden Sockwell, brother of the groom; Hunter Dreaden, brother of the bride; Dusin Kelly, Landon Tatum, Bill Collignon, and Hunter Cook, all friends of the groom.

The bride's maternal grandparents had a beautiful kneeling bench made with an "S" monogram and crosses on the cushion. This was a replica of the one they had made for the bride's parents for their wedding.

A table was set at the wedding with a new bible (gift) and pens and highlighters. Guests were asked to highlight their favorite verse and sign their name by it.

Wedding director was Lauren Boston. Floral designer was Carmalita Coan. Robert Trent Jones of the Shoals catered the reception and Yummies Bakery made the wedding cake and groom's cake. Providing music for the ceremony was David and Natalie Askw, guitarist and soloist, and entertaining guests at the reception was Sammy Mayfield of JAGS Premier DJ. Hair stylists were Laren Lindholm and Ashley Cassle and make-up artist was Laren Lindholm. Photographer and videographer was Blush Imagery.

The bride and groom left the reception in the bride's paternal grandfather's vintage truck. They spent their honeymoon at Sandals Resort in Nassau, Bahamas and are now residing in Chattanooga, Tenn.

Photos by Blush Imagery





Noblit, Taylor

Anna Claire Noblit and Samuel Alvin Taylor were married October 26, 2018 in a 6:00 evening ceremony at Grace Life Church of the Shoals. Officiating the ceremony was Dr. Jeff L. Noblit, father of the bride, and Rev. Jonathan Sims.

The bride is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Jeff L. Noblit of Tuscumbia. She is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Battles of Muscle Shoals, the late Mr. Robert H. Noblit and the late Ms. Geraldine Noblit.

The groom is the son of Ms. Patricia A. Mughal of Chattanooga, Tenn. He is the grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. Alvin W. Taylor.

The bride wore an ivory, Justin Alexander ballgown. The elegant dress was sleeveless with a Mikado structured notch collar. The organza jacquard fabric was gathered for added volume and had pockets along with a classic high back finished with covered buttons all the way down the back to the hem. The bride finished the look with a light, romantic, simple tulle cathedral length veil that accentuated the look without overpowering it. It was finished with a small, satin band that lined the entire edge. Her mother had hand embroidered the wedding date on the lining of her gown. She wore drop pearl earrings and robin's egg blue suede heels, and carried a bouquet with her baby bracelet attached.

Matrons of honor were Katie Leigh Shirey and Taylor Beth Farris, sisters of the bride. Bridesmaids were Rachel Marie Farris, Rachel Lynn Clotfelter, Sydney Lane Vanlandingham, all friends of the bride; Shannon Abigail Tucker and Hannah Ashlyn Wainwright, cousins of the bride. Flower girl was Aulcie Katherine Shirey, and flower babies were Elise Rose Farris and Evelyn Ruth Farris, all nieces of the bride, wearing French hand-sewn gowns made by a special friend, Rebecca Singleton.

Best man was Joshua Nathan Mangrum, friend of the groom. Groomsmen were Taylor O'Neal Bolton, Caleb Linwood Cushman, Brandon Lee Freeman, Trenton Russell Stephenson, Heath McCall Williams, all friends of the groom; Tyler Colby Farris and Garrett Lee Shirey, brothers-in-law of the bride. Ring bearers were Rylan Lee Shirey and Rayce Woodson Shirey, nephews of the bride.

The reception was also held at Grace Life Church of the Shoals, following the ceremony. The bride's sisters, Katie Leigh Shirey and Taylor Beth Farris of Flora Designs directed the wedding and made all the flower arrangements and decorations for the ceremony and reception. Caterer was Darlene Nuss. The wedding cake was made by Elizabeth Cozart and decorated by Flora Designs, and the groom's cake was from Great American Cookie.

Music for the ceremony was provided by Dr. Jason S. Briley, pianist, and Thomas G. Clay and Erica C. Malone, soloists. Hair stylist was Courtney Kelly of Hair by Courtney Kelly. Photographer was Katie Beech of Katie Jewell Co. and videographer was Nelson Studios.

One of the most special things to the couple was the overwhelming volunteer help and support of their entire Grace Life Church family.

After a honeymoon in Rosemary Beach, Fla., the couple is now residing in Tuscumbia.

Photos by Katie Jewell Photography



Monroe, Elliott



Laura Elizabeth Monroe and Michael Taft Elliott were married April 21, 2018 at 5:30 in the afternoon at The Sonnet House in Leeds, Ala. with Tommy and Angela Calhoun officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Gary and Elaine Monroe of Muscle Shoals. She is the granddaughter of Don and Carolyn Monroe of Muscle Shoals and Mary Bird and the late Hubert Bird of Florence.

The groom is the son of Michael and Carla Elliott of Muscle Shoals. He is the grandson of Donald and Nancy Elliott of Sheffield and the late Rex and Leedell Cochran of Muscle Shoals.

The bride was escorted by her father. She chose a custom Augusta Jones gown and Toni Federici veil from Carriage House Weddings in Birmingham. She also wore her mother's diamond bracelet along with earrings that were a gift to the bride from her parents on her wedding day. She carried a bouquet wrapped with a family heirloom handkerchief.

Maid of honor was Lindsey Monroe, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Allie Grissom, Lacey Elliott, Elizabeth Manning, Ashley Alden, Claudia Upshaw, Jordan Landers, and Ashley Connor. Flower girl was Lucy Grissom, niece of the groom.

Best man was the groom's father, Michael Elliott. Groomsmen were Paul Grissom, Matt Roden, Henry Joe, Andrew Koonce, Bernie Paetow, Tyler Green, and Andrew Aldridge.

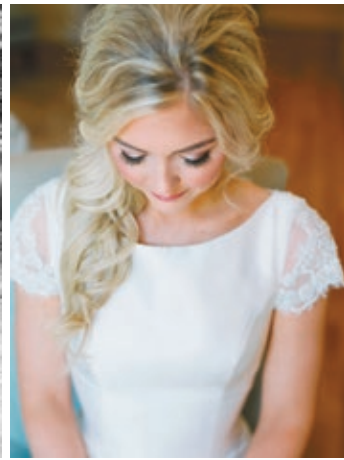
The Sonnet House, the wedding and reception venue, catered the event. The wedding cake was made by Magic Muffins. Instead of a groom's cake, the couple chose a donut wall, provided by The Heavenly Donut Company. The couple wanted to give their guests a taste of the Muscle Shoals sound so they had Muscle Shoals band Drumb and Drumber entertaining at the reception. They also gave all of their out-of-town guests a copy of the Muscle Shoals documentary CD in their welcome boxes.

Wedding director was M. Elizabeth Events. Floral designer was Corey Daniels Florals. Ceremony music was provided by McKenzie Lockhart. Hair and make-up artist was Katina Carter. Photographer was Alisha Crossley Photography and videographer was Will Patrick.

After a honeymoon at Gansevoort Resort in Turks and Caicos, the couple is now residing in Birmingham.

I could write an entire article about wedding planning! I went from being the girl who didn't think she would sweat the small stuff to the girl who worried over every little detail. If I could share one piece of advice with a bride it would be to make a list of the details that are actually important to you. Find a group of friends and family who will help you remember the important things, and then let everything else fall into place.

Photos by Alisha Crossley Photography





Pons, Sconza

Alessandra Louise Pons and Jack Anthony Sconza were married October 6, 2018 in a 3:00 afternoon ceremony held at St. Michael's Catholic Church with Father John O'Donnell officiating. The reception followed at the GunRunner Boutique Hotel.

The bride is the daughter of Dr. Peter and Jeri Lynne Pons of Florence. She is the granddaughter of Jacob and Jana Ferro of Hamburg, N.Y.

The groom is the son of John Sconza and Kathy Sconza of New Orleans, La.

The bride was escorted by her father. She chose a Watters Savannah fit to flare lace gown with off the shoulder sleeves. Her head piece was by Sara Gabriel. She wore her maternal great-great-grandmother's ring, along with a bracelet from the groom's deceased maternal grandmother. The groom wore his great-great-grandfather's initialed cuff links. Alessandra made each of the bridal party's bouquets, making sure to personalize each one by including their own favorite flower.

Matron of honor was Addison Zborowski of Bremerton, Wash., best friend of the bride. Bridesmaids were the bride's four sisters: Angelina Pons of Florence, Adriana Pons of Cincinnati, Ohio, Alesia Pons of Baton Rouge, La., and Aria Pons of Florence; along with the groom's sister, Sydney Obloy of New Orleans, La.

Best man was Justin Duplantis of Seattle, Wash, best friend of the groom. Groomsmen were Adam Guilino of Lacombe, La., Bradley Landrum and Randy Ortega of New Orleans, La., Devin Lewis of Slidell, La., and Justin Klein of Vancouver, Wash., all friends of the groom. Ushers were Daniel Lawrence and James Lawrence, both friends of the groom from Hammond, La. Ring bearer was Landen Zborowski, friend of the bride.

Wedding director was Gaye Choat of Graceful Beginnings. Floral designer was Lola's Flowers and Gifts. Caterer was Rhoda P's Catering and the wedding cake was made by Amy's Cakes. Ceremony music was provided by Libby Counts and Michael May and Fine Era Productions provided entertainment at the reception. Hair stylist was Susan Ellis and make-up artist was Aaron Ellis, both from Southern Roots Hair Company. Photographer was Rebekah Smith Photography and videographer was Southern Wedding Films.

After a honeymoon trip to Rome and Venice, Italy, the couple is now residing in New Orleans, La.

Photos by Rebekah Smith Photography







Arnold, Howard

Allie Reid Arnold and Jonathan Howard were married June 23, 2018 in a 6:00 evening ceremony held at Danclay Farms with Gavin McGee and Steele Myrick officiating. The reception followed at Danclay Farms.

The bride is the daughter of Anthony and Alice Arnold of Florence. She is the granddaughter of Butch and Martha Atkinson and the late Carl and Katherine Arnold, all of Florence.

The groom is the son of Marlena Howard of Rogersville and Barry Howard of Lexington. He is the grandson of Ray and Betty Goodman of Rogersville and Hubert and Becky Howard of Lexington.

The bride chose a designer, princess ball gown from The Something Blue Shoppe that was a stunning combination of structured lace bodice and a voluptuous tiered ballgown skirt of dreamy tulle over Royal organza. A belt of crystals and rhinestones encircled her waist. The back featured a row of delicate crystal buttons. Her Royal veil of tulle was edged in beads and was held by a floral lace and crystal bandeau. The gown carried a chapel length train.

Maid of honor was Sloane Myrick, cousin of the bride, and matron of honor was Heather Greuter, friend of the bride. Bridesmaids were Emma Clark, friend of the bride; MaKayla Miller and Piper Goodman, cousins of the groom; and Sara Howard, sister-in-law of the groom. Flower girl was Kylie Greuter, friend of the bride.

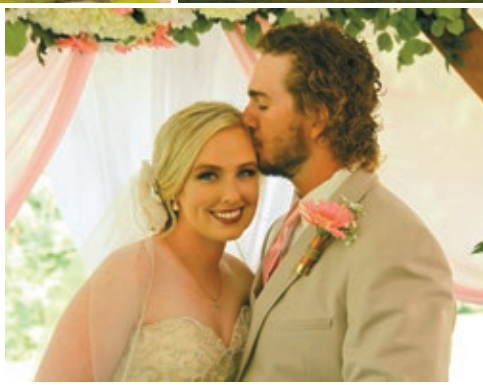
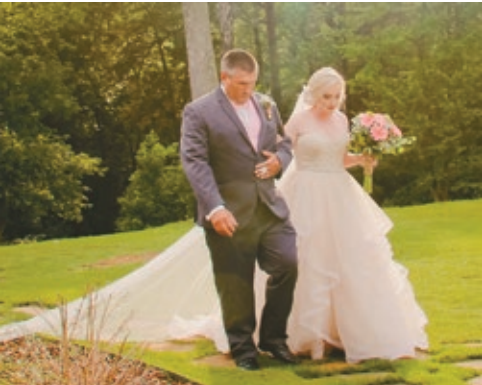
Best man was groom's brother, Josh Howard. Groomsmen were Kord Greuter, Jesse Dison, John Nelson, Nick Surratt, and Sam Blalock, all friends of the groom; and Alex Goodman, cousin of the groom. Usher was Brandon Howard. Ring bearers were Ryan Eckl and Jon Eckl, cousins of the bride.

Wedding director was Donna Pigg. Floral designer was Will and Dees Florist, and caterer was Jill Larkin of Jill's Sweet Memories, who also made the wedding and groom's cakes. Ceremony music was performed by Alyssa Butler and entertaining guests at the reception was the band Bama Border and balloon artists Ricky and Camille Hicks. Hair stylist was Mellany Lancaster and make-up artist was Layla Howard, both of Revelationz Studio. Photographer was Megan Dawson of Dawson's Photography and videographer was EJ Almon and Jacob Pittman of EA Productions. Other special helpers were guest book attendants Teresa Hanback and Hannah Staggs; shuttle drivers Cory Darby, Jerry Edwards, Beezer Blalock, and Roy Pigg.

For their honeymoon, the couple took a cruise out of Mobile, Ala. to Costa Maya and Cozumel, Mexico. They are now residing in Florence.

Photos by Dawson's Photography







Harvey, Killen

Ashlynn Elizabeth Harvey and Johnathon Christopher Killen were married June 24, 2018 at 7:00 in the evening in an outdoor ceremony at Oliver's Barn in Killen with Bro. Ronny Jones of First Baptist Center Star officiating. The reception followed at Oliver's Barn.

The bride is the daughter of Sandi Harvey of Killen. She is the granddaughter of Tommy and Martha Pass of Rogersville.

The groom is the son of Melissa and Patrick Bunnell and Chris and Jodi Killen, all of Lexington. He is the grandson of Patricia and Carl Holden and Ronald and Jean Killen.

The bride chose a beautiful white satin gown from Promenade Bridal in Tusculmbia.

Maid of honor was Julianna Harvey, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Jessica Chowning, Lore Robb, Briana Dolan, all friends of the bride, and Maggie Killen, sister-in-law of the bride.

Best men were Joseph Cox and Isaac Joiner, friends of the groom. Groomsmen were Wyatt Walker, cousin of the groom; Will Harvey and Jackson Harvey, brothers of the bride.

Wedding director was Mary Alice Espinosa. Floral designer was Kaleidoscope Florist. Caterer was Jill Larkin of Jill's Sweet Memories. Entertaining guests at the reception was DJ Ethan Bruton with the Anderson Center. Hair stylist was Mandy Humphrey and make-up artist was Makeup by Corey.

A special bridal shower was held for the couple at the Buffler House in St. Florian.

The couple spent their wedding night in their home in Lexington that they had just renovated together. Then they left for an Alaskan cruise that departed from Canada. They are now at home in Lexington.



Hallmark, Pace



Hannah Hallmark and Logan Pace were married June 9, 2018 in a 6:00 evening ceremony at Creekside Plantation in Mooresville, Ala. with Bro. Terry Settles officiating. The reception followed at Creekside Plantation.

The bride is the daughter of Tony and Vanessa Hallmark of Town Creek. She is the granddaughter of Billy Ray and Linda Terry and the late Mona Faye Terry of Hatton, and Lucy Hallmark and the late Odie Hallmark of Leighton.

The groom is the son of Jeff and Liz Pace of Town Creek. He is the grandson of Berla Pace and the late Junior Pace of Town Creek, and Marcelle Owens and the late Eddie Ray Owens of Moulton.

The bride wore a sparkling, form fitting gown by Allure Bridal, purchased from Bella's Bridal and Formal. The gown featured a high neckline with a key-hole back and sparkling embroidery from head to toe, along with a cathedral length silver laced veil.

Maid of honor was Taylor Ray and matron of honor was Dana Taylor, both friends of the bride. Bridesmaids were Carley Franks, Amanda Farley, and Misty Terry, all friends of the bride. Flower girl was Kendra Parker, former student of the bride.

Best man was the groom's father, Jeff Pace. Groomsmen were Brandon Kimbrough, Blake Burtram, Brian Kilpatrick, all friends of the groom, and Trey Hallmark, brother of the bride. Ring bearer was Brayson Harville, cousin of the bride.

Wedding director and floral designer was Carmalita Coan of Carmalita's Weddings and Floral Events. Caterer was Sarah South. Aunt Bea's Bakery made the wedding cake and a pie bar was chosen in lieu of a groom's cake, furnished by Big Bob Gibson's. Music for the ceremony and the reception was provided by The Beasley Brothers. Hair stylists and make-up artists were The Transformation for the bride and Monica Aday for the bridesmaids. Photographer was Heather Sherrill of Create Portraiture and videographer was Seth Adgate with Woodnote Media. Other special helpers were guest book attendants Brianna Bradford and Kyleigh Bryant.

After a weeklong honeymoon in Costa Rica, the couple is now residing in Moulton.

Photos by Create Portraiture





Jones, Love

Michelle Jones and Tony Love were married September 29, 2018 at 5:30 in the afternoon at the home/farm of the bride and groom in Cordova, Ala. with a reception following. Jeffrey Sledge, step-father of the bride, officiated the beautiful outdoor ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Brad Jones of Sheffield and Belinda and Jeffrey Sledge of Lexington. She is the granddaughter of Price and Freda Irons and Dale and Peggy Jones, all of Florence.

The groom is the son of Denise Love of Meridianville and David and Lisa Love of Decatur. He is the grandson of Peggy Jones of Meridianville and Vester and Wynell Cranford of Cullman.

The bride chose a beautiful white Morilee-Madeline Gardner gown (the Milly Wedding dress) purchased from Diane's Formal Affair in Jasper.

Maid of honor was Caroline Orr of Nashville, Tenn., friend of the bride, and matron of honor was Alana Michael of Muscle Shoals, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Brittany Greene of Florence, friend of the bride; Candice Stewart of Huntsville, sister of the groom; and junior bridesmaid Audrey Michael of Muscle Shoals, niece of the bride. Flower girl was Addison Cornelison of Huntsville, niece of the groom.

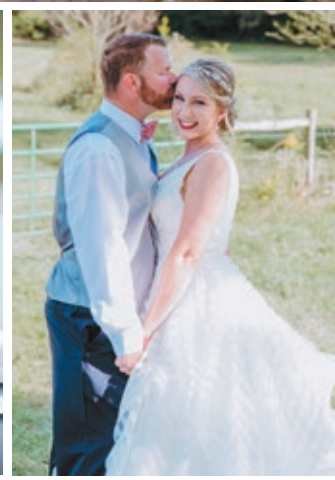
Best man was Juston Sutherland of Huntsville, friend of the groom. Groomsmen were Paul McPeters of Tuscaloosa, Timothy Hawkins of Nashville, Tenn., and Nathan Cathey of Lewisburg, Tenn., all friends of the groom. Ring bearers were Jameson Michael and Walker Michael of Muscle Shoals, nephews of the bride.

Wedding director was Leah Bragwell. The bride served as her own floral designer. Caterer was J & W Steakhouse in Decatur and Michelle's Bakery in Jasper made the wedding cake and groom's cake. Providing music for the ceremony and reception was Chad Burdine and Justin Holder of Drumb and Drummer. Party Pros provided the rental equipment. Hair stylist and make-up artist was Laren Lindholm of Florence. Photographer was Jan Shadix Photography. Other special helpers were Sharon Allen and Joshua Johnson.

After a relaxing honeymoon trip to Orange Beach, Ala., the couple is now residing in Cordova.

Photos by Jan Shadix Photography







Brasfield, Stutts

Amanda Brasfield and Drew Stutts were married June 16, 2018 in a 6:00 evening ceremony at Creekside Plantation in Mooresville with Jeff Cruse officiating. An outdoor reception followed in the vineyard of Creekside Plantation.

The bride is the daughter of Janie Brasfield and Mike Ganus, both of Savannah, Tenn. She is the granddaughter of Joyce Brasfield Chandler of Mifflin, Tenn., the late Paul Brasfield, and the late Evan "Hoss" and Rose Ganus.

The groom is the son of Randy and Kim Stutts of Lexington. He is the grandson of Pat and Jane White of Lexington and Harold Stutts and the late Betty Stutts of Greenhill.

The bride wore a beautiful white lace strapless gown with matching veil from Kathleen's Bridal.

Maid of honor was Gabrielle Kroeger and matron of honor was Shelby Pruitt, both friends of the bride. Bridesmaids were Brittany Brooks, Hailee Gallaway, Nicole Cumbo, Erica Martin, Hanna Hardy, and Sam Parrish, all friends of the bride. Flower girl was Addison Ritter, family friend.

Best man was Kenny Ratliff, friend of the groom. Groomsmen were Randy Stutts, father of the groom; Darrell Dye, Andrew Howard, Hunter Roberson, Hunter Killen, Luke Brackin, Josh Doyle, all friends of the groom. Junior groomsman was Bryar Knox, nephew of the groom and ring bearer was Kelton Ritter.

Wedding director was Janet Waggoner. Floral designer was Weddings by Jeannie/Nip & Tuck Florist. Caterer was Jill's Sweet Memories and the wedding and groom's cakes were made by Lauren Thomas. Music for the ceremony and reception was provided by Sweet Tree Productions. Hair stylist was Whitney Weeks of Parlor 217 and make-up artist was Makeup by Corey. Photographer was Leah Grace Photography and videographer was Awaken Films.

Drew proposed with our sweet golden retriever, Summitt. After the ceremony, Summitt ran down the aisle to us and lead us out as we made our exit. She was our special "dog of honor".

One moment that stands out was the very end of our vows. Being avid and passionate sports fans, we come from two VERY different fan bases. Drew is an Alabama fan. Amanda is a Tennessee fan. This rivalry runs so deep that we each ended our vows with "...I promise all these things...EXCEPT on the 3rd Saturday in October...Go Vols!/Roll Tide!" It was a funny, but memorable moment everyone enjoyed and that theme carried over to the reception including each school's fight song being played, and a shaker send off.

We chose not to do a first look, but found a way to turn it into a special moment where Drew's mom used an old blue handkerchief from my dad to blindfold him to allow for a special moment talking and praying before the ceremony without breaking tradition.

After a honeymoon at Sandals Montego Bay, Jamaica, the couple is now residing in Huntsville.

Photos by Leah Grace Photography





Kasmeier, Stanfield



Stephanie Elaine Kasmeier and Michael Harold Stanfield, II were married October 27, 2018 at 5:00 in the afternoon at the new home of the couple on County Road 274 in Florence. Pastor Steve Huskey of Faith Church in Florence officiated the ceremony. The reception followed at the home.

The bride is the daughter of Teresa and John Baptist Kameier, III of Florence. She is the granddaughter of John B. Kasmeier, Jr. of Florence and the late Cecilia Kasmeier, and Steve Carroll of Dallas, Texas and the late Janice Carroll.

The groom is the son of Michael and Amy Stanfield of Florence. He is the grandson of Nancy Stanfield and the late Harold Stanfield of Florence, and Kay Daniel and the late Hoyt Ray Daniel of Collinwood, Tenn.

The bride was escorted down the aisle by her father to the song "You're Still The One" by Shania Twain. She wore a beautiful white Casa Blanca Beloved Collection (Sweet) gown with dainty beaded straps that carried layers and layers of delicate embroidered tulle with wide sheer horse hair trim along the bottom, along with a matching Casa Blanca veil with a small train and a Swarovski crystal halo that held it in place. She also wore Kate Spade blinged out crystal tennis shoes.

Maid of honor was Taylor Borden, best friend of the bride. Matrons of honor were Robin Suns and Kasey Kasmeier, sisters of the bride. Bridesmaids were Jessica Law, Catherine West, Rikki McKelvey, and Sloane Myrick, all friends of the bride. Flower girl was Adalynn Marie Suns, niece of the bride.

Best man was the groom's brother, Jacob Stanfield. Groomsmen were Brandon Rhodes, Cory Darby, Zac Brink, Kyle McKelvey, Cody Risner, and Justin Rice, all friends of the groom. Ring bearer was Caden Stanfield, nephew of the groom.

Wedding directors were Ashley Nipper and Teresa Kameier. Floral designers were Duggar Florist and Teresa Kasmeier. Entertaining guests at the reception was DJ Hayle Haddock. Hair stylists and make-up artists were Kenzie Pope and Molly Butler. Photographer was Rebekah Photography. Other special helpers were Crystal Miller, Terrie Pardue, Katie Pardue, and Lisa Carroll.

The reception was held at the couple's home under a lit tent set up by Party Pros with a dance floor in the center. The decorations were rustic with candle light and chalk mason jars with yellow and white woody flowers. The couple danced their first dance to "Love On The Brain" by Rihanna. The guests were served a buffet style Taco Bar plus an assortment of finger foods, including a special donut bar that was displayed with birch log towers. Catering the event was Jill Larkin of Jill's Sweet Memories. Stephanie Atkins made the wedding cake and the groom's cake.

The couple spent their honeymoon in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic at Cap Cana, an all inclusive resort, where they went snorkeling, hiking, and sight seeing while enjoying gourmet dining and relaxing on their own private beach. They are now residing in their new home in Florence.

Photos by Rebekah Photography





Crawford, Martin

Lacey Crawford and Cody Martin were married September 15, 2018 at 5:30 in the afternoon at Danclay Farms with Jamie Roden officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Nacole and Mark Gireth of Anderson and Jimmy Crawford of Killen. She is the granddaughter of Ann Davis and the late Don Davis of Anderson, and Jim and Marie Crawford of Killen.

The groom is the son of Tammy and Kevin Clemmons of Madison and Shannon Martin of Florence. He is the grandson of Rachel and Mickey Poole of Killen.

The bride wore a Martina Liana dress found at Something Blue Shoppe in Hartselle by consultant Kim Williams.

Maid of honor was Harlie Gossett, best friend of the bride. Bridesmaids were Mollie Peck, Rachel Thacker, Audra Young, and Baylee Newton.

Best man was Micah Hamner, best friend of the groom. Groomsmen were James Risner, Mitchell Ray, Logan Pettus, Dillon Richardson, and Gatlin Hill.

Wedding director was Chelsea Kennedy Events. Floral designer was Cindy Causey Harrison. Caterer was The Bonnet Cafe and the wedding cake and groom's cake were made by Amy's Cakes. Ceremony music was provided by vocalist Leah Roden and reception entertainment was provided by Fine Era Productions. Hair stylist was Kyla Warden from Textur Salon and make-up artist was Monica Aday. Photographer was Heather Sherrill of Create Portraiture and videographer was Mattie Cleveland of White Oak Productions. Party Pros provided the tent and beautiful lighting for the outdoor reception at Danclay Farms.

After a honeymoon trip to the Dominican Republic, the couple is now residing in Lexington.

Photos by Create Portraiture





Panks, Sockwell



Alexandra Panks and Alexander Sockwell were married September 15, 2018 at 5:00 in the afternoon in a beautiful outdoor ceremony held at The Red Barn with Corey Cochran officiating. The reception was also held at The Red Barn.

The bride is the daughter of Kenneth and Kristina Panks of Buford, Ga. She is the granddaughter of Karen Panks, Jim Panks, and the late Shirley and Richard Allen.

The groom is the son of Deedra Smith and Barry Sockwell, both of Leighton. He is the grandson of Betty and Ray Sockwell and Wanda and Donald Alexander, all of Leighton.

The bride chose a beautiful long sleeved Justin Alexander Signature Collection gown from The Something Blue Shoppe.

Maid of honor was Sydney Corum, friend of the bride. Bridesmaids were Hailee Alexander, Amanda Cabaniss, Paris Creed, Randa Hovater, Jessi Tidwell, Cortney Wray, Brooke Michael, Hannah Schorr, Heather Coulson, and Kaitlin Flemming. Flower girls were Rylie and Rainey Keenum, friends of the bride.

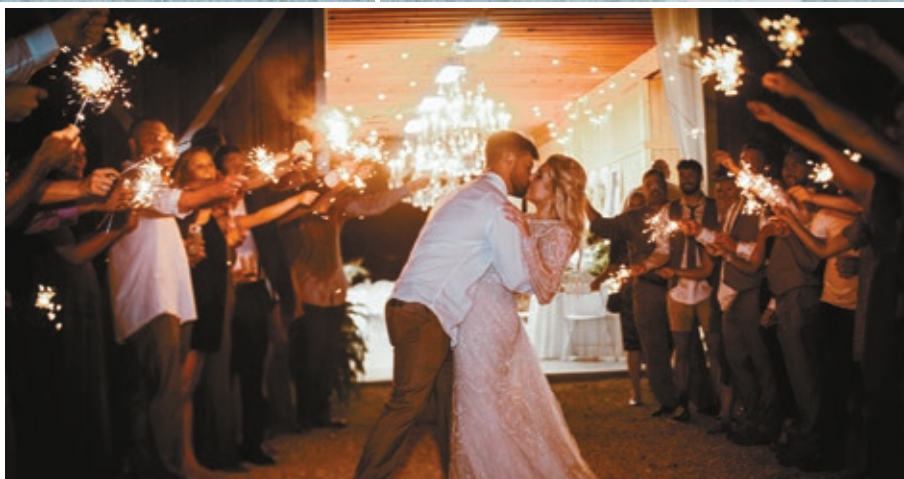
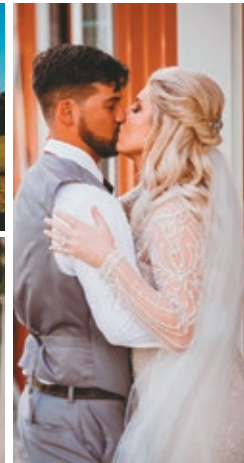
Best men were Chandler Smith, brother of the groom, and Kodi Smith, friend of the groom. Groomsmen were Trey Tidwell, Adam Rainey, Brady Ledlow, Tyler Green, Clint Isbell, Nick Thomason, Austin Panks, Michael Corsbie, Willie Hovater, Alex Willis, and Chase Lesley. Ring bearer was Addux Michael.

Wedding director was Kelli Brown. Floral designer Kaleidoscope Florist and Designs. Caterer was Jill's Sweet Memories, who also made the wedding cake. The bride's song was played by Renee South and DJs Lavale and Sonya Cooper entertained guests at the reception. Hair stylist and make-up artist was Hailee Alexander. Photographer was Jenna Perry of Love and Bloom and videographer was Nelsons Studios.

For their honeymoon, the couple took a Carnival cruise aboard The Dream to Montego Bay, Jamaica, Grand Cayman Islands, and Cozumel, Mexico. They are now residing in Muscle Shoals.

Photos by Love and Bloom







Bugg, Richardson



Heather Bugg and Tyler Richardson were married October 12, 2018 in a 6:30 evening ceremony held at Oliver's Barn with Wesley Richardson, father of the groom, officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Nancy Bugg and the late Douglas Bugg. She is the granddaughter of the late Mae Bugg Barnett of Florence and Dessie and Almon Trousdale of Elgin.

The groom is the son of Wesley and Kimberly Richardson. He is the grandson of Virginia Proctor of Florence, Jerry Richardson and the late Gwen Richardson of Lexington.

The bride chose a beautiful fitted off the shoulder Stella York gown from The Something Blue Shoppe that featured lace and beading, along with an arm length veil with lace trim. The groom, who is a Sergeant First Class in the Alabama National Guard, wore his dress blues.

Matrons of honor were Jessica Holland, sister of the bride, and Ramsey Kirk Roberts, best friend of the bride. Bridesmaids were Bethany Dial, cousin of the bride, and Heather Risner and Virginia Hightower, friends of the bride. Flower girls were Tessa Bugg and Kylee Holland, nieces of the bride.

Best men were Parker Richardson, Reece Richardson, and Axton Richardson, sons of the bride and groom. Groomsmen were Dustin Bretherick, Nick Cottrell, Mike Conner, Josh Staggs, and Russ Martin, all friends of the groom. Ring bearer was Axton Richardson, son of the bride and groom.

Wedding director was Sherry Kirk. Floral designer was Muscle Shoals Florist. Caterer was Creative Catering and the wedding cake and the groom's cupcakes were made by Amanda Daniel. Providing music for the ceremony and the reception was DJ Snix. Hair stylist and make-up artist was Kenzie Thomas Pope. Photographer was Tonya Gray of Bella Bliss Photography. Videographer was Morgan White of Memories By Morgan. Special thanks also Ramsey Roberts, who helped to set up and decorate.

The ceremony started at sunset on a perfect fall evening underneath large oak trees lit by cascading lights. The bride and groom, along with their three sons, planted a willow tree during the ceremony to unite them as one family. The tree was also planted in memory of the bride's late father who passed away only three months prior to the wedding. The wedding was fall themed with sunflowers, wildflowers, mums, pumpkins, leaves, and wheat as decor. The reception featured a taco bar, served by Creative Catering, and a beautiful three layer cake layered with carmel apple, peanut butter with chocolate chips, and vanilla carmel, topped with burnt orange mums. A special thanks also to Mrs. Toni at Victory Bridal for saving my dress only one week before the wedding.

For their honeymoon, the couple took a seven day cruise from New Orleans to Cozumel, Mexico, Grand Caymen Islands, and Montego Bay, Jamaica. They are now residing in Killen.

Photos by Bella Bliss Photography





Parker, Gaines

Kendra Brooke Parker and Aaron Dewayne Gaines were married November 3, 2018 at 4:00 in the afternoon in a beautiful outdoor ceremony at Hill-Wade Farms in Joplin, Mo. with Pastor Jeremy Ritchie officiating. The reception followed at the Hill-Wade Roping Arena.

The bride is the daughter of Talitha and Lance Lay of Cullman and Rod and Beth Parker of Hartselle. She is the granddaughter of Ken Holloway of Decatur, Delma and Susie Parker of Falkville, and the late Buddy and Diane Clark.

The groom is the son of Sonia and Chuck Nichols of Baileyton and Dewayne Gaines of Hanceville. He is the grandson of Rick and Phyllis Patrum, Baileyton; Joe and Charlotte Walker, Hanceville; and Glen and Ann Gaines of Cullman.

The bride chose a custom designed, fitted, off-white, backless lace gown with three quarter length sleeves.

Maid of honor was Skylar Atchley of Cullman, friend of the bride, and matron of honor was Lindsey Hoke of Joplin, Mo., cousin of the groom. Bridesmaids were Taylor Robinson, cousin of the groom; Hayley Brown and Sagan Vreeland, both friends of the bride. Flower girl was Oakleigh Raye Gaines, daughter of the bride and groom.

Best man was the groom's grandfather, Rick Patrum. Groomsmen were Jordan Creel, Luke Davis, Garrett Whitworth, all friends of the groom; and Travis Hoke, cousin of the groom. Ring bearer was Ryder Gaines, son of the bride and groom.

Wedding director was Lindsey Hoke and Kristi Wade and floral designer was Lindsey Hoke. Music for the ceremony and the reception was provided by DJ Bryan Williams. Caterer was Michael Roach and Phyllis Patrum. The wedding cake was made by Sugar Whipped Treats by Elissa. Other special helpers were Joyce Holcomb and Deborah French. Hair stylist was Karli Engelang and make-up artist was Gabrielle Hill. Photographer was Ashlea Chance.

The couple is now residing in Joplin, Mo.

Photos by Ashlea Chance





Mansell, Kelley

Faith Ann Mansell and Connor Patton Kelley were married June 30, 2018 at 7:00 in the evening in a beautiful outdoor ceremony at Burritt on the Mountain in Huntsville with Will Myhan officiating. The reception followed at Burritt on the Mountain.

The bride is the daughter of Tyrus and Lorie Mansell of Muscle Shoals. She is the granddaughter of Bill and Linda Terry, the late Jimmy Henry, the late Shirley Butler, and EG and Billy Mansell.

The groom is the son of Anthony and Sabrina Weed and Scott and Lynn Kelley. He is the grandson of Steve and Hazel Patton and Everette and Irene Kelley.

The bride chose a beautiful Justin Alexander Signature Collection gown in white lace.

Maid of honor was Rachel Wammack, best friend of the bride, and matron of honor was Leslie Mansell, sister-in-law of the bride. Bridesmaids were Briana Dolan, Ashton Henry, Megan Henry, Laura Beth Shepherd, Ashley Krieger, Lynsey Myhan, Madelyn Kilcrease, and Caitlin Paul. Junior bridesmaid was Maeley Kate Henry and flower girl was Maecey Faith Henry.

Best man was the groom's brother, Jaron Kelley. Groomsmen were Chris Rhodes, Dylan Cook, Avery Weed, Evan Mansell, Caleb Henry, Jerrod Henry, Will Collins, Collin Edmonds, Tot Boren, and Colton Durdunji. Ring bearer was Paxton Mansell, nephew of the bride.

Wedding director and floral designer was Kim Clark. Caterer was Southern Skillet, the wedding cake was made by Yummie Bakery, and the groom's cake was made by Christi Renzelman. Providing music for the ceremony and the reception was Gus Spears, Universal Event and Production Services. Photographer was Katie Jewell Photography and videographer was Max Bernard.

After a honeymoon in Jamaica, the couple is now residing in Birmingham.

Photos by Katie Jewell Photography





Petty, Southern

Courtney Petty and Hayden Southern were married September 22, 2018 at 5:30 in the afternoon at Pleasant View Farm in Iron City, Tenn. with Wayne Gean officiating. The reception followed at Pleasant View Farm.

The bride is the daughter of Chris and Regena Petty of Florence. She is the granddaughter of Linda Butler and the late Fred Butler of Killen, Coy Petty of Savannah, Tenn., and Peggy Crouch and the late Gene Crouch of Florence.

The groom is the son of Roxann Davis and Brad Southern of Haleyville. He is the grandson of Pat McCarter and the late Jerry McCarter and Wayne and Susan Southern, all of Haleyville.

The bride's gown was a beautiful white Madison James gown featuring floating lace at the neckline and across the back, purchased from Cherry Tree Lane.

Maid of honor was Brooke Ford, cousin of the bride. Bridesmaids were Ashley Ford, cousin of the bride; Makenna Davis, sister-in-law of the bride; and Britney Biggers, friend of the bride. Flower girl was Maddie Southern, sister of the groom.

Best man was Rickey Rodgers, friend of the groom. Groomsmen were Cameron Baldy, brother of the groom; Jonathan Oliver, Dylan Henson, and Austin Lewis, all friends of the groom.

Wedding director was Sharon Spillers. Floral designer was Cindy Harrison. Caterer was Creative Catering and the bride and groom's cakes were provided by Logann Smith Drd. Music for the ceremony and the reception was provided by Ray Rodgers. Hair stylist was Deanna Putman. Groom and groomsmen attire was from Bernard's, Jasper, Ala. Photographer was Bluebird Redbirds and videographer was Redemption Road.

After a honeymoon cruise to the Bahamas, the couple is now residing in Muscle Shoals.

Photos by Bluebird Redbirds







Young, Allen

Allison Leigh Young and Benjamin "Hunter" Allen were married August 25, 2018 in a 7:00 evening ceremony at Danclay Farms with A.J. Gooch, the bride's childhood youth minister, officiating. A special prayer was led by Dr. Kenny Barfield.

The bride is the daughter of Stacy and Laura Horton of Florence and the late Roy Young, Jr. She is the granddaughter of Linda McGee of Florence, Ellen Horton and the late Jim Horton of Selmer, Tenn., and the late Larry and Christine Mitchell of Florence.

The groom is the son of Mark and Holly Allen of Killen. He is the grandson of Franklin and Shirley Kennedy and Morris and Faye Allen, all of Florence.

The bride chose a beautiful white Mori Lee gown purchased from Georgio's Bridal in Waco, Texas.

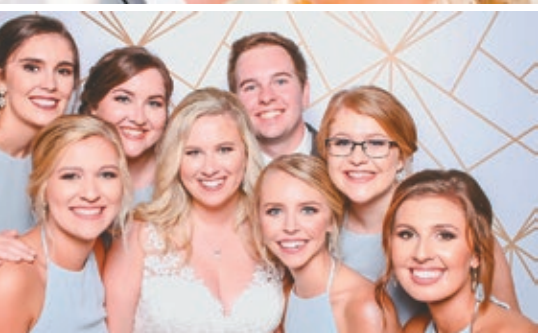
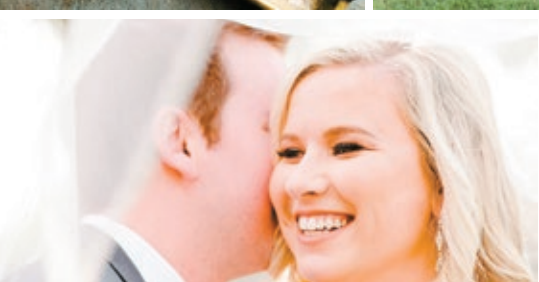
Maid of honor was Lyndsey Young, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Sydney Richmond, Chelsea Powell, Rebekah Evans, Katherine Henderson, all friends of the bride, and Chalie Horton, sister of the bride. Junior bridesmaid was Ella Kennedy, cousin of the groom. Flower girls were Zoey Nichols, cousin of the bride, and Atley Rowe Holt, family friend of the bride.

Best man was the groom's father, Mark Allen. Groomsmen were Zack Allen, brother of the groom; Seth Allen and Jason Pruitt, cousins of the groom; Adam Prouty and Dakota James, friends of the groom. Ring bearer was Ryder Kennedy, cousin of the groom.

Wedding director and floral designer was Faith Woods of Faith Woods Events. The reception, which was also held at Danclay Farms, was catered by Rhoda P's Catering. The wedding cake was made by Maggie Bea Ray of Sweet Bea Bakes. In lieu of a groom's cake, Hunter opted for an ice cream bar catered by Handel's Ice Cream of Huntsville. The photobooth at the reception, which was a big hit with guests, was provided by The Flash Bar in Birmingham. Hair stylist was Mellany Lancaster of Revelationz and make-up artist was Corey Nichols of Makeup By Corey. Photographer for the ceremony was Kara Joy Dickey of Thankfully Taken and bridal photos were taken by Andrew Swindle Photography. Videographer was Bobby Martin Videography. The invitations were designed by Audrey Meadows of Meadows Made. The arbor for the ceremony was built by the groom's father. The ring bearer pillow was made by the bride's late grandmother for the bride's parents' wedding thirty years ago.

After a honeymoon at Sandals Resort in St. George's, Grenada, the couple is now residing in Forney, Texas.

Photos by Thankfully Taken



NeeSmith, McIntyre



Allyson Nichole NeeSmith and Camron David McIntyre were married October 20, 2018 at 4:30 in the afternoon at George's 217 with Corey Springer officiating. The reception followed at George's 217.

The bride is the daughter of Michael and Teri NeeSmith of Florence. She is the granddaughter of Freddie and Lynda Graham of Vidalia, Ga. and the late James "Hillary" and Mirian Gibson NeeSmith of Lyons, Ga.

The groom is the son of David and Mary Gifford McIntyre of Florence. He is the grandson of Betty Gresham McIntyre and the late Ray McIntyre and the late Glenn and Lorene Walker Gifford, all of Florence.

The bride chose an ivory strapless asymmetrical ruched satin gown along with an Erica Koesler flutter cut veil with ivory satin ribbon edge.

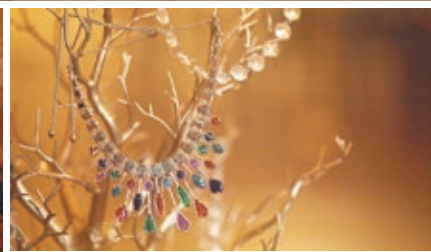
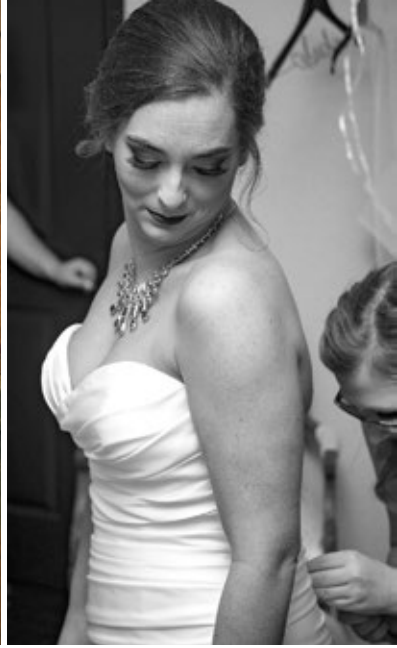
Maid of honor was Anne Marie Mecke, friend of the bride. Bridesmaids were Melissa Green, Alyse Bacon, Rochelle Ducharme, all friends of the bride, and Lori Copeland, cousin of the bride.

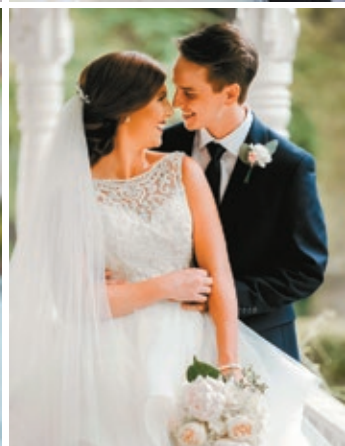
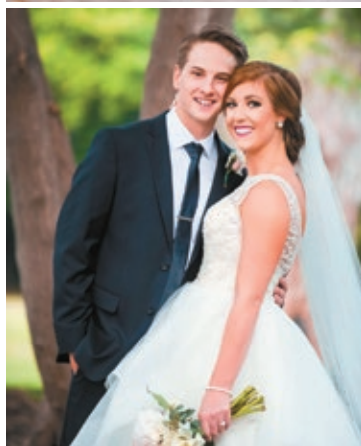
Best man was Evan Bragwell, friend of the groom. Groomsmen were Brannan Smith, Kyler Hill, Cassidy Butler, and Adam Holt, all friends of the groom.

The bride's father, Michael NeeSmith, served as his daughter's day-of coordinator. Floral designer was Duggar's Florist. Providing the music was DJ Kid Rock and the Dixie Mafia. George's 217 catered the prime rib dinner and Sugarbaker's made the wedding cake. Lauren Vining was hair stylist and make-up artist for the bride, and Oh Darling was hair stylist and make-up artist for the bridesmaids. Photographer was NTG Photography and videographer was John Myers. The invitations were custom designed at PSI. The rings were from Grogan Jewelers by Lon. The groom and groomsmen wore suits from Coat's Clothing.

After a ribbon and bells send off, the couple left the reception in a 1987 Chevy Blazer K5 that was previously owned by the groom's uncle, Phillip McIntyre, and now owned by the groom.

After a honeymoon at Sandals Emerald Bay in the Bahamas, the couple is now residing in the Central/Oakland area of Florence.





Hall, Howdysshell

Noelle Hall and Austin Howdysshell were married May 26, 2018 in a beautiful outdoor ceremony on the steps of Locust Hill in Tusculumbia with Graham Conner officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Karl and Terri Hall of Huntsville, formerly of Florence. She is the granddaughter of William and Jean DePrender of St. Louis, Mo. and the late Obed and Frieda Hall of Bowling Green, Mo.

The groom is the son of Michael and Nancy Howdysshell of Chattanooga, Tenn., formerly of Florence. He is the grandson of Alta Davidson and the late Jerry Davidson and Carol Howdysshell and the late Ronald Howdysshell, all of Florence.

The bride was escorted by her father. She wore a white gown with a matching veil, earrings and headpiece from The Something Blue Shoppe, along with a necklace that belonged to her great-grandmother and a bracelet that was a gift from the groom.

Maid of honor was Abby Howdysshell, sister of the groom and friend of the bride, and matron of honor was Anna Conner, friend of the bride. Bridesmaids were Jennifer Holland, Annie Lamers, Lindsey Monroe, Emily Manush, Katelynn Gordon, Bailey Plunket, Leslie Taylor, all friends of the bride; Jessica Perkins and Nikki Dittmeier, cousins of the bride.

Best man was Aidan Cavanah, friend of the groom. Groomsmen were Barrett Hibbett, Sawyer Holland, Jeremy Harper, Logan Foote, Brandon Krieger, friends of the groom; Andrew Howdysshell, brother of the groom; and Kory Hall, brother of the bride.

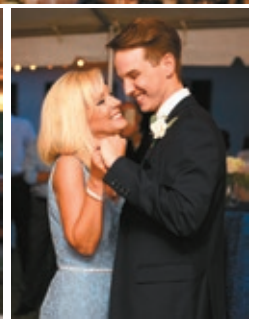
The reception was held at Locust Hill following the ceremony. Caterer was Aunt Bea's, who also made the wedding cakes, and entertaining guests were Drumb & Drumber.

Wedding director was Stephanie Lanier and floral designer was Laura Edwards. Hair stylist was Cindy Deason and make-up artist was Alicia Gautney. The stationery was from Ledgewood Fine Stationery. The wedding rings were from Grogan Jewelers by Lon. Travel agent was Meghan Bailey with Pixie & Pirate Destinations. Photographer was Jennifer Photography and videographer was Awaken Films. Other special helpers were Dawn, Olivia, Onna, and Rylan Pettus, and Mollie Parker.

After spending their wedding night in the Billy Reid Suite at The GunRunner Boutique Hotel, they then spent their honeymoon at Sandals Resort in Barbados. They are now residing in Huntsville.

Photos by Jennifer Photography







Sykes, Bishop

Kara Blaine Sykes and Derek Keith Bishop were married August 25, 2018 at 6:00 in the evening at George's 217 in Sheffield with Kirk Bishop, uncle of the groom, officiating. The reception followed at George's 217.

The bride is the daughter of Derrik Sykes and Liz Sykes of Spruce Pine. She is the granddaughter of the late Walter and Willie Lou Sykes of Belgreen and the late Daisy Hockney of Russellville.

The groom is the son of Keith and Becky Bishop of Colbert Heights. He is the grandson of Bobby and Kathy Bishop of Tuscumbia and the late Millard and Jane Kennedy of Littleville.

The bride wore a white Fleur de lis gown by Haley Paige, drop pearl earrings given to the bride by her best friend, an emerald bracelet given to the bride by her parents, and a rose gold bracelet with "I love you, Nannie" written in her Nannie's handwriting as a gift from her sister.

Maid of honor was Brittany Sykes, sister of the bride, and matron of honor was Hilary Aaron Henderson, best friend of the bride. Bridesmaids were Katy Eaton, sister of the groom; Libby O'Neal and Chelsea Bolen, both friends of the bride. Flower girl was Kimberly Avendale "Kimi-Dale" Eaton, niece of the groom.

The groom's father, Keith Bishop, served as his son's best man. Groomsmen were Jay Vandiver, Ron Crow, Tommy Nagle, and Tyler Baccus, all friends of the groom.

Wedding director was Gaye Choat of Gracefull Beginnings Wedding Planning. Darlene Duncan and Liz Sykes made the floral arrangements and Kaleidoscope Florist made the bouquets and boutonnieres. Caterer was George's Steak Pit and the wedding and groom's cakes were made by Designer Desserts by Rachel K. Music for the ceremony and the reception was provided by Howard Hillman and Robert Hillman. Casey Kurzhal did the bride's hair and Kayla de Luna did the bridesmaid's hair. Make-up artist was Bethany Mansell. Photographer was Heather Sherrill of Create Portraiture and videographer was BB Media.

Our wedding took exactly a year to plan but my husband helped me with even the smallest details and was so patient. Our wedding reflected our relationship with each other and our personalities. I was a ball of nerves the whole day leading up to walking down the aisle, but as soon as I saw him, they disappeared. It felt like it was just me and him. Best decision I've ever made! We did our wedding our way and it was the absolute best day ever!

For their honeymoon, the couple took a week long Caribbean Honeymoon to St. Lucia, a Catamaran excursion to Soufriere, where they visited Sulfur Spring, hiked to a rain forest waterfall and went snorkeling. They are now residing in Muscle Shoals.





Bragwell, Sherrill

Lexie Nicole Bragwell and Caleb Alan Sherrill were married October 14, 2018 in a 4:00 afternoon ceremony held at The Givens House at Glenn Hill with Jerome Sherrill, grandfather of the groom, officiating. The reception followed at The Givens House at Glenn Hill.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dallas Bragwell of Russellville. She is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hollis Bragwell and Ms. Eva Rickard and the late Mr. Amos Rickard, all of Russellville. Lexie is a graduate of Belgreen High School and received a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from the University of North Alabama.

The groom is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Alan Sherrill of Spruce Pine. He is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Sherrill of Spruce Pine and Ms. Hilda Hill and the late Mr. Gordon Latham of Phil Campbell. Caleb is a graduate of Russellville High School and received a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering degree from The University of Alabama.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore an ivory, delicate lace custom Justin Alexander gown from the Something Blue Shoppe along with her mother's ivory pearl-detailed veil.

Maid of honor was Shelby Johnson, lifelong friend of the bride. Bridesmaids were Alana Swinney, sister of the groom; Holly Sherrill, sister-in-law of the groom; Hanna Taylor, Hannah McKinney, and Kasey Sparks, all friends of the bride. Flower girl was Annie Swinney, niece of the groom.

Best man was the groom's father, Dr. Alan Sherrill. Groomsmen were David Sherrill, brother of the groom; Chris Swinney, brother-in-law of the groom; Mason Bragwell, brother of the bride; Wesley Bohannon and Duncan McDowell, friends of the groom.

Wedding director was Bernice Givens. Floral designer was Angie's Florist of Russellville. Caterer was Jill's Sweet Memories, who also made the wedding cake and groom's cake. Music for the ceremony was provided by Teresa Whitten. Hair stylist and make-up artist was the maid of honor, Shelby Johnson, who is a stylist at Sixth Street Salon. Photographer was Blush Imagery.

After a honeymoon at The Excellence at El Carmen in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, the couple is now residing in Florence.

Photos by Blush Imagery





Hamner, Nicholson

On December 24th, Meredith thought it was just a normal Christmas Eve complete with her grandparents, parents, aunt, and uncle. When her mom announced that they would be playing a game, Meredith thought nothing of it for it was nothing out of the ordinary for their family to play a game at Christmas time. Meredith was the first to unwrap the present of the, unknowing to her at the time, fabricated game. As soon as she opened the carefully wrapped box, she saw a DVD case that was titled "H + Mere". Meredith knew in that moment what must be happening, or hoped anyway.

She rushed over to the television to play the DVD. What she then watched was the sweetest and most thoughtful video of Hunter telling her fifty reasons of why he loves her. He ended the video asking her to meet him at her grandparents house, which was just about ten minutes away. Meredith jumped in the car with her parents to go meet him. It felt more like a fifty minute drive rather than ten.

When she arrived at her grandparents house, she saw a line of white lights leading her to him. He had built a backdrop to set the scene, he asked her to marry him, and of course, she said yes (many times)! Watch the video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LZkCO-0I9qg&t=21s>.

Meredith Hamner and Hunter Nicholson were married March 24, 2018 in 4:00 afternoon ceremony at Atlas Church of Christ with the bride's father, Michael Hamner, officiating. The reception followed at the Historic Sweetwater Depot.

The bride is the daughter of Michael and Denise Hamner of Killen. She is the granddaughter of Wayne and Hazel Mays of Killen

The groom is the son of Shelia Nicholson of Guntersville and Jimmy Nicholson of Gulf Breeze, Fla. He is the grandson of Wayne and Ann Hughes of Guntersville.

The bride wore a white trumpet style gown purchased from The Something Blue Shoppe. She carried a bouquet wrapped in lace from her mother's wedding gown. She wore the same bracelet that her sister, Elizabeth, wore on her wedding day.

Matrons of honor were Elizabeth Grace Hamner Wade and Kelsea Marie Hamner Oldham, sisters of the bride. Bridesmaids were Mary Katherine Vanderpool, Molly Jan Flippo, Victoria Joy Flippo, cousins of the bride; Kati LeAnne Haynes, Mariah Lynette Horton, Sara Jane McWhorter, Erin Benton Masterson, and Danica Marie McLaughlin, all friends of the bride. Flower girls were Mary Emma Jane Oldham, Elizabeth Anne Wade, Molly Margaret Marie Oldham, Mila Kay Nicholson, Ali Blake Nicholson, Gray Brynn Nicholson, Penelope Rose Hamner, all nieces of the bride and groom, and Lyla Kate Becker, cousin of the bride.

Bestman was the groom's brother, Christopher Mark Nicholson. Groomsmen were Joshua Michael Hamner, Guy Maxwell Vanderpool, Dustin Keith Wade, Logan Wayne Oldham, Joshua Benjamin Bowman, Aaron Vance Rains, Issac Ryan Battles, Marcus Chandler Litchford, Steven Nicholas McAnally, and Mathew Ryan Gunther. Ring bearers were Hayes Logan Oldham and Jack Christopher Nicholson, nephews of the bride and groom.

Wedding director was Terri Brown and Leah Phillips. Floral designer was Justin Myrick. Caterer was Dawn Pettus, who also made the groom's cake, and the wedding cake was made by Aunt Bea's Bakery. Entertaining guests at the reception was The Midnighters. Also contributing to the big event was Britney Underwood of Riverside Woodworks and Interiors. Hair stylist was Amer Elliot and make-up artist was Rachel Mary. Photographer was Heather Sherrill of Create Portraiture and videographers were Nicholson Creative and Abbie Raye Photography.

The bride, a first grade teacher, had fifteen of her students in attendance at the wedding. They did a special song together at the reception.

The couple is now residing in Florence.





Balentine, May

Who would have thought that when a man's grandmother meets a woman that she thinks is the one for him...that a wedding would come to pass. Well, that's just what happened in 2016 and after the woman, Courtney Balentine, is invited to a "Mays Family" game night...the spark was ignited. From that day forward, God blessed and the spark grew bigger.... love was in the air and in the hearts of Trey Gregory May and Courtney Alise Balentine. Daily phone conversations or time together became the norm and it soon became obvious that these two were meant for each other. God continued to guide and direct in Trey and Courtney's lives, so on October 30, 2017, Trey proposed to Courtney at Cades Cove Missionary Baptist Church in the Great Smokey Mountains National Park and she said "yes"!

The bride is the daughter of Roger C. and Vickie Balentine and the granddaughter of Jo Ayers and the late Buford Ayers and the late Robbie Balentine all of Collinwood, Tenn. The groom is the son of Gregory and Katrina May and the grandson of Mae May and the late Robert May and Era Butler and the late Thomas Butler all of Florence, Ala.

After months of planning the wedding and wedding showers, Trey and Courtney exchanged vows in the presence of their families and many friends at 4:00 in the afternoon on Saturday, September 29, 2018 in the sanctuary of Underwood Baptist Church in Florence, Ala. with Matt Buerhaus officiating. Matrons of honor were Janine Jones and Anna Hays and brides matrons were Laura Sherrill and Holly Burcham, all friends of the bride. Best men were the groom's father, Gregory May and the groom's brother, Cody May. Groomsmen were Logan Angel and Cory Hines.

The church was decorated with beautiful floral arrangements created by Justin Myrick of Juts Weddings and Special Events, Florence, Ala. and the floral designer, along with Party Plus, transformed the "Hub" at Underwood Baptist Church into an exquisite setting for a delicious sit-down dinner that was catered by Jill Larkin of Jill's Sweet Memories, Florence, Ala. Trey's mother designed, baked and decorated both the wedding cake and groom's cake. As the couple left the reception, they were showered with crushed lavender tossed from paper cones made by the bride's parents from old church song book pages. The two then drove off in Trey's father's red 1976 Volkswagen.

After their honeymoon to Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando, Fla., Trey and Courtney May are residing in Florence, Ala. where she is employed with the University of North Alabama and he is employed with the City of Florence.

Hairstylist and make up artist was Rebekah Benson of Florence, Ala., Josh and Ashley Mattox of Mattox Photography in Graceville, Fla. were the photographers, and Tyler Martin of Muscle Shoals, Ala. was the videographer, all of whom are friends of the bride.

Photos by Mattox Photography





Johns, Smith



Audrey Ann Johns and Jacob Lowell Smith were married January 27, 2018 in a 2:00 afternoon ceremony held at Loft 212 in Cullman with Braxton Davis officiating. The reception followed at Loft 212.

The bride is the daughter of Eddie and Christy Johns of Hartselle. She is the granddaughter of Hugh and Jo Ann Huggins and the late Don and Audrey Johns, all of Decatur.

The groom is the son of Steve and Amy Sterling of Moulton and the late Frankie Smith of Town Creek. He is the grandson of Sol Halbrooks of Moulton, Barry and Wanda Smith of Town Creek, and John and Olene Sterling of Moulton.

The bride chose an Oleg Cassini three-quarter length sleeved tulle a-line gown with a delicate illusion lace bodice, dramatic v-back zipper and drop waist. Her matching Vera Wang cathedral veil featured embroidered lace and rhinestones.

Maid of honor was Kelsey Matthews and matron of honor was Taylor Conley, both friends of the bride. Bridesmaids were Elizabeth Gates and Holly Maisch, friends of the bride, Jordan Davis and Kaylyn Reeves, sisters of the groom. Flower girl was Gemma Reeves, niece of the groom.

Best man was Christopher Johnson, friend of the groom. Groomsmen were Steve Sterling, step-father of the groom; Braxton Davis and Chase Reeves, brothers-in-law of the groom; Ty Smith, cousin of the groom; and Cam Johns, brother of the bride. Ring bearer was Went Reeves, nephew of the groom.

Wedding director was Cindy Averitt. Floral designer was Deana Olinger of Party Petals by Deana. Caterer was Brenda Lewis and the wedding and groom's cakes were made by Cake Creations by Kristi. Music was provided by Josiah Lanier. Hair stylist was Caroline Hensley and make-up artist was Courtney Kracke.

The couple is now residing in Hartselle.





Green, Killen

Maggie Allison Green and Raleigh James Killen were married December 8, 2018 in a 5:00 afternoon ceremony at Lone Cedar Church of Christ with Rickey Green, father of the bride, officiating. The reception was held at Danclay Farms following the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Rickey and Alice Green of Rogersville. She is the granddaughter of Dorothy Butler and the late Ingram Butler and Jean Green and the late Carl Green, all of Rogersville.

The groom is the son of Brad and Keri Killen of Killen. He is the grandson of Derrick and Rebecca Killen of Greenhill and the late Chester and June Davis of Petersville.

The bride chose a white Robert Bullock gown from Kathleen's Bridal in Madison.

Matron of honor was Mollie Ball, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Morgan Killen and Lindsey Killen, sisters of the groom; Haley Dison and Ashley Darracott, friends of the bride. Flower girls were Ella Claire Butler, Lizzie Hines, and Lillie Meyer.

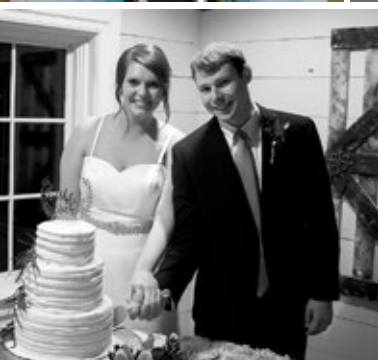
Best man was the groom's father, Brad Killen. Groomsmen were Matthew Stutts, Garrett Grigsby, Tanner Shaw, and Houston Wallace, all friends of the groom. Ring bearers were Cruise Haynes and Hudson Penfield.

Wedding director and floral designer was Dawn Pettus. The wedding cake and groom's cake were made by Mollie Parker. Reception entertainment was provided by Wendell and Kendell Dean. Hair stylist was Mandi Beavers and make-up artist was Abby Stovall. Photographer was JBY Photography.

The couple departed from the reception in the same vehicle the groom's parents departed in after their wedding - the groom's late grandfather's 1948 Chevy Convertible.

For their honeymoon, the couple took a Caribbean cruise. They are now residing in Rogersville.

Photos by JBY Photography



Uhlman, Brocato



Alison Uhlman and Benjamin Brocato were married August 11, 2018 at 6:30 in the evening at Robert Trent Jones of the Shoals Golf Trail with Bro. Brett Pitman officiating. The reception was held at RTJ following the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Eric and Anna Uhlman of Leighton. She is the granddaughter of Kenneth and Janice Myhan of Leighton, Gary and Glenda Uhlman of Lexington, and the late Wanda Uhlman of Leighton.

The groom is the son of David and Linda Brocato of Muscle Shoals. He is the grandson of Tommy and Phyllis Brocato of Sheffield and the late Howard and Josie Johnson of Sheffield.

The bride was escorted by her father. She chose a beautiful white Justin Alexander ball gown from The Something Blue Shoppe.

Matron of honor was May Hannah Elkins, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Erin Askew, Anna Bevis, Baylee Hamilton, Mollie Kate Holloway, Katie Lanier, Lauren Mills, Maggie Rae Williams, all friends of the bride; Kara Johnson and Kimberly Johnson, cousins of the bride. Flower girl was Marlie Rice, friend of the bride.

Best man was the groom's father, David Brocato. Groomsmen were Matthew Brocato and Thomas Brocato, brothers of the groom; Braden Barnes, Cody Berryman, Kyle Hester, Mitchell Holloway, Alex Ridgeway, Trey Rutherford, all friends of the groom; and Kenny Elkins, brother-in-law of the bride. Ring bearer was Brantley Bradford, cousin of the bride.

Wedding director was Beth Wilcoxsin and floral designer was Camalita Coan. Catering was provided by the venue, Robert Trent Jones of the Shoals. The wedding cake and groom's cake was made by Wendy Burns Weeks, and Nena McCormack provided pies for the reception. Hair stylists were Ashley Watson and Rachael Patterson, and Ashley Watson was also the make-up artist. Ceremony music was played by Shane Baker, who also did the Bride and Groom Dance, while Eric Kirkman and band entertained guests at the reception. Photographer was Gena Plaxco and videographer was Hannah and Reid Ruggles. Other special helpers were guest book attendants Reese Uhlman and Mikal Ann Johnson. The bride would also like to extend a special thanks to Christine Minor and the whole staff at RTJ of the Shoals.

After a Carnival Cruise in the Caribbean and an extended stay in New Orleans, the couple is now residing in Muscle Shoals.

Photos by Gena Plaxco





Menard, Borden

Sydney Menard and Brett Borden were married on April 14, 2018 at 5:00 in the afternoon at the home of Ty and Anna McConnell on Wilson Lake with Tommy Calhoun officiating and a reception following. The couple wanted something small and intimate with family only to share their special day. The rain came with no break all day, but the couple embraced the weather. They were each others source of sunshine and didn't let the rain stop their day from being anything but beautiful. The rain was atmospheric in their reception venue, which featured glass windows, and it also made everything dark and cozy, which complemented the intimate family wedding they wanted.

The bride is the daughter of the late Gary Menard and the late Robbin Menard both of Rogersville. She is the granddaughter of Martha Flanagan and the late Johnny Flanagan of Rogersville and Leo and Roberta Menard of Florida and Marilyn Short of Florida.

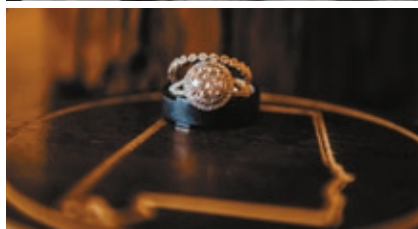
The groom is the son of Donald and Jean Borden of Phil Campbell. He is the grandson of L.C. "Bee" and the late Winofline Borden and the late Paul Gandy and the late Frances Gandy all of Phil Campbell.

The bride was given away by her two brothers, Chad Ian Menard and Jake Lee. She chose a perfect combination of sophisticated and romantic ivory wedding dress from the designer Essense of Australia purchased at The Something Blue Shoppe. The back of the gown featured a slight racerback in a scrolling pattern that was accented with skinny triple straps and sheer detailing. It had a luxe train with lace cut detailing and unique lace hem to round out the romantic feeling of this style. She also wore a veil with unique lace detailing. The groom wore an indigo blue ultra slim suit from Juanita's Fashions. The bride and groom's rings were purchased from Jamie Hood Jewelers.

The matron of honor was Stephanie McConnell, sister of the bride. The best man was the groom's father, Donald Borden.

Floral designer was Cindy Harrison. Kenny Henry provided music for the ceremony and the reception. Caterer was Pop's Barbeque and the cake was made by a friend of the bride, Debbie Smith of Huntsville. Hair stylist was Melia Owens and make-up artist was Laren Lindholm. Photographer was Rebekah Handley of Rebekah Photography and videographer was Al Hammond with Awaken Films. Special thanks to Donna and Jeffie Butler for serving the food and helping organize the reception. Also a special thanks to Ty and Anna McConnell for allowing us to be married in their beautiful home.

After a honeymoon to Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, the couple now resides in Muscle Shoals.



Photos by Rebekah Photography



Hughes, Menard

Hannah Michael Hughes and Chad Ian Menard were married June 9, 2018 at 6:00 in the evening at Danclay Farms with Tommy Calhoun officiating. The reception followed at Danclay Farms.

The bride is the daughter of Michael Hughes of Killen and Robin Peter of Fort Myers, Fla. She is the granddaughter of Travis and Sandra Tidwell of Killen, Robert and Sarah Gresham of Killen, Dale Gooch of Corpus Christi, Texas, and Dale and Jan Hughes of Killen.

The groom is the son of the late Gary and Robbin Menard of Rogersville. He is the grandson of Martha Flanagan and the late Johnny Flanagan of Rogersville, Leo and Roberta Menard of Indian Harbor, Fla., and Marilyn Short of Indian Harbor, Fla.

The bride chose a beautiful white lace gown from The Something Blue Shoppe. Maids of honor were Natalie Flanagan and Macy Hughes, best friends of the bride. Bridesmaids were Madison Peter, sister of the bride; Stephanie McConnell and Sydney Borden, sisters of the groom; Elizabeth Lee and Lindsey Hughes, sisters-in-law of the bride; and Mollie Ball, friend of the bride. Flower girls were Casey Lee, niece of the bride, and Ava Grace Hughes, cousin of the bride.

Best man was Tyler Cosby, best friend of the groom. Groomsmen were Jake Lee, brother of the groom; Tony Cosby, Greg Angus, Casey Ball, friends of the groom; Trevor McConnell and Brett Borden, brothers-in-law of the groom; and Jake Hughes, brother of the bride. Ring bearers were Jacob Lee and Gage Lee, nephews of the groom.

Wedding director and floral designer was Dawn Pettus. Hair stylist was Kenzie Thomas Pope and make-up artist was Corey Nichols of Makeup By Corey. Photographer was Tonya Gray of Bella Bliss Photography and videographer was Bruce Carson of QF2FILMS.

For their honeymoon, the couple spent five nights at the Hyatt Ziva Los Cabos, an all inclusive resort in Los Cabos, Mexico. They are now residing in Rogersville.

Photos by Bella Bliss Photography



Fletcher, Hale



We began our relationship with a long standing friendship and already established lives. There isn't an extravagant first date story or a dreamy, magical proposal. Actually, our first date was very casual but the moment it ended I messaged my sister, "Write this down. I'm going to marry Chris Hale!" He finally said those three little words that I had been holding on to and we kind of just knew we were each other's future. Seems so silly, now, to have kept my guard up without realizing he was exactly who I had been waiting on.

A quote I love and relate so much to is, "She opened her eyes and didn't wonder anymore. He tells her every day how beautiful she is to him, that she is his favorite, his only, his love. That when the sun comes up every morning he chooses her and that he always will. And today, for whatever reason, she rested in his reassurance. She finally released all the broken promises from her past and believed she could trust her heart just this once more." – Leo Christopher

We opted for a more intimate guest list to include fifty of our closest friends and family. Every detail of the day was catered to what defines us, right down to red heels and Emerald City painted nails and Superman cufflinks and dress socks. When planning your own wedding, it's crazy how many details are so easily decided but just one thing you get hung up on. For me, it was cake. I simply could not choose any one flavor. Luckily, I have a pretty special friend who made eight different flavored cakes--one for each table--straight from her kitchen with love. Our guests mingled and sampled like one big family...as it should be.

We chose to do a first look and ride over to the ceremony, just the two of us. On the way, our recession song played on the radio as if it were our own little pep rally to the rest of our lives together! We all took our places. My brother wiped my tears in a panic with the inside of his coat as I recited my vows one last time. An orchestra version of Sweet Child O' Mine by Guns N' Roses, a tribute to my late mother, played as our children walked ahead of me. Then my processional, Hallelujah by Lindsey Stirling, a tribute to Chris's late mother, chimed perfectly. As a bride, you have one job. Grab your flowers and walk to your man. That's it! AND.I.FORGOT.MY.BOUQUET. What bride in the history of brides forgets her bouquet? I was so fixated on my handsome groom that I didn't even realize until I stepped into place and went to hand it off to my daughter. Later, my husband actually said, "I thought you left it on purpose...I think bouquets are weird." Seems that everything happens for a reason. We shared our first kiss as Mr. and Mrs. Hale and danced away to AC/DC's Highway to Hell.

You're standing in front of the most forgiving audience, vowing to love your best friend for the rest of your life. A minor, unimportant, detail like forgetting your bouquet is no cause for stress. And saying "I love you" for the one-millionth time should be easy. It's just another day...only this time you just so happen to be wearing the dress of your dreams.

Misty Renee Fletcher and John Christopher Hale were married October 19, 2018 in a 5:00 afternoon ceremony at the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail of The Shoals with Phillip Smith officiating. The reception followed at RTJ.

The bride's twin brother, Michael Fletcher, escorted her down the aisle. She wore a glamorous Hayley Paige gown with Badgley Mischka heels. She also wore her late grandmother's blue opal hair clip and wedding ring.

The groom was dressed in a midnight royal blue suit from Coats Clothing with a duck feather bowtie and a handkerchief that read "No ugly crying".

Maids and groomsmen were the couple's children, Liam, Jackson, and Azlynn, plus the bride's friend's daughter Natalee. The groom had the couple's dog, Turbo, at his side. Glitter girls were nieces Lily and Evie, plus the bride's friend's daughter, Mia Lane.

The bride served as her own wedding director. Floral designer was Carmalita Coan. Music provided by Sweet Tree Productions. Wedding cakes baked by Chasity Jackson. Hair stylists and makeup artists were Kymberlee Soloman and Heather Smith. Invitations and boards were made by Elizabeth Infanger of Letter & Leaf. Photographer was Love, Jules Photography of Memphis, Tenn. and videographer was John Myers of Nashville, Tenn.

Photos by Love, Jules Photography







Clark, Garrison

Brianna Shea Clark and Clint Edward Garrison were married August 31, 2018 at 2:00 in the afternoon in Charlotte, N.C.

The bride is the daughter of Tim and Sabrina Clark of Florence. She is the granddaughter of Neva Bretherick and the late Billy Bretherick and the late Edward and Bessie Mae Clark.

The groom is the son of Ricky and Phyllis Garrison of Vina. He is the grandson of Opelene Garrison and the late Wendell Garrison of Red Bay and Faye Thorn and the late Mannie Thorn of Belmont, Miss.

The bride chose a white strapless lace gown featuring a fitted lace bodice that fell into a soft flowing trumpet style tulle skirt with a sweep train from David's Bridal. She also wore a multi strand twisted pearl necklace and matching pearl bracelet given to her by her mother.

For her "something old", the bride had a picture of her parents to represent the everlasting love that they share. The bride chose to tie the picture around her bouquet to carry with her on her special day. For her "something new", the bride used new flute glasses to toast to her new chapter of life. For her "something borrowed", she borrowed love and encouragement to pass on to other couples on their special day. For her "something blue", she wore a blue garter under her beautiful wedding dress.

Attendants for the bride and groom were Lucy, the bride's goldendoodle, and Etta, the groom's golden retriever.

Floral designer was Nectar Florist. Hair stylist was Megan of Salon Piper Glen and make-up artist was Sephora in Charlotte, N.C. Photographer was Piper Warlick of Charlotte, N.C.

The couple is now residing in Charlotte, N.C.

Photos by Piper Warlick

Newton



Kristin Newton and Reid Newton were married June 2, 2018 in a 6:30 evening ceremony at The Red Barn with Alan Jaynes officiating. The reception followed at The Red Barn.

The bride is the daughter of Tim and Carole Newton of Rogersville. She is the granddaughter of the late Cecil Newton, the late Sue Newton, and Don Newbern and the late Judy Newbern.

The groom is the son of Steve and Lynn Newton of Rogersville. He is the grandson of Donnie and Merle Newton of Rogersville and James and Crystell Prestwood of Andalusia.

The bride chose a white dress and veil designed by White One Bridal from St. Patrick of Pronovias purchased from Madison Town and Country Bridal, along with jewelry from Belk Fine Jewelry Co. She also wore her late grandmother's (Judy Newbern) engagement ring on her right hand, and her late grandmother's (Sue Newton) blue birthstone ring tied to her bouquet.

Matron of honor was Taylor Harbin, best friend of the bride. Bridesmaids were Allison Sartain, Kayla Collier, and Blaire Solley, all friends of the bride. Flower girls were Mattie Newton and Elsie Self.

Best man was Cole Harbin, best friend of the groom. Groomsmen were Jake Newton, brother of the bride; Ryan Barclay and Titus Legg, friends of the groom.

Wedding director was Lindsay Dabbs, along with help from Anna Nunley and Erika Springer. Floral designer was Pam Word. Music for the ceremony and the reception was provided by Garret Bowling. Caterer was Jill Larkin of Jill's Sweet Memories, who also made the wedding cake. Hair stylist was Lisa Glover and make-up artist was Monica Aday. Photographer was Sommer Hamilton of Saving Grace Photography and videographer was Briana Dolan.

For their honeymoon, the couple spent six days at the Melia Braco Village Resort in Retlawny, Jamaica. They are now residing in Rogersville.

Photos by Saving Grace Photography





Kimberlin, Rittman

Delaney Kimberlin and John David Rittman were married May 5, 2018 at 5:00 in the afternoon at St. Florian Fiber Farm with Adam Rice officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Jeff and Pam Kimberlin of Florence. She is the granddaughter of the late Robert Martin Wells Sr., the late Vera Beatrice Wells, the late Bill Kimberlin and the late Marilyn Kimberlin.

The groom is the son of Mark and Lori Rittman of Hartselle. He is the grandson of Mr. William Webb and the late Mrs. Mary Webb, Mrs. Brenda Alvis, and the late Mr. Jimmy Rittman.

The bride chose an ivory, lace detailed dress with a lace sheer back and a cathedral length matching veil, all from The Something Blue Shoppe.

Matron of honor was Brittney Mitchell, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Jocelyn Pettus, Heather White, Andi Berry, and Jessica Walker, all friends of the bride. Flower girls were Meryn Wiginton, Saryn Wiginton, and Rosie Grubbs, all cousins of the groom.

Best man was the groom's brother, Andrew Rittman. Groomsmen were Ben Parmer, Carter Harrison, Aaron Baker, and Justin Gault, all friends of the groom.

The reception was also held at St. Florian Fiber Farm following the ceremony. Caterer was Jeff Burgess and the wedding cake and groom's cake were made by Amy's Cakes. Entertainment for the reception, as well as music for the ceremony, was provided by Sweet Tree Productions.

Wedding director was Angela Cotton and floral designer was Jeff Burgess. Something Vintage in Hartselle, Ala. provided the antique furniture for the ceremony and reception. Redeemed Creations made all of the wood signs scattered throughout the wedding and reception. Bridesmaids dresses were from Azazie and groomsmen attire came from Oxford Street Menswear. Hair stylist and make-up artist was The Transformation. Photographer was Heather Sherrill of Create Portraiture and videographer was Abundant Life Productions.

For their honeymoon, the couple visited Disney World in Orlando, Fla. and then went on to St. Petersburg Beach. They are now residing in Florence.

Photos by Create Portraiture





Davis, Valentine

Leslie Davis and Chris Valentine were married October 20, 2018 in a 4:00 afternoon ceremony held at Ava's Place with Truman Sutton officiating. The reception followed at Ava's Place.

The bride is the daughter of Beverly and Chris Counce of Tuscumbia and Doug and Georgia Davis of Town Creek. She is the granddaughter of Glenn and Patsy Stephenson and Walter Davis and the late Margie Davis, all of Muscle Shoals.

The groom is the son of Alma Valentine and the late David Valentine of Florence. He is the grandson of Loyd and Eloise Valentine of Florence and Ralph and Letha Narmore of Fountaintown, Ind.

The bride wore a beautiful sweetheart A-line tulle gown with floral lace appliques. She also wore a tulle veil embellished with silver scrolls on a scalloped edge that was held in place with a vintage floral hair comb. The look was completed with a pair of ivory studded wedges.

Maid of honor was Courtney Davis, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Maranda Hogeland, Crystal Peden, and Stephanie Hill, all friends of the bride. Flower girls were Alexis Puckett and Ella Kate Hogeland, friends of the bride.

Best man was Craig Borden, friend of the groom. Groomsmen were Dane Hogeland and Devin Kelley, friends of the groom, and Zack Siler, cousin of the groom. Usher was Jarod Davis, brother of the bride. Ring bearer was Josh Tolbert, nephew of the bride.

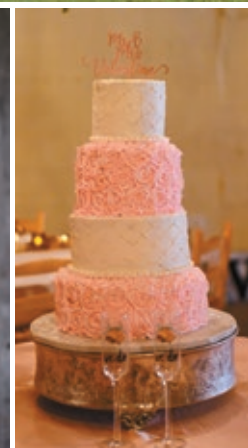
The wedding was coordinated by a friend of the bride, George Ann Pitman. Floral designs were created by the bride's mother, Beverly Counce. Caterer was Jill Larkin of Jill's Sweet Memories, who also made the wedding cake and groom's cake. Hairstylists were George Ann Pitman and Trilina Daniel and make-up artist was Hannah Phillips all of Reflections Salon. Photographer was Allison Lindsey. Other special helpers were guest book and program attendants Brayley and Madison Valentine, nieces of the groom.

For the convenience of the guests, golf cart transportation was made available to and from the reception by the bride's step-father. The golf cart was rented at Lift Service, Inc. A memory table was set up at the reception to honor the bride and groom's late close relatives. Guests were able to enjoy a custom popcorn bar during the reception and as a takeaway gift. The couple would like to extend a special thank you to Jill Larkin and Kenneth Dawson. They both go above and beyond to make everything perfect. Jill pays attention to details and it shows. Kenneth is a true Southern gentleman.

The couple had a very special departure from the reception as they drove off in a 1966 Ford truck. The truck was previously owned by the late Morris Gray, a family member of the groom. The groom spent months restoring the truck for this occasion.

After a romantic honeymoon on a Royal Caribbean cruise to the Bahamas, St. Thomas, and St. Martin they now reside in Florence.

Photos by Allison Lindsey





Ellis, Crow

In October of 2016, Ron and Jordan unexpectedly met while chaperoning a middle school field trip to Washington, D.C. They ended up in the same group and were able to get to know each other over the course of the trip. When they got home, they knew they wanted to continue seeing each other and soon began dating. Exactly one year later, Ron wasn't boarding a bus to meet Jordan; he was asking her to be his wife.

Jordan Faith Ellis and Ronald (Ron) Fletcher Crow, Jr. were married June 16, 2018 in a 2:00 afternoon ceremony at Highland Baptist Church in Florence with Pastor John Brock officiating. The reception was held at Sweetwater Depot following the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Paul and Stephanie Ellis of Tuscumbia. She is the granddaughter of Curtis and Sue Linville of Collinwood, Tenn. and Eather Rye of Hamilton and the late Jacob Ellis.

The groom is the son of Ronald and Jan Crow of Tuscumbia. He is the grandson of the late Glendon and Evelenia Crow and the late Walter and Gene Thompson, all of Tuscumbia.

The bride chose a beautiful white gown from Cherry Tree Lane in Florence. She carried a bouquet of white roses tied with fabric from the dress her grandmother wore to the wedding of the bride's parents.

Maid of honor was Sydney Ellis, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Samantha Hammond, Lyndsay Smotherman, Aubree White, and Maggie Finley, all friends of the bride. Flower girls were Audrey and Lydia Kiel, nieces of the groom. Greeters were Joleigh Linville and Sarah Kate Kiel.

Best man was the groom's father, Ronald Crow, Sr. Groomsmen were Derek Bishop, Jay Vandiver, Buck Malone, John Grissom, all friends of the groom, and Reid Ellis, brother of the bride. Ushers were Jacob Vandiver and Jaxton Vandiver.

Wedding directors were Debbie Windsor and Shannon Agee. Floral designer was Christie Littrell. Caterer was Stacie Oliver, who also made the groom's cake, and the wedding cake was made by Beth Ledbetter. Providing music for the ceremony was vocalist Derrick Gargis and harpist Annette Harman. Hair stylist was Aleesha Crowe and make-up artist was Madeline Hammond. Photographer was Sommer Hamilton of Saving Grace Photography and videographer was Wade Woods.

After a honeymoon in Hawaii, the couple is now residing in Florence.

Photos by Saving Grace Photography





Wilsdorf, Cruce

With close friends and family, the couple tied the knot on the coast. There's just something so beautiful, relaxing and breath-taking about the ocean. The couple couldn't think of a better place to remember their special day. From vacationing there, getting engaged and now married in Orange Beach, it's safe to say it's the most special place.

Rachel Wilsdorf and Hunter Cruce were married May 3, 2018 in a 5:30 afternoon ceremony in Orange Beach, Ala. with Danny McKinney officiating. The reception followed at The Cobalt Restaurant on Perdido Beach Blvd.

The bride is the daughter of Ben and Martha Wilsdorf of Linden, Tenn. She is the granddaughter of the late F.C. and Dorothy Wilsdorf and the late Bobby and Molly Duncan, all of Linden, Tenn.

The groom is the son of Marcus and Cindy Cruce of Waverly, Tenn. He is the grandson of Allen and Mary Taylor of Lawtey, Fla.

The bride chose a beautiful white lace strapless gown from The White Room in Murfreesboro, Tenn.

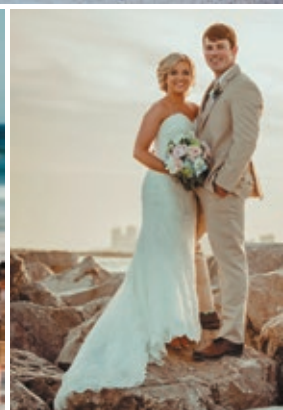
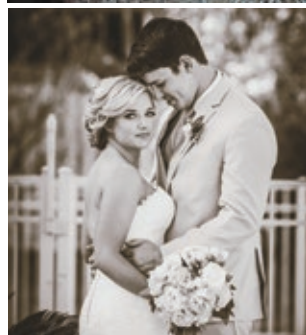
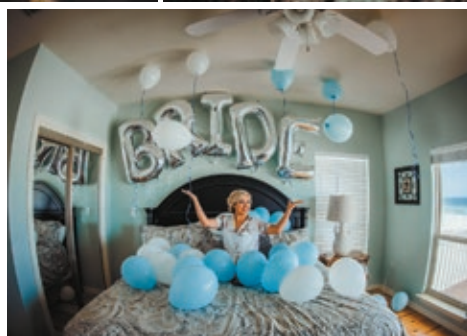
Maid of honor was Renae Wilsdorf, twin sister of the bride, and matron of honor was Lynsey Parker, cousin of the bride. Bridesmaids were Anneliese Wilsdorf, sister of the bride; Julia Cruce, sister-in-law of the bride; Olivia Hammond, cousin of the bride. Junior bridesmaids were Sarah Katherine Wilsdorf and Caroline Wilsdorf, cousins of the bride.

Best man was Bradley Nesbitt, best friend of the groom. Groomsmen were Cole Smith, Chace Allen, Justin Lindsey, all friends of the groom, and Clay Whitehed, cousin of the groom. Ring bearer was Broc Leegan, cousin of the bride.

The bride, with the help of her mother and aunts, coordinated the wedding. Floral designer was Coastal Flowers and Design in Gulf Shores. The Cobalt Restaurant catered the reception and the wedding and groom's cakes were from Publix. Hair stylist and make-up artist was Chaney Smith. Photographer was Rebekah Handley.

After honeymooning in Sandals Montego Bay, Jamaica, the couple is now residing in Waverly, Tenn.

Photos by Rebekah Handley Photography





Holt, Thomas

Nikki Holt and Garrett Thomas were married June 16, 2018 in a 6:00 evening ceremony at Oliver's Barn in Killen with Pastor Stuart Hensley of Highland Park Baptist Church officiating. The reception was also held at Oliver's Barn.

The bride is the daughter of Barry and Debbie Holt of Sheffield. She is the granddaughter of Dewey and Pat King of Sheffield, Linda Slay of Florence, and the late Willie and Erma Holt of Sheffield.

The groom is the son of Maryann Thomas and Roger and Patrisha Thomas. He is the grandson of Connie Thomas and the late Tommy Thomas of Muscle Shoals, and the late Roy Amos and the late Maebell Amos of Muscle Shoals.

The bride wore a beautiful full lace gown from Bella's Bridal in Hoover.

Maid of honor was Christine O'Neill, best friend of the bride, and matron of honor was Lindsay Holden, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Brittany Holland, cousin of the bride, and Heather Oliver, best friend of the bride. Flower girl was Avery Holden, niece of the bride.

Best man was Eric Broadfoot, cousin of the groom. Groomsmen were Blaine Broadfoot and Tanner Broadfoot, cousins of the groom, and Caden, nephew of the groom. Ring bearers Andrew Holden, nephew of the bride, and Collin McClellan, nephew of the groom.

Floral designer was May Flower and Gifts of Central. Caterer was Jill's Sweet Memories, who also made the wedding cake and groom's cake. Providing the music for the ceremony and the reception was KeKoria Greer of DJ Keeks. Hair stylist was Shawn Ayers and make-up artist was Lindsey Robinson, both of Halo Hair Downtown. Photographer and videographer was Blush Imagery.

For their honeymoon, the couple took a Mediterranean cruise on the Royal Caribbean's Symphony of the Seas from Barcelona, Spain to different cities in Spain and Italy. They are now residing in Muscle Shoals.

Photos by Blush Imagery



Willis, Lanier

Stephanie Willis and Cordell (Corey) Lanier were married Saturday, November 17, 2018 at First Baptist Killen with Jim Lanier, uncle of the groom, officiating. The reception was held at The Mane Room in Florence following the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Christina and Terry Richardson of Florence and the late William "Bill" Willis. She is the granddaughter of Dorothy Willis and the late Robert Willis, and Connie Fleury and the late Ralph Tanner.

The groom is the son of Tim and Rebecca Lanier of Florence. He is the grandson of Charlene Lanier and the late Wayne Lanier.

The bride wore a beautiful long sleeved, v-neck gown that she designed herself and was created by Anomalie. Her bouquet was wrapped in a piece of fabric from her late father's shirt (something old). Her something borrowed was a necklace that contained her late grandfather's wedding band. The groom's wedding band was his late grandfather's. An altar arrangement was made in memory of the bride's late father and late grandfathers. Another altar arrangement was made in memory of the groom's late grandfather.

Maid of honor was Haley Crosby, best friend of the bride, and matron of honor was Alesha Jefferies, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Sarah Lanier and Elizabeth Lanier, sisters of the groom. Flower girl was Cassidee Jefferies, niece of the bride.

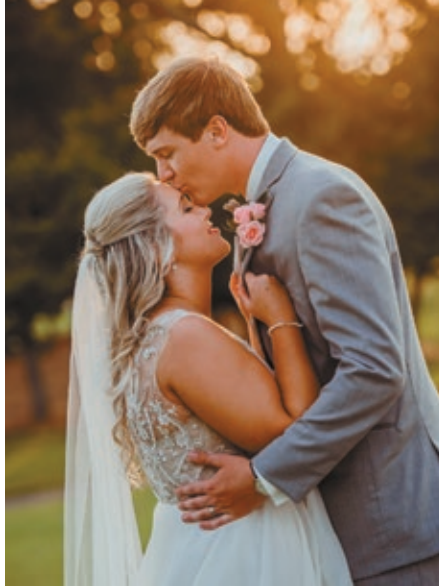
Best man was the groom's father, Tim Lanier. Groomsmen were Josh Smith, best friend of the groom; Ross Putman, future brother-in-law of the groom; and Josiah Lanier, cousin of the groom. Ring bearer was Logan Jefferies, nephew of the bride.

The bride served as her own wedding director/coordinator (Events by Steph). Floral designer was Megan Moral. Caterer was Jill Larkin of Jill's Sweet Memories, who also made the wedding cake. The groom's cake was made by Stanfield's in Ford City. Jeff Walton played the organ and piano for the ceremony and Justin Jefferies entertained guests at the reception. Hair stylist was Chloe Sparks and make-up artist was Haley Crosby. Photographers were Kayla Augustine and Evie Sutton. Videographer was Sierra Hill.

The couple spent their honeymoon at the Victoria House Resort in San Pedro, Belize. They are now residing in Florence.

Photos by Kayla Augustine and Evie Sutton





Newell, Stooksberry

Chloe Newell and Corey Stooksberry were married June 9, 2018 in a 6:30 evening ceremony held at Turtle Point Yacht & Country Club with Cary Crews officiating. The reception followed at Turtle Point.

The bride is the daughter of Steve and Vicki Newell of Collinwood, Tenn. She is the granddaughter of the late Ray and Carol Sue Rich of Collinwood, Tenn. and the late Dennis and Gerena Newell of Humoldt, Tenn.

The groom is the son of Michael and Carol Stooksberry of Collinwood, Tenn. He is the grandson of Carolyn Stooksberry of Lawrenceburg, Tenn., the late WJ Stooksberry, and Frank and Carolyn Berry of Collinwood, Tenn.

The bride chose a gown from Posh Bridal Couture in Nashville, Tenn. along with Stuart Weitzman shoes.

Maid of honor was Summer Belue, best friend of the bride. Bridesmaids were Kristen Crews, Katie Beth Wilkerson, Kendra Walker, Christina Willet, Amelia Willet, all friends of the bride; Sydney Bryant, Ansley Bryant, cousins of the bride, and Payton Berry, cousin of the groom. Flower girls were Ranna Kate Bryant and Everly Bryant, cousins of the bride.

Best man was the groom's father, Michael Stooksberry. Groomsmen were Brady Stooksberry and Austin Stooksberry, brothers of the groom; Triston Olive, Will Dautin, Daniel Brantley, friends of the groom; and Zach Risner, cousin of the groom. Ring bearer was Rhett Blackburn.

Wedding director was Chelsea Kennedy Events. Floral designer was Lola's Gifts & Flowers. Turtle Point Yacht & Country Club catered the reception and Amy's Cakes made the wedding cake and the groom's cake. Stationery was provided Ledgewood Fine Stationery. Meredith Nicholson provided the music for the ceremony and Calvin "DJ CuCu" Williams entertained guests at the reception. Hair stylist was Danielle Hale and make-up artist was Tabitha Hanson. Photographer was Rebekah Photography and videographer was Awaken Films.

After a honeymoon in Palm Beach, Aruba, the couple is now residing in Florence.

Photos by Rebekah Photography





Guyton, Boston

Taylor Guyton and Dylan Boston were married April 7, 2018 at Ava's Place in Florence with John Williams, uncle of the bride, officiating. Mike Smith gave the prayer and blessing. The reception followed at Ava's Place.

The bride is the daughter of Jamie and Jennifer Guyton of Winfield. She is the granddaughter of Wallace and Glenda Williams of Belmont, Miss., and Jerry and Jane Guyton of Winfield.

The groom is the son of John and Kim Boston of Sheffield. He is the grandson of Betty Morris and the late Roy Morris, Sr. of Cherokee, and Margret Boston and the late Jack Boston of Sheffield.

The bride was escorted by her father. She wore a Melissa Sweet gown of vintage lace with blush undertones.

Maid of honor was Ashley Hill and matron of honor was Amy Horn, both cousins of the bride. Bridesmaids were Emma Atkinson, Abby Bradford, Lauren Hardin, Ashley Garcia, Haley Webster, Taylor Goodwin, and Katlyn Holden, all friends of the bride. Flower girl was Madison Fretwell, niece of the groom.

Best man was Skyler Holden, friend of the groom. Groomsmen were Grady Guyton, brother of the bride; Evan Ferguson, Dylan Johnson, Cameron Gautney, Zach Johnson, Chapman Porter, and Casey Lambert, all friends of the groom.

Wedding directors were Jennifer Guyton, mother of the bride, and Kristi Mayo, friend of the family. Floral designers were Cindy Williams Inman, aunt of the bride, Jennifer Guyton, the bride's mother, and Sherrie Behel, friend of the bride. Caterer was Jill Larkin of Jill's Sweet Memories, and the wedding cake was made by friend Ethelwyn Langston. Instead of a groom's cake the couple opted for an ice cream bar. Providing music for the ceremony and the reception was Sonya Cooper and C & C Music Entertainment. Photographer was Elizabeth Fowler Photography.

After a honeymoon trip to Gulf Shores, which is where they got engaged, the couple is now residing in Sheffield.

Photos by Elizabeth Fowler Photography





Blalock, West



On September 17, 2017 we were casually hiking through the Tetons in Wyoming on a Sunday midday. All of sudden we stepped up on these big rocks to take a picture and he was on one knee. It was absolutely breathtaking. After the proposal, we had a picnic nearby. Never will I forget this trip out west.

Abby Blalock and Tanner West were married May 26, 2018 at 7:00 in the evening at Lofty Hitchins in Lawrenceburg, Tenn. with Gregg Lee officiating. The reception followed at Lofty Hitchens.

The bride is the daughter of Ben Blalock of Collinwood, Tenn. and Gretchan Pigg of West Point, Tenn. She is the granddaughter of Larry Pigg, Cypress Inn, Tenn., the late Shirley Pigg, Richard Blalock of Cypress Inn, Tenn., and the late Kathryn Simbeck.

The groom is the son of David West of Iron City, Tenn. and Rhonda Lemay of Waynesboro, Tenn. He is the grandson of Earnest West and the late Pauline West of Iron City, Tenn., Sherry Ray of Waynesboro, Tenn., and the late Bobby Linville.

The bride chose an Essense of Australia gown from The White Room in Murfreesboro, Tenn. that featured a plunging v-neckline accented on either side by off the shoulder sleeves with ornate lace detailing that extended the length of the illusion tulle sleeves, accented with fabric covered buttons at the wrists. The same lace pattern carried through the bodice of the gown, highlighted by long side cutouts and down through the skirt. A deep v highlighted the back of the dress as well, accented with lace detailing and trim. Lace motifs adorned the train, adding drama and dimension. The back of the dress zipped up beneath fabric covered buttons.

Maid of honor was Lexie Risner, cousin of the bride. Bridesmaids were Caleigh Brewer, Hanna Littrell, Blakely West, Chelsey Montgomery, all friends of the bride; Chaley Whitehead, cousin of the bride; and Somer Stone, sister of the groom. Junior bridesmaid was Ellie Blalock, sister of the bride. Flower girls were Tennyson West and Lorelei Berry, cousins of the groom, and Madison Montgomery, cousin of the bride.

Best man was Joe West, cousin of the groom. Groomsmen were Klein Caperton, brother of the bride; Tyler Thompson, Chase Roberson, Jacob Gobble, Max Risner, friends of the groom; and Caleb Berry, cousin of the groom. Junior groomsmen were Bensen Blalock, brother of the bride. Ring bearer was Miles Montgomery, cousin of the bride.

Wedding directors were Marty Bradley and Lisa Bailey. Floral designer was Christie Littrell. Caterer was Two Sisters Plus One Catering of Lawrenceburg, Tenn., and Sweet Treats 43 of Loretto, Tenn. made the wedding cake and groom's cake. Providing music for the ceremony and the reception was Kyle Baines of JB Entertainment. Valerie Crews was hair stylist and make-up artist. Photographer was Mac Brown Photography and videographer was Terry Swiney. A photo booth at the reception was provided by Scenic Event Solutions of Chattanooga, Tenn.

The couple honeymooned in Oahu, Hawaii. They spent seven amazing days at the Disney Aulani, during which they toured Pearl Harbor and went to a luau. They are now residing in Iron City, Tenn.

Photos by Mac Brown Photography



Owby, Cole

Elizabeth Lauren Ownby and Matthew Malachi Cole were married July 21, 2018 in a 4:30 afternoon ceremony held at Highland Park Baptist Church with Stuart Henslee officiating. The reception followed at The Tuscumbia Depot and Roundhouse.

The bride is the daughter of Terry and Laura Ownby of Muscle Shoals. She is the granddaughter of Shirley Reyer and the late Billy Reyer of Meridianville and the late Jack and Shirley Ownby of Florence.

The groom is the son of Bubba and Annie Cole of Tuscumbia. He is the grandson of Luke and Leigh Gargis of Tuscumbia and Chap and Helen Osteen of Florence.

For her wedding, the bride chose a white satin Allure Mikado ballgown with an illusion back, covered in lace appliqué, purchased from Cherry Tree Lane in Florence.

Maid of honor was Emily Ownby, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Meg McGuire, Allie Rose, Macy McCollister, Emily Woods, Savannah Clement, Katie Belue, Leya Franklin, Macy Trevillion, Anna Handley, Lexie Black, and Caroline Wells, all friends of the bride. Flower girl was Amily Cole, niece of the groom.

Best man was the groom's brother, Zach Cole. Groomsmen were Kyle Pendley, Max Beech, Ethan McCreary, Kyle Jefferson, Mason Carter, David Askew, all friends of the groom; Kirk Mears, brother-in-law of the groom; Chandler Sartain, cousin of the groom. Ring bearers were Braylon Cole and John Luke Mears, nephews of the groom.

Wedding directors were Kara Sams and Denise Woods. Floral designer was Stephanie Crow. Music for the ceremony was provided by Mckenzie Lockhart, Kristen Dunn, and Max Beech. Caterer was Stacie Oliver, who also made the wedding and groom's cakes. Hair stylist was Shawn Ayers from Halo Hair and make-up artist was Lauren Lindholm. Photographer was Hannah Busing of Gracemade Photography and videographer was Studio 318. Special thanks to Lyle and Linda Askew for allowing us to take pictures at the home on the bluff in Sheffield.

The couple were given several showers before their nuptials: a shower at the home of Emily and Denise Woods, a shower hosted by the groom's family, and a shower hosted by Highland Park Baptist Church. They were also treated to bridesmaid's luncheon at the home of Pat and Mary Ann Stegall.

After a honeymoon trip to the Dominican Republic, the couple is now residing in Mobile.

Photos by Gracemade Photography





Leeth, Cooper

After over four years together and nearly three years of long distance due to the groom's military service, high school sweethearts Kristin Olene Leeth and William Chance Cooper were finally united in marriage on a fall evening surrounded by their closest friends and family. The couple shared hand-written vows to each other just as the sun was beginning to set. The bride chose a private label designer fit and flare gown with an open back, embellishments, lace sleeves and a tulle train from Cherry Tree Lane. She also wore a pearl jewelry set from Genesis Jewelry that was a gift from her parents. The groom and his attendants' attire consisted of navy Michael Kors suits courtesy of Jim's Formal Wear, while the bride's attendants wore burgundy infinity dresses to complement each girl's style. Autumn foliage adorned the rock walk for the bride and her father's entrance, while floral designs consisted of sunflowers, roses, babies breath, and lush beds of greenery provided by Muscle Shoals Florist, as well as fall pumpkins and mums from Green Valley Nursery in Florence. Following the ceremony, the reception began with first dances, a prayer, and dinner before the floor opened up with David Bowie's "Let's Dance." The party kicked off and fun was had by all, giving the newlyweds their best day ever.



Kristin Olene Leeth and William Chance Cooper were married October 13, 2018 at Oliver's Barn in Killen with Bro. Jerry Hester officiating. The reception followed at Oliver's Barn.



The bride is the daughter of William and Teresa Leeth of Tuscumbia. She is the granddaughter of Robert and Merle Faulkner of Iuka, Miss., Ruth Jackson and the late O.D. Jackson of Russellville, and Rebecca Moore and the late Oma Edmondson of Michie, Tenn.

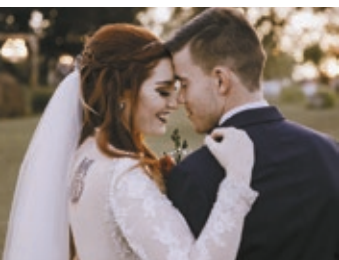
The groom is the son of William Cooper and Tammy Benson, both of Tuscumbia. He is the grandson of Steve and Fairy Benson of Tuscumbia, and James Cooper and the late Linda Cooper of Cherokee.

Maid of honor was Ashton Bailey, niece of the bride. Bridesmaids were Erika Cantrell, Tracy Smallwood, Abby Wade, and Emilee Scott, all friends of the bride. Flower girls were Brilee Green, Maddie Anderson, and Bella Anderson, all cousins of the groom.

Best man was the groom's brother, Jeffrey Benson. Groomsmen were William Cooper, father of the groom; Destin Anderson, cousin of the groom; Jeremy Pruit and Dustin Bacon, both friends of the groom. Ushers were Kylan Edmondson, brother of the bride, and Coby Daniel, friend of the groom. Ring bearer was Jace Anderson, cousin of the groom.



Wedding director/coordinator/decorating was Anessa Tipton of Fairytale Weddings. Caterer was Jill's Sweet Memories and the wedding cake and groom's table desserts were made by Lori Anderson, aunt of the groom. Music for the ceremony and the reception, along with lighting, was provided by DJ Shawn Nix, and a photobooth for the reception was provided by One Stop Rentals. Hair stylist was Jenna Daniel and make-up artist was Savana Vinson. Photographer was MDV Studios and videographer was Morgan White.



The newlyweds honeymooned in Ireland where they traveled the perimeter of the country, including the northern coast. They stayed for ten days in various cities sightseeing, tasting, pub crawling, and mingling with locals to experience much of the Emerald Isle during their visit. They are now residing in Florence.

Photos by MDV Studios

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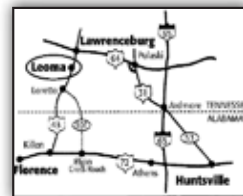
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