

Bride & Guide

your help in planning the perfect wedding day!

INSIDE

LCCC Spitzer
Conference Center
Lyman Harbor
Wagner's of Westlake
As You Wish Romance Travel
And So Much More

Thursday, January 31, 2019
Advertising Supplement to
The Morning Journal

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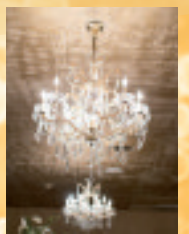


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We Build Your Wedding Dream Around You

LCCC Spitzer Conference Center

The right location is only part of the equation when planning for your wedding. You have to have the right team in place to make your wedding dream come true.

At Lorain County Community College's John A. Spitzer Conference Center, we build your wedding dream around you. We take care of the details so you can enjoy your once-in-a-lifetime moment. Our elegant, majestic ballroom and accompanying lounges provide the perfect location for your wedding, banquet or special event, and our expert team will exceed your expectations.

Our Service Sets Us Apart

At the Spitzer Conference Center our focus is on you and your vision. Every wedding package includes complimentary event planning services from our certified wedding and event planner. Whether you prefer one of our three wedding packages,

or you're looking for a unique experience, our team takes pride in turning your dreams into reality.

You shouldn't have to worry about the little things on your special day. That's why we are happy to accommodate special requests including custom decorations and unique technology needs – we even work as a liaison with your other vendors to make sure everything is perfect for you and your guests.

Elegant Spaces

Towering ceilings, a spiral staircase and landscaped courtyards provide an exquisite backdrop for your special day.

All of our wedding packages include:

- 360-person capacity Reaser Grand Room
- Pre-reception cocktail space in the Norton Culinary Lobby
- Private bridal party suite



- State-of-the-art technology
 - An extensive list of complimentary amenities
- We also offer valet parking and an impressive list of other optional amenities. If you're looking for a cozy and elegant alternative, our wedding team can book you into the Lorain County Transportation and Community Center.

This intimate setting includes our full range of wedding services. Centrally located in downtown Elyria, this unique and flexible space offers a variety of configurations and spaces including a two-story grand room. This spacious, historic facility, originally built in 1925, is rich with local history and even includes an antique shoeshine stand.

The Lorain County Transportation and Community Center includes:

- Two-story grand room and runda space

- Table seating for up to 175
- A variety of flexible spaces

The Lorain County Transportation & Community Center is located at 40 East Avenue in Elyria.

Happily Ever After Bridal Show

To learn more about all of your options for the wedding of your dreams at the Spitzer Conference Center or Lorain County Transportation and Community Center, join us for the "Happily Ever After Bridal Show" from 12-3:30 p.m., Sunday, March 10 at the Spitzer Conference Center.

There will be a sampling of fantastic food, prizes, giveaways and a Fashion Show at 2 p.m. Parking is free on the LCCC campus. Register by March 1 to guarantee you get a free tote filled with wedding swag.

For more information, visit www.lorainccc.edu/bridalshow or call Amber Cabassa at (440) 366-4100.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE

Happily Ever After

Bridal Show

AT THE SPITZER CONFERENCE
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Sunday, March 10th, 2019

Doors open at 12PM, Fashion show at 2PM, Event ends 3:30PM

- FREE Admission
- A Sampling of Fantastic Food
- Prizes and Giveaways for Attendees

Register by March 1st to guarantee a free tote filled with wedding swag! www.lorainccc.edu/bridalshow

Contact Amber Cabassa: (440) 366-4100, ConferencingATLCCC@lorainccc.edu
Hosted by LCCC and the Lorain County Commissioner's Office

 Spitzer Conference Center
of Lorain County Community College

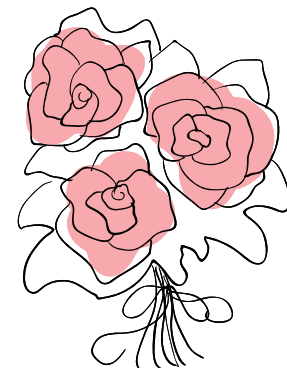
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Lyman Harbor offers a stunning waterfront backdrop

Lyman Harbor is a Beautiful Historic Landmark nestled along the shore of Lake Erie, Sandusky, Ohio. Once home to the Lyman Boat Works Factory, it now features Banquet and Conference capabilities larger than most. Lyman Harbor can host intimate celebrations of 50, up to 1,000 seated guests comfortably. There are 4 separate banquet rooms of varying sizes and unique qualities. The Compass Point Room can accommodate up to 600 guests and has large windows overlooking the harbor with a direct patio access to the boardwalk and garden. The Starlite Room has large crystal chandeliers for an elegant ambience and can accommodate up to 300 guests. The Boeckling Room is perfect for

intimate wedding celebrations, bridal and baby showers, or small get-together occasions for up to 100 guests. The Lotus Room is optimal for conferences and business luncheons.

Wedding ceremonies can take place on the grassy lawn with a stunning waterfront backdrop or in one of the indoor banquet rooms.

The unique quality of the facility and food is second to none and the waterfront setting is spectacular with a gorgeous view of Cedar Point. Guests can enjoy strolling along the waterfront boardwalk, while enjoying the Lake Erie sunset. Lyman Harbor offers all-inclusive packages of room set up, food and beverage to make your special day effortless and memorable!

Wedding insurance can ease nerves

Couples spend thousands of dollars on their wedding ceremony and celebrations. The cost of a wedding varies depending on geographic location, but according to the business and financial resource Business Insider and The Knot 2017 Real Weddings Study, the average wedding in the United States costs \$31,391.

Insurance policies can help couples protect their wedding investment. Special event insurance provides coverage for various scenarios, including extreme weather, damaged gifts, lost jewelry, vendor cancellations or no-shows, venues closing before the wedding, and canceled

♡ continued on page 4

Wedding registry tips

Building a wedding registry is a task unlike any other couples may encounter during their lifetimes. Wedding registries are invaluable resources that provide engaged couples' loved ones with gift suggestions. In spite of that value, couples may find it daunting and even a little uncomfortable to build their wedding registries.

Building a wedding registry can feel like walking a tightrope. Couples likely won't want to ask for too much or for gifts that are too expensive, but a poorly built registry can be a major inconvenience for guests. The following tips can help couples build adequate registries that benefit them without asking too much of their guests.

• **Register with more than one store.** It's important to register with more than one store. Doing so makes things as convenient as possible for guests and increases the chances



they will be able to shop at stores they're familiar with. Unless your guest list is predominantly local, try to register with at least one national chain so guests who live in different regions can shop for gifts in-person if they prefer to do so.

♡ continued on page 7




WEDDING GARDENS




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MON. TUE. FRI.: 11-6 • WEDNESDAY: CLOSED • THURSDAY: 12-7 • SAT & SUN: CLOSED

Wagner's of Westlake offers five ballrooms

Wagner's is a leading venue choice of brides in western Cuyahoga County and surrounding areas and is proud to be Creating Memories for over 50 years as an event center. They have been awarded elite Hall of Fame status along with Best of Weddings recognition for six consecutive years by The Knot, a national wedding vendor resource. Wagner's of Westlake has also earned the 2017-2018-2019 Couples' Choice Award by WeddingWire.com.

Each of Wagner's five beautiful ballrooms offer a distinctive look to give brides and grooms a beautiful setting for their wedding reception and/or ceremony. The Grand and East Ballrooms feature fireplaces, while the South and West Ballrooms boast private outside patios. The North Ballroom is the perfect open floor plan for a cozy setting. Wagner's offers both sit-down and buffet options and offer a special All-Inclusive Dinner package with a sit-down dinner and 5-hour open bar for one great price.

Wagner's is well known in the community for providing excellent quality food for wedding receptions,

fundraisers, corporate and school events, proms, reunions, baby / bridal showers, holiday parties and celebration of life luncheons.

Wagner's hosts Signature Events for your enjoyment, including Easter, Mother's Day, their popular Holiday Craft Boutique and Home Improvement Expo, Thanksgiving Day Buffet,

Breakfast with Santa and Mrs. Claus and a New Year's Eve Buffet and Party featuring entertainment in multiple ballrooms.

When Wagner's is not hosting events, they are busy with their WOW Entertainment Series, offering both concerts and dinner show performances. Their upcoming schedule includes An Afternoon of Fairy Tales and Superheroes Children's Show (02/02), Eagles Tribute (02/08), Motown Night (03/01), Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young Tribute (03/22) and more.

Wagner's of Westlake is located at 30855 Center Ridge Road; Westlake, OH 44145. They can be reached by phone at 440-871-8800 or visit them at www.wagnersofwestlake.com for more details on Wagner's of Westlake.

INSURANCE FROM PAGE 3

weddings, according to Travelers Insurance. Insurance also may cover other unforeseen scenarios, such as unexpected expenses from injuries during the wedding or spoiled food.

Policies will pay directly for any damage or injuries that occur, or reimburse the couple if the wedding is postponed or canceled. If weddings occur at home, some people's home insurance or umbrella policies may cover certain wedding liabilities. Most wedding venues carry their own liability insurance, so couples may not have to overlap there. However, for those who desire extra protection for vendor mishaps, it is wise to speak with an insurance professional about special wedding coverage.

Prices for wedding insurance policies can start at around \$100 to \$200 for minimum coverage and reach \$1,000 for more expensive ceremonies, according to the financial advisement website NerdWallet.

Speak with an insurance agent and read policies carefully before purchasing one. Non-covered issues typically include theft or loss of an engagement ring; rainy days that do not classify as extreme weather; switching vendors after a deposit is made; and risky entertainment, such as fireworks or live animals.

Protecting wedding expenditures with insurance policies can provide couples with added peace of mind on their big days.



Better than Booking Online! TRAVEL BETTER

Did you know that it can take up to 40 hours researching and booking your own travel online? On average US couples vacations costs between \$4,400 to \$10,000. That is a lot of time and money spent on the wrong vacation.

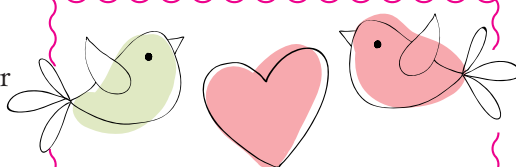
As You Wish Romance Travel reduces the stress and time it takes to book a vacation. We provide this service at no extra cost to you when purchasing a vacation package (i.e. flights, transfers, accommodations, and travel insurance). Our personal service begins the moment you contact us until you arrive home.

Whether it's a luxury all-inclusive trip to the Caribbean, independent travel to Europe, Asia, ocean or river cruise - we've got your back. We have booked hundreds of people over the past 4 years and maintain a 5-star rating. We pride ourselves on service that is ever improving and involving.

Here is what our service includes:

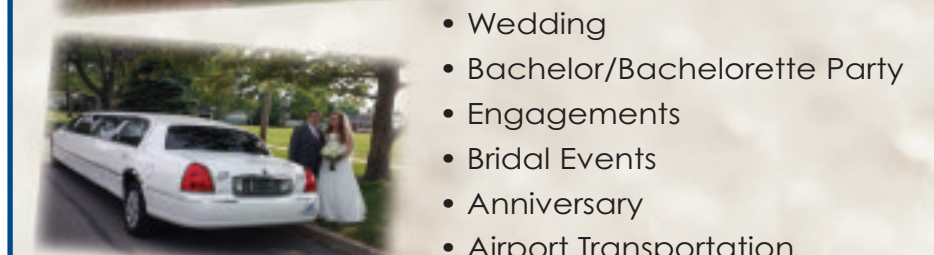
- Your personal travel portal
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 - A FREE mobile itinerary app
 - Up to 3 Excursion recommendations
 - We reconfirm our reservation with the resort before you go
- A down payment and monthly payments (interest-free) until 60 - 90 days before departure.

Due to a recent snowstorm a client's flight was canceled. It was for a 30th wedding anniversary in St. Lucia costing over \$7,000. They were worried they were not able to go on the lose all that money. The good news is they took our advice and purchased travel insurance. We made a few calls and rebooked their vacation at nearly no extra cost. This couple couldn't be happier. This is the value and the service you can't find online. Contact Sharon at 440-925-5568 or visit www.AsYouWishRomanceTravel.com.



Fall weddings claim the top spot

According to Zola, a free suite of wedding tools, summer has been upstaged by autumn as the most popular time of the year to tie the knot. For the first time, this year 40 percent of all weddings will take place during the months of September and October. Additionally, the site identified October 20, October 13 and September 29, each a Saturday, as the most popular wedding dates, respectively, of 2018.



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See Bridal Show
on page 2

Get the most out of bridal shows and wedding events

Recently engaged couples may be excited to get a jump on wedding planning. Bridal shows can be a great way for couples to meet and familiarize themselves with local wedding professionals, all the while introducing themselves to the terminology of wedding planning.

Though they're a great source of information, contacts and samples, bridal shows also can be a bit overwhelming. Learning how to maximize time spent at shows can help couples plan their weddings as efficiently as possible.

• **Start small.** If the idea of large crowds is unappealing, attend the more intimate, boutique shows that are often held at local reception halls and restaurants instead of the larger installations at conven-

tion centers and hotels.

• **Scout out vendors.** Check the bridal show's website for lists of exhibitors and see if your desired vendors are on the list. But even if they're not, keep an open mind and use the show as a chance to compare offerings. If an event map is available, marking off must-visit booths can help save time.

• **Pre-register.** Pre-registering for bridal events saves time at check-in, and doing so may make you eligible for discounted tickets.

• **Come prepared.** Chances are each vendor is going to ask couples for information so that they can follow up with a phone call or email with more detailed offerings and estimates. Couples attending the show can expedite the process by coming equipped with labels that feature their names, contact information and wedding date. They can then stick the labels on sign-in sheets or use them like business cards.

• **Dress comfortably.** Bridal expos involve a lot of walking and roaming around. Wear comfortable clothing and shoes. Consider a backpack or hands-free bag so you are not weighed down when collecting the swag and other hand-outs throughout the day.

• **Ask questions.** When face-to-face with vendors, rely on their expertise but don't hesitate to ask questions concerning themes, colors, recommendations for honeymoon locations, invitation paper suggestions, and much more.

• **Stay for the fashion show.** Many shows will offer a runway experience to present the latest gown and tuxedo offerings. This can be an entertaining way for couples to formulate their wedding styles.

Wedding shows introduce couples to vendors and set them on the path to making decisions regarding the planning of their weddings.

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Put More You into Your Wedding Day

(Family Features) A wedding day is filled with symbolic tradition, from varied religious customs to the never-ending circle reflected in the rings and the types of flowers accentuating the celebration. Even with all the traditional rituals to consider, nearly every bride and groom can find ways to give their special day some unique touches that reflect their personality and love.

Music sets the mood for every wedding, and it's an easy place to put your own spin on the celebration. Whether you forgo the traditional bridal march entirely or simply look for an arrangement that gives an updated twist to the classic version, let guests know this isn't your average wedding by setting the festivities against a soundtrack that lets your true character shine.

The wedding party is intended to be a collection of those nearest and dearest to the bride and groom, who help ensure the day goes off without a hitch and who lead fellow revelers in celebrating the start of the new couple's life together. That being said, there's no reason this group must be limited to women on her side and guys on his, or even that it's limited to humans - a beloved pooch can make for an adorable ring-bearer, after all.

Photography is an essential element of your big day, but think beyond the images you'll capture throughout the wedding and reception. Photos lend a personal touch, no matter what your color scheme

or theme. Integrate photos of the two of you at various stages of life, together as a couple and with loved ones (perhaps even some you're honoring in memoriam). You can display these at a table with the guest book, as part of the table centerpieces, or even on the gift table. Or take things digital and load all your images into a slide show set to music.

Make favors meaningful. Forgo more common items like bubbles and chocolate, and instead send a little of yourself home with your guests. Maybe it's a memento from a place with special meaning to you both, or a bottle opener shaped like a bicycle to represent the way you met. Just think about the moments and things that define you as a couple and do some searching online. You'll probably be surprised by how quickly the options pile up.

Serve up a menu that shows guests more about your life together. Your loved ones can order basic beef or chicken anywhere. Instead, give them a glimpse into you. Make your main course the same food you enjoyed on your first date or during another monumental moment in your courtship. Or plan the entire menu around a region that you hold close to your heart.

Weddings are filled with traditions, but that doesn't mean you can't put your own touches on the day for a special event filled with memories that are uniquely your own. Find more advice for life's special moments at elivingtoday.com.

WEDDING REGISTRY FROM PAGE 3

- **Make a large list.** Some couples are hesitant to make large wedding registries, feeling that doing so gives the impression that they're asking for too much. But large registries simply give guests more options to choose from. Many industry insiders advise registering for two to three gifts per guest. That might seem like a lot, but guests will appreciate having all of those options.

- **Don't hesitate to include expensive items on your registry.** Couples also may be hesitant to include especially expensive items on their wedding registries. However, the couples' parents and other close relatives may be honored to purchase more expensive items, so couples should not feel embarrassed to include them on their lists. It's also important to note that many retailers, after couples' wedding days have come and gone, discount registry items that weren't purchased. So even if no one purchases the more expensive items, including them on a registry may significantly reduce their cost for couples who want to buy such items themselves after tying the knot.

- **Vary the prices of items on the list.** In addition to including more expensive items on the registry, make sure to include moderately priced and inexpensive items. This gives guests more options and ensures guests who might be spending a lot to travel to and from the wedding can still purchase gifts without digging too much deeper into their pockets.

- **Periodically update the registries.** Periodically update your registries to remove items you have already received and to add items if many of the less expensive ones have already been purchased. This also makes things more convenient for guests.

Building a wedding registry is a unique task that couples can embrace as their wedding day draws near.

