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Brides

2018

Grandparents

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to celebrate

And the band
played on

A wedding's cake

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them behind

A wedding

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Brides

We've all seen the home videos of wedding disasters whether it's posted on social media or in an episode of "America's Funniest Home Videos."

There's the bride who faints at the altar, or worse the groom who faints at the altar. Then there's the flower girl who steals the show by lifting her dress during the ceremony to hide her face. And how about newlyweds who slip and fall face first into the wedding cake?

Martez and Desiree Cole know all about the disasters that can happen at a wedding. Desiree lost her engagement ring in the murky waters of the Tennessee River the night before the ceremony. And to make matters worse, while the couple were in Puerto Rico on their honeymoon, they learned that many of the guests at their reception had contracted food poisoning.

While these events would make even the most composed bride have a nervous breakdown, Martez and Desiree say their faith in God, love for one another and pre-marriage counseling helped them to get through the tough times.

Read about their fairy tale with a happy outcome.

The story of our cover bride, Sarah Jo Clark, and her groom, Dustin Bretherick, is told on Pages 32-39.

If you're wondering about what music to play at the reception, two local bands say anything goes – from old soul to blues and from rock to Motown. Just don't ask Second Creek Band of Rogersville to play anything from Luke Bryan.

Everyone knows that the centerpiece of any reception is the cake – or cupcakes or even pies. While the tiered wedding cake is still a popular choice with brides, many are choosing different flavors from red velvet to strawberry. "Naked" cakes – cakes with less icing -- are gaining in popularity. Also expect to see a few cheesecake and

cupcake towers, along with pies.

Another tradition falling to the wayside are the matchy-matchy gowns of the wedding party. These days, brides are giving their attendants greater freedom from the constraints of matching dresses by letting them decide on the styles, fabrics and colors that best suit their body. Even the groomsmen are getting in on the action with suits in varying shades.

Looking for a different way to honor grandparents in your ceremony? From grandmothers tossing petals as flower girls and grandfathers stepping in to be the best man, the beloved family members are finding new roles beyond a designated pew in the church.

And to prevent financial disaster, find out what measures you should take to insure that engagement ring before it accidentally slips off your finger.

And if you're simply looking for inspiration, read the stories of the many brides featured in the 2018 edition of Tennessee Valley Brides. Enjoy.

Teri Thornton Stepleton - Tennessee Valley Brides editor



Teri Thornton Stepleton
Tennessee Valley Brides editor



Cecilia Davis
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Brides 2018

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October 28, 2017.

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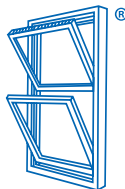
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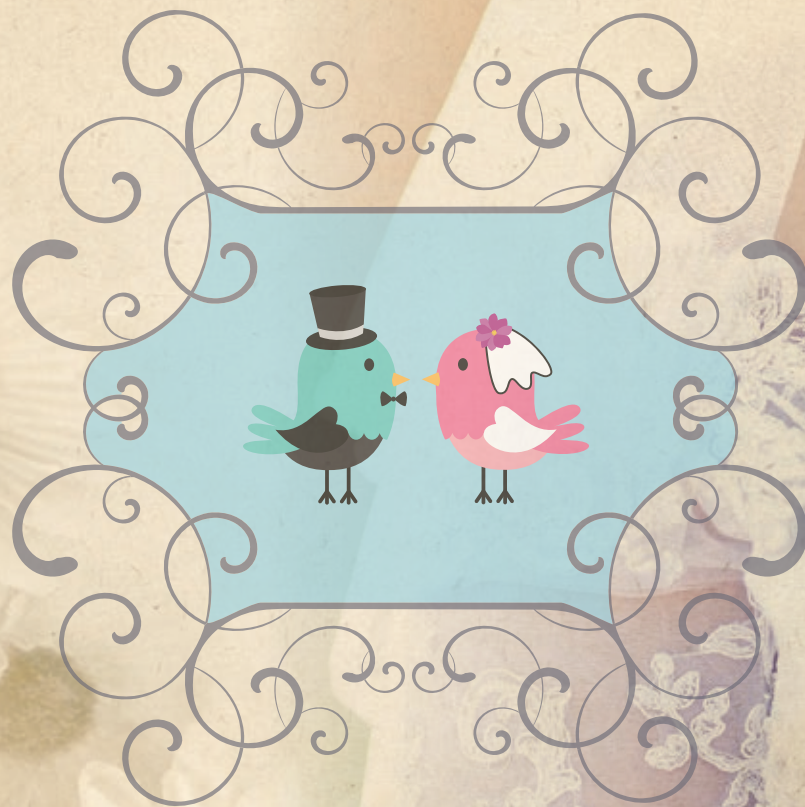
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a wedding

Fairy Tale



Desiree & Martez

by TERE THORNTON STEPLETON
Photos by TWELVE 31 PHOTOGRAPHY

*It's a story that
fairy tales are made of.*

This particular story begins on Valentine's Day in 2011, when Desiree Harrison and Martez Cole had their first date.

Chapter 1

While the couple's romance blossomed, there was nothing whirlwind about the courtship. In fact, it wasn't until four years later that Martez proposed to Desiree.

The proposal was well-thought out. Martez arranged for the couple to have professional photos made for Valentine's Day in 2015.

Desiree wasn't too sure about a photo shoot with her boyfriend, but one of her friends insisted she go through with it.

"He had arranged for someone to do my hair, my makeup," she said. "It was nice."

During the photo shoot, Martez "suddenly" remembered he had a gift for Desiree.

"He went downstairs and came back up with at least 50 of our family members and gets down on one knee with everyone there," she said.

Once the engagement ring was placed on Desiree's finger, one might think that the next chapter in the story would be planning a wedding.

That wasn't the case for our couple. Martez and Desiree decided to go through pre-marriage counseling through Desiree's church at the time, Bridge Builders Church International in Decatur.

"This was something we wanted to do," Desiree said. "Our foundation is Jesus Christ. He is the center of it all, and we felt this was the next step in our relationship."

The couple met with Pastor Darius Clayton for a year to discuss everything from finances to what each one expected in a marriage.

"You think you know someone, but you don't want to go into a commitment like this blindsided," Desiree said. "When it came to finances, we each brought in our credit scores and said this is where I stand and this is where he stands."

The couple met with the pastor for one year.

"After we finished, we set a date," Desiree said. "We both love the holidays, but wanted to get married before the holiday





While Martez Cole and Desiree Harrison were married in 2016, their story actually begins in 2011.



Before they chose a wedding date, Desiree Harrison and Martez Cole attend pre-marriage counseling for one year after becoming engaged in 2015.

frenzy began. I love the fall scenery, so we decided on Nov. 12, 2016.”

From there, the couple went into wedding planning mode. “Everything was going smoothly,” Desiree said.



Chapter 2

This chapter takes place the evening before the ceremony.

“It was the night of the rehearsal,” Desiree recalled. “I was 25, and I was thinking, ‘I can’t believe I’m going to be somebody’s wife tomorrow. Everything was changing. It’s a lot. I was emotional.’”

Emotions, along with making last-minute preparations for the ceremony the next day, could have been one reason why the main character in our story was running late to her own rehearsal dinner.

“We had the rehearsal dinner at River Bottom by Stanfields at McFarland,” she said. “Everybody gets there before I do because I’m so behind with wedding preparations.”

It was a chilly and damp night, and Desiree remembered hurrying up the ramp to the restaurant when she started to slip.

“It was really dark outside. I was hurrying and had on high heels,” she said. “I felt like I was about to fall. I grabbed the rail and, as I slipped, the ring slipped off my finger and into the water.”

Desiree explained that the ring was loose on her finger because, as many brides do, she had lost weight before the wedding.

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Desiree finally made her way into the restaurant, but her guests immediately knew something was wrong.

"I was about to have a nervous breakdown," she said. "I just kept saying, 'My ring. My ring. My ring is gone.'"

Desiree recalls Martez standing in front of her.

"I was saying, 'I'm sorry. I'm sorry. I can't believe this happened,'" she said.

Martez recalls the moment his bride-to-be walked into the restaurant.

"She was crying so hard, she couldn't speak," he said. "She kept pointing to the water. Eventually she said she lost the ring in the water."

Martez said he did what he could to calm Desiree, but thought the ring probably was gone for good.

Desiree said her husband-to-be wasn't angry or upset.

"He said, 'It's just a material thing. Listen, I still have you.' Then I cried more than I did before," she said.

Even though friends and family attempted to search in the dark waters of the harbor, they couldn't find the ring. Employees wanted to return to the search in the light of day, but were informed that because of electricity in the harbor, it was too dangerous for them to continue the search.

With the ceremony just a few hours away, finding the ring

remained on Desiree's mind. She kept making attempts to find someone who might help her find the prized possession.

A Google search led to her a dive salvage company, which recommended she call scuba diver Amber Smith.

After talking to Amber, however, Desiree wasn't too encouraged. She said Amber took her information and telephone number and said she would see what she could do.

In the meantime, Martez and his brother were about to go shopping for a replacement ring the morning of the wedding.

Desiree tried to put the incident out of her mind. Her mother had taken her cell phone away to keep her from checking messages constantly. It was while she was getting her hair done before the ceremony that Desiree heard her mother screaming in the sanctuary of Launch Point Church in Tusculumbia.

"She was screaming 'Yes, yes,'" Desiree said. "I asked what was going on, and my mom kept saying 'She found it, she found it.'"


One hour before the ceremony, local diver Amber Smith, with wet hair and still clad in her wet suit, brought Desiree's engagement ring to the church.

From there, the ceremony went as planned, with Martez slipping Desiree's original engagement ring and wedding band on her finger.

"Everything was good," Desiree said.



The night before her wedding ceremony, Desiree Harrison lost her engagement ring in the Tennessee River. Local scuba diver Amber Smith recovered the ring and returned it to Desiree – one hour before the ceremony.

A man with glasses, wearing a white tuxedo jacket, a white tuxedo shirt with black studs, and a black bow tie, is smiling broadly. He is standing in a field of tall, golden-brown grass. The background is slightly blurred, showing a dark green hedge or wall. The overall lighting is warm and golden, suggesting late afternoon or early morning. There are decorative swirls in the top right and bottom right corners of the page.

The night before her wedding ceremony, Desiree Harrison lost her engagement ring in the Tennessee River. Local scuba diver Amber Smith recovered the ring and returned it to Desiree – one hour before the ceremony.

Martez Cole and Desiree Harrison became man and wife, complete with the original engagement ring, in a ceremony with family and friends on Nov. 12, 2016.



Chapter 3

The next chapter of our story takes place at the reception.

Friends and family of the couple enjoyed a catered meal with the newlyweds, and wished them well before they headed to the airport to board a plane to Puerto Rico for the honeymoon.

"I was tired," Desiree said. "It had been an emotional day, and our plane was leaving Nashville at 6 a.m."

Once the couple arrived at their honeymoon destination, they turned on their cell phones and started receiving dozens of text messages from guests at the reception.

"The text messages were, 'My stomach is hurting. Is yours hurting?' We hadn't eaten that much at the reception, so we weren't feeling ill. Mostly we were just tired," she said.

Eventually, the couple learned that more than 100 of their guests had gotten ill from food at the reception. Several people had been hospitalized, including Desiree's father.

"My dad was in the hospital for three weeks," she said. "I was thinking this was a nightmare," she said. "We tried to enjoy ourselves, but we felt so bad we couldn't fully enjoy the honeymoon."

As soon as they returned home, the newlyweds started contacting with friends and family who had been ill.

"Of course, I felt kind of responsible," Martez said. "I wish there was something we could have done to prevent it."

Desiree and Martez tried to make amends with their guests.

"We tried to visit those who were still in the hospital," she said. "We prayed with everybody, offered our apologies."

Desiree, herself, had to make a trip to the emergency room.

"I was a little overwhelmed," she said. "We went home (after visiting with people), I went into the bathroom and I passed out. I woke up at the hospital."



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Family and friends celebrated the marriage of Martez and Desiree Cole with a catered reception after the ceremony.

News of the food poisoning spread throughout news and social media sites. Not all the comments were supportive of the couple. There were some people who said the couple should have taken the incidents as signs from God that they shouldn't have gotten married.

"In an interview, my husband had mentioned that you could really feel God's presence in the wedding," Desiree said. "There were people who commented we should have felt God giving us signs that we shouldn't be together.

"They have no idea," she said. "If anything, all this brought us closer together. My feelings would get hurt easily, and my husband kept bring up Exodus 14:14 ... 'The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.'"



Chapter 4

Fast forward to the next chapter in our story.

It starts with the one-year anniversary of Martez and Desiree Cole.

Reflecting on what they have gone through the past year, the couple say they are grateful they had committed one year to counseling before entering into marriage.

"I feel like if we didn't go through the counseling, if we didn't trust God, we could have easily folded," Martez said. "We could have gotten into arguments. There was never a thought in our

minds that we couldn't do this."

Desiree said she is thinking about writing a book about their experiences to encourage others.

"It's not the wedding ceremony that makes God happy," she said. "It's the marriage that makes God happy. He takes pleasure in a marriage that glorifies him. The ceremony is nice, but sometimes we get too caught up in spending all this money for 30 minutes.

"That's what I tell all my friends who are getting married. Just remember what is truly important."

Martez agrees with his wife.

"I hear people talking about going through things the first three months or six months of their marriage," he said. "We got ours out of the way. We were able to withstand the tough times.

Martez also had other thoughts about the incidents surrounding the wedding.

"Every time something miraculous or something good happens, there is going to be a trial or attack," he said. "We are able to pray and encourage and lift each other up whenever one was weak," he said.

"We overcame it all," Desiree said. "God is still faithful in all this."

*And that ends Part One of this fairytale,
but it's definitely not the end of the story.*

The reception was a time of celebration for friends and family of the newlyweds.



Friends and family of the newlyweds at the reception.





Martez and Desiree Cole's wedding party.



Combined family members of Martez and Desiree Cole.



Harrison, Cole



11.12.16

Desiree Harrison and Martez Cole were married Nov. 12, 2016, at Launch Point Church in Tuscombua. Pastor Darius Crayton, of Decatur, officiated.

Parents of the bride are Jarius and Candice Hayes.

Parents of the groom are Sharon and Markus Hamilton and Rush and LaDonna King.

Providing music for the ceremony were Douglas Orr, Jazman Cunningham, Aaron Stapler, Deon Orr, Bricktanya White, Coretta House, LaTona Tilman and Allen Noble. Heather Olson was violinist.

Lakeva Harris was matron of honor. Maids of honor were Andrea and Valesia Crayton. Bridesmaids were Tyesha King, Kimberly Poole and Kristan Miller.

Best men were Craig Nelson, Thadious Hall and Rodney Harris. Groomsmen were Kendall Harrison, Larry Baugh and Neil Poole.

A reception followed at Radisson Hotel in Sheffield, with entertainment by DJ Ryan Cole.

Assisting the couple on their wedding day were: Okima King, Cassie Johnson, Beverly Winston and Melanie Turner, wedding coordinators and designers; Sylvia Smith, of Pro Makeup Artist Studio in Huntsville, bride's makeup artist; LaViese Southward, hairstylist; Whitney Cathy, of Twelve 31 Photography; 413 Media, videographer; SweetTree Productions and Fine Era Productions, lighting, and sound and photo booth.

After a honeymoon in Rio Grande, Puerto Rico, the couple is at home in Florence.



After the reception, the newlyweds left for a honeymoon to Puerto Rico.

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Lead singer Ben Phillips and 2nd Creek perform at a wedding reception at Oliver's Barn.

Photo by Heather Sherrill of Create Portraiture

Barry Billings plays at a wedding reception with the Midnighters.



Photo by Tara Parker & Katie Rikard of Blush Imagery

by JENNIFER CROSSLEY HOWARD

When an engaged couple tells you they're searching for a wedding band, they usually aren't talking about the rings they will exchange at their ceremony.

More thought just might go behind the band that will play the songs that shaped their relationship than the band of gold they choose to wear around their left ring fingers.

The Midnighters of Muscle Shoals play about 25 weddings a year. They have played at every kind of wedding from country club settings to barns. The band plays a little of everything from old soul, blues, rock and Motown.

"In over 30 years, we estimate we've played over 600 weddings," said James Counts who plays drums.

He and his bandmates have seen and heard it all as far as requests for first-dance songs.

"When a Man Loves a Woman" by Percy Sledge and "At Last" by Etta James are favorites. In the last five years, Counts says couples have grown more innovative, dancing to heavy rock such as AC/DC.

"I'm not surprised by anyone's choices anymore," he said.

Nor is Ben Phillips of Second Creek of Rogersville.

His band specializes in early country music and 1990s country, particularly Garth Brooks. Brooks' tune about a wedding crasher, "Friends in Low Places," garners the most requests.

Oliver James Roy plays the saxophone with the Midnighters. The band is asked to play a variety of music from old soul, blues and rock and Motown at wedding receptions.



Photo by Tara Parker & Katie Rikard of Blush Imagery

"I don't know why because it's about someone showing up at a wedding to tell her he's heartbroken, and that's the lowest point of his life seeing his love get married," Phillips said. "He's the guy who speaks up when the preacher asks, 'Does anyone object to this wedding?' He's that guy."

Phillips, who plays acoustic guitar and sings lead, says the pre-recorded songs couples choose to walk out as husband and wife to continue to surprise him. Al Green and Maroon 5 are favorites. He's also played "I'd Like to Check You for Ticks" by Brad Paisley. As for current country, you won't hear Second Creek play any Luke Bryan.



Ben Phillips sings lead vocals with 2nd Creek.

Photo by Heather Sherrill of Create Portraiture



2nd Creek setting up to entertain at a wedding reception.

Photo by Heather Sherrill of Create Portraiture

Libby Counts plays keyboard with the Midnighters.



"We stay away from it," Phillips said. Though he's played at many a wedding, the pressure is on to be close to perfect.

"It's so scary because it's the most important day of anyone's life, and when we get loaded up and the bride and groom walk up and say, 'That's exactly what we wanted at our reception' it's incredible."

Counts say wedding gigs are win win.

"There's a lot of nice people there, there's a lot of good food," Counts said. "Most of the time you make a few coins, so you go away feeling pretty satisfied."

Marcus Burke plays bass with the Midnighters.




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by JENNIFER CROSSLEY HOWARD
Photos by HEATHER SHERRILL

Whether sculpted in fondant or accented with a simple hydrangea, the wedding cake is the belle of the ball in the buffet line at a reception.

Today's cakes depend on the style of celebration, from elaborate to simple.

Cakes at a modern wedding reception come decorated fit for any taste in edible sequins and crystal geodes, while others at more rustic barn affairs go for a crumb coating or nothing at all. Naked cakes with less icing showcase batter in its natural state, crumbs adorning the edges of their layers serving as decorative accents.

"The newest trend would be a naked cake or lightly iced cake," said Laura Smith, owner of Aunt Bea's Bakery in Tuscumbia. "You can see the cake through the icing."

And to adorn those naked cakes?

"Fruit is the new trend," Smith said. "Flowers are more of a traditional element for the frosted cakes."

Still other cakes go for flash with bold colored or even metallic icing.

"A lot of people are going for maroon, gold and black and white," said Shoals baker Janna.

Sequin cakes have sprinkles often airbrushed gold.

"They look really good when they're done

right," Prestage said.

Brides still request large tiered cakes," she added, though some are less ornate and are stacked with flowers.

"A three-tier is most popular," Prestage said.

According to the all-encompassing wedding website, theknot.com, cake trends include no frills buttercream confections and all-chocolate cakes — formerly reserved for grooms' tables — in varying shades of cocoa-colored fondant in square and round tiers.

The traditional white cake with white icing is giving way to cakes with a little more flavor.

"Most of the brides are choosing different flavors now," said Smith. "Our most popular are red velvet and strawberry."

"It's a new thing, I really like it. Visually, it's something different."

A bride need not choose between a cake and cupcakes when she can have both, which is what many brides do to accommodate two different cake flavors.

"Cupcake tiers appeal to every age group," Smith said. "It's a lot easier if you're not having to cut and serve a cake. And it's very popular with small receptions and casual weddings, instead of having a wedding cake."

For those who really want something different at the reception, there are cheesecake



Laura whipping up cake mix in her kitchen at Aunt Bea's.





Laura uses a swivel cake stand to work on her custom creations.





Custom cupcakes are also popular at showers and weddings.

towers and pies.

"We've done a lot of cheesecake towers and pies lately," Smith said. "The cheesecake tower is decorated just like a wedding cake, but can offer a variety of flavors. Same with pies."

Groom's cakes, typically nontraditional, are simple and classic these days.

While Smith said she still gets a few requests for cakes with Alabama or Auburn motifs, it's not as popular as it was 10 years ago. She said most grooms' cakes these days are simple and classic.

"The general theme at the moment is simple and rustic. But our most popular groom's cake is a chocolate cake with peanut butter icing and decorated with Reese's Cups and a ganache drip."

But no matter if you want a traditional wedding cake or something a little different, Smith advises that you place your order early.

"We only do one wedding cake a weekend," she said. "I've already booked to make cakes for fall weddings."



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Cecilia Brumley – TN Valley Brides Coordinator
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On the Cover

— Photos by HEATHER SHERRILL of CREATE PORTRAITURE



"First-look photos are some of my favorite moments to capture. The world stands still, the nerves are gone, and it is just the bride and groom."

—Heather Sherrill of Create Portraiture

Clark, Bretherick

Sarah Jo Clark and Dustin Bretherick were married October 28, 2017, in a 5:30 afternoon ceremony at Danclay Farms with Mike Shepherd officiating. The reception followed at Danclay Farms.



Hillside ceremony at the beautiful Danclay Farms.





Matilyne and Alexis Martin served as bell ringers during the ceremony.



Dustin and Sarah Jo left their wedding reception in a 1975 blue Cadillac Eldorado.

The bride is the daughter of Rickey and Teresa Craig of Florence. She is the granddaughter of Mavis Moore and the late Bobby Joe Butler and Doyle Craig and the late Vida Mae Craig, all of Florence.

The groom is the son of Greg Bretherick of Florence and Trent Putman and the late Greta Putman of Killen. He is the grandson of Gail Birchfield and the late Jerry Bretherick, Johnny and Wanda Putman, and Lois Caudle, all of Florence.

Maid of honor was Lauren Craig, sister of the bride. Bridemaids were Ashley Broun, Linzee Stevenson, Whitney McGill, Christina Hogan, Tamra Stutts, and Allison Martin, all friends of the bride. Flower girl was Ella Durham, niece of the bride.

The bride's bouquet was created by Dawn Pettus. She selected a neutral strappy heel for her ensemble.



Pearls accentuated the waist of the beautiful lace gown the bride selected from Cherry Tree Lane.



The bride completed her wedding day accessories by wearing her mother's opal earrings and blue topaz ring and Dustin's mother's engagement ring.



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Sarah Jo and Dustin sneak a moment to themselves after the ceremony.



Best man was the groom's stepfather, Trent Putman. Groomsmen were Brian Black, Colby Thigpen, Wes Stutts, Russ Martin, Justin Shelby, Tyler Richardson, and Nick Cottrell, all friends of the groom. Ring bearer was Garrett James, nephew of the bride. Ushers were Matt Martin, cousin of the groom; Tyler Bretherick, brother of the groom; and Frankie Stewart, friend of the groom.

The bride chose her gown from Cherry Tree Lane in Florence. She also wore opal earrings and a blue ring belonging to her mother. The bridal rings were from Jamie Hood Jewelers. The bridesmaids dresses were chosen online from Azazie and the groomsmen's suits were purchased from Coat's Clothing in Florence.

Wedding director was Dawn Pettus. Jill's Sweet Memories was the caterer and designer of the wedding cakes. Live music and vocals at the reception were provided by Bradley Wallace, Dylan Stamps, and Hope Buttrum. Hair stylists were Lyndsey Voss and Alana Moody and make-up artist was Janae Burnside. Heather Sherrill of Create Portraiture was the photographer and Mattie Cleveland of White Oak Productions was the videographer.

The couple honeymooned in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, and are now residing in Killen.



Sisters make the best maids of honor. Sarah Jo with her sister Lauren Craig.



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On her wedding day, Sarah Jo was surrounded by lifelong friends and friends she had made through her groom.



Groomsmen wore suits selected at Coats Clothing in downtown Florence.

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Brides find nontraditional ways to celebrate

Grandparents



Nancy "Grongong" Rutchik, left, and Flossie "Grammy" Pack, walk down the aisle as flower girls for the wedding of their granddaughter Lucy Schanzer in Carmel, California, in 2015.

Nancy Rutchik and Flossie Pack are flower girls extraordinaire.

Not only did the outgoing and energetic 80-somethings draw cheers as the surprise flower girls at their granddaughter Lucy Schanzer's wedding, but they reprised the role to further acclaim at the wedding of Schanzer's younger sister the next year.

Being close with her grandmothers, Schanzer, 31, wanted to involve them in her wedding ceremony in a way that was prominent and unique. "Grongong" Nancy and Grammy Flossie embraced their chance to be flower girls, which was kept secret until the two, wearing pearls and big smiles, began scattering petals from antique silver baskets to the "I Love Lucy" theme song. They walked down the aisle before an adoring crowd just before Schanzer married Kyle Schanzer in 2015 in a redwood forest in Carmel, California.

"When they saw us, they started laughing," said Rutchik, 87, of Dallas. "Then they had whistle calls, and they called our names and 'Go girl!' We broke up the wedding. It was really a fun thing."

Many modern couples

are tinkering with tradition as they personalize their weddings, and that includes placing grandparents in more visible positions like flower girl or ring bearer, best man or bridesmaid. It's a loving way to celebrate grandparents who were involved and influential in their upbringing.

"It honors the legacy of a family and the extension of a family and how the family is growing, because that's fundamentally what marriage is about," said San Francisco wedding and event planner Alicia Falango, who estimates that about 30 percent of her couples include grandparents in a unique way. "It's not the norm per se, but it's gaining popularity," she added.

These unexpected, high-profile roles are a departure from what many brides and grooms have done for years: quietly recognizing grandparents with a corsage or boutonniere, and having them walk down the aisle ahead of the bridal party to take front-row seats.

Recent wedding seasons have seen an Indiana groom who tapped his 90-year-old grandfather as best man, a Minnesota bride who chose her 92-year-old grandmother as her flower girl, and a

Pennsylvania wedding featuring two grandmothers in matching gowns as flower girls.

"It resonates with a lot of people," Falango said. "When you are an adult, it's a blessing to have a living grandparent. It's so emotional for people. They go inward and say, 'Wow, I wish my grandma or grandpa were still here.'"

Beyond including a grandparent in the bridal party, couples can ask one to officiate, like Nadine Gorand did with her grandfather Raymond Oddi. Gorand and her fiance, Pat, wanted an officiant they loved and respected for their wedding at the Art Institute of Chicago. They immediately thought of Oddi, then 89.

"His work ethic and his family values are definitely things we both look up to and admire," said Gorand, 28. She added that her Gramps made the ceremony feel "really intimate and personal and just very loving and genuine."

At the reception, couples can also mention their parents' parents in speeches, display their old wedding photos or honor them on the dance floor.

At the autumn wedding of Ashley and Matthew Beine

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Flossie "Grammy" Pack, left center, and Nancy "Grongong" Rutchik, right center, were flower girls for their granddaughter's wedding.



Nadine and Pat Gorand stand before Nadine's grandfather Raymond Oddi as they exchange wedding vows in 2017 at The Art Institute of Chicago.

in West Bend, Wisconsin, the couple's seven grandparents proudly walked down the aisle before the wedding party, and later, the disc jockey played a snippet of a slow song from decades ago to honor their weddings.

"We know how rare it is to have that many grandparents alive for a big life event like this," said the bride, 23. "They have set a really great example for my husband and me on life after 40 years of marriage. They're all very honest about the fact that there are some days you want to kill each other and other days you love each

other, and it's just worth it."

Schanzer's grandmother Grongong Rutchik allows that grandparents are sometimes overlooked at weddings, and having such a special place in her granddaughters' celebrations made her feel loved.

"It made me feel awful special, and I loved being part of such a happy occasion," she said.

Schanzer loved it, too. "I feel like it made the ceremony," she said. "Even though I didn't see it, I feel like that's the wedding detail that I remember the most."

Raymond Oddi, center, officiated at the 2017 wedding of his granddaughter Nadine to Pat Gorand.



More brides leaving matchy-matchy bridal parties behind



Sydney Broadhead of Nashville, Tennessee, allowed her bridesmaids to choose their own dresses, though she stayed in the loop on their plans and was the final arbiter. Mismatching bridesmaids dresses has become more popular in recent years.

by **LEANNE ITALIE** The Associated Press
Photos by **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Alison Kelly felt she had enough on her plate dealing with her own wedding gown and all the details of her mountain getaway nuptials without micromanaging how her bridal party would dress.

So instead, she asked her maid of honor — her sister — and the rest of her bridal party to choose natural tones to honor the informal Vail, Colorado, location that she and her husband had picked for their autumn nuptials, and to wear styles that made them feel good.

"I'm surrounded by women who make their own decisions and are strong and independent. There's no way I could tell any of them what to wear. It just wouldn't even work," Kelly laughed. "I

know that they know their own bodies."

She was thrilled with the results, a soft mix of rose blush, light red, ivory and taupe that proved the perfect complement to her own white gown. The bridesmaids wore matching rings of flowers on their heads. The groom's party was also not matchy-matchy. He wore light gray, his best man was in black and the other groomsmen were in darker gray. Identical boutonnieres tied their looks together.

While brides have been giving their stand-up loved ones greater freedom from the constraints of more traditional — often hideous — matching confections, they now seem to be taking the mismatch bridesmaid trend a step further. Matching colors

in different silhouettes or identical dye lots for different styles of dresses have given way to completely different cuts, textures and colors.

"They did so well," said Kelly, who lives in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and works as a librarian. "They kept showing me the pictures of what they were thinking. I thought that was really nice because I was just too busy doing my own thing and planning my own stuff. I trusted them, and it ended up being much better than I imagined."

The trend is well represented on the retail side. David's Bridal, with more than 330 stores in the United States, Canada, Mexico and the United Kingdom, has an online section of mismatched

bridesmaids options with advice on how to make the concept work, from using the same color in different styles to choosing wildly different fabrics, lengths, silhouettes, colors, prints and embellishments.

One suggestion from the company: Select different shades of the same color, but include light, medium and dark shades to allow for an ombre gradation. For large wedding parties, mix in some pale neutrals that will offset the overall palette.

While mismatching is more visible these days, it hasn't completely taken over. According to the most recent Bridal Fashion Study by the wedding site TheKnot.com, done in 2015, 51 percent of bridesmaids still wear the same dress as others

Alison Reed, center, of Colorado Springs, Colorado, chose to allow her bridesmaids leeway in the colors and styles of dresses they wore. She asked her bridal party to styles in natural tones that made them feel good.




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in their wedding party, while 33 percent wear the same color in different styles, 11 percent wear different dresses and 5 percent wear the same style in different colors.

Shelley Brown, fashion and beauty editor for The Knot, said the idea of mismatched bridesmaids dresses is picking up speed as more brides look for ways to personalize their weddings.

"Over the past few years, designers have picked up on this trend, adding new colors and styles and patterns so brides can mix and match," she said. "It's a really easy way to make your bridal party stand out."

It's also a great way for brides to be more sensitive to the shapes, sizes and skin tones of their bridesmaids, Brown said.

Complete freedom of choice can go wrong, so Brown suggests that brides provide some broad guidelines.

"Offering no guidelines can create a more stressful process for the bridesmaids," Brown said. "So don't just say, oh, buy a blue dress. Is it strapless, is it floor length, what material is it, what shade of blue?"

If it's a super-formal wedding, for instance, a short dress likely wouldn't work, Brown said. Nor would a more informal fabric like jersey, she said. Some brides who want to offer choice in color without losing control altogether may want to offer paint chips as a guide.

"One of my favorite ways to interpret this trend is to pick a really subtle, neutral color like blush or nude or even a very soft pewter and then let your girls choose what embellishments or silhouettes they like," Brown said. "They could do rose gold sequins if they want to, maybe someone else has a lace dress and someone has some kind of separates happening. That way your girls get to show some of their personalities. They're definitely spending a lot of time on your wedding. They're invested in the process. They want to look good, too."

Sydney Broadhead of Nashville, Tennessee, is a graduate student in public health and health policy. She was married in May 2016 in a historic home in Asheville, North Carolina. She went way out of the box when it came to her bridesmaids' dresses.

"I had several bridesmaids of varying sizes, different body types, and I wanted dresses that were going to make them feel more comfortable and weren't run of the mill," she said.

She wanted romantic tones, but the overall vibe was eclectic. She went shopping with a couple bridesmaids who live near her. Out-of-town bridesmaids sent her photos and questions as they made their selections.

"I had one girl in gold and another in pink. One was in metallics. My sister was in red. One had a beaded top. It came together very organically," Broadhead said.

She set few guidelines on styles and fabrics, but made it clear she preferred longer dresses. She was the final arbiter before selections were finalized, and she anchored the bridal party by putting groomsmen in the same suit with matching red ties and boutonnieres to help ground the mismatch on the other side of the aisle.

"It was more of a conversation than a free-for-all," Broadhead said. "The traditional everybody-matching idea felt a little uninventive. I was fine with trying something new."




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Getting engaged?

Tell an insurance agent about the ring

by BETH BUCZYNSKI - NerdWallet

If you recently got engaged, the first person you might want to tell about your beautiful ring is an insurance agent. Engagement ring insurance isn't exactly romantic, but it's a relatively inexpensive way to make sure you can repair or replace your ring if something happens to it.

TWO WAYS TO INSURE

- Buy extra "scheduled" coverage – often called a rider, floater or endorsement – through your homeowners or renters insurance company. Standard homeowners insurance and renters insurance includes some coverage for jewelry, but theft coverage is often limited to \$1,500.
- Buy a stand-alone policy from a company that specializes in jewelry insurance. You'll generally get reimbursed for the full value if your ring is stolen, lost or damaged.

Your insurer might require an appraisal to finalize your policy. The National Association of Jewelry Appraisers website has a list of appraisers in each state.

Don't assume a jewelry warranty will cover you. Those apply only to defects.

JEWELRY RIDER COST

The cost of a jewelry rider depends on how much coverage you need. A stand-alone engagement ring insurance policy typically costs \$1 or \$2 for every \$100 in value. A study by The Knot, a wedding planning website,

found the average cost of an engagement ring in 2016 was \$6,163. That puts the annual premium for insurance at around \$60 to \$120.

You could earn a discount on your policy by:

- Having a monitored home-security system.
- Storing your ring in a safe at home or in a bank.
- Using a gem identification registry such as Gemprint.

COVERAGE

Make sure your policy covers the following common ring claims:

- Theft: This would pay out if your ring were stolen • during a home burglary, for example.
- Mysterious disappearance: This would pay out if you lost the ring.
- Damage: This would pay out if your ring were damaged or destroyed, for example in a house fire.

If you buy engagement ring insurance before you pop the question, your soon-to-be fiancée must be named and covered by the policy, especially if you don't already live together. Otherwise the policy could be voided as soon as you give the ring away.

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Anna Leigh Slover Berchekas
Alexandra Tomsik Alexander
Jordan Williams Corum
Jessica Parker McDaniel

*Hammond,
Hendricks*





Katelyn Sierra Hammond and Jonathan Edward Hendricks were married June 24, 2017 in a 5:00 afternoon ceremony at Church of the Highlands Chapel in Birmingham with Pastor Aldger Armstead officiating. The cross backdrop used for the ceremony was made by the groom using cedar trees from his family's property in Florida. The reception was held at the Historic Rucker Place in Birmingham following the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Mark and Kim Hammond of Lexington. She is the granddaughter of Harold and Barbara McConnell and the late Brenda McConnell of Anderson and the late Glen A. and Carol Sue Hammond of Lexington.

The groom is the son of Randy and Lisa Hendricks of Plant City, Fla. He is the grandson of Rev. Clarence and Melody Hendricks and Janet Mirsky and the late Aaron Mirsky, all of Plant City, Fla.

The bride chose a full length white lace gown from Diane's Formal Wear in Jasper. She wore her mother's wedding veil and her late grandmother, Carol Sue Hammond's, diamond as a necklace. Her grandmother Barbara McConnell made her garter from lace from the bride's mother's wedding dress.

Maid of honor was Karoline Hammond, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Bethany Davis, Sara Hendricks, sister of the groom, Alli Hill, Jamie McGinnis, Megan Snider, Lacey Sullivan, Taylor Toner, and Emily Williamson. Flower girls were Raley Arrington and Evelyn Davis. The flower girls wore dresses that were worn by the bride and her sister as little girls. The treasured heirloom dresses were handmade by the bride's grandmother, Barbara McConnell.

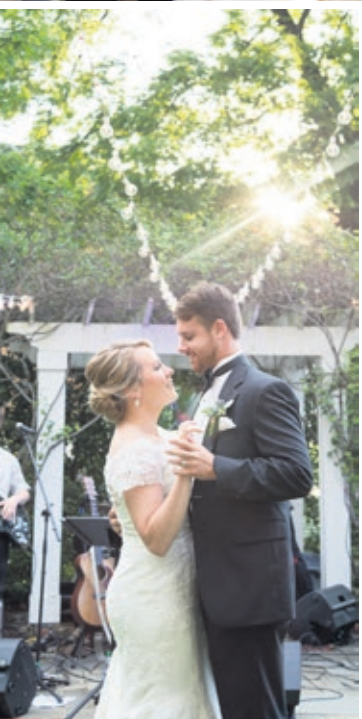
Best man was John Wilson, college friend of the groom. Groomsmen were Barrett Atkins, BJ Biggio, Ryan Howard, Mark Killebrew, Chris Kudirka, Will McGinnis, Marty Sitton, and Chris Sullivan.

Floral designer was LSL Event Design in Birmingham. Caterer was Savoie Catering in Birmingham. The wedding cake was made by Cake Art by Cynthia and the groom's cake was made by Big Spoon Creamery, both of Birmingham. Reception entertainment was provided by Matt Carroll and the Browncoats of Birmingham. Hair stylist and make-up artists were Tabith Hanson and Rachel King of Revelationz Studio of Hair and Design. Photographer was Sarah Arrington and Kamin Williams of Spark and Arrow Photography and videographer was Brad Thompson of Lumpstick Productions, LLC of Athens. Invitations were from Ledgewood Fine Stationery of Madison with calligraphy by Karoline Hammond.

For their honeymoon, the couple spent a week at Hamanasi, an all-inclusive dive/adventure resort in Belize, where they stayed in a treehouse. The couple is now residing in Birmingham.

Photos by Spark and Arrow Photography







*Saylor,
Vickerson*





Hannah Saylor and Nickolaus James Vickerson were married November 19, 2016. Vows were exchanged at 5:30 in the afternoon at First Presbyterian Church of Tuscaloosa with Anderson Walker officiating. The reception followed at The Cypress Inn Loft.

The bride is the daughter of Donnie and Ginger Saylor of Russellville. The groom is the son of Mike and Rebecca Hicks and Richard and Sharon Vickerson.

The bride was escorted by her father. She chose an elegant white gown purchased at Bella's Bridal in Hoover.

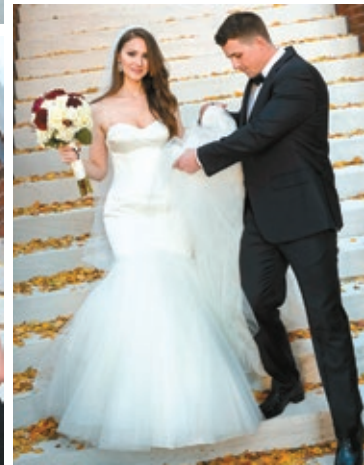
Matron of honor was Calli Howard, best friend of the bride. Bridesmaids were Kelbey Reynolds Vickerson, sister-in-law of the groom; Addie Grissom and Alanna Posey, friends of the bride.

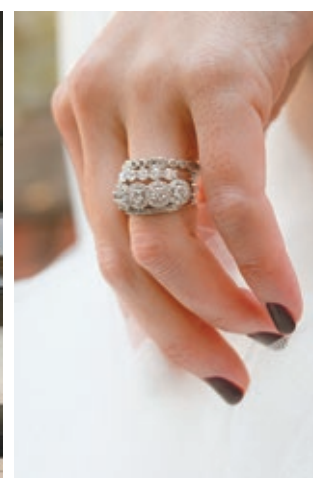
Best man was Jake Vickerson, brother of the groom. Groomsmen were Phillip Eady, Adam Frazier, and Jarrod Parks, all friends of the groom.

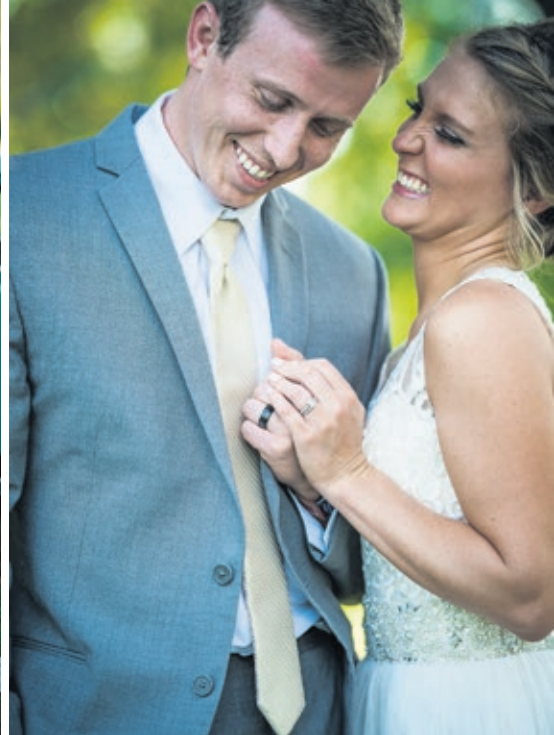
Floral designer was Chase Sparks of Sparky's Florist in Russellville. Caterer was The Cypress Inn Loft and Edgar's Bakery made the wedding cake. The church organist played the ceremony music and DJ Platinum entertained guests at the reception. Photographer was Scottie Jones and videographer was Frank Thagard of Marvin Video.

After a honeymoon in Charleston, S.C., the couple is residing in Tuscaloosa.

Photos by Scottie Jones







Winchester, Newton

Jake proposed to Keri at his pinning for nursing school. Jake asked Keri to come up on stage with his parents to give him his nursing pin. As Keri and Jake's parents came up on stage, the announcer introduced Keri as Jake's fancé. When Jake opened up his box where his pin was supposed to be, it was a diamond engagement ring instead. He got down on one knee on stage in front of hundreds of people and asked Keri to marry him. They set the date for July 8, 2017 at Oliver's Barn. It was a hot, beautiful day full of love and laughter.

Keri Winchester and Jake Newton were married July 8, 2017 at 7:00 in the evening at Oliver's Barn in Killen with Pastor James Moore officiating. The reception followed at Oliver's Barn.

The bride is the daughter of Arthur and Kathy Winchester of Cherokee. She is the granddaughter of Wynez Mitchell and the late Raymond Mitchell of Cherokee and Vernell Winchester and the late Vincent Winchester of Red Bay.

The groom is the son of Tim and Carole Newton of Rogersville. He is the grandson of Sue Newton, the late Cecil Newton, and Don Newbern and the late Judy Newbern, all of Rogersville.

Matrons of honor were Kristin Ivy, sister of the bride, and Lauren Freeman, friend of the bride. Bridesmaids were Brittany Lindley, Hollie McGough, Amanda Covington, friends of the bride, and Kristin Newton, sister of the groom. Flower girl was Miss Peyton Ivy, niece of the bride.

Best man was the groom's father, Tim Newton. Groomsmen were Matt Newton and Clint Newton, brothers of the groom, Reide Newton, Titus Legg, and Tyler Tidwell, friends of the groom.

Caterer was Stacey Oliver. Music for the ceremony and reception was provided by Garrett Browning. Hair stylist was Danielle Hale and make-up artist was Anna Grace Collum. Photographer was Heather Sherrill of Create Portraiture.

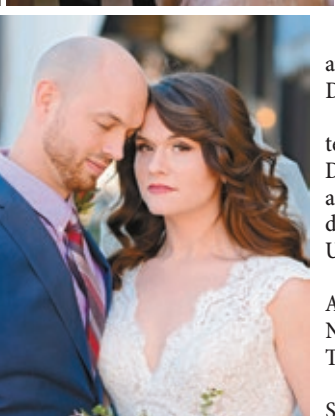
After a honeymoon cruise to Cozumel, Mexico, the couple is now residing in Muscle Shoals.

Photos by Create Portraiture



Dewberry, Rogers





Dara Megan Dewberry and Brodie Cason Rogers were married April 1, 2017. Vows were exchanged at Valley Grove Baptist Church of Tusculumbia during an evening ceremony with Dr. Greg Davis and Darren Rogers officiating. A reception followed at George's 217 in Sheffield.

The bride is the daughter of Ronnie and Angie Dewberry of Muscle Shoals. She is the granddaughter of the late Ross and Juanita Glasgow of Russellville and the late John and Ozell Dewberry of Decatur. She is a graduate of Muscle Shoals High School and received a Bachelor of Science in Food and Nutrition and a Masters of Arts in Health Science from The University of Alabama. She is a candidate to graduate in August 2017 with a Masters in Nursing as a Family Nurse Practitioner from The University of Alabama-Birmingham.

The groom is the son of Chris and Marianne Rogers of Bryant. He is the grandson of Curt and Betty Ann Rogers and Mrs. Shirley Ellis and the late Raymon Ellis, all of Bryant, Ala. He is a graduate of North Sand Mountain High School and received a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from The University of Alabama.

The bride was given in marriage by her father. The matron of honor was Dayna Willis of Muscle Shoals, sister of the bride, and the maid of honor was Lauren Willis of Muscle Shoals, niece of the bride. Bridesmaids were Brilee Rogers of Bryant, sister of the groom, Lindsey Kilpatrick of Muscle Shoals, Mary Alice Shreve of Atlanta, GA, Kadi Rebecca Noble of Scottsboro, Kristen McRae and Corrie Paul of Birmingham. The flower girls were Elliana and Merci Rogers, nieces of the groom.

Best men were Chris Rogers, father of the groom, and Bryson Rogers, brother of the groom, both of Bryant. Groomsmen were James Dentin of Arlington, Va., Justin Martin of Aiken, S.C., Mitch Eubank of Huntsville, A.D. Rogers of Bryant, Nathan Ivey and Bradley Whetzell of Birmingham. Ring bearers were Kade Rogers, nephew of the groom, and Caden Willis, nephew of the bride.

Wedding director was Terri Brown. Floral designer was Carl Casiday of Lola's Gifts and Flowers. Ceremony music by Kendyl Martin, Amy Brooker and Mitch Eubank. The caterer was George's 217 and cakes were made by Beth Ledbetter. Photographer was MoonBelle Photography and the videographer was Awaken Films. Entertainment at the reception was provided by Matt Carroll and the Browncoats.

After a honeymoon to the Virgin Islands, the couple will be residing in Chattanooga, Tenn.

Photos by MoonBelle Photography





Chapman, Toner



Taylor Chapman and Max Toner were married March 18, 2017 at 5:00 in the afternoon at Burrirt on the Mountain in Huntsville. Kevin Black of The Ark Church in Greenhill officiated the ceremony and the reception followed at Burrirt on the Mountain.

The bride is the daughter of Jeff and Carla Morrison of Killen and Scott Chapman of Johnson City, Tenn. She is the granddaughter of William and Jean Price of Surgoinsville, Tenn., the late Ray and Reba Chapman of Kingsport, Tenn., and the late Walter and Pauline Vermilich of Rogersville, Tenn.

The groom is the son of Mark and Beth Toner of Rogersville. He is the grandson of Butch and Myra Toner of Florence and Jerry Wayne and Katherine Putman of Elgin.

The bride wore a custom Stella York A-line gown of ivory lace with a sweetheart neckline from White Lace & Promises of Knoxville, Tenn. She carried a bouquet of ivory roses.

Matron of honor was Andrea Strait of Owens Cross Roads, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Torie Smith of Tuscaloosa, Logan Garner of Athens, Jessica Ronyak of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., Cara Gregg of Knoxville, Tenn., and Katelyn Hammond Hendricks of Birmingham.

Best man was Zac Toner of Rogersville, brother of the groom. Groomsmen were Andrew Langdon of Florence, Shane Keeton of Killen, Will Shirley of Lexington, Justin Morrison of Killen, brother of the bride, and Tyler Gillenwater of Johnson City, Tenn., cousin of the bride.

Wedding director was Jeannie Pirtle of Weddings By Jeannie in Athens and floral designer was also Jeannie Pirtle of Nip Tuc Florist in Athens. Caterer was Bubba's Silver Spoon Catering in Huntsville and the wedding cake by was made by Lynn's Cakes in Athens. Ceremony music was provided by Valley Conservatory of Huntsville, and Sweet Tree Productions of Muscle Shoals provided the entertainment for the reception. Hair stylist and make-up artist was The Transformation in Huntsville. Photographer and videographer was Chris and Julie Vitte-toe of Johnson City, Tenn.

After a honeymoon at Sandal's Royal Carribean in Montego Bay, Jamaica, the couple is now residing in Johnson City, Tenn.

Photos by Chris and Julie Vitte-toe



Martin, Franks



Carley Martin and Aaron Franks were married May 20, 2017. Vows were exchanged at 6:00 in the evening at The Givens House with Steve Agee officiating. The reception followed at The Givens House at Glenn Hill.

The bride is the daughter of Felecia and Scott Waddell of Hatton and Ken Martin and Becca Thompson of Muscle Shoals. She is the granddaughter of Wayne and Sue Goodwin of Town Creek and Evelyn Martin and the late Lelton Martin of Courtland.

The groom is the son of Terry and Tina Franks of Hatton. He is the grandson of John and Paulette Harper of Russellville.

The bride wore a Christina Wu, fully beaded, mermaid style, ivory gown with a gorgeous T-back with a full tulle skirt purchased at Cherry Tree Lane in Florence. She also wore a cathedral veil and a pair of Bagdley Mischka heels.

Maid of honor was Caitlin Martin, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Madison McDonald, Abby McDonald, Hannah Hallmark, Shea Eubank, Haley Jordan, Emilee Gann, Janna Thigpen, Ali Staggs, Anna Austin, all friends of the bride, and Taylor Davenport, cousin of the bride. Flower girls were Baya Richardson, friend of the bride, and Blakely Butler, niece of the bride.

Best man was the groom's brother, Evan Franks. Groomsmen were Terry Franks, father of the groom; Taylor Webb, Nathan Butler, Rene Payne, Austin Waldrep, Wyatt Gann, Ty Terry, all friends of the groom; and Chase Martin, brother of the bride. Ring bearers were Elijah Eubank and Rennick Richardson, friends of the bride.

Wedding director was Bernice Givens. Floral designer was Carmalita Coan. Caterer was Jill's Sweet Memories, and the wedding cake and groom's cake were made by Aunt Bea's. The Gabe Allen Band entertained guests at the reception. Lauren Hunter did the bride's hair and make-up, while Amber McCaig did the bridesmaids. Photographer was Heather Graves and videographer was Seth Adgate with Woodnote Media.

The couple honeymooned at The Excellence at Playa Mujeres in Cancun, Mexico, and are now residing in Killen. *I checked the weather every day, multiple times per day the week leading up to the wedding. The day of our wedding, it came a torrential downpour. That morning, the sun was shining and it looked to be the perfect day, so we continued with the plan to have the wedding outside. Everything was decorated and just how I had planned it. The wedding was set to start at 5:00 and at 4:30 the bottom fell out. We sat around for an hour waiting on the rain to pass, but it didn't. I had to make the decision to move everything in doors. Our bridal party, all dressed and ready for the ceremony, braved the rain and began moving decorations and chairs into the chapel (that was already set up for the reception). I was sure our wedding day was ruined and had basically cried all of my make-up off at this point. Aaron and I had decided not to do a first look so I was dying to see him at this point. As I began to walk out of the house and into the rain, family and friends met me with umbrellas to walk me to the chapel, soaked beautiful shoes and all. When I saw Aaron's face, I immediately forgot how bad the day had been. It was not the perfect day that I had planned, but it was perfect for us. So my one little piece of advice to all brides is to make sure you have a back up plan. Try and stay calm and enjoy your day, no matter what happens!*

Photos by Heather Graves





McCarley Cummings



“Hope in Front of Me” by Danny Gokey was the song that played as Kristen Hope McCarley walked down the aisle to become Mrs. Joshua Aaron Cummings. Thousands of hanging lights, a beautiful sunset, and the reflection of Blue Water Creek set the stage for Hope and Josh as they became husband and wife on Saturday, August 26, 2017 at 7:00 pm in the evening, with Pastor Ryan Mouser officiating.

Blush pink satin, sparkling lights and shimmering water set the backdrop for the ceremony. White columns lined the isles as the wedding party of eight bridesmaids, six groomsmen, two flower girls, and two ringbearers awaited the bride. During the ceremony, as a symbol of their humility, love, and devotion, the couple washed each other’s feet just as Jesus did for his disciples. (John 13:1-17)

After the ceremony, the reception began with the couple’s first dance to “Thinking Out Loud” by Ed Sheeran. Followed by the bride and her father dancing to “I’ll Always Be Your Baby” by Natalie Grant, and the groom and his mother dancing to “You’ll Be in My Heart” by Phil Collins.

The groom’s grandmother, Mrs. Louise Cummings, made both the bride’s cake as well as the groom’s cake. Cake was served with ice cream.

After eating, dancing, and celebrating came the lighting of the floating lanterns and sparklers paving the way for family and friends to see the couple off as they entered the lighted canoe and drifted off into Blue Water Creek.

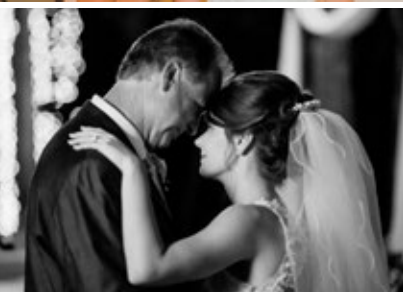
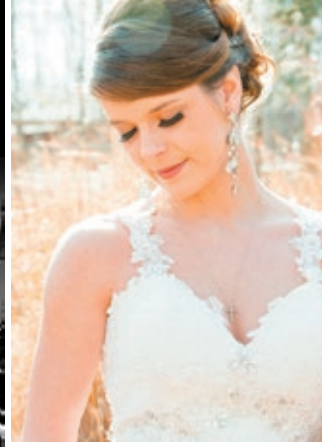
The bride is the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Tony McCarley of Killen. She is the granddaughter of Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Collier of Florence, the late Mr. David Clark of Deatsville, Sue McCarley of Florence, and Mr. & Mrs. Archie McCarley of Lexington.

The groom is the son of Mrs. Tyra Megois of Foley, and Mr. Michael Cummings of Russellville. He is the grandson of Mr. & Mrs. Robert Mitchell of Muscle Shoals, the late Mr. Lois Bob Cummings & Mrs. Louise Cummings of Russellville.

Wedding venue was provided by Blue Water Creek Events. Catering was provided by Debbie Veal, family and friends. Bridal and wedding photography was provided by Twila’s Photography by Twila Allen of Nashville, Tenn. Videography was provided by Brad Thompson at Lumpstick Productions, LLC.

After a romantic honeymoon at El Dorado Casita Royale in Riviera Maya, Mexico, the couple is now residing in Killen.

Photos by Twila’s Photography



Coan, Parker



Sarah Elizabeth Coan and Colton Parker were married July 29, 2017 at Locust Hill in Tuscumbia with Bro. Terry Suttles officiating. The reception followed at Locust Hill.

The bride is the daughter of Randal and Camalita Coan. She is the granddaughter of Nell Payne. The groom is the son of Gary and Johna Parker.

Maid of honor was Emily Hood, friend of the bride, and matrons of honor were Cheyenne Agee and Paige Fielder, friends of the bride. Bridesmaid was Lexi Parker, sister of the groom. Flower girls were Ella Allen, friend of the bride, and Addie Chamness, cousin of the bride.

Best man was the groom's father, Gary Parker. Groomsman were Jesse Coan, brother of the bride, Will Atkins and Anthony Parker, friends of the groom. Ring bearer was Kade Agee, friend of the bride, and bible bearer was Lane Chamness.

Wedding director was Renita Chamness, aunt of the bride. Floral designer was the bride's mother, Carmalita Coan, along with Justin Myrick and Glen McDaniel. Providing music for the ceremony and the reception was DJ Jammin' Jeff. Caterer was Carmaletta's Weddings & Floral Events. The wedding cake and the groom's cake were both made by Aunt Bea's. Hair stylist and makeup artist was Shonda Peebles. Photographer was Gina Plaxco. Other special helpers were Robert King and Zack Richardson.

The couple is now residing in Hatton.





*Boggan,
Adams*





Lindsay Boggan and Justin Adams were married December 31, 2016 at 4:30 in the afternoon at Ava's Place in St. Florian with Bro. Matt Fowler and the Honorable Kevin Adams officiating. The reception followed at Ava's Place.

Rather than lighting candles during the ceremony, the couple created a shadowbox to symbolize Christ's love for His church which involved the couple brading twine together in the shape of cross bearing script from Ecclesiastes 4:12 which reads, "A cord of three strands is not easily broken."

The bride is the daughter of Mike and Karen Boggan of Muscle Shoals. She is the granddaughter of Charles and Shirley Collier of Plantersville, Miss. and Ann Boggan and the late Johnny Mac Boggan of Newton, Miss.

The groom is the son of Kevin and Tammy Adams of Greenwood, Miss. He is the grandson of Billy John and Alice Clolinger of Charleston, Miss. and Jackie and Anne Adams of Fairhope.

The bride wore a beautiful white gown designed by Soterro and Midgley acquired at Bella's Bridal and Formal in Hoover, Ala.

Maid of honor was Alyssa Boggan, sister of the bride, and matron of honor was Heather Stephenson, friend of the bride. Bridesmaids were Katie Hughes of Birmingham, Teri Barnett of Oxford, Miss., Lindsey Norris of Montgomery, and Samantha Palmer of Troy, all friends of the bride. Flower girl was Anne Hall Adams of Greenwood, Miss., sister of the groom.

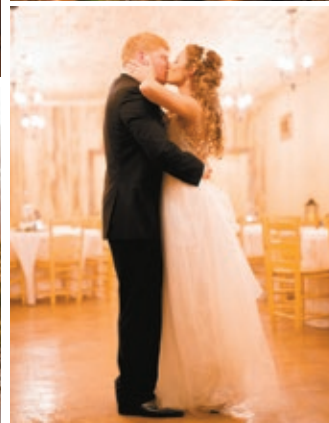
Best man was Robert Husley, friend of the groom. Groomsmen were Jon Adams of Greenwood, Miss., brother of the groom; Christopher Boggan of Huntsville, brother of the bride; Michael Hankins of Jackson, Miss., Paten McDaniel of Flowood, Miss., and Jay Shannon of Clinton, Miss., all friends of the groom. Ring bearers were Keegan Collier, cousin of the bride, and Jack Adams, brother of the groom.

Wedding director was Kristen Fowler. Caterer was Stacey Oliver. The wedding cake was made by Cakes by Rita of Nettleton, Miss. and resembled a birch tree to fit in the winter forest theme. The groom's cake, also made by Cakes by Rita, resembled a scene from the groom's favorite Hayao Miyazaki anime film, Princess Mononoke. Bridal and attendant bouquets were designed by Kaleidoscope Floral Designs of Florence. Ceremony and reception decorations were created by Amanda Hollander of Haven256 Designs in a winter forest theme including evergreens, pine cones, snow and other frosted details. Hair stylist and make-up artist was Brittany Hart of Salon Mod in Florence. Photographer was Julie Terry of Julie Terry Photography.

Following the reception, the bride and groom, the groom's family, and several of the wedding guests continued the celebration into the new year at the Marriott's New Year's Eve Ball.

The couple honeymooned in a cozy cabin near Gatlinburg, Tenn. They are now residing in the Shoals area where Lindsay is a Physical Therapist and Justin is a member of the Florence Police Department.

Photos by Julie Terry Photography



Hughes, Zills



Kate Victoria Hughes and Caleb Paul Zills were married on November 11, 2017 at 2:30 in the afternoon. Vows were exchanged during an outdoor ceremony surrounded by fall scenery followed by a dinner and dancing reception at Danclay Farms in Florence, Ala.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Allen Hughes of Killen. She is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Hughes and the late Ms. Ruby Campbell, all of Florence.

The groom is the son of Mr. Keith Zills and Mrs. Kim Christy of Moulton, Ala. He is the grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Johnson of Moulton, Ala., and Mrs. Rachel Zills and the late Mr. Howard Zills of Trinity, Ala.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore an elegant, long sleeve, backless Anne Barge dress with appliqué details and a short train.

Her sisters, Chelsea and Molly, attended as her maids of honor. College roommates, Jerica Pealor, Taylor Countiss, and Lindsey Key, as well as high school friends, Brooke Olive, Kenzie Monroe, and Amanda Price supported her as bridesmaids. Her aunt, Tammy, was her flower girl.

Standing with the groom as the best men were high school friends, Ryan Rogers and Nolan Coffey. Serving as groomsmen and ushers were college friends, James Norton and Briar Allen, high school friend, Les Lang, and cousins, Matthew, Andrew, and Dylan Johnson.

Floral design and planning were by Katie Shirey and Taylor Farris of Flora and Cake and photography by Jessie Skipworth. Bernice Givens made the groom's cake and Lana Copeland of All About Cake made the bride's cake. Ceremony music was provided by Dylan Bratcher and reception music was provided by The Midnighters.

The couple took a honeymoon trip to Punta Cana, Dominican Republic and now reside in Birmingham, Ala.

Photos by Jessie Skipworth





*Tidwell,
McCluskey*



Ashton Tidwell and Aaron McCluskey were married May 20, 2017 at St. Michael's Catholic Church in St. Florian with Priest Father John O'Malley OSB officiating. The reception was held at The Buffer House following the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Brian and Amy Tidwell of Killen. She is the granddaughter of Don and Belva McGee and Judy Tidwell and the late Waymon Tidwell, all of Killen.

The groom is the son of Tom and Sabrina McCluskey of Killen. He is the grandson of Harold and Imogene McCluskey of Florence and Oakley and Nancy Smith of Killen.

The bride chose a beautiful white satin strapless gown accentuated with a satin sash with pearls and crystals.

Maids of honor were Madison Tidwell and Jordon Tidwell, sisters of the bride. Bridesmaids were Kala Brumbaugh of Harrisburg, Pa., best friend of the bride; Mallie Watkins of Decatur, cousin of the bride; Callie McCluskey and Anna McCluskey of Killen, sisters-in-law of the bride. Flower girl was Sophia Grigsby of Central, cousin of the bride.

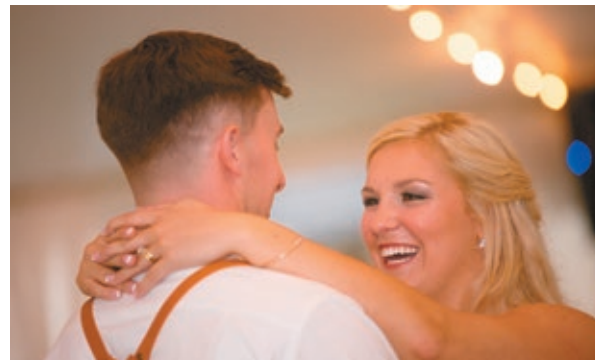
Best man was the groom's father, Tom McCluskey. Groomsmen were Dustin Gean, Austin Moore, Cody Butler, Dallas Mitchell, John Charles Crow and A.J. Flippo, all friends of the groom. Ring bearer was Carter Soler of Florence, cousin of the groom. Alter servers were Darby Berrens and Andrew Eckl.

Wedding director was Turner Fain and floral designer was Cindy Harrison. Cater was Rick's Barbecue and the wedding cakes were made by Amy's Cakes. Providing music for the ceremony was soloist Jordon Tidwell, cantor Deona Berrens, and organist Donna Peters. Photographer was Saving Grace Photography.

The couple honeymooned in Montego Bay, Jamaica and are now residing in Killen.



Photos by Saving Grace Photography



*Kirk,
Roberts*





On Saturday, September 23, 2017 Mary Ramsey Kirk and Samuel Hunter Roberts were married at sunset under giant oak trees at Oliver's Barn, surrounded by family, friends, delicious food, and live music. Tucked away in the cornfields of Center Star, Ala., the couple said their vows with Pastor Ronny Jones at a barn that once belonged to Oliver Alexander, former cow breeder and crop grower, but more importantly, Ramsey's grandfather. Her mother has now transformed the barn into an enchanting wedding venue where couple's dreams come to life, just as Ramsey and Hunter's did last fall.

The bride is the daughter of Steve and Sherry Kirk of Killen. She is the granddaughter of the late Oliver and Dorothy Alexander and the late Sydney and Mary Kirk.

The groom is the son of Sammy and Tammy Roberts of Killen. He is the grandson of Barbara Holden and the late Sonny Holden and the late Sam and Marie Roberts.

The bride chose a dreamy lace and tulle sweetheart gown embellished with cloth buttons and a sequined belt from Promenade.

Maid of honor was Mallory Kirk, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Katie Kirk and Hope Kirk, cousins of the bride; Mallory Oliver, sister of the groom; Heather Bugg and Heather Risner, friends of the bride. Flower girl was Marilee Oliver, niece of the groom.

Best man was the groom's father, Sammy Roberts. Groomsmen were Jayme McGee, Jeremy Johnson, Eric Whitaker, and Michael Bange. Ring bearers were Mason Oliver, nephew of the groom, and Cohen Warren, cousin of the bride.

Wedding directors were Lafonda Guyton and Heather Pierce. Floral designer was Felicia Renfro with Muscle Shoals Florist, who made the arbor decorations, the large urn flower arrangements, the bride's bouquet, and all the wedding party flowers. Special thanks to Diane Hamner, Wanda Warren, and Jamie Terrell who made the beautiful table arrangements of white, blue and lavender hydrangeas in tall glass cylinder vases. Caterer was Jill Larkin of Jill's Sweet Memories, who also made the wedding cake. Ceremony music was provided by Hope Buttrum and Dylan Stamps and Second Creek Band entertained guests at the reception. Hair stylist was Whitney Weeks and make-up artist was Monica Aday. Photographer was Heather Sherrill of Create Portraiture and videographer was Hunter Nicholson.

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

Photos by Create Portraiture



Watts, Wheeler



Stephanie Shelaine Watts and Danny Verdun Wheeler were married May 27, 2017 in a 4:30 afternoon ceremony held at First Missionary Baptist Church in Sheffield with Rev. Jeffery Braxton, Sr. officiating. The reception followed at George's 217 in Sheffield.

The bride is the daughter of Peggy and Oscar Watts, III of Muscle Shoals. She is the granddaughter of Oscar O. Watts, Jr. and the late Joyce B. Watts of Muscle Shoals and Ethel M. Goodloe and the late Eddie G. Goodloe, Sr. of Barton.

The groom is the son of Susie Moton of Thomson, Ga. and Moses and Juanita Wheeler of Thomson, Ga. He is the grandson of the late Ella Wee Tutt of Thomson, Ga.

The bride chose an ivory fitted Allure gown with a sweetheart neckline defined with crystals and beads, along with an ivory Bel Aire one tier cathedral veil outlined with sparkling beads. Both were from Cherry Tree Lane in Florence. The veil was a special gift attire piece presented to the bride and was worn in memory of Macena Smith. The bridal bouquet was special to the bride because it was designed by her aunt, Rosylen Thompson. It was designed with white roses and crystal bling sticks and a ring that was in memory of the bride's grandmother, Joyce B. Watts.

Maid of honor was Stacia Watts of Pleasanton, Calif., sister of the bride, and matron of honor was Blair Woods of Muscle Shoals, cousin of the bride. Bridesmaids were Cle'Asha Jones, Jolisa Watson, Julia Coleman, Kinyata Duncan, Tasheilra Jones, all of Birmingham, and Tammara Sears of Sheffield, all friends of the bride. Flower girls were Lauren Mullens and Elizabeth Mullens of Florence, cousins of the bride.

Best man was Fernando Velasco of Suwanee, Ga., friend of the groom, and man of honor was Chris Tutt of Thomson, Ga., brother of the groom. Groomsmen were Christian Tutt of Thomson, Ga., nephew of the groom; Ray Cummings of Thomson, Ga., Jasper Brinkley of Burford, Ga., Casper Brinkley of Grovetown, Ga., Donta Carter of Morrow, Ga., Jarvis Jackson and Mike Williams of Atlanta, Ga., all friends of the groom. Ushers were Marvin Goodloe, Jr. of Tuscaloosa and Bradley Goodloe of McCalla, cousins of the bride, and Christian Tutt of Thomson, Ga., nephew of the groom. Ring bearer was Jasper Brinkley, Jr. of Burford, Ga., godson of the bride and groom, and sign bearer was Ian Thompson of Olive Branch, Miss., cousin of the bride and godson of the bride and groom.

Ceremony and reception hostesses were Scheronda Thompson, hostesses director, Laquita Goodloe, Kim Turner, Maya Turner, Courtney Jones, Charlsa Mitchell, Jazmon Poole, Brandi Goodloe, Jayla Goodloe, Jade Goodloe, and Monica Watts, all cousins of the bride.

Wedding director was Veronica Thompson of Olive Branch, Miss., cousin of the bride. Floral designer was Rosylen Thompson of Florence, aunt of the bride. The flowers and decorations at the church and the reception were very special to the bride because they were designed by her aunt. Caterer was George's 217. The wedding cake was made by Aunt Bea's Bakery in Tusculumbia and the groom's cake was made by Jill's Sweet Memories. Music for the ceremony was provided by soloist Maria Sullivan of Birmingham, friend of the bride, and DJ C-Lo Cedric Smith of Nashville, Tenn. entertained guests at the reception. Hair stylists were Shatoya Stanley and Shannon Hampton. Photographer was Amanda Chapman and videographer was Genetix Digital Films by Randy Harris of Memphis, Tenn.

Photos by Amanda Chapman





Trousdale, Sprague

On September 16th, 2017, Elise Craig Trousdale and Christopher Ryan Sprague were married in the backyard of Dr. Jennifer Thompson-Davis and Mr. Michael Davis a little before sunset.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. Terry Trousdale and Dr. Jennifer Thompson-Davis of Florence and her husband Mr. Michael Davis of Tupelo. She is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Craig Thompson of Florence, the late Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Trousdale of Florence, and Mr. and Mrs. Gayle Davis of Tupelo, Miss.

The groom is the son of Ms. Tanya Bevis and Mr. Cecil Sprague III and his wife Patricia Sprague of Tuscumbia. He is the grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Sprague Jr. of Cherokee and the late Mr. and Mrs. Grady Bevis of Sheffield.

The bride's brother, Carter Trousdale of Florence, served as her man of honor. The bridesmaids and long time friends were Hillary Eckl of Florence, Virginia Koon and Tanner Kidd of Tupelo. The bride's sister, Mallory Davis of Pontotoc, was a junior bridesmaid.

The best man was Christopher Garland Brown and groomsmen were Brandon Smith and Alec Brown, all long time friends from Florence. Ushers were brother of the bride, McCade Davis of Pontotoc and family friend, Garret Beadle of Baton Rouge.

The bride, escorted by her father and stepfather, wore an ivory over gold gown with intricate layers of lace appliqué over tulle featuring a V-neck top and delicate spaghetti straps embellished with beads and crystals. The bodice was fitted until the natural waist, accented with a Swarovski crystal belt. The back was detailed with illusion fabric and a simple row of covered buttons.

Faye Mann was the wedding director. Kaleidoscope Florist furnished floral arrangements and Jill's Sweet Memories provided the catering and both cakes. The make-up artist was Amy Frye and hair stylist was Angie Archer. Shawn Nix provided music for the ceremony and reception. Photographer was Saving Grace Photography.

After their honeymoon in Europe, the couple now resides in Florence, Ala.

Photos by Saving Grace Photography





Barton, Phillips



Taylor M-Lyn Barton and Austin Hunter Phillips were married July 1, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. at Summit Church in Muscle Shoals with Keith Phillips, brother of the groom, officiating. The reception was held at George's 217 in Sheffield following the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Brian and April Barton and Natalie and Kevin York, all of Muscle Shoals. She is the granddaughter of Joyce Barton and the late Adrian Barton of Muscle Shoals and Joe and Ginger Willis of Tusculumbia.

The groom is the son of Richard and Carleta Phillips of Burnsville, Miss. and Marilyn and Mike Hunter of Muscle Shoals. He is the grandson of the late Judson and Joyce Dunlap and Hiram and Lorene Phillips, all of Rockford.

The bride wore a beautiful long, fitted dress with long sleeves and all over lace detail. The back showcased a see-through lace back with button up detail. The train presented with extra length of lace that flowed on the floor with each movement and was slightly pinned up for a 1920's look. She wore a front sequined belt with a tied bow in the back to bring the fitted waist look together. Her veil was simple but elegant with minor beading around the entire border. Her earrings were in the shapes of feathers with a pearl in the middle of each. The entire ensemble was purchased from Juanita's in Muscle Shoals.

Maid of honor were Ashlon Harkins and Taylor Hendrix, friends of the bride. Bridesmaids were Lexi Phillips, cousin of the groom; Natalie Rikard, Brooke Odle, Sharon Jeffreys, and Jade Uhlman, all friends of the bride; Paige Phillips and Kristin Hunter, sisters-in-law of the bride. Flower girl was Ruth Phillips of Muscle Shoals, niece of the groom.

Best man was the groom's father, Richard Phillips. Groomsmen were Mike Hunter, Step-father of the groom; Patrick Montgomery, Matt York, Steve Stills, all friends of the groom; Andrew Barton, brother of the bride; and David Dunlap, cousin of the groom. Ushers were Ryan York and Austin York, step-brothers of the bride, and Tyler Delano, friend of the bride. Ring bearers were Jeven McDuffy and Jonah McDuffy, nephews.

Wedding director was Kristi Sockwell and floral designer was Cindy Harrison. Caterer was Geoge's Steakhouse and the wedding cake was made by Beth Ledbetter. Instead of a groom's cake, the groom's favorite, Magic City Sweet Ice, was brought in from Birmingham. Entertaining the guests at the reception was the band Style. Hair stylist was Keith Burbank and make-up artist was Corey Nichols. Photographer was Amanda Chapman and videographer was Hannah Roberts. Other special helpers were Kamryn Grissom, Claire Wilcoxson, and Addisyn Wilcoxson.

The couple honeymooned at Sanctuary Cap Cana, a private resort in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic. They are now residing in Muscle Shoals.

Photos by Amanda Chapman



In the beginning, I knew that the two biggest purchases that I was going to make would be my photographer and my band. I made this decision because I wanted everyone to have a wonderful time and to be able to capture the moments perfectly. Our band, Style, is from Mississippi. I'm sure you're wondering how a small home town girl like me found them..well, I saw them perform on campus during my Freshman year at UNA. That night I knew they would be my wedding band and sure enough they were! Amy and the gang were beyond wonderful to work with and they sang songs for ALL ages! Our photographer, Amanda Chapman, captured our weekend so perfectly that it is beyond words. Her work is stunning and I knew from the beginning that my budget would work around her prices! After I decided my two biggest purchases, it was easy to budget everything else. Dress, videographer, floral, cake, wedding coordinator, etc.



Advice for upcoming brides?

- Don't begin looking into or buying anything until you have a set budget! If you do, then you could become disappointed by not being able to afford something.
- Do what you and your husband want to do! Family can become stressful at times and it is NOT POSSIBLE to please everyone. Stay on your budget and your path and everything will be perfect!
- PINTEREST IS YOUR FRIEND. I planned my entire reception décor around an outdoorsy, semi-formal look. There are so many easy DIY ideas that you can do yourself or with family. I had many nights with friends and family looking at ideas and developing a plan. It was such a stress-free way to relax and take some time to enjoy myself and the company of others.



Tabbs, Miller



Brandie Blanton Tabbs and James Joseph Miller were married July 28, 2017 at 6:00 in the evening at George's 217 in Sheffield.

The bride is the daughter of Richard and Donna Blanton of Red Bay and Belinda Lisenby and Bobby Taylor of Belmont, Miss. She is the granddaughter of Janet Wright of Red Bay, RC Blanton of Vina, the late Barbara Addy of Decatur, and the late Joseph Lisenby of Mobile.

The groom is the son of Gail McKee of Red Bay and the late Anderson Miller of Vina. He is the grandson Dorothy Lofton, and the late James and Lealer Miller of Vina.

The bride chose a white Maggie Sottero gown with a matching white veil and carried a bouquet of white and purple roses.

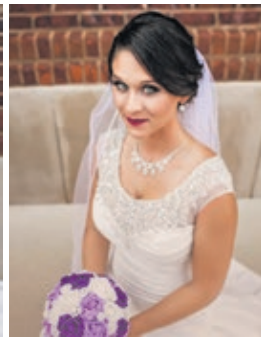
Maid of honor was Britney Blanton, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Alexis Tabbs, daughter of the bride; Mallori Miller and Alexandria Miller, daughters of the groom; and Jessica Pickle, friend of the bride. Flower girls were LiliAnna Nelson and Isabelle Nelson, nieces.

Best man was Ross Barker, friend of the groom. Groomsmen were Ethan Blanton, brother of the bride; David Holland and Javier Ambrosio, friends of the groom; and Nicholas Miller, son of the groom. Ring bearer was Brayden Tabbs, son of the bride.

Wedding director was Piper. The reception was held at George's 217. The wedding and groom's cakes were made by Sherry Hutcheson. DJ Nate Slaughter provided music for the ceremony and the reception. Hair stylist was long time friend of the bride, Sally Hester of Red Bay, and make-up artist was Nicki Smith. Photographer was April Warhurst. Guest book attendant was Kayla Blanton and Thomas Long assisted the bride with last minute preparations.

The couple spent their honeymoon in Florida, stopping in Panama City Beach, then onto Orlando to visit Universal Studios, then to Destin, and then on up Florida coast. They are now residing in Red Bay.

Photos by Bluebirds Redbirds



McKinney, Pool



Nealea Anna McKinney and Barry Lawayne Pool were married May 6, 2017 in a beautiful outdoor ceremony held at Robert Trent Jones of The Shoals with Timothy Murray officiating. The reception followed at RTJ.

The bride is the daughter of Edward and Sarah McKinney of Red Bay. She is the granddaughter of the late Neal and Esta Lee Page and the late Houston and Eddie Lou McKinney, all of Red Bay.

The groom is the son of Barry E. and Karen Pool of Wolf Springs, Ala. He is the grandson of the late Wayne and Ann Harrison of Leighton, and Bernice Pool and the late Eugene Pool of Wolf Springs.

The bride was given in marriage by her father, Edward McKinney. She wore a formal designer gown from the Signature Collection of designer Justin Alexander purchased at The Something Blue Shoppe in Hartselle. The light ivory gown of silk organza was strapless and fashioned with a molded bodice with a sweetheart neckline. The full ballgown skirt fell from the natural waist, which was encircled with a silk fabric sash. Her royal length veil of imported silk was edged with a narrow ribbon of silk-satin. The bride's jewelry included a diamond and gemstone heirloom bracelet in memory of her late grandmother. She carried a bouquet of white peonies.

A memory candle was lit for the bride and groom's late grandparents and close relatives.

Matron of honor was Rachel Ingle, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Brooke Pool Corsbie, sister of the groom; Lauren Williams Taylor, Shelby Childers, and Caitlin Childers Beam, friends of the bride; and Aubrey Ingle, niece of the bride. Junior bridesmaid was Emma McKinney, niece of the bride. Flower girls were Ellie Corsbie, niece of the groom, Maggie Pool and Madeline Pool, cousins of the groom.

Best man was the groom's father, Barry E. Pool. Groomsmen were Matthew Corsbie, brother-in-law of the groom; Jon McKinney, brother of the bride; Austin Harrison, Will Russell, and Jake Rutherford, friends of the groom. Ushers were Elijah Ingle and Cade McKinney, nephews of the bride. Ring bearers were Jack Pool, cousin of the groom, and Jase Corsbie, nephew of the groom.

Guest book and program attendant was Jodi Page, cousin of the bride.

Wedding director was Lauren Boston and floral designer was Carmalita Coan. Ceremony and reception music was provided by Universal Events and Production Services, along with Candid Memories Photo Booth Rentals at the reception. The wedding cake was made by Amy's Cakes and the groom's cake was made by the groom's mother. Hair stylist was Amber Bohannon. Photographer was Blush Imagery.

The couple is now residing in Wolf Springs, Ala.

Photos by Blush Imagery





Jones, Harper

Tara Leanne Jones and Jordan Ryan Harper were married August 26, 2017 at 5:00 in the afternoon at North Wood United Methodist Church in Florence with Jim Lampley and Jerry Ross officiating. A reception was held at Sweetwater Depot following the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter Keith and Lana Jones of Florence. The groom is the son of Ron and Denice Harper of Haleyville.

The bride was escorted by her father. She chose a Maggie Sottero designed gown from Promenade in Tuscumbia. It was an ivory A-line dress with a sweetheart neckline and lace motifs beaded with crystals and pearls. Vintage pearl buttons from her grandmother's collection were added to the back of the dress. She wore a veil made by her grandmother that was also worn by her mother on her wedding day.

Matron of honor was Cassidy Beavers. Bridesmaids were Caitlan Daniel, Morgan Guthrie, Megan Beck, Lauchlan Smith, Leslie Hicks, Victoria Scott, and Kylie Harper. Junior bridesmaid was Bailey Coleman, and flower girl was Kynleigh Harper, niece of the groom. Guest book attendant was Emily Stevenson.

Best man was the groom's father, Ron Harper. Groomsmen were Bradley Tedford, Tyler Mills, Blake Burselson, Trey Dobbs, Trent Spain, Matt Fannin, and Dylan Box. Ring bearer was Riley Coleman, cousin of the bride.

Wedding director/coordinator was Terry Brown of Kiss the Bride. Floral designer was the bride's mother, Lana Jones. Caterer was Jill's Sweet Memories, who also made the wedding cakes. The pianist was Chris Thomas and the DJ was Grayson Brown. Bridesmaid's attire was from David's Bridal, and the groom and groomsmen's suits were from Coat's Clothing. Makeup and hair were done by Deana Putman and Rachel Fry of Textür. Photographer was Create Portraiture and videographer was Rebekah Kimbrell of Milestone Films.

The couple spent their honeymoon in Charleston and Hilton Head, S.C. and are now residing in Killen.

We were engaged at the Huntsville Botanical Gardens on July 16, 2016 in a beautiful gazebo surrounded by colorful flowers. Kevin and Caitlin Daniel accompanied us and took pictures. Jordan got down on one knee and ended up with muddy pants, muddy shoes, and a fiancé. It was raining when he proposed. I am so thankful he did!

Thank you to everyone who helped make this day so special. Big thank you to our family, friends, and vendors for everything! Thank you for helping us decorate, sharing this day with us, and giving us kind words and well wishes that we will cherish forever. We are so grateful!



Raney, Sherrod




HANK SHERROD
CIVIL RIGHTS TRIAL LAWYER
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Robyn Raney and Hank Sherrod were married March 3, 2017 at the law office of Henry F. Sherrod III, P.C. with Andy Keyse of Trinity Episcopal officiating. The couple's dog, Atticus, was included in the ceremony.

The bride wore a retro shift dress with contemporary lace patterns and semi-transparent sleeves, along with mustard colored heels and a custom made birdcage veil from The White Room in Birmingham. The groom wore a custom Billy Reid suit.

The couple took a Boutique Air flight out of Muscle Shoals to Atlanta, Ga. where they stayed at The St. Regis for their honeymoon. They are now residing in Florence.

A wedding reception was held May 20, 2017 at Singing River Brewery in Florence. Catering the event was Bonnet Catering in Lexington and Jane Ellen Shumate of Birmingham made the wedding cake. Lola's Flowers of Sheffield designed all the floral arrangements. The couple had a caricature artist at the reception drawing caricatures of the guests for take home gifts. The band Deja Vu provided the entertainment. Patti Clark of Hairology, friend of the bride, was the hair stylist. Rebekah Bevis Handley was the photographer.

Photos by Rebekah Photography





*Bradley,
Lee*





Tori Bradley and Cody Lee were married September 30, 2017 in a 6:00 evening ceremony held at St. Florian Fiber Farm with David McCullough officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Sandy Bradley and Anthony Bradley, both of Florence. She is the granddaughter of Robert Witt and the late Jeanette Witt of Florence, and Joyce Bradley and the late Ray Bradley of Muscle Shoals.

The groom is the son of Wendy Lee of Haleyville. He is the grandson of Linda Hickman and the late Jim Hickman of Haleyville.

The bride chose a formal, heavily beaded, metallic embroidered lace over organza A-line gown that featured a soft sweetheart neckline with added beautiful corded lace cap sleeves. The gown was finished with crystal and tulle covered buttons that extended down the chapel length train. Her waltz length veil was made of imported French tulle and was edged with metallic silk threads with matching appliques and was held in place by a pearl and rhinestone headpiece.

Maid of honor was Lexie Bradley, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Kristy Thompson Darby of Muscle Shoals, cousin of the bride; Elena Chowning of Kihai, Hawaii, Marissa Goins Weaver of Birmingham, and Jordan Humphrey of Florence, all friends of the bride. Flower girl was Alivia McCormack of Muscle Shoals, cousin of the bride.

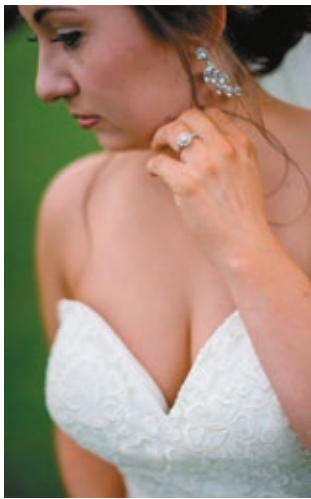
Best man was Chase Lee, brother of the groom. Groomsmen were Houston Hilliard of Phil Campbell, Blake Baggett and David McCandless of Haleyville, all friends of the groom.

Wedding director was Terri Brown. Floral designer was Cindy Harrison. The reception was held at St. Florian Fiber Farm and was catered by Becky O'Kellely, who also made the wedding cakes. Music for the ceremony was played by the String Trio - Christina Stomackin, Heather Olsen, and Kasey Wasson. DJ Grayson Brown entertained guests at the reception. Guest book attendant was Rhea Goins Lorick. Hair stylist was Scott Bradley and make-up artist was Monica Aday. Photographer was Jessica Rumble and videographer was Rebekah Kimbrell.

After a honeymoon cruise to Cozumel and the Cayman Islands, the couple is now residing in Russellville.

Photos by Jessica Rumble





Dupuy, Brown

Anna Catherine Dupuy and Heath Brown were married June 10, 2017 in a 2:00 afternoon ceremony at Cornerstone Church of Christ in Florence with Patrick Adam officiating. A reception followed at the church.

The bride is the daughter of Arvy and Debbie Dupuy of Florence. She is the granddaughter of Glenn Dupuy and Carolyn Winstead, and special grandfriend of Lillie Fort.

The groom is the son of Jason and Sarah White of Florence and Gary and Genevra Brown of Walnut Grove, Tenn. He is the grandson of Ruby Brown, Evon Porier, and Wanda White.

The bride was escorted by her father. She wore a beautiful white strapless gown with a fingertip veil from Cherry Tree Lane in Florence. She carried a bouquet of colorful wild flowers.

Maid of honor was Jenna Sutherland, sister of the bride, and matron of honor was NaShay Taliaferro, sister of the groom. Bridesmaids were Maggie Reams, cousin of the bride; Jasana White, sister of the groom; Janet Arny, Harper Gillreath, and Haley Warren, all friends of the bride. Flower girl was Paisley Taliaferro, niece of the groom.

Best man was Derek Phillips, best friend and cousin of the groom. Groomsmen were Cadan White, brother of the groom; Stephen Taliaferro, brother-in-law of the groom; Cody Vinson and Hayden Floyd, friends of the groom; and Zach Reams, cousin of the bride. Ring bearer was Nolyn Phillips, cousin of the groom.

Wedding director was Sheena Burgreen and wedding coordinator was the bride's mother, Debbie Dupuy. Floral designer was Will & Dee's Florist of Florence. Caterer was Debbie Neal. Jill's Sweet Memories made the wedding cake and Dozen Bakery of Savannah, Tenn. made the groom's cake. Music for the ceremony was provided by Lights & Sound by Doug Cole. Hair stylist and make-up artist was Deanna Putnam of Tuxtür Salon. Photographer was Rebekah Smith.

After a honeymoon in Orlando, Fla. at Universal Studios and Panama City Beach, Fla., the couple is now residing in the Central community of Florence.





Parker, Dowdy

Laura Leigh Parker and Jeffrey Wade Dowdy were married July 29, 2017 at 4:00 in the afternoon at First Christian Church in Florence with Reverend James Storie and Mr. Dale Hubbert, brother-in-law of the groom, officiating. The reception followed at Sweetwater Depot.

The bride is the daughter of Helen Holcombe Parker of Waterloo and the late Charles Parker. The groom is the son of Charles and Kathleen Dowdy of Waterloo.

Matron of honor was Susan White Burroughs, friend of the bride. Bridal attendants were Paige Parker of Woodville, sister-in-law of the bride, and Avery Parker of Woodville, niece of the bride. Junior bridesmaid was Olivia Parker of Woodville, niece of the bride.

Best man was Dr. Paul Fry, friend of the groom. Groomsmen were Nelson Parker of Woodville, brother of the bride, Corey Robison of Killen, nephew of the groom, and Easton Parker, nephew of the bride.

Wedding director and floral designer was Cindy Causey Harrison. Caterer was Becky O'Kelley of Creative Catering and the cakes were made by Amy's Cakes. Timothy Gilligan, pianist, and Rachel Wammack, soloist, provided music for the ceremony. Entertaining guests at the reception was Fine Era Productions. Hair stylists were Janea Burnside and Susie Hamm. Make-up artist was Janea Burnside. Photographer was Rebekah Photography and videographer was Studio 318.

Photos by Rebekah Photography





Bride's Attire Details:

The bride selected a mermaid gown, of tulle and organza, that featured a sweetheart neckline and lace illusion top. The gown had 3/4 length sleeves and a low illusion back decorated with lace appliques, back button closure, and a chapel length train. The gown was designed by Venus Bridal. The Bel Aire diamond white cathedral length veil had a silver rolled edge accented with sparkling Ab crystals. The bride also chose a Bel Aire rhinestone headband to accent her veil. The bride chose ivory duchesse silk peep toe platform pumps with Swarovski crystal trimming by Benjamin Adams London. The bride's gown, veil, shoes, and accessories were selected at The Something Blue Shoppe in Hartselle, Alabama. Gown alterations were completed by Alterations by Faith, also in Hartselle.

Bridal Attendants Attire Details:

The bridal attendants wore Christina Wu Celebrations full-length capri blue chiffon gowns with V-necklines leading into a pleated bust and center complete with a chiffon flounce in the back. The gowns were from Mary's Bridal and Formal Wear in Moulton, Alabama. The junior bridesmaid wore an A-line/Princess V-Neck Floor-Length chiffon gown with ruffle in sky blue.

Groom and Groomsman Attire Details:

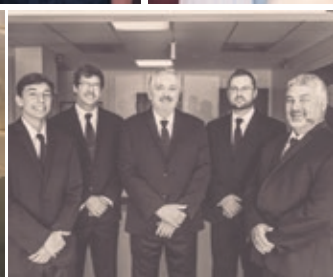
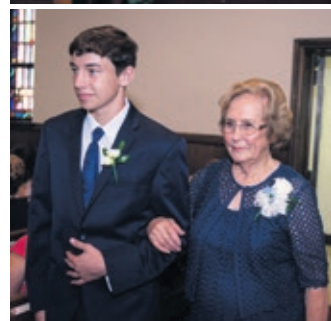
The groom and groomsmen wore Michael Kors Navy Sterling Wedding Suits from Cherry Tree Lane Bridal and Formal Boutique on North Court Street in Florence.

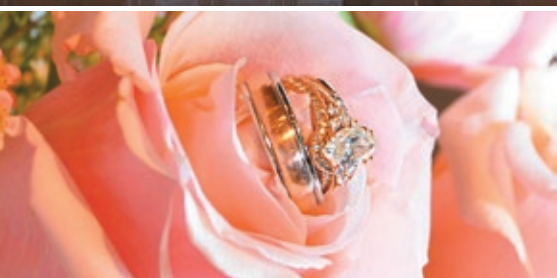
Special Parties Prior to the Wedding:

- A rehearsal dinner for the wedding party was hosted on the evening prior to the wedding by Charles and Kathleen Dowdy, the groom's parents, at City Hardware on North Court Street in Florence. Floral arrangements for the rehearsal dinner were provided by Barbara Burke, friend of the bride.

Fun Details from Our Wedding Day:

- Laura was baptized at First Christian Church as a teenager.
- Jeff's brother-in-law, Dale Hubbert, shared scripture from Laura's grandmother's Bible during the service as he spoke about the significance of the uniting of the two families before Reverend James Storie performed the marriage ceremony.
- The groom blessed the food before the meal at the reception that was catered by Creative Catering. Guests were served smoked chicken breasts and pork tenderloin with bacon, green beans, mashed potatoes, and salad. The bride's mother, Helen Parker, also made homemade lemonade for guests. The groom chose a chocolate hexagon cake for the groom's table. The bride and groom also chose a multi-layered wedding cake that featured lemon, strawberry, chocolate, and white layers.
- July 29th was an unseasonably cool summer day. It also coincided with the W.C. Handy Music Festival in the Shoals Area. The newlyweds were chauffeured from First Christian Church to Sweetwater Depot for the wedding reception in a 1985 Rolls-Royce Corniche. The couple left the wedding reception with the top down and a floral sign reading "Just Married" on the back of the car. Jeff and Laura enjoyed an hour long ride around the Shoals, filled with smiles, waves, and shouts of "Congratulations!" from the crowds who were celebrating the Handy Festival. "Jeff and I feel like we had our own parade as we cruised around town as husband and wife. We could not stop smiling!" The couple would like to thank Sweetwater Depot for the car rental. It was a fun way to end the wedding festivities! They also want to thank everyone who took part in their wonderful wedding day. Jeff and Laura expressed how grateful they are for the support of their family and friends!





Jewett, Sibley

Tamara Len'A Jewett and Nicholas James Sibley were united in marriage in a candlelight ceremony on April 22, 2017 at First Presbyterian Church in Tuscumbia with the Rev. Dr. Randy Thompson officiating.

Tamara is the daughter of Mrs. Belinda Terry and Mr. Brian Jewett of Florence. Nicholas is the son of Ms. Kimberly Norris of Florence and Mr. James Sibley of Russellville.

The church was decorated in beautiful blush, cream and pink roses, greenery and candles. Classical and traditional music was played by organist Elizabeth Counts of Muscle Shoals. Soloist Jennifer McCarter of Nashville, Tenn. performed "In This Very Room" by Ron Harris.

Escorted by her father, the bride chose a romantic blush ball gown of champagne soft satin with a strapless sweetheart neckline. The gown featured delicate appliques, encrusted with Swarovski crystal beading covering the bodice, meeting a dropwaist hooped, ivory tulle skirt. She wore a cathedral length, Margeaux tulle veil, encrusted with Swarovski crystals. Tamara also wore a pearl necklace and bracelet, a gift from the groom's mother. She carried a cascading bouquet of orchids.

Attending the bride as maid of honor was Celia Elizabeth Burgess of Florence. Bridesmaids were Elizabeth LeAnne Sibley of Florence, sister of the groom, and Alana Kristin Norris of Tuscaloosa, cousin of the groom. The flower girl was Abigail Kay Glover, daughter of the bride. The attendants wore floor length gowns of muted silver grey chiffon and held bouquets of blush and cream roses. Abigail wore a tea length white satin gown with a muted silver grey sash at the waist.

Groomsmen were Ramsey Alex Harris of Sheffield, who served the groom as best man, along with Jeremiah Edward Jewett of Florence, brother of the bride, and Steven Ray Nix, also of Florence.

Following the ceremony, a reception was held at Turtle Point Yacht and Country Club, which was decorated with beautiful arrangements of blush, cream and white roses, greenery, pillar candles and tealights, all arranged by Lola's Flowers of Sheffield. After a delicious dinner, music was provided by The Midnighters during which the groom, a long time percussionist, performed a drum solo along with the group. The four tiered wedding cake, decorated with blush and cream roses, and groom's cake with chocolate ganache and topped with Reece Cups, the groom's favorite candy, along with champagne was enjoyed by the guests.

After dancing and celebrating, the couple departed in a crimson red convertible Jaguar under a shower of sparklers for their honeymoon in Orlando, Fla. at Disneyworld. The couple will make their home in Sheffield where the groom is employed and serves as Vice President of Sibley Oil Company.



Spurgeon, Grant



Celena Spurgeon and Thomas Grant were married September 16, 2017 at 6:15 in the evening with Pastor Greg Woodall officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Todd and Kathy Spurgeon of Muscle Shoals. The groom is the son of Tommy and Michelle Grant of Muscle Shoals.

The bride chose an Allure Romance Collection bridal gown in lace, sparkle tulle, and English net of gold, ivory, nude, and silver.

Matron of honor was Kathy Hyde Spurgeon, mother of the bride. Bridesmaids were Kiersten Spurgeon, Grace Askins, and Alyssa Foster. Flower girl was Alaina Askins.

Best man was the groom's father, Tommy Grant. Groomsman were Eric Fritts, Cody Pigg, and Jacob Spurgeon.

Floral designer was Lisa Hammond of Duggar's Florist. Caterer was Rickey Hannah of Whole Hog and the wedding cakes were made by Wendy Burns Weeks. Shelley Boatwright Johnson coordinated the ceremony. Hair stylist and make-up artist were Meagan and Hillary Tucker. Photographer was Brittney Vickers of Jo Dee Marie Photography.

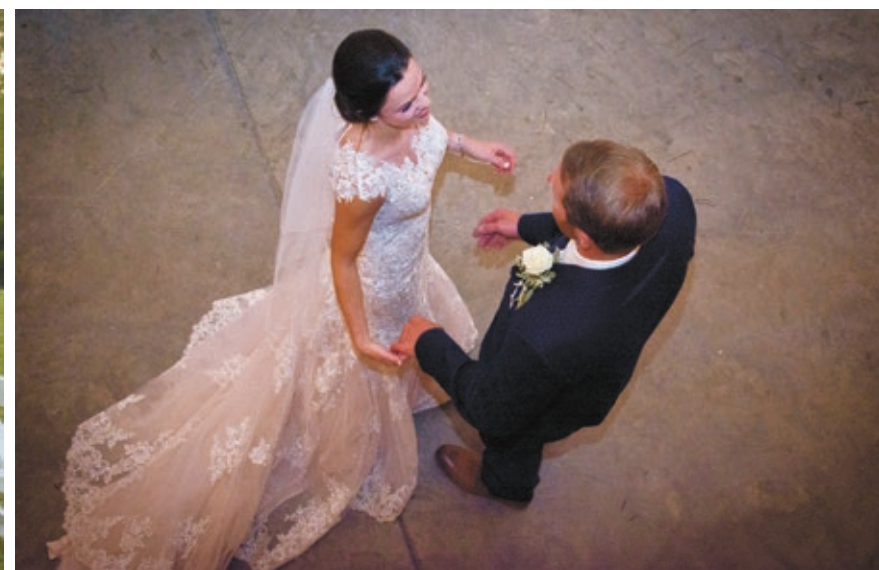
After a honeymoon in the quiet Cape San Blas in Port Saint Joe, the couple is now at home in Courtland.

Celena and Thomas had a venue that they will be able to call their home in just a few short months – a home that they've deemed as "Grant Estate". The groom had always dreamed of saying his vows to his wife on the front porch of his home, and his dreams came true on September 16, 2017. Although the construction on their new home was far from over, the bride and groom agreed that getting married at another venue wouldn't be as special to either of them. The building of a home is eerily similar to the beginning of a marriage – the foundation has to be solid, the walls must be strong and resilient, and the heart of the home must always rest in the hands of the Lord – just like a marriage. The ceremony was held on the front porch of their new home with tulle covering the unfinished, unstained front doors and freshly laid sod masking the dirt that was there just 24 hours prior to the couple saying, "I do". The windows showed the electrical wire, the wooden studs that would soon become walls, and countless other imperfections that are all part of building a home, and the bride and groom wouldn't have had it any other way.

Celena and Thomas also had a very special bridal party composed of both Celena's mother as the matron of honor and Thomas's father as the best man. Before even discussing the bridal party, both had already known who they were going to ask to stand beside them on their special day. Celena and her mother, Kathy, are very close and Celena couldn't imagine anyone else as her matron of honor. The same goes for Thomas and his father, Tommy. "Having my mom be the one to fluff my dress, hold my bouquet, plan wedding showers, give me away alongside my father, and countless other matron of honor duties, in a sense, represented her final task of raising children – like all of her hard work of raising a family had paid off, and now she can sit back, relax, and watch her family grow. However, I made sure to remind her that her title of 'mom' would remain forever – no matter what my last name was." Thomas stated "My dad is my best friend. We like the same things, we look just alike, and I didn't know it, but my grandfather was my dad's best man also. It was an honor for me to have him stand beside me on our wedding day because he knows me better than anyone, and it felt like I was carrying on a Grant family tradition in a very unique way."

As mentioned previously, Celena and Thomas were married at their home that they are currently building together. Between the two white columns on their front porch lay four bricks that were strategically placed where the bride and groom stood when they stated their vows to one another. The bricks were left on the family's property from Thomas's grandfather and were placed by the groom in the cement when the foundation of the porch was poured a month prior to the wedding – along with a Bible. In their vows, the bride and groom stated to make those four bricks a place to gather when life gets rough. A place to go to feel the presence of their Lord and Savior and the bond that He formed between them. A place to go to celebrate one another. A place to go when they're old and gray. Those four bricks will remain in the porch forever, just like the vows will remain between Celena and Thomas until their Father calls them both home.

Photos by Jo Dee Marie Photography





Cole, Proctor



Rachel Cole and Dane Proctor were married November 18, 2017 in a 4:00 afternoon ceremony at Ava's Place in Florence with Michael McWaters, friend of the couple, officiating. The reception followed at Ava's Place.

The bride is the daughter of Rena Cole and the late Grant Cole of Columbiana. She is the granddaughter of Irene Cole and the late Frank Cole of Columbiana and Shirley Ash and the late Lloyd Ash of Marysville, Pa.

The groom is the son of Eddie and Alice Proctor of Florence. He is the grandson of Virginia Proctor and the late William and Joyce Wilkinson, all of Florence.

The bride chose a long white strapless gown with matching veil from David's Bridal in Birmingham.

Maid of honor was Ashlee Cole, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Gabbi Wilson of Atmore, Jessica Ennis of Florence, Courtney Watkins of Madison, all friends of the bride; and Brittany Proctor of Florence, sister of the groom. Flower girl was Amy Lee and ring bearer was Anna Lee, both friends of the bride from Shelby, Ala.

Best man was Taylor Belew, friend of the groom. Groomsmen were Colby Dow and Michael Allen of Florence, Matt Allen of Huntsville, all friends of the groom; and A.J. Cole of Columbiana, brother of the bride.

Wedding director and floral designer was Sonja Chapin, with help from her daughter, Shelli Morse. Caterer was Jill's Sweet Memories, who also made the wedding cake. Hair stylist and make-up artist was Patti Smith of Seventh Heaven Salon in Columbiana. Photographer was Heather Sherrill of Create Portraiture, and videographer was Awaken Films.

"My dad passed away last year, so it was really important for me to do something special in his memory. We were able to use his firefighter name badge (borrowed) and an old shirt sleeve (blue) on my bouquet. I also had a boutonniere made to carry with me and set in his place with a photo during the ceremony. This way he still was with me as I walked down the aisle."

The couple honeymooned in Gatlinburg, Tenn. and are now residing in Florence.

Photos by Create Portraiture





Fite, McClendon

Burgoyne Fite and Fuller McClendon were married April 22, 2017 at 6:00 in the evening at First Bible Church in Decatur with Pastor Steve Bateman officiating. A reception followed at Ingalls Harbor in Decatur.

The bride is the daughter of Jack and Laura Fite of Decatur. She is the granddaughter of Jim and Beverly Fite and Susan Horton and the late Robert Horton, all of Decatur.

The groom is the son of Hugh and Lisa McClendon of Auburn. He is the grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. Glen Raymond, the late Ms. Carol Lunday, and the late Mr. Robert Lunday.

The bride chose a white strapless lace gown from Carriage House Weddings in Birmingham, along with shoes by Badgley Mischka. She also wore earrings belonging to her mother, that were made from a pendant she received from her father, and a bracelet that was a gift from her father on the morning of the wedding.

Maid of honor was Sarah Fite, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Mary Virginia Colvert, Emily Suggs, Helen Franklin, Mary Caroline Davis, Eleanor Hunt, Sara Elise Ham, Kate Petrusnek, Alexis Tottin, Amy Borders, all friends of the bride; Maddox Wise, cousin of the bride; Lunday McClendon and Kirby McClendon, sisters of the groom. Flower girls were Hodges Newton and Josephine Filipiak, cousins of the bride.

Best man was the groom's father, Hugh McClendon, Sr. Groomsmen were Spencer McClendon, brother of the groom; Jackson Fite, brother of the bride; Tag Mosholder, Matt Harris, Kobi Ankumah, Ben Bolt, Josh Carter, Rush Hill, Harry Harring, and Clay Clark, all friends of the groom. Ring bearers were James Passage Newton and Roch Filipiak, cousins of the bride.

Wedding director was Ashley Ashwander of Paper Chase Weddings. Floral designers were Kristin Burnette and Kathy Clay. Caterer was Kathy G Catering of Birmingham. The wedding cake was made by the bride's cousin, Kathryn Bussey Filipiak, and the groom's cake was made by Jordan Adcock. Music for the ceremony was provided by Jacob Frank String Quartet, along with Ally Burgess and Ben Hodge. The band City Heat entertained guests at the reception, with the bride's high school friend, Ella Cauthen, singing the first dance song. Hair stylist was Meghan Sherrill and make-up artist was Haley Harris of The Harris Company. Photographer was Cathrine Taylor and videographer was Evan Smith of Four:10 Films.

The couple honeymooned at Hermitage Bay in Antigua, and are now residing in Birmingham.





- Ashley Ashwander, The Paper Chase in Decatur, AL assisted with all paper (invitation, save the date, program) she also put together the welcome boxes for all out of town guest.
- Rehearsal dinner and pictures/getting ready before the ceremony were at The Sexton Building in Decatur on the river. This was special to me because the Sexton's are great family friends (they were nice enough to let us use their building) AND I grew up on the river, spending many days taking friends out on the boat and teaching them to water ski. I loved being able to show my out of town friends the river.
- Rehearsal dinner catered by Curry's (Decatur)
- AG Lighting, out of Birmingham, AL, made a huge impact. The reception venue did not offer dimmed lighting, so we opted for professional lighting to get the lighting JUST right-which made a big difference in the overall look and feel of the reception. AG also provided the large "halo" chandelier that hung over the dance floor.
- Our goal with the wedding was to use as many local vendors as possible. Decatur is a small town, but has numerous talented people that were able to make our day a huge success. The day would not have been possible without Ashley Ashwander (planner) and Kristin Burnette and Kathy Gray (Kathleen's on 2nd Ave). Kristin and Kathy did ALL of the flowers, and helped us understand the overall layout and design of the reception.
- Fuller and I chose not to see each other before the ceremony which made walking down the aisle even more special- we loved it!
- The ceremony was extremely special, one of my favorite worship songs, "What a Beautiful name" was sung as a duet right before I walked down the aisle.
- When guest entered the reception, the entry was lined with real trees (from Hannah's Lawn Service), this helped make the room feel smaller and provided a unique element to the design.
- Fuller is from Auburn, AL and we both graduated from Auburn University. We wanted to find way to incorporate our love for Auburn into the reception- we opted for Auburn shakers and orange and blue neon ice "cubes" that were put into drinks later in the night.
- We wanted a fun way to end the reception, and chose to rent a confetti machine to surprise guest on the dance floor during the last song- it was a huge hit!!!
- Our first dance was one of my favorite parts of the night- our wedding band, City Heat, learned one of my favorite songs "Part of Me" by Tedeschi Trucks band, and my friend from Decatur High School, Ella Cauthen, sang it. It was very special.
- The morning of the wedding, there was a brunch hosted at The Decatur Country Club for out of town guest. I loved having this breakfast because it gave out of town guest a chance to get to know one another- and something to do!
- Bruch hosted by: Sherry Fite, Jane Fite, Beverly Fite, Kim Fite, Beth Fite Bussey, Betty Sims, Gay Barran, Jodie Faith, Lea King, Susan Tate
- Bridesmaids luncheon (hosted by my aunts and grandmother: Mary Kramer, Emily Morrow, Mary Nelms Parsons, Nan Rosa, Susan Horton, and Marshall Wise) was held at Albany Bistro
- Best advice for brides:
- Enjoy planning, but most importantly enjoy the time you get to spend with the people you love during your wedding weekend. Things will go wrong, but ultimately not matter what happens, it will be the best weekend of your life!
- My worst fear was that it would rain on our wedding- IT POURED!!! And everything was still perfect!





Stephenson, Bosse



Meeda Russell Stephenson and Jonathan Paul Bosse were married May 27, 2017 in a 6:00 evening ceremony at First Baptist Church of Hartselle with Dr. Rev. Ron Wilson and Rev. Clayton Speed officiating. A reception followed at the home of the bride's parents.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Stephenson of Hartselle. She is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. W.L. Murphy and the late Mr. and Mrs. James H. Stephenson, all of Hartselle.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Scott Bosse of Huntsville. He is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Bosse of Knoxville, Tenn., and Mrs. Virginia Gray and the late Mr. John Marshall Gray of Murray, Ky.

Meeda and Jonathan wanted their wedding to be "uniquely theirs." Specifically, they wanted lots of family and friends involved. Their close friend, Rev. Dr. Ron Wilson, performed the wedding ceremony. The bride's aunt and cousin both sang during the ceremony. The groom's brother performed during the first dance at the reception. The bride wore a necklace during the ceremony that her great-grandmother, Meeda T. Kidd, wore in her wedding ceremony. All four of the parents of the bride and groom (rather than just the father of the bride) "gave the couple away" during the ceremony. Melva Brown, Debra Harvel, and Maggie Parr provided a gourmet lunch for the bridesmaids. The groom's mother is an artist and provided all the signs for the event.

They also wanted to incorporate things that reflected them, specifically. The groom plays trumpet, so Chad Scarborough played trumpet during the ceremony. The groom's grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Bosse, are excellent wood workers and built the Unity Cross used during the ceremony and the initial wedding cake topper. Both items are now displayed in the couple's home. In lieu of a groom's cake, the couple chose the groom's favorite dessert, homemade ice cream for the groom's table. We were thrilled that Dylan Jackson from Pine Ridge agreed to bring the ice cream cart. They chose the bride's family home for the reception because it allowed guests to tour what would be Meeda and Jonathan's future home.

Meeda and Jonathan also wanted a few "special touches." The bride's father, George Stephenson, coordinated a fireworks display which was set off remotely from the island of a large pond near the reception tent. The groom built the pergola decorated by In Bloom and used during the ceremony. The pergola is now enjoyed by the pond at the couple's home. They also wanted the trees lining the driveway lit and were happy to find Steve Metz from Metropolitan Disc Jockey Service to perform that service. A special dance by the groom and his mother and another by the groomsmen were enjoyed by reception guests. A friend of the groom's family provided a vintage car for the get-away car.

With 400 attending, the services of Trey Summerford, the "Day of Coordinator" were invaluable. They provided a variety of services such as starting the fuse for the fireworks, putting the table cloths on the tables, interacting with all the vendors, taking care of sparklers for the send off, and even wrapping and preserving the top layer of the wedding cake!

Photos by Seventeenth & Pear





Grace, Eady

Mallorie Grace and Josh Eady were married June 17, 2017 in a 11:00 a.m. ceremony at Ned Frazier Park with Brittney Shippee officiating. A reception followed at Curry's on Johnston Street.

The bride is the daughter of Clay Grace and Angela Grace, both of Jasper. She is the granddaughter of Douglas and Candice Grace of Jasper and Sam and Elaine York of Manchester, Tenn.

The groom is the son of Chris Eady of Decatur and Nancy Holmes of Gardendale. He is the grandson of Phil and Jane Rogers of Cordova and the late Harold and Jeanie Eady of Oakman.

The bride was escorted by her father. She wore a white satin strapless gown and carried a bouquet of red roses.

Maid of honor was Christina Lyons of Jasper, cousin of the bride. Bridesmaids were Sydney Murphy of Las Vegas, Nev., friend of the bride; Allison Niedziela, step-mother, of Palatka, Fla.; and Emily Grace of Jasper, cousin of the bride. Flower girls were Miss Kenzie Grace of Jasper, sister of the bride, and Rainie Burroughs of Cordova, cousin of the groom.

Best man was Cade Wates of Jasper, friend of the groom. Groomsmen were Caleb Kilpatrick of Jasper, Dalton Robinson of Tuscaloosa, and Chris Herzig of Orange Beach, Fla., all friends of the groom.

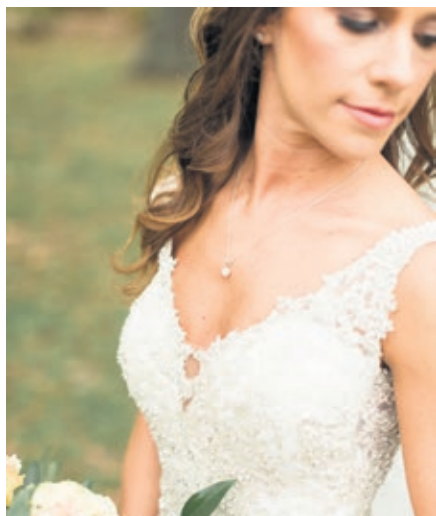
Wedding director was Angela Elsea and floral designer was Kim Blankenship. Caterer was Curry's on Johnston Street and the cakes were made by Joann Blackwell. Hair stylist and make-up artist was Emily Lorange at The French Door. Photographer was Rick Grainger.

The couple will be residing in Misawa, Japan.

Photos by Rick Grainger



*Cain,
Ford*



Olivia Cain and Caleb Ford were married October 21, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. at First Bible Church of Decatur with Dr. Steve Bateman officiating. The reception followed at The Magnolia Room.

The bride is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Louis Ray Cain of Decatur. She is the granddaughter of Mrs. Ethel Weathersby and the late Mack Weathersby of Clinton, Miss., and Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Allen Cain of Flowood, Miss.

The groom is the son of David Ford and Tammy Ford, both of Decatur. He is the grandson of Mrs. Phyllis Ford of Pascagoula, Miss.

The bride chose an elegant lace on tulle A-line designer wedding gown by Stella York that featured a bodice with a plunging neckline and a silver diamante-encrusted grosgrain ribbon belt.

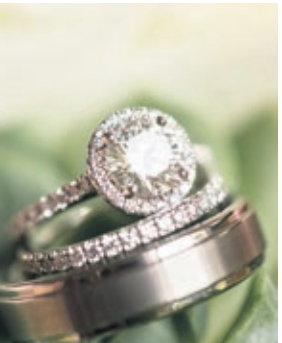
Matrons of honor were Blair Foster, twin sister of the bride, and Erica Tucker, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Katelyn Wasser of Montgomery, friend of the bride; Michelle Adams of Montgomery, Melissa Ford of Atlanta, Ga., Magan Bussiere of Spring, Texas, all sisters of the groom; and Allison Kirkpatrick of New Orleans, La., friend of the bride.

Best men were Bobby Foster, friend and brother-in-law of the groom, and Lee Thibodeaux, friend of the groom. Groomsmen were David Ford of Decatur, father of the groom; Drew Ford of Pascagoula, Miss., cousin of the groom; Preston Adams of Montgomery and Ryan Bussiere of Spring, Texas, brothers-in-law of the groom; and Cody Vollmer of New Orleans, La.

Wedding director was Earlene Baker and floral designer was Simpson's Florist. Caterer was Curry's on Johnston Street. Music was provided by Nationwide Coverage band. Photographer was Rebecca Long Photography.

After a honeymoon at Excellence Playa Mujeres resort in Cancun, Mexico, the couple is now residing in New Orleans, La.

Photos by Rebecca Long Photography



Watts, Kilgore



Hayden Alexandra Watts of Hartselle and Jacob Tyler Kilgore of Huntsville were married May 13, 2017 in a 5:00 afternoon ceremony held at the Huntsville Botanical Gardens with Rev. Toby Chastain officiating. A reception followed in Nichols Arbor.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Dean Watts of Hartselle. She is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Aldridge of Trinity, the late Virginia Russell, and the late Jim Watts.

The groom is the son of Mrs. Diana Lynn Kilgore of Huntsville and the late Michael Kilgore. He is the grandson of Mrs. Virginia R. Franklin of Huntsville and the late Mr. Lowell Burton "Bud" Franklin, and Mr. Harold "Bobby" Kilgore of Citra, Fla. and the late Mrs. Barbara Ann Kilgore.

The bride was escorted by her father. She chose a formal designer gown of natural silk dupioni. The elegant ball gown featured a piped strapless sweetheart neckline and waist. Covered buttons graced the fullness of the cathedral train. She chose to encircle the natural waistline with a belt of pearls and crystals with lace motifs and self-tied bow with trailing streamers. A sheer bolero jacket completed the ensemble. The jacket was designed with a molded bodice, short sleeves and a jeweled neckline matching the embellishments of the belt. Her cathedral veil of imported French tulle was edged with a narrow band of ribbon and held by a bridal bandeau of pearls and crystals.

Maid of honor was Whitney Watts of Hartselle, sister of the bride. Flower girl was Ashlyn Grace Sali of Huntsville.

Best man was Michael Owen Kilgore of Pensacola, Fla., brother of the groom. Ushers were Logan Tyler Kilgore of Pensacola, Fla. and Avery Danial Schutz of Huntsville, both nephews of the groom. Ring bearer was Henry James Sali of Huntsville.

Program attendants were Chrea Tipton, sister of the groom, and Kileigh Aldridge, cousin of the bride. Harpist was Victoria Anderson.

Kayla Brand of Silverstone Salon, Hartselle was the hair stylist. Photographer was Whitney Briscoe of Caught You On Camera and Jay Burleson was the videographer. Florist was Bruce Roy of Belle Fleur.

After a honeymoon in St. Lucia, the couple is now residing in Huntsville.

Photos by Whitney Briscoe





Hargrave, Waller



Whitney Hargrave and Caleb Waller were married October 14, 2017 at 4:00 in the afternoon at A.M. Booth's Lumberyard in Huntsville with Justin Brooks officiating. The reception followed at the same location.

The bride is the daughter of Gwen and Steve Scott of Athens and Joseph Hargrave of Madison. She is the granddaughter of Robert and Sylvia Hargrave of Madison and the late Charles and Emogene Barnes.

The groom is the son of Douglas and Karen Waller of Harvest. He is the grandson of Polly Waller and the late Jack Waller of New Boston, Texas, Kay and Nolan Bewley of Wake Village, Texas, and the late Billy Cunningham.

The bride's dress was a delicate, lace and tulle Melissa Sweet dress with a sash stitched in, along with a matching veil and hair piece, all from David's Bridal.

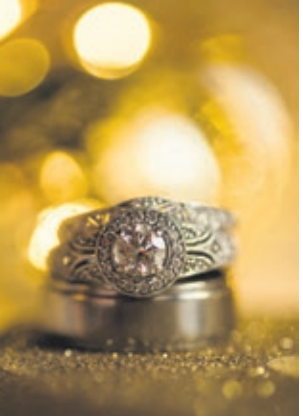
Matron of honor was April Craig, friend of the bride. Bridesmaids were Emily Griggs, friend of the bride; Hannah Waller, sister of the groom; and Madelyn Hargrave, niece of the bride.

Best man was Steven Smith, friend of the groom. Groomsmen were Aaron Waller, brother of the groom; Andrew Porter, friend of the groom; and Shane Hargrave, brother of the bride.

Wedding director was Gwen Baugher, friend of the bride's mother. Floral designer was Suzie Ferrel and her team. Caterer was the reception venue, A.M. Booth's Lumberyard. The wedding cake was made by Debbie Hardaway in Athens and the groom's cake was made by Edgar's Bakery in Huntsville. Reception entertainment was provided by Gabriel Steeves of Pensacola, Fla. Hair stylist was Leslie Chatham and make-up artist was Christy Bult, both from Under the Veil in Huntsville. Photographer was Heather Sherrill of Create Portraiture. Other special helpers were Marilyn Laxson and Emily Fain.

After a honeymoon in Ocho Rios, Jamaica, the couple is now residing in Athens.

Photos by Create Portraiture



We really were blessed with everyone who was able to help make our special day the absolute best. There was not one vendor who ceased to amaze us! Jessica at A.M. Booth's Lumberyard put us at ease from the first day we met with her. She and all the staff there were a delight to work with! For us, it all began at the Lumberyard. It's actually where Caleb proposed! He heard they were organizing a New Years Eve bash last year (2016) and decided to surprise me with tickets. They kicked off the night around 7pm by serving cocktails and appetizers. Everyone was dressed to the nines, ready and waiting to dance! We, later, transitioned into dinner and swing dancing in the banquet hall where they had an orchestra playing all the quintessential big band hits. They, also, had other flavors of music with a New Orleans style jazz band in the Veranda and a Beatles tribute band playing in the Kiln. They had several different kinds of NYE hats, tiaras, necklaces, and fun noisemakers for you to use for the special occasion. They even had a yellow submarine pop-up (to play off the Beatles theme) where you could take pictures through the cut-out windows. There was so much to admire!



As midnight was vastly approaching, they started to hoist an antique piano into the air, so that at the stroke of midnight it would drop and burst into pieces. Well, earlier in the night, you could write on the piano, things you were wanting to dispose of from 2016. It was all a metaphor for starting fresh in the new year. So just after the piano dropped, Caleb turned me around (he was behind me), knelt down and asked me, in the sweetest way, to marry him. Then after we had our moment, my parents, his family and friend came around the side and surprised me with their presence! We popped some bubbly and continued to celebrate the beginning of the new year! It was utterly a magical night and I could not have asked for anything more special.



So my advice is, find a venue that is special to the two of you to incorporate for your special day. Make sure it reflects the personality of BOTH of you. Also, pick a photographer that you instantly click with. Heather was incredible, and I know our day wouldn't have been nearly as amazing without her.

We had our Bridal Tea at Athens State University in Founders Hall. It was cost effective and a beautiful place to hold all of our guests.

For centerpieces, my mom found great deals on milk glass, handkerchiefs, and vintage mirrored trays. We set up some of the reception tables with the handkerchiefs and teal vases on top, while others had the milk glass inside the mirrored trays.

For the ceremony backdrop, my mom and her friend tied some white tulle to a curtain rod and let it drape down inside the windows. A few of the ceremony decorations near the altar were borrowed from Weddings by Jeannie.





Anderson, Lilly

Laura Elizabeth Anderson and Jacob Christopher Lilly were married September 1, 2017 at 6:00 in the evening at Annunciation of the Lord Catholic Church, Decatur with Father Rick Cheanult officiating. The reception was held at the Decatur Country Club following the ceremony. Making the day even more special, the couple were wed on both of their parents' wedding anniversaries.

The bride is the daughter of Michael and Amy Anderson of Decatur. She is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Anderson of Decatur and Mr. Marvin King and the late Mrs. Marjorie King of Jasper.

The groom is the son of Christopher and Amy Lilly of Decatur. He is the grandson of Mrs. Rita Lilly and the late Mr. Owen Lilly of Florence and Mr. and Mrs. H. Don McLemore of Decatur.

The bride chose a custom gown by Christy Urban from The Something Blue Shoppe in Hartselle and carried a bouquet of white roses.

Maid of honor was Rebecca Anderson, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Sarah Macaluso, Kalli Jones, Caroline Lilly, Meghan Owen-Patterson, Elizabeth Scott, Catherine McCartney, and Kendall Glisson. Flower girl was Lily Anderson.

Best man was the groom's father, Christopher Lilly. Groomsmen were Andrew Lilly, William Daniell, Alex McCay, Jeffrey Hill, Trey Richard, John Robinson, IV, and Kyle Justice. Ring bearer was Luke Anderson.

Wedding director was Ashley Ashwander with The Paper Chase Weddings. Floral designer was Kathleen's Fine Art and Interiors. Caterer was the Decatur Country Club. The wedding cake was made by Molly Moo's in Hartselle and the groom's cake was made by Patrick Martin in Decatur. Ceremony music was provided by soloist Annah Joseph and musicians Debra Davenport and Barry Stoner. Hair stylist was Billy Speegle and make-up artist was Sarah Macaluso. Photographer was Lauren Bailey Photography and videographer was byDesign Films.

After a honeymoon in St. Lucia, the couple is now residing in Decatur.





Allen, Watkins

Briona Allen and Byron Watkins were married October 7, 2017 at a 5:00 evening ceremony in Hillsboro with Pastor Ronald Merriweather and Pastor Michael Jones officiating. The reception was held at the El Diamante Event Center in Decatur following the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Carla Allen and Warren Hill, both of Hillsboro. She is the granddaughter of Daphine Allen and the late Carl Allen, Emma Byrd Hill and Joe Hill, Jr., all of Hillsboro.

The groom is the son of John Watkins of Decatur and the late Patricia Watkins.

The bride chose an ivory Allure mermaid style gown embellished with sequins, along with a matching veil. She carried a bouquet of long stemmed fresh cream and marsala colored roses.

Maid of honor was Patrice Hill, cousin of the bride, and matron of honor was Candis Hill-Young, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were LaToya Wright, Lakendra Wright-Smith, Mallory Steed, Jordan York, Taylor Lott, Helen Owens, JaTori Thomas, Kianna Hill, Dr. Naia McDaniel, Markeita Cater, and Kristin Woodard. Flower girls were Kenslie Phillips and Karter Smith. Shadow bride was Laila Watkins, daughter of the groom.

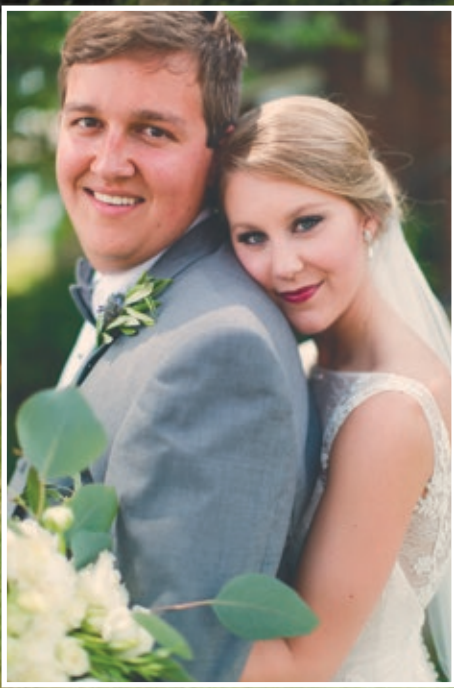
Best men were Byron Sykes and James Webster, both friends of the groom. Groomsmen were Austin Watkins, Keithan Steele, Stephene Hill, Anthony Hill, Jose Gordon, Josef Pickett, John Pickett, Willie Ray Watkins, Steve Phillips, Chris Ervin, and Derric Pearson. Junior groomsmen was Camren Watkins, son of the groom. Ring bearer was Connor Walker and bible bearer was Landon Hill.

Floral designer was Kaleidoscope Florist and Design in Muscle Shoals. Caterer was Wilma on Wheels, LLC and Angela Mullican of Crazy Daisy Cakes made both the wedding cake and the groom's cake. Tina Gibson served as a wedding designer and Cedric Pride with C. Pride Tie Line made the groom's custom tie. Make-up artist was Pro Makeup Artist Studio of Huntsville. Photographer was Heather Sherril of Create Portraiture and videographer was Nerdvil Productions. Reception entertainment was provided by Pat Jamar with Live Band.

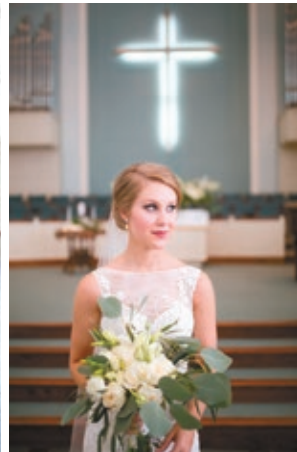
The couple is now residing in Priceville.

Photos by Create Portraiture





Godsey, Sittason



Sloan Godsey and Blair Sittason were married June 10, 2017 at First United Methodist Church in Hartselle with Rev. Toby Chastain officiating. Music for the ceremony was provided by Ellen Bean.

The bride is the daughter of Bob and Amanda Godsey of Hartselle. She is a graduate of Hartselle High School and received a bachelor's degree in Secondary Education Social Sciences from The University of Alabama. She is currently employed at Liberty Park Middle School in Vestavia Hills.

The groom is the son of David and Jennifer Sittason of Hartselle. He is a graduate of Hartselle High School and The University of Alabama with a bachelor's degree in Biology, and is currently attending dental school at U.A.B.

The bride was given in marriage by her parents.

Music for the ceremony was provided by Ellen Bean.

Maid of honor was Olivia Godsey of Hartselle. Bridesmaids were Sloan Sittason, Grace Sittason, and Madeline Sittason of Hartselle; Raley Sittason, Caroline Chappell, and Hensley Pierce of Birmingham; Elizabeth Russell of Butte, Mont.; and AB Stone of New York, N.Y.

Best man was Dr. David Sittason of Hartselle. Groomsmen were Payton Sittason, Reese Ashwander, Tanner Brown, and Will Swann of Birmingham; Luke Godsey, Thomas Fleisschman, Aaron Lamb, and Blake Slayton of Hartselle; and Nathan Surbaugh of Hickory, N.C.

A reception was held at Burningtrees Country Club following the ceremony. Entertainment was provided by the band Heart to Heart.

Photos by Flashes of time by Fleischman





McWhorter, Riggs

Anna Brooke McWhorter and Benjamin David Riggs were married March 25, 2017 in a ceremony held at The Brick Church in Mooresville, Ala. with Pastor Steve Bateman officiating. The reception followed at The Dance Hall, also in Mooresville.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Joel McWhorter of Decatur. She is the granddaughter of Mrs. Ann McWhorter and the late Mr. Jewel McWhorter, the late Mr. & Mrs. William Fenner all of Decatur.

The groom is the son of Mr. & Mrs. David Riggs of Decatur. He is the grandson of Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Riggs of Decatur and Mr. Eugene Matthews and the late Mrs. Peggy Matthews of Huntsville.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore a gown by Odylyne the Ceremony from the Romantic Collection.

Matron of honor was Leigh Ellen Chapman, maid of honor was Libby Riggs, both cousins of the groom and from Decatur. Bridesmaids were Abbi Cambron, Hannah Gladish and Annie Riggs, the groom's sister, all from Decatur.

Best man was Tyler Cambron of Decatur, a lifelong friend of the groom. Groomsmen were Michael McWhorter of Decatur, brother of the bride, Samuel Beans of Longview, Texas, cousin of the bride, Cameron Chapman and Josh Coffee both from Decatur.

The wedding planner and director was Lori Bateman, a close family friend. Kristen Bentley of Simpson's Florist created the floral design. Musicians were organist Kay Grubbs, the bride's long time piano instructor, and guitarist Matthew Sasser. Eugene Banks recited poetry and read scriptures. Drew Hodge and Matthew Sasser, childhood friends of the bride, provided the musical entertainment for the reception. Curry's on Johnston Street provided catering. Emme Long served as reception director. Photographer was White Rabbit Studios.

The groom's parents hosted a rehearsal dinner at The Rail Yard, Decatur. The couple honeymooned in Hawaii. They are now residing in Huntsville.

Parties given for the bride and groom include a bridal brunch at the Connell's home given by Theresa Connell, Blythe Bowman, Kim Hill, Hope Cheshier, Mary Gail Olinger, Marci Annett, Sonya Hodge and Abbi Cambron. Tina Hardy, Lisa Riggs and Cindy Calhoun hosted a couple's shower at the Hardy's residence. Lisa Hart, Caleigh Hart, Morgan Hart and Ann McWhorter hosted a bridal luncheon at Curry's. Tyler and Abbi Cambron hosted a wedding party & friend's engagement party. The parents of the bride hosted an engagement party for family.



Photos by White Rabbit Studios





Vause, Grego

Jessica Vause and Joe Stanley Grego, III were married October 15, 2017 at 5:00 in the afternoon at Creekside Plantation in Mooresville with Justin Bishop Alexander officiating. The reception followed at Creekside Plantation.

The bride is the daughter of Dan and Annette Vause of Mt. Holly, N.C. She is the granddaughter of the late Clone and Lucille Conner of Bryson City, N.C., and Ira Vause and the late Eugene Vause of Mt. Holly, N.C.

The groom is the son of Joe Stanley and Carla Grego of Springville, Ala. He is the grandson of the late Linda and Johnny Bloodworth of Gadsden and Betty Grego and the late Joe Stanley Grego of Glenco.

The bride chose a white Maggie Sottero, Bianca strapless ballgown with handmade rosettes accented with pearls, a scoop neckline, and a flowing train, paired with a cathedral veil. She wore her mother and grandmother's wedding band. Her shoes were Blue by Betsey Johnson.

Maid of honor was Allie Garland and matron of honor was Kelsey Smith, both friends of the bride. Bridesmaids were Channing Wynne and Alitha Ford, friends of the bride, and Bailee Stone, sister-in-law of the bride. Junior bride was Kyleigh Vause, niece of the bride. Flower girls were Madelyn Vause, niece of the bride, and Elyza Grego, niece of the groom.

Best man was Zack Bilek, friend of the groom. Groomsmen were Kyle Hutchinson, Justin Kephart, Brian Daily, friends of the groom, and Kurtis Vause, brother of the bride. Ring bearers were Tripp Lee and Jackson Lee.

Wedding director was Therise Collier of Creekside Plantation. Floral designer was Deana Olinger. Caterer was April Davis of Southern Skillet Catering and the wedding cake was made by Molly Moo Cake. DJ Luke Gasque entertained guests at the reception. Hair stylist was Samantha Belcher and make-up artist was Courtney Griffin. Photographer was Heather Sherrill and videographer was Abundant Life Productions. Other special helpers were Samantha Belcher and Amber Ford.

After a honeymoon in a cabin in Gatlinburg, Tenn., the couple is now residing in Bessemer City, N.C.

Photos by Create Portraiture



Holden, Taylor



Grace Ann Holden and Zane Taylor were married June 24, 2017 at 6:00 in the evening at Lone Cedar Church of Christ with Bro. Jonathan Johnson officiating. The reception was held at Danclay Farm following the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Matt and Donna Holden of Killen. She is the granddaughter of Tommy and Becky Bradford and Barbara Holden and the late Sonny Holden, all of Killen.

The groom is the son of Wade and Donna Taylor of Killen. He is the grandson of Charlotte Taylor, Adgie McMurtrey, and Frances Harrison.

Maid of honor was Rebecca Holden, sister of the bride, and matron of honor was Ellen Young, friend of the bride. Bridesmaids were Blair Holden, sister-in-law of the bride; Ellie Saylor, Mallory Oliver, and Juliann Marler, cousins of the bride; Priscilla Taylor, Morgan Taylor, and Krsytal Taylor, sisters-in-law of the bride. Flower girls were Avery Holden, niece of the bride, and Kennedy Taylor, niece of the groom.

Best men were Connor Gray and Briar Allen, friends of the groom. Groomsmen were Zach Taylor, Landon Taylor, and Lincoln Taylor, brothers of the groom; Chad Willis and Tyler Young, friends of the groom; Dustin Holden, brother of the bride; Hunter Jones, cousin of the groom; and Crawford Saylor, cousin of the bride. Ring bearers were Brody Butler, nephew of the bride; Brayden Taylor and Ridge Taylor, nephews of the groom.

Wedding director was LaFonda Guyton and floral designer was Kaleidoscope Florist. 306 Barbecue catered the reception and Amy's Cakes made the wedding cake and the pies for the groom's table. Gabe Allen entertained guests at the reception. Hair stylist and make-up artist was Whitney Weeks of Parlor 217. Photographer was Rebekah Photography and videographer was Nicholson Creative.

The couple is now residing in Killen.

Photos by Rebekah Photography





Chandler, Gean

SueEllen Chandler and Kirby Blake Gean were married May 28, 2017 at 6:00 in the evening at Gean Farm. Wayne Gean officiated the ceremony and the prayer was led by Brett Stewart. A reception followed at Gean Farm.

The bride is the daughter of Jerry Don and Patricia Chandler of Florence. She is the granddaughter of Jeanette Chandler and the late Jett Chandler and John and Jan Shields, all of Florence.

The groom is the son of Wayne and Barbara Gean of Waterloo. He is the grandson of the late Jonnie Lee and Hazel Smith of Florence, and Nollie Ford and the late Vernon Ford of Savannah, Tenn.

Matron of honor was Abby Grace Payson, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Wendy Whitten and Ashley Gean, sisters-in-law of the bride; Kendra Hanback, Tiffany Taylor, Amber Thompson, Vickie Langston, Rikki McKelvey, Whitney Hill, Jenny Benson, Tess Dunham, Alicia Gauker, Sarahann Stephenson, all friends of the bride; Harlee Whitten and Lillie Whitten, nieces of the bride. Junior bridesmaids were Ava Hill and Addison Hill. Flower girl was Lillie-Ruth Payson, niece of the bride.

Best men were the groom's father and brother, Wayne Gean and Kyle Gean. Groomsmen were Kaleb Whitten, nephew of the bride; William Chandler, Michal Payson, and Barry Whitten, brothers-in-law; Bryce Curtis, Taylor Thompson, Les Abston, Jason Langston, Kyle McKelvey, Jordan Linzey, Joe Creasy, Jackson Jones, Ben Siegel, and Michael Larkin, all friends of the groom. Ring bearer was Sawyer Gean, nephew of the groom.

Other special attendants were Mollie Beth Walden, Mae Ellis Walden, Margaret Butler, Ashton Massey, Chandler Armagost, and Cole Armagost.

Wedding director was Ann Massey. Floral designer was Cindy Harrison. Caterer and cake maker was Jill's Sweet Memories. Music for the ceremony and the reception was provided by Lavale and Sonya Cooper. Hair stylist was Mellany Lancaster and make-up artist was Anna Grace Collum. Photographer was Rebekah Photography and videographer was Bruce Carson of QF2 Films.

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

Photos by Rebekah Photography



Osborn, Clement

Hannah Lee Osborn and Jonathan Carter Clement were united in marriage at 6:00 in the evening, October 7, 2017. The ceremony was held at Ava's Place with Will Vaden officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Osborn of Muscle Shoals. She is the granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. John Robert Dawson of Leighton and the late Mr. and Mrs. Milton Osborn of Tusculumbia.

The groom is the son of Mr. Jack Clement and the late Cathy Goza Clement of Florence. He is the grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. James Goza of Dennis, Miss. and the late Mr. and Mrs. Judge Clement of Belmont, Miss..

Matron of honor was Haley Osborn Hyde, sister of the bride, and maid of honor was Mary Hannah Elkins, friend of the bride. Bridesmaids were Felicia Jones, Taylor Arnold, Paige Price, Lindsey Monroe, and Hanna Ruggles, all friends of the bride; Sarah Osborn, sister-in-law of the bride; Mollie Clement McLemore, sister of the groom; and Anna Grace Wilson, cousin of the bride. Flower girls were Stella Cate McLemore, Mae Walker McLemore, Clara Margaret McLemore, nieces of the groom; Lindsey Osborn, niece of the bride; and Mary McCarley Gillespie, friend of the bride.

Best man was Jack Clement, father of the groom; John Carter, Goodloe Pride, Wells Beckett, Andrew Davis, Trip Bower, Andy Frith, Adam Connolly, friends of the groom; Matthew Osborn, brother of the bride; and Zach Hyde, brother-in-law of the bride. Ring bearers were Jack Gillespie, friend of the bride; and Carver Buffaloe, cousin of the bride.

Wedding director was Terri Brown of Kiss the Bride Wedding Planning. Floral designer was Cindy Harrison. Caterer was Jill Larkin of Jill's Sweet Memories. The wedding and groom's cakes were made by Lana Copeland of All About Cake. Kate Beckett and Trip Bower provided the music for the ceremony and The Midnighters entertained guests at the reception. Hair stylist was Alex Miller and make-up artists were Laren Lindholm and Janae Burnside. Photographer was Amanda Chapman and videographer was Al Hammond of Awaken Films.

After a honeymoon in Nassau, Bahamas, the couple now resides in Muscle Shoals.

Photos by Amanda Chapman





Hall, Patrick

Anne-Marie Rebekah Hall and Kevin Taylor Patrick were married September 2, 2017 at 2:00 in the afternoon at Underwood Baptist Church with Trey Mitchell officiating. The reception followed at The Hub, Underwood Baptist Church.

The bride is the daughter of Terry and Susan Hall of Russellville. She is the granddaughter of Mrs. Eulene Bradford and the late Sam Bradford of Russellville and Mrs. Averine Hall Ledbetter and the late Troy Hall of Red Bay.

The groom is the son of Jerry and Gwen Patrick of Florence. He is the grandson of Glendon and Nancy Jackson and Pete and Charlotte Patrick, all of Florence.

The bride was escorted by her father. She wore a traditional white, vintage lace gown and a hand-made veil featuring detailed pearl work.

Matron of honor was Mrs. Holly Sherrill, friend and cousin of the bride. Best man was Mr. Matthew Kelley, friend of the groom. Ushers were Jonathan Hall, brother of the bride, Tyler Johnson, brother-in-law of the groom, and Kyle Clemons, friend of the groom.

Wedding director was Cindy Coan and reception planner was Party Pros. Sound director was Steve Cochran. Providing music for the ceremony was Patti Kimbrough, pianist, and the bride also played a solo. Floral designer was Sam Warf of Sam's Flowers in Russellville. Caterer was Jill Larkin of Jill's Sweet Memories, who also made the wedding cake and groom's cake. Hair stylist was Courtney Kelly and make-up artist was Kelsey South. Both the bride's dress and the wedding party's attire was purchased from Cherry Tree Lane in Florence. Photographer was Scotty Kennedy of Scotty Kennedy Photography and videographer was Luke Blalock.

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

Photos by Scotty Kennedy Photography



Wilkins, Hall

Brandi Shelise Wilkins and Jonathan Bradford Hall were married March 18, 2017 in a 5:00 afternoon ceremony at McClain Lodge in Brandon, Miss. with Daniel Simmons officiating. A reception followed at McClain Lodge.

The bride is the daughter of Connie Raylene Wilkins and the late Gregory James Wilkins of Brandon, Miss. She is the granddaughter of James and Yvonne Wilkins of Pittsburg, Texas and Charles Baskett and the late Lorene Baskett of Cortez, Colo.

The groom is the son of Morris Terry Hall and Susan Bradford Hall of Russellville. He is the grandson of Eulene Bradford and the late Sam Bradford of Russellville and Averine Hall Ledbetter and the late Troy Hall of Red Bay.

The bride chose a Morilee by Madeline Gardner gown in traditional white lace that featured a sequined lace overlay and a delicate v-neckline.

Matron of honor was Sara Elizabeth Gatewood, best friend of the bride. Bridesmaids were Bethany RaeAnn Lee of Pearl, Miss., sister of the bride; Elizabeth Smithhart Hust of Brandon, Miss. and April Nichole Utroska of Hattiesburg, Miss., both friends of the bride; and Anne-Marie Rebekah Hall of Florence, sister of the groom. Honorary bridesmaids were Hannah Grace Wilkins and Katie Rose Wilkins of Brandon, Miss., sisters of the bride. Flower girl was Ceili Ann Lee of Pearl, Miss., niece of the bride.

Best man was John David Toves, II of Flowood, Miss., best friend of the groom. Groomsmen were Dr. Wesley Charles Mayfield of Tuscombua, Matthew Christopher Tabor and Simerjeet Singh Virk of Auburn, and Mark Robert Drye of Opelika, all friends of the groom. Ushers were Dr. Gregory Bradford Bowling and Daniel Russell Hollimon of Russellville, cousins of the groom; Joshua James Wilkins and Caleb John Wilkins of Brandon, Miss., brothers of the bride.

Wedding director was Carol Jones. Floral designer was Regina Hudson with special arrangements by Sam Warf. Caterer was McClain Lodge. Music was provided by Tommy and Gigi Creel. Photographer was Wiggins Photography.

After a honeymoon in the Dominican Republic, the couple is residing in Canton, Miss.



Photos by Wiggins Photography





The Colleys

Heather Lea Colley and Adam Quentin Colley renewed their wedding vows on September 23, 2017 in a 5:00 afternoon ceremony at the Sweetwater Depot in Florence with Stacy Crim officiating. A reception followed at The Sweetwater Depot.

Mrs. Colley is the daughter of Nora Vincent of Texas and the Mr. Colley is the son of the late Richard Colley and the late Elizabeth Denton.

Heather wore a blue evening gown by "Nights by teeze me". Extra blue and black tulle was added to the dress for a train. She also wore a jeweled headband and Neil Lane diamond earrings given to her by the groom.

Attendants were flower girls Katlyne Fulmer, great-niece of the couple, and MaKenzie Peden, friend of the couple. Guest book attendant was Sarah Brewer, great-niece of the couple.

When the couple were married twenty years ago, most of the groom's family was not able to attend the ceremony, which was in Texas. This time the groom's family was able to be a part of the ceremony.

The invitations to the renewal had the couple's original wedding picture and the phrase "We Still Do". The phrase was used in the details of the ceremony including the cake topper and tee shirts worn by the couple as they left. The guests signed a canvas when they arrived, which had the couple's original wedding date and the phrase "We Still Do". Several guests held flowers, and while Adam and Heather walked down the aisle together they collected the flowers from the guests to make Heather's bouquet. The girls wore blue dresses to complement Heather's dress. Inside the venue, the table centerpieces were framed pictures of the couple through the years. During the reception, a video of their original wedding and reception was played. As the couple left, they wore tee shirts with the phrase "We Still Do" printed on them.

Wedding decorator was Megan Henry, friend of the couple. Caterer was Jill Larkin of Jill's Sweet Memories, who also made the wedding cake. Photographers were Tara Parker and Katie Patterson Rickard of Blush Imagery, and videographer was B and B Media.

Musical selections chosen by the couple included "That's The Way" by Alan Jackson, played before the couple entered, and Entr'acte from Bizet's Carmen was used as the processional. The couple left the ceremony to "I'm A Believer" from the movie "Shrek".

After the ceremony, the couple left for a three week road trip which included one week in New York City, then on to Mount Rushmore and Yellowstone National Park. They are now back at home in Florence.

Photos by Blush Imagery





Uhlman, Elkins

Mary Hannah Uhlman and Kenny Elkins were married April 22, 2017 in a 6:00 evening ceremony held at Triple H Barn in Russellville with Brett Pitman officiating. The reception followed at Triple H Barn.

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 Ken and Jo Elkins of Moulton. He is the grandson of J.S. and Mae Melton of Haleyville and J.T. and Suzie Elkins of Lynn.

The bride chose an Allure gown in blush with a lace bodice. She carried a bouquet of pink and cream roses.

Maid of honor was Alison Uhlman, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Hannah Osborn and Danielle Smith, friends of the bride; Kimberly Johnson and Kara Johnson, cousins of the bride. Flower girl was Marlie Rice.

Best man was the groom's father, Ken Elkins. Groomsmen were Landon Payne and Andy Steele, cousins of the groom; Zach Scott, Hunter Lindsey, and Ethan Cross, friends of the groom. Ring bearers were Cooper Muck and Max Muck, cousins of the groom.

Wedding director was Cecilia Brumley. Floral designer was Carmalita Coan. Caterers were Whole Hog and Alabama Bliss. The wedding cake was made by Nancy Burden and Connie Clark made the groom's cake. Sammy Mayfield of Jags Premier DJ provided the music for both the ceremony and the reception. Hair stylist was Kayla deLuna and make-up artist was Tina Jhin. Photographer was Jean Wilcoxson and videographer was Hannah Roberts.

For their honeymoon, the couple took a Carnival cruise from New Orleans, La. to the Carribean. They are now residing in Leighton.

Photos by Jean Wilcoxson





Greene, Heffken



Lacie Jade Greene and David Edward Heffken were married November 18, 2017 at B & A Warehouse in Birmingham with Steve Lacy officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Phillip and Diana Greene and Sherry Cole. She is the granddaughter of the late Louise Greene, Betty Cole and the late Roy Cole.

The groom is the son of Don and Barbara Heffken. He is the grandson of Margaret Heffken and the late William Heffken.

Matrons of honor were Tonia Long, sister of the bride, and Megan Sellers, friend of the bride. Bridesmaids were Kayla Coley, step-sister of the bride, Haley Elliott, Whitley McNew, and Kimberly Rice, all friends of the bride. Flower girls were Ella Long, Kollins Coley, and Klaira Carden, nieces of the bride.

Best man was the groom's father, Don Heffken. Groomsmen were Kyle Carden, step-brother; Allen Long, brother-in-law; Brady Newton and Rusty Newton, friends of the groom. Ring bearer was Olen Long, nephew of the bride.

Wedding director was Chelsea Kennedy Events. Floral designer was Hothouse Design Studio. The ceremony and reception venue, B & A Warehouse, also catered the event. The wedding cake and groom's cake were made by Sweet Magnolia. Ceremony music and reception entertainment were provided by Jordy Searcy. The bride's gown was purchased from The White Room. Photographer was Joel and Amber Wedding Photography and videographer was Awaken Films. Invitations and programs were from Ledgewood Fine Stationery.

The couple departed in a classic Rolls Royce from Coats Classic Cars. They're now residing in Huntsville.

Photos by Joel and Amber Wedding Photography



Pride, Byers



Susan Bailey Pride and Jordan Mitchell Byers were married November 18, 2017 at 4:00 in the afternoon at Trinity Episcopal Church with Father Andy Keyse officiating. A reception was held at the home of the bride's grandparents in Florence following the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Susan and Goodloe Pride, III of Cherokee. She is the granddaughter of Jane and Goodloe Pride, Jr. and Ms. Sandra Wargo and the late Mr. Jack Neil Robertson.

The groom is the son of Shelaine and Kenneth Byers of Florence. He is the grandson of Mrs. Francers Roberson and the late Mr. Ralph Leon Roberson and the late Mr. and Mrs. William Edward Byers.

Matron of honor was the bride's mother, Susan Pride. Bridesmaids were Amy Welch, Laurie Holder, Tori Thrower, Jackie Barnett, Mimi Barksdale, Megan Lovelace, Courtney Gilley, all friends of the bride, and Katherine Pride, sister-in-law of the bride. Flower girls were Kenleigh Byers and Karlee Anne Byers, nieces of the groom.

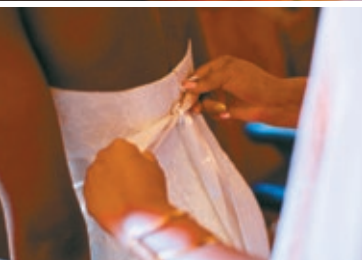
Best man was the groom's father, Kenneth Byers. Groomsmen were Jeremy Byers and Josh Byers, brothers of the groom; Goodloe Pride, IV, brother of the bride; Goodloe Pride, Jr., grandfather of the bride; Jordan Akin, Derrick Thomas, Kevin Magee, and Jason Reynolds, friends of the groom. Ring bearer was Owen Byers, nephew of the groom.

Wedding director was Jessica Satkamp. Floral designer was Carl Casiday of Lola's. Caterer was Rhoda P's and Yummie's Bakery made the wedding cake. Music for the ceremony was provided by organist Noel Beck, trumpeter Velchiel Stone, and the Trinity Episcopal Church Choir. The band Skyline Drive from Nashville, Tenn. entertained guests at the reception. Hair stylist and make-up artist was Lindsey Robinson of Katherine Taylor Salon. Photographer was Rebekah Photography and videographer was Awaken.

After a honeymoon in Tulum, Mexico, the couple is now residing in Athens.

Photos by Rebekah Photography





Griffin, Anderson

Tiara Griffin and Bradon Anderson were married August 19, 2017 at 5:00 in the afternoon at Ava's Place in St. Florian with Pastor Marcus Motton officiating. The reception followed at Ava's Place.

The bride is the daughter of Karen Griffin of Florence and Alf Owens of Decatur. She is the granddaughter of Carrie Dee Griffin of Decatur, Morris and Lisa Griffin of Decatur, and Bessie Owens of Moulton.

The groom is the son of Cyndi and Durrell Taylor of Killen, and Jamie Anderson of Florence. He is the grandson of James and Debra Turbyfill of Tuscumbia, Debra Barnett and the late Billy Barnett of Killen, Linda Taylor and Danny Payne of Florence, and Clyde and Edna Anderson of Florence.

Matron of honor was Quaneicia Graham, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Cydney Harper, Christa Bell, Shaketta Johnson, Nakedra Rhodes, Danae Lawrence, all friends of the bride; Junea Thompson, Megan Butz, Jori Chatman, sorority sisters of the bride; Ashton Anderson and Mandi Anderson, sisters-in-law. Flower girls were Saylor Graham, niece of the bride, and MaKaydon Hill, niece of the groom. Miniature bride was Camaria Moore, daughter of the bride.

Best men were Durrell Taylor, step-father of the groom, and Xavier Taylor, step-brother of the groom. Groomsmen were Don Hill, Kenyatta King, Jason Graham, brothers-in-law; Landon White, Ryan Miller, Maurice Johnson, Jakiah Summerhill, Craig Yarbrough, and Colin Woods, all friends of the groom. Ring bearer was Bryce Graham, nephew of the bride.

Wedding director was Donnisia Tibbs. Caterer was Patrece Rice. The wedding cake was made by Custom Cakes by Sharanda & Sharonda and the groom's cake was made by Sam's. The bride walked down the aisle to "Flaws" by Kierra Sheard. Entertaining guests at the reception was Joel Hogans of DJ Roc Entertainment. Hair stylist was Kimberly Poole and make-up artist was Canisius Newsome. Photographer was Amberly South Elkins and videographer was Fredro Star Productions.

On November 23, 2016, while vacationing in the mountains in Pigeon Forge, Tenn., Bradon and I scheduled a couple's photo shoot. To my surprise, he had other plans - it was actually a proposal photo session. He asked me to marry him in front of our family and friends; they all knew about this. He designed the rose gold ring himself using his deceased grandfather's old diamonds. The view was beautiful and it was definitely a vacation/proposal to remember.

The couple is now residing in Killen.

Photos by Amberly South Elkins



Slover, Berchekas

Anna Leigh Slover and Basil Anest Berchekas, III were married January 15, 2017 at 5:00 in the afternoon at Holy Cross-Saints Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Huntsville with Father Kevin Millsaps officiating. The reception was held at the EarlyWorks Children's Museum.

The bride is the daughter of Danny Slover of Rome, Ga. and Carol Slover of Florence. The groom is the son of Basil Berchekas, Jr. and the late Iralene Berchekas.

The bride's ivory, strapless gown featured a beaded bodice, corseted back, a jeweled white sash, and a full tulle skirt.

Maid of honor was Amber Willson, friend of the bride, and matron of honor was Kaylee Welch, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Chelsea Fincher, Emily Fincher, Scarlet Alexis McMurtrey, and Esther Nuckels. Flower girls were Laila Luke, cousin of the bride, and Bailey Greene, friend of the couple.

Best man was Susan Goldblum, best friend of the groom. Groomsmen were Jon Berchekas, Brent Newson, Drew Sutton, and Michael Nuckels. Ring bearers were Nick Berchekas, nephew of the groom, and Asher Welch, nephew of the bride.

Wedding director was Chelsea Fincher. Caterers were C & A Catering and Piper and Leaf, and the wedding cake was made by Sugar Belle Bakery. Ceremony music was provided by Aimee Fincher. Hair stylist and make-up artist was Samantha Willard. Photographer was Andrew Gonzales.

Friends threw the couple a Harry Potter inspired wedding shower. The ceremony was a traditional Greek Orthodox ceremony complete with wedding crowns and a first "dance" around the alter. The program and wedding favors were created with original artwork done by the best man, Susan Goldblum. Everyone loved the mashed potato bar featured at the reception, as well as the tea bar provided by Piper and Leaf.

After a week long honeymoon at the Forest Hills Resort in Dahlonega, Ga., the couple is now residing in Huntsville.

Photos by Andrew Gonzales





Tomsik, Alexander



Alexandra Tomsik and Todd Alexander were married January 7, 2017 in a 4:00 afternoon ceremony held at The Chapel in Sheffield with Neal Inman officiating. A reception followed at George's 217.

The bride is the daughter of David and Tina Tomsik of Muscle Shoals. She is the granddaughter of Richard Smallwood of Tuscumbia, the late Brenda Dawson of Tuscumbia, and Gerald and Carolyn Tomsik of Florence.

The groom is the son of Jamey and Diane Alexander of Sheffield. He is the grandson of Vera Schramm and the late Kenneth Schramm and the late Sydney and Sara Alexander, all of Sheffield.

Maid of honor was Natalie Quillen Alred, friend of the bride. Matron of honor was Brittney Coates, friend of the bride. Bridesmaids were Magan McNutt of Tuscumbia, Jordain Rutherford of Muscle Shoals, and Molly Rutledge Mills of Sheffield, all friends of the bride. Flower girl was Riley Grace Inman of Muscle Shoals, friend of the bride.

Best man was the groom's father, Jamey Alexander of Sheffield. Groomsmen were Nic Alexander of Sheffield, brother of the groom; Evan Rutland of Sheffield, Corey Mayes of Atlanta, Ga., and Jason Manset of Rogersville, all friends of the groom. Ring bearers were Jordan Manset and Landon Barnes, friends of the couple.

Wedding director was Allison Tennyson and floral designer was Justin Myrick. Caterers were George's 217 and The Victorian Tea Room. Music for the reception was provided by the band Drum & Drummer. The couple honeymooned in Aruba, and reside in Sheffield, Ala.

Photos by His and Hers Weddings



Williams, Corum

Jordan Williams and Holden Corum were married April 29, 2017 at 5:30 in the afternoon at Lone Cedar Church of Christ with Rusty Moody officiating. The reception was held at Danclay Farms following the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of George and Teresa Williams of Florence. She is the granddaughter of Harry and Charlotte Williams and Ken and Linda Marlowe, all of Florence.

The groom is the son of Stevie and Dee Ann Corum of Killen. He is the grandson of the late C.H. and Joan Jones of Killen and Wanda Corum and the late Homer Franklin Corum of Anderson.

The bride chose a white lace off the shoulder long sleeve gown from Madison Town & Country, along with a matching veil.

Maids of honor were Caitlin Williams, sister of the bride, and Raegan Camp, friend of the bride. Matron of honor was Kylie Murks, sister-in-law of the bride. Bridesmaids were Grace Matthews, Kelsey Davis, Taylor Hendrix, Annie Kennedy, Taylor Bracey, Alex Lauderdale, Darby Pettus, and Savanna Haddock, all friends of the bride. Junior bridesmaid was Marlo Williams, sister of the bride. Flower girl was Madelynn Moore, cousin of the groom.

Best man was the groom's father, Stevie Corum. Groomsman were Jack Singleary, Russell Phillips, Jacob Walton, Alex Moody, Briar Wilson, Dallas Mitchell, Wesley Brown, Ryan Masonia, all friends of the groom; Rusty Murks, brother-in-law of the groom; and Matthew Williams, brother of the bride. Ring bearers were Noah Brink and Collier Brink, friends of the bride.

Wedding director was Sheena Burgence and floral designer was Cindy Harrison. Caterer was Jill's Sweet Memories and the wedding cake was made by Victorian Tea Room. Hair stylist was Lyndsey Voss. Entertaining guests at the reception was the band Rusty and The Relics. Photographer was Rebekah Handley and videographer was Studio 318.

After a cruise to the Bahamas for their honeymoon, the couple is now residing in Florence.

Photos by Rebekah Photography





Parker, McDaniel

Jessica Parker and Brandon McDaniel began their life together on June 10, 2017 at 6:00 in the evening at Lofty Hitchins in Lawrenceburg, Tenn. Stacey Holt, friend of the groom's father, officiated the ceremony.

The rustic themed wedding was a perfect setting for the couple who shared their love of the outdoors. Jessica chose an antique lace dress and wore her late grandmother's bracelet in her memory. A rose was also placed in honor of her grandmother who could not attend. The love and support of the couple's family and friends was the beginning of their happily ever after.

The bride is the daughter of Myers and Lisa Parker of Cypress Inn, Tenn. She is the granddaughter of Reba Brown and the late Robert Brown and Jimmy Parker and the late Katherine Parker, all of Iron City, Tenn.

The groom is the son of Leonard and Betty Sue McDaniel of Iron City and Glenda and Boyce Dixon of Collinwood, Tenn. He is the grandson of Cathy Collins of Florence, the late Charles Balentine, and the late Gilbert and Viola McDaniel of Waterloo.

Maid of honor was Whitney Parker, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Amanda Stults, step-sister of the groom; Brandie Daniel, Kelbie Howell, and Anna Beth Haggard, friends of the bride. Honorary bridesmaids were Anna Hudson, Caitlin Dotson, friends of the bride, and Cailee McDaniel, step-sister of the groom. Flower girl was Aven Dotson, friend of the bride.

Best man was Chandler Daniel, longtime friend of the groom. Groomsmen were Morgan Hudson, Jacob Gobble, Anthony Dotson, and Zach Stults, all friends of the groom. Ring bearers were Camden Rich and Paxton Stults, both step-nephews of the groom.

Wedding director and floral designer was Marla Davenport. Catering the event was Becky O'Kelley of Creative Catering and the cake was provided by Heather's Cake Creations by Heather Poole. Ben Daniel provided the entertainment for the reception. Hollis Photography provided the photos for the engagement, bridal and wedding day, and Rebekah Nelson Kimbrell of Milestone Films served as videographer.

After a honeymoon in Panama City Beach, Fla., the couple is now residing in Cypress Inn, Tenn.

Photos by Hollis Photography



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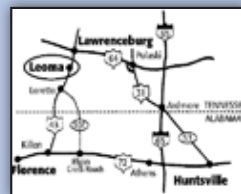
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