



ADK Wedding 2020

*Interviews with
3 Local Couples!
And more!*

To view
this
section
online
visit...

poststar.com/special-section

a special advertising
supplement to

THE
POST★STAR
poststar.com

ADK Wedding 2020

A woman with long, wavy brown hair is wearing a strapless white wedding dress with lace detailing. She is standing in a bright room with large windows in the background. There are white flowers and greenery in vases around her. The overall atmosphere is elegant and romantic.

Interviews with 3 local couples!

- Meshele & Mike Bourdeau.....4
- Ray & Ashton Hoag.....7
- Steve & Linda Noftle.....10

How to cut wedding costs9

Volume 3

President and Publisher - Brian J. Corcoran

General Manager - Ben Rogers

Circulation Director - Tom Salvo

Editor - Ken Tingley

ADK Wedding is a yearly publication of The Post-Star Newspaper. This annual magazine provides local content and advertising from the Warren, Washington and Saratoga Counties.

THE
POST★STAR
poststar.com

76 Lawrence Street - Glens Falls, NY 12801

518-792-3131 - or - 800-724-2543

THE INN AT ERLOWEST

518.668.5928

WWW.THEINNATERLOWEST.COM



*Experience the wedding of your dreams
on the shores of Lake George
in a turn-of-the-century castle*

...CUSTOMIZED EVENT DESIGN ...INNOVATED CUISINE



LeAnna Avila, Director of Sales

LEANNA@THEINNATERLOWEST.COM

PACKAGES STARTING AT \$95⁺⁺

3178 LAKE SHORE DRIVE, LAKE GEORGE, NY 12845



Meshele & Mike Bourdeau

married 11 years

BY ANDREA HARDWOOD PALMER

Meshele and Mike Bourdeau are one of the most humorous couples a person could meet.

The pair met at Spare Time Bowling Alley in Lake George in 2006, where they both worked at the time. Meshele had just moved to Upstate New York from Southern California a week and a half before.

"He asked me out to dinner, I said 'yes' and the rest is history," said Meshele.

The couple spent their first date at the 99 Restaurant, and their second date walking the grounds of the Sagamore Resort. Less than a year later, Mike proposed to Meshele at the Glen Drive-In.

"It was July 2007. The show-

ing of 'Evan Almighty' had just ended when Mike looked over at me with a twinkle in his eye and said, 'We should get married. What do you think?' Obviously, with such a romantic gesture as this, I said, 'Sure!'" laughed Meshele.

They wed a year later, on October 11, 2008, two years to the day of their very first date.

The wedding ceremony was held at Crandall Park in Glens Falls. Fifty guests looked on as vows were exchanged on the small island in the middle of the pond, under the big willow tree that resided there at the time.

"The best part of the day was actually getting married," said Meshele. "The weather was

gorgeous and my groom showed up. I couldn't have asked for more."

"We kept things very simple. Our wedding was laid back and inexpensive. We had each other. We found a cheap place to get married and put the rest of the pieces together after that," said Meshele.

Meshele credited a low-key approach to minimizing the stress of the day.

"We had very little expectations for the day, so if there were hiccups, we just moved on. As long as we were married at the end of the day, the rest really didn't matter," said Meshele.

The wedding ceremony went smoothly, apart from the 3 year

Call
Merrit
at
(802) 558-0409

Horse Drawn
Carriage
Rides &
Wagon Rides



old ring bearer falling into the pond in the middle of the vow exchange. The young boy was reaching for a stick in the water, even though his mother--a bridesmaid--had expressly told him to leave the stick alone. The boy was pulled from the 6 inch deep water, wet and startled, but safe. The vows were successfully completed.

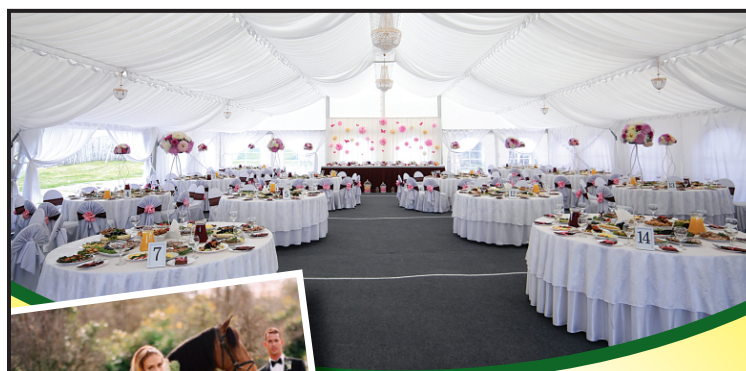
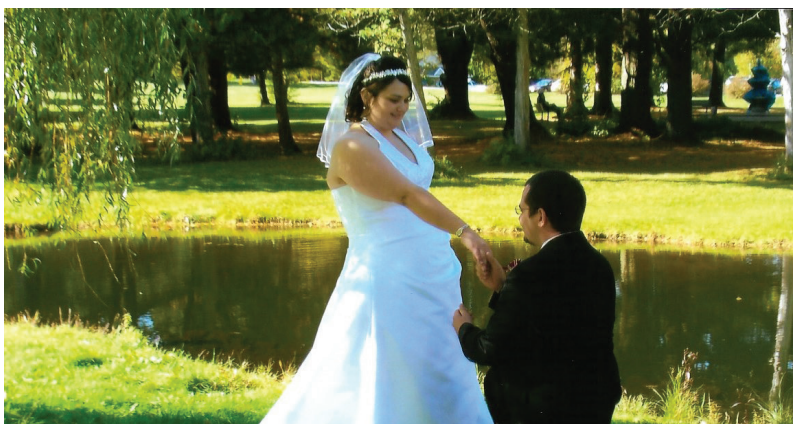
The reception was held at the Church of the Messiah Parish House on Glen Street, in Downtown Glens Falls.

"A lot of our guests left very early into the reception, so when we made our grand exit, a lot of people had already left. If I had realized this would happen, we would have combined our grand entrance and exit--a walk in and a walk out--so we could do our official 'finale' before everyone was gone," said Meshele.

The wedding took place in 2008, a time before the everydayness of cell phone cameras had taken over mainstream culture.

"We were a bit disappointed with our professional photos. We got much better pictures from family. If I could go back and do it over again, I would provide disposable cameras for all of our guests to take pictures," said Meshele.

Meshele has sage advice for those



**Specializing in
weddings of
any size,
from 50-400!**

Custom packages
available ~
Call for
2019 & 2020 dates!



518-668-5767 | roaringbrookranch.com

**2206 State Route 9N,
Lake George, NY
- Just 2 miles from
Lake George
Village**



planning a wedding.

“Elope,” she said, with a wink. “Just kidding. In all seriousness, your wedding day is just one day out of your entire marriage. Don’t stress over the small stuff. Keep it simple. Be okay with hiccups and hang-ups.”

Meshele recommended keeping costs under control, and going to wedding expos for ideas, introductions to professionals and potential freebies.

“Sign up for all of the drawings and giveaways. You can get parts of your wedding done completely free,” said Meshele.

Mike and Meshele have been married for 11 years now. Since their days at the Spare

Time Bowling Alley, Meshele has gone on to get her Master’s in Nursing Education, and is a college nursing professor. Mike is finishing his Master’s of Art in teaching, and is a high school math teacher in Albany. They live in Lake Luzerne with their 3 young children.

“I met a couple once who had been married for 60+ years. Their advice to me was, ‘When you want to kill each other... don’t.’ It is sound advice that keeps everyone safe,” said Meshele.

Casting aside her arid-dry humor for a moment, Meshele offered serious advice to engaged couples.

“Marriage is not just a piece of paper,” she said. “And love is not something that you fall in and out of. It is a daily choice, to love the person you marry. Some days that choice is harder than others. It is overcoming all of the challenges that life throws at you, and fighting together to get to the other side as better people and a stronger couple. It is having a constant friend and confidant that knows you better than anyone, and accepts you for all your flaws and craziness--because we all have those things.”

“Marriage is hard work,” said Meshele. “But full of joy and completely worth every bump and snag.”





BY ANDREA HARDWOOD PALMER

Ray and Ashton Hoag enjoy a relationship full of laughter, made readily apparent by some of their more humorous wedding photos.

The couple met when they both started teaching at Indian Lake Central School District in September 2016. Ray teaches Physical Education, and Ashton is a third grade teacher.

"I asked her several times if she would like to go on a hike, and she finally agreed to hike up Bald Mountain in Old Forge with me," said Ray.

It didn't take long for Ray to decide that Ashton was the one he wanted to marry. When planning his proposal, Ray returned to the place of their very first date. He planned a sunset hike up Bald Mountain. However, it rained the entire day leading up to

the hike. Finally towards late afternoon, the rain began to diminish and they proceeded with their plans.

When they got to the top of the mountain, it was so foggy that neither the fire tower nor the beautiful summit view were visible. Ray decided to propose anyway, since Ashton's sister and brother-in-law were there and in on the surprise. Ashton responded with an emphatic "YES!"

The couple married on October 5, 2019, at St. Mary's Church in Indian Lake. They had 150 guests in attendance. The reception was held at Adirondack Woodcraft Camps in Old Forge.

"The best part of the day was spending time with our friends and family," agreed the couple. "They travelled from around the country and around the world to celebrate with us. We couldn't have asked for a more beautiful

MOHAN'S

Here's to the good life...

GLEN DEW



689 Upper Glen St., Queensbury, NY

Fine Wines & Liquor Store

Let's Toast the Happy Couple!
To The Bride and Groom.....
Good Health,
Great Memories
and a Lifetime filled with
Happiness.
Cheers!...

Choose us for
professional help with your
rehearsal and reception
wine & liquor needs.



**The North Country's Favorite Destination For
Fine Wine and Spirits For Over 50 Years!**

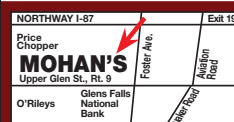
- ✓ Deep warehouse discount pricing.
- ✓ Come discover our weekly super specials.
- ✓ Proven favorite choice of North Country folks for over 50 years.
- ✓ Conveniently located in the Queensbury shopping district.

**LIQUOR
AND
WINE
CASE
DISCOUNTS**

#1 In Size
Over 23,000 square feet.

#1 In Selection
Largest inventory in the
North Country
with the Best of Everything!

#1 In Service
Friendly, knowledgeable staff.



Online @ mohanswine.com
518-792-0653
9 am-9 pm Monday-Saturday
Open Sundays Noon-6 pm





autumn day to celebrate the beginning of our life together, surrounded by the friends and family we love.”

“We also really loved our first dance. It was such a fun moment to share, officially introduced as Mr. and Mrs. Hoag.”

Ray and Ashton recommended seeking help from others while planning a wedding.

“We had friends and family we discussed ideas with, and they were able to provide feedback of what might work or what might be difficult with certain situations. Our family’s support was definitely a wonderful help,” said Ashton.

Prioritizing what matters most was also key.

“It was helpful that we determined the ‘big stuff’ early on, like our wedding and reception venue, catering, photographer and DJ,” they agreed. “Have open conversations with your fiancé about what you truly want your wedding to be. Talk about how many people you want to invite, where you want to have it and what food you want to eat.”

“Just remember through all the stress and planning, that in the end it’s about the two of you. All that truly matters is that you get married on the day of your wedding. Don’t sweat the small stuff. In the end it all comes together,” said Ashton.

The couple were especially pleased with their wedding photos, which came out in

a manner that can only be described as spectacular.

“We highly recommend our amazing photographer Julia, of Julia Rebecca Photography. She was able to capture so many beautiful moments throughout our wedding day, and she is amazing to work with throughout the whole wedding process,” said Ray.

As a final note, the couple pointed to the importance of taking time to reflect before the event itself.

“On the day before the wedding, go for a short walk together. Just take in everything and be alone with each other, and know that you love and are thankful for the other, and that is all that matters.

HOW TO CUT WEDDING COSTS

GREEN SHOOT MEDIA

You'll remember your special day forever, but if you rack up tons of debt in the process, your financial situation can also last a while, and not in a good way.

The minute you start planning your wedding, it's time to put on your cost control cap and get to work. With a few simple tips and some discipline, you can make your wedding a cost-effective event while still wowing your guests and making special memories.

Hiring help

A strong local wedding planner is an essential piece of pulling off a successful — and budget-friendly — wedding day experience. Once you budget for a wedding planner and define their roles, you may still be concerned at the amount of work that has to be done leading up to your wedding.

When it comes to hiring help for your special day, don't be afraid to rope in your friends and family members. Asking a friend to bartend or make decorations can save you big bucks in the long run without compromising the overall quality of your ceremony and reception.

Location, location, location

Where you get married matters, especially in the wintertime months. There are many holidays that may compete with your wedding day at the end of the year, making locking down a venue a more difficult and costly feat.

On the other hand, if you can wait until January or February, you may be able to find a lower price tag on venues, as many ceremony sites, reception halls, photographers and other vendors will offer lower rates during off-peak months.

Looking to tie the knot in a major metropolitan area? You can expect higher prices and increased competition for venues and other services as well. Consider looking outside major cities for cheaper locations. Trade in city skyscrapers for country landscapes and you may find your venue cost substantially decreased.

Stay disciplined

If you're feeling pressure from your relatives or friends on how your wedding should go down, don't forget this day is all about you and your spouse. Your wed-

ding spending should align with your income, regular expenses and other financial goals as opposed to breaking the bank to make other people happy.

Once you've established a budget, decided the kind of wedding you want and begun to compare costs. And then stick to your number. Expect a few pop-up expenses along the way but be steadfast in hitting your budget so you start your marriage off in a smart, financially responsible fashion.



Adirondack Chic... Your destination for a truly majestic wedding!

Contact us now to discuss your 2020 or 2021 Wedding Date!



Photo by Bryan Michael

Warrensburg, New York • 518-623-5599
thelodgeonecholake.com

Steve & Linda Noftle

married 37 years



BY ANDREA HARDWOOD PALMER

Steve and Linda Noftle share a forsaking-all-others devotion to each other that is visible, and enviable.

When the couple met in high school in the late 70's, they were both running cross country and track. Linda was 15, and Steve was 17.

They happened to be dating other people at the time. In fact, Steve was dating Linda's best friend.

On a group date one evening, Steve was driving the car. While stopped at a red light, he performed a prank where he yelled, "Fire drill!". Subsequently, each passenger exited the vehicle, ran around it at least once and took a different seat upon re-entry. Linda ended up in the seat next to Steve.

"Everyone wanted him to do another one after that so



THE PERFECT

Place
FOR
A PERFECT
Wedding

DIAMOND POINT
COMMUNITY CHURCH
3699 LAKE SHORE DR.
DIAMOND POINT, NY 12824
WWW.DIAMONDPPOINTCC.WEBLY.COM

we could switch back, but he wouldn't," laughed Linda. The couple soon broke up with the people they had been dating, and started seeing each other.

Steve had asked her to go to a basketball game, and she surmised they were just hanging out. But he was interested in her, and before long she caught on. "We laugh about it still to this day. I didn't really think it was a date!"

The couple dated for 5 years and became engaged while they were in college. Steve arranged for a friend to invite them to dinner. When the couple arrived at the friend's apartment, a note on the door said there'd been a family emergency but to go in and eat so the dinner of lobster, shrimp and corn on the cob--all of Linda's favorites--would not be wasted. After dinner, Steve got down on one knee and proposed to Linda, who said she was "crying like a baby".

The couple married in Derry, New Hampshire a year later, on May 29th, 1982. Steve's dad officiated the wedding, with around 150 guests in attendance.

"The best part of the day was marrying our best friend," said the couple. "The ceremony was beautiful. We loved our vows and still have them. The candle lighting ceremony where we combined our lives symbolically was very meaningful. The songs We've Only Just Begun and The Wedding Song continue to evoke sweet memories when we hear them played. It was all beautiful!"

"We were in agreement with most things, which was our best strength. We were also organized and gave ourselves a timeline to follow," said Linda.

The couple had limited funds, and their parents were not in a position to contribute financially in a substantial way. But the obstacle of a small budget turned into a uniting circumstance.

"Our budget, or lack thereof,

was our biggest challenge. But looking back, we can see this is where we began our strategy of joining ranks, tackling a problem and moving forward. We were and are a team," said Linda.

The couple agree on a few strategies for planning the big day.

"Give yourself enough time! Save some money. Make lots of lists. Timelines are helpful. Remember, the process can be just as memorable as the wedding. It's about memory making. Some of our sweetest stories were around the planning. We had to be so creative and resourceful," said Steve and Linda.

The couple has renewed their vows twice since they originally wed 37 years ago.

"We loved our wedding and we love being married. We have actually renewed our vows twice now. Once at 10 years and then again at 30 years. I think it's so meaningful to remind ourselves of the vows we made to each other, and it's always a good time to celebrate our love and our marriage," said Linda.

On their 30th wedding anniversary, Steve and Linda hosted a full blown wedding for their vow renewal. There were 125 guests in attendance, and the event was held at The Inn at Erlowest in Lake George.

The Nottles have sound marriage advice for soon-to-be-married couples.

"Make time together a priority. Never stop dating! You can turn the littlest, most mundane things into a date with just a little creativity," they said. "Commit to taking care of your marriage by participating in 'maintenance checks' such as marriage retreats or marriage conferences."

"Laugh. At the world, at each other, at yourselves. Just laugh... a LOT! Agree early on to 'fight fair'. Never name call, and never, ever say the "D" word (divorce). And always remind each other that you're on the same team."



PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR YOUR SPECIAL DAY

WEDDING RECEPTIONS • BIRTHDAY PARTIES
SWEET SIXTEENS • CORPORATE EVENTS
PROMS • GRADUATIONS • BAR/BAT MITZVAHS
AND MORE!



*Overtime
Events*

CREATE FUN MEMORIES

DJ

SOUND FOR
CEREMONY & RECEPTION
MASTER OF CEREMONY
LIGHT SHOW & UPLIGHTING

PHOTO BOOTH

UNLIMITED SESSIONS
FUN/THEMED PROPS
PRINTS FOR
EVERY GUEST

518.412.2712 | OvertimeEvents.com

MAKING YOUR *Wedding Flower* DREAMS COME TRUE FOR 127 YEARS!

Beautiful flowers
for your special day
should be at the top
of your list.

*Let the professionals at
Binley's enhance your special
day. Large or small, you'll
find quality at an affordable
price. We can help you plan
the perfect day. Stop by
anytime and visit with Tami,
our wedding Consultant.*



Photo by Rob Spring Photography



Since 1893



We're Open 7 Days a Week!
Quality & Service - A Tradition Since 1893



Photo by Rob Spring Photography

Corner of Quaker & Dix, Queensbury



793-9603 • www.binleyflorist.com

