



IN THE PRESS



Marrying style to seasons in Mashpee

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Gala wedding event celebrates third year at Mashpee Commons

The elegant gowns, the beautiful flowers, the sumptuous foods and the pop of the champagne corks could only mean one thing: Wedding season is here.

To celebrate, the third annual A Wedding for All Seasons bridal show will be held at Mashpee Commons on Sunday from noon to 3 p.m. under the tent.

This enchanting event allows engaged, or merely curious, couples to meet and mingle with owners from more than 25 of Mashpee Commons' finest shops and restaurants, all with the goal of helping create a memorable matrimonial celebration.



Visitors can listen to live tunes by Full Spectrum Music, correct those two left feet with dancing demonstrations from instructor Deborah Israel, sip champagne and sample hors d' oeuvres.

For those planning their big day, this is an event not to be missed. The 2008 gala includes a little something for everyone.

One trend making an appearance at the event will help planners save greens in more ways than one.

Amy DuFault at 'g' Green Design Center in the Commons wants to help turn all weddings green while helping couples save.

"If you look in any bridal magazine you're going to see that this is a big trend," said DuFault, a former freelance writer for such publications.

"You can go green for everything. You're having such a huge event, you're hosting a huge party and you have to be aware of the impact of that party. In that way, I guess people are being more responsible [with] a wedding."

According to DuFault there is no end to the possibilities when it comes to making a wedding green: Guests can eat organic wedding cake, tables can be adorned with organic flowers, and even the bridal fashions can be eco-friendly.

“With bridal fashions the trend has always been color,” said DuFault. “Now the trend is having sustainable fabrics.”

Visitors to the ‘g’ Green Design Center booth will be able to get information on organic cakes, chocolates, flowers, biodegradable flatware and tableware. The shop also features a green wedding registry.

“There’s so much that’s on there,” said DuFault. “Nontoxic paints, nontoxic cleaning supplies, organic table linens, bamboo products, even gift cards.”

DuFault’s establishment also offers disposal and recycling following a reception or rehearsal dinner.

At the event, ‘g’ Green Design Center will be giving away a sustainable first breakfast and will have on hand an organic wedding cake, organic centerpieces and more.

“We want people to know all the different things you can do at a wedding,” she said.

Another new trend in weddings is cupcakes, and Cupcake Charlie’s is ready. Mashpee Commons’ newest shop boasts nothing but cupcakes sure to delight every sweet tooth at the reception.

An increasingly popular alternative to the traditional wedding cake is a specially make cupcake tower, which, depending on number of guests at a wedding, can allow each guest a cupcake of their own.

Traditionalists might opt for Grammy’s Carrot Cup or Pumpkin Spice, while those more daring will want to tempt their taste buds with Rockin’ Red Velvet, Chocolate Raspberry Surprise or Chocolate Overload.

Naturally, it wouldn’t be a wedding without champagne. Why not accompany the champagne toast with berry champagne cupcakes? These confections are made from refreshing berry cake topped with real champagne butter cream frosting.

Briana Davis, special events coordinator for Cupcake Charlie’s, noted that cupcakes can be special ordered for the wedding couple in order to perfectly suit everyone’s tastes.

“We’re very accommodating,” she said. “Because it is their big day.”

While some couples have opted for the cupcake towers as a means of saving money versus the traditionally expensive wedding cakes, Davis said that Cupcake Charlie’s towers are quite special.

“Where some people go for them as a less expensive, less extravagant option, we actually try to make ours more extravagant,” she said. “But still affordable.”

The shop will feature two variations of cupcake towers at Sunday’s event, and there will be samples. As owner Penny Lessa said, “Life is short. Eat a cupcake.”

Of course, the most important aspect of a wedding for the bride is what she wears as she walks down the aisle. The place to find the latest in bridal fashions at the Commons – from wedding gowns to bridesmaids dresses and mother’s gowns – is Meredith’s Bridal Boutique.

According to owner Meredith Lane, this season’s color trend for bridal gowns is soft.

“You’re going to see a lot of blush wedding gowns this year, a lot of lace, a lot of form-fitted gowns that are great for beach weddings,” she said. “A lot of strapless or very narrow straps with low-cut backs. But strapless is still the most popular thing going right now.”

Color is usually reserved for bridesmaids’ dresses, which Lane said are going to be in lime green, navy with bright pink trim, lilac and raspberry. They are all, Lane said, “beautiful colors.”

At the shop’s highly anticipated fashion show, brides will see the latest from Meredith’s exclusive designers Lea-Ann Belter and Melissa Sweet.

Lea-Ann Belter gowns are known for their excellent quality. Each is handmade at the designer’s atelier using fine materials such as Dupioni silk and French Alençon lace.

Lane has also enhanced this year’s fashion show to include a selection of veils and mothers’ dresses.

“We’re showcasing mothers for the first time this year,” she said. “Very simple dresses, silk shantung, no beading, very elegant.”

Emcee and Broadway performer Todd Lattimore will liven up the fashion show with his smooth charm.

Also, don’t forget the bridal scavenger hunt. Participants will play for the chance to win a fabulous prize package including four tickets to the Melody Tent/South Shore Music Circus, Diamond & White gold wedding bands from Guertin Brothers Jewelers, an Ionithermie body shaping and detoxifying wrap from Beyond Beauty Cape Cod, and more.

Whether planning for a beach wedding, an intimate affair at a secret locale or a festive celebration involving family and friends, A Wedding for All Seasons will surely inspire.

Event tickets are \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door and can be purchased by calling 508-477-5400 or by visiting Meredith’s Bridal Boutique, Mashpee Commons Florist, Quintessentials or The Tea Shoppe in Mashpee Commons