



A
Celebration
of Love

2021 Bridal Guide

A Special Supplement of Jennings Daily News

Rival Nutrition: Helping you look great, feel great



Take control of your health at Rival Nutrition, located at 1231 North Cutting Avenue in Jennings.

Call (377) 246-3222 for an appointment and let Rival Nutrition tell you about all of the tools available to look your best on your big day, honeymoon and beyond. This includes weight loss plans, muscle gaining plans, cellulite treatment, protein, supplements, mass building and bulking solutions that are at your fingertips to help cater to your specific needs. Rival can also help to improve your skin tone and texture as well as assist in body contouring.

At Rival Nutrition, they strive and work with you to earn the perfect outcome you desire. Look great and feel great with the knowledgeable staff at Rival Nutrition!



CAKEBAR:

Award-winning desserts for life's sweet moments

The sweet moments in life call for a sweet treat, and a full menu awaits at the award-winning CAKEBAR in Crowley.

Delight guests at your engagement party, bridal shower or wedding reception with fresh cupcakes, cheesecake, cakepops, cookies, macarons, lemon bars and more bite-sized treats. Some of CAKEBAR's delicious flavors include not only staples like chocolate, strawberry, red velvet, vanilla and

peanut butter, but also chantilly, strawberry champagne, cookies and cream, bacon cupcake, king cake and more.

Plan your dessert menu with CAKEBAR by calling (337) 514-5111 or visiting 803 N. Parkerson Ave. in Crowley Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. You can also view a gallery featuring images of CAKEBAR's sweet work by going to www.cakebar.us.



La Belle Femme
Dress Shop

426 N Main St. • 370-0618

\$100 Wedding Dresses
All Mon Cheri
50% off

Bridal, Bridesmaid, Prom, & Mardi Gras Gowns

Storewide Sale!

50% Off Accessories

Mother of the Bride \$100

Prom and Mardi Gras \$100



CROWLEY
RENT-ALL CENTER
www.crowleyrent-allcenter.com

FOR THOSE SPECIAL EVENTS RENT-ALL!

Tables, chairs, linens, backdrops, pipe and drape, cake plateaus, white wood chairs, food warmers, glassware, and china.

Delivery & Pick up

Hours: 8-12 Monday and Saturday
8-5 Tuesday - Friday

715 N Parkerson Ave,
Crowley, LA 70526
(337) 783-2601



Pick the perfect petals for your special day

metrocreativeconnection.com

Flowers can represent various emotions. Flowers play a prominent role in many and holidays, including weddings. Roses are a traditional favorite, but shoppers can look to various blooms to send the right message to that special someone in their lives. In fact, each type of flower conveys its own unique message. ProFlowers and Pickup Flowers note that the following are some popular blooms and the messages those flowers are traditionally associated with.

Amaryllis

This flower is symbolic of splendid beauty and can be used to indicate worth.

Calla lily

This bloom symbolizes magnificence and beauty, as well as purity and innocence. That is why Calla lilies are often the flower of choice in wedding bouquets.

Aster

The aster symbolizes patience, elegance and daintiness.

Carnations

These are one of the most popular flowers in the world and are generally symbolic of love and fascination.

Daffodil

Daffodils symbolize regard and chivalry. They also can be indicative of rebirth, new beginnings and eternal life. A single daffodil can signal misfortune, while a bunch expresses joy and happiness.

Gerbera daisies

With large, beautiful blooms in a wide assortment of vibrant colors, gerbera daisies are a favorite flower for cheerful sentiments.

Gladioluses

These tall, striking flowers are eye-catching and make great gifts for significant others. The gladiolus symbolizes honor, infatuation and strength.

Iris

Irises represent faith, hope and wisdom and are cherished for their big, beautiful blooms.

Peony

This flower, which resembles a rose, symbolizes a happy life, happy marriage, prosperity, and good health.

Rose

Roses symbolize love in its various forms, and different colors of roses symbolize different things. For example, yellow roses represent care and friendship, while pink roses are given as a token of admiration.



Advice from the LADIES

Brides offer guidance on wedding planning

By SHEILA SMITH

Jennings Daily News asked brides to share advice on how to handle wedding planning. From suggestions of saving money to partying it up to simply eloping, here are what a few of the ladies had to share:

"Save the money on the hall and food and go enjoy your honeymoon! Keep it small and simple."

~ MARISOL MORALES

"Don't water down the plans you had for your wedding to satisfy anyone else. Decorate the way you want, play the music you want, have as much/little food as you please and wear whatever you want to wear to your after-party, and make sure to dance as much as possible with your parents and husband."

~ LINDSEY HOLDEN

"Do it cheap! We paid \$10 to the justice of the peace and married on a Tuesday in a trailer park...here we are almost 24 years later. That money is better spent on a fantastic trip or home down payment."

~ AMY GUILLLOT

"Relax! At the end of the night it will be you and your spouse and that's it. Make yourself happy. Make the memories you want."

~ ERIKA STEVENS

"Don't get so stressed over the planning that you don't enjoy the engagement. No matter how much or how little you spend on the wedding, at the end of the day you will be married. Also, spend that engagement time preparing for your marriage. Get some good, Godly pre-marriage counseling. Include your fiancé in the decision making. The wedding isn't just about the bride, it's his day, too!"

~ AMANDA CROCHET

"I just got married last year and did it at the courthouse because of the pandemic. Still, never change your plans because of someone else's opinion. Don't change the theme, the flowers, the location. Nothing at all. That day is about you and your husband and showing others your love. It's to celebrate the two of you, not to impress your friends and family. Don't go broke trying to impress others."

~ ASHLEY LAGRANT

"Double-check months in advance as to what time/day you can start decorating your venue. Don't be like me and find out days before that you have to do it that morning instead of the day before."

~ KELLIE ROACH

"A wedding is just an event. A marriage is a plan for life. Spend as much or as little time as you need planning the event, but make sure you spend a lot of time choosing and getting to know the person you plan to marry. In the end, that's all that matters. Consider your wedding day one picture in the photo album of your life."

~ JESSICA ARDOIN

"Don't stress about the little things. Focus more on the marriage and less on the wedding. Also, people won't remember arrangements on tables, what table cloth, color or anything like that. They'll remember if you run out of food, alcohol and if the DJ was bad. Also, don't let your parents or in-laws make the rules. It is your day, not theirs."

~ MORGAN REYNOSO

"Elope."

~ RACHEL SCANLAN



Merle Norman and Salon Marais:

Providing all your spa, beauty and personal care needs for your wedding day

Merle Norman and Salon Marais can accommodate all of your spa, beauty and personal care needs when preparing for your wedding day. Our stylists Melody Veronie, Jenee Broussard, Jennifer Broussard, Tana Zeman, Dana Romero and

Jessica Carter can help with any specialty preferences such as Keratin treatments, hi-lites, makeup and nails. Contact them at (337) 824-0528 for your appointment today or visit 919 N. Lake Arthur Ave., Suite C, in Jennings.



Crowley Rent-All Center: *Your one stop rental shop*

Planning the details of an engagement party, rehearsal dinner or wedding reception? Remember to turn to Crowley Rent-All Center when you are looking to rent round or rectangular tables and matching tablecloths and white wood chairs or poly chairs. Call them today at (337) 783-2601 or visit 715 N. Parkerson Ave. in Crowley.

Groom's Attire

JFW
JIM'S FORMAL WEAR
EST. 1984

Marceaux's

918 N. Lake Arthur Ave. • Jennings • 824-7579
Hours: Mon. - Fri. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sat. 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

.....

CAKEBAR

.....

Sweet things for all of your events!

803 N Parkerson Avenue, Crowley, LA 70526 | P: 337-514-5111

The Crossing at Mervine Kahn:

An exquisite rustic venue



The Crossing at Mervine Kahn is an exquisitely rustic venue, complete with a place for your ceremony as well as reception. The bridal suite, fully equipped with salon chairs and rolling stations, can accommodate you and your bridal party to prepare for your fairytale wedding. The Crossing provides the tables, chiavari chairs, the linens and the finest catering experience around! Two selections of venue size available to serve groups of 50-800!

Call (337) 393-2416 for an appointment to view this luxurious venue located at 113 E. Louisiana Avenue in Rayne. Visit www.thecrossingmk.com or like us on Facebook and view our photo gallery.



LaBelle Femme Dress Shop:

Putting you in the dress of your dreams

Visit LaBelle Femme Dress Shop, your local bridal gown destination. Located at 426 N. Main St. in Jennings, it is dedicated to putting you in the dress of your dreams. We have a large selection of elegant jewelry and accessories, all 50 percent off while supplies last! Mothers of the bride and groom can also be decked out for the big day, with

suits and dresses at half-off already unbeatable prices.

Visit LaBelle Femme from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday through Friday. Saturday appointments are available by calling (337) 370-0618.



& Salon Marais

Stylist:
Jenee Davis,
Dana Romero,
Jennifer Conner,
Tana Zeman,
Melody Veronie,
Jessica Carter

Haircuts, Hi-Lights, Colors, Perms, Extensions, Keratin Smoothing Treatment, Nails, Pedicures, Make-up

919 N. Lake Arthur Ave. Suite C • Jennings

824-0528

FUSE 
ENTERTAINMENT LLC
jeremy.fuselier@gmail.com

More Than Just DJ Service!

- Event Planning
- Event Coordinator
- Entertainment
- Master of Ceremony
- LED Lighting Services



We are more than Entertainment!

Jeremy Fuselier

(337) 658-3873

29461 Bornsdall Rd • Elton, La 70532



**Your Happily Ever After
Starts Here.**



**Let us host
your special
event.**

**Taste the
Spirit of Louisiana.**

*Bayou Rum products offer something for everyone!
View us online at bayourum.com*

**Visit us at 20909 S. Frontage Road
Lacassine, LA 70650
337.588.5800**



Marceaux Clothing Co.: *Hottest looks for the entire wedding party*

The perfect suits for a groom and his groomsmen can be found at Marceaux Clothing Co. in Jennings. Find today's hottest looks for the entire wedding party from Michael by Michael Kors, Ike Evening by Ike Behar, Kenneth Cole and more.

Marceaux Clothing Co.'s selection includes Jim's Formal Wear. Gentlemen can of course find traditional black attire, but Jim's Formal Wear has shades of blue available including indigo and cobalt, as well of greys available in steel, heather and even grey plaid. Planning an outdoor ceremony or tropical destination wedding? Jim's

Formal Wear offers linen in light grey and tan.

No matter the suit you choose, Marceaux Clothing Co. prides itself on ensuring the fit is just right. Choose from ultra slim or slim fit tuxedo and suit styles, each providing a silhouette that compliments the groom and the gentlemen in his party, including those who need big and tall sizes.

New this season is the legacy ultra slim fit performance tuxedo with stretch fabric by Cool Max. This unique fabric helps men stay cool, comfortable and enjoy extra flexibility on their big day.

Ringbearer suits are also available at special pricing. The icing on the cake? The

groom's tux is free with six additional suit rentals.

The groom can also find a special gift for his bride at Marceaux Clothing Co.,

the exclusive dealer of Ronaldo Designer Jewelry in Jefferson Davis Parish. One piece perfect for her is the Pearl of My Heart

bracelet.

Marceaux Clothing Co. has served Jefferson Davis Parish for 30 years. Visit them at 918 N. Lake

Arthur Ave. in Jennings to find the suit made for you. You can also find Marceaux Clothing Co. on Facebook and Instagram.



Share Your Good News



***Bridal Shower, Engagement
& Wedding Announcement
Forms Can Be Downloaded at
jenningsdailynews.net***



**Click on Community Tab,
Then Online Forms For
Bridal Shower,
Engagement and
Wedding Announcement**

***You may also
pick up forms
at Jennings Daily News
office located at
238 N. Market Street,
Jennings***



WE DID IT *our way*

Couple caters their own wedding

By SHEILA SMITH

It started with a birthday party in January 2018. Alison Benoit’s sister was celebrating her birthday and Matt Whitney, a friend of Benoit’s brother-in-law, was one of the guests in attendance.

Alison needed a ride from the party to Jennings. Since Matt was headed that way, he offered her a ride.

Flash forward to Thanksgiving 2019. Matt’s family was taking the opportunity to exchange birthday gifts on top of giving thanks. Alison was not expecting to receive a gift until Matt’s mom said, “I have something for Ali.”

Matt said he and Alison love the Christmas holiday. The gift his mother gave Alison was Christmas-themed — it was an ornament shaped like a ring box that read “Engaged 2019.”

Matt got down on one knee and proposed and, of course, Alison said yes.

The couple set their sights on a December 2020 wedding so they could have a Christmas-themed event. The trick was to work around their shared work schedule.

The couple works at the same hunting and fishing lodge, where Matt has



been a chef for two years.

“The lodge is open every day of the year and we were planning our wedding in the middle of hunting season,” Matt said.

But the COVID-19 pandemic that affected so many businesses and travel plans actually worked out in the couple’s favor.

“It gave us extra time to

sit down and go through everything we wanted to do,” Alison said.

They decided to marry at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church in Evangeline, the same place where Matt’s parents and his grandparents had exchanged vows. They settled on having four bridesmaids, four groomsmen, a ring bear-

er and a flower girl. The maids would don juniper green gowns in the Christmas-themed affair.

As for Alison’s gown, she said she was unsure what she was looking for.

“I knew I wanted the dress to include lace and beading,” she said. “I didn’t envision buying the dress I bought. It was more expensive than what I planned to pay but when I tried it on I said, ‘I have to have this.’”

And who wanted to oversee catering for the event? The groom, of course.

“I knew exactly what I wanted for us,” he said. “I thought to myself, I’ll need about three tables to do what I envisioned, but I ended up needing five.”

Preparing the food was a team effort. At their job, the couple has an extended break each afternoon. They decided to prepare food throughout the week to have everything prepared for their wedding day.

“We started the week with the simpler stuff that



would keep well and saved the other dishes for closer to the wedding,” he said.

The menu included cheeses, salami, fruits, fresh vegetables and pickled vegetables, breads,

a shrimp mold from the recipe of Matt’s late great-grandmother, sweet and sour meatballs, candied bacon, sliced ham, a tur-



Photos courtesy of Shannon Monic Photography

Top and right: The wedding feast, catered by the couple, along with friends and family.

Above: Mr. and Mrs. Matt Whitney on their wedding day.



COUPLE from page 9

key roll (prepared by his mother’s fiancé), brisket (prepared by the groom’s dad), spinach dip (courtesy of family friend Uvonne Domingue) pepperjack jambalaya, cheese grits and green bean and artichoke dip.

“We were fortunate that some of my dad’s friends helped in dishing the foods and serving everyone,” Matt said. “It was a lot of work.”

While Ali almost took on the task of preparing her own wedding cake, the couple ultimately ordered that cake and the groom’s cake with Gambino’s Bakery in Lafayette.

The ceremony was beautiful and included remembrance of someone special to the bride.

“My grandmother passed away in August 2020, so at the church I left an

extra rose with (the Virgin) Mary in honor of her,” Alison said.

The couple’s sendoff was also memorable and went hand in hand with their Christmas theme — instead of being sent off in a rain of rice, the couple left in a flurry of snowflakes thanks to a snow machine Alison’s mother had acquired.

With their wedding behind them and the couple now enjoying married life, they have advice they would like to pass along to couples who are planning their own weddings.

“Plan early and as much as you can,” Alison said.

“Have a game plan,” Matt added. “We had our decorations planned down to the last detail, even where we wanted them to be. When our

families got to the hall to decorate, we already knew where everything needed to go.”

He added that family and friends are important to the big day.

“If you are going to be handling most of everything on your own, make sure you have a great support system,” he said. “I don’t think we could have done it without all our friends and family that came to help.”

Top left: The couple enjoys a sendoff in a flurry of snowflakes.

Top right and right: Every detail of the decorations was pre-planned.

Photos courtesy of Shannon Monic Photography



Bayou Rum Event Center:

An extraordinary venue for your special day

If you are planning a wedding and are in need of a venue that suits any décor style, Bayou Rum Event Center is just what you are looking for. With exposed brick, wood columns, hardwood flooring and romantic industrial style lighting, the Event Center speaks for itself. The floor to ceiling windows will draw you in. The Barrel Library, which is attached to the main hall, provides an amazing backdrop for your event. The custom bar with a rustic copper bar top will

provide your guests with a little something to talk about while ordering their favorite Bayou Rum cocktail. And specialty cocktails are available for every taste! During your ceremony or reception, enjoy the spacious main hall with up to 300 of your closest family and friends. The outdoor courtyard area is available to hold your outdoor ceremonies and to provide your guests with more space to mingle. With over 8,500 square feet to entertain, your guests will

have plenty of room to have a ball! At Bayou Rum, they want to make planning your big day as easy as possible, which is why they will provide all of your tables and chairs and a catering kitchen for your caterer to prepare and store your wedding menu. They also offer a bridal suite in the beautiful Farm House that is located on the grounds. The Farm House can be rented to be used for your bridal showers or other small events, as well. And if you need a way to



play all of your favorite party music for your guests, they offer a digital sound system to get the party started! Capturing the memories of your event is a breeze with so many photographic opportunities. They offer every inch of the grounds at Bayou Rum for all of your wedding photography needs. This includes engagements, bridals, and wedding photos, all at no extra charge when you rent the beautiful Event Center for your event. Their first-ever wedding event was held at the venue by Jennings native Rosalie Guinn Ange and her husband John Ange. Here is what Mrs. Ange had to say about her experience at Bayou Rum Event Center: "As a Bayou Rum fan, I knew before the event center was even built that it was going to be the perfect place

for my dream wedding. As the building was being constructed, the Bayou Rum team worked with us throughout the wedding planning process to create signature drinks, find the perfect layout for our tables and decor, and truly made us feel like the entire team was as excited as us to host the first ever event at the Bayou Rum Event Center! Our guests still comment on what a great time they had. We rate the building and atmosphere 10/10 and highly recommend the facility to anyone looking for a one-of-a-kind experience. The Bayou

Rum team will forever hold a place in our hearts for making our day so special!" Since the Grand Opening in June of 2019, Bayou Rum Event Center has held many events. They offer our space for any type of event, from weddings, showers and Mardi Gras balls to corporate meetings, luncheons and family reunions. Contact them Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at (337) 588-5800 to find out more about their extraordinary venue! They look forward to planning your big day with you!



FUSE Entertainment:

Professional, personalized DJ services

Move to the beat of your own drum on your wedding day. FUSE Entertainment, LLC, offers professional and personalized DJ and emcee services provided by experienced DJs who value your opinion and encourage your input regarding YOUR special event. For booking information, quotes and more, call (337) 658-3873 or email jeremy.fuselier@gmail.com.



Photo courtesy of HS Photography

Take Control of Your Health



Smoothies • Supplements • Coffee

We are dedicated to providing personalized nutritional counseling for all fitness, health, and dietary needs. All bodies are different, so we approach each case with a comprehensive understanding of wellness and wholeness

Call us today to take control of your health.

Soups, Salads, Sandwiches, Coffee, Smoothies etc...



1231 N Cutting Ave, Jennings • 337-246-3222

NOW SERVING BREAKFAST!



Ceremony & Reception Hall

Rustic yet elegant, timeless intrigue...

The beautifully restored, historic Mervine Kahn, with its vintage appeal, offers over 13,700 square feet of rustic beauty for your special event. Delicious catering, cake and Bridal Suite options are available, along with Bridal Showers and other party options.

Two Selections of Venue sizes available to serve groups of 50-800.



To view this
luxurious venue
Call Erin Roy Bazile
337-393-2416

113 E. Louisiana Avenue • Rayne, Louisiana 70578

www.thecrossingmk.com

Visit Us on FACEBOOK to view our photo gallery!