

Hiring a disc jockey for a wedding banquet

Engaged couples should carefully shop around when it comes time to decide on the entertainment for the wedding day. The music is one of the most important factors in having a successful party. Hilary and Les Sallay tell *The Herald* recently.

Sonic Entertainment is a Georgetown firm that has been providing professional disc jockey services in the Halton Hills area for many years.

Les and Hilary stress the importance of choosing a top notch disc jockey for the big event, one that can provide you with a variety of good dancing music to suit all ages, quality equipment which looks and sounds professional, as well as ensuring that there is an inviting personality up front, to encourage people to relax, dance and enjoy the night.

Meeting with the engage couple several weeks prior to the wedding, is a must. The disc jockey must have an idea about your plans, the type of guests expected, age groups, special ethnic dances or unusual requests, along with required dances during the night, such as the one between Father and Daughter.

At this time suggestions can be made as to musical selections for the bride and groom to start off the dance, followed by selections for the wedding party or perhaps the parents to join in. If a video is plan-

ed, careful co-ordination is required to ensure perfect results.

It is also important to tell the D.J. of anything that you don't want... perhaps you hate the "Chicken Dance" or a certain song, if played, will embarrass one of your guests. This is the time to let your D.J. know the facts.

Special features can be added to your evening entertainment to make it special. Perhaps you have a relative that would like to sing or play an instrument. It's not unusual to have a skit or a song sung to the bride and groom during the evening. The audience finds this particularly enjoyable. If bagpipes have ever appealed to you, there's nothing more spectacular than being "piped" onto the dance floor in great style. All of these events can be arranged in advance to certain that plans run smoothly on the night.

Some Entertainment offers dance music from the Big Band era, fifties and sixties, as well as today's top hits. It's important at a wedding to have a variety of music as each age group is represented to some degree and the D.J. should be able to take requests and play a good variety.

Dinner music can be an important feature and helps to create atmosphere, especially if your guests are not familiar with anyone at their table, music helps them relax more

and of course it softly covers up the noise of the reception meal.

Over the years Sonic Entertainment has performed its D.J. Service at many unusual events, and all kinds of receptions, some of the most unusual have been outdoor weddings held under a Marquis, often in the pouring rain or perhaps a football field where the only means of setting out of the back of a truck. Everything is possible if the engaged couples make their plans known well in advance.

Often a bride and groom will require the actual Wedding Ceremony music to be played, usually ideal for garden weddings and then the couple can choose whether they will stay with the traditional wedding style of songs that will stay with the traditional wedding march or try a more contemporary style of songs that will have special meaning to the bride and groom. Several lovely restaurants in the area follow this type of wedding ceremony to take place on their grounds and are quite agreeable to allowing the D.J. to set up a sound system in advance.

PRICE FOR A D.J.

The old saying you get what you pay for is never truer than in this case, this is not the time to know a friend with a record player that will

look after the music for you.

Sonic Entertainment prices range from \$230.00 for continuous evening entertainment to \$290.00 for a wedding package with dinner music included, along with microphones for your after dinner speeches and dancing until the wee hours.

Some do's and don'ts when looking to organize your entertainment our advise would be...

Don't... Hire a ball that can hold hundreds of people when you are only planning a small reception for 30 or so guests. There is nothing worse for the atmosphere of the dance than have your guests feel like they are on display.

Don't... Hire a D.J. that appear to be stuck in a groove, fixed to an era of music that suits her or his taste. Make sure that you will be able to hear all types of music that you require for your guests, according to

their specific likes. The disc jockey must play for your crowd and not for his/her own pleasure.

Do... Check that the disc jockey has know how, personality and good sounding, professional looking equipment, neat appearance and the ability to do the job. Ask for references.

Do... check the hall lighting system and ask the D.J. to bring additional mood lighting as required.

Do... choose your special songs well in advance to allow for unusual requests to be dealt with.

Do... find out if the D.J. can set up the equipment in advance, prior to your guests arrival. Is the hall going to allow entry during the daytime?

Do... Relax on the night, knowing that you have told the D.J. everything in advance and now enjoy the music.

Party planning for newlyweds

Whether it means trying out the new wedding china at a formal dinner or having a group of friends over for a casual get-together, part of the fun of being newly married is entertaining.

The first few times a husband and wife entertain together at home can be stressful, however, so the following tips can help in planning the early events.

A newly-married couple should decide which type of party they are most comfortable giving. Some hosts prefer a carefully planned setting, such as a sit-down dinner, while others prefer to put everything out and let guests help themselves.

Choose whatever style makes you both most comfortable. If one likes casual and one formal, try to compromise - perhaps offer hors d'oeuvre and dessert buffet-style and serve the main course at the table.

Delegate responsibilities beforehand. The more organized a couple is about who does what, the smoother the party will go. Also, try to arrange to alternate the timing of each job so that one person is on hand to see to the guests while the other is pulling together last-minute details in the kitchen.

Decide which of you will tend bar, who will clear glasses and ashtrays, etc. Set up whatever you'll need before the party. Make sure you have plenty of ice, mixers, lemon and lime wedges and

coasters on hand.

One of the easiest ways to make an evening special is to give a party or a dinner a special theme. It can be as simple as "going Chinese" by using a wok to cook stir-fry and setting a table with chopsticks and a single colorful flower centerpiece.

Or you might arrange a series of regional dinners with other couples and each week try a different cuisine at someone's home.

If an elaborate dinner is planned, one of the challenges is timing all the elements to serve everything simultaneously. An extra heat source can help, especially one that can be used in the dining room to keep a dish warm.

The new single unit induction cooktop from General Electric heats food by creating a magnetic interaction with any cooking utensil made of ferrous metal. In turn, the pot or pan cooks the food. The cooktop surface itself stays cool, making it an ideal "back-up" burner when entertaining.

With time and luck, you and your spouse will become more synchronized in your hosting styles. In the beginning make a special try at complementing each other's efforts so you will enjoy your own parties more, as well as put your guests at ease. You're bound to be admired for making a great team!

Cleaning on the run for busy brides

As a new bride, you'll hardly have time to catch your breath from wedding and honeymoon before you begin juggling a whirlwind of social engagements, new responsibilities and, of course, your job.

But, while your busy newlywed life is crowded with work, errands and play, dirt and grime are busy, too.

If you're uncomfortable with the prospect of a less-than-clean new home, but refuse to substitute scrubbing time for valuable living time, your load will be lightened by these cleaning tips from the experts at The Eureka Company.

A well-stocked, centralized cleaning center is the hurried housecleaner's best friend. Everything you need should be on hand. Clean rags for dusting, all-purpose cleaners and detergents, brushes of all sizes, a basket to carry everything in, and a vacuum cleaner with a set of attachments.

You can make short work of accumulated dust and grit on floors, furniture, walls and ceiling with the aid of a vacuum cleaner correctly equipped for your home and lifestyle.

In general, an upright vac with an agitator brush-beater bar is best for wall-to-wall carpeting, while a canister vac is recommended for cleaning bare floors and hard-to-reach above the floor places.

Power Team models (canister-upright combination) are suited for all types of cleaning, from carpets and bare floors to above the floor jobs like tables, lamps, drapes, windowsills, etc. Cordless, light-

weight vacs such as Eureka's Quick Up* are mighty handy for cleaning surface litter and dry spills from carpets, area rugs and bare floors.

Clean a room from top to bottom. First, gather all the cleaning supplies you'll need. This will help you save extra steps between cleaning closet and excavation site. Then, clear the room of messy clutter - redistributing brace after you've cleaned.

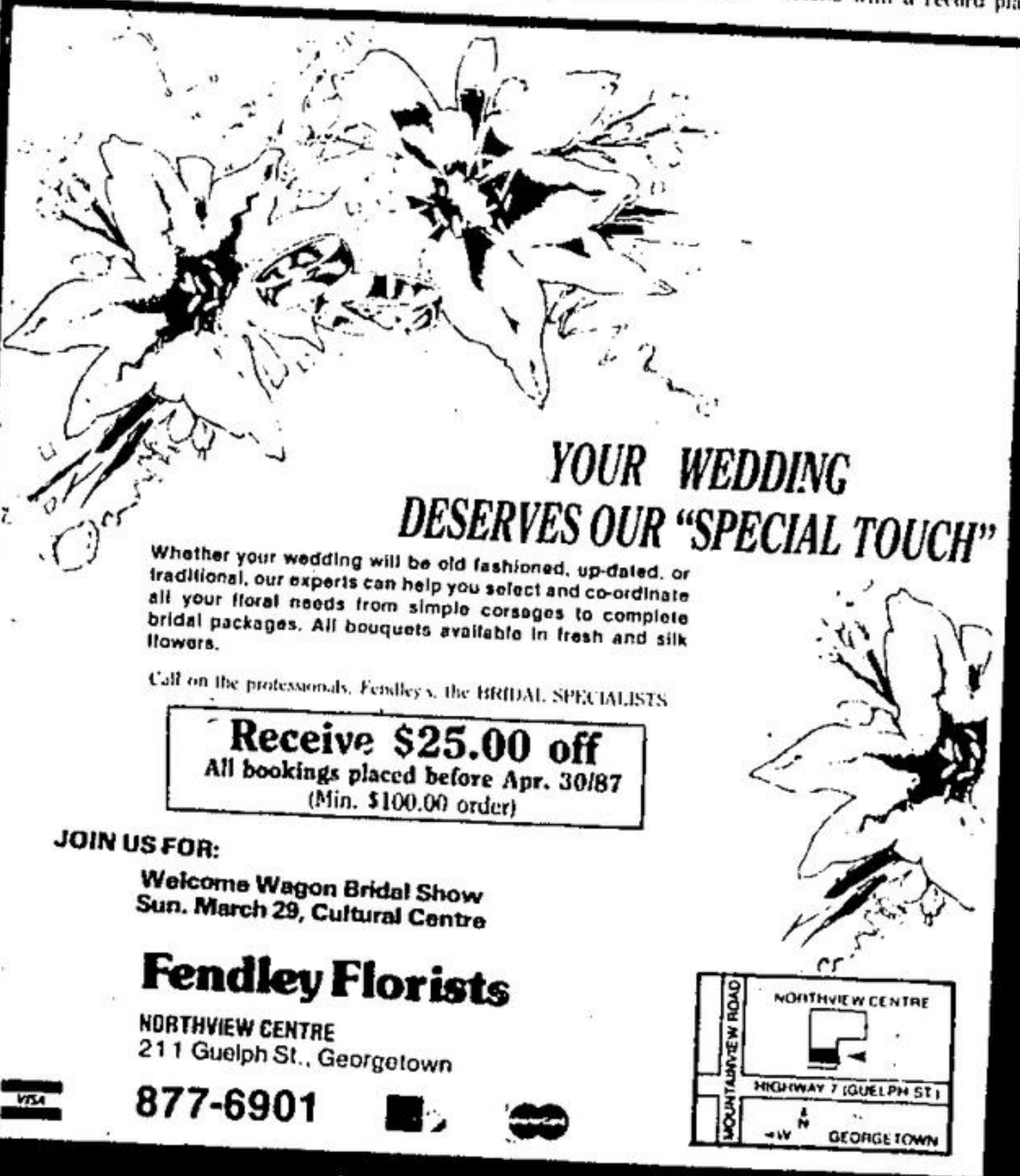
Pull furniture away from walls, turn back carpet edges, choose a starting point, and simply work your way around the room. Dust settles downward, so door frames come first and floors last.

Quick clean the bathroom and kitchen every day. Their tile and porcelain surfaces are fairly stain-resistant if the dirt and scum is not allowed to build up. Hint: Rinse out the tub and/or shower stall immediately after using, while you are still inside.

It's best to leave the big jobs - like window washing, floor waxing and rug shampooing - for a time when you can do it all at once, with vim and vigor. If you're rushed or tired, you might have to abandon these jobs in the middle, which makes the remaining dirt more noticeable.

A man has no business to marry a woman who can't make him happy. It means she can't make him happy.

- G.B. Shaw



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