



For the finest gifts....

Vera Delacourt of Delacourt's in Milton shows some of the china and crystal that are great gift-giving ideas for the bride and groom. Giving china in the couple's registered pattern takes the guesswork out of choosing a wedding gift. Delacourt's Main Street store delivers gift-wrapped packages. The store serves the North Halton area and Rockwood. (Herald photo by Jen Valois)

Take the guesswork out of buying a wedding present

A gift in the bride and groom's favorite china pattern can take the guesswork out of buying a wedding present.

"The bride herself has indicated what she wants, and you feel good about giving it," said Vera Delacourt, owner of North Halton's only china shop, located in Milton.

She said the pattern is chosen by the engaged couple when they come into her Main Street store.

Picking a pattern ensures that "the bride doesn't end up with four toasters and five ironing boards."

Delacourt's delivers china gifts in the areas surrounding Milton. There is a signed card, and the present arrives in attractive gift wrap. Out-of-towners love the service that ensures the gift is a welcomed one.

Georgetown, Acton, Rockwood, Milton and Campbellville customers know Vera Delacourt's china service well.

But the bridal registry, where a bride and groom put their pattern on file, is not the only way to choose that special wedding gift.

There are crystal, statues, in addition to all the most popular china, including Wedgewood, Royal Doulton, Royal Albert and Japanese Noritake patterns.

When choosing gifts for someone, keep in mind that trendiness is not desirable in china, Mrs. Delacourt says.

"Classic patterns will be in long after the very fussy patterns are. The couple will be happy 10 years or 12 years down the road," with a classic choice, she said.

Mrs. Delacourt has been in Milton 30 years and has been in business at her china shop for the past nine years. She is originally from Ireland where she says, ironically, they do not have a

bridal registry for listing china patterns.

Each weekend a registered bride and groom gets married, their names appear on the window of Delacourt's. "It's become a tradition to drive down Main Street and see who's getting married," Mrs.

Delacourt said. This retains the "small town" feeling.

But china patterns are not only for the newly-married, Mrs. Delacourt claims: "We have a very thick file of people who are collecting patterns other than the bridal registry."

Planning a romantic honeymoon

• Talk *honestly* with your partner about what your dream of the "perfect honeymoon" is. Don't set yourself up for disappointment by assuming your partner's dream is the same as yours.

• This is supposed to be *your* time as a couple to relax and enjoy each other. Make sure the destination you choose is one that encourages privacy and provides all the services you expect.

• *Do your homework!* Researching a romantic honeymoon hideaway can be great fun. Read periodicals and guides published by accredited travel writers.

• Know realistically your budget and work within it. You don't need to start your marriage with a financial pinch. A "romantic hideaway" is defined by the atmosphere—not the price tag.

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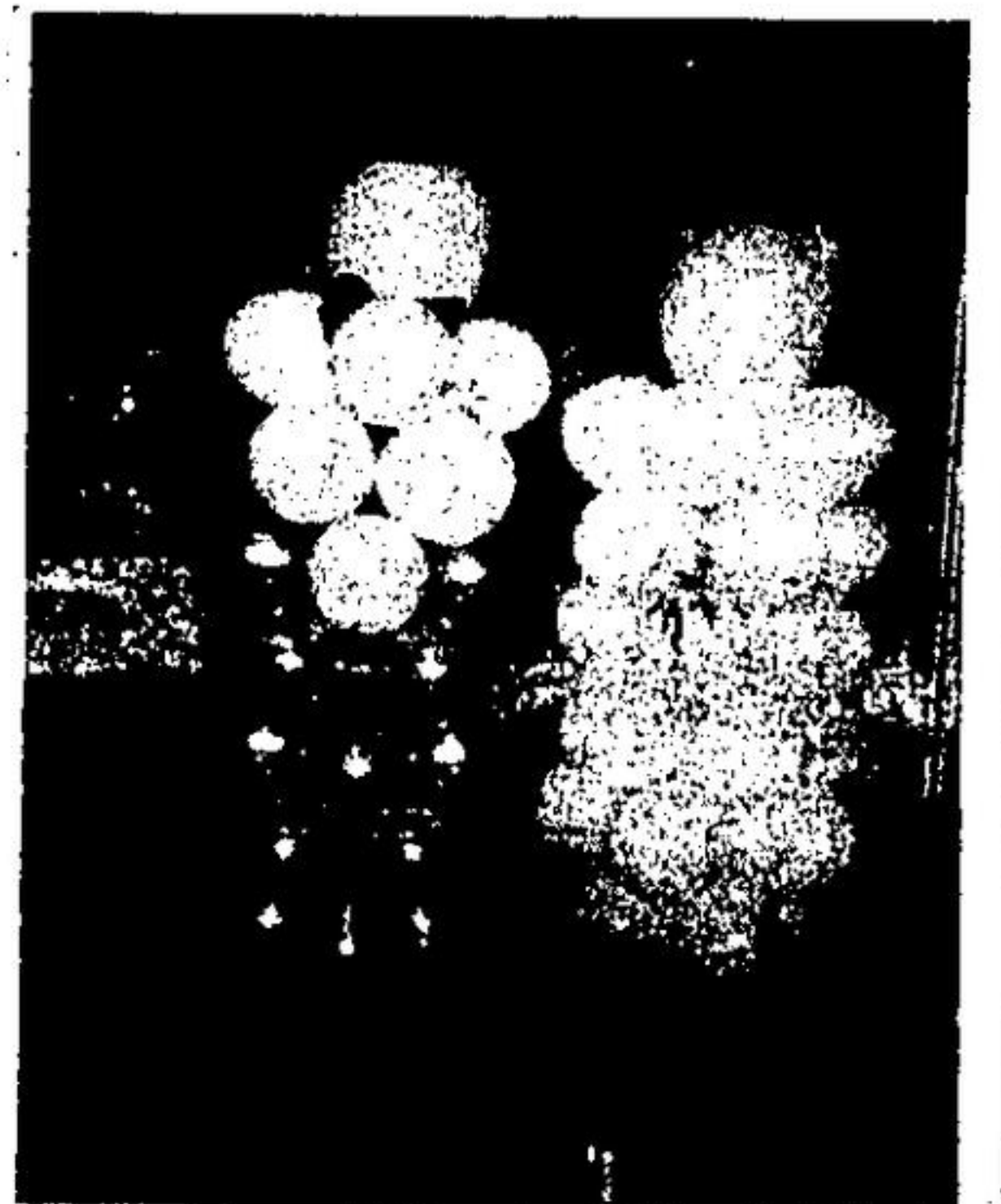
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