THE BRIDAL GUIDE





THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2022

A guide featuring proposal stories, prize winners, local wedding vendors, wedding planning & more









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JAMIE & RACHEL July 23, 2022

Story Submitted By: Rachel Vogt

June, 6th 2021. Every year my fiance's family stays at the same resort on Prairie Lake in Chetek, WI. Due to work, he could only stay one night, but I would be staying a few extra days with his daughter and family. After supper, he told me he wanted me to go fishing with him at his favorite spot on his only night there. We went out on the dock right before sunset and he played a playlist of all of our favorite love songs, ending with LANCO's "Greatest Love Story". He got down on one knee and showed me the ring. Attached to the ring was fishing line with a bobber attached *just in case* one of us dropped it on the dock! To this day neither of us can remember what was said, but I do know there was a lot of happy tears! It was perfect.

> Jamie Langmeier and Rachel Vogt (Potosi, WI)













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TYLER & JESSICA

September 3, 2022

Story Submitted By: Jessica Welch

Tyler's favorite hobby is hunting. September 23, 2021 he told me we needed to check trail cameras. We took our ranger to check cameras on land overlooking the Mississippi River. He stopped the ranger and said we should take a picture near the edge of the bluff. I walked towards the end of the bluff until we had a good view, turned around to take a picture of us, and he was down on one knee. It was intimate, simple, and perfectly fit us. The next day we celebrated our love at a Dan and Shay concert which happened to be my 2019 Christmas present, our first Christmas together as a couple. Totally made the wait (because of covid) worth it!

> Jessica Welch & Tyler Udelhofen (Potosi & Platteville, WI)

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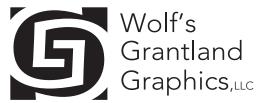


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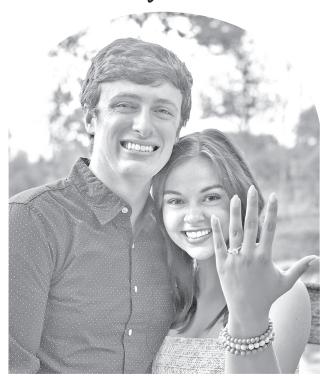
JOSH & CAITLYN

June 11, 2022

Story Submitted By: Caitlyn Gilbertson

My now fiancé and I planned a trip up north with a bunch of our friends. On the last day, we all planned to take a ferry across the lake to find a beach. Little did I know, my fiancé had planned on proposing on the island. All of our friends knew, I was oblivious. We walked for a few miles, across the shorelines and wooded trails trying to find a beach. After a few hours and no beach, we decided to take the ferry back. We stepped off of the ferry, and noticed the shore was covered in beautiful stones. Some of our friends suggested we take couple pictures, and we agreed! When it was our turn, my fiancé dropped to one knee and pulled out the ring. We still get a chuckle out of it, taking a ferry, hiking miles, just to end up right where we started.

Josh Logsdon & Caitlyn Gilbertson (Madison, WI)



BRENDAN & ALI

October 1, 2022

Story Submitted By: Ali Smith

Brendan and I met at University of Wisconsin-Platteville in 2019 and after we both graduated and earned our degrees, we moved to Vernon Hills, Illinois, to pursue jobs. In our new town, we found a river trail that quickly became a special place to us to explore with our goldendoodle, Mabel. On July 27, 2021, Brendan took me to the bridge over the river on the trail to propose. After he proposed, his family popped out of the nearby trail to help celebrate. We'll be getting married this

Brendan Carr & Ali Smith (Vernon Hills, IL)





TRAVIS & ERIKA

September 23, 2023

Story Submitted By: Erika Hang

Travis and I have been together since October 2018. This past May, he arranged a photo shoot with my sisters taking the pictures. On our way to the park, it started to rain. I thought it was going to be canceled because of the heavy rain, but they were very persistent. So I went ahead with the photos. After the first few poses, my sister told us to pose where he was in the back while I was in the front looking up at the sky. Then my sister told me to turn around and he was down on one knee and asked me to marry him! I said YES! The rest of our photo shoot was a mini engagement session and couldn't have been any more perfect. I found out later he had asked my sisters to help arrange the whole engagement for months!

Travis Moore & Erika Hang (Lancaster, WI)





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Your proposal & engagement story...









TREVOR & HEIDI

April 24, 2022

Story Submitted By: Heidi Marcue

Heidi and Trevor went on a summer trip with Trevor's brother, Hunter, and his girlfriend, Jessie, to hike the mountains of Colorado. While driving the off-road mountain trails, they would frequently get out and take pictures. Hunter and Jessie knew Trevor was planning on proposing during the trip. Hunter would take the pictures of the two of them, not knowing when Trevor was going to pop the question. It wasn't until the fourth time that Trevor got out of the truck with a giant ring box bulging out the side of his pocket, but somehow Heidi didn't see it. Hunter noticed and flipped the camera to record just in time as Trevor proposed. Heidi was so excited to say "YES!" and throw her arms around him, that she almost knocked the ring out of Trevor's hand. It was a beautiful spot and an even more beautiful story to go with it!

Trevor Brunk and Heidi Marcue (Cedar Rapids, IA & Lancaster, WI)

you will forever be my always

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better together







MATTHEW & SHAINA

2023 (specific date TBD) Story Submitted By: Shaina Duncan

In 2018 my boss hired a quiet, funny, hardworking boy at Cooks' Woods Christmas Tree Farm- Matthew. I, a seasoned veteran in the Christmas Tree selling business, showed him the ins and outs of the job. We quickly clicked and jumped head first into a relationship. Cut to the year 2021, we now had a house and two sweet, sweet dogs together. I guess the time seemed right, so Matthew picked out the ring for the big day and found a photographer to secretly capture the moment. On November 26th, while hunting for the perfect balsam fir, Matthew called me over to see what I thought about a tree he had found. Instead of finding the perfect tree, I found the perfect man, kneeling with the perfect ring.

Matthew Leeser & Shaina Duncan (Fennimore, WI)

TRAVIS & SABRINA

September 17, 2022

Story Submitted By: Karen Jensen (Travis's Mom)

Before Travis popped the question, he had asked Sabrina's Dad for her hand in marriage. It was Christmas Eve and they were celebrating the holiday at Sabrina's parents house with her family. It was time to open the presents under the tree and when it came to Sabrina's turn to open her gift, Travis told her that she had to find her present. Travis gave Sabrina the hint to look in or around the decorated tree. Sabrina found the present and while she opened it Travis was on one knee and said "Sabrina, will you marry me?" and she said "YES"! Sabrina's family was so excited and congratulated the new couple.

Travis Jensen & Sabrina Phillips (Cuba City & Potosi, WI)



JACOB & KAYLEE

November 4, 2023
Story Submitted By: Kaylee Schilling

My fiancé and I went to UW-Platteville, and we're both originally from the Milwaukee area. He graduated last year, while I still have one more year of schooling. He came out to visit one weekend and wanted to hike the world's largest M. Once we got to the top, he stopped and mentioned how earlier that day I asked if he ever thought we would be where we are today, and how he never got the chance to answer. He said he always knew from the day he met me I was the one and how he never wanted to spend a minute without me. He got on one knee to propose, and he said he couldn't think of a more meaningful place than going back to where our relationship began. I of course said yes, and we have the wedding date set for November 4th, 2023.

Jacob Thomas & Kaylee Schilling (Milwaukee, WI)

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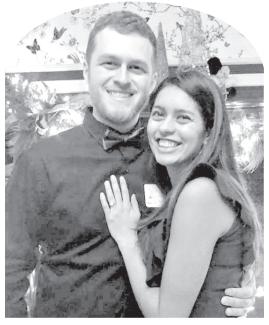
Mes to forever.

MICHAEL & ALYSSA

August 12, 2023

Story Submitted By:

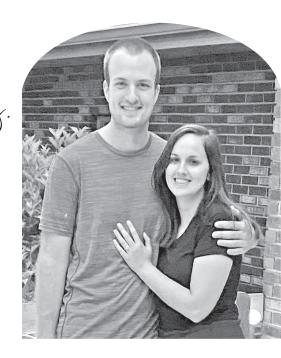
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DAWSON & BREANNA

July 9, 2022 Story Submitted By: Breanna Russell

2022 bridal guide



It could have been over a bottle of wine but...

A beautiful Sunday in November, slept in...

"Want to go to one of our favorite Wisconsin wineries?"

I didn't want the 1 hour drive.

"Sure you don't want to go...anywhere? On the trails?" To the trails!

Got into some jeans

drove to a local trail in just a regular neighborhood.

Kept going. An Ice Age Trail!

Just regular talk...

Suddenly, walking alone...

Wait! Where are you?

There in the middle of the path...

my college sweetheart on bended knee

What are you doing??

A closer look...a gleaming ring!

Are you serious??

No joke?

Surrounded by the colors of Fall

On a "go with the flow" Sunday...

So random!

Wow! He had meant to ask me surrounded by grapevines

change in plans...

enveloped by trees.

Yes to forever!

Looking back and reminiscing...

Over wine next time!

Michael Santana and Alyssa Flores (Lombard, IL) Since Dawson is a pilot, he and Breanna planned to visit a friend by plane. Dawson had been working on a surprise for when they got back, but the weather had a different plan that day. He still wanted to propose but needed to find a way to get Breanna out of the house to prepare. He convinced her to go back to her apartment for something. When she got back, she could tell he had been up to something. He then took her outside to show her the surprise. He got down on one knee and asked her to marry him, and she said yes! Little did Breanna know, Dawson's sister and mom were hiding in the bushes taking pictures and videos.

Dawson Loether & Breanna Russell (Sauk City & Boscobel, WI)









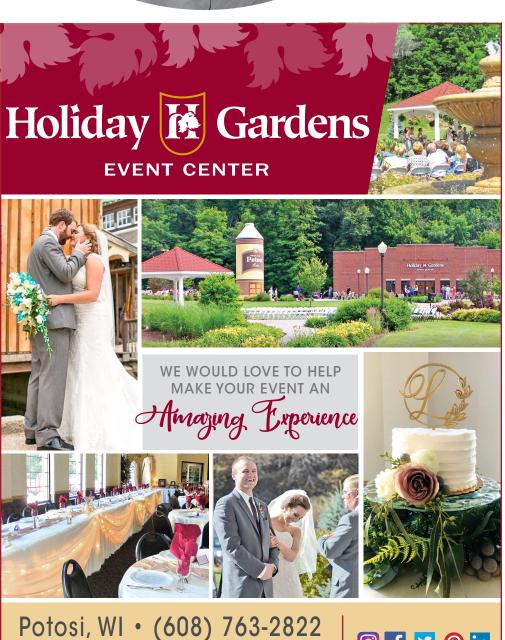
EVAN & LEXI

September 9, 2023

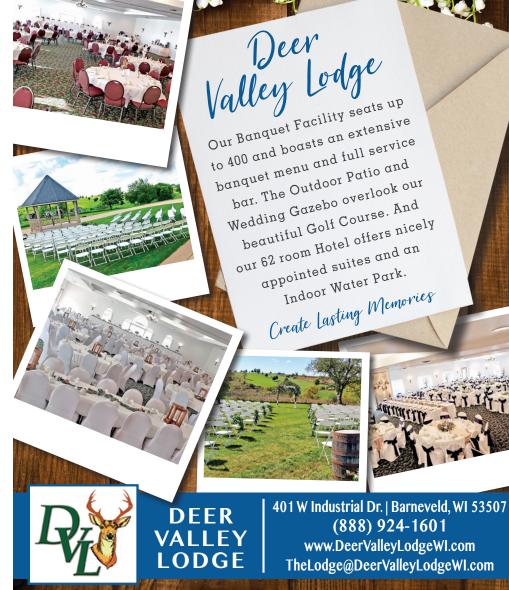
Story Submitted By: Lexi Bahl and Evan Straka

Evan and I have known each other since first grade. We started dating our sophomore year of high school, with our first date being at Murphy Park in Dubuque, IA, to see the Christmas lights. After high school, we continued our relationship long distance for the next 3½ years. When I graduated from college in December of 2021, to celebrate, Evan arranged an evening in Dubuque, with dinner and plans to view the Murphy Park lights afterwards. Enjoying the lights quickly changed when Evan pulled over and asked me to take a picture in the same place, we had on our first date six years earlier. After a quick picture, Evan dropped to his knee and popped the question. It was the perfect surprise! We are excited for this next chapter in our lives and can't wait to celebrate with all our family and friends.

Evan Straka and Lexi Bahl (Lancaster, WI)



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