

Plan a Library Wedding!

Future brides, groom, moms and dads of brides – did you know that costofwedding.com states the average cost of a Bartholomew County wedding is between \$22,270 and \$37,116? And this does not include the engagement ring and honeymoon. Yikes!

If you are planning a wedding and rough economic times have you singing the blues your library can lift you up. Plan a library wedding—all you need is your library card!

First of all brides and grooms can attend a free program at the library on February 24 called *Planning for Honeymoons and Destination Weddings* presented by the staff of Flamingo Fridays Travel. The program begins at 6:30 pm in our Red Room and we ask that you call 379-1266 or email reference@barth.lib.in.us to register.

If you want to shape up a tad prior to your walk down the aisle grab *Buff Brides: The Complete Guide to Getting in Shape and Looking Great For Your Wedding Day* and *Bootcamp 360: A Complete Fitness Program For Brides: The Few, the Proud, the Fit*. Non-brides reading this column - it has been rumored that even women not getting married have checked out these books!

Now that you are in shape let's talk wedding cakes! After all you won't gain weight looking through the following tomes; you'll have fun looking at all the pictures of the yummy cakes and if you, or someone else makes your cake, money can be saved. According to the Bridal Association of America the average cost of a wedding cake is \$543.00! In addition to more traditional cakes *Quick & Easy Wedding Cakes* features a Coronet and Cushions cake and the Pretty Blossom cake. *Cakes to Dream On* is a lovely book to browse through and four wedding cakes are included in the book.

You have now exercised and looked, but not eaten your cake, so let's move on to gowns. *Bridal Gowns: How to Make the Wedding Dress of Your Dreams* will save you money on your dress and to accessorize read *Beautiful Bridal Accessories You Can Make*.

How to Buy Everything for Your Wedding on eBay and Save a Fortune is a real boon for those looking to save money on the above mentioned gown and shoes, decorations, invitations and lots more!

Your library also has books on making your own invitations; wedding bouquets; items for your reception and books on how to write your own wedding vows.

And, what's a good wedding without good music? CDs featuring music appropriate for your day including traditional and more contemporary tunes can be found in our CD collection.

Another money-saver – instead of paying \$6.00 for a copy of *Brides* magazine you can read the current copy at your library and check-out older issues.

Non-traditionalists may be intrigued by *Neon Nuptials: The Complete Guide to Las Vegas Weddings* or *The Anti-Bride Guide: Tying the Knot Outside Of the Box*.

By now you have realized a Library Wedding will save you money – after all it only costs a couple of dollars for gas, your library card is free and your wedding will be priceless!

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