



the little stuff, deal with the big stuff.”

From bridal gown to flannel gown? “It means from complicated clothing to comfy clothing, just like being with someone, as you

spend that time together you can relax and enjoy.”

Marcia Stutz, owner of Hattie’s Books on Newcastle Street, has been married to Don Stutz for 17 years. They knew each other for 2½ years when they lived in Columbus, Ohio, before deciding to marry June 1, 1991.

“We were married in a small chapel with no air conditioning. It was the hottest day in history, or so it seemed. Since this is a second marriage for me, I knew how important it is for both people to work on keeping the marriage on the right track and fun.”

Stutz’s best advice to newlyweds is to “keep the communication going. It is easy to fall into just talking about surface issues, complaining about jobs, kids, etc. Talk about what is important to you.”

Suzanne Scaglione, a gourmet caterer and previous owner of the Reynolds Street Deli in Brunswick, has been married to her husband, Rodney, for 32 years. In the beginning, she had no real expectations of marriage.

“It was just living one day at a time with the person that I loved and wanted to be with each day.”

Her advice on how to stay married for decades: “Don’t dwell on the periods that don’t feel fresh or are missing that pizzazz, because they come and they go. Sit down to dinner together at the table without the distraction of TV or newspaper, so you are forced to talk, even if it’s just about the little things in your day, because it’s the little things that sometimes tend to grow into the mountains.”

From bridal gown to flannel gown? “In the beginning, the focus is on wow and perfection, and gradually, with luck and work, your marriage is about warmth and comfort.” ■



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