

PLANNING SECRETS

in new jersey

TheKnot.com/newjersey



THE PLANNER

Becky Vanderbeck
Simply Chic Wedding
& Event Design, Glen
Rock, (201) 675-1163

YEARS IN THE BIZ
Three

SECRET WEAPON

"Passion. I genuinely care about every event and make sure each bride gets her dream wedding."



THE PLANNER

Kathi R. Evans
All the Best Weddings
& Celebrations, Toms
River, (732) 270-5204

YEARS IN THE BIZ
More than six

SECRET WEAPON

"My team of associates—we're a well-oiled machine. No task is too big or small and we make everything look easy."



THE PLANNER

Tina LaMorte
Oh So Fabulous,
Montclair,
(201) 981-7280

YEARS IN THE BIZ
Seven

SECRET WEAPON

"Creativity. I can take a couple's vision and translate it into something totally unique. No two weddings of mine are ever alike."

hot party spot

"Round up the girls and head to Hoboken's Lua Restaurant (201-876-1900, LuaRestaurant.com), where the food and cocktails are both great. There's live music or a DJ every Wednesday through Saturday night so you and your friends can have fun on the dance floor after dinner." —*Becky*

up in smoke

"Tony Santana Cigar Rolling Company (848-448-2785, TonySantanaCigarCompany.com) is a great way to surprise your groom! Tony is a class act, totally dependable and his cigars are really great quality. Find a venue with a cool outdoor patio area and make a smoker's lounge." —*Tina*



aisle style

"We use The Original Runner Company (973-744-7070, OriginalRunners.com) for all of our weddings. Each runner is heavy canvas and stays put on any surface (grass, marble, etc.). Many of my clients cut out the monogrammed portion, dry clean it and have it stretched over a wooden frame for a wonderful keepsake." —*Tina*



pretty paper

"Couples are always looking for ways to personalize the details of their wedding. The co-owners of Elle Ette Designs (201-526-4326, ElleEtte.com) do custom invitations and day-of stationery (programs, escort cards, menus, etc.) and the results are always fantastic!" —*Becky*

great grapes

"Rad Wine Consultants (201-873-5493, RadWineConsultants.com) in Wyckoff will come to you to host an event like a bachelorette party or a shower. It's an idea that's elegant and so unexpected!" —*Tina*

go green

"Eco-conscious couples can give away saplings as favors—they're gifts that guests can plant at home and enjoy for years to come! Hit up my favorite local nursery, Alexander Hay Greenhouses (973-427-1193, AlexanderHayGreenHouses.com)." —*Becky* >>

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sweet treats

“Candy bars are all the rage. Call up Lisa—of Lisa’s Candy Buffet (908-278-4810, LBCandyBuffet.com)—and have her set up a spread of confections. She’ll color coordinate the candy, scoops and containers with your wedding’s décor. And she’ll clean it all up at the end of the night.” —*Kathi*

child’s play

“Looking for something different when it comes to wedding entertainment? I like the magical acts by Aardvark Entertainment (732-367-7336; [The MagicAardvark.com](http://TheMagicAardvark.com)). They’re a great way to entertain the children in attendance.” —*Kathi*

fine dining

“Book the private party room at The Madison Bar & Grill (201-386-0300, MadisonBarAndGrill.com). The exposed brick and hardwood floors provide a rustic yet shabby-chic vibe. The food and service are excellent—and there’s convenient parking” —*Tina*

bright idea

“A simple way to enhance any space is by adding some up-lights. They can transform the room and highlight the other décor elements to create an amazing look. My favorite lighting company is JB Lighting Production (917-834-1902, JBLightingProduction.com) in Hawthorne. The owner, Jim, has been in the industry for a long time and has extensive experience.” —*Becky*

hot rides

“Give VIP guests a peek at your town with a river cruise aboard The River Belle (732-892-3377, RiverBoatTour.com). It’s a paddle boat that departs from Point Pleasant Beach. Food and drinks are available and there are two levels so you can separate dinner from dancing.” —*Kathi*



intimate affairs

“Spring Lake is a beautiful beach town with great bed and breakfasts. Try the Spring Lake Inn (732-449-2010, SpringLakelinn.com) for a small wedding reception (with about 50 guests), rehearsal dinner, engagement party or bridal shower. Use their in-house chef.” —*Kathi*