Love on the run

THE KIMBERLY TODD & ROBERT KING WEDDING

STORY BY KATE GEISE • PHOTOS BY JULIE ADAMS

What do you do when you're crazy in love and want to get married but your lives take the expression "fast-paced" to a whole new level? You do what busy-but-besotted Kimberly Todd, 39, and Robert King, 46, of Snohomish, Wash., did: Take advantage of one of two elopement packages on offer at Cannon Beach's posh Stephanie Inn since 2002. When the couple tied the knot there May 5, all they had to do was show up for the wedding photo shoot and ceremony … literally.

"Getting married is like having a baby; there's never a good time," laughs King. With all he and his bride have on their plates these days — kids in school, a business to run and then some — the package was a godsend. The lovebirds opted for a short but sweet, outdoor ceremony followed by four blissful days and nights in the shadow of Haystack Rock's craggy allure right out their window.

The meeting

It was love the second time around for these two. Both vowed they'd never marry again. This just goes to show when it comes to matters of the heart, never say "never." "When you really find out what love is and find somebody you love, (marriage) is the next thing," explains King. The pair's relationship evolved over a period of 14 years. They went from acquaintances to business associates and later family friends before ending up a couple.

The proposal

Together since 2011, there was talk of a promise ring. Instead, King worked up the nerve to propose, by no means certain of the reply. "We were sitting on the back deck; our kids were there," he remembers. He got up, went into the house to get the ring and put on his best tuxedo T-shirt. Then, this one-time cynic turned lovesick suitor got down on one knee and asked the woman of his dreams to be his bride.

The planning

With the package, the Inn took care of almost all the wedding details — everything from getting the officiate (Barbara Beach) and professional photographer (Julie Adams Photography) to ordering the flowers (a lovely, hand-tied bouquet and boutonniere from Mimi's Flowers in Seaside) and wedding cake (a two-tiered cheesecake iced with vanilla butter cream and decorated with white chocolate seashells, which the bride, whose diet was quite restricted, could actually eat).