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“We went back and forth about where to have our wedding. Talking with our families, we felt that this was now our home and they agreed,” Janet said. “We ended up with 40 guests from nine different states. It was really special for us and for our guests. Our family and friends arrived a few days before the wedding; the majority of the wedding party all staying with us. It was, I kid you not, one of the most wonderful weeks. We were with so many friends we hadn’t spent any time with for a long time,” she said.

On July 18, under a perfectly blue sky, the bride’s father escorted his daughter to her soon-to-be husband. The Rev. Christine Irvine officiated, as Astoria photographer Heather Douglas caught memories to last a lifetime.

The bride was dressed in a traditional white gown she found at Brides for a Cause. The Portland bridal shop has a large selection of overstocked dresses from various department stores along with wedding dresses that have seen only one wear. “All proceeds go to women in need: single mothers; women trying to get back on their feet; things like that. It was really important to me to buy my dress there knowing proceeds would go back to someone I could help,” Janet said. The groom was dressed in a tux that he found at Party Jesters in Astoria.

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“All of our friends helped, doing anything that was needed. We tried to set a tone so our parents could relax and enjoy the beauty of the area,” Janet said. “My grandfather, my mom’s father, was one of our extremely special guests, the star of the reception for sure.”

Sometime during all of this North Coast relocation, Janet received an offer to teach art at Knappa High School. Again, as fate would have it, Lenny was offered a position as educational assistant at Knappa High. They have purchased a house in Astoria and embraced their community. Their wedding photographer taught with Janet at Knappa High, and the disc jockey at the reception was Knappa Middle School math teacher, Bryan Lempea.

They choose to take a road trip honeymoon, spending the majority of their first days together as Mr. and Mrs. Sheridan exploring the Oregon Coast. They may have started their union in the eastern part of the United States, but they have settled in our area, here to stay. ■

