



# Surrounded by community

## THE KRISTIN TSCHANNEN AND IAN KABANUK WEDDING

STORY BY HEATHER DOUGLAS ■ PHOTOS BY DON FRANK

**A**n estimated 200 people attended Ian and Kristin Kabanuk's Seaside beach wedding on September 23, 2017. "Ian grew up here and I'm active in the community so between the two of us it feels like we know everyone in town," laughed Kristin; "we knew our venue would have to accommodate everyone who wanted to come, so we spread the word and kept it casual."

When the couple discovered that the weather was calling for pouring rain the entire week of their wedding, they began to get a little nervous. Yet to their surprise, what Kristin called

"the prettiest week of fall," landed unexpectedly on their wedding day with a bright blue sky, sunshine and temperatures that were just right. "Thankfully, Mother Nature cooperated with us," noted Ian.

The couple aimed for a casual vibe. While the guests waited on the beach for the bride, one of Ian's groomsmen gifted fresh halibut from Alaska and Ian brought down a keg of beer. Kristin remembers it fondly: "Everyone was down there having a good time, drinking beer and eating fish tacos. By the time I came over the dune, they were circled around and smiling up at me."

Ian recalled the moment he saw Kristin making her way through the dune grass and onto the beach—a vivid snapshot in time. "My anxiety melted away when she came walking over the dunes looking so beautiful," said Ian. Kristin wore

a dress she picked out in Portland, and she knew it was 'the one' even before exiting the dressing room. "It just felt so good—simple with a low back and buttons and sparkly belt. It had a pretty big train for the beach." An especially meaningful part of Kristin's bridal ensemble was a vintage ivory satin gown that had belonged to her late grandmother that a family member tailored into a long sleeve robe. The leftover fabric was later turned into a keepsake for Kristin's mother.

One small happy accident punctuated the ceremony. "We couldn't figure out the music," said Kristin. Yet once again the casual vibe won out and the couple took it in stride. "Actually it ended up being lovely—just the sound of the ocean in the background—it was romantic. It was enough," said Kristin. >>