



Debbie Brown and Al Procassini wave to friends and family watching a livestream of their wedding.

*In a time when the wedding industry is turned on its head, one thing is for certain it is possible to design a safe, memorable wedding.*

“Growing up, it has always been a special place for me,” Brown said. “It’s become a special place for Al too.”

When asked what to suggest other couples do to prepare for a wedding during unprecedented times, Debbie and Al didn’t hesitate: Think small and do your research.

“We found that our venue, The Stephanie Inn, had elopement packages. It was especially nice during COVID-19 because they plan everything,” Brown said. “This was perfect because we just wanted to get married with our kids in attendance, so it was a small group and we were able to pull it off.”

The Stephanie Inn provided an officiant, cake, rooms and a champagne toast, Brown said.

“The coordinator was very helpful and made sure we had everything so we didn’t have to worry,” she said.

The venue gave an outdoor or indoor option in case the weather turned, Brown said. Lucky for the newlyweds, the sun came out on their wedding day.

Because the guest list was short, many of the couple’s friends tuned in via video to witness the union.

“We also had hand sanitizer on us and all of us had separate guest rooms,” Procassini said. “We were fortunate that there were places to eat outdoors as well.”

If a couple wants to have a big wedding, postponing is a real and understandable option but the couple wanted to have a small wedding to begin with.

Thinking DIY to limit contact with vendors also helped secure the day.

“We also did a lot of things ourselves, like Debbie did her own nails,” Procassini said.

