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Malin also cherishes seeing bridal clients' reactions to her work. She remembers one of the best compliments she received from a bride last year. "She exclaimed that my art made the entire wedding and that she walked into the wedding space and felt heard," Malin said.

Malin urges potential clients to have confidence in her ability to create that feeling and look they want. "Trust me to use your color palette and inspiration photos to create spectacular florals for your wedding. I believe we need to stay on budget, but you can still have that Instagrammable wedding of your dreams if you let me use what is in season, foraged and unexpected," she said.

Nansen Florals also provides sympathy arrangements for funerals and memorials each year. The turnaround time for a memorial arrangement can be challenging due the short length of time to gather requested foliage, create the arrangement and deliver, but Malin still finds it very rewarding. "Flowers bring up strong emotions," Malin said. Even with rush jobs, Malin prioritizes environmentally responsible creations. "I am known for my work with biodegradable floral wreaths that can be tossed into the ocean during an ash spreading ceremony," she said.

The Seaview florist is grateful to everyone who voted in Coast Weekend's Readers' Choice Awards and for the clients who have supported her small, local business.

Malin added that the biggest threats to the business are third party sellers, also known as order gatherers, who appear local but are not located in the area. "They take your order and call around to find a florist to fill the order, paying just a small portion of what they charged the purchaser," Malin said, but many florists are now catching on and refusing to fill these orders.

By purchasing florals from Nansen, customers also support the "Fairy Flower Fund," a passion project of Malin's that helps to recognize community members. "I gift flowers to deserving locals who have done something extraordinary for their community, are going through chemo or other health challenges, or simply need uplifting. I make sure no flower goes to waste," Malin said.

Photos by Lissa Brewer

TOP: Malin smiles with a seasonal bouquet in her Seaview floral studio. **LEFT:** Malin clips a bouquet in her home floral studio. **MIDDLE:** Malin operates Nansen Florals from her home in Seaview, where she grows lemon cypress, succulents and more from a greenhouse on the property. **RIGHT:** Nansen Florals delivers bouquets like this one for weddings, churches and other ceremonies.



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