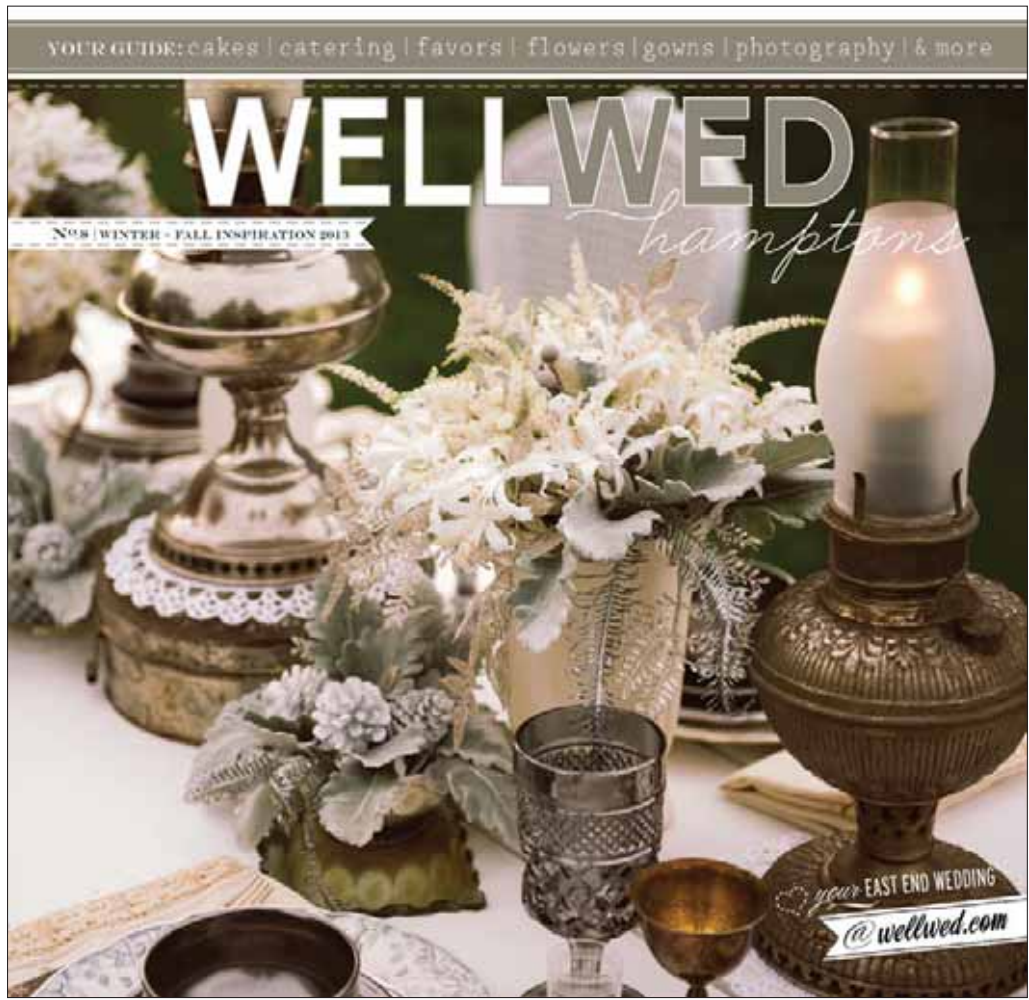


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# Leslie + Ben

*Hallockville, ny / 10.01.2011*

SCOTT CLARK PHOTOGRAPHY

*THE NORTH FORK, WITH ITS ABUNDANCE OF WINERIES & APPLE ORCHARDS, FELT LIKE THE IDEAL DESTINATION FOR LESLIE & BEN'S FALL WEDDING. LESLIE'S EAST END ROOTS MADE THE LOCATION SEEM EVEN MORE LIKE HOME.*



## **BEFORE THE RING.**

Leslie Miller and Ben Wellington have New York University and music of the Counting Crows to thank for their first meeting. While studying at NYU, Ben often spent afternoons in Washington Square Park playing guitar. Leslie, a tour guide for the school, concluded her tours in the historic park. One day, Ben was strumming "Goodnight Elizabeth" by the Counting Crows, a favorite song of Leslie's. "After he finished, I asked to borrow a piece of paper," Leslie says. "I wrote down my number and walked back to the admissions office. We started dating soon after."

*NOT WANTING TO ADHERE TO A SPECIFIC PALETTE, LESLIE & BEN USED A PATCHWORK QUILT AS THE INSPIRATION FOR THEIR WEDDING DESIGN. THEIR DAY WAS FULL OF MISMATCHED WONDER, PATCHED TOGETHER FOR A QUAINT YET COHESIVE CELEBRATION.*



**THE PROPOSAL.** For Ben's thirtieth birthday, Leslie planned an elaborate "food tour" through Brooklyn and Queens. Before heading out to meet friends, Ben asked if Leslie would mind stopping by Washington Square Park. They ended up on the bench where they first met, and after a few moments, Ben told Leslie to look behind her. And there it was, a plaque that read: "Ben and Leslie, met here in 2003, engaged here in 2011, to be continued..." Ben then got down on one knee with a little black box that held his great-grandmother's engagement ring.

**THE WEDDING WEEKEND.** The couple wanted to share the inherent charms of the North Fork with all of their loved ones. "When we imagined our wedding, we kept coming back to this idea of our friends and family staying in rented houses with us to celebrate the wedding for more than just the weekend," Leslie says. Leslie and Ben organized a wine tour and spontaneous day at an apple orchard for their guests to showcase the best of the area. "We wanted a location with an authentically rustic feel, and the rural character of the North Fork fit the bill," Leslie explains.

**THE DAY & DESIGN.** Among seasonal decor consisting of hay, fresh apples, and gourds, Leslie and Ben set the mood with an original selection of antique props and family heirlooms. "We chose a variety of different vintage fabrics for our napkins, adorned the tent with different quilts—one for each bridesmaid—and had ball jars filled with local wildflowers," Leslie says. In addition to the delightfully homespun look of the reception, Leslie and Ben enchanted guests with a playful candy bar and post-dancing snacks of donuts and hot apple cider.

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**\* Featured Wedding Professionals**

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**PHOTOGRAPHY:** SCOTT CLARK PHOTOGRAPHY [[SCOTTCLARKPHOTO.COM](http://SCOTTCLARKPHOTO.COM)]

**ADDITIONAL CONTACTS:** ACCOMMODATIONS: CHERRY LANE FARM / BAR SERVICE + CATERING: MAPLE TREE BBO  
COORDINATION: PALADIN EVENTS / ENTERTAINMENT: URBAN ACOUSTIC / EVENT RENTALS: TGIF RENTALS  
FLORAL DESIGN: BRIERMERE FARMS + HARBES FAMILY FARM / GOWN: MICHELLE NEW YORK / HAIR: JESSICA  
PINEDA / LIGHTING: FRILL STUDIOS / LINENS: SOPHIA SUNDRIES / **MAKEUP: BEAUTY MAKEUP ARTISTRY BY  
ARIANNE** / PAPER GOODS: HOM SWEET HOM / PIES: BRIERMERE FARMS / RECEPTION SITE: HALLOCKVILLE  
MUSEUM FARM / REHEARSAL DINNER: CLAUDIOS RESTAURANT / SHOES: SOMETHING BLEU / SUIT: J CREW  
TRANSPORTATION: HAMPTONS JITNEY + HALLOCKVILLE MUSEUM FARM / VEIL: DESIGNER LOFT NYC / WEDDING  
REGISTRY: ANTHROPOLOGIE + BROOKLYN KITCHEN



