

# vegnews

Vegetarian NEWS POLITICS FOOD TRAVEL BUZZ

## Vegan weddings

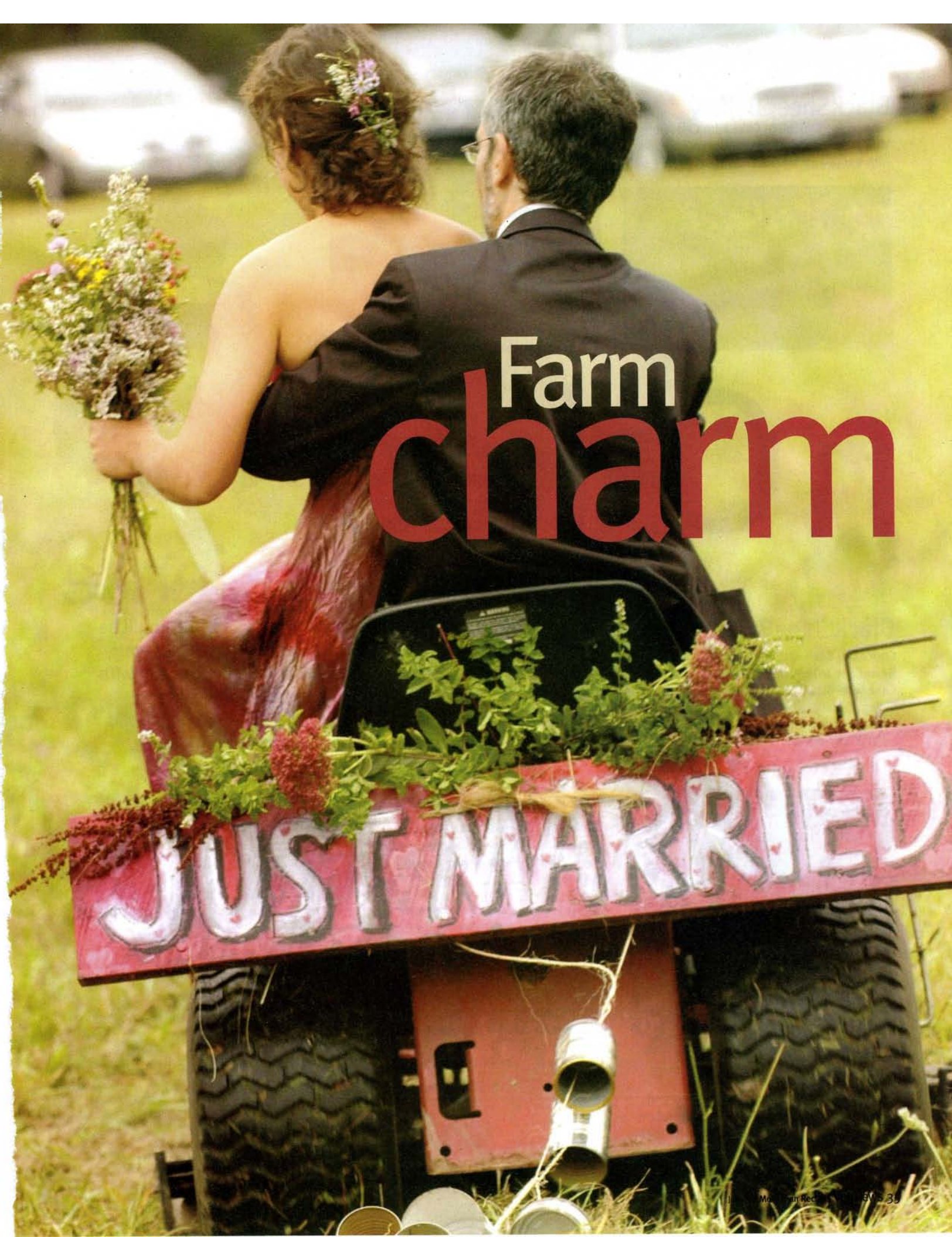
Inside:  
**8 Couples  
Wed in Style**  
**Veggie  
Aphrodisiacs**  
page 38

**Magical  
Maui**

**Appetizing  
Appetizers**  
**Conscious  
Cakes**

\$3.95 US  
\$5.95 CAN  
Jan/Feb 2005





# Farm charm

## Jenny Brown & Doug Abel

wanted a celebration that would also be a house-warming party and fundraiser for the couple's newly formed Woodstock Farm Animal Sanctuary.

October 2, 2004 ♥ Woodstock, New York ♥ 115 guests

**W**hile working at Farm Sanctuary in Upstate New York, my then boyfriend—now husband—and I got engaged. It was a beautiful sunny day on a picturesque green pasture when he popped the question. The storybook setting was perfect for a couple who dreamed of starting their own farmed animal sanctuary.

The next spring, Doug and I found a home in Woodstock, New York which would double as a site for the sanctuary. We immediately put a spare shed to use, housing some rescued chickens, and built a fenced-in pasture for cows. We knew immediately that we wanted to have the wedding at our new home. The celebration would also be a house-warming party and fundraiser for our newly formed Woodstock Farm Animal Sanctuary. As we already had a fully stocked kitchen, we asked our guests for donations toward building a barn. Shortly after moving to Woodstock, we discovered an eclectic restaurant in town that had a selection of unique vegan fare. We hired them to cater the event, asking them to serve our favorite entrée (Chili-Spiced Seitan Cutlets with Chimmichurri Sauce) to 120 guests.

Our outdoor wedding was set against a beautiful mountain across a field. Guests sat on hay bales while a bluegrass quartet

### Menu

#### Hors d'Oeuvres

Mock Curry Chicken Salad with Pineapple, Dried Cranberries, & Walnuts on Cocktail Bread • Spicy Baba Ganoush with Toasted Pita Points • Southwestern Black Bean & Cilantro Hummus with Corn Chips

#### Buffet Dinner

Chili-Spiced Seitan Cutlets with a Chimmichurri or Meanhouse BBQ Sauce • Cuban Black Beans • Ginger-Scented Brown Rice • Hot & Spicy Pan-Blackened String Beans with a Creole Remoulade Dipping Sauce • Sweet Potato Mashers with Orange & Lime

#### Wedding Cake

Super Moist Chocolate Cake with Creamy Chocolate Frosting

#### Beverages

Red & White Wine • Beer • Champagne • Coffee

played softly before the ceremony began. Nearby in the pasture, our first rescued cows looked on with interest.

Our dear friend officiated the wedding which was full of laughter. Doug and I lived in different cities for the first three years of our relationship, so we read excerpts of e-mails from that early courtship. They ranged from silly to romantic to humorously raunchy. We exchanged vows and then had a friend read a powerful essay by John Robbins. We completed the ceremony by reciting the lyrics to Green Acres in a mock beat-poet style. Then, to the surprise of our guests, we pulled up the back of the wedding tent to reveal a vintage lawn tractor and rode it down the aisle!

During the reception our friend, cartoonist and comedian Dan Piraro, sang a song about our marriage and made light-hearted fun of my tie-dyed wedding dress. He and his wife had picked wildflowers and made the wedding bouquets that morning. Another dear friend spoke about the important role animal sanctuaries serve. After our bountiful and delicious buffet supper, guests were encouraged to take the table decorations—miniature alfalfa bales—and feed them to the cows, much to the delight of both humans and bovines. It was a day none of our guests will ever forget.





### Allison's Gourmet

Rich Chocolate Cake with Raspberry Filling  
 & Lemon Cake with Tart Lemon Curd Filling  
 covered with a Vanilla Crème Frosting  
 → allisonsgourmet.com 800-361-8292

**Invitation Kits**  
 866-584-1523  
 invitesite.com

**Jewelry**  
 GreenKarat  
 800-330-4605  
 greenkarat.com

**Jewelry**  
 Beguiling Beads  
 Gaston, Oregon  
 503-357-3738

### Alison & Jim

**Venue**  
 Sobre Vista Estate  
 Sonoma, CA  
 415-515-4131  
 sobrevistaestate.com

**Catering**  
 Daily Harvest Catering  
 Sebastopol, CA  
 707-874-2300  
 dailyharvestcatering.com

**Cake**  
 Lust: A Vegan Bakery  
 Berkeley, CA  
 510-883-1481  
 veganlust.com

**Photography**  
 Lifestyle Photography  
 Santa Barbara, CA  
 lowtiderising.com

**Bridal Dress**  
 Al's Attire  
 San Francisco, CA  
 415-693-9900

### Jenny & Doug

**Venue**  
 Woodstock Farm Animal Sanctuary  
 Woodstock, NY  
 845-679-5955  
 woodstockfas.org

**Caterer**  
 New World Home Cooking  
 Saugerties, NY  
 845-246-0900  
 newworldhomecooking.com

**Photography**  
 Derek Goodwin Photography  
 413-218-3317  
 derekgoodwin.com

**Bridal Dress**  
 MoMo Falana  
 New York, NY  
 212-979-9595  
 momofalana.com

**Jewelry**  
 Cherry  
 New York, NY  
 212-924-1410

### Yin-Yin & Erhhung

**Venue**  
 The Los Altos History Museum  
 650-948-9427  
 losaltoshistory.org

**Catering**  
 Daily Harvest Catering  
 Sebastopol, CA  
 707-874-2300  
 dailyharvestcatering.com

**Cake**  
 The Bay Leaf Café  
 Palo Alto, CA  
 650-321-7466  
 thebayleafcafe.com

**Florist**  
 Annie Siu  
 Burlingame, CA  
 650-302-1812  
 anniesiu.com

**Photography**  
 L2 Photography  
 415-867-1609  
 L2photography.com

And of course, back issues of the VegNews Wedding feature!