Can I use a digital photograph?
Digital photographs are usually acceptable for use. All digital photos should have a resolution of at least 200 dpi at the size they are to be printed; most digital cameras sold today capture photos at an acceptable resolution. Simply e-mail the original digital file as an attachment to celebrations@wsjournal.com. **NEVER PRINT A DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPH!** DO NOT crop the file, convert it to black-and-white, or change any of the settings such as brightness or contrast. These changes may look great on a computer screen, but the process of printing black ink on newsprint causes the appearance in the newspaper to look very different from what you may see on your screen. We have experienced photo editors on staff who are aware of these printing issues, and they will take care of all the adjustments to be sure your photo looks its best in print. If you have any questions at about whether we can use your digital photo, e-mail it as an attachment to celebrations@wsjournal.com and we will check it for you.

Can I use a color photo?
Yes, color photos can be converted to black and white by our photo editors without a problem.

Can I have my photo back?
Absolutely. Photos may be picked up at the front counter at our office (418 N. Marshall St. in downtown Winston-Salem) the Monday after the photo is published. Photos will be kept for 30 days after publication. You may provide a self-addressed stamped envelope if you would like the photo to be mailed back to you. We are careful to take good care of your photos, but the Journal cannot be held responsible for lost or damaged photos.

What if I don’t have a 5-by-7 inch print of the photo?
We can use most photos that have dimensions between wallet size (2-by-3-inch) and letter size (8.5-by-11-inch). Please provide the photo you would like to use at its original printed size.

What if the photo I want to use isn’t vertically oriented (portrait style)?
Most of our announcements use portrait-style photographs (where the photo’s vertical dimension is longer than the horizontal dimension) instead of landscape-style photographs (where the photo’s horizontal dimension is longer than the vertical dimension). Depending on the photo, we may be able to use a “landscape” photograph if the person or people who are to be shown in the photograph can be cropped into the template. Some examples:

**We can’t use a photo like this one because the couple are sitting too far apart to be able to fit in the proper frame for a one-column announcement.**

**A photo like this one would be acceptable because the couple are standing close enough together and there is enough space above their heads to be able to fit the couple into the frame.**

**A photo like this one works best. The couple are standing very close together, allowing us to get a better shot of their faces in the announcement.**

Guide to sending Celebrations photos
As stated on our forms, a 5-by-7-inch, black and white, vertically oriented, professionally taken glossy print works best for reproduction. However, this is a recommendation, NOT a requirement; it doesn’t mean that your photo has to fit those exact specifications in order for us to be able to use it. When choosing your photograph, keep the following guidelines in mind:

- Sharp, clear, high-contrast, well-focused photographs reproduce best on newsprint. Soft-focus photographs do not reproduce as well.
- Professional-quality photographs reproduce better than snapshots.
- Photos will be cropped to fit the proper template size for the desired announcement. Photo sizes in 2- and 3-column wedding announcements will vary depending on the proportions of the photograph and the amount of text in the announcement.
- Photos may be mailed, hand-delivered to our front counter at 418 N. Marshall St. in downtown Winston-Salem, or e-mailed to celebrations@wsjournal.com. They cannot be faxed; faxed photographs are never suitable for print. Your photographer may e-mail your photograph directly to us; many local photographers prefer to do so.
- Never have reprints made at a photo lab or store kiosk. These reproductions cause a reduction in print quality that CANNOT be restored.
- If you are planning on scanning a photo and sending it to us, be aware that its print quality will be much better if you provide the original photo for our staff to scan here. Their scanners are calibrated to specific settings that will help your photo look best when printed.