



Ruth Sutton

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SHOP TALK

CurvyGirls Bridal



After a 20-year hiatus, Ruth Sutton, owner of CurvyGirls Bridal, always knew she would come back to bridal fashion—yet she only realized very recently the direction in which she wanted to take her business.

Haunted not only by her dream to reenter the bridal industry but also by the nightmare most full-figured brides face when searching for the perfect wedding gown, Sutton decided to target the plus-size market. “I know how hard it is to shop for regular clothes, let alone bridal,” shares Sutton of her own plus-size experiences. “Regular bridal stores don’t carry anything over a size 10. Sixty percent of women between the ages of 25 and 35 are a size 16 or over. Why aren’t we then being catered to?”

CurvyGirls Bridal carries dresses size 10 up to 32 W, with a main focus on sizes 18 to 24; however, any size may be ordered. Designs from Sophia Tolli, La Sposa by Pronovias, Manuel Mota and Anjolique fill the racks. Bridesmaid gowns and mother-of-the-bride dresses also cater to the plus-size woman but are available by order from size zero, from designers like Bari Jay, Allure, Jordan and Pronovias Fiesta Collection. And part of the boutique is designated to men’s tuxedos by Savvi Tuxedo and Sarno & Sons—in sizes up to 72 long. —**HA**



SURE THINGS

Intelligent Nutrients Bug Repellent Perfume Serum

ATTRACTS PEOPLE,
REPELS PESTS

Want to keep bugs at bay and your significant other ready to play? At last consider both missions accomplished, with the first USDA-certified organic personal aroma that attracts humans and repels biting, stinging, all-around-annoying insects.

A dab or two of this stuff, which to me smells very Aveda-like, will do ya. This means hitting your pulse points can help you garden, run, bike, hike or picnic without panic—and keep your cuddler close—in even the most bug-infested places.

Score the sanity saver/romance resurrector at beauty.com for \$26 (1.9 fl. oz.). —**NK**

ANYWHERE, ANYTIME SUNDRESSES

MAGICALLY MULTITASKING MERCH

There are sundresses, and then there are sundresses that are striking and apropos for any summer occasion. From weekdays working overtime in overly cooled cubes to after-work al-fresco imbibing, to weekends spent shopping along cobble streets or strolling barefoot in the sand, these stunners (with careful layering and stellar shoe swaps) could easily become your new summer staples. —**NK**



*Maggie's Silk Crepe Dress by Greylin, \$119, piperlime.com

Perfect for date nights, weddings, brunch and more—in cheery apple, cobalt or mandarin—with sexy cross back.



Velvet by Graham Spencer Printed Strapless Dress, \$119, bloomingdales.com

A relaxed boho beauty that'll work for many casual occasions—but be sure to give it some beach time.



BUYER'S RESOURCE

A new Ann Taylor Concept Store at Tysons Galleria (2001 International Drive, McLean; tysonsgalleria.com) will open on July 13, with a grand opening on July 21 from 1-5 p.m., featuring refreshments, sweets, raffles and more. • Mention this magazine at the point of purchase and receive 25 percent off at **Denim Bar** (1101 S. Joyce St., Arlington; denimbaronline.com) through July and August • **Undeniable Boutique** (11891 Grand Commons Ave., Fairfax; undeniableboutique.com) is offering NVM readers 15 percent off all purchases in July. • Go online to northernvirginiamag.com/ChicEnvyCoupon and print the coupon to receive 15 percent off three or more items at **ChicEnvy** (11895 Grand Commons Ave., Fairfax; chicenvy.com) during the month of July—cannot be combined with any other discount. • **Bellacara** (1000 King St., Alexandria; bellacara.com) is offering 10 percent off all sunscreens during July with Northern Virginia Magazine mentions.



Kate Spade Dunes Lane Straw Cat Eyes Sunglasses Hat, Bloomingdale's, bloomingdales.com, \$78

Tickled Pink (and Orange) Earrings, lou lou, loulouboutiques.com, \$15

INSPIRATION BOARD

Independent Style

Make every day feel as festive as the 4th! No need to look like a tacky Independence Day tourist. Instead, flaunt your patriotism along with your fashion sense.



Dolce Vita Fish Print Dress, Bloomingdale's, bloomingdales.com, \$220



NARS Larger Than Life Lipgloss (in Como), Sephora, sephora.com, \$26



State Fair Earrings, Francesca's Collections, francescascollections.com, \$14



Pan Am Cabin Bag, ModCloth, modcloth.com, \$78.99



Qupid Katrina-28 Wedge, Piperlime, piperlime.gap.com, \$49



MARC BY MARC JACOBS Color Blocking Bandeau Bra and Peplum Hipster, Bloomingdale's, bloomingdales.com, \$94 and \$89