



## INTRODUCTION

Fall - what a great time of year. Sunny days, cool nights and a feeling of fresh starts. Kids back to school, returning to the comfort of routines, apples & pears from the orchard, new hairstyles, and new fall wardrobes (shoes, shoes, shoes).

In the spirit of 'fresh starts', we too have some exciting news. Wishes Concierge has a new owner - Marni Heather and she began her Wishes journey in early September. We are so thrilled to have found such a worthy partner to pass on the torch. Marni is customer focused, has an extremely high standard, amazing work ethic and we know she will take such good care of all Wishes' clients.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our clients for their trust and loyalty, and to our strategic partners who have provided services on our behalf. It's hard to believe that we began our journey back in July 2006. It has been such a fulfilling experience and we've been so fortunate to have met such amazing people through this venture.

We 'WISH' you all well and assure you that you will receive the same service from Marni! We 'WISH' Marni all the best and hope she enjoys the business as much as we did.

Warmest Regards,  
Leslie & Melanie

## WELCOME FROM MARNI

The time has come for me to open a new door in my life and I am thrilled to be welcoming a new challenge. Melanie and Leslie have been 150% supportive in passing the torch and believing in me. My passion in life is PLANNING. My husband thinks I am crazy because I am always planning a new family event, dinner party, or play date for our 4 year old David.

I live to plan !

As the new owner, I welcome new ideas for Wishes Concierge and I will promise to keep the level of service you are all accustomed too from Leslie and Melanie.

I plan to update the website, hold the Fall GNO (Girls Night Out) and create some new features that I think you will love.

Please drop me an email or call ....I would love to hear from you!

In closing I would especially like to thank Mel for all the "coaching" over the last month and "wish" her and Leslie all the best.

Best "wishes"  
Marni

## MY BIO

Marni has 16 years of customer service experience in retail and corporate training. She has a strong background in marketing and event planning and has built a reputation for being resourceful and extremely well organized. Being a 10-year resident of Barrie, she has developed her network to ensure creative solutions to meet your unique needs. Exceeding your expectations will be her top priority.

## COOL WEBSITES THAT SAVE YOU TIME AND MONEY

<a href="http://www.flyerland.ca">www.flyerland.ca</a>	<a href="http://www.yummymummy.ca">www.yummymummy.ca</a>
<a href="http://www.themompreneur.com">www.themompreneur.com</a>	<a href="http://www.sweetspot.ca">www.sweetspot.ca</a>
<a href="http://www.saavymom.ca">www.saavymom.ca</a>	<a href="http://www.mysavings.com">www.mysavings.com</a>

## GREAT SITES FOR HOLIDAY SHOPPING

Last year I did 99% of my holiday shopping online and it's a great way to get things that you want without having to search all over town and most will ship for little to nothing depending on the total amount of your order!

[www.airmilesshops.ca](http://www.airmilesshops.ca)

[www.canadiantire.ca](http://www.canadiantire.ca)

[www.chapters.ca](http://www.chapters.ca)

[www.sears.ca](http://www.sears.ca)

[www.futureshop.ca](http://www.futureshop.ca)

## HOLIDAY SURVIVAL TIPS FROM WISHES

Here are some thoughts on how to cope a little better with the upcoming Holiday Season.

1. Talk your friends & whole family (extended included) in to 'drawing for A name' (meaning one and only one name) for gift exchanges this year. This reduces your time in packed retail outlets stressing over the perfect gift for everyone and makes the season feel 'less commercial'. Do you really need another scarf or bubble bath or candle set – do your recipients? Take the time to buy that one unique gift that is thoughtful and suited to your ONE recipient! You'll feel better about giving as well!
2. Adopt a family for the holidays. Whether through the Salvation Army or local charity group – you can do a shoebox drive; donate to a local shelter or the food bank. This is a great way to teach your kids about charity, giving and helping those who might be less fortunate!
3. Don't wait until the last minute to shop – set aside an hour or two for a few weekends or during the week and get the majority of your



shopping done by the end of November! That way you can sit back and watch everyone ELSE stress about December! If your family didn't go for the one name draw – try gift certificates – people can customize what they want – and it's an easier trip for you - might seem less personal – but people LOVE gift certificates! Or call me and I can do it all for you !

4. Start to de-clutter NOW.. As you unpack your cold weather items, seriously re-evaluate those items in your closet that you will NOT wear next summer/fall! Ladies – don't give them away just yet though – Wishes will be holding another Vintage Closet Exchange in early 2009. So set a few aside so you can participate in this very popular Girls Night Out. Give the rest to Goodwill or your local shelter!
5. Look ahead and book things now! Don't procrastinate – you'll feel great once things are booked in your calendar. Take an hour with your daytimer and make the calls – arrange everything before you stress about it at the last minute. For example:
  - ♦ Holiday Baking/Sweet Trays ~ do you REALLY have to do these yourself? Call your local bakery (Holly's in Barrie is delicious or the ever popular Mariposa Market in Orillia) and have an assortment on hand that is freezable and easily thawed for your unexpected guests or party! And, if you're still not getting the theme of this newsletter and INSIST on baking yourself – then at least arrange a baking exchange with some friends – so you only bake 5 dozen of one thing and then exchange 1 dozen with each of your 4 best friends!!
  - ♦ House cleaning – book a cleaner now for the week before your Company arrives and for sure the week after they leave. The vacuuming and dusting can be done by the professionals!
  - ♦ Take your gifts to be wrapped. The local malls have gift wrapping on site – they look great and for a nominal fee for the local charity – you can do that last minute shopping while your gifts are being wrapped for you!
  - ♦ your décor and have someone come and decorate while you're at work (not the family bonding stuff like the tree). But, you know – the stuff you ALWAYS do yourself after the kids are in bed, you're exhausted and the hubby's out for hockey night! Let someone else do it this year. You don't need to tell anyone – it will be our secret.....
6. Finally (and perhaps the most important). Talk to your girlfriends about 'multi-tasking'. So you want to throw a holiday party – do a combo. Call it a 'hockey party' – wink wink – and invite the guys – put them in 'the hockey room' to drink their beer and watch the game. Ladies, you are in your 'spa room' having cocktails, mani/pedi's and delicious pot luck eats – it's a win win!

Some of these ideas may sound indulgent – but when you actually enjoy your holidays, savour all the delicious food, enjoy your Company while feeling well rested – they'll just seem like smart ideas!

## HOLIDAY SERVICES WISHES OFFERS

- ♦ Holiday Shopping
- ♦ Wrapping
- ♦ Baking

## WISHES CONCIERGE'S FEATURED SERVICE

### ERRANDS! (of course – remember the theme)

What a great way to delegate some of those time/energy drainers of the season. From groceries to unique gift ideas (and shopping) to picking up frozen prepared meals (for the unexpected drop ins!) We can even plan A-Z for your intimate house parties/holiday entertaining! If it's legal and ethical – I can help.

### REMINDERS

### EVENT PLANNING

There are still have a few dates available for holiday entertaining. Why not have our Chef on site – or have us drop off your appetizers, or provide you with a server/bartender for the evening. We can also bring you the dishes/décor and clean up after the party – so less stress for you. Call soon though to get your preferred date and avoid disappointment.

### GROCERIES & LCBO

I can pickup, deliver to your place, & put it all away without you even being there.

### CLEANING

If you are interested in a Holiday or late fall cleaning. Please remember to book early!

## NEW WISHES EVENTS

**GNO – Girls Night Out** is going to happen in late November. The details are not quite finalized and I will keep you posted! We will be having one in Barrie and one in Orillia. Please contact me if you would like to be a vendor or attend.

**St Lawrence Market** – I will be making a monthly trip to the St Lawrence Market in Toronto.

The market is full of new and exciting food. They have some of the most diverse & fresh meats, cheeses, and produce. There will be a flat fee of \$50 for this service – plus the cost of the purchases

Some of my favorites include:

- ♦ Fresh Granola from Rube's
- ♦ Heavenly Cheeses and Selection of crackers, flatbreads & Raincoast Crisps from Scheffler's Deli
- ♦ Scheffler's also carries prociutto that will melt in your mouth
- ♦ Fresh Meats from Mano's
- ♦ Hot Montreal Style Bagels stuffed with feta and spinach from St Urbine's bagels(they are to die for !)
- ♦ Produce that is practically perfect from Phil's Place.....they have the best arugula I have ever eaten!

[www.stlawrencemarket.com](http://www.stlawrencemarket.com)

Visits are scheduled for Nov 18 & Dec 16th

## WISHES ON FACEBOOK

I have created a group on Facebook for those of you with a profile, please join the group. I will be posting these newsletters and other events as they come available. [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)