

St. Francis couple appears on polka show with dancers

By Karen Krien
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St. Francis couple, Benny and Kathy Weber, have been on the Big Joe Polka Show on RFD-TV. The show is aired 12 times a week and the Webers are often shown with the other dancers.

About a year ago, someone came by the barbershop which Mr. Weber owns and talked about the Big Joe Polka Show so they began to watch. Mrs. Weber mentioned it would be fun to go to Medina, Minn., to dance on the show but not much else was ever mentioned. However, as time drew closer to the July show, she found out that Mr. Weber had it marked on his calendar. It wasn't long before they had their dancing shoes packed and were on their way to Minnesota.

It was a great time. They danced for two days to 40 different bands. The event was held in the Medina Entertainment Center which seats 2,400 people. When they weren't dancing, it was fun to watch the

other dancers and they were able to pick up ideas.

It wasn't until after they had returned home that they realized people from the area had spotted them on the show. Since there are reruns on Saturdays, they are often seen.

Mr. Weber grew up dancing. His family had a band which played and music was second nature to him. When he married Kathy, he taught her to dance and they enjoy all types of dancing but especially polka.

They are leaving on May 25, this time, headed toward Branson, Mo., where Joe Siedlik will once again be hosting the Big Joe Polka Show and there will be many bands playing. Mr. Weber's sister Mary Garhart of Limon, Colo., will be going with them. Mrs. Weber said when her hip gives out, Mr. Weber dances with his sister, or they have worked out a threesome polka.

Whatever, the time will be spent having lots of fun and, when they get back, they may be seen again on RFD-TV.



EDGING THE GRASS — Gavin Smull and Elmer Kellner edge the grass along the sidewalk at the pool as part of the Join Hands program.

Group helps get ready

By Karen Krien

Youth and adults worked together Monday evening getting the St. Francis swimming pool ready to open.

The project was one part of the Join Hands work day sponsored by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. There were 13 adults and 13 youth working at the pool. They were painting signs, trim and other parts of the bath house as well as edging the grass along the sidewalks. There was music and laughter as they put in a total of 50 hours labor.

The next Join Hands workday will be held at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 31. Everyone is to meet at the Shrine Shelter in the city park. Work forces will be divided up. The evening will end with a picnic at the River Walk.

Everyone is welcome to join the group. For more information, contact Elmer Kellner, 785-332-2950.



BRUCE SWIHART takes down the old sign that needs repairs at the swimming pool.

Herald staff photos by Karen Krien

Couple is married

Barbara Roberts of McCook and Gary Whitehead of Garden City were married on May 4, 2007, in Red Willow County.

Parents of the couple are Alice Raile of Oxford and the late Joseph and Sharon Whitehead. Grandmother is LaVera Beringer of St. Francis.

The maid of honor was Becky Long, sister of the bride, of Oxford. Samantha and Morgan Long, nieces of the bride, Oxford, were the bridesmaids.

Ridge Roberts, son of the bride, was the best man. Groomsmen were Nick Whitehead, son of the groom, of Kearney and Zachary Long, nephew of the bride of Oxford.

The ring bearer was Allie Whitehead, daughter of the bridegroom, of Kearney. Also attending were the groom's sister, Sherry Whitehead with daughters, Ashley and Makayla of Dodge City and Virgil Green of Garden City.

The bride was dressed in white attire, accessorized with pearl jewelry. She carried a bouquet of pink roses, baby's breath and greenery,



Mr. and Mrs. Whitehead

adorned with strings of pearls, created by her sister, Becky Long.

The bride's mother provided a one-tier white cake decorated with pink roses topped with white doves. John Lamborn of Hastings was the photographer.

A reception followed at Overtime in McCook with two-tier white wedding caked adorning the tables.

The couple is making their home in McCook.

Obituary

Mary Lou Abendschan

Jan. 9, 1923 - May 14, 2007

Mary Lou Abendschan, 84, died Monday, May 14, 2007, at Cheyenne County Hospital, St. Francis, Kan.

Mrs. Abendschan was born Mary Lou Ballentine on Jan. 9, 1923, in Huntington, Ark. She moved with her family to Albuquerque, N.M., in 1935. There she graduated from Albuquerque High School in 1940.

She married John Jacob Abendschan V, March 18, 1942, with whom she celebrated their 65th anniversary this year. She followed her husband all over the United States as the wife of a service man, petroleum engineer and minister of the Gospel. She worked at most of the places they lived. After retiring, Mary Lou was always volunteering or serving in some way.

Survivors include husband, John Jacob Abendschan V of St. Francis; three sons, John Jacob Abendschan VI of Odessa, Texas, Ronald Emery Abendschan of Long Beach, Calif., and Robert William Abendschan of Cross City, Fla.; one daughter, Elizabeth Ann Gabel of

Colby, 10 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held at 2 p.m. on Friday, May 18, at the United Methodist Church in St. Francis.

Memorials may be made to the St. Francis Senior Center, Cheyenne County Hospital or St. Francis Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs).

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Student graduates

At the 133rd annual Commencement of Colorado School of Mines held May 11, Jonathan B. Davis, a 2002 graduate of Burlington High School, received a Bachelor of Science in engineering with a dual specialty in civil and mechanical.

Jonathan is the son of Rick and Kim Davis of Burlington. Grandparents are Calvin and Dorothy Zimelman of Burlington, Jerry and Jean Davis

of Lakewood, Colo., and Frances Brenner of Burlington.



Useless Facts

- In every episode of Seinfeld there is a Superman somewhere.
- The name Jeep came from the abbreviation used in the army for the "General Purpose" vehicle, G.P.
- No NFL team which plays its home games in a domed stadium has never won a Superbowl.
- The only two days of the year in which there are no professional sports events (MLB, NBA, NHL, or NFL) are the day before and the day after the Major League all-stars

- Only one person in two billion will live to be 116 or older.
- The name Wendy was made up for the book "Peter Pan."
- The Pentagon, in Arlington, Virginia, has twice as many bathrooms as is CURRENTLY necessary. Because, when it was built in the 1940s, the state of Virginia still had segregation laws requiring separate toilet facilities for blacks and whites.

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