

# Vermillion Couple Celebrate 70th Wedding Anniversary

BY SARAH WETZEL  
For the Plain Talk

This past Saturday Frank and Ginny Putz celebrated a momentous achievement – 70 years of marriage.

More than 90 friends and family members attended the event held at the library last Saturday.

"I'll tell you one thing, we love to read," Frank commented. "That's why we're here. Jim Wilson is the one who suggested we have our party here in the library because it's a wonderful place to be."

The Putz's love of reading began long before they became man and wife.

"Since we were children we've always liked to read," Frank said. "When my folks moved to Los Angeles I discovered the library about three blocks from our house. I still remember my library card number, 9B2979. I'll tell you I think I read a book a day. I found out that was free. Those were hard times, really hard. It was back in the 30's where everybody was out of work."

Frank and Ginny actually met for the first time as children according to Ginny.

"When we first met his parents lived on a farm about two miles away," she said. "He was a little older than I am. I played with his sister and he played with my brother. Then in 1934 they moved to California. Then in 1938 he came back to work for his aunt and uncle who still lived in the area I lived. So we met again."

Frank remembers as well.

"Her brother lived on



SARAH WETZEL/THE PLAIN TALK  
Frank and Ginny Putz celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary last weekend among family and friends at the Vermillion Public Library.

her uncle's farm which was 2-3 miles from our place," he said. "Her brother rode in on his big horse one day and wanted to know if I would go fishing with him. So yeah, we got to paddling around. He went to the navy. She was working in Sioux City and when he went into the navy her mother wanted her to come home so she came back up and we started dating."

Ginny still remembers the first date.

"This is really strange," she said. "I was sitting in a place where you could get hamburgers kind of cafe-like

with a friend of mine, a girl. He came over and asked if I would see a show with him. I hadn't seen him in years but I had heard he was in the country and when he went to get his car to pick me up I said to my friend, 'I hope that's who I thought it was.' He was a very nice boy."

Through thick and thin, the Putz always made sure they had a good time, even taking several trips to Europe.

"He had a sister and her husband who traveled very much," Ginny remembered. "They took about 40 trips

overseas and it sort of inspired us to try to do it. We went to England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland. We had a wonderful time. The first trip we took we wanted to make sure we could speak English. When we took the other trips everyone connected with the tour business speaks English and we didn't have to worry. You have a tour director and people who take care of you and they all speak English."

So what are some of the secrets of this seasoned couple?

"Fighting and getting over it I guess," was Frank's response.

Ginny agreed.

"When you get married you have to know that you want to stay that way," she said. "There were many times and many opportunities to split up especially in those hard times but if you hang together and get over your differences you can make it and you'll be darn glad you did. All I can say is God's been really good to us because many people don't have each other that long," Ginny said.

"People don't live as long as this," Frank added. "I'm 94 years old."

Despite his age the couple has not ceased to be active in the community.

Frank recently served at the Lions Club pancake feed.

"You probably saw me dishing out sausages," he said. "I've done that for ten years. I told Maxine Johnson I think this will be my last year. You get up at 4:30 or 5. You get out there and bustle

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## Vote For Music And Movement

BY SARAH WETZEL  
For the Plain Talk

The children of Vermillion are depending on the public vote to secure a grant which will be used to add outdoor musical instruments to the playground of Austin Elementary school.

Music teacher Gretchen Burbach and Austin School Principal Kim Johnson put the grant proposal together.

Out of the 121 grant proposals received, only 35 will receive funding and public voting is one criterion to be considered in the decision.

Individuals may cast their vote at [www.wellmark.com/Foundation/](http://www.wellmark.com/Foundation/) once per day per device through Wednesday.

The title of the Austin project is 'Music and Movement.' "As a music teacher I can't wait for the kids to have this opportunity to be creative and spontaneous in an unstructured setting," Burbach said in the promo video. "They'll get to explore and discover things on their own about how music works and how to work with someone else to make beautiful sounds. One of the cool things about our location is that this element in our playground will be accessible to all the neighborhood kids outside of school hours. That will make, just the impact in our community so much greater."

Kids find the idea desirable because of the attractiveness of the idea of playing drums, symbols and xylophones as loud as they want without bothering anybody.

The musical area will not only benefit students at Austin but anyone wishing to use it according to the information on the voting website.

"The Vermillion, South Dakota (57069), community has a broad socio-economic spectrum," it reads. "Our elementary school has about 50% of students on free and reduced lunch. With this project, not only would our students benefit, but also the neighborhood and community. Several after-school and community recreation programs also utilize our facility and grounds, as well as the neighborhood families. This playground enhancement would be a wonderful addition to our town, enhancing movement and the arts."

"So seldom is the whole child able to flourish with wellness initiatives and proposals. Our vision is to stimulate creative, social/emotional, and physical development in children. We hope to inspire joyful play and a love of music. This project would serve families in a low-socioeconomic neighborhood and reach out to the entire community."

Visit [www.wellmark.com/Foundation/](http://www.wellmark.com/Foundation/) once per day per device to vote for 'Music and Movement.'

## Dakota Hospital Foundation Grant Period Opens

The Dakota Hospital Foundation grant application period is open as of Oct. 1, 2015. Grant guidelines and forms can be found at [www.sanfordvermillion.org/foundation](http://www.sanfordvermillion.org/foundation). The deadline to submit grant applications for this funding cycle is October 31, 2015.

Dakota Hospital Foundation (DHF) accepts grant funding applications from local 501(c)3 organizations during the months of April and October each year.

# An Evening Of Music With The Rawlins Piano Trio

BY SARAH WETZEL  
For the Plain Talk

To anyone who thinks they dislike classical music, I would beg them to hold their final judgment until they see a live performance, especially one like the Rawlins Piano Trio presented at the University of South Dakota on Monday Night.

The trio, comprised of professors from USD's music department, is named for its principal benefactors Marjorie Rawlins and the late Robert Rawlins, both graduates of USD.

The current members are Eunho Kim on violin, Marie-Elaine Gagnon on cello and Susan Keith Gray on piano.

The trio chose a variety of engaging music to play during the concert and left the audience awestruck, at least I was.

They began by playing the Grand Trio in E-flat Major, Opus 93 by Johann Nepomuk Hummel followed by the Trio for Violin, Cello and Piano, "Address" (1999) by Scott Robbins.

Gray took a moment before the Robbins piece, a jazzy piece adding variety to the program, to explain some of the motifs in the music including a 7-8-9 pattern appearing in multiple forms, 789 being the address of the composer.

After Intermission, the trio concluded with Piano Trio, Op. 90, "Dumky" (1891) by Antonin Dvorak.

Benefits of listening to a small group of musicians include the fact that you can more easily hear each part weave in, out and around the others and the intimate cooperation between the musicians makes the music all the more sincere.

Such cooperation is vital since small groups such as this have no conductor and as such go off musical and physical cues from the rest of the trio to guide them through the pieces.

I was also amazed at the intensity of emotion which Kim, Gagnon and Gray expressed through the music and was clearly visible on their faces and through their body movements as they played, another reason live performances are more engaging than simply listening to recordings.

"I can't perform without feeling those emotions," Gray expressed to me during intermission. "It wouldn't be a performance without them. Not just playing the notes but the space between the notes is enclosed in emotion as well. It's the emotion that gives you the tempo and the dynamics. It's all worked into the coordination of the piece."

The face that every



SARAH WETZEL/THE PLAIN TALK  
The Rawlins Piano Trio gave a polished performance at the University of South Dakota Monday night.

member of the trio was fully invested in the music even after their part had concluded held the audience's attention and kept the mood till the last note faded away.

I took the opportunity to ask Gray about her ideal performance setting.

Though one might think performing in historic or grand locations would be

preferable, her response was slightly different.

"As a trio it's ideal to play in some place that gives us the right kind of feedback sonorally because every hall is different," she said. "In some halls you can't hear yourself and it's really frustrating to play in that kind of setting. It kind of really doesn't matter how famous the place is or

who the audience is. But if it's a really nice hall then that's what makes it idea."

Having performed all over the world, Gray expressed the unique challenge of performing on her home front.

"I think it's really important," she said. "In some ways it's the hardest place to play because we're all self-critical and we know

our students are out there. Hopefully they're out there thinking, 'Wow, she does that.' In the back of your mind you try not to let it overrule you. In some ways it's the hardest audience because the others you'll never see them again. It's blind. The more people you know, in some ways, the harder the audience."

Whatever pressure the trio felt from a familiar audience, it didn't seem to show. The Rawlins Piano Trio is a well-oiled machine that glided through their pieces as easily as a seasoned painter creates a masterpiece.

The Rawlins Piano Trio was founded in 1987 and has recorded four CD's of 19th and early 20th century American music. They tour and teach worldwide with concert series, television and radio broadcasts and appearances at conferences and educational outreaches to young audiences.

For more information on the trio visit their Facebook page.

[www.plaintalk.net](http://www.plaintalk.net)

## Have 403(b) questions? Let's talk.



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## SURPLUS ITEMS FOR SALE

The Vermillion School District has the following surplus items for sale. Items may be seen at the CTE building south of the high school shop.

Classroom Desks - No Value - Free Of Charge.

Teacher Chair.....\$1	Lab Tables.....\$13
Wood Stool.....\$5	Tables.....\$6
Folding Table.....\$8	Wood/Metal Chairs.....\$8
Circular Table.....\$10	Plastic Metal Chairs.....\$2
Computer Desk.....\$5	Wood Teacher Chair.....\$20
	Computer Desk.....\$3

This is not an offer to sell securities in Prevailing Winds. Investors who wish to purchase securities of Prevailing Winds must be residents of South Dakota and may only do so after reviewing a prospectus.

## LOCAL WIND FARM INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY

PREVAILING WINDS is hosting informational investment meetings for South Dakota residents to learn more about a community owned wind development near Avon, SD. The meetings will provide information regarding the scope of the project as well as the investment opportunity for local citizens to participate in wind ownership.

The meetings will be held at:

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13:

Yankton • 2:00 p.m. • Minerva's Conference Center (1607 SD Hwy 50)

Vermillion • 7:00 p.m. • Holiday Inn (1200 N. Dakota St.)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14:

Wessington Springs • 2:00 p.m. • Springs Inn (201 E. Main)

Oacoma • 7:00 p.m. • Community Center (100 E. 3rd St.)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15:

Madison • 2:00 p.m. • Dakota Prairie Playhouse (820 N. Washington Ave)

Sioux Falls • 7:00 p.m. • Best Western Ramkota (3200 W. Maple)

Please call 605-271-0578 for more information.