

# Happily Ever After



Josh and Bree (Schwarte) Steenhusen

## Bree and Josh July 20, 2019

By Kim Wegener  
Family Living Editor

**DEFIANCE** -- Josh and Bree Steenhusen of rural Defiance both grew up in the country and are very family oriented people. Bree (Schwarte) grew up in rural Irwin while Josh lived in rural Harlan.

This shared love of their family and heritage as well as country life were very much highlighted in their rustic wedding ceremony and reception in 2019.

"I grew up on an acreage with horses and we also had cattle growing up as well. Josh's parents moved onto the family farm and that is where he grew up," said Bree.

The couple, who became engaged after six months of dating, were married on July 20, 2019 with approximately 325 guests as their witnesses at the The Schafer Barn on

the Hill near Adair.

### Holiday surprise engagement

The couple officially were set up when Angie Kiem, a co-worker of Bree's and also a member of the church where Josh attends, asked Bree if it was okay to share her phone number with Josh.

"When Josh called we talked for over an hour and decided to go on a date the next day. We went to the Twisted Tail and then went back to Harlan and walked around at Pioneer Park" said Bree.

Josh said it was probably within the first three months of dating that he knew he wanted to ask Bree to spend the rest of her life with him. After dating for six months, he had planned to propose to Bree at the picture board at the Orpheum Theater in Omaha.

"A few close friends probably had an idea this (a

proposal) was a possibility, and obviously the father-in-law (Bree's dad), but I would say it was a fairly short courtship that caught a few off guard," said Josh.

After a couple days of attending Thanksgiving holiday gatherings, the couple had made plans in November 2018 to go see *The Phantom of the Opera* in Omaha.

At *The Phantom of the Opera*, Bree wanted to have their picture taken right away when they got to the theater ruining Josh's idea of proposing at the Phantom backdrop. After leaving the theater, the couple walked in a nearby park but it was cold and rainy thus Mother Nature ruined another possible proposal moment.

"We decided to go home and Josh stopped at the walking park where we had gone to for our first date, I refused to get out of the truck because of the cold, damp weather (ruined that one too!). Josh then drove to go look at the Christmas lights on the square, where he convinced me to get out and walk around. We stopped by the giant decorated Christmas tree and after what felt like 30 minutes to me, Josh got down on one knee and before he could get the whole question out I was crying and said yes!" said Bree.

With a July 2019 wedding date set for eight months away, wedding planning began. Bree and her mother and a close friend planned a shopping trip to check out bridal gown styles. Bree ended up selecting the first dress she tried on as her dream bridal gown.

"I went with my mom and childhood long-time friend Chanda Scheuring to Bridal Country in Carroll just to look and get an idea of what kind of dresses I liked. Surprisingly, the first dress I picked off the rack was the first dress I tried on and it was the one that all of the rest of the dresses (20 plus) got compared to. We knew that we had found 'the one,'" said Bree.

### Guests sang songs about love

The ceremony, reception and dance were all held at the Schafer Barn on the Hill. Burgundy, blush, gray and very simple rustic decorations were the ceremony and reception colors and theme.

Bree's attendants included maid of honor Chanda Scheuring and bridesmaids Rachel Skeen, Lisa Schwarte, sister-in-law of bride; Amanda Hughes and Morgan Wadsworth. The bride's accessories included her Grandma Schwieso's wedding band.

"When I was a junior bridesmaid in my godmother Elisha Leinen's wedding she gave me a little angel ring to wear, so at our wedding I had her daughter Caitlyn in the wedding party (guest book attendant) so I gifted it (ring) back to her (Caitlyn)," said Bree.

"Come to find out at the wedding it had been passed down starting with Elisha's mom Diana to my mom when she was in her wedding, from

Steenhusen please see page 4



## STABLES AT COPPER RIDGE

The Stables at Copper Ridge is Western Iowa's newest upscale wedding and private party venue.

43 acres of rolling pasture, and spacious banquet facility with room for 560 guests, is perfect for indoor and outdoor events.



Perception Signature Photography



### Our beautiful bridal dressing room

is one more reason you will enjoy your special day to the fullest.

2199 Ridge Road, Denison, IA 51442

Phone: 712.393.2276 | Email: laura@stablesatcopperridge.com

The Stables at Copper Ridge

stablesatcopperridge.com



**CROSS TIES FAITH** -- Instead of the traditional unity candle, Bree and Josh used a cross board that featured three strands of the braided cross which stands for God, the husband and the wife to create one marriage. (Photos contributed)

### EXPRESS CHARTER

**A Ride That Will Make You Happy**

- Up to 28 people or up to 40 people
- Weddings, Birthdays, Fun Night Out, Sporting Events, Sight Seeing, Shuttles and More.
- Call for rates and deposit info.
- Reservations required

**Harlan • 712-235-6128**

Full Conveniences

With over 50 years combined experience we'll make your dreams become reality!

(front) Dori and Steve  
(back) Trina and Gretchen

**4 SEASONS TRAVEL**  
CORPORATE AND LEISURE

1119 7th St.,  
Downtown Harlan  
800-356-5579  
712-755-3811  
www.4seasonstrav.com



# Ultimate Wedding Planning Checklist

To plan the perfect celebration, use this comprehensive wedding checklist, with a timeline based on the 16-month length of the average U.S. engagement.

## Sixteen to Nine Months Before

- ❑ Start a wedding folder or binder. Begin leafing through bridal, lifestyle, fashion, gardening, design, and food publications for inspiration.
- ❑ Work out your budget. Determine how much you have to spend, based on your families' contributions and your own.
- ❑ Pick your wedding party. As soon as you're engaged, people will start wondering who's in.
- ❑ Start the guest list. Make a head count database to use throughout your planning process, with columns for contact info, RSVPs, gifts, and any other relevant information. (Want to keep costs low? It may be brutal, but the best way to do it is to reduce your guest list.)
- ❑ Hire a planner, if desired. A planner will have relationships with—and insights about—vendors.
- ❑ Reserve your date and venues. Decide whether to have separate locations for the ceremony and the reception, factoring in travel time between the two places.
- ❑ Book your officiant. Research photographers, bands, florists, and caterers. Keep their contact information in your binder.
- ❑ Throw an engagement party, if you wish. But remember that your invitees should be on your wedding guest list as well.

## Eight Months Before

- ❑ Hire the photographer and the videographer. No need to talk specifics yet, but be sure that the people you hire are open to doing the shots that you want.
- ❑ Book the entertainment. Attend gigs of potential acts to see how they perform in front of audiences, then reserve your favorite.
- ❑ Meet caterers. If your wedding venue doesn't offer its own catering service, look for one now and hire the service this month or early next.
- ❑ Purchase a dress. You'll need to schedule time for at least three fittings. Veil shopping can be postponed for another two to three months.
- ❑ Reserve a block of hotel rooms for out-of-town guests. Pick three hotels at different price points close to the reception venue.
- ❑ Register. Sign up at a minimum of three retailers.
- ❑ Launch a wedding website. Create your personal page through a free provider such as weddingchannel.com. Note the date of the wedding, travel information, and accommodations. Then send the link to invitees.

## Seven to Six Months Before

- ❑ Select and purchase invitations. Hire a calligrapher, if desired. Addressing cards is time-consuming, so you need to budget accordingly.
- ❑ Start planning a honeymoon. Make sure that your passports are up-to-date, and schedule doctors' appointments for any shots you may need.
- ❑ Shop for bridesmaids' dresses. Allow at least six months for the dresses to be ordered and sized.
- ❑ Meet with the officiant. Map out the ceremony and confirm that you have all the official documents for the wedding (these vary by county and religion).

- ❑ Send save-the-date cards. Reserve structural and electrical necessities. Book portable toilets for outdoor events, extra chairs if you need them, lighting components, and so on.
- ❑ Book a florist. Florists can serve multiple clients on one day, which is why you can wait a little longer to engage one. Plus, at this point, you'll be firm on what your wedding palette will be.
- ❑ Arrange transportation. Consider limos, minibuses, trolleys, and town cars. (But know that low-to-the-ground limos can make entries and exits dicey if you're wearing a fitted gown.)
- ❑ Start composing a day-of timeline. Draw up a schedule of the event and slot in each component (the cake-cutting, the first dance).

## Five to Four Months Before

- ❑ Book the rehearsal and rehearsal-dinner venues. Negotiate the cost and the menu. If you're planning to host a day-after brunch for guests, book that place as well.
- ❑ Check on the wedding invitations. Ask the stationer for samples of the finished invitations and revise them to suit your needs.
- ❑ Select and order the cake. Some bakers require a long lead time. Attend several tastings before committing to any baker.
- ❑ Send your guest list to the host of your shower. Provided you, ahem, know about the shower.
- ❑ Purchase wedding shoes and start dress fittings. Bring the shoes along to your first fitting so the tailor can choose the appropriate length for your gown.
- ❑ Schedule hair and makeup artists. Make a few appointments with local experts to try them out. Snap a photo at each so you can compare results.
- ❑ Choose your music. What should be playing when the wedding party is announced? During dinner? To kick off the dancing? Keep a running list of what you want—and do not want—played.

## Three Months Before

- ❑ Finalize the menu and flowers. You'll want to wait until now to see what will be available, since food and flowers are affected by season.
- ❑ Order favors, if desired. Some safe bets: monogrammed cookies or a treat that represents your city or region. If you're planning to have welcome baskets for out-of-town guests, plan those now too.
- ❑ Make a list of the people giving toasts. Which loved ones would you like to have speak at the reception? Ask them now.
- ❑ Finalize the readings. Determine what you would like to have read at the ceremony—and whom you wish to do the readings.
- ❑ Purchase your undergarments. And schedule your second fitting.
- ❑ Finalize the order of the ceremony and the reception.
- ❑ Print menu cards, if you like, as well as programs. No need to go to a printer, if that's not in your budget: You can easily create these on your computer.
- ❑ Purchase the rings. This will give you time for resizing and engraving.
- ❑ Send your event schedule to the vendors. Giving them a first draft now allows ample time for tweaks and feedback.

## Two Months Before

- ❑ Touch base again with all the vendors. Make sure any questions you or they had on your first draft have been answered.
- ❑ Meet with the photographer. Discuss specific shots, and walk through the locations to note spots that appeal to you.
- ❑ Review the playlist with the band or deejay. Though you probably won't be able to dictate every single song played, you should come prepared with a wish list.
- ❑ Send out the invitations. The rule of thumb: Mail invitations six to eight weeks before the ceremony, setting the RSVP cutoff at three weeks after the postmark date.
- ❑ Submit a newspaper wedding announcement. If you're planning to include a photograph, check the publication's website: Some have strict rules about how the photo should look.
- ❑ Enjoy a bachelorette party. Arranging a night out with your girlfriends generally falls to the maid of honor. But if she hasn't mentioned one to you by now, feel free to ask—for scheduling purposes, of course!—if a celebration is in the works.

## One Month Before

- ❑ Enter RSVPs into your guest-list database. Phone people who have not yet responded.
- ❑ Get your marriage license. The process can take up to six days, but it's good to give yourself some leeway. If you are changing your name, order several copies.
- ❑ Mail the rehearsal-dinner invitations.
- ❑ Visit the dressmaker for (with luck!) your last dress fitting. For peace of mind, you may want to schedule a fitting the week of your wedding. You can always cancel the appointment if you try on the dress then and it fits perfectly.
- ❑ Stock the bar. Now that you have a firm head count you can order accordingly.
- ❑ Send out as many final payments as you can.

- ❑ Confirm times for hair and makeup and all vendors.
- ❑ E-mail and print directions for drivers of transport vehicles. This gives the chauffeurs ample time to navigate a route.
- ❑ Assign seating. Draw out table shapes on a layout of the room to help plan place settings. Write the names of female guests on pink sticky notes and the names of male guests on blue sticky notes so you can move people about without resketching the entire setting.
- ❑ Purchase bridesmaids' gifts. You'll present them at the rehearsal dinner.
- ❑ Write vows, if necessary.
- ❑ Get your hair cut and colored, if desired.

## Week of the Wedding

- ❑ Reconfirm arrival times with vendors.
- ❑ Delegate small wedding-day tasks. Choose someone to bustle your dress, someone to carry your things, someone to be in charge of gifts (especially the enveloped sort), someone to hand out tips, and someone to be the point person for each vendor.
- ❑ Send a timeline to the bridal party. Include every member's contact information, along with the point people you've asked to deal with the vendors, if problems arise.
- ❑ Pick up your dress. Or make arrangements for a delivery.
- ❑ Check in one last time with the photographer. Supply him or her with a list of moments you want captured on film.
- ❑ Set aside checks for the vendors. And put tips in envelopes to be handed out at the event.
- ❑ Book a spa treatment. Make an appointment for a manicure and a pedicure the day before the wedding. (You might want to get a stress-relieving massage, too.)
- ❑ Send the final guest list to the caterer and all venues hosting your wedding-related events. Typically, companies close their lists 72 hours in advance.
- ❑ Break in your shoes.
- ❑ Assemble and distribute the welcome baskets.
- ❑ Pack for your honeymoon.

## Subscribe Today!

**One Year Subscription ~**  
\$69 Shelby County and surrounding counties  
\$80 Omaha  
\$95 Iowa & U.S.

**Nine Months ~ \$55**

**Six Months ~**  
\$40 Shelby County

**Three Months ~**  
\$22 Shelby County

**E-Edition also available!**

**Harlan Tribune & News-Advertiser**  
1114 7th St. • P O Box 721  
Harlan IA 51537  
(712) 755-3111 • 800-909-6397  
www.HarlanOnline.com

## Hodges Smokehouse Catering



*Ready to serve your next social or business event with full catering services.*

**Phone: 712-483-2836**  
**800-272-3529**  
**Minden, IA**



## Kitchen Sisters Tastes like home.



*We Now Offer  
Ice Cream  
Machine  
Rental!*

*We Now Offer  
On-Site  
Grilling!*

*Great food and service for your rehearsal dinner, wedding reception or bridal showers!*

**Jackie Olsen (402) 676-2363**

**KitchenSisters@hotmail.com**

**KitchenSistersCatering.com**

Like us on Facebook®



## Wedding Information Form

Congratulations! You're getting married, and we're eager to publish your engagement announcement and wedding story in the Harlan Newspapers.

Wedding stories for the Harlan Newspapers must be received no later than six months after the wedding or the story will appear only in an abbreviated form. Please inform your photographer of this deadline. There will be a \$2 charge that covers both the engagement photo and the wedding photo.

Printable and online forms for both occasions are available at the Harlan Newspapers or at HarlanOnline.com

**Kim Wegener**  
Family Living Editor



**Harlan Newspapers**  
*Information providers since 1870*  
1114 7th St. • P O Box 721 • Harlan IA 51537 • (712) 755-3111 • 800-909-6397



## Make a statement with your wedding cake

Brides and grooms may pour over every detail of their weddings, but few components of the festivities may be as fun, especially for foodies, as deciding what the wedding cake will look like. Couples who want to deliver show-stopping visuals often express some measure of their creativity and personalities through statement wedding cakes.

Many couples now eschew the classic three-tiered white cake in favor of a dessert that garners instant attention. Whether the cake is brightly colored or hand-painted, a towering architectural marvel or shimmering in metallics, couples are opting to make a statement with their confections. Apart from clever cake-toppers, here are ways to stand apart when dessert is served.

- According to the Perfect Wedding Guide, a rising trend in cakes is to cover a white or naked cake with translucent glaze tinted in the couple's wedding colors. This artistic expression can be especially stunning in boho-chic weddings.

- Statement tiers also are popular. The cake may be traditional in nearly every way, but couples then set the cake apart by featuring an

elaborate design or a different hue in one tier.

- Martha Stewart Weddings advises that more than just color can be used to make a statement. Lifelike sugar flowers can really set cakes apart. Guests may not be sure if they can consume all aspects of some cakes. But delicate sugar flowers taste as good as they look.

- Hand-painted tiles on a cake are another way to add panache. A bride and groom may be inspired by a European vacation or the stained-glass effects of religious windows and want to add that feel to the tiers of the cake.

- Sometimes a statement comes by way of texture. Even an all-white cake can be dressed up with interesting textural effects. Ruffles, lace, embossing, and 3-D rosettes are different textural components that can be incorporated in cake designs.

- Couples also may want

to tell their unique stories with cake. Individual tiers designed to reflect various milestone moments from the couple's relationship can be quite engaging.

- Capitalizing on the trend of edgier weddings, couples may opt for darker hues on their cakes — even a black tier — or nontraditional geometric shapes to the cake itself or its design elements.

Statement cakes can really say something about the couple getting married. Much like other wedding elements, cakes provide a window into the minds of happy couples.



## Learn about reception lighting rentals

Couples experiment with various trends to make their wedding receptions unique. One of the more popular trends in recent years involves utilizing lighting in innovative ways.

Modern couples are using lighting to add drama and other special effects to their weddings in various ways. While lighting may have not been on many couples' radars in the past, it is now being used to create a wow factor.

Couples interested in adding extra lighting to their weddings can utilize these tips to make their receptions a sight to behold.

- Illuminated letters/words: Illuminated letters can be used as a trendy monogram in lieu of ice sculptures or framed initials. Illuminated words that describe how you feel

as a couple or words that describe you both are fun, too.

- Uplighting: Uplighting is a popular lighting trend and a great way to transform a venue, according to the wedding resource Rent My Wedding. Uplights are essentially small lights that are put on the floor around the perimeter of the space or underneath key design elements. The lights will shine up and create immediate drama.

- Gobo projector: Many people have probably never heard of a gobo. Also known as monogram lighting, gobo, which stands for "goes before optics," is a growing, special effects-heavy trend. A gobo projector projects an image on a wall or dance floor. It can be used to showcase a monogram, names or wedding date.

- String lights: Christ-

mas-inspired lights are not exclusive to the holiday season. When strung around tree boughs, ceiling rafters or other architectural elements of a reception hall, these lights can be breathtaking. It Girl Weddings suggests hanging them against an exposed brick wall to light up the space and add drama. Bistro lights are similar to string lights and can be used as well.

- Hanging candles: The warming glow from candles can be used to transform spaces instantly and create great photo opportunities. Candles can be hung as makeshift chandeliers over banquet tables or used as sconces on walls for antique appeal.

Lighting can transform a wedding reception venue and has become a focal point for many couples.

## A guide to hosting a daytime wedding

Weddings dot the social calendars of millions of people across the globe. The Association for Wedding Professionals International says every year an average of 2.4 million weddings are performed in the United States and approximately 150,000 per year are performed in Canada. Evenings are the most common time of the day to host a wedding, but that does not mean a daytime wedding cannot be a beautiful event and make for a party to remember.

Couples are increasingly customizing their weddings to be a reflection of their personal styles. One of the ways couples are customizing their festivities is by moving the wedding to various hours of the day that meet the couple's needs. A wedding that takes place in the late morning or afternoon may be the perfect fit for some couples. Here's how to navigate the specifics of a daytime wedding.

- Secure accommodations. An early wedding means guests may have to travel from afar the evening before to be able to attend the festivities. Daytime weddings can be complemented by working with a hotel or bed and breakfast to ensure guests will have a place to stay and get ready to arrive at the early wedding in time.



- Don't be afraid to negotiate prices. The wedding resource Bridal Guide says that vendors are typically more amenable to price discounts or offering greater value for daytime weddings. That's because demand for their services is reduced during the day. Similarly, venues may have more availability during the day than at night, and, as a result, they're more flexible on prices, especially since brunch foods generally cost less than dinner entrees.

- Hire the right photographer. Be sure to contract with a photographer who is

a pro at handling photos in daylight and natural light. While many photographers are skilled in any light, many are used to shooting in churches and venues with low lighting. Be sure to see picture samples taken during the daytime to gauge a photographer's daytime experience and skill level.

- Employ color to add dimension. During evening weddings, lighting or candles help set the mood. Those same elements will be ineffective in daylight. Choose bright colors for your decor and flowers to brighten up spaces.

- Choose alternative entertainment. Chances are guests are not going to feel as comfortable dancing during daylight hours. Consider other entertainment, such as lawn games, karaoke, or a comedian. A guitarist or pianist may be a nice musical touch.

- Plan food accordingly. Just because the wedding is early does not mean the food should be. Guests still will need to eat. If you are only opting for light appetizers and cocktails, be sure to mention this on the invitation so guests can plan ahead and won't go hungry.

Daytime weddings can be successful with a little tweaking of traditional evening wedding planning.

### Who says Bridal Showers & Receptions have to be boring?

**They're NOT at The Norse Horse!**

- 16 Beers on Tap: Imports, IPAs, Domestic
- Full bar
- Party Room Available: seats 40-50
- Burgers, Sandwiches & More
- Pool, Air Hockey, Darts & TVs

**HOURS: Mon.-Tues., 11 am-2 pm**  
**Thurs., 11 am-8 pm; Fri. & Sat. 11 am-10:30 pm**

**4224 MAIN ST, ELK HORN, IA • (712) 764-6646**

*Perfect guy. Perfect tux.*  
*Perfect place.*  
*Perfect flowers.*  
*For your wedding, nothing less will do.*

**FLORAL ELEGANCE**  
provides contemporary, stylish & always elegant bouquets, arrangements, accessories & tux rentals for your **PERFECT DAY.**

Special Discount when you order both your Tuxes & Flowers together!  
Alterations by Renee Schmidt

**NEW LOCATION! 1018 6th St, Harlan • East Side of the Square**  
(712) 755-2680 • (888) 285-2680  
[www.floraleleganceharlan.com](http://www.floraleleganceharlan.com)  
M-F, 8-5; Sat., 9-Noon  
Locally Family Owned for Over 40 Years.

**Glow Airbrush Tanning**  
Weddings, photos, special occasions or no occasion.  
Glow Airbrush tanning will have you looking your best.

**Call or Text 712-579-8518**  
[www.facebook.com/sunfreeglow](https://www.facebook.com/sunfreeglow)  
[glowsunfree@gmail.com](mailto:glowsunfree@gmail.com)

*We do Wedding Cakes!*

**Milk & Honey**  
harlan, iowa  
LOCATED IN HISTORIC DOWNTOWN

Yes, we CATER! And we won't break your budget.  
Trays of muffins, cheese trays, side dishes & main courses all available.  
Email or call for details:  
[milkandhoneyiowa@gmail.com](mailto:milkandhoneyiowa@gmail.com)  
(712) 235-MILK (6455)

1101 7th St., Harlan, IA

**Veterans Memorial Auditorium**  
1104 Morningview Dr. • 712-755-3440

*Whatever the size of your event*  
*The City of Harlan offers you*  
**Great Options For Your Wedding Reception**

**Therildsen Activity Center**  
706 Victoria St. • 712-733-1103

**Wedding Day Dreams**

**Let us be part of making your dreams come true! For your Rehearsal or Reception we offer:**

- Ballroom with Stage
- Full Restaurant & Bar
- Sit Down Dinners or Buffets
- Quality Personal Service with Attention to Details
- Member and Non-Member Rates

**HARLAN**  
GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

**2503 12th St • Harlan**  
(712) 755-5951  
**Megan Londo,**  
clubhouse mgr.



Steenhusen from front page

my mom to Elisha when she was in my mom's wedding, Elisha to me, and me to her daughter Caitlyn."

Josh's wedding party included his brother, Zach Steenhusen as best man and groomsmen Dan Tremel, Kole Schwarte, brother of bride; Justin Brensel and Jake Mohr. Flower girl was the groom's niece, Piper Steenhusen while ringbearer was Lane Gilstrap. The groom carried a handkerchief that was the bride's baptismal bonnet. The bonnet was made to be disassembled and carried by her groom one day.

Instead of the traditional unity candle, a cross on a board was used.

"The cross tied into our faith, we used that for our 'unity candle' I wanted something that I could display for years to come and the three strands of the braided cross stand for God, the husband, and the wife to create one marriage," said Bree.

At the ceremony, instead of clinking glasses, groups or tables of people had to stand up and sing a song that included the word "love".

"It was fun to see the groups getting creative! We also had Brian Taylor and his daughter make balloons for the kids at the reception," said Bree.

Outside of the barn on display were Bree's great-grandfather's restored Case tractor and Josh's grandfather's John Deere tractor as well as the old Steenhusen Implement truck they used to deliver tractors with.

"We wanted to take them (tractors/truck) to add a little bit to the outside of the barn. The inside of the barn was absolutely beautiful and did not need much for decorations. The barn already had the lights, tree chandelier, and the curtains at the 'altar.' I wanted to keep the decorations simple and elegant to compliment the barn itself. Our table decorations were lanterns with fairy lights and greenery."

**Don't stress: only you will know if something didn't get done**

There were no major changes or problems the day of the wedding. The night before the wedding the bride's maid of honor did a little unexpected sewing to fix an applique on the bride's gown.

"The night before the wedding the girls were staying together and we were looking at my dress when I noticed that one of the bigger lace appliques didn't get sewed back on after alterations, it was just pinned on," said Bree. "Chanda (maid of honor) channeled her inner 4-H skills and sewed it back on and sewed on some of the beading."

Bree's best advice to future brides is don't get stressed as everything will get done in the end.

"I had a few moments where I got stressed but for the most part I enjoyed the planning. Don't get caught up in making sure every little detail is planned out or perfect," said Bree.

"Try not to stress about it, everything will get done in the end. I was given the information that only you will know if something didn't get done."

Josh says his advice to future grooms is to take it all in because it goes by fast.

"Planning a wedding isn't that bad, start early and cover the big items: date, location, minister, caterer. Take it all in and enjoy the planning and especially your special day, it's over in a flash," said Josh.

Parents of the couple are Dave and Anna Schwarte, Irwin; and Paul and Patty



**RUSTIC COUNTRY THEME** -- On display were Bree's great-grandfather's restored Case tractor and Josh's grandfather's John Deere tractor. Also on display was the old Steenhusen Implement truck they used to deliver tractors with. (Photos contributed)

Steenhusen, Harlan.

Bree is employed as a K-3 special education teacher at the IKM-Manning Community Schools. Josh is employed as inside sales manager at Reliance Power Parts.

Bree and Josh went on a Hawaiian honeymoon trip to Oahu and Maui. The Steenhusens reside near Defiance on the farm that Bree's grandparents had lived on since the mid-1960s.





## Fresh Ideas for Your Wedding



From simple  
to elegant,  
we're your

## One-Stop Catering Shop.








Offering appetizers, entrees, desserts & cakes for your wedding, party or corporate event.

*Helping couples create beautiful memories for over 20 years.*

M • A • R • K • E • T •

# MAIN STREET

Panama, Iowa • 712-489-2601

www.panamamainstreetmarket.com • Like us on Facebook

Enjoy Your  
Favorite Smoked  
Meat With Our  
On-Site Grill