ANNUAL DBA STREET DANCE DRAWS BIG CROWD

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Clint Wolf/Beloit Daily News Lynn and David Sorg dance to the music of Big Daddy Woo Woo at the Downtown Beloit Association Street Dance Friday night. The event featured two bands as well as food and drink and activities for children.

BELOIT - It was a Goldilocks night for the Downtown Beloit Association Street Dance Friday - not too hot, not too cold and no rain in sight.

"It's a perfect night," said Shauna El Amin, executive director of the Downtown Beloit Association.

And the street was filling up early as hundreds of people settled in to listen to the music of Big Daddy Woo Woo and Top Flight.

The Street Dance was one of the highlights of Celebrate Downtown Weekend. Earlier in the day, people came downtown to scout out some good bargains at the sidewalk sales in downtown Beloit. And a good crowd hung around for lunch at Fridays in the Park.

"There was a huge crowd for Fridays in the Park," El Amin said.

Saturday featured more sidewalk sales and the Farmers Market.

The street dance is the biggest event for the Downtown Beloit Association and plenty of people were showing up on State Street to enjoy music, food and family fun.

Otha Williams and his son, Matt, were grilling brats and ribs for the hungry masses at the Street Dance.

"The secret is in the TLC," Matt Williams said when asked what is the secret to making delicious ribs. "It starts at the very beginning. A bad cut of meat can ruin the whole process."

Matt Williams said he has been grilling ribs since he was in the third grade when he won a rib cooking competition in Madison. Now he continues to enjoy serving up ribs, pork chops and brats with his family at the Street Dance every year.

David and Lynn Sorg were enjoying the music and shuffling their feet as they were among the first couples to dance Friday night.

"We come down here every year," Dave Sorg said. "It's a beautiful night."

Shelby Utzig was settling in to listen to the music with daughters Lola and Lilly who had just been treated to some face painting and some balloons.

"We usually come every year for the music and the food," she said.

Little Beau Fischer was downtown with grandma Jan Neufeld, who was treating her son to a balloon animal twisted together by Dayton Bennett.

As the sun slowly set in the west, the crowd grew larger on State Street and more people took their turn dancing on the brick street well into the evening.