

One in a *Ver* Million

Meet Andy Jensen



By David Lias

david.lias@plaintalk.net

People have gotten used to seeing Andy Jensen at the Clay County Fair in Vermillion.

As a 4-Her from Wakonda, he spent much of his youth on the fairgrounds as an exhibitor during Achievement Days. More recently, he has been a valuable asset to the Extension office, helping out with various tasks that must be completed as the fair progresses.

"I actually started in Clay County 4-H when I was 8 or 9, and during my last year in 4-H, I was a part time summer assistant in the Extension office here. After that, I was summer assistant for two summers," Andy said.

Last week, he helped out at the Clay County

Fair in a unique way.

He has taken over the role, in the interim, at least, once held by Will Kennedy. Will recently left his position as 4-H youth program advisor in Clay, Bon Homme and Yankton counties, and is now working for the Boy Scouts of America.

College studies at South Dakota State University took Andy away from Clay County for a time. Last summer, he worked in the Minnehaha County Extension office, and for most of this summer, he's worked for the Extension service in Brookings.

Andy, a graduate of Wakonda High School, is hoping to obtain his higher ed degree this December, and also be named as 4-H youth program advisor on a permanent basis in the

region by the end of the year.

"I've sort of made a full rotation back to the beginning," he said. "Which is really exciting, because I did want to come back here. I know everyone, and this is the program that set me up for doing my job now."

These are busy times for Andy. He will soon be busy with at the State Fair in Huron. His studies will be resuming at Brookings. And he will begin the formal interview process as he seeks to be named 4-H youth program advisor on a full-time, permanent basis.

"I have to go through the formal interview process, which will start in the next month," he said. "Hopefully, I will be selected by the committee for all three counties."

If chosen for the job, he would begin work in late December.

Last week, Andy helped out Manager Alison Buckman with "bits and pieces" of the Clay County Fair to make sure everything ran smoothly.

"Things that I had initially set up ... I'm keeping tabs on, like the inflatables, some of the booths, and some entertainment for tonight," he said last Friday.

After the fair, Andy hopes things will ease up a bit from the 12-hour workdays he's been putting in lately.

"I'll go back to doing two days a week in Clay County, two days a week in Bon Homme County, and then one day a week in Yankton County," he said. "My schedule will be a little different from Will's - I'll be spending Mondays and Thursdays in Tyndall, and Tuesdays and Fridays in Clay County, and I'll be in

Yankton on Wednesdays. I'll go back to doing my programming and whatever else is required of me."

Andy will be finishing his degree in general agriculture at SDSU this fall with an emphasis in animal science and equine management.

"Come December 8, I'll officially become a college grad, which is pretty exciting, because it's taken a long time to achieve that goal," he said.

DAKOTA SENIOR MEALS

Served at the Main Street Center and Town Square, "Meals on Wheels." Please call before 9 a.m. to schedule or cancel a meal at 624-7868. Menus listed below are for the week of August 14-20.

Menus are subject to change without notice. All menus are served with whole grain bread and 1% milk, unless otherwise noted.

Tuesday - Tater Tot Casserole w/green beans, apple

Wednesday - Baked Chicken, potato salad, mixed veg

Thursday - Swiss Steak w/tomato & onion, baked potato, oriental blend veg, orange

Friday - Ham, potato omelet, green beans, cinnamon roll, banana

Monday - Hawaiian Chicken, salad, cornbread muffin, apple crisp w/topping, tomato spon salad

City approves library renovation change orders

By Travis Gulbrandson

travis.gulbrandson@plaintalk.net

The Vermillion City Council approved two change orders for the ongoing expansion and renovation of the library at its regular meeting Monday.

After the approval of the two items, the Vermillion Public Library will now have a different color of carpet in the Young Adult Room, and tile will be added around the library's fireplace.

"The library board discussed this," said City Manager John Prescott. "These are items that are largely cosmetic in nature. They will enhance the atmosphere, but they're not structural-type items."

As a result, the library board has agreed to pay for the items out of its fines and gifts account. Prescott said that account consists of money the board collects "from different sources. It's not necessarily money that comes from the city."

Change Order #2 concerns the carpet, which Prescott said will be in a "more distinctive style," and was developed at a net cost of \$782, plus the architect's eight-percent fee. Approximately 692 square feet will be covered by this carpet, Prescott said. Change Order #4 will result in a net bid price increase of \$675, plus the architect's eight-percent fee.

Prescott said the original bid proposal did not include tile around the fireplace. He added that Change #3 was not discussed Monday because it has not yet been finalized by the library board.

Overall, the project is "moving along well," Prescott said. "We're just over 25 percent complete at this time, with completion point for April 1, 2013." Prescott also wanted to be sure library patrons were made aware that the west door of the building is now closed.

"The construction crew is working around what will be the

new west entrance," he said. "We anticipate that will take about six to eight weeks, and we're about a week into that." The south entrance of the library is now open, and can be accessed directly from the parking lot. The council members also approved a resolution authorizing application for a grant that would go toward the renovation of new restroom facilities at Prentis Park baseball field.

The Land and Water Conservation Fund State Assistance Program has a grant available that could assist in the renovation by covering 50 percent of the project's expenses. In order to receive the grant, a local match of 50 percent is required, placing the total cost at \$100,000. The city's match of \$50,000 is included in the proposed budget for 2013 for second-penny sales tax.

"The renovation of Prentis is about done - we've got irrigation, the fencing, the bleachers, the steel poles and the

lights," said Parks & Recreation Director Dave Nelson. "We've renovated the whole place, and we're left now with the bathrooms."

The current facilities are used by multiple teams throughout the year, including the Vermillion Red Sox, the Vermillion Gray Sox, the Legion, the Teeners, the Vermillion High School team and the University of South Dakota team.

"I think these have been there ... more than 50 years," Nelson said. Nelson added that the new bathrooms probably will be constructed where the old ones currently stand. "We'll probably have staff and some local contractors do the pad and the utilities," he said. "The plan right now is to bring in a set of concrete bathrooms that are pre-built. It's more reasonable. But, they're pretty much vandal-proof, and they'll last the city a long time."

The resolution was met with unanimous approval from the council members.

CASE III
Mark's Machinery, Inc.
 TWO LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU
 Yankton, SD • 605-665-4540 • Toll Free: 1-800-526-8095
 Wagner, SD • 605-384-3681 • Toll Free: 1-800-693-1990
 E-mail: marksinc@willinet.net • Web site: www.marksinc.com

© 2006 CNH America LLC. All rights reserved. Case IH is a registered trademark of CNH America LLC. CNH Capital is a trademark of CNH America LLC. www.caseih.com

Add an Important Item to Your Back-to-school List.

For parents, back-to-school season means it's time to stock up on school supplies. But it can also be a good time to think about how to save for your child's future education.

Developing a strategy for achieving your education savings goal - or other savings goals - can help you stay on track.

To learn more about your education savings options, call or visit today.

Curt Robinson
 Financial Advisor
 23 Market Street
 Vermillion, SD 57069
 605-624-2028

www.edwardjones.com/backtoschool

Edward Jones
 MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Member SIPC

WANTED
 Old Vehicles • Farm Machinery • Scrap Iron
PAYING TOP DOLLAR

Call **402-841-1060** For Price

Pollman
Excavation, Inc.

- Licensed
- Bonded
- Insured

Wakonda, SD
 605-267-2768

LONG REACH EXCAVATOR WITH 65' OF REACH

Give us a call for a quote ...

Laser Guided Ditching
 Stock Dam Cleanout
 Lagoon Cleanout • Bank Stabilization
 Rip Rap Placement • Demolition

RED EARTH COOP

Community Meeting
 August 21st, 7PM
 Vermillion Public Library

Come join *your* local foods coop!

Red Earth Cooperative

Thank You
 FOR YOUR HELP

Our "thanks" for the quick response to our fires on Monday, August 6th when a rapid grass fire was spread by winds. Fire teams, neighbors, and area businesses worked hard to get the fire under control and save a house and buildings spreading to other surrounding land.

Our grateful thanks to fire crew teams from Vermillion, Wakonda, Beresford and Centerville and to Chuck Jensen, Terry Jensen, Chad Peterson for their help. Local businesses Centerville Ag and Simplot for supplying water to the fire tankers.

Our community is blessed to have great fire and rescue teams, neighbors, and friends to come to the aid when needed.

THANKS TO EVERYONE!
 The Sternquist's and the Baer's