

Honoring & Remembering:

Corporal Andrew Howe

By Donna Schafer
VFW Auxiliary President
Clay County Post 3061

Corporal Andrew Howe was born to Stan and Judy Howe, October 11, 1962 in Chandler, AZ.

Andy wanted to be a Marine. They wouldn't let him join until he was 17, so after his birthday, he went to Sioux Falls and enlisted in November of 1979. After he graduated from Vermillion High School in 1980, he left for Boot Camp that July.

Boot Camp was in San Diego, the Marine Corps Recruit Depot. This lasted from July 22 through Oct. 10, one day before his birthday. Andy went home on leave for a couple of weeks.

He went to Huntsville, AL to Redstone Arsenal Missile and Munitions Center and School to be trained as an ammunition technician. After two months Andy was able to go home in time for Christmas.

His assignment was to Bravo Battery 1st Battalion 10th Marine Regiment 2nd Marine Division at Camp Le Jeune, NC, near Jacksonville. While with Bravo Battery, an Artillery Battery, Andy went to Europe twice in 1982 to train with NATO. Norway was the place for his cold weather training. Then he was in Germany and Denmark.

Andy was scheduled to get out in 1983 but Charlie Battery 1st Battalion 10th Marines was in need of an Ammo Tech. Beirut was their destination so he decided to extend his



ANDREW HOWE

enlistment and go with them.

"We left by ship in April and arrived in Beirut in late May right after the embassy bombing," he said.

Since he had quite a bit of time on his hands he decided to get training as a truck driver and as a radio operator and pretty much trained for everything. His primary job was to make sure they were supplied with the right ratio of fuses, powders and projectiles.

For the first few months he was Squad

Leader and led foot patrols through the city. "We were always subjected to incoming small arms and artillery. We were always getting hit. It didn't get intense until in August when the Israelis left. All the attention that was given to the Israelis was focused on us. We ended up giving artillery support to the Lebanese and our own Marines," said Andy.

"Our main job was to protect the airport and bring stability to Beirut. We were not the only country there," he said. "The other groups included the Italians, British, and French.

"October 23, the Hezbollah Army blew up the Battalion Landing Team Headquarters by a suicide truck bomb. It killed 241 Marines! When that went off I'd just got off of radio watch at 6 a.m.. I was in a tent. The blast was so loud I thought I had an artillery round hit, even though it was about one-quarter of a mile away," Howe said. "It was the largest non-nuclear blast that had ever been detonated. You could feel the shock wave. I looked up and saw this huge cloud forming over us, spewing debris which was falling on top of us and all over. There was just a huge pile of rubble where the four story building about the size of our courthouse had stood. A friend was going over there to do some work and I decided to go along. I helped restore the communications systems between the units.

"My unit rotated out in November. I went out by plane to Spain and then home. I was discharged Dec. 7, 1983. All units left Beirut in 1984," he said.

2012 Schmeckfest March 23-24, 30-31

Freeman to host 54th 'tasting festival'; Community to present 'The Wizard of Oz'

Orders are being accepted for tickets for the 54th annual Schmeckfest to be held in Freeman March 23-24 and 30-31, 2012.

The popular festival, which began in 1959 with an ethnic German meal, has grown to a multifaceted festival now held on two consecutive weekends. A full three-course meal featuring the traditional foods of the Freeman community is served family style to 1,000 guests each night. Tickets for the meal are sold advance order only.

Tickets are also on sale for reserved seats for the 2012 Schmeckfest musical production "The Wizard of Oz". It will be presented each night of Schmeckfest with an 8 p.m. curtain at Pioneer Hall. This is the first time the popular musical based on the classic story by L. Frank Baum will be staged as a Schmeckfest

musical. In addition to the performances scheduled during Schmeckfest, "The Wizard of Oz" will also be presented Thursday, March 29; no Schmeckfest activities will be held on Thursday.

Tickets for the meal and reserved seats for the musical are available by writing Schmeckfest, Box S, Freeman, SD 57029 or online at www.schmeckfest.com where credit card orders can be placed directly or an order form can be printed and mailed.

The festival also includes demonstrations of culinary arts, which are held at Sterling Hall on the Freeman Academy campus. The Country Kitchen bake sale and foods for sampling will also be located in Sterling Hall, which is handicap accessible and is located northeast of Pioneer Hall.

The Freeman Academy

Auxiliary, which sponsors Schmeckfest, will again provide free admission to the Heritage Hall Museum complex which houses the Plains Indian Artifacts Display and thousands of items from the history of pioneer settlers and early life in South Dakota. Demonstrations of early pioneer activities can be found throughout the museum during Schmeckfest.

As in past years, the festival also includes free historical and musical presentations.

A random drawing is held Dec. 1 to process all orders received prior to that date. Ticket orders received after Dec. 1 are processed daily with first-choice preference given when available. All mail orders for tickets should include a check and a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Schmeckfest – a "tasting festival" – was started in 1959 as

a one-time, one-day event by the Freeman Academy and Junior College Women's Auxiliary to celebrate its 10th anniversary. It featured the favorite dishes of the Mennonite people who immigrated to the area from Russia in the 1870s. That first Schmeckfest proved to be so popular that it was repeated the following year ... and the year after and it quickly became an annual affair. It soon expanded to two days, then to three days and now two weekends. The event has become known nationally for its celebration of tradition and culture and is held annually in late March or early April.

Proceeds from Schmeckfest go to benefit Freeman Academy, a Christian, coeducational middle and high school affiliated with Mennonite churches in the area established in 1900.

FCSAmerica announces strong nine month results

Farm Credit Services of America (FCSAmerica), a financial cooperative with more than \$16 billion in assets, today announced financial results for the first nine months of calendar year 2011.

Net income for the first nine months of 2011 was \$330.7 million compared to \$284.8 million for the same period in 2010. Member's equity increased to \$2.879 billion from \$2.550 billion at year-end. Total assets were \$16.069 billion as of Sept. 30.

"Our strong results reflect our capacity and commitment to meet the needs of an evolving agriculture," said Doug Stark, president and CEO.

"Because of our strength, we are uniquely positioned to take a long-term view and offer our customers customized, competitive financial solutions that take them through the cycles of agriculture and the global economy."

The increase in net income was primarily due to net interest income from

the growth in loan volume and a reduction in the provision for credit losses due to improvement in credit quality, partially offset by an increase in staffing related expenses.

Total loan volume decreased by \$409.6 million from year-end to \$15.136 billion due to the sale of \$1.133 billion in trade credit financing that originated under the AgDirect program. The decrease was partially offset by increases in the real estate portfolio.

USD

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on for the 15-11 victory – a frustrating one for the Coyotes.

"We're proven we can play with anyone in our league, but for whatever reason, we can't win," Logato said. "When you have five (sets) like this, you never know what happens."

Attack errors, a total of 11, were a problem for USD in the opening set that was marked by a dominant finish by Oakland.

The Golden Grizzlies used a 10-10 tie to roll to a 20-12 lead, on the way to the 25-18 win.

Errors were not a problem in the second set, as they were cut down to three for USD.

Logato had five kills in the set, which saw the Coyotes

cruise after leading 13-11. Oakland, meanwhile, was out of sync and struggled containing USD's balance.

Those same unforced errors returned in the third set for USD, as 11 of them resulted in another sub .100 hitting attack.

The Coyotes got within 11-12 on a block, but the Golden Grizzlies jumped ahead 22-14 minutes later.

Logato's production was a welcome sight for USD, which moved her to a starting outside hitter position instead of her usual libero spot – though she surpassed the 1,000 career dig mark in the match.

"We haven't gotten a lot from that second outside hitter position, but we like having Carol and Riley (Haug) out there at the same time," Houk said. "Instead of having them

out there for three rotations together, that lineup gives us six rotations."

The Coyotes will close out their home schedule Sunday afternoon at 2 p.m. against IPFW (18-7, 11-3), which swept USD 3-0 back on Oct. 7.

"There's no rest for the weary," Houk said. "That's what we want, though, we want tough

competition."

Asked about facing yet another five-set match against the Mastodons, Logato smiled and said that would actually be an improvement.

"If we go to five with them, it'll be good, but let's not jinx it," she said. "We'll win if we do all the little things right."

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— Job Opening —
The Clay County Highway Department is accepting applications for a
Highway Maintenance Worker
Must be experienced truck driver, able to operate various types and sizes of equipment including, but not limited to, loaders, tractors, backhoes, mowers, etc. Able and willing to do heavy manual labor, working as part of a road and bridge crew in all types of weather. Must have commercial drivers license. Drug testing in place.
Apply at South Dakota Department of Labor & Regulation
1024 W. Cherry St., Vermillion, SD 57069

CHECK IT OUT

By Anne Marshall
Vermillion Public Library

EXPANDING RESOURCES & BROADENING MINDS

The Vermillion Public Library Foundation's purpose is the promotion of the Vermillion Public Library, its general welfare, and its public relations. One of the Foundation's goals is to assist the library is designing and funding special projects that will improve or expand patron services.

The current mission of the Foundation is to obtain funding to provide access to ideas and to promote the pursuit of lifelong learning. A fundraising campaign, co-chaired by Roger Kozak and Jerry Johnson, will help in expanding the Children's Area plus add a multipurpose area and basement. Renovations to the existing building will include a Young Adult Room, additional technical center space, enlarged Community Room, and added Reference sections.

The goal of the Foundation is to obtain gifts to provide for the furnishings to be placed in the newly expanded and renovated Vermillion Public Library. Recognition Opportunities include:

Benefactor: \$25,000 or more
Patron: \$5,000 – \$24,999
Sponsor: \$1,000 – \$4,999
Supporter: \$500 – \$999
Friend: \$100 – \$499

NEW ADULT NON-FICTION COLLECTION

New from the international and *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author of "The Energy Bus," is a read that takes you on an enlightening and life-changing quest to find passion, purpose, and happiness in your life and work. "The Seed," by Jon Gordon, introduces the reader to Josh, an up and coming star in his company who has lost his passion at work.

Challenged by his boss to take two weeks and decided if he really wants to work there, Josh take off for the country, where he meets a wise farmer who gives him a seed and a promise. If you find the right place to plant this seed, you'll find surprising new sources of wisdom and encouragement in your own work and life.

On a sunny fall afternoon in 1988, Jon Sarkin was playing golf when, without a whisper of warning, his life changed forever. As he bent down to pick up his golf ball, something strange and massive happened inside his head. For an utterly inexplicable reason, a tiny blood vessel, deep in the folds of his gray matter had suddenly shifted ever so slightly, rubbing against his acoustic nerve. Any noise now caused him excruciating pain. "Shadows Bright as Glass," by award-winning journalist and Pulitzer Prize finalist Amy Ellis Nutt, interweaves Sarkin's remarkable story with a

fascinating tour of the history of and latest findings in neuroscience.

What happens when an adventure travel expert, who's never actually done anything adventurous, tries to recreate the original expedition to Machu Picchu? In July of 1911 a young Yale lecturer, Hiram Bingham, climbed into the Andes Mountains of Peru and encountered an ancient city. But nearly a century later the news reports cast him as a villain who smuggled out priceless artifacts and stole credit for finding one of the world's greatest archaeological sites. Author Mark Adams takes readers to Peru to investigate the allegations against Bingham by retracing the explorer's steps in "Turn Right at Machu Picchu."

WEEKLY ONLINE BOOK CLUB

The DearReader.com Book Club offers many selections to Internet patrons. Each book runs for five days, Monday through Friday. Some genres offer selections every other week. Check out this service by registering at the library's Web site, <http://vpl.sdln.net> and clicking on the book club icon. The Online Book Club is asking it's readers to write and tell what they enjoy about this special library service.

Check out the new version of the On-Line Book Club home page. If you have any questions, patrons can contact the Book Club at info@dearreader.com or phone 941-373-0700.

The regular features for the week of Nov. 14 are:

BUSINESS: "In Pursuit of Elegance," by Matthew E. May.

FICTION: "The American Heiress," by Daisy Goodwin.

GOOD NEWS: "Jesus, My Father, the CIA, and Me," by Ian Morgan.

MYSTERY: "The Hanging Wood," by Martin Edwards.

NON-FICTION: "Knuckler," by Tim Wakefield.

PRE-PUB: "Gossip," by Joseph Epstein.

ROMANCE: "Wild Desire," by Lori Brighton.

SCIENCE FICTION: "Mind Storm," by K. M. Ruiz.

TEEN: "Bluefish," by Pat Schmatz.

THRILLER: "The Paradise Prophecy," by Robert Brown.

Beginning on Nov. 14, the Audio Book Club will be expanding. Now every other week, patrons will be able to sample a small clip from five different titles. Instead of using RealPlayer, mp3 clips will be featured. Audio Book Club clips include:

Nov 14: "Ready Player One," by Ernest Cline.

Nov 15: "The Christmas Wedding," by James Patterson.

Nov 16: "The Dovekeepers," by Alice Hoffman.

Nov 17: "Crossing Mandelbaum Gate," by Kai Bird.

Nov 18: "The Best Advice I Ever Got," by Katie Couric.

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