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of the Hillsboro Sentry-Enterprise

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MONTHLY SUPPLEMENT

WEDNESDAY, JULY 21, 2021

ONE SECTION | 12 PAGES

Hillsboro youth take on mission work

By NICOLETTE NAUMAN
Sentry-Enterprise Editor

Jennifer Thompson has always had a heart for missions, having been involved in them since she was in high school. She was involved with a mission trip to North Carolina to assist in cleanup following a hurricane, and also took part in a mission to Omaha to assist in recovery efforts from flooding.

In an effort to help share her love of mission work, Thompson organized a short mission trip for the youth of First Congregational Church, where her husband preaches. A group of seven local youth signed on, most from the church's congregation with the addition of one friend who attends church elsewhere.

Thompson decided to have this mission trip take place in Sioux Falls, South Dakota—the town she and her husband had lived

and worked in prior to moving to Hillsboro. As a former resident, Thompson was familiar with the area and had a good idea as to where the students could have the greatest impact in their mission work.

The young missionaries spent a good deal of their time working with the homeless at the Union Gospel Mission, the second oldest homeless shelter in the country. As part of their work, the students cooked and served a meal, helped paint the dining room, got involved with cleanup efforts, led chapel, performed skits, and led worship singing.

Beyond the Union Gospel Mission, students spent some time in lower income areas, offering to wash windows for local business owners.

Thompson hopes that the experience helps these students develop a greater perspective in life, both in being thankful for what they have but also in fostering the desire to help others.

"I wanted them to have their eyes opened," says Thompson, "and to come away with a passion for missions."

The trip lasted for a total of five days, from June 14 until June 18, and thanks to fundraising efforts the students' trip was fully funded. Thompson hopes to make the same trip again next year and share her passion for mission work with another group of local youth.

Thompson has stated that youth from other congregations are welcome to join in on the next mission trip, and that she only requires that those interested prove that they have attended church at least three times a month by providing bulletins from their churches.



A group of local students went on a mission trip to Sioux Falls, South Dakota, organized by Jennifer Thompson, wife of Pastor Aaron Thompson. Pictured left to right: Gideon Krug, Danielle Krug, Emily Thompson, Anna Richardson, Cheyanne Ballering, Anna Keller, and Lydia Krug. Photo contributed by Jennifer Thompson.



Community improvement projects, such as cleanup, were also key components to the mission work these students undertook. Photo contributed by Jennifer Thompson.



Much of the mission work undertaken by the students under Thompson's supervision involved helping to serve meals at the Union Gospel Mission, one of the oldest homeless shelters in the U.S. Photo contributed by Jennifer Thompson.

Bikes and butterflies

Mural highlights nature around Elroy's bike trail

By Rhonda Hess
Staff writer

It's a good thing Jason Gerke enjoys painting woodland animals and insects. He is adding several of them to the downtown Elroy mural he has painted, slated for completion this month.

On Friday, he was working on the butterfly portion of the wall, with a big set of monarch wings which is designed for people to stand in front of. "Wings have been kind of a theme these days," he said. Next

on the painting agenda were smaller butterflies.

"We're going to transition butterflies flying into the mural," Gerke said. "It symbolizes Wisconsin nature, all a part of the trail."

The other half of the mural, located just past the triangle on 2nd Main Street in Elroy, features one of three tunnels on the Elroy/Sparta bike trail and images of bicyclists past and present.

The New Lisbon man has been working around a full-time job,

painting in his spare time on weekends to complete the mural, sponsored by a committee of local clubs (spearheaded by Janice Cleven, Shirley Preuss and Mary Waarvik) and donations from individuals.

"I donated some money toward about eight gallons of paint to start," Gerke said. "I have another eight or 10 gallons to go through, yet."

Gerke said many others helped with the project.

"I'd like to thank the Johns family (Randie and Pam) for inviting me to

paint this mural, great family," he said.

"Also, thanks to Walker Kitchen and Bath in Tomah for their help, uncle Steve Walker for his donation of a lift and Chad Klipstein from Bardo in Elroy for donating a ladder to me."

He said there were "many good people in the mix that deserve some recognition."

"Adding art to our city has always been a dream of mine," Elroy Chamber Director Kari Preuss said. "Hopefully, it encourages others to

add beauty."

Gerke's son, Rylan, also helped with painting some of the base coating and line work. "We did some paintings together in Texas," Gerke said. "They were murals for the Kalahari."

He said the Elroy mural is much smaller, but still has its challenges. "The bricks are a challenge," he said. "Some are crumbly. There are sand pockets in some of the grooves that you can't paint."

'MURAL' cont. pg. 7

Do you have a feature story to submit or would like us to cover? Contact HSE editor Nicolette Nauman 608-633-4642 or email her at editor@HillsboroSE.com

Governor Evers signs budget with 50 partial vetoes

By NICOLETTE NAUMAN
Sentry-Enterprise Editor

On Thursday, July 8, Governor Tony Evers signed a biennial budget for the 2021-2023 fiscal period. The budget, which totals in at \$87.5 billion, includes provisions for a Republican-backed tax cut valued at over \$2 billion. Prior to signing the bill, Evers used his veto pen to make a total of 50 changes to the document, partial vetoes removing provisions from the proposed budget.

“The biggest problems with this budget are not the things in it which need to be removed with the stroke of a pen,” Evers stated in his veto message, “but rather the work the Legislature left undone.”

Among Evers’ partial vetoes was the elimination of a provision requiring the Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP) to submit a plan to lawmakers detailing how they would spend \$5 million over 5 years to increase agricultural exports. A \$550 million transfer from the state general fund to the state’s “Rainy Day Fund” was also axed, with Evers indicating that such funds could be better used in more immediate invests into schools, small businesses, and Wisconsin’s ongoing economic recovery.

A provision calling for a Department of Workforce Development (DWD) study on instituting a sliding-scale for unemployment benefits based on the state’s unemployment rate was removed, as was a provision calling for a limit on how much can be spent on security for the lieutenant

governor’s office. Evers also struck down \$750,000 in grants to Lakeland STAR Academy, charter school located in Minocqua. Evers stated that he vetoed the provision on the grounds that he objects “to providing state grants to specific schools when the Legislature has provided limited new spending to Wisconsin’s public school system as a whole.”

The budget will increase funding for items such as Medicaid dental rates (receiving \$46 million over the biennium), the Family Care program (receiving \$104 million over the biennium), and Community Health Centers and Free and Charitable Clinics (receiving \$2 million over the biennium). Provisions for dementia care specialist positions, crisis team training for law enforcement, reimbursement rates for outpatient mental health and substance use disorder services, among other items, are included in the budget.

A total of \$1 million over the budget’s 2-year duration will be used to expand career and technical education opportunities at Wisconsin correctional facilities, and the Treatment Alternatives and Diversion Program will be expanded by \$2.5 million in the 2022-2023 fiscal year. An additional \$2 million in grants for law enforcement to purchase body-worn cameras is also included. Conservation wardens and State Patrol troopers have had \$227,400 and \$700,000 respectively set aside for the purchase and maintenance of such cameras as well, with the former set to reoccur annually and the later specified for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

For the first time in two decades, two-thirds funding will be provided to Wisconsin schools. Two-thirds funding, which accounts for two-thirds of the total of state school aids and school property taxes, was the state’s standard between 1996 and 2004, but was discontinued under Governor Jim Doyle. Schools will receive an additional \$408 million in general school aids, and an additional \$19 million is slated for investment in school mental health programs.

The number of small, rural school districts currently eligible for sparsity aid has been increased, state resources for gifted and talented students have been doubled, and \$89 million has been set aside over the next two years to increase reimbursement for disabled students in the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

Other items included in the budget range from \$465 million in new funding for roads and highways throughout the state, \$129 million set aside to expand broadband internet access, \$72 million in property tax relief for technical colleges, and \$104 million in funding for hospitals who serve a significant amount of low-income patients.

“I am very happy that the Governor signed the Legislature’s budget into law,” says Howard Marklein, State Senator for Wisconsin’s 17th Senate District and Co-Chair of the Joint Committee on Finance. “We crafted a great budget for rural Wisconsin... My colleagues on both sides of the aisle have prased the smoothness and transparency of the process this year.”

HILLSBORO Calendar of Events

JULY 24	ELROY PARTY IN THE PARK (All School Reunion) at Elroy Fairgrounds Gate opens 11 a.m. Music 5 acts begins 1 p.m. ST PAUL'S EV LUTHERAN CHURCH is Hosting a FREE CONCERT @Hillsboro Firemen's Park 4 major acts 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
JULY 25	ST PAUL'S EV LUTHERAN CHURCH is Having an OUTDOOR SERVICE @ HILLSBORO FIREMEN'S PARK 10:30 A.M. 2 Sisters Catering Brunch 234 West State St., Mauston 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
JULY 29	FREE COMMUNITY CONCERT IN KENDALL CENTRAL PARK 6:30 P.M. Culvers Sundaes will be provided, 3 Sisters selling hot dogs, Local UTV Club selling drinks
AUGUST 13 & 14	CHARITY TRACTOR PULL AT HILLSBORO FIREMEN'S PARK
SEPTEMBER 3-6	HILLSBORO LABOR DAY CELEBRATION
SEPTEMBER 4	HILLSBORO RUN & WALK
SEPTEMBER 5	HILLSBORO LIONS BINGO 1 P.M.
SEPTEMBER 6	HILLSBORO LABOR DAY PARADE
SEPTEMBER 11	APPLE DUMPLING DAY RACES AT Schultz Park Elroy
SEPTEMBER 18	Class of 1960 class reunion at SPRING VALLEY GOLF COURSE



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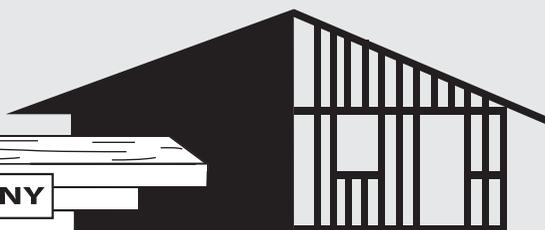
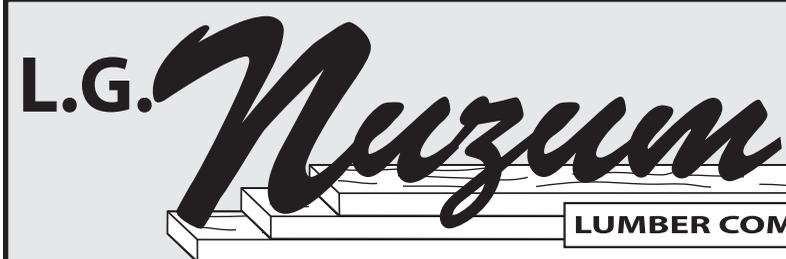
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Hillsboro Library to participate in Vernon County Reading Program

By NICOLETTE NAUMAN
Sentry-Enterprise Editor

Beginning Monday, August 2, Vernon County readers are encouraged to swing by their local libraries and join in on the 5th Annual Vernon County Reads adult reading program. This year will feature Wisconsin author Victoria Houston and her Loon Lake Mystery series. The books follow Police Chief Lew Ferris as he solves murders with the help of retired dentist Dr. Paul "Doc" Osborne in the fictional town of Loon Lake, Wisconsin.

Houston is a Rhinelander native, growing up in the heart of the fishing culture that features prominently in her writing. While she left the area for over 30 years, Houston returned home in 1996 and continues to enjoy hunting fishing, and writing mystery books. She has also written or co-authored over seven non-fiction books throughout her career.

The Loon Lake Mystery series has been featured in a story on the front page of *The Wall Street Journal* and on NPR's *Talk of the Nation*.

The program will conclude with an in-person presentation by Houston on Thursday, October 7, beginning at 7:00P.M. at the Westby Area Performing Arts Center. Admission to the presentation is free of charge, but attendees can reserve their place at wapac.ludus.com. Copies of Houston's books will be available for purchase at the book signing immediately after the program.

The Hillsboro Public Library is one of six Vernon County libraries taking part in the program, and Houston's books will be available for check-out from the library during the program's duration. Community book discussions on Houston's mystery series are expected to take place at libraries throughout Vernon County, including here in Hillsboro!

This program is made possible via partnerships with the Driftless



Author Victoria Houston's mystery series set in the fictional Wisconsin town of Loon Lake will be the focus for this year's adult reading program, which has six Vernon County libraries participating in partnership with the Driftless Writing Center. Photo contributed by the McIntosh Memorial Library.

Writing Center, a nonprofit organization that works to connect writers, readers, and audiences through workshops, discussions, and public performances.

For more information on the program, please contact that McIntosh Memorial Library at (608) 637-7151 or visit them online at www.mcintoshmemoriallibrary.org and on Facebook at "Viroqua Library." More information on Hillsboro's involvement with the program will be made available once the program begins. Stop on by this August to pick up a copy of one of Houston's Loon Lake Mysteries and join in the fun!

Check us out at
HillsboroSE.com

Kendall to host free community concert

By NICOLETTE NAUMAN
Sentry-Enterprise Editor

The Kendall Area Arts and Culture Organization (KAACO) and the Kendall Lions Club are partnering together to put on a free community concert at Kendall's Central Park on Thursday, July 29.

Guests will be treated to musical performances with Josie on vocals

and Tim Schroeder on guitar, and the concert is scheduled to take place beginning at 6:30P.M. and is expected to continue until approximately 8:00P.M.

Free sundaes courtesy of Culver's will be available to those in attendance, and Three Sisters' Treasures will be selling hotdogs to those looking for food to complete their concert experience.

Beverages will also be available, with the local UTV club selling liquid refreshments to attendees.

This free event is open to all, and organizers ask that you bring your own chair along when you come out to enjoy a musical end to your Thursday. Should the weather choose not to cooperate, this event will be relocated to the Kendall Community Hall.

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Tomah Rotary Rally For the Record coming Sept. 17-18

By **BOB KLIEBENSTEIN**
Staff Writer

No one is going to scoff at the accolade of setting a world record.

And that is clearly a goal of the Tomah Rotary Club's Rally for The Record set for Sept. 17-18 at Recreation Park.

But Tomah Rotarian Jeff Holthaus is quick to point out the event is more than a publicity attraction.

First a little background, per the Guinness Book of World Records, on June 13, 2009 the All-Terrain Vehicle Association of Minnesota (ATVAM) broke a world record for the longest ATV parade with an unofficial total of 1,632 ATV's lining up.

But if you Google world record ATV parades another news account cites a Utah rally with 2,014 units in 2009. Not sure if that number is recognized by Guinness records.

Holthaus said Tomah Rotary is setting its sights on approximately 1,800 ATV/UTV units in its Sept. 18 parade. Guinness will take care of confirming any world record. It would be a neat accolade, but Tomah Rotary is focused on the community benefit.

Tomah Rotary committed \$75,000 toward improvements for Winnebago Park. Proceeds from the rally will help offset the purchase of outdoor interactive musical instruments that will be installed at Winnebago Park. Tomah Rotary is seeking a signature event to maintain a community presence.

Early registration is \$25 per machine with a limit of four machines per registrant. Registration at the event is \$35 a vehicle.

The parade is only one component

to what Tomah Rotary will be an event that reaches beyond ATV/UTV owners.

The parade starts at Rec Park, proceeds along Butts Avenue, wraps around and onto Gondola Road onto County Highway CM and back to Rec Park.

Holthaus stresses the importance of operators staying in place during the parade for an official count to be recognized as a record. Organizers have to provide a drone shot of all units together, Holthaus added.

Parade distance is only a few miles, but Holthaus said it will take some time for nearly 2,000 machines to navigate the route. Other events include a Parade of Machines kickoff, NFL themed decorating contest, Poker Run, music in the beer garden (DJ Dan Deicher Friday and After Hours, live music Saturday), raffles, food, ATV, UTV industry vendors and classic car show hosted by The Wizards of Rods.

Schedule at this time

Friday
Check in/Registration 2 p.m.-7 p.m.

Beer garden 4 p.m.-10 p.m.
Food Vendors 4 p.m.-8 p.m.
Music (DJ) by Dan Deicher 6 p.m.-10 p.m.

Saturday -
Check in/Registration 7 a.m.-10 a.m.

Open Ceremony/Parade Line up 10 a.m.
Food Vendors 10 a.m.
Parade Starts 11 a.m.
Beer Garden 2 p.m.-10 p.m.
Music by After Hours 7 p.m.-10 p.m.

When checking in, participants will pick up their rally packet with an ATV/UTV Map and

commemorative bandanna and decal and be entered into the \$1,000 raffle.

All registrants are required to sign an agreement and release waiver when they pick up their rally packet stating that their machine is insured and licensed for city streets and country roads.

Sites in the campground across Recreation Park are available and can be added onto your registration in advance. All campsites come with electricity and access to water and a dump station, and you can register up to four campsites.

Along with the parade, on both days there will be rides that will be specified by color codes as to their time length for anyone who wants to venture away from Rec Park.

Keep an eye out for flyers with details. Information is available at tomahrotaryclub.org. Holthaus feels this event has potential to be a yearly draw for Tomah.

"The UTV/ATV market is one of the fastest growing in the nation," Holthaus said. "Let's get a bunch of people together for a good time. Why not have it grow? Have it be an annual thing."

Potential? Who thought Sturgis S.D. would have become the motorcycle mecca it became for one week in August.

But for the inaugural rally Holthaus hopes to see representation from Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota. But riders from Illinois, Michigan or beyond you are welcomed.

Sept. 17-18 at Recreation Park, mark it on your calendar, even if you don't own an ATV or UTV.

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Continuing A Family Tradition

By NICOLETTE NAUMAN
Sentry-Enterprise Editor

Every family has its own set of traditions, their own unique way of passing on values, knowledge, and beliefs from generation to generation. These traditions can range from the relatively small to mostly seasonal to a particular line of work or a favored hobby.

For the Kaisers, horses have been part of the family tradition for decades, as has riding those horses in various competitions. Tyuanna Kaiser, a 24-year-old out of Ontario, has been carrying on the family tradition alongside her father, Travis Kaiser.

Kaiser first began competing on horseback as a little girl, entering into barrel racing events. As a barrel racer, she achieved no small amount of success and had won five saddles by the time she was a teenager.

As a teenager, however, Kaiser began to step away from barrel racing and moved on to competing in team penning events. Her father has been involved in team penning since he was a teenager himself, and Kaiser's admiration of her father inspired her to leave the barrels behind for good. Kaiser quickly found that she enjoyed team penning more than she had barrel racing, and she's been in the saddle in as many competitions as she can manage ever since.

"Everyone is so friendly," says Kaiser, explaining that what she enjoys most about the sport is the friendly atmosphere she's encountered over her years competing.

While Kaiser and her father—like many penners—tend to switch out horses between events, Kaiser tends to favor one horse in particular: a Quarter mare named Rose, who she's worked with since the age of four. If you ask Kaiser, the most important of having success as a team penner is to find yourself a good horse and get in with good people. Teamwork between horse and rider, and between all three riders on a team, is critical to a successful run. As far as the Kaisers are concerned, they wouldn't be nearly as successful in their rides if not for the partners they ride with.

Kaiser and her father both belong to the U.S. Team Penning Association (USTPA) and try to maintain a busy competition schedule, often spending more time out on the road and in the saddle than they do at their home in Ontario. Travis himself has been a World Champion eight times over, and has won the World Championship for sorting three times as well. Kaiser, who has been involved in team penning for less than a decade, has been learning from the best—as shown by her own success in the circuits.

In mid-May, Kaiser and her father traveled to Fort Worth, Texas, to compete in the Elite Team Penning Finals. They went up against 901 teams from all over the world, competing in multiple runs over the



Tyuanna Kaiser (far right) took home a new Polaris 1000 Crew after winning the novice High Point category at the Elite Team Penning Finals in Fort Worth, Texas. This is not the first time Kaiser has made it to the top spot in this category, having done so back in 2015. Her father, Travis Kaiser (center left), also took home his own Polaris after winning the open High Point category. Photo contributed by the U.S. Team Penning Association.



Tyuanna Kaiser (left) poses with her father, Travis Kaiser, by the new Polaris 1000 Crew vehicles they won at the Elite Team Penning Finals in Fort Worth, Texas. Photo contributed by the Kaiser family.

three-day tournament. At the end of it all, Kaiser had racked up a total of 11,301 points—earning her the top spot in the tournament's High Point novice category. As a reward for all of her hard work, effort, and skill, Kaiser won a new Polaris 1000 Crew—and so did her father when he took the top spot for the High Point open division.

The Kaisers shoot to compete in at

least one big show a month, and their next big event is set to take place in Columbiana, Ohio, at the end of July. Beyond the larger events, Kaiser and her father participate in smaller, more localized competitions. Primarily, they participate in events up in Sparta, organized by Arlan Brooks, and events in Winslow, Illinois, organized by Hank Holmes. Both Kaiser and her

father consider these smaller events to be good practice for the larger and more extensive competitions they take part in, but they also spend time practicing with a local friend's cattle. "Every run is different," says Kaiser, which she feels makes the sport all the more fun.

While team penning events have slowed over the past year and a half

due to COVID-19, Kaiser and her father still maintain a busy schedule. For them, the best part of competing is being able to compete together, as Kaiser often rides alongside her father. Neither is particularly interested in flaunting their success in the saddle, and tend to focus more on preparing for the next run, wherever it may be.

NEXT Neighbors ISSUE ON AUGUST 11TH

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Gundersen St. Joseph's to build new Elroy clinic

By NICOLETTE NAUMAN
Sentry-Enterprise Editor

Gundersen St. Joseph's Hospital and Clinics has announced that they will be building a new clinic in downtown Elroy. The new building will be located at the corner of Main and Franklin Streets, and the hospital administration anticipates breaking ground this November.

The current clinic operating in Elroy has been serving the community well for years, but it had always been part of the hospital's plan to rebuild and relocate the clinic to an updated facility.

"The decision to build a clinic [in downtown Elroy] is deliberate," says Kristie McCoic, administrator for Gundersen St. Joseph's. "This is an opportunity to make care more accessible and reignite a spark in Elroy's downtown."

According to McCoic, Gundersen St. Joseph's hopes that, in putting down roots along Elroy's Main Street, the downtown economy will see an increased rate of traffic and improved conditions for the businesses currently occupying the areas.

This announcement has come as welcome news for the City of Elroy,

according to Carole Brown, City Administrator for Elroy.

"The economic impact on our downtown and the entire community will provide opportunities for growth and development for years to come," says Brown. "The City of Elroy could not be more thankful for Gundersen St. Joseph's concern for not only the physical and mental health of our community, but also for [our] economic health."

Hospital officials have indicated that there is no expected change in the services offered through the Elroy clinic, but aim to provide both staff and patients with a better environment for health care. While construction is expected to start in November, McCoic and her team plan to have the project finished in

time for a summer 2022 opening.

McCoic thanks Brown, Jim Garvin, and the Elroy City Council for their support of and commitment to the project, as well as the local community for their continued support of Gundersen St. Joseph's throughout the trials and tribulations of the past year.

"We couldn't have done this without a great community behind us," says Dan Howard, media coordinator for Gundersen St. Joseph's.

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Stock #4452A 2013 Chevrolet Captiva Sport LTZ 121,297 miles, Cyber Gray Metallic \$7,988	Stock #A39463 2014 Ford Edge SEL 70,396 miles, Deep Impact Blue Metallic JUST IN!	Stock #21016B 2019 Jeep Renegade Latitude 37,690 miles, Colorado Red Clear Coat \$23,488	Stock #4460 2017 RAM 1500 REG 117,715 miles, White \$17,888	Stock #4422B 2015 Buick Encore Convenience 33,907 miles, Satin Steel Gray Metallic/Dark Argent Metallic \$16,988	Stock #4493 2018 Chevrolet Equinox LT 31,988 miles, Silver Ice Metallic \$21,488	Stock #4442A 2017 Chevrolet Volt LT 59,788 miles, Kinetic Blue Metallic \$15,988
Stock #21071B 2011 Chevrolet Impala LT 79,646 miles, Imperial Blue Metallic \$11,488	Stock #21064A 2011 Ford Edge SEL 96,692 miles, Tuxedo Black Metallic \$13,888	Stock #4523 2018 Jeep Compass Trailhawk 22,171 miles, White Clear Coat \$32,888	Stock #4448A 2020 Buick Encore Sport Touring 2,951 miles, Satin Steel Metallic \$25,988	Stock #4522 2021 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 RST 32,662 miles, Red Hot \$49,988	Stock #4490 2018 Chevrolet Express Cargo 2500 124,916 miles, Black \$24,488	Stock #21104B 2016 Chevrolet Traverse LTZ 53,957 miles, Mosaic Black Metallic \$28,988
Stock #4514 2019 Ford F-350 Super Duty Platinum 33,616 miles, White Platinum Metallic Tri-coat \$76,900	Stock #4509 2018 GMC Terrain SLE 44,730 miles, Red Quartz Tintcoat \$24,988	Stock #4524 2018 Jeep Wrangler JK Unlimited Freedom Edition 24,868 miles, Firecracker Red Clear Coat \$39,900	Stock #21088A 2019 Buick Encore Preferred 25,695 miles, Satin Steel Metallic \$22,588	Stock #724830 2021 Chevrolet Spark 1LT CVT 3,472 miles, Passion Fruit Metallic \$16,488	Stock #21132A 2018 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 LT Z71 21,603 miles, Havana Metallic \$39,888	Stock #21047A 2015 Chevrolet Malibu LS 92,012 miles, Atlantis Blue Metallic \$12,988
Stock #4483 2018 Ford Transit Cargo 150 115,228 miles, Oxford White \$22,488	Stock #4518 2017 GMC Sierra 1500 wt 21,157 miles, Woodland Green JUST IN!	Stock #4455 2020 Land Rover Discovery SE 25,750 miles, Fuji White \$44,988	Stock #21035A 2019 Buick Encore Preferred 15,317 miles, Coppertino Metallic \$23,488	Stock #21141A 2020 Chevrolet Silverado 2500HD Custom 24,953 miles, Black \$47,988	Stock #21125A 2018 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 LT Z71 32,738 miles, Graphite Metallic \$41,888	Stock #21093A 2015 Chevrolet Malibu LT 41,607 miles, Champagne Silver Metallic \$16,888

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Jason Gerke has been working on a new mural for the City of Elroy in his spare time, a project he hopes to see completed yet this month. Photo taken by Nicolette Nauman, HSE Editor.

MURAL

(Continued from Front Page)

Gerke has always loved drawing and painting. “I did my very first mural when I was 14,” he said. That mural for the Camp Douglas post office remains today.

“I’ve painted stock cars and (wall for) businesses,” Gerke said. “I’ve had fun doing it.”

Overall, he said the Elroy mural has also been a fun project for him. “It’s been a journey of meeting people from the surrounding community and seeing what it means to everyone else,” Gerke said. Former Governor Tommy Thompson stopped by one day and gave him a

tip, he said. Also, a Richland Center visitor was so impressed, he tipped him \$50. “That makes it more enjoyable,” Gerke said.

So, when will the mural be complete? “I’ll know it’s complete when all of the animals are in there,” he said.

The final step is seal coating. Gerke was hoping to get a lot of progress made over the Independence Day weekend.

Gerke has a favorite quote that pertains to him and this project. “Life is a canvas,” he said. “Paint

with passion, love in your heart ... and paint over your mistakes.”

To find out more, or to hire Gerke for a painting or drawing project, contact him through his personal Facebook page.



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Food, fun, and animal antics at the Elroy Fair

By Rhonda Hess
Staff Reporter

Despite the unpredictable weather, the Elroy Fair continued throughout the weekend, carrying on the tradition of fundraising food sales and animal shows.

A soggy Saturday morning started out with some grilling on the fairgrounds at Schultz Park. Elroy Lions Club member Justin Howe was manning the grill, making hamburgers and pork sandwiches. Ironically, that is not his favorite job. "I don't like to grill," he said. "But, I'm what we got."

Howe said the club sold about 700 hamburgers the first couple of days at the fair, but Saturday was slower due to the rain. He said he had been experimenting at home to get his grilling techniques down for the (almost) annual fundraiser. The fair had been cancelled last year due to the global pandemic. The Elroy Lions were hoping to make up for last year's missed fundraising opportunities.

"I would say this is our largest (fundraiser)," Howe said.

He said the club has not had a chance to raise funds over the past year or so and those donated monies go to scholarships and other club-sponsored programs.

The Elroy Lions Club has about 30 members and Howe said eight or nine members helped cover each shift at the fair. He was pleased with Friday's sales. "Yesterday was phenomenal," he said.

Another group raising funds was the Royall FFA. They sold pizza out of one of the buildings on the fairgrounds. FFA member LeAnna Phillips said one

fair attendee helped them out Saturday by ordering a whole pizza.

More food was on the schedule Sunday morning, when the official Juneau County June Dairy Breakfast was served. Lester Leatherberry's grill was being used, as usual, to make the pancakes. But, the exact number is a mystery. "We make as many as we need," Lester's wife, Lynn, said. "If we stopped to count, we could never keep up."

A group of sponsors and a large group of volunteers keep the breakfast going, according to volunteer and breakfast coordinator Shelly Daug.

"We have at least 20 volunteers that help set-up, serve, clean-up and coordinate," she said. "Plus four or five fair board members help."

She said usually the group plans to serve about 600 breakfasts, but they had been hearing from other coordinators that they have had massive turnouts, so they planned for about 800 breakfasts. Sponsors included: Organic Valley, Wisconsin River Meats, Tomah Large Animal Vet Care, Juneau County Dairy promotion, the Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board, the Juneau County Dairy Board, Leatherberry Families, Bell's Udder Farm, Culver's, D&T Delights, Smith-Nelson Funeral Home, Kwik Trip, Marvell INC, Gunderson St. Joseph's Hospitals and Clinics, Compeer Financial, Rudig-Jensen Auto Mart, John Hamm and MLSNA Dairy Supply.

The volunteers were happy they prepared for a large crowd because this year's

breakfast had a first-time event. "We ran out of cheese curds," Daug said.

While some people were enjoying the food, others were showing their animals throughout the weekend.

Breanna Anderson was happy with her Grand Champion showing of Kyle Menn's purebred Jersey heifer Laislee for Saturday's open dairy show.

"I take them home for a few weeks and whip them into shape," Anderson, a member of the Norwalk Clovers 4-H group, said. "I also show goats, sheep, chickens and rabbits."

Anderson, 19, has been showing animals for 5 years, but this is her third and final Elroy Fair animal showing opportunity. "This is my last one, so I'm trying to make it count," she said.

Another person making their fair activities count was Kayla Hach of Ontario. She won first place in the adult showmanship category with her pit bull, Bella. This is the first time Bella had been in a dog show and Hach was beaming with pride after the win. "Showmanship is all about the handler's relationship with the dog," she said. "I kept showing her and presenting her and taking the time to make her look good."

Kyle Menn of Norwalk agrees with Hach. He won first in the showmanship category as well with his Collie, Dakota. He said his favorite part of the experience is "the relationship you can form between you and your dog."

To find out more about the events that took place at the Elroy Fair, go to www.elroyfair.com.



Some exhibitors decided to get in some last-minute practice handling their animals prior to the show ring. Photo taken by Nicolette Nauman, HSE Editor.



The big kids weren't the only ones allowed to have fun; plenty of rides and games were available for the younger fairgoers at this year's carnival. Photo taken by Nicolette Nauman, HSE Editor.



In order to keep the track as even and fresh as possible, enabling each puller relatively equal conditions, A pair of tractors were on hand to blade and smooth out the ruts created by each puller. Photo taken by Nicolette Nauman, HSE Editor.



Kyle Menn took the showmanship award with his 18-month-old collie Dakota in the four-or-more-years category at the Elroy Fair Dog Show Sunday. Photo taken by Rhonda Hess, Reporter.



Kayla Hach of Ontario smiles with her pit bull Bella. They took first place in the adult showmanship category at Sunday's dog show at the Elroy Fair. Photo taken by Rhonda Hess, Reporter.

Fun Things Happening In Our Area



Dan Howard (left) poses with griddle-buddy Ron Bladl. Howard and Bladl were tasked with serving up pancakes as part of this year's Hillsboro Lions' Dairy Breakfast. Photo taken by Nicolette Nauman, HSE Editor.



Megan Danahy, art teacher at Wonewoc-Center Schools, spoke on the murals she and her students have been working on since the end of the school year. When she was approached by the Legion to create a mural for the building, she had wanted to develop a mural which honored both the memory of our fallen soldiers and the gratitude for those who served in the past and those still on active duty. At the end of the dedication ceremony, art teacher Megan Danahy (far left) brought up a few of the student artists who helped bring the murals to life. Photo taken by Nicolette Nauman, HSE Editor.



Hillsboro firefighters joined in the fun at the La Farge Fourth of July celebration on Sunday, July 4. Photo contributed by Jennifer McBride.



Children went home from the La Farge Fourth of July parade on Sunday, July 4, with plenty of candy! The Yuba Fire Department came out to help in the celebration—and to fill kids' bags with sweets! Photo contributed by Jennifer McBride.



This year's Musicale took place on a beautiful July evening, and Hillsboro area residents gathered in Field Veterans' Memorial Park to enjoy an evening of local musical talent, good food, and raffle prizes. Photo taken by Nicolette Nauman, HSE Editor.



Maureen Kouba, Mary Thyne, and Mary Siefert got up and danced a bit during LeRoy Peterson's renditions of popular Johnny Cash songs. Photo taken by Nicolette Nauman, HSE Editor.



This year's Musicale took place on a beautiful July evening, and Hillsboro area residents gathered in Field Veterans' Memorial Park to enjoy an evening of local musical talent, good food, and raffle prizes. Headlining this year's Musical lineup was local favorite LeRoy Peterson, who spent some of his down time backstage getting in a little bit of extra practice before performing alongside Joe "Man In Black" Havlik. Photo taken by Nicolette Nauman, HSE Editor.

Guest speaker talks identity theft at Community Watch meeting

By **NICOLETTE NAUMAN**
Sentry-Enterprise Editor

Officer Chris Kucinsky has been working to bring a Neighborhood Watch program to Hillsboro, and while he considers the existing model to be a tad outdated, he hopes that the program can morph into something unique to Hillsboro and its residents.

As part of the program, Kucinsky plans to host regular meetings three to four times a year, with a guest speaker set to talk about topics relevant to Hillsboro. The first of these meetings was hosted on Thursday, July 1, at 6:00P.M., and featured Jeff Kerston from the Bureau of Consumer Protection (BCP).

Kerston, who has roughly 13 years of experience in law enforcement and additional year of experience as an investigator for the BCP, delivered a presentation on identity theft to those in attendance.

While many of us think of identity theft more in terms of phone and email scams concocted by people determined to get their hands on our credit or debit card information, the truth is that identity theft involves a much wider range of vulnerabilities—ranging from credit cards to government benefits.

In fact, fraud in terms of government benefits has skyrocketed to the number one spot in the past year alone. Back in 2019, identity theft regarding government benefits ranked only 17th on the list of most common forms. The onset of COVID-19 and resulting mass lay-offs and high levels of unemployment managed to spur this form of identity theft right up to the top, unseating credit card theft from the number one spot.

Identity thieves can do a lot of damage with just three pieces of information: your name, your date of birth, and your Social Security Number, and they have plenty of ways to try and get that information out of you. However, there are ways to protect yourself and your identity, and to spot a scam when it targets you.

Kerston advises families to establish a "family password." The password can be anything, or it can even be nothing! Even if you don't have a password, simply asking for one will likely result in the scammer hanging up, as you've identified yourself as someone that much more difficult to scam.

If you find yourself paying at the gas pump, Kerston advises you to pay with a credit card instead of a debit card. Should the pump be compromised with a skimmer, you have 60 days to notice the fraudulent charges on your credit card and contest them. With a debit card, you may only have 48 hours before you become liable for the charges. Be sure to check in with your bank to determine the exact window they utilize with their debit cards, as well as what their policies are regarding identity theft protection, to make sure you know exactly where you stand.

Federal agencies will never call you, and will instead send mailings if they need to reach you. Scammers try to generate a sense of urgency, such as with new utility scams, in which they threaten impending

negative action—such as arrest or the discontinuation of your utilities—in order to incite panic and cause you to act on instinct. A massive red flag for scammers is that they almost always ask for payment in the form of gift cards, which are much harder for law enforcement to track.

Kerston recommends that people utilize shredders, especially micro-cut models, to destroy documents and pieces of mail with their names and addresses on it. Most scammers can piece together papers shredded by other types of shredders, but micro-cut models reduce documents to such small pieces that it is impossible to restore them.

Other tips include utilizing 2-factor authentication whenever possible, as many sites have started to use it. This results in websites sending you a notification anytime a log-in attempt is made from a computer or network you don't normally use—and while identity thieves may have your login information, it's unlikely that they also have immediate access to your phone and the time-sensitive login code you'll be sent.

Kerston also recommends that people sign up for services such as eNotify through the Wisconsin Department of Transportation and Informed Delivery through the U.S.

Postal Service. The former notifies you regarding access and updates to your vehicle information, while the latter sends you daily emails detailing what the mail carrier will be delivering to your address. Some identity thieves like to steal mail from the mailbox, so services such as these can be a great asset.

To help prevent identity thieves from stealing your identity during tax season, you can now take advantage of a program through the IRS. This program is pre-existing but was initially for people who had already been victims of identity thieves and could prove it. Due to the wave of fraudulent activity in the past year, the IRS has made the program available to everyone. The program assigns you an Identity Protection PIN, which you are sent prior to tax season and which you must include on your tax forms.

Kerston went on to recommend credit freezes, which can be initiated and paused as needed by contacting the three major credit reporting agencies: Experian, Equifax, and TransUnion. The freeze will prevent any new credit from being opened up in your name, and you can temporarily "thaw" your credit when you need to, giving you greater control over your credit and greater protection against identity thieves.

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WONEWOC *Calendar of Events*

JULY 21 & 22 JULY 22	2ND Session of Summer School ends Hillsboro Public Library & Gundersen St. Joseph's MOVIE NIGHT AT HILLSBORO FIREMEN'S PARK AT DUSK(EVERY OTHER THURSDAY NIGHT(this week movie to Be determined yet)
JULY 24	ELROY PARTY IN THE PARK (All School Reunion) ELROY FAIRGROUNDS-5 acts, Gates open at 11 a.m. Music starts at 1 p.m. ST PAUL'S EV LUTHERAN CHURCH Will host a FREE CONCERT AT HILLSBORO FIREMEN'S PARK Branches Band, Leah Rachuj, Stephan Bautista & Lutheran Ceili Orchestra, 11 A.M. TO 7 P.M.
JULY 25	ST Paul's Ev Lutheran Church Outdoor Church Service at Hillsboro Firemen's Park 10:30 a.m.
AUGUST 2-12 AUGUST 9 & 10	3RD Session of Summer School W-C School Snowmobile Safety Class 8:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.
AUGUST 13-23 AUGUST 13 & 14	Wonewoc Gyms Closed CHARITY TRACTOR PULL AT HILLSBORO FIREMEN'S PARK
AUGUST 16 AUGUST 20	W-C School Board Meeting W-C SCHOOL OFFICE CLOSED Parking Lot Striping
AUGUST 21 AUGUST 26	W-C Football Varsity Scrimmage W-C Teacher in-service W-C JV & Varsity Volleyball Match
AUGUST 27 AUGUST 30 & 31	W-C Varsity Football Game MARCHING BAND CAMP AT HILLSBORO HIGH SCHOOL-ALL DAY
AUGUST 30	W-C JV & Varsity Volleyball Match

ELROY *Calendar of Events*

JULY 22	HILLSBORO LIBRARY & GUNDERSEN ST. JOSEPH'S MOVIE NIGHT(Movie to be Determined yet) AT DUSK AT FIREMENS PARK, HILLSBORO (every other Thursday night)
JULY 24	ELROY PARTY IN THE PARK (All School Reunion) 5 music acts, Gates open at 11 a.m. Music Begins at 1 p.m. ST. PAUL'S EV LUTHERAN CHURCH is Hosting a FREE CONCERT @Hillsboro Firemen's Park, 4 major acts 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
JULY 25	ST PAUL'S EV LUTHERAN CHURCH IS HAVING AN OUTDOOR SERVICE @ HILLSBORO FIREMEN'S PARK 9:30 A.M.
JULY 29	FREE COMMUNITY CONCERT in Kendall Central Park 6:30 p.m. Culver's Sundaes Will be provided, 3 sisters selling hot dogs, Local UTV Club selling drinks
AUGUST 9 & 10	SNOWMOBILE SAFETY CLASS AT W-C SCHOOL 8:30 AM-11:30 AM
AUGUST 13 & 14	CHARITY TRACTOR PULL AT HILLSBORO FIREMEN'S PARK
SEPT. 3,4,& 5	HILLSBORO CITY WIDE GARAGE SALES KENDALL FEST EVERY DAY-LOTS OF FOOD & ENTERTAINMENT
SEPTEMBER 4	MONROE COUNTYS LARGEST LABOR DAY PARADE 12 PM.
SEPTEMBER 3-6	HILLSBORO LABOR DAY CELEBRATION
SEPTEMBER 5	HILLSBORO LIONS BINGO 1 PM.
SEPTEMBER 6	HILLSBORO LABOR DAY PARADE
SEPTEMBER 11	Royall HS Class of 1961 Class Reunion at THE LODGE IN Mauston 4 p.m. APPLE DUMPLING DAY RACES AT SCHULTZ PARK , ELROY
OCTOBER 2	ELROY FIRE DEPARTMENT STEAK AND CHICKEN FEED



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St. Paul's to celebrate 150 years of grace

By NICOLETTE NAUMAN
Sentry-Enterprise Editor

Last year, St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Wonewoc celebrated the 140th anniversary of their school, and this year, the church is celebrating their own 150th birthday. While the church's history in Wonewoc actually dates back to 1869, when German settlers first began worshipping, the church did not fully solidify as an official congregation until January 8, 1871.

Church officials had initially planned to hold a special service at the end of January, but between the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and Wisconsin's wicked winter weather, the planned meal was cancelled and the guest preacher's sermon was recorded for delivery via an online platform.

Officials decided to hold off on more extensive celebrations until the summer, with the hope that the then-recent vaccination efforts would have had more time to reach the greater population.

With summer now here, and vaccination efforts continuing, we are beginning to see greater levels of activity within the community, and St. Paul's has decided the time to celebrate has arrived. The theme for this celebration is "Grace Upon

Grace."
"We look[ed] at the history here and recognize that it's by God's grace that we're here," says Pastor Peter Snyder, who has ministered to the St. Paul's congregation for the past twelve years.

On Saturday, July 24, St. Paul's will be hosting a free concert at Firemen's Park in Hillsboro. The event is set to begin at 11: A.M. and continue through 7:00 P.M., with four major acts set to perform: Branches Band, Leah Rachuj, Stephan Bautista, and the Lutheran Ceili Orchestra.

Along with the music, food trucks will be onsite to sell food to attendees. Games and a bounce house are planned for the enjoyment of the children. Church officials do ask that those attending refrain from bringing alcohol onto the grounds, however.

On Sunday, July 25, St. Paul's will return to Firemen's Park in Hillsboro for an outdoor service delivered by guest preacher Richard Gurgel. Gurgel, currently serving as President of Martin Luther College, is actually the grandson of a former school teacher who taught at St. Paul's school between 1918 and 1958. The Lutheran Ceili Orchestra will also return to take part in this service, which is set to begin at

10:30 A.M.
Church officials will also be planning another celebratory service for this year, which is set to take place in October around Reformation Day—which recognizes the day on which Martin Luther first nailed his "95 Theses" to the door of the All Saints Church in Wittenberg, Germany, on October 31, 1517. Luther's actions on this day triggered the Reformation, the schism between Catholic and Protestant Christianity, and sparked the creation of the Lutheran religion.

More details regarding the event in October will be released closer to the celebration's date.

Over the church's 150 years, a total of 17 pastors have ministered to the faithful. Many served for periods of about eight years or less, but at least three took to the pulpit each Sunday for more than ten years. Among those three is St. Paul's current pastor, Peter Snyder.

Snyder has ministered to St. Paul's congregation for the past twelve years, and has served in the ministry for roughly 27 years in total. His father served as a pastor for over 43 years in the West Allis and Milwaukee areas, and while Snyder had always considered the possibility of entering into the ministry, he didn't fully commit to



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church has served the Lutheran community in the Wonewoc area for 150 years, with January 8, 2021, being their 150th anniversary. Weather and a global pandemic put a hold on celebrating back in January, but church officials have decided to move forward with the celebrations during the last full weekend of July. Photo taken by Nicolette Nauman, HSE Editor.

the possibility until his last year in college.

Prior to serving in Wonewoc, Snyder had been part of the mission advancement department in Michigan, which was set to be downsized. He agreed to take on the position, relocating his family to Wonewoc—which he and his wife decided felt like home shortly after

making the move.

Today, Snyder enjoys ministering to St. Paul's congregation, which currently boasts approximately 840 members on its rolls—however, Snyder has indicated that few of those have since moved on. In total, he estimates between 400 and 500 members remain active within the church.

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Hillsboro Barber announces retirement

By NICOLETTE NAUMAN
Sentry-Enterprise Editor

After serving the Hillsboro community, and the surrounding areas, for over 45 years, barber Robin Nelson has announced his retirement. The decision to retire comes on the heels of long-term pain and illness impacting Nelson's ability to continue his work.

Nelson was first exposed to a possible career as a barber as a high school student back around 1966. The barber he visited asked him one day what he wanted to do following his high school graduation, a question Nelson admitted he had no real answer for. At the time, Nelson had planned to enter into the Navy, but had no plans for what he planned to do beyond a military career. The barber recommended he give barber school a try.

Nelson did enlist in the Navy after his graduation, but was discharged soon after due to a medical issue—leaving him with no Navy career and no idea as to what to do with the rest of his life. At this point, he recalled his barber's suggestion and decided to give it a go. At the time he applied to barber school, classes were only offered every six months, and he had just missed the cutoff for the most recent round.

With six months standing between him and his entry into barber school, Nelson took up work at a nursing home and found he got on well with the home's elderly residents. However, Nelson determined that he had no interest in pursuing a career in the nursing home, and once he was able, he entered barber school.

In 1976, Nelson and his wife Kendra, also a barber, opened a shop together along Water Avenue here in Hillsboro, where they served community members from the surrounding areas. The Nelsons maintained their Water Avenue shop until Kendra's passing in 2004 from cancer, after which Nelson found that he could no longer stand remaining uptown. He sold the building and relocated his services to his home the following year, where he has been running his business for the past 17 years.

Nelson considers the best part of his years as a barber to be the daily interactions with his customers.

"The people made my day," says Nelson, "and I'm going to miss that."

The sudden onset of COVID-19 resulted in months-long closures, and when Nelson was able to reopen last summer, he found his clientele had been impacted as well. Between the slowing in business and the continuing physical pain from both an old back injury sustained

during his years with the Hillsboro Fire Department and his continuing battle with cancer, Nelson decided to retire and relocate.

Nelson has sold his home and will be moving into an apartment, where he no longer has to worry about the daily maintenance of his residence—activities which he was finding increasingly difficult due to health problems and long-term pain.

"I want to thank everyone who helped keep my business doors open," Nelson stated in his retirement notice.

While Nelson will be retired, he has decided to continue offering his services by appointment only. Appointments can be scheduled by calling (608) 553-2110.

After roughly 45 years serving as the local barber, Robin Nelson has announced his retirement. Nelson, who is currently fighting a cancer diagnosis, stated that the retirement comes after managing long-term pain and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Contributed photo.



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