

HORSE

From Page A1

"I show the little details — where your feet are, your eyes, hands, when you move your body. All of that is communication," Ainsworth said. "That horse is watching everything you do."

When Ainsworth first "lunges" a horse so that it moves around him in a circle, he stiffens, he looks, he points and he smooches.

Then Ainsworth puts his hand by its eye to get the horse to move from its space — space that's theirs "only until I want it," he said.

Once the horse starts walking off, Ainsworth goes from stiffen-look-point-smooch to stiffen-look-point, until eventually, it's just stiffen-look and "that's all I have to do."

"We start out to make sure they understand, and then we (use) more finesse to where you won't even see me move."

What Ainsworth does isn't technique, he said. It's communication. The only time you learn is when you're calm and comfortable, so with a spooked horse, that's where he's focused.

"If you can't speak Chinese and I drop you in the middle of Beijing, your anxiety level is through the roof," Ainsworth said. "But if I teach you water, food, bathroom and police — you can eat, drink, use the restroom and find help."

Helping out

"He is faster than anyone else I've ever watched, and I've watched a lot of them," said Sampson, who first met Ainsworth at a horse fair about four years ago. Sampson owns several horses on her farm, including a few that were rescued, and for Sampson the clinic is huge for CWSTAG.

"People have problems getting them ride-able. It's a trick," Sampson said of rescued horses. "We try to straighten that out here."

"If these horses don't behave so people can enjoy them, then they come back to the rescue."

Hoel said Ainsworth's effectiveness was obvious from the start, noting how long she'd tried in the past to get her mule named Amos Moses to stand still.

"I have for 10 years wished for a miracle," Hoel said of Amos Moses. "It took Ray 15 minutes to show me."

The key for Amos

Moses was for Hoel to use a halter with four knots on it, something she learned from Ainsworth who showed her control of a horse "is on the nose."

"I was just using a regular halter, and it took everything I had just to pull him back. I've worked with my mule since, and now he does it perfectly."

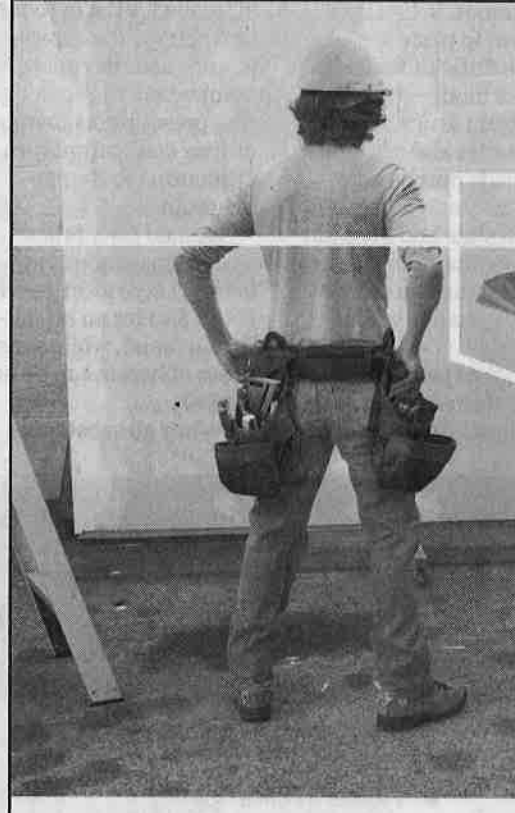
"I was able to get up on my stool and get on him, and I cried."

Ainsworth's work this week with a rescued horse named Tru is important for more obvious reasons, Hoel said, because CWSTAG cannot adopt out a horse "until it's safe for the people adopting it."

Tru, who began the week bucking and kicking, was behaving to the point where Hoel was "afraid even to go in the stall" with the young horse. But in only two days with Ainsworth, Hoel said Tru has shown enough improvement for CWSTAG to soon advertise she's adoptable.

"I could put all my clinicians together and I wouldn't have him," Hoel said of Ainsworth.

To learn more about CWSTAG or to donate, contact Hoel at 608-228-0369.



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WALK

From Page A1

walk regulations prompted the state Department of Revenue to update language in its publication for retailers regarding alcohol and tobacco sales, indicating wine walks are illegal.

Under the bill to be signed today, municipalities will be allowed to issue temporary alcohol licenses for "multiple-location events." Local chambers of commerce and similar organizations will be permitted



Lyn Jerde, Daily Register

Addie Tamboli pours a wine sample for Nicole Barreau of Madison at Fancy Pants during a wine walk in Portage in 2014..

this fall.

In addition to launching a "Save the Wine

hearings to support the bill. Since 2008, DBI has held wine walks that