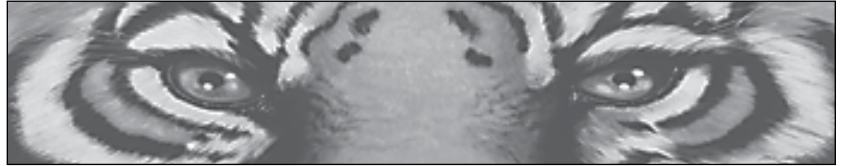


The Prowler



An open forum for student expression • Produced by students of Chilton High School



Mrs. Rachel Birschbach and Ms. Hannah Laus will be the Samaritan Counseling Center clinician and case manager, respectively, who will be administering the Wellness Screen Program at CHS.

Mental health screener to be offered to CHS students

By Karin Juhl and Claudia Brown

Beginning in March, the Wellness Screen Program administered by Samaritan Counseling Center will be coming to Chilton High School and will be offered to all grades.

The purpose of this program is to notice different mental health concerns in students and to get them the help they need.

According to Ms. Hannah Laus, a case manager with Samaritan, the success of this program depends on the engagement of the students and teachers. The Well-

ness Screen program is offered at several other schools in Northeast Wisconsin, and all so far have been successful.

“It is really awesome to see a student who got support and to know that we helped with that,” Ms. Laus said. She and Mrs. Rachel Birschbach, a Samaritan clinician and district coordinator, will be overseeing the screening program at CHS.

There are a few different steps to the Wellness Screen Program. First, a letter

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By Koralyne Karls

Student: Lauren Leitner, junior
Nominating staff member: Ms. Mia Meyer, social studies teacher

Nomination statement: “Lauren is incredible at thinking outside the box and asking wonderful questions that challenge herself and her peers. She is always a wonderful addition to class and makes everyone around her laugh.”

Q&A:

What was a dream career you had as a child? “I always wanted to be a veterinarian when I was younger.”

If you could wake up tomorrow having gained one quality or ability, what would it be and why? “Super intelligence because it would make everything so much easier: getting into college, getting jobs, etc.”

Where do you see yourself in five years? “I see myself in college, hopefully UW-Madison, studying to become an



Lauren Leitner

orthopedic doctor.”

What is one place you would really like to visit and why? “I really want to go to New York City because of the culture, how big it is, and how many people there are.”

Whom is one person—alive or dead—you would like to share a meal with? “Harry Styles.”

What is your most prized possession and why? “My cat, Ollie. I got her in quarantine, and she’s so cute.”

*The student as well as the nominating staff member each receives a box of donuts.



A drive-through COVID-19 testing site was operated outside Chilton High School on Jan. 6 and 13, both non-student contact days.

COVID-19 vaccination plans being implemented

By Hayden Bailey

COVID-19 has impacted many families across the world.

Thankfully, vaccines are finally being produced and distribution of them has begun. Ms. Bonnie Kolbe, the Health Division manager/health officer for Calumet County, was kind enough to answer some important questions people have about COVID-19 vaccination.

One topic everyone wants to know about is when the general public will be receiving these vaccines. Ms. Kolbe said Calumet County will have to start with vaccinating the Phase 1a vaccine group, which includes health care workers and long-term care residents. The Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee (SDMAC) is the group that determines the COVID-19 vaccine prioritization and phases for our state.

“Calumet County Public Health is an approved vaccinator,” Ms. Kolbe said. “We have been gathering the contact information for individuals that meet the Phase 1a criteria and will begin vaccinating those individuals very soon.”

Effective the week of Jan. 18, law enforcement and firefighters are included in those that public health can vaccinate.

The SDMAC recently came out with COVID-19 vaccination recommendations for Phase 1b. Those recommendations were open for public comment until Jan. 18. This phase could include people above 70 years of age, shared housing residents and staff, non-EMS first responders, teachers, childcare providers, non-frontline health care personnel, and mink husbandry workers.

Depending on whether Calumet County Public Health received a shipment of vaccine this past weekend, they planned to begin vaccinating Phase 1a recipients this week, according to Ms. Kolbe.

“Other phases will begin when the

Wisconsin Department of Health (DHS) approves each phase for vaccine administration,” Ms. Kolbe said. “This is dependent on how much vaccine is available for our state.”

This could take a considerable amount of time, though, as only one-tenth of the 20 million vaccinations promised by the federal government were administered by the end of 2020.

Teachers are among the lucky early batch to receive vaccines as they are more likely to be exposed to the virus due to working at schools. The vaccines have, however, come under scrutiny with some doubting the safety of them and others vowing not to be vaccinated at all. This comes after some people had unpleasant reactions to the vaccine after administration.

Mrs. Samantha Meyers, Mrs. Amanda Keskinen and Mr. Russ Wurm, teachers at CHS, all said they’ll be taking the vaccine once they’re able to.

Mrs. Meyers, an English teacher, has expressed concern for the vaccine’s effects on her children. “My husband will get vaccinated when his job offers it to him,” Mrs. Meyers said. “I don’t plan on having my kids vaccinated right away as there’s not enough information on how kids react to the vaccine.”

However, she still has confidence in the vaccines. “I talk to a lot of my friends who work in the healthcare industry who I trust, and I feel pretty safe.”

Mrs. Keskinen, a Spanish teacher, also admits there’s “always a little bit of doubt in the back of her mind,” but said that she and her husband will be vaccinated as soon as they possibly can.

Mr. Wurm, a social studies teacher, said he possesses zero concerns on the vaccines whatsoever and he, along with

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In 10 Words or less

By Breanna Bowe

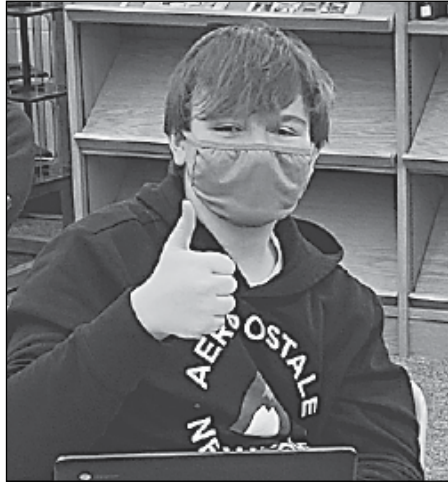
In 10 words or less, what is your biggest New Year's resolution?



Alexa Bastian, sophomore: "Eat healthier."



McKayla Mertz, senior: "Try with my outfits in school."



Alex Greuel, freshman: "Get all threes in my classes."



Wyatt Yindra, junior: "I plan to exercise at least once a week."



Mr. Jim Delebreau, math teacher: "Not answer questions for The Prowler or whatever this is."

CHS has new ELL teacher

By Alex Bowe

This school year, The Prowler has been introducing new Chilton High School staff members.

Our last interview is with Mr. David Schmitt, the new English Language Learner (ELL) teacher. His job is to work with students whose native language is not English and to help them learn to read, write, and speak English.

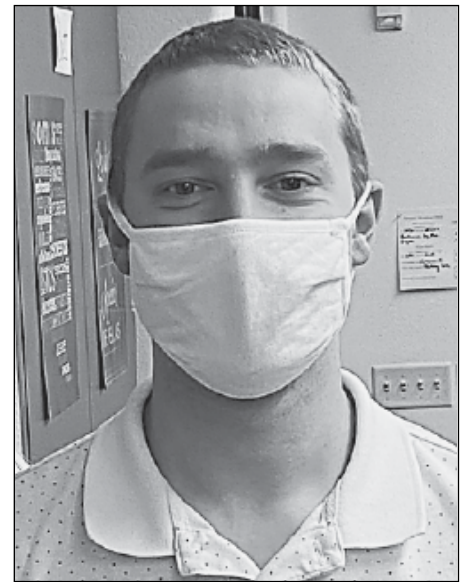
As well as this being Mr. Schmitt's first year at CHS, it is also his first teaching job. Before teaching, he grew up in Hollandtown and he graduated from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse.

He loves the staff and students at CHS and offered advice to the students. "Make the most of your time here because it goes by fast and it's fun," Mr. Schmitt said. "Work hard, apply yourself, have fun."

He grew up with English being his favorite subject in school because he enjoyed reading and writing. And, now, Mr. Schmitt's favorite class to teach is English.

He chose to become an ELL teacher because he likes working with multiple languages, and when he was younger, Mr. Schmitt tutored ELL students.

If he had to teach another subject other than English, Mr. Schmitt would teach



Mr. David Schmitt is from nearby Hollandtown and earned his degree from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse.

Alex Bowe photo

history because he thinks it is "very interesting" and he likes geography.

Mr. Schmitt's dream job growing up was to be a sportswriter, and his favorite team is the Green Bay Packers.

Some fun facts about Mr. Schmitt are that his favorite color is green and his favorite TV show is "The Office."

Mental health

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and two emails will be sent out to the parents/guardians of the students. This is to inform each family about the Wellness Screen opportunity. The family also has the chance to opt out their student from the screening.

The next step is to screen the participating students. They are each given a survey which takes about 10 to 15 minutes to complete. Afterwards, follow-up meetings are set up with students depending on their results.

There are many different reasons that a student would need a check-in for, so the number of students that are reached out to after each screening varies.

One reason that students could need a check-in is because they asked for additional support on the survey. Another reason could be that a student's answers indicate that they could be experiencing a mental health concern, and would then be able to get the recommendation and

support they need.

If a meeting is scheduled with a student, their family will be called to discuss their child's results.

If a potential mental health concern is identified during the Wellness Screen, the student is asked about potential symptoms they experience that could correspond with common mental health concerns, such as anxiety and depression, during the follow-up meeting.

After meeting with a student, a recommendation might be given for further treatment. The program provides resources for the student and their family and will check in with them periodically to see if they need any further assistance or support.

For up to 90 days after the follow-up meeting, parents/guardians of the student will be asked about how the student is and if they have noticed any changes.

Vaccine

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his family, will readily take it. When asked about the reactions people have had to the vaccines, Mr. Wurm said, "Approximately 400,000 people have had a severe reaction to COVID, and they're dead. So, yeah, I'll be taking those vaccines."

He also referenced his time spent in the military where they administered booster shots to every recruit. Mr. Wurm said no one worried what was in those vaccines. So he strongly advises everyone to receive their vaccination the soonest chance they get.

"Take a look at the lottery. Your chances at winning are around one in 302 million. Some people deny COVID being a big deal, yet one out of a thousand people are dying from it," Mr. Wurm said while reading off the Wisconsin Department of Health Services website. "If you lose the lottery, you're only out two bucks. No one wants to lose the COVID lottery."

Ms. Kolbe, the Calumet County health officer, confirmed the validity of the vaccine. "Several of our staff have researched the vaccine and view it as being safe for the general public," she said. "The vaccine is contraindicated for a select group of individuals that should not get the vaccine. However, it is important

to reduce the spread of COVID-19 that the majority of our population receive the vaccination."

As the pandemic continues, the hope of having a normal summer this year slowly fades away. Although COVID-19 vaccination has begun, masks and physical distancing will continue to be the norm.

This brings up the question of when these safety procedures won't be necessary anymore.

"At this time, there are no recommendations for changes in wearing masks and physical distancing. This may change for those who are vaccinated in the future," Ms. Kolbe said. "However, we will need a majority of the population to become vaccinated before the masking and physical distancing recommendations will change."

Ms. Kolbe recommends people talk to their primary health care provider if they have uncertainties about the vaccine.

For more information on COVID-19, including vaccine information, visit CalumetCounty.org. Also, refer to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC.gov) and Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS.Wisconsin.gov) websites.

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