

Volume 35, No. 39, January 4 2021 (715) 478-3640 or 1-800-234-2152 Fax: (715) 478-3540 email: pionexp@newnorth.net

# Good Bye and Good Riddance to 2020! Happy New Year!

Let us hope and pray that 2021 will lead us out of the pandemic and bring our lives back to normal!

### **Covid-19 vaccine updates**

By the Forest County Health Dept.

On December 12, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for the Pfizer vaccine. The Department of Health Services (DHS) is distributing the Pfizer vaccine to regional hubs across the state. On December 18, the Moderna vaccine was issued an EUA and shipments are expected to arrive in Wisconsin starting December 22.

From December 14 through December 20, the first week of Wisconsin's COVID-19 Vaccination Program rollout, the state's vaccine data are as follows:

84,825 doses of Pfizer and 100,000 doses of Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine have been allocated to Wisconsin.

10,358 total doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered and reported to the Wisconsin Immunization Registry, including 10,358 doses of Pfizer.

The federal government will continue to provide Wisconsin with vaccine doses as more supply becomes available. Allocations of the FDA-authorized vaccines are expected to increase substantially in 2021 as more vaccine becomes available.

Due to the initial limited supply of vaccine, the federal Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and the State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee (SDMAC) developed Wisconsin-specific recommendations on vaccine prioritization. Based on these Phase 1a recommendations from federal and state health experts, the first populations to receive vaccine will be frontline healthcare workers and residents of longterm care facilities.

As supply increases, recommendations will likely expand to cover other essential workers, people ages 65 and older, and people at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19 to receive a vaccine. Later, as more supply becomes available, groups of people at higher risk for contracting COVID-19 and the general public will be recommended to get vaccines.

### Forest Larger Parish donates to the Christian Food Pantry



Joan Hansen (left) and Suzanne Bell (right), of the Forest Larger Parish Presbyterian Church Mission/Evangelism Committee, present a check for \$1000 to Scott Wycherley for the Christian Food Pantry in Lakewood.

### Forest County Commission on Aging looking to fill board vacancies

The Forest County Office on Aging is looking for five interested Forest County residents to apply to fill upcoming vacancies on the Commission on Aging Committee. The Committee seats will open in February of 2021. The Commission on Aging Committee is the policymaking group that oversees the Forest County Commission on Aging and is an official county committee that reports to the Forest County Board of Supervisors.

The Commission on Aging represents Forest County residents regarding programs and county policy for older citizens. The eleven- member committee meets bi-monthly to approve Office on Aging financial and program reports, make policy decisions on older adult issues and plans for future needs. The Committee oversees all programs and staff of the Office on Aging. Two members of the Commission are elected County Board Supervisors and are appointed by the County Board Chairperson. These members are selected by the Commission on Aging Committee and submitted to the County Board chairperson for appointment. Older individuals (60 years and older) must constitute at least 50 percent of the membership on the Commission. Efforts are made to have broad geographic representation.

### Ascension St. Mary's begins COVID-19 vaccination of frontline caregivers



(L to R: Respiratory Therapist Chris Frederickson, Pediatrician Julia Pickens, MD and Critical Unit Registered Nurse Bob Towne hold up their COVID-19 Vaccination Record Cards.

(Rhinelander, WI) - Ascension St. Mary's Hospital began providing COVID-19 vaccinations to frontline caregivers on Wednesday, December 23.

Bob Towne, a Registered Nurse on the Critical Care Unit; Respiratory Therapist Chris Frederickson and Pediatrician Dr. Julia Pickens were among the first recipients of the vaccine for Ascension Wisconsin in the Northwoods.

"This is very exciting and I have been waiting for this for a long time," said Towne who has worked on the Critical Unit for the last five years.. "It has been an extremely long 10 months and this is the first time we feel we can see a light at the end of the tunnel."

Ascension St. Mary's will serve as the initial location in the Northwoods for COVID-19 vaccinations for Ascension Wisconsin associates and clinicians. The effort is part of a multi-phased program that will expand to other caregivers and locations as more doses become available and the distribution process progresses.

The Forest County Health Department is enrolled as a COVID-19 Vaccine Provider and is awaiting further information from DHS about our allocations for each phase. We will continue to provide updates and further vaccination planning as it is available from DHS.

Getting vaccinated will be one of the best ways to protect yourself and your community. A COVID-19 vaccine can protect you from getting sick and potentially prevent you from spreading the virus to those around vou. A vaccine, however, does not replace the need to continue other actions to stop the spread and keep ourselves healthy.

### **Conservation Corner**

Conservation Corner is a weekly article produced by the Forest County Land &Water Conservation Department. For more information contact Steve Kircher, County Conservationist-Land Information/GIS Director at 715-478-1387 or by e-mail at lcc@co.forest.wi.us.

During the Christmas holiday season, we tend to use a lot of paper products. From wrapping paper and parchment paper to holiday cards, gift bags and boxes, there are many different kinds of products that we rely on to complete the season of giving. All of these products are made from the trees that are grown by private landowners and harvested for the paper industry.

**Continued on page 02** 

Membership on the Commission on Aging requires attendance at bi-monthly (daytime) meetings. Members receive a mileage reimbursement to travel to the meetings at the Courthouse.

Applications may be obtained by calling or stopping in the Office on Aging (Courthouse - north annex) and must be returned to the Office on Aging on or before 4:30 p.m. Friday, January 22, 2021. The Committee will review the applications and candidates will be selected to submit to the County Board Chairperson for official appointment in February 2021. Applicants may be requested to meet with the selection Committee.

No prior government experience is required, only a sincere desire to work cooperatively on a team to provide quality services to older adults.

For more information contact Tammy Queen at the Office on Aging at 715-478-7712.

We are confident our plan will effectively and safely contribute to the protection of the communities we are privileged to serve," said Gregory Brusko, DO, Chief Clinical Officer, Ascension Wisconsin.

Ascension Wisconsin is following guidance issued by the CDC and recommendations of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine.

"We are thankful for all who have made this vaccine possible and for the continued dedication of our selfless caregivers," said Mark Banas, DO, Medical Director of Emergency Services and Medical Staff President, Ascension St. Mary's Hospital. "As we await widespread distribution of the COVID-19 vaccines, it will be critical for our entire community to continue wearing masks, watching distance from others and washing hands frequently to protect ourselves and those around us."

In accordance with these guidelines, among the first group eligible to receive the vaccines are frontline caregivers - particularly those serving in emergency departments, COVID-19 units and intensive care units. For Ascension, this includes both associates and affiliated physicians and providers.

"The fact that the vaccine is here and available has a freeing feeling that is truly a blessing," said Frederickson. "Throughout the pandemic each one of our patients has had a different story and as the vaccine

### **Continued on page 12**

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# **Death Notices**

**Blake M. Fenwick, age 21,** of Mauston formerly of Crandon, passed away unexpectedly Sunday, December 27, 2020. Visitation will be held on Saturday, January 2, 2021 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at Praise Chapel Community Church, Crandon. Funeral service will follow at 12:00 noon with Pastor Franz Gerber officiating. Online condolences may be left for the family at www.weberhhillfuneralhome.com

**David P. Ramsdell, age 65,** of Crandon, passed away unexpectedly at his home on Friday, December 25, 2020. Visitation will be held on Monday, January 4, 2021 from 1:00-4:00 p.m. at the Weber-Hill Funeral Home, Crandon. Funeral service will follow at 4:00 p.m. with Pastor Franz Gerber officiating. Online condolences may be left for the family at www.weberhillfuneralhome.com

### News from the VA

A new online Emergency Care Reporting (ECR) portal to support the Centralized Authorized Emergency Care 72-hour notification process launched on November 18, 2020, by the Office of Community Care (OCC).

Beginning December 21,2020, the National Call Center will no longer accept email notifications.

The Emergency Care Reporting portal is designed to be accessed by community providers, VA medical center (VAMC) staff, Veterans, and Veteran representatives to provide patient-related information in a convenient and secure way. Case-specific details are necessary for proper care coordination and eligibility determinations.

Portal users will be encouraged to access the portal when reporting a Veteran who is self-presenting to a community facility for an emergency episode of care. The option to provide notifications via email is slated to be phased out by December 21, 2020.

Notification can still be provided to the National Call Center: 844-724-7842 or via the portal Portal link:

https://emergencycarereporting.communitycare.va.gov

Robert W Koplien Forest County CVSO



### Conservation Corner Cont. from pg. 1

So what are the steps to papermaking? It all starts with the trees. Here are the basic steps to papermaking:

1. Forestry - trees are grown and harvested

2. Debarking and Chipping - wood is removed of bark, chipped into 1 inch pieces, and pressure cooked with water and chemicals to form a pulp

3. Pulp Preparation - pulp is washed, refined, and possibly bleached

4. Paper Formation - water is removed from the pulp and is rolled to a uniform thickness

5. Paper Finishing - paper is rolled and cut to size

What kind of trees are used to make these products?

Softwoods - Wrapping paper is made from the pulp of pines, spruces, and other softwoods. Softwood is used for 85% of the wood pulp that makes paper in the United States.

Mixture - Greeting cards are usually made from a mix of cotton fiber and chemical wood pulp content (hard and softwoods). This kind of paper is under the fine paper category.

Hardwoods - Magazines and newspapers are made from the pulp of aspens, cottonwood, and balsam poplar. When processed, hardwood forms short fibers, which are lower in strength than softwoods.

How is Parchment Paper made?

The unfinished, rolled paper is treated with an acid (sulfuric, phosphoric, or zinc chloride). This acid bath dissolves the surface of the fibers to form a gelatinous mass. The paper is no longer permeable to water, making it great for baking

Softwoods - Yet again, the ever-useful parchment paper is made from the pulp of softwoods. Parchment paper is usually made from fir trees

Softwoods - Boxes are also made from softwood pulp. Corrugation is an added layer to many boxes for extra strength and durability.

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## Bids & Notices

Our Core Purpose: Personalized Proficiency for All Our Mission: We inspire confident, creative, and responsible individuals to develop their full potential. SCHOOL DISTRICT OF WABENO AREA **REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING** 

Wednesday, January 6, 2021 High School Library - Wabeno Junior High / High School Immediately Following Impact Aid Meeting AGENDA

- Call Meeting to Order.
- Roll Call Verification of Quorum. 11. III.
  - Verification of Meeting Notice (Compliance with Open Meeting Law Notification (Wis. Stats. 19.84(2)).
- IV. Pledge of Allegiance.
- V. Agenda Approval.
- VI. Public Participation at Board Meetings - See Board Policy 0167.3.
  - a. Welcome and Guidelines for Public Comments (5 Minute Maximum per Person).
    - b. This is a listening session for the community to address the Board. The maximum time limit for this section is 30 minutes. The purpose of this segment of the meeting is for the Board to listen to the views of our community.
- c. Public Participation. VII.
- Approval of Minutes.
  - a. Approval of the minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting on December 2, 2020. b. Approval of the minutes of the Special School Board Meeting on December 16, 2020. Approval of Vouchers and Payroll.
- VIII. IX. Informational Items
  - a. Jeff Walsh, District Administrator, will present updates and information.
    - b. Bill Taylor, Jr./Sr. High School Principal, will present updates and information.
    - c. Tim Brauer, Elementary Principal, will present updates and information.
  - d. Bob Tucker, Director of Pupil Services, will present updates and information.
  - e. Board Member Reports.
  - Action Items.

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- a. Discuss and take possible action as recommended to NEOLA Policy 2112.01 (Tribal and Parent Involvement).
- b. Discuss and take possible action on Kerber-Rose phone call on annual audit report.
- c. Discuss and take possible action for Open Enrollment for the determination of spaces available for the 2021-2022 school year.
- d. Discuss and take possible action on administrative contract rollovers.
- e. Discuss and take possible action on daycare hiring.
- f. Discuss and take possible action on Operational Referendum Resolutions:

- Motion to Approve a Resolution Authorizing the School District Budget to Exceed Revenue Limit by \$2,500,000 per Year for Five Years for Non-Recurring Purposes beginning in the 2022-2023 School Year.

- Motion to Approve a Resolution Providing for a Referendum Election on the Question of the Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the School District Budget to Exceed Revenue Limit by \$2,500,000 per Year for Five Years for Non-Recurring Purposes beginning in the 2022-2023 School Year.
- XI. Motion and roll call vote to go into closed session. Pursuant to Wisconsin Statues 19.85(1)(c)(e), the Board may convene in closed session for the purpose of :
  - a. District Administrator Evaluation and possible contract rollover.
- XII. Motion and roll call vote to return open session to take possible action on items discussed in closed session.
- XIII. Motions and action resulting from closed session, if any.
- Discussion of Establishing Dates for Future Board Meetings and Establish Future Agenda XIV. Items. No substantive discussion will occur concerning future agenda items. Adjourn.
- XV. NOTE: THE AGENDA IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AS ALLOWED BY LAW.
- Approved for Publication/Posting by:

District Administrator

Upon reasonable notice, the District shall make reasonable accommodation to accommodate the needs of people with disabilities through appropriate aids and services including the provision of informational material in an alternative format for a disabled person to be able to attend this meeting. For additional information or to request this service, contact the District Office at 715.473.2592

Sent to:

Board of Education Administrative Team

Pioneer and Lakes/Forest Beacon Newspapers

The agenda as noted above was sent more than twenty-four hours prior to the meeting date. Due to this fact, the Agenda published in the newspaper(s) listed above may have been altered after delivery to the above listed newspaper(s). The most up to date Agenda information is also available on the District Website: https://www.wabeno.k12.wi.us/#

# **Advertise Your Business**

PIONEER EXPRESS PAGE 03, JANUARY 04, 2021





Kathy Hilbert, 600 Team high game Bruce's Misteaks, 664 Whitetail Logging, 640 Rusty's, 591 Team handicap game Bruce's Misteaks, 817 Rustv's, 783 Whitetail Logging, 781 Team high series Bruce's Misteaks, 1839 Whitetail Logging, 1749 Rusty's, 1669 Team handicap series Bruce's Misteaks, 2298 Rusty's, 2245 Whitetail Logging, 2172 Six pack: Kris Anderson, 274 Six pack: Kris Anderson, 667 Pizza: Bruce's Misteaks, 2298 High averages Penny Carter, 160 Chris Geske, 153 Kris Anderson, 151 Agnes Brown, 144

Kris Anderson, 580

Penny Carter, 474 Chris Geske, 455

Ind. handicap series Kris Anderson, 667 Ruth Pemma, 624

### Help Wanted-Town of Ross

**Main Street Ed's** 

Argonne, W

The Town of Ross is in need of a dump attendant effective immediately.

We would need someone tending the dump Sundays from noon-3p.m. and Wednesdays from 1p.m.-3p.m.

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**PIONEER EXPRESS PAGE 4, JANUARY 04, 2021** 



9C-9C-9C

Thursday - Jan. 07 - Chicken thigh, spanish rice, corn o'

The local number for the ADRC: 478-2162 is no longer in service. The only number for the ADRC is

Please register with Commission on Aging - 478-

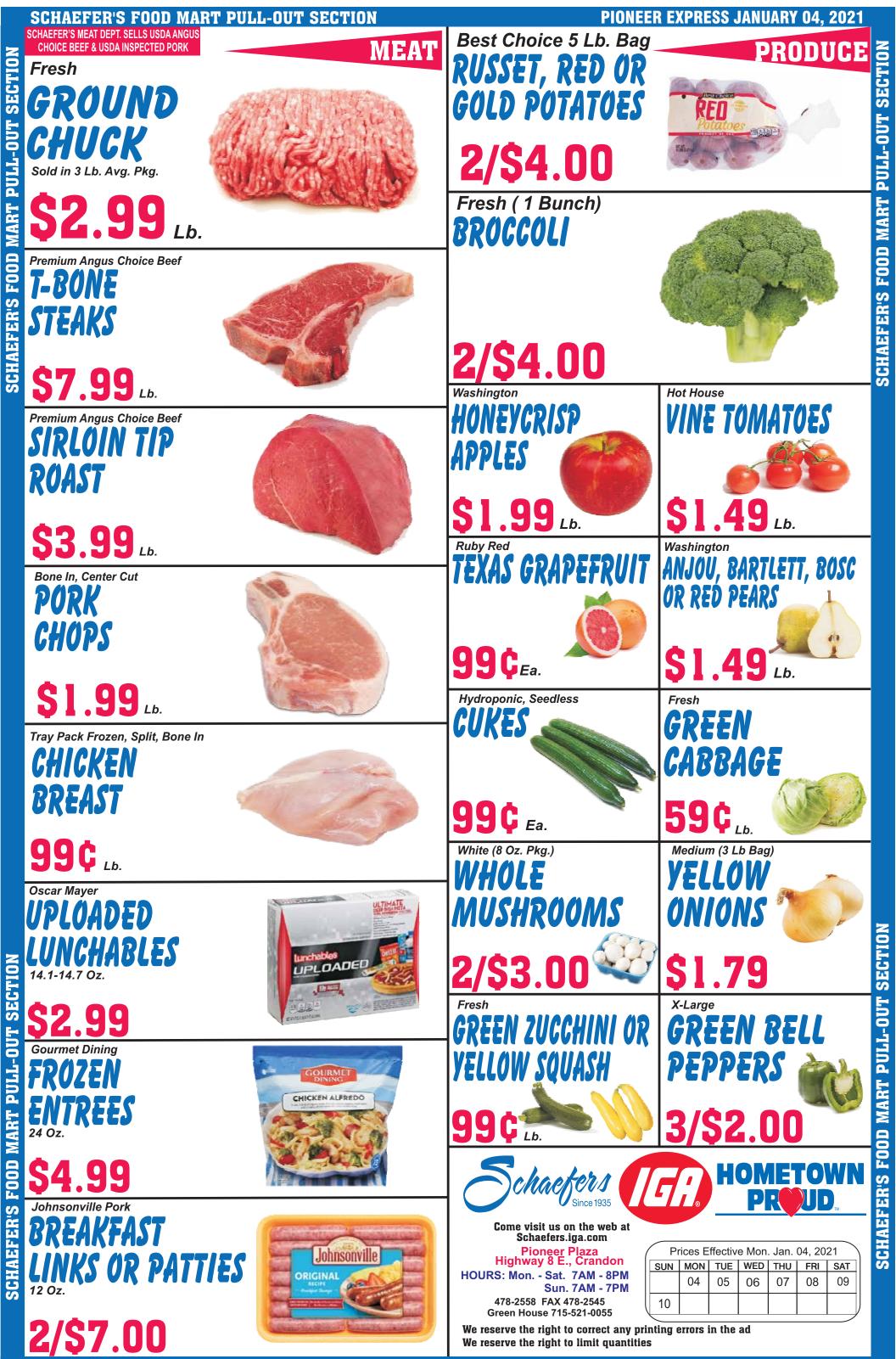
Crandon site manager Pat Raml is at 715-478-0742 (home) or 715-478-3040 (site). Serving at 12:00 p.m.

Alvin site manager Florence Kostka at 715-545-4063 (home) or 715-545-3323 (site). Meals canceled until

Laona site manager Peggy Alderton at 715-889-3116 (cell). Meal served at 12:00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday

Wabeno site manager Linda McEwen at 715-889-0123 (cell). Meal served at 11:30 a.m. on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Home delivered on Monday,

Armstrong Creek site manager Sharon Giles at 715-674-3532 (home) or 715-336-2218 (site). Meal served at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday.



SCHAEFER'S FOOD MART PULL-OUT SECTION





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SCHAEFER'S IGA PULL-OUT SECTION

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PIONEER EXPRESS PAGE 11, JANUARY 04, 2020



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Wabeno Men's **Bowling League** Week 10 12/14 & 12/15 Rapids Resort 39 Tony's Redi Mix 35 Big T 35 Wildcat 29

25

20

24

Hillcrest Lodge

Wabeno Bowl 2

Wabeno Bowl 1

245

647

285

744

2825

Laona State Bank 2 22

Laona State Bank 1 5

High Game: Dan Exferd

High Series: Dan Exferd

HDCP Game: Bradley Poling

HDCP Series: Bradley Poling

Pizza Winner Rapids Resortv

High Average Mike Exferd 193

Dave Seeber 188

Justin Bartlein 185

Cassidys Café

**Goodman-Armstrong Creek** National Honor Society **Chapter 15380** 



Pictured left to right: Front Row Inductees: Landon Kalkofen. Emily Goode, and William Bednarz. Back Row Members: Lamarr Lewis, Gabriel Wysocki, Tyler Moddie, Michael Rock, Katelyn Nelson, Daniel Cole, Sierra Dettman, and Kalli Erickson.

Landon Kalkofen, Emily Goode, and William Bednarz from the Goodman- Armstrong Creek High School were inducted into membership of the National Honor Society in a ceremony held at the Goodman-Armstrong Creek High School Gymnasium on December 10, 2020. They were selected by a faculty council for meeting high standards of scholarship, service, leadership, and character. They join current members, Lamarr Lewis, Gabriel Wysocki, Tyler Moddie, Michael Rock, Katelyn Nelson, Daniel Cole, Sierra Dettman, and Kalli Erickson.

"We are very proud to recognize these outstanding members of our student body. National Honor Society members are chosen for and then expected to continue their exemplary contributions to the school and community," said Richelle Jochem, chapter advisor.

The National Honor Society ranks as one of the oldest and most prestigious national organizations for high school students. Chapters exist in more than 60 percent of the nation's high schools, and since 1921, millions of students have been selected for membership. The Goodman-Armstrong Creek chapter has been active since 1972.

### **Covid vaccine** Cont. from pg. 1

becomes more widely available we look forward to hearing the new stories of hope in our community."

Vaccines from Pfizer and Moderna have demonstrated safety and effectiveness, and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has authorized the Pfizer and Moderna vaccine for emergency use.

The vaccination of frontline caregivers comes after Ascension developed a workgroup to establish an overarching framework for equitable allocation of COVID-19 vaccines for internal and external distribution, acknowledging the need for a coordinated response.

"We strongly encourage all our associates to receive a COVID-19 vaccine when it is made available to them," said Bernie Sherry, ministry market executive, Ascension Wisconsin. "In our view, this is the right thing to do to protect our associates and those we are privileged to serve."

All approved vaccines require extensive research, documentation and closely monitored clinical trials to determine effectiveness and safety before being submitted by pharmaceutical companies for approval. Ascension has been involved in some of these clinical trials, with Ascension St. Vincent's in Birmingham, Alabama, participating in trials for the COVID-19 vaccine developed by Moderna

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"It's vitally important that people continue to access the healthcare they need, for both emergencies and chronic conditions," said Brusko. "By encouraging our caregivers to be vaccinated against COVID-19, we are taking an additional step to assure those we serve that we are doing everything possible to keep our hospitals, clinics and other sites of care safe for them."

Ascension hospitals and emergency rooms remain well prepared to safely care for people with symptoms of a heart attack, stroke, respiratory distress, emergent mental health concerns, or other serious illness or injury.

Many healthcare workers and first responders are receiving the earliest wave of available vaccines, as these professions are exposed to COVID-19 at higher rates. Residents of long-term care facilities and those with highrisk health conditions also are slated to receive vaccines early, per guidelines from the CDC.

When COVID-19 vaccines are available for consumers. Ascension Wisconsin sites of care will share information about the availability of the vaccines.

Additional information, including FAQs, about the COVID-19 vaccine is available at https://healthcare.ascension.org/covid-19/covid-vaccine.