

Merrill Courier

THE NEWSPAPER OF RECORD FOR THE CITY OF MERRILL AND LINCOLN COUNTY, WISCONSIN

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New Year Ride
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Officer/Drug Recognition Expert Tyler Tesch of the Merrill Police Department shows the new "Fatal Visions" goggles to Jane Bentz, Foundation and Community Outreach Director for Good Samaritan Health Center part of Ascension.

Hospital donation supports Drug Free Coalition

Fatal Visions" goggles, along with an educational kit, were purchased for the Merrill Police Department with funds provided to the Lincoln County Drug Free Coalition by Good Samaritan Health Center part of Ascension. They will be used to educate youth and adults about

the impact of substance use on an individual's ability to do normal everyday tasks at the Merrill Police Department's annual Community Night Out, at school presentations, during their Student Police Academy and Citizen Police Academy; as well as during community programs they do with the larger coalition.

Two additional coalition projects will be supported through the hospital's donation. Promotion of the Know! Program

(Start Talking - Building a Drug-Free Future - www.drugfreeactionalliance.org/know) - a tool that parents can sign up for to receive tips by email that contain current facts about alcohol, tobacco and other drugs, as well as action steps they can take to help children resist peer pressure to use. The donation will also support the Merrill Social Norms project marketing efforts with the goal of continuing

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to correct students, parents/guardians and the larger communities misperceptions of alcohol, tobacco and other drug use among Merrill youth.

All of these projects support the mission of the Lincoln County Drug Free Coalition to bring various sectors of the

community together to reduce the use/abuse of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs among youth, and over time, among adults.

To learn more about the Lincoln County Drug Free Coalition, visit their website at <http://lincoln.uwex.edu/dfc> or contact Debbie Moellendorf at 715-539-1077.