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## Pow Wow Days parade

The annual Pow Wow Days parade was held in Tomahawk on Thursday, July 4. View more photos on Pages 2 and 3 and online at [www.tomahawkleader.com](http://www.tomahawkleader.com).

Photos by Jalen Maki

## Pine Crest buyers terminate sale agreement in response to lawsuit against Lincoln County

BY TINA L. SCOTT  
MERRILL FOTO NEWS  
EDITOR

JALEN MAKI  
TOMAHAWK LEADER  
EDITOR

MERRILL — Lincoln County's sale of Pine Crest Nursing Home in Merrill is off due to a lawsuit filed against the county.

During the Lincoln County Administrative and Legislative (A&L) Committee's meeting on Tuesday, July 2, Lincoln County Administrative Coordinator Renee Krueger said the nursing facility's buyers, Merrill Campus LLC and Senior Management Inc., had terminated the Asset Purchase Agreement.

A Friday, June 28 letter to Krueger from the buyers' attorney, Richard J. Summerfield, said the buyers chose to terminate the agreement due to language in the agreement that states that there "shall not be any lawsuits filed or threatened against the Seller or the Nursing Home Facility that would adversely affect the operation or the financial condition of the Nursing Home Facility; nor shall there be any actions suit, claims or other proceedings, pending or threatened or injunctions or ordered entered, pending or threatened against the Seller or the Nursing Home Facility, to restrain or prohibit the

















**Pine Crest**  
CONTINUES ON PAGE 6



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# 2024 Pow Wow Days Parade

Photos by Jalen Maki



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**ADVERTISING SALES** Jeff Schulz  
jschulz@mmlocal.com

**GENERAL MANAGER** Tim Schreiber  
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The Tomahawk Leader was established in 1897 and is an official newspaper representing Lincoln County, City of Tomahawk, Tomahawk School District. The publication is an active member of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association and the National Newspaper Association.

**Subscriptions**

Single Newsstand	FREE	3 months	\$25
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**Letters to the Editor Policy**

Letters to the Editor must include the writer's full name, address and other contact information (only your name and town of residence will appear in print and online). We will not accept a letter from an unidentified source. Letters should be no more than 500 words and may appear in our weekly print issue. Letters may be edited by our staff for length, clarity and facts.

The Tomahawk Leader will only print letters that address a specific issue or article that may be of interest to the bulk of our readers.

Letters can be submitted to leadernews@mmlocal.com or Tomahawk Leader, 24 W. Rives St., Rhinelander, Wis., 54501. We will not print letters that:

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- Make explicit or implied threats. This includes personal attacks, intimidation, bullying or threats of harm against a person or organization.
- Contain copyrighted material or that have been printed in another publication. All letters must be an original writing by the signer and exclusive to the Tomahawk Leader.
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# DPI releases general school aid estimates

## Caution encouraged due to potential abnormal volatility

### FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

WISCONSIN – The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI), on Monday, July 1, released an estimate of the general school aids each public school district will receive for the 2024-25 school year, but noted that the numbers may be more volatile than usual.

A release from DPI said general school aids are the

largest form of state support for Wisconsin public schools, offsetting local property taxes under state-imposed revenue limits. Wisconsin statutes require the department to publish estimated aid amounts by July 1 each year.

“The current estimate is based on the 2023-25 biennial budget and pupil count and budget data reported by school districts to the DPI,” DPI stated. “Due to previ-

ously reported delays in financial data reporting by Milwaukee Public Schools, the DPI anticipates greater than usual volatility in these estimates. Figures used in this estimate may change by a greater than usual amount for the certification of general school aids, which takes place by Oct. 15, 2024. The department therefore encourages caution when utilizing this estimate.”

DPI said it will provide more information if it learns more about potential significant, unexpected adjustments to this estimate in the intervening months.

According to DPI, estimated general school aids for 2024-25 total \$5.58 billion, representing an increase of 4.2% from 2023-24.

Payments to districts will increase an estimated \$234.3 million because of two factors, DPI said: an increase of \$224.9 million per the state budget as passed by the Wisconsin State Legislature; and the decrease in the required Milwaukee Public Schools funding for the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program due to statutory changes.

Of the state’s 421 school districts, 289 districts (68.6%) are currently estimated to receive more gen-

District	Local Estimated Aid Data		\$ Change	% Change
	2024-2025 July 1 General Aid	2023-2024 Oct. 15 General Aid		
Tomahawk	\$2,001,350.00	\$1,763,960.00	\$237,390.00	13.46%
Abbotsford	\$8,713,004.00	\$7,938,059.00	\$774,945.00	9.76%
Antigo	\$16,884,676.00	\$15,237,083.00	\$1,647,593.00	10.81%
Athens	\$3,549,246.00	\$3,426,327.00	\$122,919.00	3.59%
Butternut	\$792,061.00	\$777,024.00	\$15,037.00	1.94%
Chequamegon	\$2,811,869.00	\$2,487,271.00	\$324,598.00	13.05%
Crandon	\$4,059,569.00	\$4,181,928.00	-\$122,359.00	-2.93%
Edgar	\$6,335,689.00	\$6,088,996.00	\$246,693.00	4.05%
Flambeau	\$4,000,331.00	\$4,022,785.00	-\$22,454.00	-0.56%
Ladysmith	\$7,793,926.00	\$7,379,888.00	\$414,038.00	5.61%
Lakeland UHS	\$11,445.00.0	\$13,465.00	-\$2,020.00	-15.00%
Marathon	\$5,786,473.00	\$5,143,780.00	\$642,693.00	12.49%
Medford Area	\$16,757,091.00	\$15,585,524.00	\$1,171,567.00	7.52%
Merrill Area	\$18,377,074.00	\$17,550,860.00	\$826,214.00	4.71%
Mosinee	\$14,714,977.00	\$14,582,864.00	\$132,113.00	0.91%
N. Pines	\$13,241.00	\$15,578.00	-\$2,337.00	-15.00%
Phillips	\$3,043,955.00	\$3,332,924.00	-\$288,969.00	-8.67%
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Rhineland	\$8,054,824.00	\$7,716,147.00	\$338,677.00	4.39%
Rib Lake	\$4,254,145.00	\$3,821,471.00	\$432,674.00	11.32%
Stratford	\$7,062,156.00	\$6,768,877.00	\$293,279.00	4.33%
Wausau	\$76,057,528.00	\$69,309,221.00	\$6,748,307.00	9.74%

Data courtesy of DPI.

## OBITUARIES

### Obituary updates are posted at [www.tomahawkleader.com](http://www.tomahawkleader.com)

**Carolyn Mae Weizenicker**, 88, of Tomahawk, passed away Friday, July 5, 2024 at Aspirus Tomahawk Hospital. Carolyn was born Aug. 20, 1935 in Pennsylvania, the daughter of Walter and Margaret (Zimmer) Scott. She was united in marriage Feb. 27, 1954 in Michigan to Leonard Weizenicker, and he preceded her in death Aug. 16, 2013. Surviving are her daughter, Connie Weizenicker, Madison; sons, Keith (Tina) Weizenicker, Tomahawk, and Jamie (Amy) Weizenicker, Tomahawk; six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband of 59 years, Leonard; son, Timothy; and grandson, Adam. Honoring Carolyn's wishes, no services will be held. Krueger-Nimsgern Funeral and Cremation Services is assisting the family. Online condolences for the family may be directed to [www.nimsgernfuneral.com](http://www.nimsgernfuneral.com).

## The Pastor's Corner for July 10, 2024

With graduation ceremonies and parties in full swing, I have been thinking about students who are graduating and going on to advanced schooling or starting a career. It's an exciting and challenging time of finding out what life is like on one's own. We hope that the learning and character that the graduates have developed from the help of their family, friends and faith will give them skills and confidence to succeed in the future.

There are many times in life when all of us start something new, like a new job, buying a vehicle, or getting married, and we face uncertainty in life. There are many decisions to make. We sometimes make mistakes but we learn from those times of failure. We may wrestle with doubt that we aren't what we should be. How do we continue our confidence that we can handle the challenges that come our way?

Jesus talked about following the word of God in Scripture to know what's most important. To remember that when we follow Jesus we are empowered to share his love and grace in our words and actions. We are given God's wisdom to know what to do when we have choices to make. Jesus said,

*"Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. Matthew 7:24-25 (NIV)*

When we build our lives around following Jesus and living out God's will for our lives, we can let go of the doubt that we are not good enough. We are God's children created to be good and loved and forgiven by Jesus. We do not have to be popular or rich or beautiful because those things are fleeting. We know that the storms of life can take away things that are not really important but when we build our lives on God's foundation, we will stay secure. Seeking God's strength and wisdom helps us build our lives with confidence that we will never be separated from our God who loves and guides us.



**God's Peace**  
**Pastor Julie Sinkula**  
**Grace Tomahawk**

## Ask the PASTOR

Readers are invited to submit questions about God, the Bible, and religion. I shall try to answer them for you, using the Bible as my final authority.

I know this is well after the Fourth of July celebrations, but I would like to remind us of the role of religion in the freedoms we enjoy in our country, in connection with what our discussion has been of late. Let me give you a few quotes from the past, from people closer connected to the founding of this country.

I am not looking at this through sunny tinted glass, but I am looking at an understanding that established America on a firm footing even though the principles have never been perfectly implemented because our country is populated by, and governed by, sinners like us who struggle with a sinful nature. I think of Benjamin Franklin's advice to Thomas Paine, when asked his opinion on Paine's work, *The Age of Reason*, a book against Christianity. Franklin advised: *I would advise you, therefore, not to attempt unchaining the tiger, but to burn this piece before it is seen by any other person.... If men are so wicked with religion, what would they be if without it (1780's).* Here are a couple of quotes to consider.

I sought for the greatness of America in her harbors and rivers and fertile fields, and her mines and commerce. It was not there. Not until I went into the churches and heard her pulpits flame with righteousness did I understand the greatness of her power. America is great because America is good; and if America ever ceases to be good, America will cease to be great. --Alexis de Tocqueville, *Democracy in America*, 1835.

Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that man claim the tribute of patriotism who should labor to subvert these great pillars of human happiness, these firmest props of the duties of men and citizens. The mere politician, equally with the pious man, ought to respect and cherish them. --from President George Washington's farewell speech, February, 1797.

We have staked the whole future of American civilization, not upon the power of government, far from it. We have staked the future of all of our political institutions upon the capacity of mankind for self-government; upon the capacity of each and all of us to govern ourselves, to control ourselves, to sustain ourselves according to the Ten Commandments of God. --James Madison, *the father of the united states constitution* and the fourth President

We have no government armed with power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion. Our constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to govern any other. --John Adams, 6th president of the united states.

Pastor Charles Scheele  
Berean Baptist Church, Tomahawk  
[bereanbaptisttomahawk@gmail.com](mailto:bereanbaptisttomahawk@gmail.com)  
**Pastor Charles Scheele**  
**Berean Baptist Church, Tomahawk**  
[bereanbaptisttomahawk@gmail.com](mailto:bereanbaptisttomahawk@gmail.com)

## Church DIRECTORY

**First Congregational**  
N. Fifth & E. Washington Ave.,  
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8:30am Bible Study • 9:30am Worship  
Pastor John Miskimen

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1328 County Rd. A,  
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Sunday Service & Facebook  
Live Stream: 9:30am  
Prayer Meetings:  
Wednesday 6pm  
Pastors Jaco & Leslie Theron

**Community Seventh Day Adventist**  
Hwy. 86/D, Tomahawk • 715-453-5809  
Pastor Eric Anderson  
Church: 9am, Sabbath School: 10:15am  
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**Northland Bible Church**  
2810 Olson Road, Tomahawk  
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Pastor Alex Lindsay  
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**The Rock Church of Tomahawk**  
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Worship Times:  
Sat. 5 pm • Sun. 8:30 am  
Sun. 10 am outdoor worship at Tilted Loon (on Hwy L)  
Pastor Julie Sinkula  
Streaming Worship on our website: [www.gracelutherantomahawk.com](http://www.gracelutherantomahawk.com)

**Spirit Baptist**  
Hwy. 86, 1/4 Mile West of Hwy. 102, Spirit  
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Duane Harper Pastor  
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**Berean Baptist Church**  
19 N. Third St., Tomahawk  
Pastor Charles Scheele  
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Morning Service - 10:45 am Sunday  
Mid-week Bible study - 7:00 pm Wednesday

**St. Mary's Catholic**  
Seventh and Washington Ave., Tomahawk • 715-453-2878  
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**St. Francis of Assisi Catholic**  
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12 Miles North of Tripoli at 5209 Willow Road  
Fr. Louis Maram Reddy, Pastor  
Saturday 4 p.m. Mass

**St. Augustine Catholic**  
Intersection of D & B, Harrison • 715-453-2561  
Fr. Louis Maram Reddy, Pastor  
Sunday 8:00 a.m. Mass

**Northwoods Vineyard**  
418 Kaphaem Road Tomahawk • 715-453-6700  
Pastor Nate & Shelley Nelson  
Reg. Serv. 9:30  
Facebook Live Stream 9:30

**United Methodist Church**  
Tomahawk & Spirit  
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8:30 in Spirit, 10:30 in Tomahawk in person & 10:30 Online Via Zoom

**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
715-428-2851  
4594 Hwy 8, Prentice  
Pastor Scott Holobeck  
Sat 10am Worship Service, 11am Bible Study



Legion Raffle Contest winners

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 93 recently announced the winners of its Raffle Contest. Winners are as follows: Kent Lindenrot, Samsung Smart washer and dryer (pictured); Jolene Petrie, \$100.00 gift certificate, Tomahawk BP; Chris Behling, \$100.00 gift certificate, Tomahawk Shell; Keith Hakala, \$100.00 gift certificate, Tomahawk Shell; Bev Ingman, \$100.00 gift certificate, Kracker Barrel BP; Matt Buska, \$50.00 Trig's gift certificate; Alex Brandenburg, \$50.00 Trig's gift card.

Photo courtesy of Tom Garrigan

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

A son, Walter Scott, was born to Dominique and Brandin Coey, Gleason, on Sunday, June 23, 2024. He was born at 11:07 p.m., weighed seven pounds, four ounces and was 20 inches long.

As reported by the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office Monday, July 1: On 06/24/2024 deputies were dispatched to a reported disorderly conduct domestic at an address on Belle Rd. in the Town of Somo. It was reported that a male subject, 24, who lives at the Belle Rd. address, was intoxicated and acting disorderly by yelling and screaming at his mother and stepfather. The parents were reporting that he has a drinking problem, and they wanted him to get help, which he refused. The male subject left the house prior to deputies' arrival. It was also reported that the subject may be armed with a knife. After a short search, investigating deputies located and took the subject into custody. No weapons were found. During the process, the subject became increasingly uncooperative and resistive with deputies. He was eventually placed in a patrol car for transport to the Lincoln County Jail. While in transport, the subject was able to get free of his seatbelt, and move his handcuffs to the front of him. The subject then kicked out the rear windows of the squad while in motion. The transporting deputy stopped and requested assistance to regain control of the subject. The subject continued to struggle with deputies until they used pepper spray to get the party back

LINCOLN COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

under control. The subject was then transported to the Lincoln County Jail. No injuries were reported as a result of this call. The patrol car received substantial damage to both rear doors. The man was booked into the Lincoln County Jail on several charges. On 06/26/2024 the Sheriff's Office took a complaint of a female party showing up at a house on Bay Mill Rd. in the Town of Bradley and advised the home owner that she had put her car in the lake. Deputies arrived and made contact with the female driver, a Milwaukee woman, 38. The deputy noticed signs of impairment and requested the female do some SFSTs. The driver refused to cooperate with the deputy, and as a result, she was arrested for a first offense of OWI. The vehicle was removed from the lake, and the driver was turned over to corrections staff at the Lincoln County Jail. No injuries were reported. On 06/29/2024, deputies were sent to the area of CTH X and County Line Rd. in the Town of Pine River for a reported crash with injuries. It was reported to be a motorcycle crash with a party possibly having a broken leg. The deputy found that the driver of the motorcycle, a Waupaca man, 25, was traveling N/B on CTH X just north of County Line Rd. when he

lost control of his motorcycle and crashed. The driver was wearing a helmet at the time of the crash and was the only injured person. On 06/29/2024 a deputy on patrol stopped a vehicle in the N2200 block of CTH JJ for an equipment violation. In making contact with the driver, a Stevens Point man, 35, he falsely identified himself as his brother. It was later learned after the original stop that the driver had provided false information and that there was a warrant for his arrest. Deputies remained in the area until they were able to relocate the subject and took him into custody for the warrant. He was also arrested on a fresh charge of obstructing an officer. He was then transported to the Lincoln County Jail. On 06/30/2024 the Sheriff's Office received a call of a crash on Stevenson Rd. in the Town of Skanawan. The R/P advised he had made contact with the driver and he thought the driver was intoxicated. When deputies arrived on scene, they found the vehicle abandoned. A short time later, they found the male party, a man from Machesney Park, Ill., 55, lying in the ditch. In talking with the driver, the deputy noticed signs of impairment, and as a result asked the driver to perform some SFSTs. The driver refused to cooperate with the deputy and as such was

arrested for a first offense of OWI. The driver was later released to a responsible party. No injuries were reported as a result of the crash. On 06/23/2024 a deputy from the Sheriff's Office responded to a complaint of a pedestrian walking on the roadway on CTH C near Elm Rd. in the Town of Merrill. It was further reported that the pedestrian was actually a child. At the time of the call the child was supposed to be in the care of their grandma and she lost track of the child. The child was found almost a half-mile away from where the grandmother lived. The Sheriff's Office would just like to remind drivers to be aware and observant of possible changing road conditions and hazards. We would further like to remind everyone if watching small children, be sure to keep a close eye on them and keep them away from highways and roads. In this case the child was returned to the grandmother unharmed; however, a report will be submitted to the district attorney for review and possible charges. Deputies conducted 38 traffic stops and 30 security checks. Deputies responded to 10 car vs. deer crashes Driving complaints: 11. The 911 Center took six hang-up calls and six nuisance calls.

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Recent THS grad Murphy Koth (second from right) was one of three area students to be awarded a scholarship from Ahlstrom and United Steelworkers Union Local 2-15. Photo courtesy of Ahlstrom

## THS grad Murphy Koth receives Ahlstrom scholarship

**FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER**  
TOMAHAWK – Recent Tomahawk High School (THS) graduate Murphy Koth was awarded a scholarship from Ahlstrom, in partnership with the Rhinelander plant’s union, United Steelworkers Union Local 2-15.  
Koth and a pair of Rhinelander High School graduates, Alexis Nelson and Alexia Robinson, each received a \$1,000.00

scholarship. “Ahlstrom and USW Union Local 2-15 are thrilled to announce our scholarship recipients this year,” said Dan McGreaham, Ahlstrom’s Rhinelander plant manager. “In addition to their high school course work, each of our recipients participated in extra-curriculars, as well as activities related to their intended field of study. We celebrate the achieve-

ments of these graduates and wish them continued success on their future endeavors as they pursue their respective fields of study.” This is the second year Ahlstrom and USW Union Local 2-15 have partnered to award scholarships to students. Koth will be attending Lawrence University in Appleton to pursue interests in the arts with an emphasis in film studios.

## PINE CREST FROM PAGE 1

consumption of the transaction contemplated hereby.” The letter references a suit filed in Lincoln County court by Donald J. Dunphy on Thursday, May 16.

### Dunphy’s lawsuit

The sale of Pine Crest was approved by the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors in February, with a Sunday, June 30 closing date for the sale implemented as part of the Asset Purchase Agreement.

During its meeting on Tuesday, June 18, the board voted to push the sale closing date back to Monday, Sept. 30, due logistical challenges cited by Krueger and the A&L Committee.

Krueger said during the June meeting that the buyers had also requested an extension of the sale closing date “due to circumstances beyond their control.”

Dunphy, who was elected to the board as District 7 Supervisor in April, said his lawsuit against Lincoln County is not related to the county’s decision to extend the closing date.

In a Complaint filed in May, Dunphy asked the court for a judgment “forbidding Lincoln County and any of its officers from signing a deed transferring the subject properties to the buyer,” the return of the earnest money to the buyer and “an order declaring the Asset Purchase Agreement null and void.”

“I was opposed to the decision to sell Pine Crest from the beginning,” Dunphy said in a recent interview with the Merrill Foto News. “When I ran for (Lincoln) County Board, I told everyone I talked to that I would do my best to reverse that decision. The lawsuit is my vehicle to keep Pine Crest from being sold. My goal is to have the court declare the sales contract null and void.”

The basis for Dunphy’s lawsuit are his allegations that Lincoln County had failed to follow the best practices set forth in a previously-created Lincoln County resolution detailing the best practices to be followed for selling high-value property, and that by failing to do so, this resulted in the county signing an agreement to sell Pine Crest and the county’s Health and Social Services building for less than they are worth.

Dunphy also alleged the Lincoln County Code of Ordinances “vests jurisdiction” of the subject properties in the Lincoln County board’s Forestry Committee.

Lincoln County Corporation Counsel Karry Johnson



Dunphy Photo courtesy of Lincoln County

responded to the allegations in the Complaint with a written Answer filed with the court on Thursday, June 13.

In the Answer, Johnson said the previously-passed resolution provided “suggestions and recommendations for the sale of certain high value property,” however, “the County Board was not required to follow such suggestions or recommendations.”

Johnson’s Answer denied the allegation that the board’s Forestry Committee has jurisdiction over the sale.

Dunphy further alleged that “a substantial consideration in the County’s decision to sell Pine Crest was the operating deficit experienced by the nursing home in the years prior to 2023” and “that an increase to the Medicaid reimbursement rate paid to public nursing homes eliminated Pine Crest’s operating expense deficits beginning in the first quarter of 2023.”

In Johnson’s Answer, she admitted the operating deficit was a factor in the decision to sell Pine Crest, but said the county board considered numerous other factors in reaching their decision, as well.

Johnson also denied the allegation that the increase in the Medicaid reimbursement rate eliminated Pine Crest’s operating expense deficits beginning in first quarter 2023 and refuted Dunphy’s claim that the change in circumstances as a result of the Medicaid reimbursement rate were ignored “because it was focused on selling Pine Crest to the exclusion of all other considerations,” as Dunphy had alleged in his Complaint.

Dunphy made various other allegations in his Complaint, which the county denied in their Answer.

In their Answer, the county also made a motion to dismiss Dunphy’s Complaint on several grounds, including that he had failed to comply with statutory Notice of Claim requirements; had brought a Certiorari Complaint, which is not permissible for review of a resolution passed by a County Board of Supervisors; that the Complaint is

barred by the statute of limitations; and that the Complaint was filed outside the time period specified for Certiorari actions, among other reasons.

Dunphy aiming for referendum, community funding support

In the interview with the Foto News, Dunphy said Pine Crest “ended 2023 in the black, and revenues continue to exceed operational expenses this year.”

“These two factors give us some breathing room to consider our options,” he stated.

Dunphy said that if he were to succeed in stopping the sale of Pine Crest, he would “want a referendum to be held asking the voters if they are willing to increase property taxes by \$2 million per year for 10 years to keep Pine Crest.”

Dunphy said holding a referendum is “the democratic thing to do,” noting that if a potential referendum were to fail, “we can put our nursing home up for sale, and you will hear no complaints from me.”

Dunphy added that he would seek community support in further funding maintenance at the facility.

“The biggest expense involved in keeping Pine Crest is the deferred maintenance needs of about \$12 million,” he stated. “These can and should be addressed systematically at a rate of \$1 million per year over the next 10 to 15 years. Some of the required maintenance is more urgent than the rest. We should decide which need has the most urgency and launch a community-wide fund drive to deal with it like we did when the library addition was built. This measure may pay for some urgently-needed maintenance, but, if not, whatever donations come in will help.”

Dunphy said Pine Crest revenues could be increased “even more” by converting one of the facility’s existing wings to a dementia ward, an option presented by the ad hoc committee that was formed in June 2022 and tasked with coming up with options the county could take regarding Pine Crest’s future. The committee ultimately recommended the sale of the facility.

“There is a demand for nursing home beds of this type, and the conversion would require little more than installing a security door,” Dunphy stated in reference to the potential conversion of a Pine Crest wing to a dementia ward.

North Central Health Care (NCHC) administrators and proposed new owners of Pine Crest, Grant and Andrea Thayer, previously said this plan had been in the works.

### Next steps

While the continued operation of Pine Crest is included in the county’s budget through the end of 2024, no funds are allocated to the operation or maintenance of the nursing home or the Health and Human Services building for 2025.

As of press time on Monday, July 8, no further action regarding Pine Crest had been taken by the board or any county committees.

The A&L Committee is expected to discuss Pine Crest at a potential special meeting later this month or at its regular August meeting.

As of press time on Monday, July 8, no court dates related to Dunphy’s lawsuit had been scheduled, according to court records.

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**Water Fight**

After the Pow Wow Days parade on Thursday, July 4, the Tomahawk Fire Department held its annual Water Fight on W. Wisconsin Ave. Photos by Joseph Frederick



**FISHING & HUNTING TIMES**

Date (CDT)	Morning		Evening	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
July 10	9:21AM	3:18AM	10:43PM	3:39PM
July 11	10:26AM	3:58AM	10:58PM	4:18PM
July 12	11:29AM	4:37AM	11:13PM	4:57PM
July 13	—	5:16AM	12:33PM	5:36PM
July 14	11:29PM	5:57AM	1:38PM	6:18PM
July 15	11:47PM	6:40AM	2:47PM	7:03PM
July 16	12:10AM	7:26AM	3:58PM	7:52PM
July 17	12:39AM	8:18AM	5:09PM	8:45PM

Solunar fishing and hunting chart for Tomahawk. Major feeding periods last two hours and minors run one hour. New Moon is August 4.

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**News Briefs**

**Book sale at Tomahawk Public Library today**  
The Friends of the Tomahawk Public Library will hold a book sale in the basement of the library today (Wednesday, July 10) from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Books, magazines, puzzles, CDs, tapes and rummage items are available. No items are priced. Everything goes for donation. All proceeds go to the library.

**Speaker Mary Beth Neubauer visiting Northwoods Vineyard**  
God is Calling will host Christian speaker Mary Beth Neubauer at Northwoods Vineyard, 418 Kaphaem Rd., Tomahawk, on Saturday, July 27 from 9:30 a.m. to noon. All are welcome.

**Portion of County Rd. M to close for culvert replacement**  
Lincoln County Interim Highway Commissioner Jason Lemmer advises that County Rd. M, between Cedar Rd. and Homestead Rd. in the Town of Corning, will be closed for culvert replacement from Monday, July 29 starting at 5:30 a.m. until Thursday, Aug. 1, ending at 6:30 p.m. for culvert replacement, weather permitting.

**Old Kindergarten Museum open for summer**  
The Tomahawk Area Historical Society's Old Kindergarten Museum, located at 18 E. Washington Ave., Tomahawk, is open for the summer. Hours are 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. each Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday through Thursday, Aug. 22. The museum will also be open on selected evenings and Saturdays. The Log Museum will not be open due to construction in Washington Square Park.

**Open Arms Community Meal served Tuesdays**  
Open Arms Community Meal is served each Tuesday at St. Mary's Corpus Christi Center, 320 E. Washington Ave., Tomahawk. The Corpus Christi Center opens at 4 p.m., and the meal begins at 5 p.m. All are welcome to come and share fellowship with old and new friends. To volunteer at the Open Arms Community Meal, call 715-224-3306 and leave a message.

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**Open House Monday, July 22nd from 1:00pm-3:00pm**  
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**PICKUP & PAYMENT:** Friday, July 19 (2PM- 5PM). Terms: Cash or good check, credit cards, 10 % buyers fee. Not responsible for loss or accidents. Sales tax charged. Settlement made before removing items. Conditions: Sold as is, where is. Announcements made on auction day take precedence over printed material. R.W.A. Col. René' Brass #424, Col. Robert St. Louis #450, St.Louis auctions LLC 6728 Whitefish Lk. Rd., Three Lakes, WI 54562. PH: 715-367-1668

**PUBLISHER'S LETTER**

# A Poetic Insight; Ready for Perils

Dear Reader,

In one of the timeless verses of A.E. Housman, we find a reflection and a warning of life's journey encapsulated in the following poem "I to my perils".

*I to my perils  
Of cheat and charmer  
Came clad in armour  
By stars benign.*

*Hope lies to mortals  
And most believe her,  
But man's deceiver  
Was never mine.*

*The thoughts of others  
Were light and fleeting,  
Of lovers' meeting  
Or luck or fame.*

*Mine were of trouble,  
And mine were steady;  
So I was ready  
When trouble came.*



With these words which have relevance even today, we are encouraged to cultivate a sense of readiness, to equip ourselves mentally and emotionally for the trials that lie ahead. Whether it be in the realm of cybersecurity, home and travel security concerns, or the myriad complexities of daily life, the principle remains the same – to be prepared, to be vigilant, and to be ready when trouble comes.

As we navigate the ever-changing currents of our world, let us embrace the ethos of readiness, recognizing that in our preparedness lies our strength, and in our resilience lies our ability to weather any storm that may come our way.

**PATRICK J. WOOD**

Publisher

Author of "Reflections" a new book now available on Amazon.

# LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## 2023 Oneida and Vilas County property tax bills

The second installment of the 2023 Oneida and Vilas County property tax bills is due by Wednesday, July 31, 2024.

If paying by check, please make sure the numeric and written portion of the check are the same and check is signed. If numeric and written portion of checks do not match, or if checks are unsigned, they will be returned, which could result in penalty and/or interest charges. Postdated checks will not be held and will be processed the day they are received.

Oneida County payments can be mailed to Oneida County Treasurer, PO Box 400, Rhinelander, Wis., 54501. Payments in person can be made to the County Treasurer's office on weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Please send one person in from a group to pay; only two people are allowed in the office at one time. The Oneida County Treasurer's office is located on the first

floor, door #2, Dahl St. side of the Oneida County Courthouse in Rhinelander. To help expedite processing, please have payments ready and checks written before stepping to the counter. The drop box located on the Dahl St. side of the courthouse is available to drop off payments. Tax payments must be postmarked by no later than July 31 or received in our office by Aug. 7 or they will be considered delinquent and will accrue an additional 10.5% interest and penalty charge for late payment in August and will continue to accrue penalty and interest of 1.5% per month until the bill is paid in full. For more information, phone the Oneida County Treasurer's office at 715-369-6137.

Oneida County payment by credit card or electronic check can be made through Point and Pay by going to [www.ascent.co.oneida.wi.us/LandRecords](http://www.ascent.co.oneida.wi.us/LandRecords). Search to find your parcel and click on the link to pay online. Please be aware that Point and Pay will charge you a convenience fee for using their services.

Vilas County government has implemented a more comprehensive security policy. The main courthouse entry, located curbside on Court St., is the only public entry and exit. All other courthouse entry points are closed to public use. Parking is available at the west front lot of the courthouse and also directly in front of that entry. A uniformed security guard is stationed at the single public entry and exit point. You must hand sanitize, and a weapons search procedure will be conducted at this location. Please visit [www.vilascountrywi.gov](http://www.vilascountrywi.gov) for more information.

Vilas County payments can be mailed to Vilas County Treasurer, 330 Court St., Eagle River, Wis., 54521. Payments in person can be made to the County Treasurer's office on weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Treasurer's office is located on the first floor of the Vilas County Courthouse in Eagle River. We suggest mailing tax payments early. Tax payments must be

postmarked by no later than July 31 or received in our office by Aug. 7, or they will be considered delinquent and will receive an interest charge of 7%. Interest will continue to accrue at a rate of 1% per month until the bill is paid in full. For more information, contact the Vilas County Treasurer's office at 715-479-3609.

Vilas County payments may also be made at Associated Bank Boulder Junction and Eagle River locations, and Peoples State Bank and IncredibleBank Eagle River locations. Bank staff will only collect those payments presented with a tax payment stub and exact payment amount.

Vilas County: Payment by credit card can be made through Point and Pay by calling 1-866-518-2304 or at [www.vilascountrywi.gov](http://www.vilascountrywi.gov). Please be aware that Point and Pay will charge you a convenience fee for using their services: 2.39% for credit cards and \$1.50 for Electronic Check transfers.

Oneida County Treasurer  
Tara Ostermann

## Nicolet College to host extended evening hour events for prospective students

### FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

RHINELANDER – Nicolet College in Rhinelander will host a special series of events designed for those who want to learn more about the college but cannot attend during regular daytime hours.

Prospective students and community members are invited to visit the campus from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on the following "Nicolet College @

Night" dates: Thursday, July 11; Tuesday, July 23; Wednesday, Aug. 7; and Monday, Aug. 19.

Each event will take place on the second floor of the Red Oak Center at Nicolet College.

"We understand that many prospective students have commitments during the day that prevent them from visiting the campus," said Katie Ourada, Admissions Manager. "Nicolet College @ Night provides a convenient option

for individuals to learn about the opportunities available at Nicolet and take the first step towards their educational and career goals."

"During these extended hours, attendees will have the opportunity to meet with an admissions representative and discuss the wide range of academic programs, classes and services Nicolet College offers," Nicolet stated. "As a bonus, the application fee will be waived for all attendees, making it free to apply to the

college during these events."

Participants are encouraged to RSVP for the event by calling the Nicolet College Welcome Center at 715-365-4493. Drop-ins are welcome. Those who are ready to register for classes after being admitted, as well as current students, may schedule appointments with their success coaches by calling the Nicolet College Welcome Center.

The fall term begins Monday, Aug. 26.

## Alzheimer's Association workshop to provide information on healthy aging

### FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

RHINELANDER – The Alzheimer's Association will offer a workshop to provide information and tips on healthy aging.

"At any age, there are lifestyle habits we can adopt to help maintain or even potentially improve our health," a release from the Alzheimer's Association said. "These habits may also help to keep our brains healthy as we age and possibly delay the onset of cognitive decline associated with Alzheimer's disease."

To help people age well, the Alzheimer's Association is

offering the "Healthy Living for Your Brain and Body: Tips from the Latest Research" program.

This workshop covers four areas of lifestyle habits that are associated with healthy aging: cognitive activity; physical health and exercise; diet and nutrition; and social engagement.

"In each area, we will discuss what we know, drawing on current research, as well as what we can do – steps to take now to improve or maintain overall health in each area," the release stated. "This program is designed for individuals of any age who are looking

for information on ways to age as well as possible."

The Healthy Living for Your Brain and Body workshop will be held at the ADRC of Oneida County, 100 Keenan St., Rhinelander, on Tuesday, July 16, from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

To learn more about the program or to register (registration is appreciated but not required), contact Julie St. Pierre at 715-352-4091 or [jstpiere@alz.org](mailto:jstpiere@alz.org). Individuals can also register by reaching out to the Alzheimer's Association 24/7 Helpline at 1-800-272-3900 or by visiting [www.bit.ly/RHIHealthyLivingJuly20](http://www.bit.ly/RHIHealthyLivingJuly20).







# Leader Sports & Nature



Top 10K finishers.  
Photos courtesy of Connor Ahrens.



Top 5K finishers.



Most Patriotic Award winners.

## Pow Wow Days 5K, 10K, Fun Run results

**FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER**

TOMAHAWK – The annual Pow Wow Days 5K, 10K and One-Mile Fun Run were held in Tomahawk on Thursday, July 4.

Results are as follows:

Top 10K finishers, girls: Karen Swanson, Josie Brown.

Top 10K finishers, boys: Logan Higgins, Axel Treinen.

Top 5K finishers, girls: Marie Peterson, Natalie Johnson.

Top 5K finishers, boys: Dan Machmueller, Steven Hebert.

Top One-Mile Fun Run finishers, girls: Emma Kieffer, Hannah Kieffer.

Top One-Mile Fun Run finishers, boys: Parker Olsen, Jonas Eloranta.

Most Patriotic, as Judged by Emree Quesinberry: Tina Murray, Rachel Hawkins, Rory Gundlach.

For full race results, visit [www.my.raceresult.com/298307/](http://www.my.raceresult.com/298307/).



Photos by Joseph Frederick

## Kids' running, gunny sack races, frog jumping contest results

**FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER**

TOMAHAWK – The annual Pow Wow Days kids' running and gunny sack races, as well as the frog jumping contest, were held in Tomahawk on Thursday, July 4.

Results are as follows.

**Running races**

Girls, 4 and under (top three finishers): Sophie Grant, Ila Kallerud, Adeline Yang; second heat: Eloise Minser, Amber Lee, Greta Glaeser.

Boys, 4 and under: Hudson Cordova, Nolan Morris.

Girls, 5 and 6: Sadie Minser, Aliya Genelin, Meru Taylor; second heat: Laney Wendorf, Ryleigh Walsh, Alice Amerpool.

Boys, 5 and 6: Rufio Kluck, Henry Clements, Miles Cooper; second heat: Bashir Genelin, Tony Luis, Louie Tanahill.

Girls, 7 and 8: Lila Genelin, Norah Morris, Addie Ponsler and Draya Zietlow (tie); second heat: Lulu Ohlmann, Molly Pintens, Penley Nelmark.

Boys, 7 and 8: Josh Nelson, Kael Lechleitner, Hayden Ungerer; second heat: Marlo Ungerer, Aurthur Silverstein, Lincoln Nelmark.

Girls, 9 and 10: Quinn Lechleitner, Anna Eastwood, Millie Brunner; second heat: Arabella Ungerer, Avery Verbist, Lily



Asic.

Boys, 9 and 10: Ridge Hessedal, Parker Eisner, Jack Budzynski.

Girls, 11 and 12: Madeline Mulopulos, Anabelle Asic, Brooklyn Braker.

Boys, 11 and 12: Mason Keller, Calvin Silverstein, Taylor Timm .

**Gunny sack races**

Girls, 6 and under (top three finishers): Laney Wendorf, Maggie Brunner, Teagan Puskarich.

Boys, 6 and under: Rufio Kluck, Levi Belling, Teddy Schouwieler.

Girls, 7 and 8: Elli Tollefson, Presley Keller, Lulu Derosa; second heat: Lulu Olhmann and Pollyanna Schneider (tie), Penley Nelmark, Addie Ponsoer.

Boys, 7 and 8: Aurthur Silverstein, Josh Nelson,

Ben Ratzburg.

Girls, 9 and 10: Anna Eastwood, Arabella Ungerer, Alice Lutz; second heat: Quinn Lechleitner, Millie Brunner, Lily Asic.

Boys, 9 and 10: Wolfgang Kluck, Moses Kluck, James Kolaso; second heat: Ridge Hessedal, Jack Siesennop, Jack Budzynski.

Girls, 11 and 12: Brooklyn Bracker, Margaret Hackel, Anabelle Asic and Brynlie Engen (tie).

Boys, 11 and 12: Mason Keller, Calvin Silverstein, Taylor Timm and Bentley Braker (tie).

**Frog jumping contest**

Logan Gilbert, (Turtle) 10' 8"; Skylar Gilbert, (Timothy) 4' 9"; Jaxen Weyer, (Bobby) 1'; Calvin Silverstein, (Billy) 4' 3"; Arthur Silverstein, (Bob) 4' 10";

Eli Silverstein, (Dave) 4' 5"; Jack Siesennop, (Keith) 4' 1"; Oleski Mchuc, (Arlo) 4' 11"; Reid Myers, (Blue) 6' 4"; Riley Myers, (Bopper) 4' 11"; Emily Eastwood, (Slippers) 7' 4"; Aubrey Tollefson, (Mable) 2' 6"; Elli Tollefson, (Frogger) 2' 2"; Rory Molitor, (Hoppy) 5' 4"; Landun Schultz, (Jeff) 6' 7"; Draya Zietlow, (Froggy) 5' 3"; Cooper Schultz, (Sparkle Frog) 5'; Sandra Zietlow, (Lou) 4' 3"; Lou Zietlow, (Adam) 2' 3"; Addie Zietlow, (Crazy Pants) 4' 3"; Oliver Belling, (Bumble Bee) 7' 1"; Levi Belling, (Optimus Prime) 4' 2"; Amberlee Phillips, 5' 6"; Ethan Riebe, (Jeffrey The Frog) 3' 7"; Maddox Martin, (Virginia III) 4' 2"; William Boshor, (Jeff) 7' 11"; Olivia Ratzburg, (Bob) 2' 8"; Ben Ratzburg, (Bob) 2' 8"; Hope Garske, (Pickles) 5' 4"; Robert Dean, (Lily) 6' 9"; Teddy Deab, (Lily) 5' 4"; Mark Dean, (Fred) 8"; Beau Nicholson, (Jaws) 3' 5"; Madelyn Renn, (Buck) 7' 4"; Olivia Wurl-Koth, (Mick Jumpy) 7' 10"; Marcus Wurl-Koth, (Michael Jordan) 4"; Brantley Budzynski, (Fatso) 4' 1"; Adler Buczynski, (Jimmy) 4"; Harlyn Budzynski, (Harlyn) 3' 10"; Jack Budzynski, (Jaquavi-on) 3' 6"; Pollyanna Schneider, (Fat Bull) 5' 4"; Quinn Lechleitner, (Quinn Jr.) 3' 7"; Rose Dums, (Coco) 2' 11"; Violet Dums, (Meatball) 3"; Ridge Hessedal, (John) 5' 1".

## Claybusters announce end-of-season awards, conference results

**FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER**

TOMAHAWK – The Tomahawk Claybusters recently wrapped up their season by announcing award winners and conference results.

Awards are as follows:

Intermediate Entry: 1st, Keagan Jones, 147; 2nd, Carter Albrecht, 142; 3rd, Issac Derleth, 142.

Intermediate Advanced: 1st, Connor Johnson, 190; 2nd, Connor Germano, 183; 3rd, Lillian Taves, 183.

JV: 1st, Tyler Strassman, 203; 2nd, Nathaniel Litzau, 196; 3rd, Fletcher Bauman, 185.

Varsity: 1st, Marcus Patterson, 207; 2nd, Trey Morrison, 206; 3rd, Zachary Germano, 200.

Most Improved, ladies: Sophia Lacina.



Photo courtesy of Kellie Strassman

Most Improved, boys: Kamron Ristau.

Top Gun, girls: Reese Marvin.

Top Gun, boys: Marcus Patterson  
Conference regular sea-

son results:

Girls Intermediate Advanced: 1st, Lillian Taves; 3rd, Sophia Roberts.

Varsity girls: 3rd, Reese Marvin, 187.

Varsity boys: 3rd, Mar-

cus Patterson, 207.

1st Team All-Conference: Marcus Patterson and Trey Morrison,

All-Conference Honorable Mention: Zach Germano.

Local news online  
[www.TomahawkLeader.com](http://www.TomahawkLeader.com)

**TOMAHAWK SPORTS TRIVIA: WEEK 190**

The Tomahawk Leader will feature one local sports trivia question per week, provided by Bob Skubal, retired coach, historian, and author of "History of Tomahawk Sports." Email leadernews@mmclocal.com if you know the answer!

The first person to tell us the correct answer each week will have their name published in the paper if they wish, along with their correct answer to the question.

**Week 189 question:** During the 1979 season, the THS girls' track team was 9-0 in duals. What was their record in Lumberjack Conference duals over the previous three seasons: 25-1, 27-1 or 29-1?

**Week 189 answer:** During the 1979 season, the THS girls' track team was 9-0 in duals. Over the previous three seasons, THS was 29-1 in Lumberjack Conference duals.

Congrats to Patricia Feind for being the first to correctly answer last week's question!

**Week 190 question:** In what place did the THS girls' track team finish at State in 1979: Sixth, seventh or eighth?

**WEATHER**

DATE	HIGH (°F)	LOW (°F)
Sunday, June 30	72	42
Monday, July 1	74	54
Tuesday, July 2	63	60
Wednesday, July 3	82	51
Thursday, July 4	77	59
Friday, July 5	71	47
Saturday, July 6	81	54

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**LCHD: Watch out for blue-green algae, swimmer's itch this summer**

**FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER**

LINCOLN COUNTY – The Lincoln County Health Department (LCHD) is reminding the public to watch out for blue-green algae and swimmer's itch this summer.

"Summer is here, and that means more time to enjoy our area's beautiful waterways," LCHD stated in a release. "Although warmer temperatures and sunshine are welcomed, this weather creates the perfect conditions for algal blooms to develop, some of which can be harmful to humans and pets when swallowed, touched or inhaled."

LCHD said many species of algae are found in are lakes and rivers and are a vital part of waterways.

"However, blue-green algae are not true algae," LCHD explained. "Blue-green algae are actually bacteria known as cyanobacteria."

"Risk for blue-green algae increases after heavy rain, causing agricultural and residential fertilizers to run off into our waterways," said Mike Mandli, LCHD Environmental Health Specialist. "These added nutrients to our water, combined with little wind, warm temperatures and sunlight can create ideal conditions for blue-green algae to grow. If it looks like split-pea soup, it is important to stay out. These conditions typically occur in Lincoln County during mid-June



Blue-green algae's color is often described as pea soup or spilled green paint, but it can also be other colors, including white, red or brown. Photo courtesy of LCHD

through mid-September. It is important to always be aware – just because it doesn't look like blue-green algae, doesn't mean it isn't in the water."

Blue-green algae's color is often described as pea soup or spilled green paint, but it can also be other colors, including white, red or brown.

Blue-green algae grows most abundantly in warm, calm, sunny weather with water temperatures above 75°F.

"When conditions are just right, blue-green algae can grow quickly and create blooms," LCHD said. "Blooms may produce a bad odor. It can be difficult to tell whether an algae bloom is dangerous or not, so it is best to treat all algae as dangerous, and when in doubt, stay out."

Upon arriving to a beach or body of water, LCHD recom-

come into contact with any blue-green algae, rinse them off right away, do not let them lick the algae off and contact a veterinarian right away."

Contact your healthcare provider if you were exposed to blue-green algae and are experiencing the following symptoms: Sore throat, red skin, runny nose, hives, cough, earache, difficulty breathing, headache, itchy eyes, stomach pain, itchy skin and vomiting.

"Another thing to watch out for this summer is swimmer's itch," LCHD said. "It is an infection caused by a parasite in bodies of water such as ponds, lakes and oceans. Swimmer's itch causes an allergic reaction and a rash on your skin. Most cases of swimmer's itch do not require medical attention. There is no way to know how long the water will be unsafe, so when in doubt, stay out. You may experience symptoms within minutes to days after swimming in contaminated water."

Symptoms of swimmer's itch can include small, reddish pimples or blisters; and tingling, burning or itching of the skin.

Visit the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) website ([www.dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/lakes/bluegreenalgae](http://www.dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/lakes/bluegreenalgae)) to learn how to report a blue-green algae bloom, as well as for a list of beach closings and advisories and general safety tips.

mends looking for any postings and water quality notices before swimming. Before entering the water, do a visual inspection of the water to look for any signs of blue-green algae.

- Do not swim or wade through areas with algal scums.

- Do not boat, water ski or jet ski through algal blooms.

- Do not fish in lakes where algal scum is present.

- Always shower off with soap and water after swimming.

LCHD noted that pets are especially susceptible to blue-green algae.

"Because of their relatively small size, animals do not need to swallow very much contaminated water to become ill," LCHD stated. "If you think your pet may have

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