— Sports

Fox Valley & DuPage County

**Seven steps to combating stress** 

Some of these scientific strategies may surprise

**you** — Health & Fitness

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## First responders all face stress, and new site aims to help



**BURT CONSTABLE'S** 

**SUBURBAN STORIES** 

Reliving the sorrow and heroism of the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, we remember the outpouring of love and admiration for the men and women who rushed into the chaos to help 20

"After 9/11, the appreciation for first responders was off the charts, and deservedly so," says retired Des Plaines Police Chief

Bill Kushner. During his 45 years as a police officer, Kushner, 68, also saw how the everyday trauma cops face can take a toll. That's why he gathered a team of professionals to create We Never Walk Alone, a first of its kind website with apps to connect law enforcement officers with trained peer support officers and vetted mental health professionals.

Kushner and veteran Des features a team of addiction Plaines police counselor Vickie Poklop received the 2020 Excellence in Public Service award from The Illinois Security Professionals Association for their work in creating WeNeverWalkAlone.org, and teaming with Amita Health Holy Family Medical Center in Des Plaines to establish Saint Michael's House, which

medicine physicians, registered nurses, licensed social workers and counselors to serve police officers.

"The average individual experiences three critical incidents in their lifetime," Kushner says, whether that means witnessing an accident, being involved in a

See CONSTABLE on PAGE 9

"The average individual experiences three critical incidents

in their lifetime. The average police officer experiences 800 or

1,000 critical incidents."

Bill Kushner, retired Des Plaines police chief

### 'Old Copley' no more

Vacant hospital's transformation into housing surges ahead

BY SUSAN SARKAUSKAS ssarkauskas@dailyherald.com

For a quarter-century, the shuttered Copley Memorial Hospital haunted an east-side Aurora residential neighborhood.

Vandals broke its windows and painted graffiti inside and out. Ghost-hunters, squatters and the just-plain curious broke in and roamed its halls. Somebody even dumped a motorboat in the courtyard.

The hospital scared neighchildren, became afraid to walk past it on their way to neighboring Bardwell Elementary School.

But the 9-acre site now hums with the positive energy of construction work, as it is reborn as housing for senior citizens, and supportive housing for people with cognitive and developmental disabilities.

With rebirth comes a new

"We want to stop talking about it as the 'old Copley,' because it is something different now, and start talking about it as Bloomhaven, which is really what it is," said Pat-rick Skarr, a spokesman for Fox Valley Developers LLC, the owners. "This is the chance to re-imagine the neighborhood, reconnect this campus with the neighborhood."

#### History

Aurora City tal opened at Lincoln and

See COPLEY on PAGE 4



The former Copley Memorial **Hospital in Aurora is being** turned into housing for senior citizens and for people with cognitive and developmental disabilities. The residences are expected to open in the

### THE SEASON BEGINS • RAMS 34, BEARS 14



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Backup quarterback Justin Fields warms up Sunday before the Bears' opening-night loss to the Los Angeles Rams in Ingle-

# Sneak peek

Dalton starts at QB, but rookie Fields gets a few reps — and runs for a TD — in Bears' loss

#### **COVERAGE IN TODAY'S SPORTS SECTION**

**HUB ARKUSH:** The Bears committed amateur mistakes on 3 plays that made impact.

JOHN DIETZ: Eddie Jackson and the secondary failed the Bears in the second half.

**3 AND OUT:** Montgomery was electric at RB — 108 yards and a TD on 16 carries.

### **Manchin** wants to slash **Biden** budget

\$3.5T plan should be cut by half or more, he says

BY HOPE YEN **Associated Press** 

WASHINGTON — A Democratic senator vital to the fate of President Joe Biden's \$3.5 trillion plan for social and environmental spending said Sunday that he won't support even half that amount or the ambitious timetable envisioned for passing it.

The stand by Sen. Joe Man-

chin of West Virginia was described as unacceptable by the chairman of the Senate Budget Committee, who is helping craft the measure. But Democrats have no votes to spare if they want to enact Biden's massive "Build Back Better" agenda, with the Senate split 50-50 and Vice President Kamala Harris the tiebreaker if there is no Republican support.

With congressional committees working toward the target of Wednesday set by party leaders to have the bill drafted, Manchin made clear his view, in a series of television interviews, that there was "no way" Congress would meet the late September goal from House Speaker Nancy Pelosi for passage.

See BUDGET on PAGE 2

### By appointment, mostly

You'll need to make one for many Illinois DMV locations, services



**THE SUBURBS IN TRANSIT** 

Questions such as "do you have an appointment?", and the occasional letdown, "all our appointments are full," circulated Friday outside the driver services facility in Lombard.

That's because the Illinois Secretary of State's office this month is retooling a variety of procedures to avoid crowds and lines at DMVs caused by COVID-19 backlogs.

What that means is, as of

today, many Illinoisans will need to make appointments for services such as behindthe-wheel road tests, REAL IDs, standard driver's licenses and ID cards at certain locations. The change was rolled out earlier at some sites.

Appointments for those services are required at the following locations: Aurora, Bridgeview, Plaines,

See TRANSIT on PAGE 9



Sixteen Illinois Secretary of State facilities, including this one in Lombard, now require appointments for behind-the-wheel driving tests and standard driver's licenses, among other services. Walk-ins will continue for vehicle stickers or titles.

#### Weather Humid High of 79.



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### Around 100 people attend vigil for dog shot in Wayne

Suburbs



Supporters gathered Friday to call for justice for Ludwig, a dog shot Aug. 20 in Wayne.

BY BRENDA SCHORY Shaw Media

About 100 friends and supporters gathered at River Bend Community Park in St. Charles Township in a candlelight vigil for a dog, Ludwig, that was shot to death Aug. 10.

It was part of continuing action in a movement called Justice for Ludwig.

Joe Petit, who owned Ludwig, brought his surviving dog, Philotimo to the gathering Friday. Wearing a Justice for Ludwig T-shirt, Petit cried as he hugged friends, supporters and family in the pavilion at the park.

"I just want justice for Luddy," said Petit's mother, Candy Minus of Pingree Grove.

"We're waiting for justice for Ludwig and Joe," Petit family friend Melissa Horn said.

Hal Phipps, husband of Wayne Village President Eileen Phipps, shot Petit's dog, Ludwig, Aug. 10, officials said. The two are neighbors on Pearson Drive in Wayne. The Kane County sheriff's office handled the investigation because a spouse of a village official was involved.

Phipps said the dog was behaving aggressively toward him on his property, while Petit said Ludwig and Philotimo were chasing sticks in the river when he was shot, according to officials.

Reached by phone after the shooting, Phipps said he had no comment.

Horn said her best friend, Kathleen Czaplewski, was in the river with Ludwig and Philotimo when the dog was

The Justice for Ludwig movement has caught on internationally, Horn said, as people from Italy, Canada and the United Kingdom have responded to the story.

"All over the world," Horn said. "Justice will get served. Rest in peace, Ludwig."

The feeling among supporters at the vigil was that nothing has been done about the shooting.

But Kane County State's Attorney Jamie Mosser said at a briefing this week that prosecutors were close to making a decision as to whether charges

would be filed.

"The sheriff and I have both been intently reviewing everything because we do want to make sure the right decision is made on this," Mosser said. "We are working very hard to do so, including visiting the

Organizers at the vigil passed out Justice for Ludwig signs. People bought Ludwig T-shirts from the Hairy Ant in St. Charles.

A photo montage of Ludwig and Philotimo played on a big screen set up in the pavilion. Then, "Now We Are Free," chosen by Petit, played.

Attendees lit candles, gathered for a group photo and ended by yelling Ludwig's

### Copley: Housing is expected to be opening in the spring

Continued from Page 1

Seminary avenues in 1888. Additions were made in 1916, 1932, 1947, 1970 and 1980, and it was renamed along the way, after newspaper publisher Ira Copley, who gave large donations for two of the additions. A dormitory for students of its nursing school was built in 1957. All but the 1980 addition are considered "contributing" elements of the site's history, as Aurora's first (and only) public hospital, according to the National Register of Historic Places. The hospital was put on the register in 2019.

The hospital moved to a new site on Ogden Avenue in 1995.

And so sat an empty 400bed giant that schooled more than 1,000 nurses and employed hundreds of people at a time — to be ravaged by trespassers, vandals, water infiltration and time.

"It probably hurt people to see it sitting so long, decrepit," said Jason Konrad, a partner in Fox Valley Developers.

The landmark designation was key to being able to do Bloomhaven, according to Konrad.

It enabled the company to receive state and federal historic preservation tax credits for the \$128 million-plus

But it meant most of the buildings would have to stay, with their outside appearances restored, not changed.



Interior demolition during the first phase of remediation and redevelopment of the former Copley Hospital property in Aurora will help Fox Valley Developers LLC preserve the look of the historic buildings while preparing them for new residential and medical uses.

And some original configurations and materials in the buildings had to be kept, too — such as the wide hallways, terrazzo floor tile in some areas, and a former surgical ward in the 1932 portion. Gone, however, are the asbestos, mold and garbage, plus the helicopter pad and the longtime physical plant that supplied the building

with heat and water. New interior walls, plumbinstalled at Bloomhaven. Decades of grime are being removed from outer brick walls. New panes of glass are two-bedroom units. filling in the windows.

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its new occupant: the East Aurora School District 131 headquarters. Besides renovations, the building was enlarged with an addition.

And on the east edge of the former site, a small park with a playground and a splash pad is up and running.

#### What it will be

The sections built in 1916, 1932 and 1947 are becoming ing, electricity, heating, ven- the Bardwell Residences, to tilation and more are being house senior citizens in independent-living, assisted-living and memory-care units. It will have studio, one- and

The independent apart-The nurses' dormitory has ment community for peoalready been redone and has ple with developmental



A construction worker remodels the former Copley Memorial Hospital into housing.

disabilities, called Weston Bridges, will be in the 1970 portion. It will have one-bedroom apartments. There also will be medical offices for the public.

The company expects the housing to open in the spring

It already has several reservations for the senior housing, Konrad said.

I think this is a great example of repurposing a historical building," Konrad said. He said he can imagine, for

example, that an older person who has an adult child with disabilities would like to have that child live in an apartment of their own, with supportive programming, on the

same site the parent lives. Looking out from a sixthfloor window toward downtown Aurora, Skarr reflected on what the hospital was and what it will be.

"This (the view) really

cements what an anchor it now is Bloomhaven becom-(Copley Hospital) was," Skarr said. "But in several decades, it hadn't been a positive.

"But what we can really see everyone can really see."

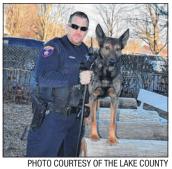
ing that anchor of pride, of prosperity, of having a renewed neighborhood, that



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SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Lake County Sheriff's Canine Diesel worked with Deputy Craig Somerville. Diesel died Saturday.

#### Sheriff's office mourns police dog

**BY STEVE ZALUSKY** szalusky@dailyherald.com

Just days short of his eighth birthday, Lake County Sheriff's canine Diesel died

Saturday. sheriff's office The announced Sunday that Diesel died in the company of his partner, Deputy Craig

Somerville. The dog had recently been diagnosed with an aggressive cancer that had reached an advanced stage.

Diesel would have celebrated his eighth birthday on

Sept. 15. Diesel began his career in 2015 and established his reputation by finding dozens of missing endangered people, tracking down fleeing felons and uncovering significant amounts of contraband.







