



# THE DUPAGE REVIEW

WHEATON, IL



## HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY



- Establishing a new bus route linking Naperville and Wheaton residents to the College of DuPage is one step closer after the DuPage County Board approved a resolution on Tuesday that will provide a local match to a federal grant received by the Pace Suburban Bus Company. Under the approved resolution, the County will provide a local match of \$133,000 as a portion of the \$1 million federal grant Pace received to operate the College of DuPage Connector for one year. The grant, through the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) federal funding program, requires a 20 percent match. "The College of DuPage connector bus route is a proposed bus service that will link Naperville with Wheaton, with direct service to the College of DuPage," said **Grant Eckhoff** (District 4 – Wheaton), Chairman of the County's Economic Development Committee.
- The DuPage County Board endorsed a resolution on Tuesday declaring March 19-26 as "Affordable Housing Week" in DuPage County. The Board also announced that the County would be providing \$15 million in low-cost financing to first time homebuyers in 2006 by ceding mortgage revenue "bond cap" to the Illinois Development Authority. "Over one-third of DuPage County renters are paying more than 30 percent of their income on housing," said **Kyle Gilgis**, Chairwoman of the County's Development Committee. "The steady increase in the median sale price of a single family home is moving homeownership beyond the reach of many working families. The Regional Plan Commission is studying this very subject to bring forward a recommendation regarding this vital issue for our continued diversity."
- Deb Olson** (District 4) also announced on Tuesday that a symposium breakfast is being held for community leaders and stakeholders to discuss the supply side of homes for homeownership that are priced "affordably." Roundtable discussions at the breakfast will focus on the barriers or perceived barriers to a greater supply of affordable housing

### DUPAGE COUNTY BOARD

Robert J. Schillerstrom  
Chairman

#### District 1

Yolanda Campuzano  
Paul Fichtner  
Donald Puchalski

#### District 2

Patrick O'Shea  
Brien Sheahan  
Irene Stone

#### District 3

Thomas Bennington, Jr.  
Kyle Gilgis  
Michael McMahon

#### District 4

Grant Eckhoff  
John Noel  
Debra Olson

#### District 5

James Healy  
Robert Heap  
Robert Schroeder

#### District 6

Linda Kurzawa  
Pamela Rion  
James Zay, Jr.

[www.dupageco.org](http://www.dupageco.org)

in DuPage. The symposium is being held on Wednesday, March 22 from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at Benedictine University in Lisle. "I invite elected officials and other policy-makers to join us in addressing a perplexing issue that has impact on all communities, and which needs creative and constructive solutions," said Olson. "There are a number of developers and communities out there who have found a way to build affordable homes for homeownership without negatively impacting existing home values and without creating tract after tract of high density housing subdivisions. We need to engage those people and find out what they are doing right."

- The County announced last week that the Department of Community Services has received a Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) to fund scholarships for disadvantaged students. The grant was secured from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. Over 16 years ago, the Community Services Block Grant was established to provide financial assistance to low-income individuals with high academic potential. Scholarships can be used for formal education or occupational training. Special consideration will be given to students interested in high technology fields or other occupations expected to experience rapid growth in the near future. Applications are available at the Jack Knuepfer Administration building, Department of Community Services, 421 N. County Farm Road in Wheaton. Applications and support documents must be received by **May 12, 2006**.
- Registration is now open for DuPage teens who are interested in enrolling in the DuPage County Animal Care and Control's (DCACC) "K9 Manners and Shelter Dog Training Program." This unique program helps train DCACC dogs that are highly energetic, timid, or that have had little to no training in order to prepare them for adoption. The program lasts for six weeks and costs \$50. There is a limit of six individuals per session, no exceptions. Also, individuals ages 18 years or older can now sign up for DCACC's volunteer-based K9 Manners Program. The volunteer-based program involves 2 mandatory orientation sessions and progress reports along the way. These participants will work independently with the dogs. To register for either of these programs, please call 630/407-2800.