



# THE DUPAGE REVIEW

WHEATON, IL

## HAPPY EASTER

- Charting a course for the future is the goal of DuPage County strategic planning process, which is working to create a vision of what County government will look like five-ten years down the road. In order to make this process a success, **WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!** All DuPage County residents are encouraged to attend any of the scheduled district meetings. These meetings will give residents a chance to share their vision for the County, as well as join their fellow residents in helping DuPage County chart a course for the future. For a complete list of meeting dates and locations, please visit [www.dupageco.org](http://www.dupageco.org).



- County Board Chairman Robert Schillerstrom and Dr. Darlene Ruscitti, Regional Superintendent of Schools, recently announced an unprecedented on-going collaboration to develop Crisis Reaction Plans and to assist in preparedness at the schools. The program will assist school superintendents, principals and teachers in developing Crisis Reaction Plans for school environments. The Plan addresses relationship building between the school officials and first responders and calls for the formation of a safety task force within each district. The program also calls for increased communication between the task force, local law enforcement, emergency personnel and school leaders. The third element is the development of detailed emergency protocols that address any and all potential emergencies from fire drills to hazardous material incidents. The program will require extensive practice drills and local fire, police and school personnel will train together at least once a year.
- The DuPage County Convalescent Center announced that it will have two of its employees honored with the prestigious Shining Star Award, given annually by the Life Services Network (LSN). LSN is an association that represents eldercare service providers throughout the State. The awards are given to honor outstanding individual performance in care giving. Laura Jones of the Convalescent Center's Recreation Therapy Department was chosen in the category of 'Rising Star.' Patti Evans, Foundation Board Member, was chosen as "Outstanding Trustee". Laura Jones began as a volunteer at the Convalescent Center and liked her work with the residents so much she took a pay cut to work at the Center. Laura works with the rehabilitation unit and has made a difference in the lives of the residents through her innovative recreational therapy.

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

- The DuPage County Financial Forecast Committee recently compared the County's property tax rate and the per capita property tax rate to the other collar counties; Lake, Will, McHenry and Kane. The DuPage County tax rate is .018 per \$100 of estimated value, the lowest rate of all the collar counties. DuPage's rate is actually half the rate of the next lowest county, Kane County, which is at .34 per \$100 of estimated value. DuPage County also fared well in per capita comparisons. The property tax rate per person is the lowest of all collars at \$66.00 per person. The DuPage County property tax accounts for only about 12% of total revenue, the least of all the collars.
- The new DuPage County Highway Right-of-Way Permit and Fee Ordinance (ODT-0001-06) — administered by the Department of Economic Development and Planning — went into effect on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2006. The revised application packets (including new procedures and a new application form) are available and can be obtained by calling 630-407-6700 (Mon-Fri. 8 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.) or can be picked up at the Highway Permitting office located at the Jack T. Knuepfer Administration Building 421 N. County Farm Road, Wheaton.