



THE DUPAGE REVIEW

WHEATON, IL

The DuPage County Board approved a **Strategic Plan** Tuesday evening that examines the key issues facing DuPage County and what tools are necessary in order to ensure the County continues to provide innovative, cost-effective, services while maintaining a high-quality of life for residents. The strategic plan was prepared to assist the DuPage County Board in achieving four essential elements of effective governance: (1) sustaining the vision of an organization; (2) articulating its mission; (3) making policy; and (4) setting priorities. According to the plan, there are three important factors driving the need for a fresh look at all aspects of County government. These factors are: the changes in the demographics of the county's population; changes in the growth patterns within the county; and the changes in county government finances. To view the entire plan, please visit www.dupageco.org.

Teenagers can learn new skills while helping others by joining the DuPage Convalescent Center's "**VolunTeen**" Program. Located in Wheaton, the Center provides short-term rehabilitation and long-term skilled nursing care for over 350 residents' between the ages of 21-100 years old. Teens may volunteer to help with a variety of activities including: recreation events and outings; in-house transport; playing games; visiting; gardening; special events; animal assisted visits; and sharing their special talents. For additional information, please visit us on the web at www.dupageco.org/convo or call now to set up an interview at 630-784-4260.

Eight months ago, DuPage County launched a new and innovative program that helps residents save money on the high cost of prescription drugs. **DuPage Rx**, which does not cost the County any money, is having an immediate impact. Since its launch last September, DuPage Rx has helped over 4,000 DuPage residents save over \$83,000 on their prescription medicines. Cardholders have filled over 8700 prescriptions with an average savings of 17 percent. DuPage Rx cards may be used by all County residents, regardless of age, income or existing health coverage. There is no enrollment form, no membership fee and no restrictions or limits on frequency of use. It is important to note, however, that the DuPage Rx discount card is not insurance.

DuPage County has received the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada's (GFOA) "**Distinguished Budget Presentation Award**" for its budget. According to GFOA, the award represents a significant achievement by DuPage County. It reflects the commitment of the Finance Department, and the County, in meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. This marks the third consecutive year DuPage County has won this award.

In their continuing effort to address the budgetary issues currently facing DuPage County, the Finance Committee appointed two new subcommittees that will examine revenue options, as well as ways to streamline County costs. The first is the **Revenue Sub-Committee**. Using the work of the Financial Forecast Committee as a foundation, they will be looking at potential new revenue sources and revenue enhancements. Appointed to the Revenue Subcommittee are Don Puchalski (Chairman), Pam Rion, Linda Kurzawa, Yolanda Campuzano, Grant Eckhoff and Kyle Gilgis. The second sub-committee of Finance will be the **Cost Efficiency Committee**. Serving on the Government Efficiency Subcommittee are Debra Olson (Chairman), Brien Sheahan, Robert Schroeder, Tom Bennington and James Healy. All County Board members serving on these two new Subcommittees are also members of the County's Finance Committee, which meets twice a month to discuss and review the financial issues that come before the County.

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