



# LOCAL

## NAPERVILLE

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A WEEKLY JOURNAL WRITTEN BY RESIDENTS OF YOUR COMMUNITY

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# Pace proposes cuts, fare hike in Naperville

BY CITY OF NAPERVILLE

Pace Bus is proposing to eliminate five Naperville commuter routes as part of its plan to address a \$3.8 million budget shortfall.

The Naperville routes proposed for elimination are routes 676, 685, 687, 689 and 781. Pace is also proposing a fare increase for paratransit service.

The proposed cuts and the paratransit fare increase will be discussed at the Pace budget hearing from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 20 in room 128A of the West Open Campus Center at College of DuPage, 425 Fawell Blvd., Glen Ellyn.

The Naperville service cuts are part of a larger proposal to eliminate or reduce service for 51 Pace routes throughout the region. The

city is encouraging residents and commuters to provide comments regarding the proposed service cuts and paratransit fare increase as well as the importance of transit services in Naperville.

Comments will be accepted at the public hearing. Pace will also accept comments via e-mail at [passenger.services@pacebus.com](mailto:passenger.services@pacebus.com).

The City of Naperville is accepting cop-

ies of comments submitted to Pace. Individuals should e-mail a copy of comments to [ebelj@naperville.il.us](mailto:ebelj@naperville.il.us). All comments must be received by Pace by Oct. 30.

Representatives from the City of Naperville will attend the public hearing to provide testimony on the value of transit in Naperville.

For more information on the cuts, go to [www.naperville.il.us](http://www.naperville.il.us) or [www.pacebus.com](http://www.pacebus.com).

# Local pet sitters support Sit Stay Read

BY SUSAN NC PRICE

*Citizen contributor*

Sit Stay Read, a non-profit organization founded and based in Chicago that focuses on increasing the literacy rate of schoolchildren, is getting a boost from Out-U-Go!, a Chicago-based pet-sitting company with a Naperville location to help recruit canine candidates for the program.

Provided free of charge to Chicago public schools and community facilities serving low-income families, Sit Stay Read uses dogs to improve reading skills and foster a love of learning in children who have difficulty reading.

It also provides programming during school hours as well as special weekend events.

Through a curriculum designed with the Center for Literacy at the University of Illinois at Chicago, Sit Stay Read's trained volunteers and certified dog teams make reading fun by having children read aloud to dogs.

The effectiveness of the process has been proven by increased reading word count per minute for children participating in the program.

"Out-U-Go! became interested in the mission of Sit Stay Read at a dog-friendly event in spring 2009," said David Lipshutz, CEO of Out-U-Go! "Since then, we have started building a relationship with the organization based on our shared interest in literacy initiatives."

Sit Stay Read Executive Director Mary

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Ashley Hopkins of Naperville Out-U-Go! with her two dogs, Berkeley Moon and Libbey Belle.

Photo submitted by Susan NC Price

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