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## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

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October 16, 2009

### **CUB to host energy efficiency event**

The Citizens Utility Board will alert Plainfield residents to energy-efficiency incentives of up to \$1,500, pass out free money-saving light bulbs, and give one lucky person a "smart" power strip in an event that could show consumers how to cut energy costs by hundreds of dollars a year.

At Plainfield's "Green Village Lecture Series," 6:30 p.m. Monday at the Plainfield Public Library, 15025 S. Illinois St., consumers will learn about the latest energy-efficiency tips, including the benefits of a home energy audit, how to get an efficiency tax credit of up to \$1,500, and even how to get paid for having ComEd junk an old refrigerator. CUB also will spread the word on a new state law that actually will allow consumers to buy new energy-efficient appliances with no up-front cost and pay it off on their own utility bills.

"Plain and simple, practicing energy efficiency keeps your hard-earned money out of the pockets of the utilities," CUB Outreach Director Sarah Moskowitz said. "CUB has saved consumers more than \$10 billion over our 25 years, so it's part of our mission to show people how they can take a few simple steps to lower their own energy costs--and in the process help lower energy prices overall."

CUB is appealing a \$273 million ComEd rate hike granted just last year and bracing for another ComEd increase proposal expected within a year. The consumer group also is trying to block Nicor Gas' attempts to increase the \$69 million rate hike it got this year. CUB and other consumer advocates helped cut Nicor's increase in half.

Attendees at CUB's Plainfield event will receive a free CFL light bulb, which can save as much as \$50 over each bulb's lifetime, and get the chance to win a "smart" power strip that can cut energy bills by hundreds of dollars a year.

### **Children's charity tent sale this weekend**

The Turning Treasures into HOPE tent sale will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at the Bolingbrook Golf Club, 2001 Rodeo Drive in Bolingbrook, to help support "Give Kids the World Village," a 70-acre, nonprofit "storybook" village in Kissimmee, Fla., that houses the sick children and their families who want to visit Orlando-area theme parks.

Because of the bad economic situation, most people find it difficult to donate monies even though they may still have the desire to do so. It doesn't cost money to clean closets, look through garages and find those holiday decorations that may need a new home.

Whatever is not sold will be donated to other charitable causes, such as Relay for Life or to help American veterans. For more information on Give Kids the World village, visit

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

### **Knights of Columbus to sponsor health fair**

Good Shepherd Council 5573 of the Knights of Columbus will sponsor a Health Fair from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Nov. 8 in the St. Mary Immaculate Gym at 15629 S. Rt. 59 in Plainfield.

Participants can visit representatives from Edward Hospital, Shaklee Health & Wellness, Joliet Area Community Hospice, Illinois Retina Associates, Lotriet Chiropractic, Spectrum Eye Institute, Franciscan Village-Mother Theresa Home, Home Helpers, Rezin Orthopedics, Lakewood Nursing and Rehab, Cardinal Sleep Center, ABC Moms Inc, Leeza's Place, DuPage Medical Group, Resurrection Breast Care, LA Fitness, Target Pharmacy, Provena Villa Franciscan, Optimal Health and Wellness Chiropractic, Care Link Health Services, The Inn at Willow Falls, Riverview Chiropractic, Prarieland Audiology and more.

Flu Shots will be available along with health screenings (including blood pressure), fall prevention information and health information on pediatrics, geriatrics, long term care, hospice and free massages. And, in a raffle, you can win Blackhawks skybox tickets for two with parking pass in contributed by Rezin Orthopedics.

For more information call Peter Blazina at 815-729-3870 or e-mail [pblazina@comcast.net](mailto:pblazina@comcast.net) or Pat Mander, parish nurse 815-436-2651, ext 893.

With over 7,200 member families, St. Mary Immaculate is one of the largest Roman Catholic parishes in the U.S. It is a vibrant, welcoming community with over 100 ministries serving God's people in the Plainfield area. For more information, go to [www.smip.org](http://www.smip.org).

Good Shepherd Council 5573 of the Knights of Columbus was founded in 1964. For more information on the many services provided by the K of C in Plainfield, visit [www.kofc5573.org](http://www.kofc5573.org).

### **Open Range program**

Illinois State Police, in conjunction with the Department of Natural Resources, will host an Open Range Program in one-hour increments from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 14 at District 5 -- Joliet, 16648 S. Broadway (on the corner of Route 53 and Division Street).

The program is offered in an effort to promote hunting safety by giving hunters access to state police ranges for the purpose of sighting in their shotguns. This will provide an opportunity for any legal firearm for harvesting deer in the state of Illinois to be checked in a controlled environment, with firearms experts present, ensuring the safe and appropriate use of the weapon.

Conservation police officers will assist.

To pre-register, call Chris Garibay at 815-726-6377, Ext. 255.