

NEWS...



from the Illinois House of Representatives

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

State Rep. Careen Gordon

Coal City: (815) 555-5555

Gordon: Scholarship Gives Women a Second Chance at a Bright Future

SPRINGFIELD, IL – Women who've had their college plans interrupted due to family or financial concerns may have the opportunity to start again. Rep. Careen Gordon (D-Coal City) announced the kick-off of the 2010-2011 Scholarship Award Program, sponsored by the Conference of Women Legislators (COWL), which provides women over the age of 25 with a second chance to attend college. COWL is a not-for-profit organization and a bipartisan coalition of women legislators in the Illinois General Assembly.

“Many women have had to put their dreams to attain a college education on hold due to family obligations or the lack of financial resources,” Gordon said. “Fortunately a dream on hold can be put back into action and the scholarship provided by COWL has helped many women reactivate their plans, attend college and start careers.”

Scholarships of \$2,500 will be available for use in the 2010-2011 school year to pay for tuition, fees or books. Applicants must meet the age requirement of being at least 25 years of age and are required to enroll in an Illinois public or private accredited college or university for a minimum of seven credit hours to qualify, making the scholarships available to a part-time student. In addition to academic achievement, the scholarship committee will also consider demonstrated leadership and community service work that benefited women in transition. Applications must be postmarked by April 9, 2010. Awardees will be notified of the decisions by May 7, 2010. Scholarship applications may be downloaded from the COWL website at www.cowlil.com.

“As women, it is important that we are not only role models for one another but that we also reach back and help lift one another to new levels of success and achievement,” Gordon said. “This scholarship is one opportunity to help women realize their dreams of a college education. I encourage women of the 75th district to take advantage of this opportunity and explore the many places a college education can take you.”

The majority of the charitable funds raised by the group come from annual fundraisers, such as “Capitol Capers” and “Dancing with the Capitol Stars,” featuring performances by lawmakers from around the state. The scholarship is at no cost to taxpayers.

Gordon represents the 75th district, which includes all of Grundy County, and portions of Will, LaSalle, Kankakee, Iroquois, and Livingston counties.

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