

Woodridge should get Dist. 99 cable channel

As of last month, Comcast Cable began broadcasting "Cable 99" on Channel 16, which broadcasts a mix of programming for Community High School District 99. The programming offered is going to include band and orchestra performances, fine arts demonstrations, holiday concerts, variety shows and informational bulletins. Some sporting events will also be broadcast live.

I think this is a terrific idea, however, this channel is only available in Downers Grove. District 99 includes both Downers Grove North and Downers Grove South high schools, but these schools don't just service Downers Grove. Parts of Lisle, Westmont, Bolingbrook and Oak Brook are within the district, and most Woodridge students (who attend District 68) attend one of the District 99 high schools. I can understand that the channel might not be offered within towns where just a small percentage of residents live within the District 99 borders, but almost all of the public school students in Woodridge attend one of the District 99 schools.

According to an article in the Reporter on Dec. 6, "Cable 99" was the result of a partnering between Comcast and the village of Downers Grove. This same programming should be available to those of us in Woodridge who pay the same school taxes to District 99 that Downers Grove residents do (as well as the same cable TV rates). We've heard that District 99 may provide "some" of the programming to Woodridge to play at a later date -- but that certainly isn't an equitable solution. Woodridge residents deserve the same programming (including live events) as will be broadcast in Downers Grove.

Wendy Filip, Woodridge