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Teens Takeover Golf Mill This Weekend

By TOM ROBB Journal & Topics Reporter

Some teens would spend all night at Golf Mill if they were allowed. This weekend about 75 of them will do just that.

Sunday night teens will arrive at 9:30 p.m. for the Niles Teen Center's third annual "Night in the Mall" lock-in event.

Teens will kick things off with two hours of dancing with tunes supplied by DJ Dennis O'Donovan, who also serves on the Niles Library Board, followed by a movie at midnight, relay races and game tournaments until 4 a.m. then two hours of free time until breakfast from 6 to 7 a.m.

One event during the night's festivities, the movie, is in question.

In past years teens would be treated to a first run feature film at Kerasotes Showplace Theater. Kerasotes recently sold the Niles theater to AMC theaters. Teen Center Director Mark Williams said he was still waiting to hear from AMC officials Monday afternoon but said the show would go on even if they had to screen a film in the mall's center court.

The other change at this year's event is registration. In past years teens would sign up for the event but pay when they arrived. Last year there were 100 on the list with an additional 40 on a second waiting list. The night of the event only 85 teens actually showed up. By collecting the registration fee in advance Williams said he would be much surer of the count.

Niles businesses have stepped up to donate to this year's event. Food will be flowing all night long with donations from Jersey Mike's subs, Taco Bell, McDonald's, and Coke-a-Cola.

Teens will leave the event with goodie bags filled with T-shirts donated by Golf Mill, gift cards and coupons for Subway, Foot Locker, Sarku Japan, Baker's Square, Mrs. Field's and even duffel bags from the U.S. Census.

A logo contest was held for the event. Maggie Grabowski who will start seventh grade at Emerson Middle School in September won the logo competition.