

The Neighborhood Files

TEENS SOUND OFF ON THEIR LIKES, DISLIKES

Kids at Teen Center interview each other when Patch.com comes to visit.

By Pam DeFiglio | January, 23, 2011



Makeda Smellie, right, takes notes as Eder Hernandez talks. Credit Pam DeFiglio

Kids at the Niles Teen Center, located in Golf Mill Shopping Center, play air hockey, shoot bumper pool, dance to Dance Dance Revolution, battle over board games, and of course do homework.

On Thursday, though, they took a break when Niles Patch came to visit.

After talking about how online journalism combines the best of print journalism (in-depth reporting and analysis) and broadcast journalism (immediacy to report breaking news and the capability to use video) into a whole new news animal, Niles Patch put the kids to work.

They paired off, with one kid in each pair playing reporter and one serving as the source. They didn't uncover any vast corruption schemes, but they did explore the topic of how teens feel about Golf Mill Shopping Center. And since teens represent an important part of the consumer base, that's a good thing to know.



Though real reporters don't usually lay on couches while working, Dennis Narsso takes advantage of the Teen Center's comfortable furnishings while interviewing Lavan Rosseau. Credit Pam DeFiglio

Liking candy and sport games

By Sebastian Mihulet

I interviewed Eddie Martinez, who is in sixth grade at Viola Nelson School. I asked him about how expensive the food court is and he said, "It's not that expensive and the food is good so it's worth it."

I also asked him how the movie theater is and he said, "The movie theater is fun and has a lot of good candy and I can hang out with my friends."

I also asked him how he liked Golf Mill Mall and he said, "I like it because it's not too crowded." I asked him what kinds of games he likes and he said, "I like a lot of killing and sport games." I lastly asked him how he likes the whole idea of the (Niles) Teen Center and he said, "I like the whole idea of the Teen Center and I also like to hang out with my friends."



Sebastian Mihulet, left, interviews Eddie Martinez. Credit Pam DeFiglio



Dejaney Hinds, right, plies Amber Price with questions about favorite stores, stars and movies. Credit Pam DeFiglio

Beyonce, Chris Brown Fan Likes Golf Mill, Too

By Dejaney Hinds

One thing that Amber Price likes about Golf Mill Mall is that it's not crowded. Some of her favorite stores are 5 7 9, Claire's, Bath and Body Works, Gloria Jean's Coffee, and Game Stop. Her least favorites are Snack Shack, Chocolate Factory and Sears. Her birthday is Sept. 10.

Amber attends Chippewa Middle School. She is in sixth grade.

Red is her favorite color. She doesn't like to read that much because reading makes her eyes hurt. Vernon Hills is Amber's favorite mall. Amber's favorite female artist is Beyonce and her favorite male artist is Chris Brown.

Another thing that Amber likes about Golf Mill is the Teen Center because it's a fun place to come to after school. There's a lot of things to do like play games, hang out and watch movies. Her favorite movie is "Takers" because it has really good characters in it such as T.I. and Chris Brown.

Sixth grader likes action movies, Taco Bell

by Makeda Smellie

Eder Hernandez is 12 years old. He was born in Las Vegas. He lives in Des Plaines and is in sixth grade at Stevenson School. He likes that Golf Mill Mall is big and spacious.

"What I like about Golf Mill Mall is that I get to hang out with my friends. I am a member of the Niles Teen Center," he said.

At Golf Mill he likes to be social with people so he has a lot of friends. He doesn't like every store, but he likes to eat Taco Bell. He likes the song "Satisfaction" by Benny Benassi. His favorite movie is "Tron: Legacy." He likes the action in it.

About Golf Mill, Eder says, "I like this place, it's like my second home!"



Eder Hernandez. Credit Makeda Smellie



Lavan Rousseau Credit Dennis Narssio

Eighth-grader likes food court, games, snacks

By Dennis Narssio

Lavan Rousseau is 14 years old and in eighth grade at Gemini Junior High School. Lavan attends Golf Mill Mall every weekday. Some of his favorite things are going to the (Niles) Teen Center, eating food from Taco Bell, Panda Express and McDonald's. Lavan also likes being able to access games at Game Stop. He also enjoys going to the movies with his friends. Lavan said he likes to go to Target because of the many things they sell. The final thing Lavan said that he enjoys at Golf Mill Mall is the Snack Shack.

Lavan also described some things that he doesn't like about Golf Mill Mall. Lavan dislikes that sometimes it gets boring at the mall. He also dislikes that it gets expensive sometimes. Some of the expensive things that Lavan described were movies and foods. Finally, when he was asked what his favorite recent movie was, he said "The Green Hornet" because it's funny and has good actors such as Seth Rogan.

Something To Think About

by Ryan Dolan



Ryan Dolan, right, questions Mark Toledano. Credit Pam DeFiglio

Today I interviewed Mark Toledano. He gave me something to think about. What he likes about Golf Mill Mall is the food court. He thinks that the choice of restaurants is great, but he still has a favorite. It's Panda Express. He likes the choices of orange chicken, kobari beef and steamed broccoli. The movie theater there has a good choice of selections and the newest movies. There are a lot of theaters and there are a lot of movies.

"My favorite is 'True Grit.' It has action, adventure and suspense," Mark said.

One of the other things he does at Golf Mill Mall is go to the (Niles) Teen Center. He thinks it's a great place.

The thing he doesn't like is the parking lots. He said drivers don't always look around for pedestrians and other drivers. He also feels the movie theater concessions can be expensive. He also thinks the workers could smile more and be more helpful. I've had experiences like that myself.