

Focus on Niles Newsletter



Fall 2009 Issue

A MESSAGE FROM Mayor Robert M. Callero

Pardon our dust – we are almost done! We are going from potholes to new smooth surfaces on our main arteries, but not without pain of delays in traffic. If you haven't noticed, the following Niles roads are either newly surfaced or about complete: Touhy Ave. from Northwest Hwy. to Central Ave; Oakton St. from Greenwood Ave. to Caldwell Ave.; Dempster St. from Grace Ave. to Waukegan Rd.; and parts of Harlem Ave. and Greenwood Ave. The work on Milwaukee Ave. south of Touhy is in full swing and will last into November. We have worked very closely with the Illinois Department of Transportation to receive federal stimulus funds for these projects. As much as we will enjoy these projects upon completion, it is very important not to forget our Niles merchants on these streets. Please make an effort to visit these and other Niles merchants during and after the construction period.

Since my last letter, many things have happened. On August 3rd, a gasoline tanker trunk overturned at Harlem and Oakton, causing a gas spill. The Niles Fire Department handled

the emergency in an admirable fashion, with the assistance of the Niles Police Department, Niles Public Works, and Fire Departments from the surrounding communities. We all should be very proud of our Niles employees.

Our July 4th parade and celebration in conjunction with the Niles Park District was a huge success. We also celebrated our 10-year anniversary with one of our Sister Cities, Leixlip, Ireland, and you may have seen their contingent in the parade. The Stormwater Commission has continued their work on our flooding problem and will present a report very shortly. The Ethics Committee is moving ahead with their work as are the Environmental, Building and Zoning, Landscape Beautification and other committees.

As we head into Fall, please help keep the falling leaves from clogging the sewer openings. Also, please help our Niles merchants by shopping in Niles.

Mayor Bob

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Don't Let Road Construction Stop You From Shopping Locally

- Keep Dollars in the Local Economy
- Create Jobs and Wages
- Ensure Community Well-Being
- Save on Fuel Costs
- Support the Business Community



When you shop at local
businesses, you support
community services,
police, fire, recreation,
jobs and growth!

News from the Stormwater Commission

The Stormwater Commission will be providing an overview of the Stormwater Report to the Village Board of Trustees at a Pre-Board meeting on **Tuesday, September 22, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.**

The full report will be available on the Village website at www.vniles.com the following day.



All Niles Residents,

Please remember when parking your vehicle, DO NOT park it in any way which blocks the sidewalk for pedestrians. In addition, if you own a home with a driveway, you may not park your vehicle upon the apron of the driveway which is the part of the driveway that covers the parkway. Both of these are violations of village ordinances. Please be courteous to your neighbors so that they do not have to walk around your vehicle when it is blocking the sidewalk. Remember, some of our residents may be elderly or handicapped while others may be walking with children in strollers. Children may also be walking by themselves or on bicycles. Forcing them around your vehicle into the street or off the sidewalk endangers them and could cause a traffic accident with injury or loss of life.



If your vehicle is parked in any manner that impedes pedestrian traffic, it may be ticketed. The Niles Police Department will be looking for violations and will be issuing warnings to first time violators of this ordinance for a short period of time as part of an educational awareness plan. After that, the violator will be issued a parking ticket that carries a fine of \$50.00. Always try to be considerate when parking your vehicle. This will help contribute to the safety of all Niles residents and the quality of life in the Village of Niles.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please e-mail them to police@vniles.com or call the Police Department at 847-588-6500. You can also go to the Village of Niles website at www.vniles.com and access the Village of Niles Ordinances. The specific ordinance that prohibits parking on sidewalks is 98-157 (10) and parking on the parkway is 98-157 (19).

As always, the Niles Police Department is committed to quality public and traffic safety.

Environmental Poster Contest

Do you reduce, reuse, and/or recycle in your home and are you a student from K to 8th grade? Then this poster contest is for you!



The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners of the poster contest will be awarded U.S. Savings Bonds.

To learn more about the poster contest or to get an entry form, call 847-588-8006 or check with your school.

Environmental Fair

Mark your calendars! Save the date!



The Niles Environmental Committee is planning to host an Environmental Fair on Saturday, October 17, 2009.

- What:** Environmental Fair
Where: St. John Brebeuf
 8301 N. Harlem Avenue in Niles.
When: Saturday, October 17, 2009
Who: Niles residents

Village Phone Numbers

| | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Emergency | 911 |
| Information Line | 847-588-8411 |
| Administrative Offices | 847-588-8000 |
| TDD | 847-588-8059 |
| Finance Department | 847-588-8000 |
| Community Development | 847-588-8040 |
| Fire Department | 847-588-6800 |
| Police Department | 847-588-6500 |
| Consumer Fraud | 847-588-6524 |
| Public Services | 847-588-7900 |
| Human Services | 847-588-8460 |
| TDD | 847-588-8440 |
| Senior Center | 847-588-8420 |
| TDD | 847-588-8487 |
| Family Fitness Center | 847-588-8400 |
| TDD | 847-588-8433 |
| Free Bus System | 847-588-7960 |
| Niles Teen Center | 847-375-8949 |

News from the Niles Teen Center

373 Golf Mill Center

www.NilesTeenCenter.org



The Niles Teen Center is a Village of Niles program that provides a welcoming, structured and safe environment for local teens to play games, spend time with friends, receive homework assistance and socialize. The Teen Center promotes community service opportunities, special activities, trips and educational programs.

The Niles Teen Center welcomes any teens (regardless of location of residence) to join as a member and participate in the programs. We are located at Golf Mill Mall, just inside entrance 6. The annual membership is \$5 if you live in Niles or attend a Niles school and \$20 for all others. Our Fall hours are Tuesday through Friday from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Fall programs include: "Back to School" Dance, the 8th Annual Haunted Garage, movie nights, and a trip to Great America for "Fright Fest".

For more information about the Teen Center and their programs, please visit the Teen Center on the web at www.NilesTeenCenter.org.

COME CELEBRATE WITH US!

The Niles Teen Center has expanded their facility and updated their equipment. Come out for a grand re-opening event on Saturday, November 14 at 11:00 a.m.

This is an opportunity for the community to meet the staff and see the new facility including an expanded computer lab, study room, TV lounge, library area and game room.



Sign Up for the Village of Niles e-Niles

The Village now offers a free e-mail service, called e-Niles, to anyone interested in receiving up-to-date announcements about Village services, activities and events. You may change your subscription or unsubscribe at any time. Click the e-Niles logo on the Village of Niles home page (www.vniles.com) to get started.



Enter your email address

Welcome to e-Niles

Bringing Niles to You.

To customize your messages from e-Niles or to manage your current e-Niles topics, please enter your email address in the box below and click the Submit button.

Select your topic(s) (Focus on Niles Newsletter, General Village News & Events, Road Construction Update, and/or Upcoming Public Meetings)

New e-Niles Subscriber

- Focus on Niles Newsletter**
The Village's Quarterly Newsletter
- General Village News and Events**
A Weekly Email of the Latest Village News and Community Events
- Road Construction Updates**
Alerts About Road Construction in and Around the Vicinity of Niles
- Upcoming Public Meetings**
Notice of Village Meetings Open to the Public

Start receiving your emails



NILES LEANING TOWER CELEBRATES 75 YEARS



The Village of Niles and the Leaning Tower YMCA are hosting an event celebrating 75 years of the construction of the Niles Leaning Tower. Join us for a fun filled day at the Leaning Tower Plaza. The event will include entertainment by Enzo Incandela, activities for children of all ages, variety of food from our local restaurants for a nominal fee, and a tour of the Leaning Tower YMCA.

Come out and celebrate with us!

Saturday, September 26, 2009

11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Leaning Tower Plaza, 6300 W. Touhy Avenue

Don't forget your lawn chairs

Detailed information will be available on our Village website (www.vniles.com) in the coming weeks.

Robert Ilg, a Niles resident, began construction on the Tower in 1931 and was completed in 1934. The tower is half the size of the original in Pisa: 94 feet tall, 28 feet in diameter; leaning 7.4 feet. Arrangements were made to turn over the tower to the Niles YMCA, which occupied the property in the early 1960s. In 1995, after leasing the area and tower from the YMCA, the Village of Niles began a renovation project to include a plaza built around the tower.

International Taste of Niles for the Benefit of Sister Cities

At the
White Eagle Banquets
6839 Milwaukee Ave., Niles

Date: Sunday, November 22, 2009
Time: 1:00 p.m. till 5:00 p.m.

The Niles Sister Cities Association invites you to a Food and Cultural Festival. A tasting of food will be provided by our finest local restaurants.

Other activities include: live ethnic music, children's games, a silent auction to start your holiday shopping, a cash bar, and don't forget - food a plenty!



Admission (includes tasting of food):

Purchased before November 15th

\$13 per person; \$5 children (3 to 12 years)

Purchased at the Door

\$15 per person; \$5 children (3 to 12 years)

For more information, call the International Taste of Niles Information Line at 847-588-8449 or visit the Village of Niles website at www.vniles.com.

All proceeds will fund our programs for Sister Cities fostering peace & harmony among people!

Senior Center Week

September 7 - 13, 2009



As a new generation looks to redefine retirement, the Niles Senior Center is evolving to reflect a more empowered vision of aging. We're looking to connect older adults with more meaningful volunteer opportunities, entertaining programs, health news and updates, and increase access to valuable benefits and resources. We offer tools to manage health and finances, as well as creative, educational, and technological opportunities to retain cognitive power, socialize and keep active.

Seniors, their families, friends, and members of the community are invited to visit the Niles Senior Center and learn more about the many programs and services we offer.



So, Your Child is Returning to School!

As the school year begins, there are just a few things for parents to be aware of regarding their children returning to school:

1. Your child has just spent an entire summer not thinking about school; give them some time to readjust to school.
2. From the first day of school, start having daily noncritical discussions about what their day was like.
3. When asking your child about school, be specific i.e., how was the bus? How was your math class?
4. Starting with the beginning of school, get used to contacting your child's teachers every other week. Teachers have lots of children to concern themselves with. You have one! It is easier for you to call and the teacher will appreciate it.
5. Learn to appreciate how difficult it is sometimes for your child to go to school. The peer pressure is enormous!
6. Try to encourage learning vs. production. Your child does not have to worry if you will be angry over grades, they will be able to focus on learning and the grades will follow.
7. Lastly, remember, the school year lasts until late spring. This is a long race not a sprint. Children have all year to improve. Encourage vs. anger.

If you should need any assistance with your child, please contact Niles Family Services at 847-588-8460.

Niles Senior Center Variety Show



Due to popular demand the show has been extended. There will be two evenings of songs, music, dance and comedy. Register to see the "opening night" performance, the "encore", or both. Please join us as some of the community's most talented seniors gather to present a fun evening for all!

When: Wednesday, September 23rd and Thursday, September 24th

Time: 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Cost: \$3.00 each night or \$4.00 the day of the show

Please register in advance at the Niles Senior Center at 999 Civic Center Drive or call 847-588-8420.

2009 Pet Parade

The 8th Annual Niles Senior Center Pet Parade is scheduled for Monday, October 12th at 1:00 p.m. All Niles pets, whether large or small, furry, feathered, four footed (or three), costumed pets and their adoring humans will take center stage to thrill animal lovers of all ages.



Prizes will be awarded for best costume, pet and owner look-a-like, biggest, smallest, loudest, best-behaved and much more. A hot diggity dog lunch will be available from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for \$2.00.

Pet registration is required. The cost of the event is a gallon of bleach, paper towels, clean, used or new towels or pet toys - all of which will be donated to WrightWay Rescue, Niles' new No Kill State Licensed Adoption Center. For more information contact the Niles Senior Center at 847-588-8420.

Credit and Debit Card Fraud

With the proliferation and use of credit and debit cards throughout the business community and with the recent downturn of our national economy, the Niles Police Department has several crime prevention tips to prevent potential card fraud.



There are several measures you can take to help prevent credit and debit card fraud.

- Sign the new or replacement card as soon as you activate it.
- Store your new card safely and destroy old cards.
- If at all possible, observe your card during transactions and make sure you get it back.
- Save all your receipts and compare them with the charges on your statement.
- Review your monthly statements and report any unusual activity.
- Immediately report a stolen or lost card at once.
- Use ATMs owned by reputable financial institutions.
- When entering your personal identification number (PIN) try to shield this information as best as possible.
- Never lend your card to someone else.
- Never write your PIN down where it could be exposed to others.
- Never sign blank receipts.
- Never give your account or card number over the phone unless you know the company is reputable.
- Remember, no legitimate company or financial institutions will ever ask you for your PIN number.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Crime Prevention Unit of the Niles Police Department at 847-588-6500.

FALL FIRE SAFETY TIPS

Time Change Means Battery Change

Get in the habit of changing the batteries in your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors every fall and spring when changing clocks for Daylight Savings Time.



Fall Back! Remember to change your clocks on November 1st.

Home Heating Tips

- Get your central heating system cleaned, inspected and serviced by a certified HVAC (heating, venting and air conditioning) contractor every year before using it.
- If you have a gas heater, make sure that you have a sufficient quantity of fully functioning carbon monoxide detectors installed in your home.

Space Heater Safety Tips

- Make sure that space heaters are surrounded by at least three feet of empty space.
- Never place clothing or any other objects on a space heater to dry.
- Do not place space heaters near furniture or drapery.
- Turn space heaters off when you leave the house or go to bed.
- Avoid storing any combustible items near heaters.



Fireplace Safety Tips

- Get your chimney inspected each year to make sure that it is safe.
- Hire a chimney sweep to clean out your chimney every fall.
- Repair any cracks in fireplaces.
- Use fireplace screens to keep sparks and fire debris inside the fireplace.
- Never use gasoline to start a fire in the fireplace.
- Never leave a fire unattended.
- Make sure that combustible materials are not stored within three feet of your fireplace.
- For natural gas fireplaces, get all connections and lines inspected before use each session.
- Remember that outdoor fireplaces can be just as dangerous as indoor units, and observe all safety precautions when using them.

If you have any questions about these or any other fire safety issues, please call the Niles Fire Department at 847-588-6800.

FREE LEAF COLLECTION

October
through
November

The Village of Niles will again offer free leaf pickup service this year to residents. The leaf pickup programs runs from mid-October through late November, and is provided to residents every other week according to the following schedule.

For residents living **EAST OF MILWAUKEE AVENUE**, pickup begins on the following Mondays and continues through that week. Residents should place their leaves in the curb on the appropriate Monday for pickup during the week. Leaf pickup begins on the following dates: October 5th, October 19th, November 2nd, and November 16th.

For residents living **WEST OF MILWAUKEE AVENUE**, pickup begins on the alternate Mondays

and continues through that week. Residents should place their leaves in the curb on the appropriate Monday for pickup during the week. Leaf pickup begins on the following dates: October 12th, October 26th, November 9th, and November 23rd.

PLEASE KEEP IN MIND

- Loose leaves should be raked into the curb by Monday of the pickup week and be free of foreign materials such as grass, branches, plants and rocks.
- Leaves will not be collected if they are placed in plastic bags or boxes. All leaves must be loose.
- Leaves placed for pickup on the appropriate Monday morning will be picked up during that week, not necessarily that Monday.
- To provide the leaf collection equipment better access to the streets, residents are encouraged to park vehicles in garages or driveways.
- Residents choosing to bag their leaves may purchase yard waste stickers (\$2.00 each), and place the sticker on the paper yard waste bag or a 35-gallon garbage can used for disposal

and place for collection on their regular garbage pickup day.

Remember, leaves placed for pickup on the appropriate Monday morning will be picked up during that week, not necessarily that Monday. Please contact the Public Services Department at (847) 588-7900 should you have any questions regarding this service.



Wood chips generated by the free branch collection program are available to residents, and can be picked up behind the Public Services Department main garage.

The pick-up area is located at the east end of the employee parking lot, and can be entered off of Franks Avenue seven days a week.

The Village of Niles and the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) are proud to offer Niles residents a safe and clean way to dispose of latex paint.

LATEX PAINT RECYCLING

The Niles Public Services Department is accepting leftover latex paint at 6849 Touhy Avenue the first Wednesday of each month. ONLY latex paint will be accepted (no oil-based paint).

Drop off hours:
First Wednesday of each month
4:00 pm - 8:00 pm



The collection program will only be available during this time and is only for latex paint. Oil-based paint or unlabeled paint will be refused.

Collection is open to Village of Niles and Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) member residents only.

Village of Niles
1000 Civic Center Drive
Niles, Illinois 60714

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Terms and Conditions Apply

Offer Expires: September 30, 2009
