

Focus on Niles

June - August 2010

Village of Niles, Illinois

www.vniles.com

A Message From Mayor Robert M. Callero

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As I mentioned one year ago, in my first message as Mayor of Niles, the economy is our number one challenge. A weak economy brings lesser receipts for businesses, lower sales tax receipts for our budget, more citizens out of work and less money to meet daily needs. We have all had to make some hard decisions, and more will have to be made before the economy recovers, but we can see a light at the end of the economic tunnel. The Niles Board of Trustees and I have one goal - to retain as many Village services for you with as few fee increases as possible. We are all working together to accomplish this goal.

We are moving forward on a number of new and on-going issues. A Dine-In-Niles discount program (see page 2) has been established to benefit both our residents and our businesses. Our Stormwater Commission has finished with the digital mapping of the Village sewer system and now moves into phase two with the hiring of an outside engineering firm to report suggested solutions for other more complex problems (see page 7). The Ethics Committee and the Citizens Compliance Plan Committee have met continuously for a year and will soon present its recommendations to the Board of Trustees for revisions to the Ethics Code. The Environmental Committee conducted the first Village Arbor Day ceremony at the Niles Community Rain Garden (see page 2), and the Building and Zoning Committee is

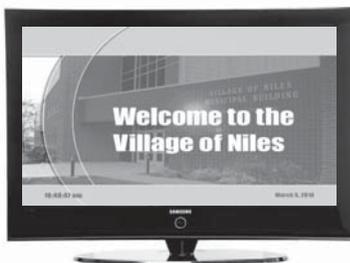
pursuing the development of a Village-wide comprehensive plan that will create a road map for the Village's future.

The Milwaukee Avenue Redevelopment Program should have its first phase finished by July 1. This first phase was a combination of road reconstruction from Albion to Neva and beautification at the intersection of Milwaukee and Touhy. The Village received additional state and federal grant funds to continue with beautification, which is less intrusive to business and traffic, at the intersection of Milwaukee and Oakton in 2011. In addition, PACE is initiating a study to improve transit and traffic along Milwaukee Avenue (see page 4).

The Village also benefited greatly from infrastructure and other types of grants over the past year totalling over \$2.5 million. These were priority road projects that no longer need to be budgeted using Village funds, thus allowing our funds to be used for Village services. In addition to direct grants to the Village, the state and federal government spent millions to reconstruct a number of state and county roads within the Village of Niles that were in disrepair. A great thing for all of us and our local economy.

Enjoy the summer!

Robert M. Callero



INTRODUCING

**Village of Niles
Comcast Cable Channel 6**

**Your location for
community information**

FOURTH OF JULY PARADE

**Sunday, July 4th
9:00 a.m. Kick-Off**



Dine-In Niles Affordable Reason to Dine

In May, Niles residents received information and a 10% discount card to the Village's exciting new program called Dine In Niles.

This program allows residents to use a discount card at over 40 ethnically diverse restaurants ranging from fast food to fine dining.

"The Dine In Niles program will help both Niles residents and our local eateries in these hard economic times", said Mayor Robert M. Callero. The program is designed to encourage residents to dine at our local restaurants first. The 10% discount is an incentive to explore those restaurants that you may not yet have visited. The unique feature of this program is that the discount is valid for one full year!

Residents are encouraged to check the Village's website at www.vniles.com to receive an up-to-date participating restaurant listing. The logo displayed above is on our home page and is a quick link to that listing. If you have any questions, you may call our Business Coordinator, Denise McCreery, at 847-588-8063.

PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS

<i>Al's Beef</i>	<i>Himalayan Restaurant</i>
<i>Amici Restaurant</i>	<i>Lone Tree Manor</i>
<i>Arby's</i>	<i>Los Comales Mexican Rest.</i>
<i>A's Bar Inc.</i>	<i>Mango Restaurant</i>
<i>Auntie Anne's Pretzels</i>	<i>Morrison Roadhouse</i>
<i>Barnaby's Pizza</i>	<i>Mrs. Fields</i>
<i>Bombay Chat</i>	<i>Mykonos Restaurant</i>
<i>Celebration Ice Cream</i>	<i>Nancy's Pizza</i>
<i>Chamber Seafood Grille</i>	<i>Niles Grill & Diner</i>
<i>Chasers Bar & Grill</i>	<i>Ozzie's Sports Bar & Grill</i>
<i>Cheogajip Pizza & Chicken</i>	<i>Panda Express</i>
<i>Chinese Inn</i>	<i>Riggio's Restaurant</i>
<i>Cid's Ma Mon Luk</i>	<i>Sar'ku Japan</i>
<i>Cinnabon</i>	<i>Sbarro</i>
<i>Dear Franks</i>	<i>Shabu House</i>
<i>Dunkin' Donuts</i>	<i>Baskin Robbin'/Dunkin' Deli</i>
<i>Ebony Lounge</i>	<i>Siam's House Restaurant</i>
<i>Fluky's</i>	<i>Subway</i>
<i>Golf Mill Cafe'</i>	<i>Taco Burrito King</i>
<i>Golf Mill Chocolate Factory</i>	<i>The Great Steak & Potato Co.</i>
<i>Gourmet Cajun & Grill</i>	<i>The White Eagle Restaurant</i>
<i>Graziano's</i>	<i>Tic Toc Grill</i>

Notice of Retirement Firefighter Paramedic Steve Zook

After 7 years of service, Steve Zook retired from the Niles Fire Department. Although his time with the department was abbreviated, he was skilled as both a firefighter and a paramedic.

Steve received a Distinguished Service Award for his efforts assisting with the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and a Unit Performance Award for saving the life of a small child with an airway obstruction.



Retiring Firefighter Paramedic Steve Zook is pictured (from left to right) with Fire Chief Barry Mueller, Mayor Bob Callero, and Trustee Jim Hynes.

2010 Arbor Day Ceremony At Niles Community Rain Garden



Mayor Bob Callero joins Trustee Louella Preston, Trustee Chris Hanusiak, Park Commissioner Bill Terpinas, scouts from Saint Juliana School, and representatives from Coca-Cola, the Niles Lions Club, Groot Industries and Chris's Landscaping

Thanks to the efforts of the Niles Environmental Committee, the Village held its first Arbor Day ceremony on April 30th. Mayor Callero, Trustee Preston, Trustee Hanusiak and Village Manager George Van Geem were in attendance along with several

staff, Niles Lions Club members, Saint Juliana School Scouts, and many past sponsors. Thirteen Coca-Cola employees also contributed that day by planting over 550 native plants and weeding the site. To read more visit www.vniles.com.

Senior Center

999 Civic Center Drive

Membership Has Its Privileges by Director Kelly Mickle

Effective July 1, 2010, an annual membership at the Niles Senior Center will cost \$20. Annual membership for two members residing at the same address will cost \$30.

Residents, who choose not to purchase an annual membership, and non-residents, may register for programs five days prior to an event based on availability.

Membership Benefits

- Members will receive by mail, or e-mail, *the Naturally Active*, a bimonthly publication of the Niles Senior Center
- Member priority registration for all NSC events and activities
- Access to all facilities of the Niles Senior Center, including the card room, billiards room and front reception area with large screen TV

Teen Center

373 Golf Mill Center

Teens Gear Up for Summer by Director Mark Williams

The Niles Teen Center provides a welcoming, structured and safe environment for local teens to spend time with friends, receive homework assistance, and develop social skills. Also, the Teen Center promotes community service, special activities, trips and educational programs. The Niles Teen Center welcomes all teens to join as a member and participate in Teen Center programs.

Summer programs include movie nights, video game and sports tournaments, the Job Shadow Day, the "Night-In-The-Mall" Lock-In Party, participation in the 4th of July parade, a Zumba dance class, Wii

- Access to free movies and books from the Center library
- Access to our up-to-date computer lab with free internet access

We hope you will choose to become a member of the Niles Senior Center and look forward to seeing you soon.

2nd Annual Picture This Contest



Attention all shutterbugs. Get out your camera, be creative and start shooting. This contest will be judged by officials of the Village.

All photos must be taken within the Village limits but can be any subject matter (PG please). Your photos will be displayed and winners will be notified. Show off your Niles pride and start snapping!

For official rules and entry form, stop at the front desk or online at www.vniles.com.

Bowling with the Senior Center, trips to a Cubs game, bowling, horseback riding and a day at the beach.

For more information on the Niles Teen Center visit us on the web at www.NilesTeenCenter.org or stop by the Niles Teen Center at Golf Mill Shopping Center.



Teens dance and let loose all night at the 2009 "Night-In-The-Mall" Lock-In Party.

Family Services

999 Civic Center Drive

Depression

What? Who? Treatment?

What Is Depression?

Depression is a common emotional disorder that affects the body and mind and can occur at almost any age. Depression is believed to be caused by a combination of biological and psychological factors. About 20% of all cases are caused by an actual physical problem. Many believe depression runs in families. Some specialists believe that depression is a reaction to loss, a form of grieving, or anger and aggression turned inward.

Who is At Risk?

No one really knows what triggers depression for some

and not for others. We do know there is a chemical balance that shifts for those experiencing depression. Those with family members who are or have been depressed are twice as likely as the average individual to become depressed. Abusers of drugs and alcohol are at an increased risk, as well as those who have a chronic illness.

Treatment:

It is important to consult with a mental health professional regarding treatment. There are many types of depression, and therefore the course of treatment can vary. This may include: therapy, exercise, support groups, herbal medicines, dietary supplements, acupuncture, phototherapy, and medication. If anti-depressants are required, your doctor will know which medication to prescribe by the symptoms you describe.

For further information or help, call the Niles Family Service Department at 588-8460.



Niles Courtesy Bus

“It takes you where you need to go”

First Quarter Courtesy Bus Ridership January 1, 2010 through March 31, 2010

Bus Route	Ridership
411 Regular	25,927
411 Reverse	27,673
412 North Special	19,238
413 South Special	5,879
TOTALS	78,717

Arterial Rapid Transit System Study A PACE Study for Milwaukee Avenue

The Village of Niles began the process of improving the Milwaukee Avenue Corridor in 2003 with a study funded by a \$100,000 Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) grant. The purpose of this initial RTA study was to “improve transit facilities and service along Milwaukee Avenue, within the context of an overall effort to improve the function and aesthetics of the Village’s main commercial corridor.”

This study was followed up in 2007 by an \$850,000 Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP) grant used to develop the Milwaukee Avenue Beautification Plan and subsequent grants were awarded in 2009 totaling over \$1.8 million to construct streetscape improvements at the intersections of Milwaukee/Touhy and Milwaukee/Oakton.

Because of these Corridor and Beautification Plans and the Village’s commitment to redeveloping the corridor, PACE is returning to Milwaukee Avenue to continue with their efforts to “improve transit facilities and service” with the introduction of an Arterial Rapid Transit (ART) system that will run from Jefferson Park Transit Center in Chicago to Golf Mill Mall in Niles.

One of the goals of the ART project is to improve bus travel time. Pace is planning to smooth traffic flow on Milwaukee Avenue by traffic signal coordination and the application of Transit Signal Priority. As part of this improvement, the Niles Courtesy Bus system will be considered for a modernization study to improve cost efficiencies, ridership and service.

Police Department 7000 Touhy Avenue



Texting While Driving by Joseph Penze

Does your teen brag about her “fantastic” texting skills without so much as a glance up from her key-pad? Does your son live to upload

cell phone pictures and videos to YouTube? As irritating as such proficiency can be for “old-school” parents, they can be more than just annoying.

On the road, these distractions can be deadly. One report estimates that teens are four times more likely than adult drivers to get into an accident related to cell phone use. Another found that texting was the most dangerous on the road.

Traffic crashes are the leading cause of teen fatalities, accounting for 38 percent of all teen deaths in the United States. Some of these accidents are caused by teens’ inexperience behind the wheel and drunken driving. Also of concern is the practice of texting while behind the wheel.

A new law in Illinois (Illinois Vehicle Code at 625 ILCS 5/12-610.2) prohibits texting while driving. The law went into effect

on January 1, 2010. The statute prohibits more than just texting, however. A driver cannot text, instant message, email, or surf the web while driving, with either a cell phone or a laptop computer.

The maximum fine for texting while driving is \$1,000.00 and it can result in a suspended license. The general rule is two moving violations in any two-year period will result in a suspended license for drivers who are younger than 21 years of age. For all motorists who are 21 years old or older, three moving violations in one year can result in the Secretary of State imposing a driver’s license suspension.



National Night Out 2010 Tuesday, August 3rd

National Night Out 2010 It will be held on Tuesday August 3, 2010 from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM. The location of this year’s event will be announced by the first week of July on www.vniles.com and it will be publicized around town.

The National Night Out is an annual event to promote police-community partnerships; crime, drug and violence prevention; safety; and neighborhood unity. This year, as in the past, we will be conducting police demonstrations, providing refreshments, entertainment, prizes, and other family fun activities. We will end the event with a flashlight walk to shine the light on crime. The theme this year is “Give criminals a going away party.”

Fire Department 8360 Dempster Street



Tornado Safety by Steve Borkowski

When/Where Tornadoes Occur

- Tornadoes can occur at any time of day, any day of the year.
- Have a plan of action; it may be too late to react when a warning is issued or a tornado is spotted.
- Seek out weather information when conditions are warm, humid, and windy, or skies are threatening.
- Monitor for severe weather watches and warnings using local television and radio.

Tornado Myths and Truths

1. **MYTH:** Lakes, rivers, and mountains protect areas from tornadoes.
TRUTH: No place is safe from tornadoes. A tornado near Yellowstone National Park left a path of destruction up and down a 10,000 foot mountain.

2. **MYTH:** A tornado causes buildings to “explode” as the tornado passes overhead.
TRUTH: Violent winds and debris slamming into buildings cause most structural damage.
3. **MYTH:** Open windows before a tornado approaches to equalize pressure and minimize damage.
TRUTH: Virtually all buildings leak! Leave the windows alone. The most important action is to immediately go to a safe shelter.
4. **MYTH:** If you see a tornado while driving, you should turn and drive at right angles to the storm.
TRUTH: You should immediately seek the best available shelter. Many people are injured or killed when they remain in their vehicles.
5. **MYTH:** Highway overpasses provide shelter from tornadoes
TRUTH: Take shelter in a sturdy reinforced building if at all possible. The funneling of wind through an overpass will actually increase the wind speed. Ditches, and culverts may provide limited protection from a tornado, but your risk will be greatly reduced by moving inside a strong building.

If you have any questions about this information or any fire or emergency related issues, please call the Niles Fire Department at 847-588-6800.

Public Services

6849 Touhy Avenue

Road Construction by Public Services Department

Work on the Milwaukee Avenue streetscape and re-surfacing project has restarted and Waukegan Road from Milwaukee Avenue to Dempster Street is being resurfaced. It is anticipated both projects will be completed by the end of June.

The roadways will remain open during construction of both projects, however, lane restrictions during various phases will impact traffic flow. Work will take place from approximately 7:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. weekdays, with some weekend work occurring on Waukegan Road.

Additionally, the following Village resurfacing projects are scheduled for completion later this summer:

- Monroe Street – Washington St. to Milwaukee Ave.
- Prospect Court – Prospect St. to Dead End
- Oak Lane – Prospect St. to Dead End
- Greendale Avenue – Prospect St. to Oakton Street

- Prospect Street – Greendale Ave. to Oakton St.
- Courtland Drive – Church Street to Lyons Street
- Alley between Riverside Drive and Days Terrace

All Village resurfacing projects this year, other than the Monroe Street project, are being funded by a \$630,000 award from the State of Illinois Emergency Repair Program.

Water Restrictions Federal Water Administration

To help conserve water, the Federal Water Administration and the Illinois Department of Transportation's Division of Water Resources requires municipalities to enact outdoor water sprinkling restrictions.

In Niles, all outside watering between the hours of 12:00 p.m. (noon) and 6:00 p.m. is prohibited on every day of the week from May 15th through September 15th.



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**



United States Census 2010 - Welcome Your Census Taker

Census takers have begun going door-to-door in the Village of Niles. These census takers are visiting each and every household that did not mail back their 2010 census forms and records the answers to the questions on the form.

- They will also verify that housing units indicated as "unoccupied" by the U.S. Postal Service or others are indeed vacant.
- The census taker will ONLY ask the questions that appear on the census form.
- If no one answers at a particular residence, a census

taker will visit a home up to three times and attempt to reach the household by phone three times.

By being counted you are standing up for what your community's needs are. That's why census takers are so important. A census taker is a person from your community who is hired by the Census Bureau to make sure that your neighborhood gets represented as accurately as possible. The census

taker's primary responsibility is to collect census information from residents who have not sent back their 2010 Census form.

Remaining Timeline for Census

June - July 2010 - Census takers visit households that did not return a questionnaire by mail

December 2010 - Census counts delivered to President

March 2011 - Census Bureau completes redistricting data to states

STORMWATER COMMISSION

Village Approves Stormwater Firm Hey & Associates Joins Commission

On May 25th, the Village Board approved an engineering services agreement for stormwater analysis and planning with Hey & Associates. Hey & Associates was recommended by the Stormwater Commission after a thorough selection process that began with 19 engineering firms responding to a request for proposal.

“A prime goal established by the 2009 Stormwater Commission Report was to employ an engineering services consulting firm to provide stormwater systems modeling, analysis, operation enhancements and a recommended capital improvement program,” stated Commission Chair, Trustee Joe Lo Verde. “This is a big leap forward for the community.”

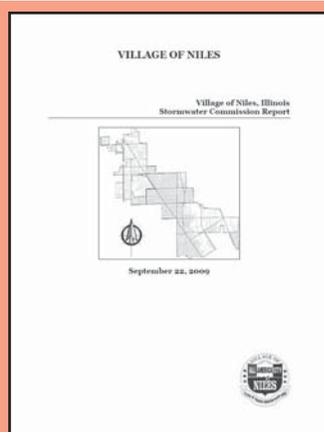
The Stormwater Commission has successfully moved forward with other established goals within the Stormwater Commission Report, such as the approval of six ordinance amendments designed to reduce the likelihood of a number of flooding issues

in the future, the development of stormwater education for homeowners, the continuation of the sewer rodding program, reestablishment of the slip-lining program, and a notable number of capital projects completed, and/or identified for implementation, to reduce stormwater runoff by the Niles Park District, Saint Adalbert Cemetery, Maryhill Cemetery, Park Ridge, and Cook County.

Hey & Associates will work directly with the Stormwater Commission over the next ten months to fulfill the following Scope of Services:

1. Review Data and Identify Data Needs
2. Conduct Sewer System Analysis and Modeling
3. Develop Prioritized Capital Improvement Plan
4. Prepare Stormwater Master Plan
5. Project Management and Meetings

As in the past, homeowners will be contacted throughout the process and invited to an open house to review engineering findings before a final Stormwater Master Plan is presented to the Village Board of Trustees.



Stormwater Report Find It On The Web

The Stormwater Commission Report of September 22, 2009 is available on the Village of Niles website at www.vniles.com under the “Quick Links” button for “Stormwater Commission.”

Under this link homeowners may follow along as the Commission provides progress updates, educational material, and important information distributed by other pertinent agencies.



Cook County Disaster Grant To Support September 2008 Flood Victims

Mold remediation is a key objective of this funding and through the CCDG application process a Cook County inspector will visit your home to assess the damage. Funding may also be used to cover some health related expenses due to the September 2008 flood, but cannot be used to reimburse individuals for previously incurred expenses.

This Cook County grant cannot be used to reimburse individuals for fixing their homes or for any expenses they incurred and paid for themselves, even if they have receipts. Call Cook County Hotline at 312-603-7600.

Village of Niles
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Niles, Illinois 60714

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CONCERTS IN THE PARK
Oak Park

Niles Park District & The Village of Niles sponsor FREE family concerts at Oak Park on Fridays in July and August from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. So, pack up the lawn chairs and bring the whole family to enjoy the summer sounds in the park. Please note that alcoholic beverages are not allowed on park grounds.

CONCERT SCHEDULE

<i>July 9th - Penny Carnival Night & The Sting Rays</i>	<i>July 30th - Party in the Park & The Associates</i>
<i>July 16th - Vehicle Adventure & The Juke Box Band</i>	<i>August 6th - The Cavern Beat</i>
<i>July 23rd - The White Saddle Band</i>	<i>August 13th - Soda</i>

**TURN YOUR FITNESS PLAN
UPSIDE DOWN**



**ONE MONTH FREE
&
FREE ENROLLMENT
WITH THE
PURCHASE OF
A NEW ANNUAL
ADULT MEMBERSHIP**

OFFER EXPIRES: JUNE 30, 2010

TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY