

Focus on Niles

Sep. - Nov. 2010

Village of Niles, Illinois

www.vniles.com

A Message From Mayor Robert M. Callero

Mayor

Robert M. Callero
mayor@vniles.com

Trustees

Chris Hanusiak
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James T. Hynes
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Joe LoVerde
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Louella B. Preston
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Andrew Przybylo
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Alan Weel
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Village Manager

George R. Van Geem
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Village Clerk

Marlene J. Victorine
mv@vniles.com

In this issue, you will find a survey on the back page regarding the Village Hall Plaza. Please vote on the survey sheet and return it to us as soon as possible. It will take less than a minute. Your opinions are important to us.

As usual, road work is in full swing in Niles and we are fortunate that it is being paid for almost entirely with federal, state and county funds. Even though the work sometimes goes slower than we would like, we do want it performed properly so that it lasts. Please do not forget our Niles merchants along the streets under construction by making an effort to shop in their stores now and after the construction is complete.

Our July Fourth Parade and celebration in conjunction with the Niles Park District was a huge success. The Stormwater Commission continues to work closely with our independent engineering firm. We expect,

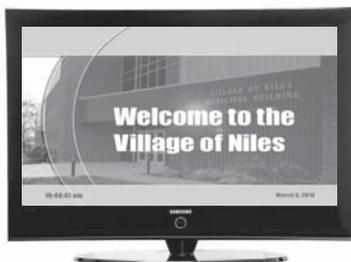
when the engineer's report is finished, we will have a major insight in to many of village-wide flooding problems, which will then be shared with the community at a public meeting. The Ethics Committee will be presenting their results in the near future. The Environmental, Building and Zoning, Landscape Beautification, and other Committees continue to handle a full work load.

As we move into fall, please help keep the fallen leaves from clogging the sewer openings and watch that you do not pour grease or other sewer clogging substances in the Village's sewer system. Also, please keep our Niles merchants busy by shopping in Niles and remember the restaurants discount program "Dine-In Niles" that continues until April 1, 2011.

Robert M. Callero



Mayor Robert Callero and the Niles Board of Trustees celebrated the Boy Scouts of America 100 Year Anniversary. Scouts and adult leaders attended from St. John Brebeuf Boy Scout Troop 175 and Cub Scout Pack 175 and St. Haralambos Boy Scout Troop 821 and Cub Scout Pack 821.



CABLE CHANNEL 6

**Your Location for
Community Information**

KNOW YOUR TRUSTEES



Louella Blaine Preston

Trustee Louella Blaine Preston and her husband John have been residents of Niles for 35 years and she has been a Village Trustee for 25 years. Before serving on the Village Board, she began her public service as a Commissioner of the Niles Park District in 1978 and was a Director of the Maine/Niles Association for Special Recreation. She was appointed as the first woman Commissioner of the Niles Plan Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals, where she served for 6 years.

Before being elected a Village Trustee, she was active in the Chicagoland area as a member of the Chicago Teachers' Union. Since 1978 she has been an active parishioner of Saint Isaac Jogues Parish and is currently representing the Deanery Council to Cardinal George's Archdiocesan Pastoral Council.

As Trustee, she co-chaired the Niles Centennial Committee from 1997-1999 with Trustee Bart Murphy. She currently serves as Chair of the Milwaukee Avenue Redevelopment Committee as well as the Landscape Beautification Committee that has as its objective the improvement of the visual image of all the Village of Niles property sites and rights of way. She also serves as a member of the Sister Cities Committee and the Environmental Committee.

In addition, Trustee Preston has been the Niles Representative to the Northwest Municipal Conference (NWMC) for 25 years and a founding Director of the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) since 1988. She currently serves as a member of the SWANCC Executive Committee. She protects and promotes the interests of the Village of Niles to the 47 suburban members of the NWMC and to the 22 suburban members of SWANCC.

After graduating from the University of Illinois Chicago, Trustee Preston pursued an educational career in the Chicago Public Schools for 35 years, including a position as Principal. She furthered her education and earned a Masters, Doctorate and Law Degree. She was admitted to the Illinois Bar in 1989.

In 2001, Trustee Preston was awarded the Illinois Woman of Achievement Award for positively impacting the Village of Niles community through her personal and professional achievements. Trustee Preston earned a National League of Cities Leadership Training Institute Bronze Certificate as a Leadership Fellow in March 2008 which is recognition for her leadership qualities.

Trustee Preston considers it a privilege to serve the residents and business community of Niles. Trustee Preston welcomes your opinions so that she can improve her ability to help and lead Niles to an even brighter 21st century.



Andrew Przybylo

Trustee Andrew Przybylo is a 29 year resident who graduated from Loyola University of Chicago to later become part owner of the White Eagle Banquets and Restaurant in Niles.

Before serving on the Village Board, Andrew served on the Plan Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals from 1987 to 1989. He has also been involved in a variety of initiatives including serving as President of the Polish Welfare Association, a Delegate to the Democratic Party Convention and a member of the Board of Directors of First State Bank of Chicago.

Trustee Przybylo has been serving on the Village Board since 1989. During this time, he has been a member of several organizations including: Knights of Columbus, Niles Lions Club and Niles Sister Cities. He has also served as the Democratic Committeeman for Maine Township and a Commissioner for the Cook County Housing Authority. At the present time, he is Secretary to the Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals.

Currently, Trustee Przybylo serves as Chairman of the Building and Zoning Committee and Co-Chair of the GIS Steering Committee. At recent public meetings, Andrew displayed his enthusiasm for the next few years as the Village moves forward with a Comprehensive Land Use Study and Plan. "The Comprehensive Land Use Plan will establish what we Nilesites want our Village to be in 10 to 20 years," stated Andrew. "The plan will include everything from community beautification to maintaining a prosperous commercial base, which helps to keep household property taxes low."

Also cause for Trustee Przybylo's enthusiasm is the ongoing Village-wide comprehensive flood study. "For the first time that I remember, the Administration is taking seriously the negative impacts of stormwater on the community with a goal to have a long-term Stormwater Management Plan that will compliment future infrastructure enhancements within the Comprehensive Land Use Plan."

Lastly, Przybylo, a staunch supporter of the Niles Free Bus and its greater use by the public, believes public transit systems are key to a well planned community. Therefore, he is heartened by PACE Suburban Bus Service plans to construct the region's first Arterial Rapid Transit (ART) system along Milwaukee Avenue, which will be tied to a newly designed Free Bus system. "Niles is certain to become a transportation model for the rest of the country," stated Andrew.

Andrew is married to his wife, Amy, and they have two children: Adam and Kiki. He is a conservative and a social progressive. He is loyal to family and friends. It's important to him that when he gives his word he keeps it.

Village Clerk's Office

1000 Civic Center Drive

November 2nd, 2010 - Election News Governatorial General Election

Register to Vote by October 5 at Village Hall with two forms of identification, one must show your current address. To register you must be a U.S. Citizen, at least 18 years old by Election Day, and a resident of your precinct at least 30 days prior to an election. Mail in application registration form available online at www.cookcountyclerk.com/elections

Re-Register if you have moved or changed your name. **Early Voting** at designated locations begins October 12 through October 28. **Absentee Ballot Applications** available at Village Hall. Absentee voting by mail is a convenient way to cast your ballot if you are unable to get to your polling place on election day. Any registered suburban Cook County voter may apply for an absentee ballot. It is no longer necessary to provide a reason.

Check polling locations at www.cookcountyclerk.com/elections or by contacting the Village Clerk's office at (847) 588-8003.

Family Services

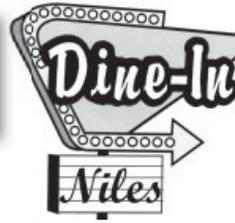
999 Civic Center Drive



Back To School Blues by Seth Knobel

Separation anxiety isn't just for kids. A lot of parents feel acutely nervous when their child begins school. You worry about your child's adjustment, or just miss spending time with them. There are ways you can alleviate your stress when your child flies the coop.

- Stay busy. Those two simple words are the key to surviving separation anxiety. Remember to fill your days, and don't allow yourself to mope around the house. Get moving!
- Get support from other parents. Get together regularly to have some child-free fun, or just to share how much you miss your kids. Lean on parents who will understand and empathize.
- Enjoy your time! Think about all the things you always wanted to do but couldn't, because of your parental responsibilities. Now's your chance!
- Never make your child feel guilty. It's very likely that your child will pick up on some of your nervousness, but try to maintain a positive attitude. Do your best to be enthusiastic and upbeat about your child's plans.
- Exchange tokens with your child. Give them something that you made, or a small memento that has meaning for you. Explain the significance of this gift to your child and ask them to give you a small memento, as well. This way, when you are separated, you both will have a souvenir for comfort.



Dine-In Niles Program Affordable Reason to Dine

This program allows residents to use a 10% discount card at almost 50 ethnically diverse restaurants.

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 ever visited. The discount is valid until April 30, 2011!

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 or need a replacement card, you may call our Business Coordinator, Denise McCreery, at (847) 588-8063.

PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS

<u>Al's Beef</u>	<u>Jersey Mike's</u>
<u>Amici Restaurant</u>	<u>Just Like Home</u>
<u>Quiznos Subs</u>	<u>Lone Tree Manor</u>
<u>A's Bar Inc.</u>	<u>Los Comales Mexican Rest.</u>
<u>Auntie Anne's Pretzels</u>	<u>Mango Restaurant</u>
<u>Barnaby's Pizza</u>	<u>Morrison Roadhouse</u>
<u>Bombay Chat</u>	<u>Mrs. Fields</u>
<u>Celebration Ice Cream</u>	<u>Mykonos Restaurant</u>
<u>Celli's Beef</u>	<u>Nancy's Pizza</u>
<u>Chamber Restaurant</u>	<u>Niles Grill & Diner</u>
<u>Chasers Bar & Grill</u>	<u>Ozzie's Sports Bar & Grill</u>
<u>Cheogajip Pizza & Chicken</u>	<u>Panda Express</u>
<u>Chinese Inn</u>	<u>Papa John's Pizza</u>
<u>Cid's Ma Mon Luk</u>	<u>Riggio's Restaurant</u>
<u>Cinnabon</u>	<u>Sarku Japan</u>
<u>Dear Franks</u>	<u>Sbarro</u>
<u>Dunkin Donuts</u>	<u>Shabu House</u>
<u>Ebony Lounge</u>	<u>Siam's House Restaurant</u>
<u>Fluky's</u>	<u>Subway</u>
<u>Golf Mill Cafe'</u>	<u>Taco Burrito King</u>
<u>Golf Mill Chocolate Factory</u>	<u>The Great Steak & Potato Co.</u>
<u>Gourmet Cajun & Grill</u>	<u>The White Eagle Restaurant</u>
<u>Graziano's</u>	<u>Tic Toc Grill</u>
<u>Himalayan Restaurant</u>	YOUR BUSINESS HERE

Senior Center

999 Civic Center Drive

Membership Has Its Privileges by Kelly Mickle

3rd Annual V-Show For Seniors. This year's Variety Show will include a matinee performance (2-5pm) on Wednesday, Sept. 22nd and an evening performance (5:30-8:30pm) on Thursday, Sept. 23rd. Members and non-members are welcome to attend this community event featuring some of our most talented seniors. Tickets are available at the Center.

Pet Parade. Come one, come all to the Niles Senior Center's 9th Annual Pet Parade Monday, October 11th at 1:00pm. Sign up to showcase your furry friend, and show them off like the prince or princess they really are. Prizes will be given for the furiest, biggest, human-pet look alike, most talkative, and more. If you don't have a furry companion or can't bring your pet in for the parade, come on in and watch the pets show off with pomp and style. We will serve our famous hot dog lunch for \$2.00 from 12:00pm – till we run out. The proceeds will benefit Wright Way Animal Shelter in Niles.

Tax-Aide Counselors Wanted. The Center is looking for volunteers to assist with tax preparation. We are only limited by the number of volunteers we have. Training is offered during the first full week of January. If interested, please contact MaryAnn at the Senior Center. Call us at (847) 588-8420

Teen Center

373 Golf Mill Center

Teens Gear Up For Fall by Mark Williams

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

Fall programs include the "Back to School" Dance, the 9th Annual Haunted Garage, movie nights, a trip to Great America for "Fright Fest", ghost stories, and craft classes.

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 Mall.

Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage. Are you considering enrolling in or changing your Medicare D plan? During the annual election period from November 15 through December 31, you can add, drop, or change your Part D coverage. If you currently have Medicare prescription coverage, you should review your coverage during this period. You might want to switch Medicare drug plans if another plan better meets your needs. This is the only time of the year that you can do this, unless you qualify for an exception. For more information contact the Senior Center.

Clinical Social Workers Available No Membership Required

At the Niles Senior Center, licensed clinical social workers are available to help residents and families better understand community supportive services and the social/financial programs that impact their well-being. Counseling services are available to individuals and families to assist with social and emotional concerns. Social Workers will often serve as advocates for older adults who may be vulnerable due to physical or emotional changes.

In addition to counseling and case management, our social workers facilitate a Caregiver Support group, an Effective Communication (hearing loss) group and a group for parents with adult disabled or vulnerable children. We offer resource guides to locate information on hiring help in the home as well as information on changes to future living arrangements. These services are available to Niles residents with or without membership at the Niles Senior Center. To find out more about these services, please contact Bev Wessels or Trudi Davis.

9th Annual Haunted Garage October 22nd -24th



Are you ready to be scared? The Niles Teen Center will be hosting the 9th Annual Haunted Garage at the Niles Park Districts' Tam Golf Course Garage (below the Howard Street Inn) at 6700 Howard Street on Friday, October 22 from 6:00 -9:00 p.m., Saturday October 23 from 6:00 -9:00 p.m. and Sunday, October 24 from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Bring your family and friends to experience the frightening creatures, thrills and chills of the Halloween Season. The Haunted Garage is designed, created and performed entirely by members of the Niles Teen Center. Admission is \$4.00 per person. For more information, please contact Mark Williams at the teen center office at (847) 375-8949 or on the office site cell phone at (847) 408-0585.

Police Department 7000 Touhy Avenue



Halloween Safety Tips by Thomas W. Davis

Halloween falls on a Sunday, October 31st and the Niles Police Department is asking parents to follow a few safety precautions before allowing your children to trick-or-treat.

- Give your child parameters. Set a curfew! There is really no reason to be out after 8:00 P.M.
- Give your child a cell phone to use in case of an emergency.
- Try to dress your children in bright, safe costumes. Do not allow a costume that may be clumsy or cause them to trip or fall. Use reflective material. Make sure they can see through any masks!
- Give your child some sort of glow stick or light that will be visible by drivers. Have them take a flashlight as well!
- Tell them to stay in the neighborhood and only go to homes that are well lit and look like they welcome trick-or-treaters.
- Tell them to never enter anyone's home that they are not familiar with and to notify you if they enter a home they are familiar with.
- Tell them to not take short cuts through private property or

unlit areas such as parks and forest preserves.

- Tell them to stay away from animals or pets as the animal may get frightened and attack because of the costume.
- Tell them to use extra caution when crossing streets and to cross only at legal crossings.
- Tell them not to eat any of the treats until you are able to go through it with them.

Keeping Wildlife Away From Your Home by Peter Babikan

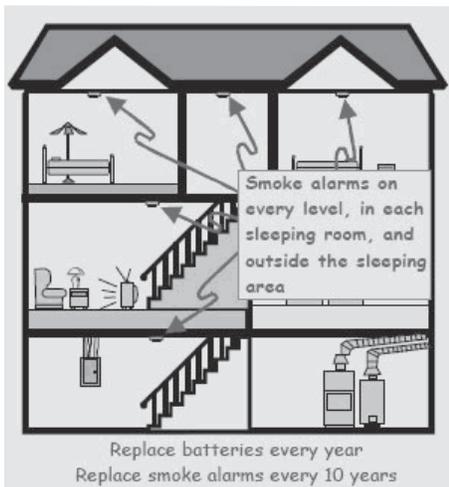
Anyone who owns a home has or will have some type of encounter with wildlife. When you live in an urban environment there is not much you can do to prevent it from happening. There are things, however, that you as a homeowner can do to not make your yard and/or your home so inviting to wildlife.

- Eliminate hiding spots such as wood piles, "junk" piles, overgrown shrubs or low bushes.
- Properly block off openings under sheds and decks to prevent animals from digging underneath.
- Trim back or remove trees or tall bushes that are within 6 feet of your roof.
- Check with local nurseries/garden centers for products that work on deterring animals. There are also homemade remedies that can work also.

If you want further information or other suggestions, contact Animal Control Officer Peter Babikan at (847) 588-6508.

Fire Department 8360 Dempster Street

Smoke Alarms Save Lives by Steve Borkowski



A smoke alarm is critical for the early detection of a fire in your home and could mean the difference between life and death. Fires can occur in a variety of ways and in any room of your home. But no matter where or how, having a smoke alarm is the first key step towards your family's safety.

Smoke alarms should be installed on every level of the home, outside sleeping areas, and inside bedrooms. When installing a smoke alarm, many factors influence where you will place it,

including how many are to be installed. Consider placing alarms along your escape path to assist in egress in limited visibility conditions. In general you should place alarms in the center of a ceiling or, if you place them on a wall, they should be 6 to 12 inches below the ceiling.

- Install a working smoke alarm on every level of the home, outside sleeping areas, and inside bedrooms.
- Replace smoke alarm batteries at least annually, such as when resetting clocks in the fall or spring.
- Test all smoke alarms in your house once a month.
- Do not place a smoke alarm too close to a kitchen appliance or fireplace, as this may result in nuisance alarms.
- Avoid locating alarms near bathrooms, heating appliances, windows, or ceiling fans.
- Replace smoke alarms that are more than 10 years old. Smoke alarms don't last forever.
- Develop and practice a fire escape plan, because working smoke alarms and a fire escape plan will increase your protection in case of a fire.

The Village of Niles requires all homes, in order to be sold, to have smoke detectors as outlined above. If you have any questions about smoke detectors or their placement or any other fire or emergency medical questions, please call the Niles Fire Department at (847) 588-6800.

*Kids Are Back At School
Now It Is Time For Me
At
The Niles Family Fitness Center*

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



OFFER EXPIRES SEPTEMBER 30, 2010
TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY
WWW.NILES.FITNESS.COM

847-588-8400



Refuse & Recycling Carts
Only \$27 A Year for Each

Do you find that a 35-gallon refuse can or 18-gallon red recycling bin is just not big enough for your garbage and recycling needs?

Through an agreement with Groot, residents may rent one or more "heavy-duty" 65-gallon refuse and/or recycling carts for only \$2.25 a month for each or \$27 a year. The refuse and recycling carts are specially designed for the hydraulic lifts on Groot Trucks.

FALL CLEAN-UP

Have That Old Junk Car Towed FREE

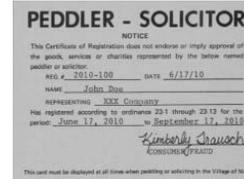
Do you want to avoid receiving tickets for unsightly vehicles? Do you need to have a junk towed?

The Village of Niles will provide FREE towing for residents as part of our Village Fall Clean-Up.

(Title or Bill of Sale Required)

To arrange for a tow, call Officer Terranova at 847-588-6539

Solicitation & Peddler Registration Required
Niles Residents Must Protect Themselves



Each individual who wants to go door to door and solicit in the Village of Niles is required to register with the Deputy Village Clerk's Office. This includes filling out an application provided by the

Village, a photo copy of his/her valid drivers license and a fee of \$100.00 required at the time of registration for a background check. Once a background check is completed, the Deputy Clerk will issue a permit card to the individual that is affixed with the Village of Niles Seal and that permit is valid for 3 months. Solicitors are not permitted to approach a resident's home before 9:00 am or after 7:00 pm.

Residents, if a solicitor comes to your door, please ask to see their permit card. If they do not have one, they are not permitted to be soliciting in the Village of Niles. Please contact the Niles Police Department if this occurs as soon as possible at (847) 588-6500. If you have any further questions or need more information please contact Deputy Clerk Kimberly Trausch at (847) 588-8008.

Public Services

6849 Touhy Avenue

Sewer Rodding Program To Help Reduce Sewer Backup



The following procedure should be followed if you experience a sewer back-up in your home:

1. Contact the Public Services Department at (847) 588-7900 and inform them of the sewer backup.
2. The Public Services Department will schedule an inspection of the main sanitary sewer line to determine if there is a blockage.

Fats, Oils and Grease Help Stop Sewer Backups

Pouring fats, oils and grease (FOG) down a sink can lead to sewer clogs, and the clogs can lead to wastewater backing up into homes. Pour the grease into a jar or soup can until cool then properly dispose of it in the trash.



**Stop the Grease!!
Stop the Clogs!!**

**Help Stop Sewer
Backups!!**

**Don't Pour Grease
Down Your Drain**

3. If no blockage has been identified on the main sanitary sewer line, the sewer backup is due to a blockage on the private sewer line that runs from the house to the main sewer line. A Public Services employee will inform the homeowner of the findings and provide a course of action.

Generally, rodding (cleaning) the sewer line from your home to the main sewer line will relieve the majority of sewer blockages. The Sewer Rodding Program will reimburse homeowners up to a maximum of \$100 once every three years. Blockages on either the main sewer line or the private sewer line from your home are caused by a number of reasons:

- **Common household waste, grease and foreign objects** can cause a partial or complete blockage;
- **Root invasion through cracks or joints** can cause blockage of the sewer line;
- **Pipe collapse** caused by settling of the sanitary sewer line or settling of the ground over the sewer service line can cause blockage;
- **Inflow & infiltration during severe rain events** can cause large amounts of water to choke the normal flow of the system. This occurs from illegal direct connections or cracks in the sewer line.



Niles Free Bus

“It takes you where you need to go”

Second Quarter Courtesy Bus Ridership April 1, 2010 through June 30, 2010

Bus Route	Ridership
411 Regular	27,692
411 Reverse	28,070
412 North Special	20,322
413 South Special	5,226
TOTALS	81,310

Village of Niles
1000 Civic Center Drive
Niles, Illinois 60714

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Chicago, Illinois 606

ECRWSS
POSTAL CUSTOMER

SPECIAL RESIDENT SURVEY



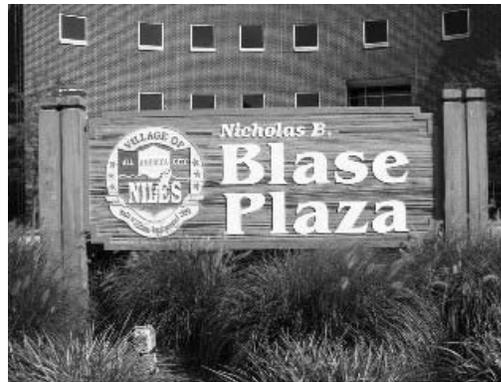
Village of Niles

"Where People Count"

1000 Civic Center Drive, Niles, Illinois 60714
Telephone (847) 588-8000 • Fax (847) 588-8051 • TDD (847) 588-8059

We would like to know the feeling of our residents regarding the plaza outside the Village Hall currently bearing the name:

"Nicholas B. Blase Plaza"



There have been many comments to retain the name and many to remove the name. Your vote will give the Mayor and Board guidance on the matter.

We have allowed for two voters per residence. Mark your vote with an "x" below.

Retain the sign "Nicholas B. Blase"

Voter #1

Voter #2

OR

Remove the sign "Nicholas B. Blase"

Please complete the survey and return it by September 20th by mail or drop it in the special ballot box provided at Village Hall or at the Senior Center. **Mailing Address: Survey, Village of Niles, 1000 Civic Center Drive, Niles, IL 60714**

SPECIAL RESIDENT SURVEY