

Focus on Niles

Spring 2011

Village of Niles, Illinois

www.vniles.com

Niles Residents Taxed Less

The survey below was obtained from the City of Park Ridge indicating that the residents of Niles are taxed less out of pocket for municipal services than other comparable communities. We are proud of this record as we will continue to do everything we can to keep the costs of running government as reasonable as possible - *Mayor Callero and the Village of Niles Board of Trustees*

	Vehicle Sticker Fee	Dog License Fee	Garbage Charge	Yard Waste Charge	Water Charge	Sewer Charge	Total Property Tax	Total Direct Payments
Assumptions for survey	One vehicle	One neutered	104 Bags/year	12 Bags/year	97,000 Gallons	97,000 Gallons	\$40,000 EAV	
Evanston	75.00	10.00	131.40	76.00	261.71	514.10	518.00	1,586.21
Des Plaines	30.00	3.00	237.72	in with garbage	544.60	91.18	469.60	1,376.10
Mt. Prospect	36.00	0.00	75.00	27.00	472.39	212.29	480.90	1,303.58
Buffalo Grove	0.00	10.00	218.16	in with garbage	391.00	388.00	266.44	1,273.60
Arlington Heights	30.00	12.00	239.76	23.40	422.11	53.35	442.92	1,223.54
Downers Grove	0.00	0.00	320.32	39.96	426.80	0.00	271.36	1,055.44
Palatine	30.00	6.00	240.00	in with garbage	351.68	67.90	352.80	1,048.38
Park Ridge	45.00	10.00	0.00	0.00	520.82	118.34	312.00	1,006.16
Schaumburg	20.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	557.32	110.58	314.00	1,005.90
Naperville	0.00	4.00	24.00	30.00	354.42	269.95	286.64	969.01
Glenview	0.00	0.00	192.12	34.80	398.99	113.49	228.80	968.20
Skokie	20.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	501.35	0.00	354.80	882.15
Niles	40.00	0.00	0.00	24.00	489.85	0.00	264.40	818.25

Comparable Survey Annual Revenues Received From Average Home

**GET INVOLVED
BE HEARD
DECIDE THE FUTURE**

NILES 2030
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

[Visit Niles 2030 at www.vniles.com](http://www.vniles.com)

KNOW YOUR TRUSTEES



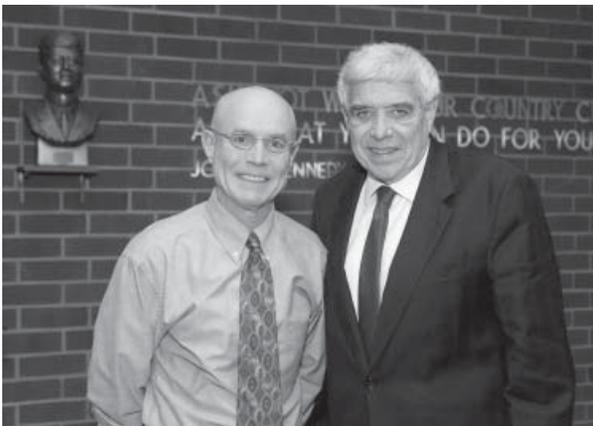
James T. Hynes

Trustee James T. Hynes was appointed to the Village Board on September 22, 2009. Trustee Hynes and his wife Mary Ann raised their family in Niles and have been residents since 1977. As Trustee, he is a member of the Finance Committee, the Building and Zoning Committee, and is the Village's representative on the Board of the Regional Emergency Dispatch Center for Fire services. Mr. Hynes has also served as the Chairman to the Niles Plan Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals and as Commissioner of the Niles Park District since 1997.

Currently an Adjunct Professor of Law at both Loyola University Law School and the John Marshall Law School, Mr. Hynes has been an attorney for over 34 years. Previously, Mr. Hynes had his own private law practice, and was also a partner at the firm of Hynes & Baird, served as Director of Government Affairs and Deputy General Counsel at Waste Management, and served as Chief of the Civil Division of the United States Attorney's Office.

Hynes, his wife Mary Ann, and family are members of St. Juliana Parish where Jim is a Lector/Commentator and serves on the Parish Council. His daughter and son both live in Niles with their spouses and children.

Trustee Hynes enjoys his service on the Board of Trustees stating that "It means a lot to be able to do something for the community you enjoy, to make it better, to encourage other people to move here, to stay here and enjoy what our community has to offer."



On January 25, 2011, Mayor Robert Callero appointed Retired Fire Chief Barry Mueller to the Fire and Police Commission to replace Commissioner Anthony J. Scarlati.



Chris Hanusiak

Krzysztof "Chris" Hanusiak was sworn in as Trustee of the Village of Niles on January 26, 2010 after serving on the Niles Plan Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals. He was also active in developing ethics policies for the village.

Hanusiak was born in Lebork, Poland, and came with his family to America in 1972. After graduating from Carl Schurz High School, he spent several years in the United States Navy. After his tour of duty during Desert Shield, he attended Wright College and the University of Illinois at Chicago. He was employed as a software programmer and database administrator with large corporations in the Chicago area before founding Royal Kitchen and Bathroom Cabinets in Niles and Chicago.

He and his wife, Agnes, with their three children, moved to Niles in 1998 and subsequently became active in scouting at St. Juliana's Parish. In addition to being President of the Niles Friends of the Library, Hanusiak is a member of Niles VFW Post #7712, Niles Chamber of Commerce, North American Council #4338 of the Knights of Columbus and the Illinois Academy of Criminology.

Trustee Hanusiak feels extremely privileged to be an American and to have the unique and rewarding experience of working with Mayor Robert Callero and the Board of Trustees in ensuring that Niles continues to be a family-oriented, well-governed and service-dedicated municipality.



On January 25, 2011, Mayor Robert Callero congratulated Anthony J. Scarlati on his retirement after serving as Fire & Police Commissioner for over 35 years.

Village Clerk's Office
1000 Civic Center Drive



Dine-In Niles Program
Affordable Reason to Dine

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

Consolidated Election Information
Tuesday, April 5, 2011



There are four Village of Niles Trustee Positions up for election: three 4-year terms and one

unexpired 2-year term.

Early Voting begins March 14 through March 31 at designated locations. Absentee Ballot Applications are available at Village Hall or online.

Grace-period registration and voting is the only way to register or change your address or name after the regular registration period ends on March 8. It is also the only way to vote if you are not registered or if your voter registration is not up to date. First day of grace period registration and voting is March 9 and the last day is March 29 in person at the Cook County Clerk's Office.

For more election information, contact the Village Clerk's office at (847) 588-8003 or the Cook County Clerk's website: www.cookcountyclerk.com/elections.

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

<i>Al's Beef</i>	<i>Himalayan Restaurant</i>
<i>Amici Restaurant</i>	<i>Jersey Mike's</i>
<i>Quiznos Subs</i>	<i>Just Like Home</i>
<i>A's Bar Inc.</i>	<i>Lone Tree Manor</i>
<i>Auntie Anne's Pretzels</i>	<i>Los Comales Mexican Rest.</i>
<i>Bakers Square</i>	<i>Mango Restaurant</i>
<i>Barnaby's Pizza</i>	<i>Morrison Roadhouse</i>
<i>Bombay Chat</i>	<i>Mrs. Fields</i>
<i>Celebration Ice Cream</i>	<i>Mykonos Restaurant</i>
<i>Celli's Beef</i>	<i>Nancy's Pizza</i>
<i>Chamber Restaurant</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>Papa John's Pizza</i>
<i>Cid's Ma Mon Luk</i>	<i>Riggio's Restaurant</i>
<i>Cinnabon</i>	<i>Sarku Japan</i>
<i>Dear Franks</i>	<i>Sbarro</i>
<i>Dunkin Donuts</i>	<i>Shabu House</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>

CABLE CHANNEL 6

Your Location for Community Information



Senior Center

999 Civic Center Drive

Membership Has Its Privileges by Senior Center Director Kelly Mickle



Annual Rummage Sale. Come one, come all!!! Bring your friends, family, neighbors to the NSC's Annual Rummage Sale. We will have over 40 tables of treasures, 50/50 Raffles, \$2.00 Hot Dog

Lunch available. All proceeds from the raffle and lunch go to the American Cancer Society and the Niles Food Pantry. Any questions, contact Jaymi at 847-588-8420. Saturday, April 30, 9:00am-1:00pm



1st Annual Hearing Fair. Get the latest hearing health tips! Learn about products that are available to help ease hearing loss! Receive a hearing exam, get hearing aids cleaned, try amplified phones, and more... There will be three speakers: Dr. Brian Urban explains the latest technology, Dr.

Dana Glasenhardt enlightens us on the ear and what can go wrong, and Dr. Phyllis Stern-Weisman explains how to choose products. There will be games with prizes and coffee & light snacks. Interpreters will be available. Friday, April 1, 9:00am - 12:00pm FREE Admission.



Guild for the Blind Life Skills Classes

The Guild presents New Visions, a community-based program designed to help you adjust to vision loss. New Visions emphasizes safety and independence. The three session workshop offers an opportunity to try out helpful products, tips to organize your home, and ideas to

enhance your remaining vision. A family member or friend is welcome to attend.

Session One: Where Did I Put It?
Labeling & organizing items in the home
Interactive product demonstration
Ensuring home safety
Friday, March 11, 10:30am, room 229
FREE, Advanced Registration Required (#5444)

Session Two: Magnifier Madness
Maximizing remaining vision Learning about magnifiers
Experimenting with electronic magnification
Friday, March 18, 10:30am, room 229
FREE, Advanced Registration Required (#5620)

Session Three: Maintaining Your Lifestyle
Dining with confidence
Communicating with friends and family
Finding local resources
Friday, March 25, 10:30am, room 229
FREE, Advanced Registration Required (#5621)

Teen Center

373 Golf Mill Center

Teens Gear Up For Spring Programs by Teen Center 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, 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.

Spring programs include the Spring Break Beach Party at Golf Mill, the monthly speaker series, a trip to a Bulls Game with laser tag, a 3 on 3 basketball tournament, Wii Bowling with the Senior Center, monthly movie nights, the 4th Annual Lock-In Party and 7th Annual Teen Center

Job Shadow Day.

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



Teens at the 3rd Annual Lock-In Party at the Mall

Police Department 7000 Touhy Avenue

Nixle and Community Information by Division Commander Joseph Penze

What is Nixle? Nixle is a community information service built exclusively for secure and reliable communications.

Why is Nixle important? Nixle provides ONE standardized service for consumers to receive immediate and credible neighborhood-level public safety and community information, via SMS, email or web.

Who is authorized to send messages? Local law enforcement agencies; city and municipal governments, etc.

How do consumers receive information? Nixle currently delivers information to consumers over their cell phones (SMS text messaging), emails (computers and smart phone devices), and simple web access at www.nixle.com.



What type of information can we expect to receive on Nixle? Neighborhood- to community-level public safety alerts; up-to-the-minute need-to-know information; advisories, reminders, and last minute cancellations; municipal and community news, happenings and events; and any other relevant information that the Village wants to send out through the service.

What are the differences between the message types? The Alert message type is intended for “urgent, must know” notifications. It is similar to what many would refer to as an emergency alert. Only law enforcement, elected or appointed officials can authorize the public release of an urgent message. The Advisory message type is intended both for time-sensitive and non-time-sensitive important neighborhood- to community-level information. The Advisory type message may also include advisories for public safety, health, weather, traffic, and similar kinds of information. Traffic messages allow for traffic-specific notifications to inform users of events such as road closures, detours and accidents. The Community message type is intended for all municipal and community non-time-sensitive messages, news and information.

How can I register for Nixle?

It is very simple. Go to this link: <http://local.nixle.com/register/>

Fire Department 8360 Dempster Street

Fire Safety for Older Adults by Acting Chief Steve Borkowski



Knowing what to do in the event of a fire is particularly important for older adults. At age 65, people are twice as likely to be killed or injured by fires. To increase fire safety for older adults, NFPA offers the following guidelines:

- **Keep it low** - If you don't live in an apartment building, consider sleeping in a room on the ground floor in order to make emergency escape easier. Make sure that smoke alarms are installed in every sleeping room and outside any sleeping areas. Have a telephone installed where you sleep in case of emergency. When looking for an apartment or high-rise home, look for one with an automatic sprinkler system. Sprinklers can extinguish a home fire in less time that it takes for the fire department to arrive.
- **Sound the alarm** - The majority of fatal fires occur when people are sleeping, and because smoke can put you into a deeper sleep rather than waking you, it is important to have a mechanical early warning of a fire to ensure that you wake up. If anyone in your household is deaf or if your own hearing is diminished,

consider installing a smoke alarm that uses a flashing light or vibration to alert you to a fire.

- **Do the drill** - Conduct your own, or participate in, regular fire drills to make sure you know what to do in the event of a home fire. If you or someone you live with cannot escape alone, designate a member of the household to assist, and decide on backups in case the designee isn't home. Fire drills are also a good opportunity to make sure that everyone is able to hear and respond to smoke alarms.
- **Open up** - Make sure that you are able to open all doors and windows in your home. Locks and pins should open easily from inside. (Some apartments and high-rise buildings have windows designed not to open.) If you have security bars on doors or windows, they should have emergency release devices inside so that they can be opened easily. These devices won't compromise your safety, but they will enable you to open the window from inside in the event of a fire. Check to be sure that windows haven't been sealed shut with paint or nailed shut; if they have, arrange for someone to break the seals all around your home or remove the nails.
- **Stay connected** - Keep a telephone nearby, along with emergency phone numbers so that you can communicate with emergency personnel if you're trapped in your room by fire or smoke. If you have any questions or would like for someone from the fire department to speak at a meeting about these issues or other safety issues, please call the Niles Fire Department at 847-588-6800.

Flooded Street? Do Not Move Barricades



There are small number of Village streets that flood during significant rain events. One contributor to a flooded street may be an obstructed sewer inlet, restrictor, or even sewer. Some streets are designed to hold water to prevent that same water from entering basements.

No matter why the street is flooded, if the Village places a barricade to block the road it is very important that you do not move this barricade to drive through the flooded street. Not only are you putting your vehicle in jeopardy, but you are causing wakes in the street that may damage your neighbor's vehicles and/or their homes.



Niles Free Bus

"It takes you where you need to go"
Fourth Quarter Courtesy Bus Ridership

October 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010

<u>Bus Route</u>	<u>Ridership</u>
411 Regular	23,946
411 Reverse	25,041
412 North Special	17,925
413 South Special	4,893
TOTALS	71,805

Reduce Your Risk for Flooding at Home A Basic Guide to Flood Proofing

The Village of Niles and surrounding communities have been involved in two flood disaster declarations in the past two years. During these storm events, it was determined that a large number of homeowners may not have been impacted as severely or at all if they had followed basic flood protection steps for their home:

- 1. Flood Insurance.** Flood insurance is highly recommended because most home owners insurance policies do not cover property for flood damage.
- 2. Install Flood Control.** Protect your home from sewer backup with an overhead sewer, backup valve, floor drain plug or stand pipe.
- 3. Battery Backup/Switch Alarm.** If you have a sump pump, you must protect against a power outage or switch failure. Regular maintenance is a must.
- 4. Waterproof Your Basement.** Homeowners with seepage and window leaks must have the house inspected by a professional.
- 5. Raise Valuables.** Your washer, dryer, furnace, and water heater should be raised off the floor.
- 6. Keep Sanitary Lateral Clean.** Clogs due to tree roots, a failed lateral, or even a child's toy can cause backups.
- 7. Disconnect Sump Pump and Downspouts from Sewer.** Not only is it illegal to have these connections, but it is a sure path for backup into your home.
- 8. Direct Sump Pump and Downspout Discharge Away.** Sump pumps should be splashed six feet away from the home on the grass (not pointing into a neighbor's yard).
- 9. Do Not Block Stormwater Natural Flow In Yards.** The number one reason for yard flooding is an illegal grade change. Homeowners must secure a permit from Engineering to build gardens, fences, berms, etc.
- 10. Do Not Move Flood Barricades.** Although a street is flooded, there are drivers who will still move barricades only to cause damage to their vehicle, other vehicles, and homes through wakes.
- 11. Clear Debris Off of Sewer Manhole Covers/Grates.** Although the Village makes an effort to keep sewers clear of leaves and other debris to prevent flooding, we must reach out to the residents to help us help them.

Public Services

6849 Touhy Avenue

The Blizzard of 2011

By Bob Pilat

While the 2010-11 winter season is far from over, it is already one for the record books. As of February 15th, the Chicago area has already received 53.4 inches of snow, which is well beyond our seasonal average of 38 inches. This also marks the fourth winter in a row of more than 50 inches of snow - a Chicago record. This winter will also go into the record books for having the third worst snowstorm in Chicago.

Chicago's Three Worst Snowstorms

1967 - 23.0 inches

1999 - 21.6 inches

2011 - 21.2 inches

As weather forecasters predicted a major snowstorm to hit the Chicago area with 20 inches or more, Niles Public Services crews made additional preparations, readying regular and specialized equipment, ensuring deicing materials were available and in good supply, and creating a roster of additional personnel to supplement regular forces.



On Monday, January 31st, crews started their normal workday at 7:00 a.m. While we hoped forecasts were wrong, it proved to be the start of a long week in which crews worked continuously through to Saturday, February 5th at 3:00 p.m. – 128 non-stop hours.

The main storm started in the afternoon of Tuesday, February 1st. Road crews applied salt to roadways at the beginning of the storm to reduce the bonding of snow to the pavement, however this quickly turned into a major snow plowing operation. All Public Works crews, along with supplemental crews of retired employees and current employees from the Police, Fire and Community Development departments with snow plowing experience, were dispatched to plow snow. From Tuesday afternoon until Wednesday morning, 40 pieces of equipment were used to

plow snow on roads maintained by the Village of Niles.

As night fell, weather conditions quickly worsened with heavy snowfall rates and strong winds, making driving conditions hazardous and hampering our efforts with visibility reduced to a ¼ mile or less for 11 consecutive hours, however drivers continued throughout the night. Often times crews would make a pass with a snow plow only to find the area snow covered on the return pass in the opposite direction just minutes later. On Wednesday morning after driving throughout the night, some crews went home to rest before their next shift was to start, while others continued to work. This was the beginning of 12 hour shifts for employees for the remainder of the week, with approximately half of the department working 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., and the other group working 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. By splitting the crew we are able to work in high traffic areas in the overnight hours, and other areas that have less on street

parking during the daytime hours.

During the storm, efforts were concentrated to make sure roadways were passable and, as the snow stopped, our efforts were to widen the streets, and clear cul-de-sacs, alleys, high volume sidewalks and parking lots. Work continued throughout the week to

reduce snow piles at intersections and other areas, such as schools and bus stops, either relocating the snow piles nearby or hauling it off site. A contractor was utilized to help us in these efforts during the overnight hours. It should be noted the additional work was completed along with our regular duties which included six watermain repairs.

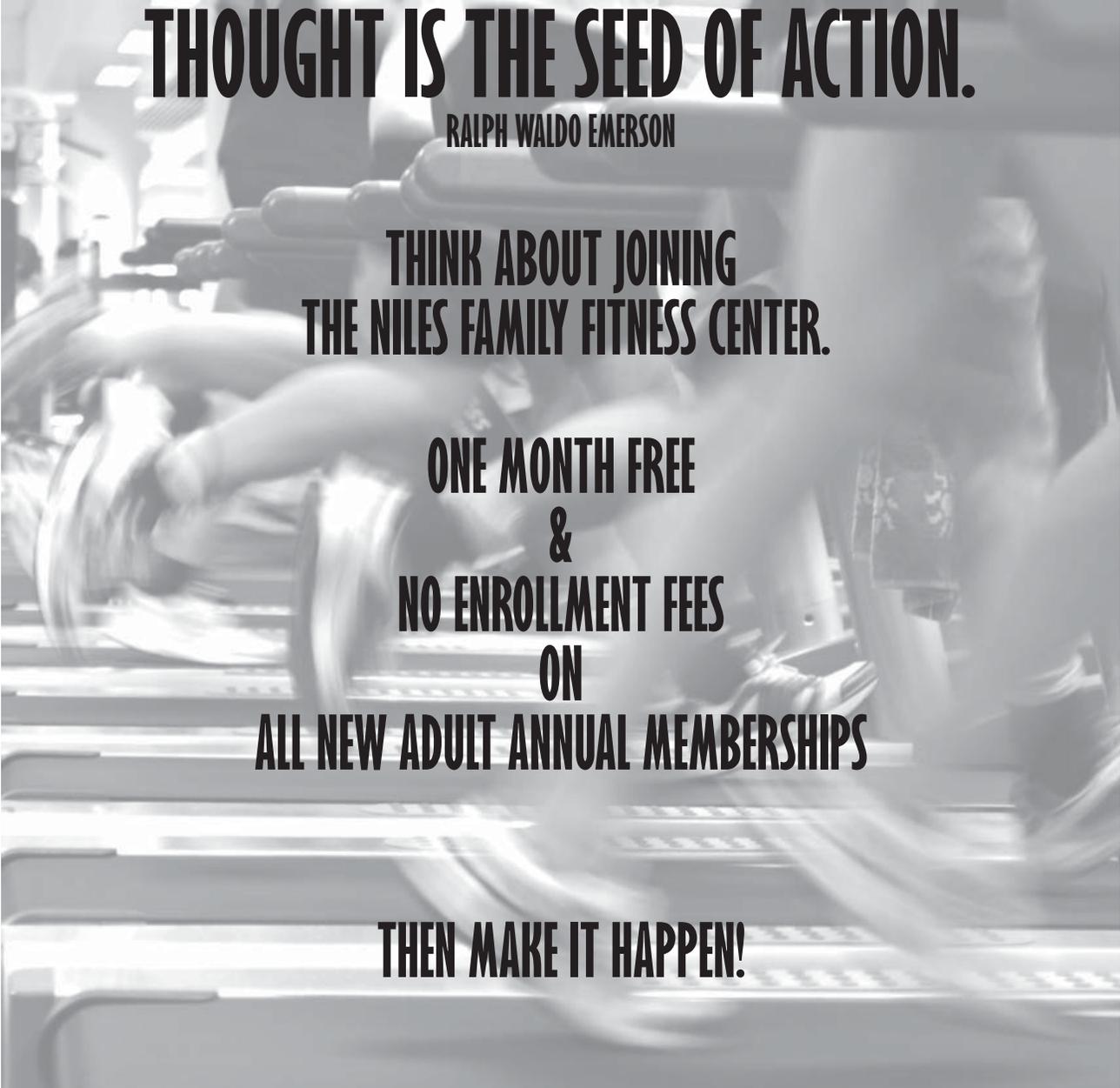
The department's cost for the initial storm from January 31st and subsequent clean-up through February 10th is estimated at \$168,722 for salt, overtime, and the cost of hiring a private contractor to assist. If the Federal Government declares the event a disaster, Niles would be eligible to recoup 75% of these costs.

While there has been much debate about which storm was worse, this blizzard or the blizzard of 1967, there is no doubt the challenges of this storm, such as higher winds during the storm and colder temperatures once the storm stopped, were great and the department met them head on.

Village of Niles
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OFFER EXPIRES: MARCH 31, 2011

TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY

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847-588-8400