

Focus on Niles

Summer 2011

Village of Niles, Illinois

www.vniles.com

A Message From Mayor Robert M. Callero

Mayor

Robert M. Callero
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Village Clerk

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As I write this message for the Summer issue of the Focus on Niles newsletter, we all wonder if Summer will ever arrive. Yet, as I reflect back on the past three months, indoors out of the chilly Spring weather, I am proud of our progress and our many accomplishments.

We have managed to pass a nearly balanced budget to include statutory pension contributions, which is an issue at the top of my list of priorities. An improving economy, ever so slowly gaining momentum, has allowed the Board of Trustees to increase pension contributions to Fire, Police and the Illinois Municipal Retirement Funds. We have promised these pensions and I am committed to fund them properly. Although the economy may be improving slightly, we have had to make some tough choices on expenses, but did so without eliminating or negatively impacting Village services that the community has grown accustomed to and deserves.

The Stormwater Commission continues its grilling work with the outside engineering firm of Hey and Associates, developing potential short- and long-term solutions to persistent flooding. The Commission plans to share their findings at an open meeting later this Summer. Revisions to the Niles Ethics Code were passed by the Board and

have been put into operation. The Niles 2030 Comprehensive Plan Subcommittee has made great strides and we look forward to continued hard work until project completion this Fall. As always, we leave no rocks unturned when it comes to securing federal, state, county, and even private grant dollars. Recently, the Village has benefited significantly from energy efficiency grants that reduce operating costs and help to provide jobs.

With the current election results finally in, we have a change on the Board of Trustees. I want to thank Al Weel for his contributions as Trustee these last two years, especially as Chairman of the Finance Committee during such difficult economic times. He performed admirably and will be missed. I also welcome Rosemary Palicki to the Board of Trustees with the knowledge that she will be a great asset as we all work together toward continued Village progress.

As you enjoy strolling through the summer days, living, playing and working in our wonderful community, you can take pride in the fact that this Village is "the number one place in the U.S. to raise a family."

Robert M. Callero



Niles...

#1 Place in the U.S. to Raise a Family

Businessweek.com

Village of Niles
1000 Civic Center Drive, Niles, IL 60714

www.vniles.com



Village Clerk Marlene Victorine conducts the official swearing in ceremony for newly elected Village Trustees (left to right) Rosemary Palicki, Krzysztof “Chris” Hanusiak, and Joe LoVerde.



Mayor Robert Callero and Trustee Louella Preston congratulate Optimist Club of Niles Penmanship Contest Winners (left to right) Zolo Sodnomjants, Maddie McEnany, and Jackie Buczkowski.



The Village of Niles welcomes newly elected Trustee Rosemary R. Palicki to the Village Board of Trustees.

Rosemary was sworn in at the Tuesday, May 25th Board meeting and was joined by her husband Leonard and son Martin.



Mayor Robert Callero thanks former Trustee Alan Weel for his 11 years of public service with the Village of Niles.

Smile Niles - We're #1, So Tell Us Why

Recently, Niles received exciting news. Our Village was honored as Bloomberg/BusinessWeek’s best and most affordable place to raise children, not only for Illinois but for the entire United States. The survey considered the cost of living, schools, crime statistics, job growth, air quality, recreational opportunities, ethnic diversity and Niles came out on top.

Now we want to know why you think that Niles is number one. Send us your experience in 100 words or less. We will place the most inspiring entries on our website and other publications. Selected entries will receive a gift certificate to one of Niles businesses.

certific



Submit your response by August 15, 2011 to: Denise McCreery, Village of Niles, 1000 Civic Center Drive, Niles Illinois 60714.

**Vehicle Stickers On Sale This June 18th
Buy Yours Sticker Before June 30th**

VILLAGE HALL OPEN TWO SATURDAYS
JUNE 18 AND 25 (8:30 A.M. TO NOON)



This year, vehicle stickers celebrate the Village's designation by Businessweek.com as "*The number one place in the U.S. to raise children.*"

You may purchase your vehicle stickers at Village Hall in the Finance Department during regular business hours (8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday). The Finance Department will also be open on Saturday, June 18th, and Saturday, June 25th, from 8:30 a.m. until noon for vehicle sticker sales.

Vehicle stickers are valid from July 1, 2011, through June 30, 2012, and can be purchased by mail, in person, or at local currency exchanges. Reduced rates are available to senior citizens age 62 or older by June 30th.

For more vehicle sticker information, please contact Village Hall at (847) 588-8000.

**CABLE
CHANNEL 6**

**Your Location for
Community Information**



**Niles Historical Society
Free Admission!**

The Niles Historical Society invites all residents to visit the museum with its outstanding artifacts, located within in the old Cook County Sheriff's building, 8970 N. Milwaukee Avenue. We are open from 10:30 am to 3:00 pm, Monday, Wednesday, & Friday.

All programs are on the 4th Sunday of every month, from 2-4 pm, unless noted.

All our news and current events can be found at www.vniles.com or by calling (847) 390-0160 or off of our outdoor marquee sign.

**Document Destruction &
Electronics Recycling Event
Saturday, July 30th at 9 a.m. - Noon**

The Village of Niles will be hosting a SWANCC sponsored Document Destruction and Electronics Recycling event for residents on Saturday, July 30, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. to Noon at the Niles Public Services Center, 6849 Touhy Avenue.



Senior Center

999 Civic Center Drive

Help Your Neighbor - Be A HERO by Senior Center Director Kelly Mickle



The Niles Helping Elders through Referral and Outreach (HERO) program is a collaborative, community-based system for identifying and assisting older adults at-risk physically, emotionally, socially or

financially. Village of Niles Senior Center Social Workers can respond to a HERO referral by providing comprehensive assessment, referral, case management and counseling services. In addition, the Social Workers can offer crisis intervention, help arrange in-home support services and address concerns about available community resources.

When Should I Make a Hero Referral?

Some general reasons to refer older peers to the HERO

program include:

- Signs and Symptoms of Distress/Emotional Changes (confusion; depression; severe forgetfulness)
- Health Issues (difficulty coping with medical issues; reduced ability to manage daily life; struggling with self-care; falling; home bound)
- Safety Issues (wandering; kitchen fires; disconnected phones; occasionally unable to recognize surroundings)
- Financial Issues (problems managing finances and paying bills; can't make change or balance checkbook)
- Caregiver Issues (caregiver appears overwhelmed or expresses anxiety about caring for a spouse, relative or adult vulnerable child)

How Can I Make a HERO Referral?

To make a HERO referral, call (847) 588-8420 and simply say, "I want to make a HERO referral." It is important to note that your HERO referral will remain confidential.

To learn more about the Niles HERO program and other services, please contact Bev Wessels at (847) 588-8420.

Teen Center

373 Golf Mill Center

Teens Gear Up For Spring Programs by Teen Center Director Mark Williams

In May, Golf Mill Shopping Center and the Niles Teen Center were recognized as the winners of the 2011 U.S. Gold Maxi Award from the International Council of Shopping Centers. This is the industry's highest marketing honor. The Teen Center and the Village of Niles are proud of our collaboration with Golf Mill Mall as well as all of our other partners including the Niles Public Library, the Niles Park District, East Maine School District 63, Park Ridge/Niles School District 64, Culver School District 71, the Niles Chamber of Commerce, and the Niles business community especially Home Depot and Walmart.

Summer programs include movie nights, video game and sports tournaments, the 7th Annual Job Shadow Day, the 4th Annual "Night-In-The-Mall" Lock-In Party, participation in the 4th of July parade, a Job Shadow experience with Old Navy, an Ice Cream Social for the library's sum-

mer reading program, and trips to a North Avenue Beach, bowling at Pinstripes, Swimming and Dodgeball at the Fitness Center and a day at Oasis Water Park.

For more information on the Niles Teen Center visit us on the web at ww.NilesTeenCenter.org or stop by the mall.



Teen Center participants Seamus Concannon of Emerson Middle School and Katie O'Donnovan of Gemini Junior High School participate in Job Shadow Day with Niles Police Officer Joanne Birkenheir

Police Department 7000 Touhy Avenue

Charitable Contributions Schemes by Division Commander Joseph Penze

Before making a donation of any kind, consumers should adhere to certain guidelines, including:

- Do not respond to unsolicited e-mails.
- Be skeptical of charitable organizations contacting you via e-mail or social networking sites.
- Beware of organizations with copy-cat names similar to but not exactly the same as those of reputable charities.
- Verify the legitimacy of nonprofit organizations.
- Only open attachments from known senders.
- Make contributions directly to known organizations rather than relying on others to make the donation on your behalf.
- Reputable charities do not use pressure tactics.
- Providing personal information may compromise your identity and make you vulnerable to identity theft.
- Avoid cash donations or checks made out to individuals.
- Legitimate charities do not solicit donations via money transfer services.

A New Stray Animal Partnership Provides a Shelter and More



It is with great pleasure that we announce a new partnership between the Village of Niles Police Department and the Heartland Animal Shelter.

As of May 1st, the department will be turning over the stray animals we catch to Heartland Animal Shelter. Following a mandatory three to seven day holding period (3 days w/o identification or 7 days with identification), a stray animal is taken to Heartland and made available for adoption by the shelter. The Shelter is located at 2975 Milwaukee Ave in Northbrook.

The shelter's hours of operation are Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Saturday/Sunday Noon to 4:00 p.m. Their phone number is 847-296-6400 and their website is www.HeartlandAnimalShelter.net.

The adoption fees for animals are very reasonable and include vaccinations, spaying/neutering and microchip (see website for more adoption fee information).

Fire Department 8360 Dempster Street

High-Rise Fire Safety by Acting Chief Steve Borkowski



The key to fire safety for those who live and/or work in a high-rise is to practice specific high-rise fire safety and prevention behaviors. The simple fire safety steps you can take to prevent the loss of life and property in high-rise fires are:

- Never lock fire exits or doorways, halls or stairways and never prop stairway or other fire doors open.
- Learn your building evacuation plan.
- Learn the sound of your building's fire alarm and post emergency numbers near all telephones.
- Know who is responsible for maintaining the fire safety systems.
- Do Not Panic.
- Immediately call the fire department and stay calm.
- If the door feels warm to the touch, do not attempt to open it.
- Stuff the cracks around the door with towels, rags, bedding or tape and cover vents to keep smoke out.
- If there is a phone in the room where you are trapped, call

- the fire department again to tell them exactly where you are.
- Wait at a window and signal for help with a flashlight or by waving a sheet.
- If possible, open the window at the top and bottom, but do not break it, you may need to close the window if smoke rushes in.
- Be patient. Rescuing all the occupants of a high-rise building can take several hours.
- If the door is not warm to the touch, brace your body against the door while staying low to the floor and slowly open it a crack. What you are doing is checking for the presence of smoke or fire in the hallway.
- If there is no smoke in the hallway or stairwells, follow your building's evacuation plan.
- If you don't hear the building's fire alarm, pull the nearest fire alarm while exiting the floor.
- If you encounter smoke or flames on your way out, immediately return to your apartment or office.
- Once you are out of the building, STAY OUT! Do not go back inside for any reason.
- Tell the fire department if anyone is trapped in the building.
- Only reenter when the fire department tells you it is safe.
- Maintain and Install Working Smoke Alarms. No matter where you live, always install smoke alarms on every level of your home. Test them monthly and change the batteries at least once a year.

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

**Help to Plan the Future
Participate and Get Involved**

NILES 2030
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The comprehensive planning process is well underway here in Niles. To date, Comprehensive Plan Subcommittee and the planning firm of Houseal Lavigne have held several community and business workshops, conducted surveys, and performed key person interviews. This information was then analyzed and an Existing Conditions Report was completed for public review.

The Comprehensive Plan Committee is now working with Houseal Lavigne on a vision statement, subarea plans and a community-wide plan. The next public workshop is being planned for late summer or early fall, so watch for details on Channel 6, the website, or local newspapers.

To read more about the Niles 2030 Comprehensive Plan, go to www.vniles.com and tap Niles 2030!

**Stormwater Commission
Moving Forward with Hey and Associates**



The Stormwater Commission and the engineering firm of Hey and Associates gave a progress report to the Village Board of Trustees on March 22, 2011 (see www.vniles.com for the presentation). Since the

Commission was appointed in 2009, it has made significant strides toward improving internal policies, operations, and Village Ordinances.

The latest and most significant ordinance approved, the Stormwater Management Ordinance, is the first of its kind in the Village. The Ordinance applies to new development or redevelopment and prevents new developments from worsening or creating problems for surrounding properties by managing stormwater.

Hey and Associates anticipates conducting a public workshop this summer to share anticipated solutions that were developed after a year of data collection and analysis. Homeowners should monitor Channel 6, the Village website, or local newspapers for details.

**Niles Community Rain Garden
A Re-dedication and Donation by Coca-Cola**



On chilly and wet Monday, April 18th, the Village and Coca-Cola celebrated Earth Week/Arbor Day with the re-dedication of the Niles Community Rain Garden.

As Trustees Louella Preston, Chris Hanusiak, and Alan Weel watched, Coca-Cola presented a \$3,500 check to Mayor Callero for future plantings at the rain garden. Also in attendance were donors and volunteers from the Niles Lions Club, Groot Industries, Chris' Landscaping, and Pizzo & Associates.

Coca-Cola also committed to giving Village residents 125 free rain barrels to celebrate Coca-Cola's 125th anniversary. The rain barrels, made from recycled syrup containers, were distributed the following month on May 21st through the efforts of the Village, Culver School, and Boy Scout Troop 821.

The rain barrel giveaway was held at Culver School to highlight a rain garden grant awarded to the school by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. The Culver School rain garden will be the second public rain garden since the Niles Community Rain Garden was built in 2008. Chris' Landscaping is providing Culver School with expert advice and assistance.



Public Services

6849 Touhy Avenue

Road Resurfacing This Summer

By Bob Pilat



The following Village resurfacing projects are scheduled for completion later this summer:

- Ebinger Drive - Milwaukee Ave to Riverview Ave
- Riverview Road - Forestview Ln to

Dead End

- Forestview Lane - Riverside Ave to Ebinger Dr
- Rosemary Lane - Cul-De-Sac to Ebinger Dr
- Albion Avenue - Milwaukee Ave to West End
- Normandy Avenue – Albion Ave to North End
- Oak Park Avenue – Albion Ave to North End
- New Castle Avenue – Albion Ave to North End
- Main Street – Waukegan Rd to Shermer Rd
- Church Street – Courland Dr. to Washington St

Watermain will be replaced at the following locations:

- Main Street - Harlem Ave to Shermer Rd
- Cleveland Street - Harlem Ave to Waukegan Road
- Keeney Street - Harlem Ave to Waukegan Rd.

Outdoor Water Restrictions



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.

Generally, watering during this time of day is ineffective due to the fast evaporation rates, therefore delaying watering to the best possible times helps conserve water. Should we not properly enforce the restrictions, the Federal Government has threatened to cut Niles water allocation. Therefore, all Niles citizens are urged to follow the sprinkling restrictions. This will help maintain adequate water pressure for fire fighting as a protection for your home or business.



Niles Free Bus

"It takes you where you need to go"
Fourth Quarter Courtesy Bus Ridership
January 1, 2011 through March 31, 2011

Bus Route	Ridership
411 Regular	23,107
411 Reverse	23,815
412 North Special	16,932
413 South Special	5,173
TOTALS	69,027

STORM WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION

- Use fertilizers sparingly and sweep up driveways, sidewalks, and road.
- Never dump anything down storm drains.
- Vegetate bare spots in your yard.
- Compost your yard waste .
- Avoid pesticides.
- Direct downspouts away from paved surfaces.
- Take your car to the car wash instead of washing it in the driveway.
- Check car for leaks, and recycle motor oil.
- Pick up after your pet.
- Sweep and pickup debris rather than rinse it into storm drains.

Village of Niles
1000 Civic Center Drive
Niles, Illinois 60714

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ECRWSS
POSTAL CUSTOMER

MAKE TIME TO EXERCISE
AT
THE NILES FAMILY FITNESS CENTER



ONE MONTH FREE
&
NO ENROLLMENT FEES
ON
ALL NEW ADULT ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS

OFFER EXPIRES: JUNE 30, 2011

TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY

www.nilesfitness.com

847-588-8400