

Focus on Niles

Spring 2012 Issue

Village of Niles, Illinois

www.vniles.com

A Message From Mayor Robert M. Callero

Dear Fellow Citizens of Niles,

As I sit down to write this note to you, I am looking at dry streets, unusual at this time of year. Normally we have mounds of snow lining our streets and walks. Let us hope this mild Winter continues until Spring comes around.

Fifteen days after I took office, we had a 100-year rain on September 13-14, 2008. I immediately formed the Stormwater Commission to study and help correct our stormwater problems. The Commission has worked diligently over the past three years with outside engineers to record the problem areas and produce a workable plan of corrections. Prior to presenting the plan to the Board of Trustees, there will be an open house on March 22 (see article on page 6) for you to see and understand the plan and make appropriate comments. Please attempt to be there.

As we look forward to Spring, we all know that means road construction and delays. As the Milwaukee Avenue streetscape improvements continue, there will be temporary partial road closures at the Milwaukee Avenue intersections of Harlem, Howard, and Oakton Streets. More trees and banners will also be placed on the right-of-way. Please try to be

patient with our corridor improvements.

The construction of the landscape beautification at the Touhy and Milwaukee fountain will be completed early Spring and some beautification work will be done at the Police Station as well.

This past Fall, the Niles 2030 Comprehensive Plan was completed by planning firm Houseal Lavigne & Associates and presented to the Building and Zoning Committee who had spent many hours with the subcommittee planning for Niles' future. The plan was unanimously approved by the Village Board of Trustees in October of 2011 to help guide us through year 2030.

The economy is gradually getting better, ever so slowly. Until we get back to where we had been before the downturn, this means that some people are still without jobs and wanting for food and basic supplies. Please remember these less fortunate and help our food pantry.

Very truly yours,

Mayor Bob

Mayor Robert M. Callero

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Niles...

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

Businessweek.com



Village Clerk's Corner

By Village Clerk Marlene Victorine

MARCH 20, 2012 PRIMARY
ELECTION INFORMATION

Village Hall is now an Early Voting Site. The early voting period is February 27 ~ March 15 from Monday through Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. State law requires early voters to display a valid photo ID. Any registered suburban Cook County voter may vote at any early voting site.

Absentee Ballot Applications are available at Village Hall or online. 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.

Check your registration status or polling location at www.cookcountyclerk.com/elections or contact the Village Clerk's office at 847-588-8003.



Niles Historical Society

By Walter Beusse

Did You Know? St. Hedwig's Orphanage was a landmark in Niles for years until it became

Niles College Seminary, and was finally sold and razed for condominiums in the 1990s. Many children were brought to the orphanage to be raised by the nuns and priests of the Archdiocese of Chicago. Families often gave up their children during difficult financial times, a heartbreaking occurrence all too common in early Chicago history.

The Niles Historical Society is currently developing an exhibit on St. Hedwig's. With the assistance of Susan Danielson of Yuma, Arizona, Walter Beusse has been working diligently over the past three months creating a detailed history of St. Hedwig's. Watch for it in the near future or call us at (847) 390-0160.

Electronics Recycling & Document Destruction Event

In cooperation with the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC), the Village of Niles Public Services Department and volunteers from the Environmental Practices Committee will host an Electronics Recycling and Document Destruction Event for Niles residents and SWANCC member communities at no cost on **Saturday, June 30, 2012** from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. The event will be held at the Niles Public Services Department, 6849 West Touhy Avenue.

Only residentially generated electronic equipment and documents will be collected at the event. Businesses, school districts and governmental institutions are prohibited from participating in the event, but are encouraged to visit www.swancc.org for local recycling info. The following

electronic items may be recycled:

- Computers - PCs/Laptops
- Computer Monitors
- DVD/VHS Players
- Fax Machines
- Mobile Phones
- Peripherals - mice, keyboards, zip drives,
- MP3 Players
- PDAs
- Printers
- Scanners
- Televisions
- Video Game Consoles

For the Document Destruction Event, residents will be limited to six banker-sized boxes. A sample of the following items that can be brought to the event:

- Bank Statements
- Medical Forms
- Personal Files

- Retired Tax Forms
- Receipts

Staples and paper clips do not need to be removed, but please remove binders. All documents are shredded on-site.

Supply-Chain Services, Inc., (ISO 14001, ISO 9001, IAER and NAID certified), www.supply-chainservices.com, will recycle all computer/electronic materials in a data-secure and environmentally responsible manner at its Lombard, IL facility.

SEE YOU THERE!





Clean Air Counts Improve Air Quality This Spring

In Your Home. When you use air-friendly products in your home, you not only help improve the region's smog problem, you improve indoor air quality, which affects your family's health. Ozone can cause health problems, especially for children and seniors. In warmer weather, ozone can limit our outdoor activities because it makes it harder to breathe. Ozone also damages trees, plants, and animals.

3 Simple Steps to Cleaner Air. Here are just a few ways that you can reduce your household's contribution to the formation of "smog" or ozone:

- Drive less and walk or bike whenever possible
- Purchase no- or low-VOC products
- Mow your lawn and fill your gas tank in the evening or cooler part of a summer day

Visit www.cleanaircounts.org



Niles Free Bus

"It takes you where you need to go."
Quarterly Courtesy Bus Ridership
October 2011 through December 2011

<u>Bus Route</u>	<u>Ridership</u>
411 Regular	25,171
411 Reverse	27,150
412 North Special	20,607
413 South Special	5,099
TOTALS	78,027



Dine-In Niles Program For Spring Dining Experience

The 2011-2012 Dine-In Niles Program is in full swing. Participating card holders are enjoying a 10% discount at 50 diversely delicious Niles restaurants.

The program is designed to encourage residents to dine at our local restaurants first. The 10% discount is an incentive to dine at your favorite restaurant more frequently or try a new local restaurant. 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 for updates to the participating restaurant listing.

PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS

<i>168 Chinese Restaurant</i>	<i>Himalayan Restaurant</i>
<i>Al's Beef</i>	<i>Jersey Mike's</i>
<i>Amici Restaurant</i>	<i>Just Like Home</i>
<i>Auntie Anne's Pretzels</i>	<i>Lone Tree Manor</i>
<i>Bakers Square</i>	<i>Los Comales Mexican Rest.</i>
<i>Barnaby's Pizza</i>	<i>Mango Restaurant</i>
<i>BBQ Grill</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>Chambers</i>	<i>Panda Express</i>
<i>Chasers Bar & Grill</i>	<i>Papa John's Pizza</i>
<i>Cheogajip Chicken & Pizza</i>	<i>Pizza Hut</i>
<i>Chicago Style Hotdogs</i>	<i>Pizza King</i>
<i>Chinese Inn</i>	<i>Play Book Sports Bar</i>
<i>Cid's Ma Mon Luk</i>	<i>Quiznos Subs</i>
<i>Cinnabon</i>	<i>Riggio's Restaurant</i>
<i>Dear Franks</i>	<i>Siam's House Restaurant</i>
<i>Du Re Bak Restaurant</i>	<i>Subway Sandwiches</i>
<i>Dunkin Donuts/Baskin-Robbins/Dunkin Deli</i>	<i>Surf City Squeeze</i>
<i>Fluky's</i>	<i>Taco Burrito King</i>
<i>Golf Mill Cafe</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>
<i>Your Eatery Here</i>	<i>Your Eatery Here</i>
<i>Your Eatery Here</i>	<i>Your Eatery Here</i>

Senior Center

(847) 588-8420

Spring Programs Are Full of Activity

Navigating Retirement's Changing Landscape Saturday, March 31



Retirement planning isn't as simple as it used to be: Strategies that worked well in the past may now have to be reconsidered in light of inflation, changes in corporate retirement plans, uncertainty about Social Security, market conditions and other factors. Please join us for an informa-

tive seminar that examines the changing landscape of retirement and offers actionable recommendations on how to plan for – and achieve – the retirement you envision.

2nd Annual Hearing Fair Friday, April 13



Learn about your ears and how you hear at the 2nd Annual Hearing Health Fair. Niles Senior Center, in conjunction with Schaumburg Township Disability Services, is hosting the event to educate area residents about hearing loss and other hearing treatment options. The event is free to the public and will feature speakers and

several vendors providing information, resources, and demonstrations on the latest products and services for individuals with hearing loss.



Annual Rummage Sale Saturday, April 21

Come one come all to the NSC's Annual Rummage Sale. There will be over 40 vendors! Raffles to be won! \$2.00 hot dog lunches for sale, while supplies last. Open to the public!

Which Way to Stage Left with Still Acting Up! Saturday, May 19

Still Acting Up! performs live on stage at the Niles Senior Center. Still Acting Up! is a Skokie Park District-sponsored performance troupe of talented seniors over the age of 60. Call 847-588-8420 for ticket information.

Film Screening and Discussion "5000 Miles From Home" Monday, May 21



As seen on PBS and Film festivals nationally, *5,000 Miles From Home* tells the riveting tale of a generation of Italian kids from the streets of Chicago who proudly answered the call to serve their country during World War II. In-depth interviews with two dozen veterans are interwoven with vintage film footage and rare archival photos as you follow these brave men from their working-

class roots to their wartime travails to the very different lives they led when they came back home. As this saga unfolds, a well-earned spotlight is shone on a generation of true Americans who, to this day, remain both humble and heroic.



The Niles Teen Center

A Great Place to Meet, Learn, Play, and Participate

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 Party at Golf Mill, a trip to a Wolves hockey game and the Aurora Outlet Mall, a night at Sky High Sports, monthly movie nights, monthly cooking and arts n' crafts projects, the 5th Annual Lock-In Party and 8th Annual Job Shadow Day.

For more information on the Niles Teen Center, visit us on the web at ww.NilesTeenCenter.com, stop by the Niles Teen Center at Golf Mill Shopping Mall, or call 847-375-8949.



Niles community teens spend time together at an event in the Golf Mill Mall.

Police Department (847) 588-6500



Volunteers in Police Service Program. The Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) program is a national program that serves to enhance the

capacity of state and local law enforcement through the use of specially trained volunteers.

A VIPS volunteer is someone who performs service without promise, expectation, or receipt of compensation for services rendered. VIPS volunteers are in-

volved in a number of law enforcement agency activities.

If you are interested in learning how to become a member of the Niles Police VIPS program, please contact Sgt. Ronald Brandt at 847-588-6500.



Obstructing of Sidewalks. Ordinance Chapter 98, Section 98-157-10 states that it shall be unlawful for the operator of

any vehicle to stop, stand or park a vehicle within any sidewalk area.

Fire Department (847) 588-8098



Portable Generator Safety

The primary hazards to avoid when using generators are carbon monoxide poisoning, electric shock or electrocution, and fire. One generator can produce as much carbon monoxide as hundreds of

cars. Carbon monoxide from a generator is deadly and can incapacitate and kill you within minutes.

According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, nearly 600 generator related carbon monoxide deaths have been reported for the period from 1999 to 2010. The majority of these deaths occurred as a result of using a generator inside a home or garage.

To Avoid Carbon Monoxide Hazards

- Always use generators outdoors, away from doors, windows and vents.
- NEVER use generators in homes, garages, basements, crawl spaces, or other enclosed or partially enclosed areas, even with ventilation.
- Follow manufacturer's instructions.
- Install battery-operated or plug-in (with battery backup) carbon monoxide (CO) alarms in your home, following manufacturer's instructions.

- Test CO alarms often and replace batteries when needed.

To Avoid Electrical Hazards

- Keep the generator dry. Operate on a dry surface under an open, canopy-like structure.
- Dry your hands before touching the generator.
- Plug appliances directly into generator or use a heavy-duty outdoor-rated extension cord. Make sure the entire extension cord is free of cuts or tears and the plug has all 3 prongs, especially a grounding pin.
- NEVER plug the generator into a wall outlet. This practice, known as backfeeding, can cause an electrocution risk to utility workers and others served by the same utility transformer.

To Avoid Fire Hazards

- Before refueling the generator, turn it off and let it cool. Fuel spilled on hot engine parts could ignite.
- Always store fuel outside of living areas in properly labeled, non-glass containers.
- Store fuel away from any fuel-burning appliance.
- Information for this fact sheet was provided by the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

If you have any questions concerning generators and their use, please contact the Niles Fire Department at 847-588-6800. Have a safe and fire free Spring!



Since standard homeowners insurance does not cover flooding, it is important to have flood protection. Any property (in the flood plain or not) qualifies for National Flood Insurance to protect against overland flooding through windows or doors.

www.floodsmart.gov

Village of Niles Stormwater Commission Final Stormwater Open House

The Stormwater Commission will be hosting a final Open House on Thursday, March 22, 2012 at the Niles Senior Center from 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The goal is to share draft recommendations from the detailed study completed by the engineering firm of Hey & Associates.

The first open house/workshop in 2009 was held to gain a better understanding of where there is chronic flooding. This March open house will educate residents about why there is chronic flooding and give them an opportunity to respond to recommended engineering solutions.

Following the open house, there will be time for the Stormwater Commission and Hey & Associates to finalize project priorities for a planned presentation to the Village Board on April 24, 2012, with a final Stormwater Relief Program presentation to the Village Board on May 22, 2012. Funding for an approved Stormwater Relief Program through a 1/4 cent sales tax increase was approved by the Village Board on January 24, 2012.

ATTENTION!

You May Be Eligible For A Housing Rehabilitation Grant

Was your home damaged by the 2008 flood? Then you may be eligible for funding to make your home a healthy home.

To Qualify For Grant Funds:

- Home must be single family;
- Home must be outside of 100-year flood plain;
- Home must have been your primary residence and you were owner of record;
- Homeowner must have applied to FEMA in 2008;
- Household must be Low and Moderate Income; and
- Home must have minimum of \$10,000 of remaining damage.

To check further on your qualifications or to apply, contact Steven Vinezeano at 847-588-8007 before March 20, 2012.



Milwaukee Avenue Streetscape The Work Continues Spring 2012

The State of Illinois chosen contractor for the Milwaukee Avenue Streetscape project is Martam Construction. Martam Construction expects to begin work in early April with a completion date set for late August 2012. The intersections that will be improved are Milwaukee Avenue at Harlem, Howard, and Oakton. This work is a continuation of the work completed at the intersection of Touhy.

The improvements, which will cause temporary road closures, will include new sidewalks, pedestrian lighting, brick pavers, street furniture, decorative fencing, planters and improved pedestrian signals. These streetscape elements provide pedestrians and vehicle occupants alike with a more pleasant and safe travel experience.

The project began in 2005 with a \$100,000 Regional Transportation Authority grant. Through the efforts of the Milwaukee Avenue Streetscape Committee, this initial study led to a corridor plan approved by the Village Board in 2006, a streetscape plan approved in 2008 and the first improvements made at Touhy and Milwaukee in 2010. This and future construction this Spring have been funded through Illinois Transportation Enhancement grants and a Transportation, Community and System Preservation Project grant totaling over \$2.6 million. Future grants are being pursued for work north of Oakton and Milwaukee to the northern border of Niles.

Public Services

(847)588-7900

2012 Free Branch Pickup Service

Place your branches at the curb in the morning of the dates indicated below for pickup during that week.

For residents living EAST OF MILWAUKEE AVENUE, branch pickup begins:

- Monday, April 2
- Monday, May 7
- Monday, June 4
- Monday, July 2
- Monday, August 6
- Tuesday, September 4 (Monday holiday)

For residents living WEST OF MILWAUKEE AVENUE, branch pickup begins:

- Monday, March 26
- Monday, April 30
- Tuesday, May 29 (Monday holiday)
- Monday, June 25
- Monday, July 30
- Monday, August 27
- Monday, September 24

Remember: Branches will be picked up sometime during the designated week, not necessarily on the first day.

Instructions:

- Yard waste bags or stickers are not required.
- Branches must be less than 10 inches in diameter.
- Branches must be tied in bundles no more than 18 inches in diameter and 4 feet in length (one person must be able to lift the bundle).
- No stumps, roots or attached dirt will be accepted.
- Larger logs and branches should be disposed of by a tree service or landscaper hired by the homeowner.

Free wood chips are available to residents. Call Public Services Department at 847-588-7900 if you have any questions regarding this service.



Residents who do not bundle branches may be cited until they properly bundle the branches or remove them from the right-of-way.

Electronics Waste Disposal **** Correction ****

SWANCC Glenview Transfer Station Open Saturdays Only

What do you do if you have a TV, computer monitor, desktop/notebook computer and other e-waste that you no longer need? These items must now be recycled. The Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) has a permanent electronics collection site at the Glenview Transfer Station located at 1151 N. River Road that is open on **Saturdays only**. Saturday drop off is from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The Transfer Station is closed June 2 and July 7.

To learn more go to www.swancc.org or call SWANCC at 847-724-9205.



REDUCE ~ REUSE ~ RECYCLE

(SEE PAGE 2 FOR OUR NEXT LOCAL COLLECTION)



Village of Niles
1000 Civic Center Drive
Niles, Illinois 60714

PRSR STD
U.S. Postage
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Morton Grove, IL

ECRWSS
POSTAL CUSTOMER



niles

family fitness center

fit for every **BODY**

**REDEEM FOR
ONE MONTH FREE**

&

NO ENROLLMENT FEES

ON

ALL NEW ADULT ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS

OFFER EXPIRES: MARCH 31, 2012

TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY

847-588-8400

www.nilesfitness.com

The Niles Family Fitness Center features extensive fitness areas, including a lap pool and zero depth leisure pool with water slide and fountain, free weights, exercise machines and aerobic area, gymnasium with basketball and volleyball courts, indoor running track, and full locker room and shower facilities. Check our low membership price!