

FOCUS ON NILES

Community Newsletter

"Where People Count"

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Village Hall Closed

September 5
(Labor Day)

November 11
(Veteran's Day)

November 24/25
(Thanksgiving Day)

Property Tax Bill News



Dear Niles Resident:

You either recently received or are about to receive your second installment property tax bill for this year. This is typically the one that raises your taxes, if they are going to be raised. After you get your bill and look at the bottom line, which is the total tax, and you realize that your taxes may have gone up, the first thing that you should do is look at the part of your tax bill that lists the taxing bodies. This will show you which bodies raised the taxes the most, and you should be concerned with the ones that get most of your tax dollars.

Check your high school and grade school districts, which are the most important, then follow through with the County of Cook, Water Reclamation District, Niles Park

District, Niles Public Library District, and the Village of Niles.

You should always look at these figures because you might be asked in the near future by any one of these districts to allow for a referendum to increase their tax rate. You should make inquiries of all of these different taxing bodies so that you are aware of how they spend your money. This is very important! Often times, when you get your tax bill you look at it and if it has gone up you get upset and you don't look through it to see where the fault may lie.

Lastly and most important, all of these taxing districts ask for a raise in taxes only when they need it. But again, it is up to you as a taxpayer to inquire to make sure that when they do increase taxes, they truly need it.

Nicholas B. Blase



Mayor Blase, Trustee Preston, Trustee Bondi, and Trustee Biederman congratulate winners of the Optimist Club Handwriting Contest. The winners are Mahek Dhanani from Culver and Annmarie Mahoney, Regina Garcia, Kelly Carrera from St. John Brebeuf. Also shown are John Jekot and Jerry Szczepanski.



Megan Cheever is congratulated for being the Grand Prize Winner of the Niles Crime Stoppers First Annual Logo Contest. Pictured from left to right are: Marimel Lim, Morgan Dubiel, Megan Cheever, Mayor Blase, Deputy Police Chief Giovannelli, and Village Trustee Bart Murphy.

Shop Niles



Village of Niles, Illinois

1000 Civic Center Drive, Illinois 60714 (847) 588-8000 www.vniles.com



Officer Zourkas Badge Retired At Special Police Ceremony

Steven Zourkas, the first Niles police officer ever lost in the line of duty, had his badge retired at a special ceremony in August. The ceremony was held at the Niles Police Building where the badge now hangs on a wall of honor.

Steven Zourkas was survived by his wife and newborn son. "It's a fitting way to do honor to his career with the department," said Police Chief Strzelecki.



Father John Hall and parishioner Joe Bialko of Our Lady of Ransom shares the opening of the Annual Family Fun Fest with Mayor Blase, Trustee Callero, Trustee Przybylo, and Village Attorney Joe Annunzio. In June 2005, Our Lady or Ransom celebrated 12 years of this annual event.



Rich Goszczynski is congratulated by Mayor Blase for 35 & 1/2 years of service working for the Water Department fixing water-main breaks in the middle of the night during frigid winters. We'll miss his "can do" attitude and dedication to service.

Niles Historical Museum Come Join Us This Fall!!!

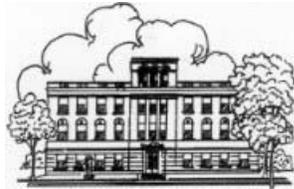
Come join us this fall! We have wonderful programs scheduled. It is a great way to spend a couple of hours enjoying a program and touring your Museum.

Fall Programs:

Sunday, September 25, 2005 at 2:00 pm Chicago Public Sculpture by Michelle Mishur - A variety of public sculptures in and around Chicago's Loop area will be discussed (Pablo Picasso, Loreda Taft, and Claes Oldenburg). This program is paid in part by the Illinois Humanities Council.

Sunday, October 23, 2005 at 2:00 pm Appraisals by Karl Gates - Karl Gates will be on hand to appraise your treasures. Watch newspapers for details.

Saturday and Sunday, November 5 & 6, 2005 at 2:00 pm Annual Tea Fun-T. Enjoy tea, finger sandwiches and desserts with friends, neighbors and family. Reservations required.



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847-390-0160

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Nicholas B. Blase
Mayor@vniles.com

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Kim Sychowski Biederman
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Louella Preston
Andrew Przybylo

Trustee@vniles.com

Village Clerk

Marcia Jendreas

Village Manager

Mary Kay Morrissey

Village Holidays

July 4, Independence Day

Village Phone Numbers

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Emergency..... | 911 |
| Information Line..... | 588-8411 |
| Mayor's Office..... | 588-8003 |
| Village Clerk's Office..... | 588-8003 |
| Administrative Offices..... | 588-8000 |
| TDD..... | 588-8059 |
| Finance Department..... | 588-8000 |
| Community Development..... | 588-8040 |
| Fire Department..... | 588-6800 |
| Police Department..... | 588-6500 |
| Consumer Fraud..... | 588-6524 |
| Public Services..... | 588-7900 |
| Human Services..... | 588-8460 |
| TDD..... | 588-8440 |
| Senior Center..... | 588-8420 |
| TDD..... | 588-8487 |
| Family Fitness Center..... | 588-8400 |
| TDD..... | 588-8433 |
| Free Bus System..... | 588-7960 |

Community News

Milwaukee Ave. Corridor Study Keep Up To Date On the Web



For the latest on the Milwaukee Avenue Corridor Study, please see www.vniles.com under the "Information" link. Here you will find the latest information about the study and learn when/where the next public involvement process will occur. For more information, contact the Assistant Village Manager at 847-588-8007 or scv@vniles.com

Save Money This Winter By Keeping the Cold Out



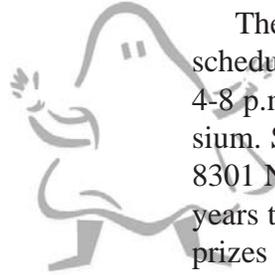
Hot tips to keep the cold out

- " Consider a humidifier because it makes your home feel warmer and more comfortable.
- " Experiment with your settings to find a lower temperature that is comfortable.

- " Install a programmable thermostat that can be set to lower the temp when you're sleeping or at work.
- " Close heat vents in rooms that are mostly unused.
- " Move furniture, draperies or other objects blocking registers, radiators or air conditioners.
- " Install ceiling fans.
- " Don't put lights by your thermostat.
- " Remove window air conditioners in the winter, then seal the space where it was installed.

For more, visit www.nicor.com or call 1-888-642-6748.

Halloween Party



The village Halloween party is scheduled for October 31, 2005 from 4-8 p.m. at St. John Brebeuf gymnasium. St. John Brebeuf is located at 8301 N. Harlem Ave. As in previous years there will be candy, games, and prizes for all who come.

West Nile Virus

Take Every Precaution!!



Mild cases of West Nile infections may cause a slight fever or headache. More severe infections are marked by a rapid onset of a high fever with head and body aches, disorientation, tremors, convulsions and, in the most severe cases, paralysis or death. Usually symptoms occur from three to 14 days after the bite of an infected mosquito. Persons at the highest risk for serious illness are those 50 years of age or older.

The best way to prevent West Nile encephalitis is to reduce the number of mosquitoes around your home and to take personal precautions to avoid mosquito bites.

To learn more about West Nile virus and other mosquito-borne diseases and about prevention methods, read the other materials available on the IDPH West Nile virus Web site or contact the Illinois Department of Public Health West Nile virus information hotline at 866-369-9710, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

I.C.E. - In Case of Emergency A Method To Notify Next of Kin Quick



ICE stands for 'In Case of Emergency'. Add this acronym to your cell phone contacts list along with the name and number of someone who should be contacted on your behalf in case of an emergency.

The ICE concept is the brain-child of a Cambridge paramedic. A UK mobile phone provider, launched a national campaign to encourage people to use ICE in their mobile phones. According to Vodafone, 8 out of 10 people don't carry I.D. Storing emergency contact

details in your cell phone could assist emergency personnel if you're unable to tell them whom to contact.

ICE provides valuable contact information to emergency professionals, but should be used in addition to, not in place of, other more standard forms of identification. Cell phones can be damaged; contact information could not be retrieved. Some phone users program PINs, or other blocking actions that would prevent emergency personnel from accessing contact information in the phone.

You may also want to carry a hard copy of your emergency contact information on your person - in your wallet, purse, etc.

Taste of Sister Cities

**At the White Eagle Banquets
6839 Milwaukee Ave., Niles**

**Date: Sunday, November 20, 2005
Time: 1:30 p.m. till 6:00 p.m.**



Admission:
\$15 per adult; \$7 per child (ages 6 through 12);
and children under 5 free

For more information contact Denise Joseph at 847/588-8008
All proceeds will fund our programs fostering peace & harmony among people!

Other activities Include: ethnic live music, door prizes, children's games, silent auction to start your holiday shopping, cash bar, watch the Bears game and don't forget — food a plenty!



Merck Prescription Discount Program *Something for Residents to Think About*



According to the U.S. Census Bureau, an estimated 15.6% of the population lack health insurance and prescription drug coverage. Merck & Company provides all uninsured patients in the United States - regardless of age or income - an easy and immediate access to discounts of 15 to 40 percent on many Merck medicines.

Merck, in order to improve access to its medicines, has initiated the Merck Prescription Discount Program for uninsured patients. By presenting an Instant Savings Certificate to your pharmacist, along with a valid prescription, uninsured patients can save up to 10% on their prescriptions. The Certificates are available in pharmacies and doctors offices free of charge. To obtain even greater savings of 15% to 40% , you can enroll in this

program. Enrollment is free with no annual membership or hidden fees. To print out an Instant Savings Certificate, enroll in this program or obtain additional information visit the Merck Company website at www.merckuninsured.com.

Niles Free Bus

Take the Free Bus to shop, visit Village facilities, and even connect with other bus or train routes.
Call (847) 588-8000 for information.



Human Services

The Niles Senior Center By Director Jim Stavish

Flu Shot Clinics

October 25th - October 27th



Every year the Senior Center Nurse has secured flu vaccine for our seniors.

Again, this year, Sue Friedman, RN, MSN, has been assured that our usual number of doses will arrive in time for our Flu Clinics, with Homebound Seniors receiving their shots the first week in November. (Registration forms and more information can be found in the Sept. Program Guide.) Flu shots will only be given in the specific time slots to those members who are registered.

So far, we have not heard of any problems with the availability of this year's flu vaccine allotment of 1400 shots (the same as last year). However, it is to the senior's benefit to register as soon as possible

because vaccinations are given on a first come-first served basis. If you have any questions, please call Sue Friedman at 847-588-8420.



The following three October and November special events are only available to Senior Center members. If you're not a member, it's easy to join and there is no membership fee. To become a member you must be a Niles resident and 62 years or older. Call us at 847-588-8420 to join.

If tickets are still available the week before the date of the event, non members may call us to buy remaining tickets on a first come first served basis. For more details on these events, please see future Program Guides and our news releases in the local newspapers.

Annual Dinner Dance "Fall Fantasy"

October 7th - 5:00pm to 9:00pm

Fine dining with listening and/or dancing to Sark Antaramian & the MidNite Xpres.

"4th Annual Pet Parade"

October 10th at 1:00pm



Whether large or small, cute or scary, four footed (or three), costumed pets and their adoring humans take center stage to thrill animal lovers of all ages at our Pet Parade.

"Extended Trip to Springfield"

November 9th & November 10th



In response to many member requests, the Senior Center developed its own overnight trip to Springfield. Stay overnight at the Hilton Springfield, the tallest building located in downtown Springfield, overlooking our State Capital. See the sites!

Niles Healthy Community Partnership Parents, Teenagers and the Law



Over the last eight years the Niles Healthy Community Partnership has been meeting on a regular basis to discuss the various issues that affect Niles and its residents. The group is made up of community members from all walks of life. We have made an impact on the needs of families with children and teens. To that end, the partnership with the cooperation of Lutheran General Hospital, has printed a pamphlet on Parents, Teenagers and the Law. Over the next couple of Focus On Niles we will highlight different aspects of the pamphlet.

Parental Responsibility

As a parent or guardian, you are legally responsible

for your child's behavior. For example, you are liable for a child under the age of 21 who is permitted to consume alcohol at your residence and after leaving your premises causes injury to an individual or damage to property.

Alcohol

- It is against the law for any person under the age of 21 to consume, purchase or possess alcohol.
- Parents may be held responsible if their children consume, possess or purchase alcohol.
- The use of false identification to purchase alcohol is against the law. No adult may purchase alcohol for any one under the age of 21.
- No owner or occupant of any premises in Niles shall permit a person under 21 to possess or consume alcohol on the premises.

To see the entire pamphlet either go to the Village of Niles web site, www.vniles.com, or contact Niles Family Service for a hard copy of the pamphlet. See you in December!

Public Safety

AMBER ALERT

The AMBER Alert is an early warning system that alerts the public when a child has been abducted. The concept for AMBER Alert is law enforcement and the media working together to alert the public and effect the quick, safe recovery of abducted children.

The idea for an early warning system was conceived in 1996 as a memorial to nine-year-old Amber Hagerman who was kidnaped while riding her bicycle in Arlington, Texas. Dallas area broadcasters came up with the idea of an Emergency Alert System to relay child abduction information to the public via television and radio.

The early warning concept, now called AMBER Alert, quickly spread to other communities and states. In 2002, President George W. Bush directed the U.S.

Department of Justice to help every state set up its own AMBER plan.

Illinois AMBER Alert plan uses television, radio, and road signs to give as much information possible on the abducted child and offender. Often, offender vehicle information is provided allowing motorists to be on the look out for the offending vehicle. When the child is found an "all-clear" message is broadcast and the AMBER Alert is canceled.

AMBER Alerts have been effective throughout the United States in locating abducted children. Through the efforts of the police, media, and public the safe return of children becomes a total team effort.



Candles Are Popular But Know These Safety Tips



The Fire Department would like you to consider the following regarding the use of candles this fall and holiday season:

Safety Tips

- Keep candles away from items that can catch fire.
- Use candle holders that are sturdy, won't tip over easily, are made from a material that can't burn and are large enough to collect wax drippings.
- Don't place lit candles near open windows.
- Keep candles and all open flames away from flammable liquids
- Keep candles away from places where they can be knocked over.
- Do not allow children to have candles in their bedrooms
- Never use a candle when checking pilot lights or fueling equipment.

Citizens Police Academy Come Join a Class Today



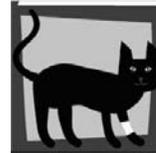
The Police Department is currently accepting applications for the Citizens Police Academy.

Residents, business owners, & Village employees may apply for the upcoming academy session. The Academy is a twelve week program designed to give a working knowledge of the Niles Police Department.

The classes and discussions are held once a week from 6:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. Enrollment is limited to 20 students and there is no cost involved. Classes start on September 13, 2005. Those interested can pick up applications at the Niles Police Department located at 7000 W. Touhy. Call 847-588-6500.

Protect Your Pets

By Animal Control Officer Babikan



The Humane Society recommends the following to keep their pets safe this Halloween:

- " Keep pets safely inside. Black cats should be kept inside during Halloween week to avoid becoming the target of pranksters.
 - " Keep candy safely out of your pet's reach.
 - " Keep pets away from decorations and open flames.
 - " If you take your pet trick-or-treating, make sure they are wearing a collar with ID and rabies tags.
 - " Be alert when people your dog is unfamiliar with approach so your pet does not feel threatened and bite.
- Hopefully these safety tips will help you, your family and your pet have a safe Halloween.

Animal Control Officer Babikan may be reached at 847-588-6508.

Public Services

Leaf Collection



The Village leaf pickup program runs from mid-October through late November and is provided to residents every

other week according to the following schedule.

" For residents living **EAST OF MILWAUKEE AVENUE**, pickup begins on the following Mondays and continues through that week. Residents should place their leaves in the curb on the appropriate Monday for pickup during the week. Leaf

pickup begins on the following dates: October 3rd, October 17th, October 31st, and November 14th.

" For residents living **WEST OF MILWAUKEE AVENUE**, pickup begins on the following Mondays and continues through that week.

Residents should place their leaves in the curb on the appropriate Monday for pickup during the week. Leaf pickup begins on the following dates: October 10th, October 24th, and November 7th

PLEASE KEEP IN MIND

" Loose leaves should be raked into the curb by Monday of the pickup week and be free of foreign materials such as grass, branches, plants and rocks.

" Leaves will not be collected if they are placed in plastic bags or

boxes - all leaves must be loose.

" Leaves placed for pickup on the appropriate Monday morning will be picked up during that week, not necessarily that Monday.

" To provide the leaf collection equipment better access to the streets, residents are encouraged to park vehicles in garages or driveways.

" Residents choosing to bag their leaves may purchase yard waste stickers (\$1.00 each), and place the sticker on the paper yard waste bag or a 35 gallon garbage can used for disposal and placed for collection on their regular garbage pickup day.

Remember, leaves placed for pickup on the appropriate Monday morning will be picked up during that week, not necessarily that Monday. Please contact the Public Services Department at 588-7900 should you have any questions regarding this service.

Branch Pickup Service



The Village of Niles free branch pickup program runs through September, and is provided to residents once a month according to the following schedule:

" For residents living **EAST OF MILWAUKEE AVE**, branch pickup begins:

August 1st & September 6th (Monday Holiday)

" For residents living **WEST OF MILWAUKEE AVE**, branch pickup begins:

August 29th & September 26th

PLEASE KEEP IN MIND

" Residents should place their branches at the curb on

the first Monday of each month for pickup during the week.

" Branches must be less than 10 inches in diameter.

" Branches should be tied in bundles no more than 18 inches in diameter and 4 feet in length (one person must lift bundle).

" No stumps, roots or attached dirt will be accepted.

" Yard waste bags or stickers are not needed to use this service.

" Larger sized logs and branches should be disposed of by a tree service or landscaper hired by the homeowner.

Remember, branches placed at the curb on the appropriate Monday morning will be picked up during that week, not necessarily that Monday. Please contact the Public Services Department at 588-7900 should you have any questions regarding this service.



niles family fitness center
fit for every **body**

FALL MEMBERSHIP SPLASH

3 ADDITIONAL MONTHS FREE
25% SAVINGS
PLUS
\$0 ENROLLMENT (\$59 SAVINGS)
ON ALL
NEW ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS



30 Day Money Back Guarantee/No long Term Contracts

Offer Effective: September 1- 30, 2005

www.nilesfitness.com

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