

Focus On Niles

Best Place in America
to Raise Kids

Summer 2014 1000 Civic Center Drive Niles, IL 60714 P: 847-588-8000 E: ContactNiles@vniles.com



Why Niles is a Great Place to Live



Niles Services

Residents of other communities may envy Niles's level of services, including basic core services such as our excellent Police, Fire, and Public Works departments because Niles provides more services than other communities of the same size. The Village of Niles is a service-based organization that provides residents with a wide range of service options. Unlike other municipalities in Illinois, residents of Niles enjoy a Free Bus, Family Fitness Center with reduced rates for residents, a top-notch Senior Center, an award-winning Teen Center, and a Family Services Department dedicated to the wellbeing of the citizenry. Each department offers a wide-range of useful services.

A few services that should be highlighted include Niles's free garbage pickup, free leaf collection, and free branch collection. There are also a number of fun, family-friendly events offered free of charge to residents including participation in the Fourth of July parade, Bike Niles, and the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony.

Niles Seniors enjoy many benefits as well including Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP)–Medicare Counseling including Medicare D, Affordable Care Act (ACA), a low cost Lifeline Program, Niles Helping Elders through Referral and Outreach (HERO) Program, VENTRA, SCRAM, and Meals on Wheels.

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Message from Mayor Przybylo

Dear Niles Residents,

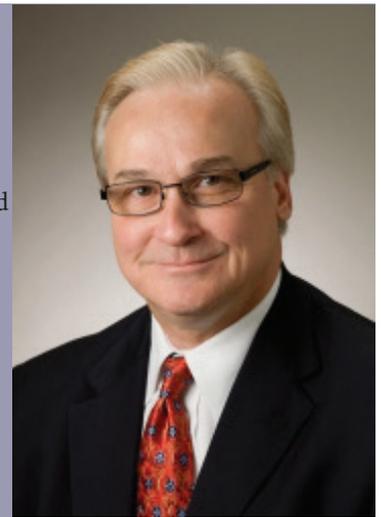
On May 14, 2013 I was sworn in as Mayor of Niles. Since then, I believe I have upheld the duties of my office and have worked hard in the service of the residents of Niles and the business owners. People ask me how I like serving as Mayor and I say that I enjoy having the creative and business person's impact, and that it takes more time than I expected. Thank God for an understanding wife and family.

I learned long ago some things about public service. I learned that there is the election but also the serving. Once elected

you better be thinking about earning the public's trust and their approval—for everyday is your race for re-election. I learned that there is leadership and then there is representation. Sometimes, leadership means promoting something that people don't understand or are prejudiced against. And, I learned never—ever falsify, when presenting yourself. Finally, I've learned that folks who live in Niles (or work here) expect and deserve basic, efficient service and safety--with the lowest possible taxes. And, to the extent that the Village government

can do more for its citizens, it should. However, never should the government become invasive into personal liberties. Your government is here to make your life easier and better. These are the things that I believe in.

My friends, Niles is at a crossroads and I am confident that we will take the right path to build a new Niles- A Village that will work toward prosperity for its citizens and business owners. We will build economic value, while promoting civic-social and family values. We will do so as a community with the utmost in



transparency. We will be "The Village with a World of Service". We kind of are already.
Sincerely,

Mayor Andrew Przybylo

For the latest Niles updates and information, check out our NEW website www.vniles.com or find us on Facebook and Twitter



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www.facebook.com/villageofniles



Follow us on Twitter!
www.twitter.com/VNilesIL

Niles Cont. from Pg. 1

How is Niles able to perform all of these services for residents?

Niles sales tax, its primary source of revenue, is the primary reason the Village is able to provide the extensive services it does while keeping other fees and taxes low compared to other communities. Sales tax is primarily supported by nonresidents; therefore the benefits received by residents are being primarily paid by people that don't actually live in the community.

The Board of Trustees and Village staff also perform a number of cost control efforts including cost sharing with other communities, refunding of debt to take advantage of low interest costs, taking advantage of low interest State loan programs, energy saving initiatives, and applying for grants from various state and federal agencies to assist capital projects. The Village participates in programs that result in direct savings to residents such as the municipal electric aggregation and the flood control cost sharing program. Niles is currently negotiating with several communities in an

Patriotic Pet Contest Winner



Tigger!

effort to come up with an alternative and more affordable water supplier than the City of Chicago. The Village's well-managed financial efforts have even been recognized by Moodys who recently issued Niles its AA1 bond rating, which keeps interest costs lower and helps keep costs down.

There are some major projects that need additional funding sources and cannot simply be addressed by reducing costs in other operations. These projects include the Storm Water Relief Program, a new Village water supplier, and maintenance of road, sewer, and watermain systems.

Despite all of these services and upcoming projects, Niles continues to have low taxes compared to other communities. Even with the increased service level, Niles property taxes on a per capita basis are 1/2 to 1/3 the amount of most surrounding communities.

The Village will continue to work to maintain the high service level in Niles while keeping fees and taxes as low as possible for the residents.

BUILDING COMMUNITY BLOCK BY BLOCK

People dream of living in an inclusive place where neighbors look out for one another, where children are safe, and where friendly greetings are exchanged in passing. Nancy Kleiber is one of those people, and she has made her dream a reality. “I love seeing a happy, friendly community where people help each other out,” Nancy said. “It just feels like home.”

Nancy moved to Niles from Chicago three years ago with a vision to create community. Nancy decided a block party would be the perfect vehicle to start connecting her community.

The results of Nancy’s first block party were amazing, and Nancy saw her neighborhood come together. She was surprised by the tremendous amount of support she received. “People came out and got to know each other, and had a great time breaking the ice,” she said.

The benefits of Nancy’s first block party continued long after the event ended. After taking that initial step, she started to see a community that

connected. This led to safety, awareness, and people helping each other. Neighbors shared phone numbers for emergencies; neighbors checked on homes when others were away; and neighbors even keep an eye on each other’s children.

Nancy has a full-time job and two young children, but that doesn’t stop her from passionately supporting her vision of community. She has continued to plan a block party every summer, and has started advocating for more block parties in Niles. Because of her advocacy, the Village website now has an improved Block Party page that will help residents who wish to throw their own block party. “I don’t do it alone. Every year I get more and more help. That’s the beauty of it, everybody pitches in, and everybody helps. Sometimes you just need that first step. Building community is the way I want to live my life. That’s how I am. I want to know everyone on my block. If they need help, I’m there.”

For Nancy, home goes beyond an address. Home is Niles.



Nancy's first block party in 2012.



Nancy and her son Nathan in a Niles Police squad car.

For more information on how to throw your own Block Party go to: vniles.com/702/Block-Party

If you know a resident with a great story, email hg@vniles.com

New Website

The Village of Niles’s new website, released February 25, is a great success. The purpose of the website is to give residents more tools that save time and effort in their daily lives. Department themed pages for the Senior Center, the Fitness Center, the Teen Center, and Niles Police provide an organized interface that is simple to use. The website has searchable calendars where residents can easily search for events and announcements. The new “How Do I...” section saves residents time and effort by providing answers to frequently asked questions. Residents can also submit concerns online through the website.

The website is now compatible with all mobile devices. To learn more, visit www.vniles.com

Stormwater Projects Continue to Move Forward

Construction on three Tier I Stormwater Relief Program projects totaling \$12.1M are set to begin this construction season. The projects are two westside storage basins on private property belonging to the Archdiocese and the much larger eastside Cleveland Relief Sewer project which begins at the North Branch of the Chicago River west of Caldwell Avenue and runs as far as Oketo Avenue with a number of branch connection sewers that run throughout the neighborhoods. This is a new storm sewer which will greatly improve the performance of the existing combined sewer systems. A number of smaller-scale projects are also planned over the next two years to further help



certain neighborhoods. Due to the two major rains in 2013, Mayor Andrew Przybylo announced the acceleration of the Stormwater Relief Plan by one year, but not all three projects can be completed at the same time. The two westside storage basin projects on private property will begin construction first because there were relatively few hurdles beyond a license agreement and plan approval. The eastside Cleveland Relief Sewer is planned for completion later in the year due to being a much more complex and involved project that crosses several jurisdictional boundaries.

Public Services Takes Children to School

Saint John Brebeuf students, Ryan and Kylie Hammer, cashed in on ride to school in a Public Services truck as part of a silent auction prize they won last fall in a school-held fundraiser.

Public Services picked up the Niles students in two six-wheel dump trucks used for hauling materials and plowing and salting highways in the winter. There were two trucks- one for each prize winner- and the winners were able to communicate back and forth through the two-way radio from the separate trucks driven by public service employees John Kosina and Gary Wendell. "It was a huge success and the kids loved it, as did the school principal, their classmates and the other parents," said Public Work's Streets Superintendent, Fred Braun. "We timed it so they would pull in to the school when the other kids were getting dropped off."



The trucks pulled in with flashing lights and honked their horns. Once the trucks were parked, the children were allowed to raise the dump box of the truck all the way up and lower it back down using the controls inside the truck.

Rain Barrels

The Environmental Practices Committee will be present at the Niles 4th of July parade and at the Niles Park District Post-Parade

Celebration. The EPC will be raffling off a free rain barrel to one lucky resident. Look for their table at Grennan Heights and fill out a raffle form!



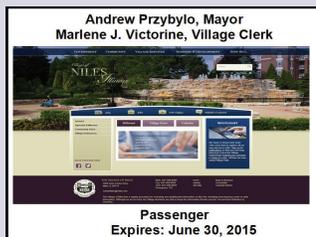
Helping Injured/ Orphaned Wildlife Babies

If you should happen to come across an injured or "orphaned" baby animal, the best option is to leave it alone, and keep an eye on it before trying to help. Animals may appear helpless, but they may just be in a transitional stage of growth. If you decide the animal does need help, the best thing to do is to keep the animal dry and warm and handle it as little as possible. The parents **will** still care for their young even if it is touched by humans. **Never** offer an injured or sick animal food or water as this may actually harm or kill them.

Contact your local animal control officer or a licensed wildlife rehabilitator to provide the proper care. Flint Creek Wildlife Rehabilitation (www.flintcreekwildlife.org) is a licensed facility to help injured/orphaned wildlife. Their website provides useful information should you find injured/orphaned wildlife or you can call them at 847-842-8000. For immediate assistance or information, please contact the Niles Police Department at 847-588-6500.

Village Hall Open Two Saturdays for Vehicle Sticker Purchase

In addition to regular business hours, the Village's Finance Department at Village Hall will



also be open on Saturday, June 21 and Saturday, June 28 from 8:30 a.m. until 12:00 noon for residents to purchase their vehicle stickers.

Vehicle stickers are valid from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015 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 30.

For more information, please call the Administration Building at: (847) 588-8000.



The Niles Senior Center coordinates a short-term Meals-on Wheels program for residents, age 60 and over, who are homebound and, due to illness or injury, are unable to prepare their own meals. This program requires a diet order from your physician. Meals are prepared at Bethany Terrace and delivered weekdays by volunteers. For more information please call: (847) 588-8420.

Tree Care Tips

The most beneficial time to water your trees or plants is early in the morning. For new trees, concentrate your watering close to the roots and avoid getting water on the trunk. Frequent deep watering will encourage deep rooting, which makes stronger, healthier plants or trees. Mulching around trees helps maintain moisture and temperature in the soil. Mulch should not touch the trunk of the tree because it can cause many problems, including decay and disease due to moisture retention in the trunk.

For more tree tips visit: www.arborday.org/trees/tips/



Hustle Up the Hancock

Niles Firefighters Compete in "Hustle Up The Hancock"

Here's a bit of trivia for everyone: How many steps does it take to climb the John Hancock Center in downtown Chicago? Just ask one of the twelve Niles Fire Department team members who participated in this year's "Hustle Up The Hancock" event on April 13, 2014.

More than 4,000 people climb to the top of the John Hancock Center every year to raise funds for lung disease research, advocacy and education. Respiratory Health Association hopes to raise over one million dollars this year alone.

Each year firefighters from across the country join their Chicago area brethren at Hustle Up The Hancock to honor the 343 fallen firefighters who gave their lives in the 9/11 World Trade Center disaster. Climbers choose from two categories – the full climb (94 floors) or the half climb (52 floors).

Which fire department has the fastest hustlers? The Village is proud to report that your Niles Fire Department finished second this year placing only 18 seconds behind first place Bartlett.

So how many steps does it take to climb to the 94th floor of the John Hancock Center? The full climb has **only** 1,632 steps. Now that's hustlin'!



National Youth Traffic Safety Month

May is National Youth Traffic Safety Month. Over the month of May the Niles Police Department will be utilizing Social Media to reach out to young people in an effort to increase youth traffic safety. In addition Officers from the Niles Police Department will be stepping up enforcement on impaired and distracted driving.

Parents take the time to have the Talk

As parents, you're the number one influence on what kind of driver your teens become. Help them develop a lifetime of good driving habits by following these simple steps:

-Have the Talk

Driving is a serious responsibility. Discuss what it means to be a safe driver with your teen and set ground rules for when they're behind the wheel.

-Make a Family Pledge

Print out the pledge form and have every member of your family commit to distraction-free driving.

-Know the Laws in Illinois

Remind your teen driver that there could be serious consequences for violating these laws - including a delayed or suspended license.

Illinois Law requires that any Cellular Telephone Use be hands free to talk.

There is No Texting While Driving Law in effect in Illinois.

Take Note of What's Happening at the Senior Center...

Open Mic Night

Monday, August 18, 2014 6:00 p.m.– 8:00 p.m.

Get out of the house and onto the stage. There are a limited amount of time slots, so reserve your spot today! Guitar players, singers, comedians, poets, musicians of all styles and genres wanted! Contact Jaymi at 847.588.8420 to reserve your spot.

Wanted: Houses Seeking Curb Appeal!

Saturday, September 13, 2014

Applications for the 27th Annual Community Paint-A-Thon are now available. If the exterior of your house needs painting consider applying. The program provides for the painting of the exterior of single family home at no cost to those who qualify.

To qualify, homes must be owned and occupied by people with limited financial resources and the owners must be at least 60 years of age or have a permanent disability that hinders them from doing the work themselves.

If you or someone you know needs their home painted, please contact the Senior Center at 847-588-8420.

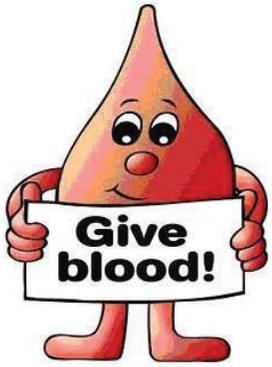
Teams of volunteers are recruited from businesses, churches, social and civic groups. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Annette Sommer at HandsOn Suburban Chicago at 847-228-1320.

Healthy 50+ Sports Challenge Kickoff Meeting

Saturday, September 27, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Join us for an afternoon at the NSC to learn about participating in or volunteering for the first Healthy 50+ Sports Challenge. This year's Challenge will be held at the Niles Senior Center as well as the Niles Fitness Center. If you are 50 or better, this may be your chance to chase the gold!

* Check out our page for many more great events- www.vniles.com/198/Programs-Events



Blood Donors of All Types Needed

The Village of Niles is hosting a community blood drive on Thursday, July 17 from 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. in a Life Source Donor Coach at Niles Family Fitness Center. All donors will find out what their blood type is, receive a free cholesterol screening, blood pressure reading and iron level screening. 100% of the blood collected will go to hospitals in our community. All registered donors will receive a complimentary T-shirt and Water Bottle. Contact LifeSource at 877-543-3768 or register on line at www.lifesource.org and enter the sponsor code SK60 to schedule an appointment. If you have questions, please contact Sabina, LifeSource Rep at 847-682-8394.

Electrical Aggregation

On April 9, the residents of Niles approved a referendum allowing the Village to solicit bids on behalf of residents and small businesses for the supply of electricity. Homefield Energy was selected as the supplier of Niles's electricity with a rate of \$0.05316 per kilowatt with a 100% green energy option at the rate of \$0.05415 per kilowatt. This contract expired on June 1.

To continue the electrical aggregation program and continue to provide lower rates to the residents of Niles, the Village went out to bid for an electrical supplier on April 8. Again, the lowest bidder was Homefield Energy with a rate of \$.07621 per kilowatt. This rate will be in effect from June 1, 2014 until May 31, 2015.

If you are already enrolled in the Village's electrical aggregation program with Homefield Energy, you will be automatically rolled into the new contract on June 1. You do not need to take any action.

If your electricity is being supplied by ComEd, then you will be automatically enrolled in the municipal aggregation program. You may choose to opt-out of having your electricity supplier changed to Homefield Energy.

Residents may opt-out of the municipal aggregation program at any time with no penalty.

All electric bills will continue to come from ComEd. Residents will still call ComEd in the event of an outage.

If residents wish to change alternative retail electric suppliers (ARES), they are able to change ARES as frequently as they like, assuming there is no minimum contract period in the contract. If residents return to ComEd as their energy supplier for two billing cycles they will be required to stay with ComEd for one year.

For additional information, visit www.vniles.com, contact Homefield Energy at 866-694-1262, or the Village at (847) 588-8000.

Moody's Rating

The Village of Niles received a bond rating of AA1 from the well-respected Moody's Investors Service. This score is the second highest score a municipality can receive and is calculated based on an in depth analysis of the Village.

The AA1 rating reflects the village's mature and diverse tax base in the Chicago-area with a significant retail footprint, healthy General Fund reserves, financial flexibility, and small debt burden.

Moody's found that the village's financial operations will likely remain sound because of considerable revenue raising flexibility and strong managerial oversight and conservative budgetary practices.

Dine In Niles



Dine In Niles offers discounts at participating restaurants throughout the Village.

Please visit the Village's website at www.vniles.com to find a list of participating restaurants.



8970 N. Milwaukee Ave.
Niles, Illinois 60714
(847) 390-0160

Visit the Niles Historical & Cultural Center

The Historical Society has a newly named building- The Historical and Cultural Center.

Admission and tours are **free** and open to the public. You can also: -Search for people, places and things in Niles

-Rent out space for your next party or event

The Niles Historical Society is open M-W-F from 10:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The Historical Society is also on Facebook!

COMMUNITY CALENDAR



Fire Department (FD)	847-588-6800
Fitness Center (FC)	847-588-8400
Historical Society (HS)	847-390-0160
Niles Library (NL)	847-663-1234
Niles Park District (NPD)	847-967-6633
Police Department (PD)	847-588-6500
Public Works (PW)	847-588-7900
Senior Center (SC)	847-588-8420
Teen Center (TC)	847-375-8949
Village Hall (VH)	847-588-8000

June

- 1) Niles Garden Club: Creating Summer Containers (NL)
- 2) Branch Pickup (For East of Milwaukee Residents- PW)
- 5) Resume Assistance and Review (NL)
- 6) Summer Reading Kick-Off (TC) / Summer Reading Fun Fair (NL) / Spring BBQ (SC)
- 7) Night in the Mall (TC)
- 10) How to Use your Digital Camera (NL) / Blood Pressure Screening (SC)
- 12) Workplace Skills (NL) / St. Charles Lunch & Cruise (SC)
- 16) Email Workshop (SC)
- 20) Hooked On Fishing (SC)
- 22) YoYo Man (HS)
- 25) Chicago Magic: A History of Stagecraft and Spectacle (NL)
- 28) DIY Pet Bed (NL)
- 30) Branch Pickup (For West of Milwaukee Residents- PW) / Introduction to Facebook (SC)

July

- 4) **Niles Fourth of July Parade (VN)**
- 7) Lunch to Benefit the Niles Historical Society (SC) / Branch Pickup (For East of Milwaukee Residents- PW)
- 11) Penny Carnival Night (NPD)
- 13) Genealogy Online Resources
- 16) Free Skin Screening (SC) / Camp Old Navy (TC)
- 17) Blood Drive (FC) / Resume Assistance and Review (NL)
- 18) Vehicle Adventure & The Juke Box Band (NPD)
- 18-20) **Big Greek Food Fest (847-647-8880)**
- 25) Down Home Family Fun (NPD) / Hooked On Fishing (SC)
- 27) Frank Sinatra Impersonator (HS)
- 28) Branch Pickup (For West of Milwaukee Residents- PW)
- 30) Last day to purchase vehicle stickers (VH)

August

- 1) Party in the Park & Sting Rays (NPD)
- 4) Branch Pickup (For East of Milwaukee Residents- PW) / Lunch to Benefit the Niles Food Pantry (SC)
- 7) Healthy Sports Challenge Kick-Off (SC)
- 8) The Juke Box Band (NPD)
- 9) Ice Cream Social (HS)
- 12) Resume Assistance and Review (NL) / What Does Your Handwriting Say About You (NL)
- 15) BBI (NPD)
- 18) Open Mic Night (SC)
- 20) The Adoption Process: A to Z (NL)
- 22) Hooked On Fishing (SC)
- 25) Branch Pickup (For West of Milwaukee Residents- PW)

Check out Niles website and Facebook page for updates on more events, contests and classes.

Reminders

-Please remember to clean up after your dog by removing all waste.

-Branch Pickup will end on the official end dates. Additional pickups will not be made.



-Respiratory Associations Courage to Quit Smoking Cessation Program available. Contact Brigitte at 847-588-8420

-Niles Food Pantry is accepting donations of fresh fruits/vegetables.



Village of Niles
1000 Civic Center Drive
Niles, Illinois 60714

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FREE TIME
THIS SUMMER**

**ONE MONTH FREE
ON ALL
NEW**

ADULT ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS

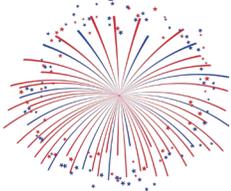
Terms and Conditions Apply

FIT FOR EVERY "BODY"

NILES 4TH OF JULY PARADE & CELEBRATION

The Village of Niles is sponsoring the 4th of July Parade on Friday, July 4 at 9:00 a.m.

The parade route, beginning at Notre Dame College Prep and ending at Grennan Heights Park, is as follows:



**South on Ozark to Main – East on Main to Harlem –
South on Harlem to Monroe – West on Monroe to Oketo**

REMINDER:

The following parking restrictions will be in effect until 2:00 p.m. on July 4:

There is **NO PARKING** along the parade route.

There is **NO PARKING** on Crain from Ozark to Ozanam.

There is **NO PARKING** on Ozanam from Greenleaf to Dempster.

There is **NO PARKING** on Keeney and Kedzie from Odell to Olcott.

There is **NO PARKING** on Odell, Oketo, Osceola and Olcott from Keeney to Kedzie.

PARADE SPONSORS:

Golf Mill Ford, Romanucci & Blandin LLC, GHP Group, Kolpak and Lerner, Niles Dunkin Donuts & Basking Robbins, Swiss Precision Machining, Colonial-Wojciechowski Funeral Home, Niles Discount Cleaners, Healthy Babies Happy Families, Just Relax Massage, Erich's Lehigh Auto Body, Civic Center Cleaners, Inc., DMZ Café, Cids Ma Mon Luk, Presence St. Andrew Life Center, Re/Max AllStars, Mid-States Glass and Metal, Inc., Los Comales Mexican Restaurant, Nurse Experts LLC, Dental Specialists of Niles PC, Riggio's Restaurant and Travelers Inn Niles.

MAYOR
Andrew Przybylo

TRUSTEES
George D. Alpogianis

Chris Hanusiak

John C. Jekot

Joe LoVerde

Danette O'Donovan
Matyas

Rosemary Palicki

VILLAGE MANAGER
Steven C. Vinezeano

ASSISTANT VILLAGE
MANAGER
Hadley Skeffington-Vos

VILLAGE CLERK
Marlene J. Victorine